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## **Tri-City Baptist Church Bringing Education, Music and Sports to Chandler**

*Move Date Set for August 23*

**TEMPE, AZ** — After 40 years in Tempe, Tri-City Baptist Church Ministries, which includes Tri-City Baptist Church (TBC), International Baptist College, Tri-City Christian Academy, Time For Tots Preschool, and International Baptist Missions, will relocate to the southwest corner of Dobson and Germann in Chandler. The move, scheduled for late August, is necessary to accommodate future ministry growth, including the addition of a seminary.

The new \$21.5 million campus contains 5 buildings on over 13 acres allowing ample room for growth in all aspects of the ministry. Currently, TBC has a membership of 650, with roughly half of the regular attendees under the age of 35. TBC anticipates membership growth of 30 percent in the next three years. The 96,000 sq. ft. main building will have 155 rooms including:

- An auditorium seating 1,100 with state-of-the-art lighting and sound system
- 27 classrooms
- 35 offices
- A music wing with a music lab, 6 practice rooms, and orchestra and choir rooms
- A cafeteria, kitchen, bookstore, gym, library, computer lab, and student center

“Tri-City Baptist Church is bringing to Chandler a very affordable preschool and K-12 private Christian school, as well as a resident college with an accredited religious graduate program,” Senior Pastor Dr. Mike Sproul said. “But most of all, what we bring to Chandler is our vision that Jesus Christ is Savior of the world and He loves every resident of Chandler.”

Local interest in the preschool and private school has been growing ever since the first sign was put up at the Chandler location. “I get calls all the time from people asking when we’re moving,” said Nancy Roberts, director of Time For Tots Preschool. Similarly, Tri-City Christian Academy has already seen a jump in enrollment.

In the near future, TBC plans to expand its ministry even more by opening the Chandler School of Fine Arts which will provide training on various musical instruments. Additionally, TBC plans to offer free concerts on the recently donated \$100,000 organ.

“We also plan to start a soccer league to take advantage of our soccer field with stadium lighting that allows games to be played at night,” Pastor Sproul said.

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Congregational giving has been key to funding the project. "It has been very impressive to see the giving some people do, when you know it must be financially stretching for them," said Karen Wright, TBC Controller. "They aren't discouraged if they can't give a lot; they just consistently give what they can."

Tri-City's giving has gone up during the last two years during an economic downturn that has impacted donations to many other charities and non-profits. Pastor Sproul doesn't find the timing coincidental. "God is completing this project during horrible economic times to show His power, so He will get the praise."

Classes are scheduled to begin on August 24 for TBC's educational institutions. TBC hopes to hold its first service on the Chandler campus on August 23 and is planning a grand opening/open house event in October. All are invited to attend remaining services at the Tempe location as well as services in Chandler after the move. Sunday morning worship begins at 10:30 a.m. and the Sunday evening service is at 6:00 p.m. Visit [www.tricityministries.org](http://www.tricityministries.org) for information.

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#### **About Tri-City Baptist Church Ministries**

For forty years Tri-City Baptist Church has served the East Valley with an emphasis on relationships, discipleship, and truth. Tri-City has ministries aimed at all walks of life that give members opportunities to fellowship, learn, grow, and reach out to others. By offering education from preschool to the doctoral level, Tri-City Baptist Church is a training base for pastors, missionaries, teachers, and leaders who then go out and minister around the world. Global mission projects include building orphanages for AIDS victims in Cambodia and starting churches and colleges in India and Southeast Asia. For more information about Tri-City Baptist Church Ministries, please visit [www.tricityministries.org](http://www.tricityministries.org).