

The VISITOR

July 2025

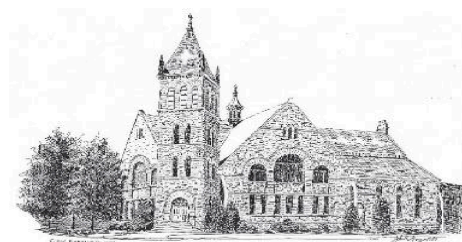
It is officially summer and already July! Our first month of ministry together has been encouraging as we have learned more about each other. I am grateful for your continued openness to what God has been doing within our faith community and for your excitement for what lies ahead. With this excitement comes a moment of hesitation and curiosity. I know there have been more than a couple times in which I have looked around and thought "hurry up already, God!" There have been other times when I am keenly aware of how many stories, information, and resources I do not know about yet. However, y'all have faithfully embraced God's call to engage with the community through Hope House, ECKAN, and visiting those that are unable to be with us physically in worship reminding us of our foundation of service. It tells us that God has been up to something even if it seems like the same stuff. Our next step looks like reminding ourselves that the Holy Spirit is at work in places and spaces known and unknown. God will reveal to us where we can partner with God's activity and where we can step in the gap here in Ottawa. Unfortunately, this takes time. I am convinced the Apostle Paul put patience as a Fruit of the Spirit because it requires a great deal of discipline and hope. Hope in Christ is always more than enough to get us by. May we have discipline in waking each day and choosing to follow Christ's example of radical love and inclusive compassion. As we continue to grow together let us lean into discernment and hone our gifts to share with each other, the community, and the world. There is still half a year to go!

Thank you for your graciousness in letting me finish up my American Baptist Churches of Nebraska commitments at Camp Moses Merrill and at the Biennial Mission Summit. Your generosity is another testament to your great love. I am lucky/blessed/grateful to serve as your pastor and co-laborer. Austin and I have our name tags updated to say "FBC Ottawa". Please continue to pray for the Biennial Mission Summit and all those who are traveling to Omaha.

In July, let us pray specifically for renewed connections with Ottawa University, our church family that has been traveling this summer, identifying local partnerships with other churches and organizations, our church council, our children's ministry and our youth ministries.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 27 for my installation service. There is much to celebrate!

Peace,
Pastor Joy



**JOIN US
SUNDAY MORNINGS
WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:30
785-242-2713**

**OttawaFBC@gmail.com
fbcottawa.org
410 Hickory Street
Ottawa, KS 66067**

**Follow us on Facebook:
@firstbaptistchurchottawa
Live Stream of worship each week!
You are invited and welcome.**



First Baptist Church of Ottawa is part of the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region (ABC/CR and American Baptist Churches, USA (ABC/USA).

First Baptist Church Ottawa is a Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
The radically inclusive love of Jesus inspires us to be a fully welcoming and affirming congregation. All are loved here. All are safe here. All are invited to full participation in our life together.
Based upon calling, gifting, talent, experience and maturity, we celebrate baptism, communion, marriage, leadership, teaching and ordination with any gender, race, nationality, sexual orientation or identity.



***Sunday School following worship
for all ages!***



Communion July 6
Celebrating the Lord's supper.
Those of you worshipping with us at home, please have your elements ready so that you are able to take communion along with us.
Continuing this Sunday, whenever we celebrate communion, we will encourage giving to the deacon's fund for benevolence

Deadline for the August newsletter is July 25th, please have any information emailed to the office by this date for inclusion in the newsletter. Information received after the deadline will be published in the next month's newsletter.

Please join us for Thankful Thursday on July 24, 5-6:30, help prepare, serve, bring a dessert or simply come eat, share stories and a smile.



PRAYER TIME: Wednesdays at 12:30 EH. If you have a prayer request for Wednesday, call or email the church office.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Bob Lovett (Kim Randel's father); Norma Coble (Dana Coble's mother); Nathan Ball; Shelly Frank; Tom Lantis (Kelli Ball's father); Janet Wolken; Bill Kern
Shut-Ins: Dana Coble; Sylvia Starky; Bev Hughes; Golden Peterson; Gloria Terrill; Carol Allen; Marsha Hermreck; Gene Bromert

Military Service People: PFC Aaron Bigge-Fort Meade, Maryland (Sandy Holbert's grandson); Lt. Matt Ashwill, Germany (Melissa Ashwill's son)

We make every effort to keep this list updated. Please inform us when there are changes.

TITHE ONLINE

It's simple!!

Through First Baptist's website (fbcottawa.org)



you have the capability to make your contributions electronically using Tithe.ly. It can be a one-time gift or recurring. To make a contribution, go to the **Give** tab and click on **Donate**. Contributions will be

tracked through our membership software & reflected on contribution statements.

Branson Trip

Thank you Cathy Duderstadt for planning another successful trip to Branson. We appreciate all of your hard work in making this a great time for all.



We will be collecting for Hope House the first Sunday of each month.

pancake mix, spaghetti noodles, chicken noodle soup, tomato soup, oatmeal

Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels always needed

*No longer needing plastic containers

Radio Ministry



First Baptist Church believes it is important to keep the Radio Ministry funded, as this is a blessing to many in our community.

Please designate contributions

to: Radio Fund.

Men's Bible Study will meet on Saturday, **July 12th at 9am**. Come join us for study and fellowship with one another. We will meet in the **Homebuilder's Room**, the North Sanctuary door will be open.

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is July 14, 9:30am EH



Church Council meeting is
 July 15th at 7:00pm

Committee chairs, please have your previous meeting minutes emailed to the Church office.

We will have a quarterly congregational meeting after church on July 20th.

Help Support Our Church



Price Chopper Gift Cards are available at the office for purchase. We get 5% for each sale and YOU get the FULL VALUE of each card you purchase.

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of our church!

Price Chopper cards can only be purchased in \$100 increments.

Thank you Pastor John for sharing your message with us June 29 and July 6 while Pastor Joy is out of town.



FBC Church Photo Note Cards

We have note cards for sale. They come 8 in a package, 2 of each church photo, for \$15. These are available to purchase during fellowship hour or in the office.

Office Closed

The office will be closed Friday, July 4th



Gloria Terrill's 100th birthday is July 16. Let's shower her with birthday cards to celebrate the occasion. Her address is 1617 S. Elm, Ottawa, KS 66067

Please join us Sunday, July 27th at 3:00pm for Pastor Joy's installation service. There will be time for fellowship following the service.

Back 2 School Bash

First Baptist Church will be sponsoring the Back 2 School Bash on Saturday, August 2. We are collecting school supplies during July to hand out. Below is a list of supplies needed. They may be turned into the office during July or put in a back pew in the sanctuary. Thank you for your donations. Most requested items are listed below, a full supply list will be added as a bulletin insert during July.

- #2 pencils- no paper or plastic wrapping
- Dry erase markers- black and other colors
- Glue sticks- large & small
- Erasers- Large pink & pencil top
- Scissors- pointed 5 in., 6 in., 7 in., & 8 in.
- Colored pencils- 16 & 24 count
- Markers- 10 pack fat classic & skinny
- Headphones & Earbuds
- Backpacks



News from Library

There is a new look in the church library. The update is almost done. Going through all the books I came across a couple of books you might be interested in reading as

we WELCOME Pastor Joy to the First Baptist family.
YOUR PASTOR'S HEART by Wagner and Martin
CONTAGIOUS JOY a devotional to lift your spirits
UNDER the POTTER'S HANDS COUNT it all JOY by Fleta Robinson
GOD'S JOYFUL SURPRISE by Sue Monk Kidd

Carolyn Kimbrel

American Baptist Women's Ministries

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES

Women and their spouses are invited to the Luther Rice ABWM Summer Rally on Tuesday, July 15 at FBC Olathe, 2024 E 151st, Olathe, KS

Cornhole Tournament begins at 5:45pm

Dinner 6:15pm

Barber Shop Music, News from Murrow Serve Team,
Installation of Officers

SONG of SOLOMON

The **Song of Solomon** is a beautiful love poem: located between Ecclesiastes and Isaiah in the Old testament. "Song" frequently refers to music honoring God. The Jews read this "Song" at Passover calling it "the Holy of Holies".

This poem contains guidelines for living a godly partnership of love, trust and respect that results in a strong, faithful marriage and family life.

King Solomon reigned over the United Kingdom 40 years.

Outline:

I. The Courtship: "Leaving" (1:2-3:5)

A. The Lovers' Remembrances (1:2-2:7)

B. The Lovers Expression of Reciprocal Love (2-8-3:5)

II. The Wedding: "Cleaving" (3-6-5-1)

A. The Kingly Bridegroom (3:6-11)

B. The wedding and first night together (4:1-5:1a)

C God's approval (5:1b)

III. The Marriage: "Weaving" (5:2-8:14)

A. The first major disagreement (5:2-6:3)

B. The Restoration (6:4-8:4)

C Growing in Grace (8-5-14)

Gen. 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

Proverbs 5:15-23 The image of refresh full water with the joy of a faithful marriage in contrast to the disaster of infidelity.

1 Cor. 7:1-5; 13:1-8 "The Principles of Marriage"

Eph. 5:18-32 Of marriage this mystery is profound. It refers to Christ and the church.

Col. 3:18-19 "Wives submit to your husband as is fitting to the Lord. Husbands love your wife(s)* and do not be harsh with her/them.

1 Peter 3:1-7 "Likewise wife(s)*, be subject to your own husband(s), so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without the word by the conduct of their wife(s), when they see your respectful and pure conduct.

Solomon "walked with God". He never forgot his first wife, his first love, a Shulamite girl from Lebanon. But, at the end of his life He became distracted with his newest hobby. That is "the rest of the story".

"Be Strong & Courageous" Deuteronomy. 31:6a

August 2025 Book of the Month: **Exodus**

Lilly C. ABWM -

* consider OT culture

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

410 S. Hickory Street P.O. Box 308
Ottawa, KS 66067



John Dryden 7-2

Phyllis Cunningham 7-7

Bill Kern 7-7

Adley Huggard 7-8

Janet Wolken 7-11

Eric Duderstadt 7-13

Haddie Wolken 7-13

Gloria Terrill 100th 7-16

Seth Cubbison 7-18

Golden Peterson 7-27

Ramon Schmidt 7-31

Beth Testorff 7-31