

The VISITOR

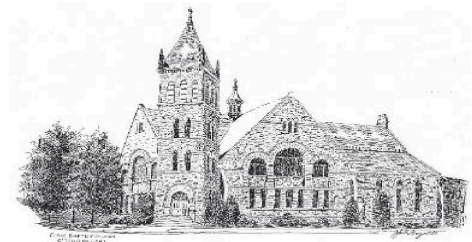
March 2026

This March, we find ourselves in the thick of the Lenten journey. The church calendar orients our Sundays around walking with Jesus towards Jerusalem where he willingly gives himself over to suffer on the cross. Lent has not always been a tradition practiced by Baptists, but many have found deep meaning in the invitations of Lent. It was not until I was in college that I heard of the tradition. One Wednesday night while serving as a youth volunteer, we made our way over to the chapel to celebrate Ash Wednesday. Together, we sang Come Ye Sinners, Poor, and Needy:

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore,
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow'r.

Lent invites us to reflection, repentance, charity, and renewed faith. These next 40 or so days, we recognize that we are in need of God's help. Embracing the season's solemnity does not void Lent of the hopeful whisper of revival. The upcoming weeks can show us that despite what is to come Jesus never leaves us alone on the road. On Sundays, we celebrate a "mini Easter" which is not included in the 40-day period. These stories will remind us that Jesus is the Savior of the world and invites us to know transformative hope. Maybe this Lent we give up something not to say we did but to find that Jesus provides for us. Try limiting your time on social media or consuming media. Fast from negative self-talk. Fast from spending. Incorporate a new spiritual discipline or practice like Lectio Divina or Praying in Color. Listen to a Christian podcast (might I suggest Kate Bowler or the Bible Project). No matter what you give up or add on know that Jesus welcomes the weak and wounded, sick and sore, to walk with him. What lies before us is the cross and resurrection. May Lenten revive us into a people of deeper faith and deeper hope.

Walking with you,
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 March 1

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

The deadline for the **April** newsletter is **March 23**, 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.

Thankful Thursday will be **March 26, 5-6:30pm**. Please sign up to bring a dessert or help serve or simply come eat. You are encouraged to sit with someone new to you, share a story and get to know our neighbors.



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; Jenna Johnson; Angela Audiss; Warren Smith

Shut-Ins: Dana Coble; Sylvia Starky; Golden Peterson; Gloria Terrill; Carol Allen; Marsha Hermreck; Gene Bromert; Jeannie Randel; Bob & Judi Becker; Lex & Dee Gislar; Ron & Linda Walker

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.



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

Spaghetti sauce, Corn, Peas, Mixed veggies, Mac & cheese

Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels always needed

*No longer needing plastic containers



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.

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.

Men's Bible Study will meet the **2nd and 4th Saturdays** of each month 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.

A baby shower for Joy and Austin will be **Sunday, April 19th**, more details to come.

The Spring Secret Place Devotionals are in the office for \$1 each.

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is March 9, 9:30am EH

Outreach

Meeting is March 11, 5:30pm



Church Council meeting is March 4 at 7:00pm

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

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.



Sunday School Info

There will be no Sunday School for all ages on Easter (4/5) and Mother's Day (5/10)

ABW Ministries

ABWM will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at 9:30 in Elliott Hall. Jan Lee will be hostess. The program is Skylor from Ad Astra Advocacy Center; the project will be size 4, 5, 6, or 7 diapers or money for Life Care. All women are invited to attend.

Westminster Presbyterian will be holding a Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday morning, March 14th from 8:00-10:30 am. This is a community fundraiser where all monies will be distributed back into the community of Ottawa.

They will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice and coffee
0-3 (FREE); 4-10 (\$3); and 11 on up (\$5)

Westminster will also begin their FREE Community Dinners on Wednesday, March 18th from 5:30-7 pm – 401 West 13th Street. They plan to continue these the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

FBC Branson Trip

Information about future trips to the Sight and Sound Theater in Branson, Missouri. Because David will continue its run through October, 2026, we are not planning to take a bus to Branson in June this year. However, The Miracle of Christmas will be on stage in November and December. If there is enough interest in this show, we would like to take a bus to Branson on November 6/7, and then we can go again in June, 2027 when their new show starts.

Please send a text or email to Cathy Duderstadt (785-418-7050 or dude416@swbell.net) if you are interested in going to the show with us this fall.

FBC Encourages you to choose one or more of the following ABCCR Camps/Conferences this summer!

(Grades are based upon the grade you will ENTER in the Fall of 2026.)

**Mountains & Prairies Youth Conference
(9th-HS Grad)**

June 14-18; Granby, CO

White Memorial High School Camp (9th-12th)

July 13-17; Council Grove, KS

White Memorial Middle School Camp (6th-8th)

July 13-17; Council Grove, KS

White Memorial Junior Camp (4th-6th)

July 20-24; Council Grove, KS

FBC Ottawa will automatically pay 50% of ONE camp/conference for each child or youth per summer. If you need additional help, scholarships are available through our Haug Camping Fund and through ABCCR.

Mountains & Prairies Conference is \$400 per youth.

White Memorial Camps are all \$425 per camper.

****Registration Deadline is Friday, May 29, 2026!****

Sign up sheets will be included with your bulletins starting in April.

March 2026 ABWM BOM DANIEL

DANIEL is an historical account of the Jews who lived in captivity and shows how God is in control of heaven and earth, directing the forces of nature, the destiny of nations and the care of his people.

Study the Book of Daniel before reading Revelation. It helps with understanding the imagery.

This is Daniel's record of events that occurred when Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem, in about 535 B.C.

Young Daniel and his friends Hannaiah, Mishael, & Azariah were among the Jewish captives taken to Babylon. The best and brightest, young men of nobility, physically fit, handsome, educated, curious, and trainable. The King arranged for the chief official to supervise and rename them: Belteshazzar; Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego.

These young men stayed true to their Jewish training while doing their best to follow God and survive in a foreign land. Daniel Chapters: (1-6) contain stories of Diet, dream interpretation, fiery furnace, Lions Den & more. (7) Visions: God reviled prophecy and visions to Daniel. Vivid descriptions, pre- Sci-Fi style, symbolized creatures. (8:26) God gave him visions of the far distant future events. (8-12) Apocalyptic visions including a direct prediction of Jesus. A reveling adventure of scripture all true.

"IT'S IN THE BOOK"

Lilly Coultis ABWM

From Librarian, Carolyn Kimbrel
With this the Lenten season, I found some interesting books for you to ponder this season.

- FREEING JESUS by Diana Bulter Bass
- THE CASE FOR CHRIST by Lee Strobel
- THE JOY OF FINDING JESUS by Dr. Bill Bright
- JESUS IN ME by Anne Graham Lott
- THE DAY I MET JESUS by Frank Viola and Mary Demuth
- JESUS AS THEY SAW HIM by William Barclay

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

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



Alan Cunningham 3-2

Steve Brown 3-5

Ed Randel 3-5

Marrel Macy 3-10

Devin Allison 3-11

Marcus Martin 3-17

Vangie Webb 3-18

Jay Ball 3-25

Sandy Holbert 3-29