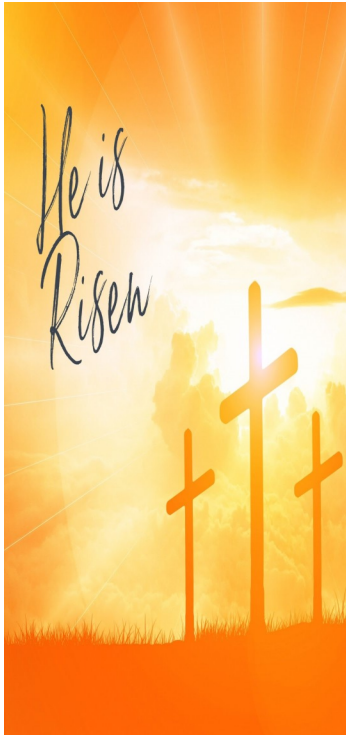


“For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;” Isaiah 44:3 NKJV

# GILA VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume IX, Issue II

April 2021



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## Meet Our New Pastor

It's an honor to introduce Nathan Peterson. He has been called as senior pastor of Gila Valley Baptist Church. Nathan has been serving in ministry since 2007. He began serving the bride of Christ as a sports intern at a church in Allen, Texas. Nathan founded a consultant company called Faithson Solutions in 2009 that now serves hundreds of businesses and churches yearly. Through 2013 Nathan received promotions throughout the church leading to the positions of Associate Minister of Sports and then Student Pastor. During this time Nathan took some seminary classes at Wilmington School of the Bible. Nathan started a new season of ministry as a missionary to a church in Pottsboro, Texas. This is where he met his wife Amanda who served at a sister church in the same town.

After prayer and wisdom from trusted ministry partners, Nathan followed Amanda's calling in ministry through 2015 leading into a season of lay-leadership in the church. During this time Nathan consulted with local county governments regarding volunteer and project management during the Ebola scare in North Texas.

After serving as a lay leader in the church, Pastor Nathan was ordained as a respected and fruitful minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Nathan led his sending church from Sherman, Texas in discipleship and student ministry activities before realizing his calling to the senior pastorate role.

Nathan preached in view of a call at Gila Valley Baptist on Sunday, March 7th, and was called by a unanimous vote as pastor. Nathan and Amanda have two boys: Elliott, age 2, and Kaydon, 11 months. Nathan's first Sunday as pastor will be Sunday, April 4th.

We at Gila Valley Baptist are so thankful for God's calling on Nathan's life and sending him here to Gila. We look forward to seeing what God has planned for our church moving forward.

# YOUTH GROUP SCOOP

**Youth Group:** Is held at GVBC's fellowship hall on **Wednesday evening's beginning at 6:30 P.M.** We would love for any student in the 7<sup>th</sup>– 12<sup>th</sup> grade to come and enjoy the food, games, and in-depth study of God's word. **Sponsors: Beau Jackson & Tammy Clifton.**



## 2021 2nd Semester Tentative Schedule

April 14th—Youth Meeting  
April 25th —Senior Celebration  
April 28th—Youth Meeting  
May 12th—End of Year Party

\*schedule is subject to change

Things are getting exciting for the 180 Youth Group. We have some awesome activities in the works. Kolby King with 330 Ministries will tentatively be in our area around April 19th – 21st. We just found out, so there are still a lot of details to iron out but be on the lookout as there may be an opportunity for a youth activity while he is here.

StuCamp 2021 is right around the corner. **We will be attending StuCamp 1.0 at Sivells the week of June 7th – 11th.** The camp pastor is Chris Hurt who has been a student pastor for 25 years and currently serves in Frisco, TX. He and a buddy travel doing skit comedy at camps. "He loves to laugh and finds that true joy comes from Christ." Watch

for important information and deadlines. **The first deadline of which you need to be aware is your \$40 deposit and signed parent permission form. These must be turned in to me or Tammy no later than April 14th.**

# YOUTH GROUP

"You who are young, make the most of your youth. Relish your youthful vigor. Follow the impulses of your heart. If something looks good to you, pursue it. But know also that not just anything goes; You have to answer to God for very last bit of it." Ecclesiastes 11:9 MSG

## Kid's Korner

Team Kids have been learning about the Armor of God this semester. Our memory verse is *Ephesians 6:11*. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Even though we are teaching these lessons to kids, there is a lot of good information for us as adults too. We are all living in a time that we need to take a strong stand against the evil in our world. So, we encourage you to read through the list of armor in Ephesians 6 and prepare yourselves for the battle we are in.

As our school reopens more fully, we look forward to having more students attend Team Kids. **If your student isn't registered for Team Kids, go to our Facebook page and you will find a link to get that taken care of.**

We ask that you join us in praying for our Team Kids. We pray that each student will come to know Jesus as their personal Savior. We pray for our stu-

## Learning About God

dents that are believers that they will grow in their relationship and be strong in the Lord.

If you have any questions, please contact Deanna Kartchner at 535-2437, or Jessica Allsup at 535-2310.

**Kolby King and 330 Ministries will once again be visiting our area from April 19th – 21st. We hope to schedule multiple events throughout the three days. Watch for details as they develop. We are excited to see how God will use Kolby and his ministry in our community.**

**Vacation Bible School:** The Trinity Presbyterian Church will be hosting VBS this summer. **VBS will be held at the Southwest Christian Center in Buckhorn, on July 5-9th.** Watch for more details and the online registration site.

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS

**All dates and times for events are tentative and based on CDC and State mandates. Please follow us on Facebook or on the church webpage for current information.**

**Church from your car:** We understand that some of you won't feel comfortable returning to church gatherings just yet, and we stand by and respect your decision. **You are welcome to join us from your car in our parking lot, tune in to FM 107.9.**

**Business/Deacons Meetings:** *All members are encouraged to attend the Business Meetings* that are held on the first Wednesday after the first Sunday of the month. **Business meetings begin at 7:00 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 7th.** Deacons meet the same night at 6:00 pm. The following dates complete this quarter: **May 5th, and June 9th.**

**Potluck Lunches:** The Hostess Committee invites you to the potluck lunches on the first Sunday of each month. Our potluck lunches for the next quarter will be on; **April 4th-cancelled, May 2nd, and June 6th;** immediately after the Morning Worship Services, *depending on COVID guidelines.* Come and share your favorite food with your Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

**Easter Service:** GVBC will hold **Easter Services on Sunday, April 4th starting at 11:00 AM.** The Presbyterian Church's **Sunrise Service will be held outdoors at the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 6:30 AM** (no refreshments this year). *Evening Services on Sunday, April 4th will be canceled. The April Potluck will be canceled on Easter Sunday, April 4th.* We understand that some of you won't feel comfortable returning to church gatherings just yet, and we stand by and respect your decision. You are welcome to join us from your car in our parking lot, **tune in to FM 107.9.** We pray you will be in church worshipping God on Easter, April 4th.

**Church Library:** The Gila Valley Church wants you to Check out the Library! New books, videos and

audiobooks are arriving. If you are interested in seeing something added to our collection please contact the church office, 535-2977, contact Jo Dee Birch or Jane Tibbs. Also, **please look at home, maybe on your bookshelves. Do you have any church books or videos that you can return?**

**Gila Valley Baptist Church emergency prayer chain.** You can activate the emergency prayer chain (Dial My Calls) 24 hours a day by contacting one of the following: Deanna at 535-2437; Brenda at church: 535-2977, or 535-2126; or Eddy at 535-2175. You can contact us by using Messenger- GVBC Prayer Chain, or call anyone on the prayer chain. Requests will be prayed for and not spread without permission. Prayer Warriors: Mary, Janet, DaVonna, KayAnn, Judith, Sheree, John & Janice, and Dawna.

— Senior Celebration —

**Sunday, April 25th — 6:30 PM**

**Gila Valley Baptist Church**

Graduating Seniors, families and church members are invited to attend this Special Service. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

**Kolby King and 330 Ministries will once again be visiting our area from April 19th – 21st.** We hope to schedule multiple events throughout the three days. Watch for details as they develop. We are excited to see how God will use Kolby and his ministry in our community.

**Men's Baking Competition:** The annual competition will be held during our church dinner on **Sunday, May 2nd.** Many of the men have been honing their recipes and skills. We look forward to what yummy confections they prepare for us this year. Top 3 winners will get bragging rights. :)

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**PRAYER**  
*changes things*

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# Sunday School

**Christian Growth** starts when you read and study God's Holy Word. By joining a Bible Study group each Sunday morning you are showing you are dedicated to growing your discipleship, which is key to Christian growth.

Gila Valley uses study publications such as Bible Studies for Life and the Explore the Bible along with the Holy Bible to help teach us and motivate us to serve our risen Lord and Savior.

We are currently studying the Essentials of Christianity and How to Share Christ. Two principles all Christians need to continue to

grow in your faith. Learning and acting on these studies will move us beyond knowing the importance of witnessing to others and to help us apply these principles in our own lives.

Join us as we meet each week and study God's word. We grow in our knowledge and friendships as we gather to study and share. Studying each Sunday is a way to keep informed about Christ while revealing the message of each verse and story.

Join a Sunday School Class this Sunday. Grow with us and allow your life to add to the chapters of **HISTORY** with Gila Valley by serving and obeying God.

*GVBC offers classes for infants to senior adults. Each lesson has an overview of the study in a 45-minute classroom environment. We encourage you to study with us. Sunday School is at 9:45 am. Sunday Worship is at 11:00 am.*



## Good one....

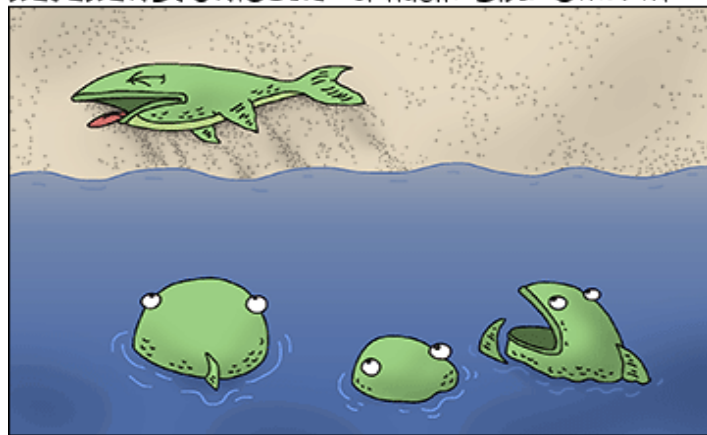
REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 6-8)

06-06-2014

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05-16-2014

ARE YOU EVOLVED YET?

## Circus in Town

When my son, William, was young, we belonged to a small country church. On Communion day, deacons would pass around the "bread and juice." One Sunday, we attended a church out of town that was more formal. What our church called bread and juice, this one referred to as elements, a word William didn't

understand. As Communion began, the pastor said, "If the deacons will come forward, the elements will pass among us."

William was suddenly excited and I didn't know why. Then he leaned toward me, whispering something that caused me to burst out laughing. With all eyes on us, I took him by the hand and we made a hasty exit.

All the way to the car, he protested. "Mom, we're going to miss the circus. The pastor said the elephants were going to pass among us!"



## MISSIONS UPDATES

**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering:** The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way the NAMB supports mission efforts in North America. One hundred percent of gifts given to AAEO are used to support Southern Baptist missionaries serving across the United States and Canada. Every gift to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goes to train, resource and send thousands of missionaries involved in church planting and compassion ministries across the United States. Our partnership with Southern Baptist Convention churches and individuals makes this work possible. **Please give at church from March 28th or April 4th. You can give online at [AnnieArmstrong.com](http://AnnieArmstrong.com) anytime.**

**Farmers to Families Food Box Distribution:**

Gila Valley has been distributing food boxes to deserving families in our area on a weekly basis. The food is distributed through Farmers to Families and a government grant. Approximately 45 families are being blessed weekly. If you are in need or know of a family, please call the church office at 535-2977. Praise God for the blessings to our community.

**Vacation Bible School:** Trinity Presbyterian Church will be hosting VBS this summer. **VBS will be held at the Southwest Christian Center in Buckhorn, on July 5-9th.** Watch for more details and the online registration site.

**AmazonSmile Account:** Support Gila Valley Baptist Church while holiday shopping. GVBC has set up an AmazonSmile account. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to GVBC when our church is selected by customers. Next time you order please **go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select Gila Valley Baptist Church before you order.** AmazonSmile is now available for iPhones and Androids. Thank You for supporting our church.

**Operation Christmas Child:** It is never too early to get ready for Operation Christmas Child. Enjoy the blessing of gathering gifts for children around the world. These gifts open the doors for these children to learn about Jesus and change their lives forever. Please pray for Operation Christmas Child and ask God how we can help in this ministry. Let's share the love of Jesus. Thank you for packing.

## Keep Walking to the Father

By: Christie Penner Worden

The seasons have yawned on over the last year, haven't they? It feels like the tenth month of March, and we are rounding the corner on where we began. We have rallied, we have changed directions, we have run a tough race, and we have believed that, if we could hold on through Christmas, we could hibernate the rest of the winter. But the season continues to press in on you from all sides, and the bone-deep exhaustion is relentless.

Take a deep breath, friend. Before you hunker down, let's shake off the chill, fix our eyes, and keep going. We can do this.

***To thrive is to live in the season, not wait for it to pass. And the season itself is not in charge of how we experience it.***

Thriving isn't a feeling. It is evidence of preparation for a marathon, not a dash. It is a deep knowledge

that you have trained for this, you have what it takes to be sustained throughout, and you will flourish on the other side of this season. To thrive is to live in the season, not wait for it to pass. And the season itself is not in charge of how we experience it.

The difference between thriving and surviving is one decision: *participation*. Thriving is the intentional decision to walk in obedience regardless of the season.

*Do Something:* If you do nothing, if you wait it out, you will miss whatever God has for you now. If you do something—wear boots with treads and step outside—He will remind you that you're alive. He has a plan today. He isn't waiting—He is making new life even when the ground beneath our feet is starting to wake up.

Thriving is not a future orientation. It is a present decision that He who called you to this race will equip you for it.

***Breathe in. Breathe out. Pray. Keep Walking. Participate.***

Gila Valley Baptist Church  
PO Box 62  
Gila, NM 88038

Sometimes life gets so overwhelming that we feel as though we are caught in quicksand. The problem with quicksand is that when someone gets stuck in it, they usually resort to what comes naturally to them. They thrash and flail their arms as they try to climb out. Unfortunately, this just makes things worse. Since quicksand is a combination of sand mixed with water, it doesn't have the friction of sand on sand. Without this friction, a person has nothing to push against to extract themselves. They just sink down even deeper. To get free from quicksand, you must shun the natural response and do what seems unnatural. You must fight your inclinations and simply relax. Relaxing will slow down the sinking and allow you to paddle gently, just like treading water. It will give you time to either have someone pull you out or to slowly paddle to more solid ground. Life can often feel like quicksand. We get sucked into the drama, pain and loss that life brings our way. And while our natural inclination is to fight our way out by leveraging all our strength, doing so will usually only cause us to sink further. God's ways are higher than our ways. His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. In times of struggle, He asks us to let go of our own solutions and trust His solutions. He asks us to abide in Him and in His word. He asks us to simply believe. In the words of Jesus, **"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me"** (John 14:1). Tony Evans 1-21-21

**GILA VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Nathan R. Peterson, Pastor**

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Nathan@gilavalley.org



*Gila Valley  
Baptist Church*

**Gila Valley Baptist Church Deacons**

Ray Dominguez 535-2126  
Beau Jackson 535-4121  
Marvin Kartchner 535-2437  
Jerry Woodrow 535-2173



facebook.com/gilavalley/

[www.gilavalleybaptistchurch.com](http://www.gilavalleybaptistchurch.com)

**SUNDAY**

Sunday School—9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship—11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship—6:00 p.m.

*(Join us from your car in our parking lot, Morning or Evening, tune in to FM 107.9)*

**TUESDAY**

**Team KIDS**—after school to 5:30 p.m.

(August through May-see page 2)

**WEDNESDAY**

**Youth Group**—6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

(scheduled August through May-see page 2)

*Exalting the Savior,  
Equipping the Saints,  
Evangelizing the Sinner*