



First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation
A SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION OF THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Volume 2018 Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Board Officers and Members

Gary Hamman
President

Rev. Stan Crews
Vice President

Al Longanecker
VP of Grants

Sandra Richmond
Secretary

Jeffrey Sauter
Treasurer & ACF CFO

Rev. Cindy Darby

Reinhard Geissler

Jenny Gendreau

Thresa Hickernell

Raymond Miller

Daniel Riccio

Tammy Valdez

From the President

At the Board's annual meeting in April, the incumbent officers were elected to serve another year. All officers are elected each year, and board members are elected to three-year staggering terms. We also elected three new board members: Jenny Gendreau, Raymond Miller, and Tammy Valdez. Unfortunately, Tom Rychener resigned due to other commitments. We thank him for serving on the board and on our Grants Committee.

The Foundation continues to make grants each year of about \$200,000. Most of the funds for these come from payments by Living Streams Church on a note that resulted from sale of the First Baptist Church property at Central and Glendale Avenues in 2006. The remaining funding for the grants comes from dividends and appreciation of our investment fund. See the article in this newsletter by Al Longanecker about our grants process and the awards we made for 2018/2019.

We appreciate the support we receive from the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) since we became a Supporting Organization to them in 2013. They provide administrative help, handle our finances, provide us a grant application portal on the internet, guide our investment strategy, and provide legal assistance when needed. Our treasurer, Jeff Sauter, is also the chief financial officer of ACF. It has been a real pleasure to work with these friendly professionals. There was an article in this year's ACF Annual Report about one of our church plant grantees, Phoenix Bible Church (see page 3).

Continue to pray for us as we continue to fulfill our mission and the legacy of the First Baptist Church of Phoenix.

God bless,
---Gary Hamman

Grant Awards for 2018/2019

The Foundation accepts grant applications between January 1 and March 31 of each year. The Grants Committee then meets during the month of April to do any necessary follow-up and to properly, and prayerfully, evaluate each grant application. The process takes the full month with the resulting recommendations presented to the Foundation Board at the end of the month. The approved grant awards are then turned over to the Arizona Community Foundation for processing and payment as appropriate. Some awards are contingent on specific milestones being met before payments are processed. Also, all of the applicants that are not receiving grants are notified.

This year we received 39 applications, which is about the average for the past few years. About half of the requests were from first time applicants. The total amount requested was \$834,923.

We awarded grants totaling over \$236,000, assuming that all specified milestones are achieved. This includes awards for two new churches in the Phoenix area, one in the Yuma, Arizona area, and the relocation of one of our previous Phoenix area plants. The Foundation also continues to support the planting of new churches in the Philippines and in Bosnia/Herzegovina.

In addition to the new churches, the Foundation provided grants for the training of new planting pastors for China and Arizona, as well as multiple Mission and Outreach projects covering the USA, Mexico, Cameroon and Indonesia.

Following is a listing of the grant awards for 2018/2019:

Church related project funding:

Church for the City-Yuma, AZ
Kaleo Church-Phoenix, AZ
Fiesta Church-Mesa, AZ
Phoenix Bible Church-Phoenix, AZ
River Rock Church-Philippines
Tuzla Baptist Church-Bosnia/Herzegovina

Education and training

of planting pastors funding:
American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
Fellowship of Grace Church-Peoria, AZ
Church for the City-Yuma, AZ

Mission and Outreach project funding

Alpha USA
American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
Christian Family Care Agency
Mark Buckley Ministries
Monte Vista Church-Phoenix, AZ
Phoenix Refugee Connections
AZ Urban Youth Ministries
Disciple Nations Alliance-Phoenix
St George Support-Indonesia

Living Streams Ecuador Mission
Mitchel Swayback Charities
Neighborhood Ministries Inc
ONE Institute-Phoenix
Rocky Point Medical Clinics-Mexico
Win Our Nations-Cameroon
Young Life-Phoenix Metro
Young Life-Global Leaders

The 2018/2019 grant amount is a new high for the Foundation. Including the 2018/2019 grant amounts, the First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation has awarded grants totaling over \$1,599,000 since the first awards in 2008. The First Baptist Church of Phoenix continues to make a difference in growing God's Kingdom in a period of history where it is most needed. For all of the many people that contributed to First Baptist over the years, you can be pleased that God has multiplied your gift and it keeps on giving.

Al Longanecker
VP Grants, FBCPF

Phoenix Bible Church

Excerpts taken from Arizona Community Foundation's Annual Report 2018

With funding from the First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation and other community partners, Pastor Tim Birdwell has built a leadership team and found a permanent location where Phoenix Bible Church can thrive.

The Phoenix Bible Church is a recent grant recipient that, with support from the First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation, has begun developing their ministry and found a new church building for their growing congregation. Lead Pastor Tim Birdwell and his family started Phoenix Bible Church in 2014 after the church he had moved here to lead was forced to close by their sponsoring organization.

“My family and I had only been in Phoenix for three months so we didn’t have the close relationships you would normally need to plant a church,” said Tim. “We literally had zero money and no one had ever heard me preach before! Despite all the obstacles, we couldn’t get over the sense that God hadn’t moved us across the country to tap us out after three months, so after much prayer and counsel we decided to start Phoenix Bible Church. It was incredibly difficult, but by God’s grace we were able to get the new church off the ground.”

Since 2016, Phoenix Bible Church has received \$34,000 in grant funding from the Foundation, which was catalytic in developing their ministry’s leadership within the first years of their church plant. The funding enabled the church to find a permanent location, allowing them to move from their temporary meeting space. Now they have an opportunity to serve their new neighborhood, community, and faith.

