

THE VISITOR

September 2026

While scrolling late one night, I came across a quote that has stuck with me these weeks.

What a privilege to be tired from the work you prayed for.

I have thought about this often because of the season of life I find myself in, or maybe it was because we participated in the Fusion Expo last night. I am confident that you might also share this sentiment. Summer has come and gone. You might be tired from returning to school, tired from the hustle of summer, tired from work, tired of the news cycle, tired of being sick and tired. All these feelings are a privilege to living a full life. A life of faith that is busy. Imagine what you have experienced because of God's goodness. A life full of love, loss, and God's faithfulness. The work of following Christ continues. You may have prayed for your faith to increase or to be of service in God's kingdom. This work is tiring, but it is a blessing to get to participate. We serve a God that chooses again and again to engage and invite humanity into the work of love, grace, justice, and mercy. If you are tired. I pray God gives you rest. That you would find rest in God's overwhelming grace. Rest in the truth that you are loved. Rest in the comfort of God's constant presence. Find your voice to say "no" when you need to. On the other hand, say "yes" when you feel the Holy Spirit's nudge. It is a privilege to live. In the gospel of John, Jesus says, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10b) I hope you feel the joy in living and find abundance despite the feelings of tiredness. It is a privilege to be tired from the work you prayed for. Be attentive to where God is stirring you to rest this month.

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 September 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.

The deadline for the **October** newsletter is **September 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 **September 24, 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

Norma Coble (Dana Coble's mother); Nathan Ball; Shelly Frank; Tom Lantis (Kelli Ball's father); Janet Wolken; Bill Kern; Jenna Johnson; Angela Audiss

Shut-Ins: Dana Coble; Sylvia Starky; Golden Peterson; Carol Allen; Marsha Hermreck; Jeannie Randel; Bob & Judi Becker; Lex & Dee Gislir; Ron & Linda Walker; Bob & Marilyn Lovett

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.

Hope House will be closed beginning August 18 for a new roof, they will be closed 2 to 3 weeks or until the roof is complete.

Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels always needed



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 at Warren Smith's house at **945 S Mulberry**. All men are welcome.

Our Outreach Committee provides breakfast the **last Sunday of each month in the Parlor from 8:30-9:15.**

The office will be closed in observance of Labor Day on September 7th. Christy will be off on Tuesday, September 8th.

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is September 14, 9:30am EH

Outreach

Meeting is September 9, 5:30pm



Church Council meeting is September 2 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.

A new Saturday morning book study will be starting September 12 at 9:30 in the FBC library. The book is I Surrender All by Priscilla Shirer. If you are interested and would like a copy of the book please let Jordan Fritz know.

Thank you for making our Back 2 School Bash a successful event. We supplied 226 students with backpacks and supplies for school. Four wonderful people provided 50 haircuts and we gave out 20 coupons for free haircuts at hair salons in town. There were also 10 dental screenings done. Everyone had a good morning receiving supplies, enjoying cookies, snacks, and water.

Apples For Kids is a program that provides fresh apples to nutritionally challenged school age kids in Ottawa schools. This program is totally funded by individual and group donations from people in Ottawa. All the funds raised are used to purchase apples for kids during the school year. Last year we provided apples to over 200 kids during the school year. Please call Russ (785-248-6534) or Beth (785-248-1676) Testorff to receive further information about this program and ways to contribute to it. Thank you to anyone who contributed last year.

All women who are interested in becoming involved in ABW for 2026-2027, are invited to join us for lunch on **Wednesday, September 16 at 11:30am** at Prime Time Grill in Ottawa. Please let Janet Wolken 785-418-4104 or jswolken@hotmail.com know if you plan to attend so she can make reservations. Hope you can attend!

ABW Dates to Remember

Sept. 22 -Fall Board Meeting in Olathe

Sept. 25-26-Central Region Annual

Gathering-Priarie Baptist, ABWM lunch **Sept. 25**

Sept. 29 -Fall Rally at Elm Grove Baptist Church

RISE Youth Conference 2026

Join us on **Sunday, September 13th, from 4-8pm** as we celebrate the hope that comes from encountering God! Games, Worship, Crafts, Food & More!

First Baptist Church of Olathe

If your youth is interested in attending please let Pastor Joy know.



Thanks to Lynda Alderman, Kathy Brooks and Carolyn Kimbrell as they took on the huge project of organizing and moving our FBC history room.



OU Fusion was a success! Thank you to our Outreach committee for planning and working the event. Thank you to everyone who donated candy, the candy salad was gone fast! Thankful to have the opportunity to connect with new OU students.

ABWM Book of the Month AMOS

GOD called Amos, a farmer/shepherd, who lived in the Judea, the southern region of Israel, where he was content to herd sheep and tend sycamore-fig trees in the beautiful countryside. Amos liked what he was doing. I'm sure the last thing on his mind was this prophet thing. But the Lord gave him a life changing vision, to deliver a message to His people living in the northern region, Israel. It has been about 200 years since God's refugees from Egypt arrived at the "Promised" land with instructions to completely clear all people, animals and idols of those living there. But God's people did NOT follow instructions. As generations passed they drifted far from obedience to their One God and became disobedient In ways of inter marriage, worshipping idols of foreign gods, & disobeying Yashua. Uzziah was king of the South, Judea. Jeroboam king of the North, Israel. Both kings miss-lead the people. So God sent Amos Israel, north, with very specific messages:

To all tribes in Israel [Ch 1:[v.3] This is what the Lord says:

"For three sins of Damascus. Even for four, I will not relent. Because she thrashed Gilead."..... [v6] "For three sins of Gaza even for four. I will not relent. Because.. .[9]"For three sins of Tyre even for four..... [v.11] "For three sins of Edom even for four. I will not relent. Because of sins. And on to... [13]Ammon, [2:1]Moab, [v4]Judah, [6] Israel God warned Amos those "stiff necked people" would not listen. Yet he prophesied. GOD gives HOPE [see Ch. 9:11-15] Hosea was sent south to Judea. This is for another date. Our God is trustworthy and patient with us.

October 2026: I-II Timothy & Titus

Lilly Coultis

Community wide food drive September 19 & 20. On the 19th drop off food in the back of Austin's truck on 4th street next to FBC during cruise night from 5-7, all who donate will be entered into a raffle for gift cards. On September 20 drop off donations at Westminster Presbyterian at 401 W 13th off Elm Street from 12-2. All food will be distributed to organizations in Ottawa and neighboring Franklin County towns.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

410 S. Hickory Street P.O. Box 308

Ottawa, KS 66067



Frank Caryl 9-1

Jordan Fritz 9-1

Gary Shipp 9-1

Carolyn Kimbrel 9-4

Wayne Jones 9-6

Lauren Percy 9-12

W. David Lee 9-13

Meghan Forster 9-13

Linda Bishop 9-15

Jan Lee 9-24

Dana Coble 9-25

Melissa VanLeiden 9-25