



# MISSION: CASA GRANDE

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Steve, Amanda, Judah, & Skylar Schmidt, Casa Grande, AZ

A Partner of Free Will Baptist North American Ministries (FWBNAM)



**Summer in Casa Grande!** - We moved to Casa Grande, AZ on May 20 and have since had an eventful summer ranging from baptisms to traveling to 119° F weather! Judah decided to follow Jesus last year and so this summer his grandpa, Pastor Brian Brinkhoff, baptized him at our sending church, Carthage FWB Church in Carthage, MO. After this the kids got to spend three weeks working the farm with their grandparents: feeding goats, sleepovers with cousins, and getting spoiled!

**Getting Started** - Our vision for Sonoran FWB Community Church in Casa Grande, AZ is to launch 3 Community Bible Groups meeting in various locations and at different days/times over the next year and a half culminating in a weekly Sunday service launch Easter 2025. These Community Bible Groups (CBGs) will be launching January 2024, August 2024, and January 2025, respectively. We have begun a social media campaign

and handing out doorhangers to begin paving the way for our first CBG launch in January.

**A God Thing:** Our commitment over the next few months is to become as involved in the fabric of the community as we can. To this end, Steve contacted the local substance abuse program (Casa Grande Alliance) in town to volunteer. In his first meeting with them the director told Steve he had been looking for someone to help start a support group for parents of addicted children and asked Steve if he would be willing to help organize and lead it. Needless to say, he said “Yes”! This was definitely a God thing! Steve has also begun volunteering weekly at the local soup kitchen, Seeds of Hope, near where we live and has already had the chance to begin sharing Jesus with people he’s working with. The Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce was also excited to learn we were starting a church and asked us to join the Chamber and invited us to set up a table at their October Business Showcase and promote the church. We said “Yes!” to that as well! This week the kids started school, which gives us more chances to meet other young families, many who are moving to Casa Grande for the lower living costs as compared to the PHX area.



**Prayer** – We have already noticed receptivity to hearing the Gospel here from witnessing to Uber drivers taking us to the airport to workers at the soup kitchen. Pray for us as we proclaim Jesus, get involved in the community, and get busy with the work God has called us to.

Lastly, thank you to all our wonderful supporters who have stuck with us through the last few years. We can’t do what we do without you!

## Steve, Amanda, Judah, and Skylar Schmidt

Your FWBNAM church planters to Casa Grande AZ