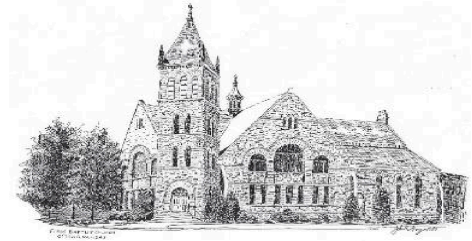


The VISITOR

April 2026

Christ is Risen! He has risen indeed! Happy Eastertide, Church. We celebrate together the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Holy Week has come, and we end our Lenten journey by following Jesus to the cross. We observe the words of Jesus during the Last Supper as he bent to wash the feet of his disciples. Judas among them included in this final act of love and service. Bending down in humility, Jesus said, "So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." (John 13:14-15) Later that night, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane with his disciples inviting them to pray. Praying Jesus said, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want." (Matthew 26:39). As the temple police, chief priests, and elders came to arrest Jesus, violence erupted and a slave's ear was cut off. "But Jesus said, 'No more of this!' And he touched his ear and healed him." (Luke 22:51). Even in his time of betrayal. Jesus chose peace and rejected violence even in his defense. After being taken to Pilate, it was asked if the people wanted Jesus or Barabbas, an insurrectionist, released. The people shouted, "Crucify him!" (Mark 15:13). Jesus endured great suffering as he carried the cross. Upon the cross he muttered, "It is finished." (John 19:30) Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took the body and buried Jesus as was the custom of the Jews. (John 19:38-42). That Saturday, those that followed Jesus mourned on the Sabbath. Left to feel the sadness, disappointment and confusion in all shades and hues. We call this Silent or Holy Saturday. For us it serves as a reminder of liminal space. A threshold between the knowing and the unknown. It is there where we least expect to find God that we are met with space to contemplate. By observing such emotions, we prepare the experience the miracle and shock of resurrection. On Easter Sunday, we will gather in defiance of death, sin, and suffering to proclaim God's love and power. By the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ we are reconciled and restored into relationship with God. It is my hope this month that we would stand amazed and embrace resurrection hope even now. Newness is all around inviting us to take notice. Christ is RISEN!

Hoppy Easter,
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 April 5

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 **May** newsletter is **April 24**, 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 **April 23, 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; Warren Smith

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

Syrup, Pancake Mix, Egg Noodles, Canned Chicken, Taco Seasoning, Beef Ramen Noodles

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 in the **Homebuilder's Room**, the North Sanctuary door will be open.

A baby shower for Joy and Austin will be **Sunday, April 19th**, during fellowship time. Please join us for refreshments and to help celebrate the upcoming arrival of sweet baby Palmer. Here is their registry link, which was also sent with the bulletin email Friday.

<https://my.babylist.com/joy-martinez-marshall>

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is April 13, 9:30am EH

Outreach

Meeting is April 8, 5:30pm

Church Council meeting is

April 1 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), Joy & Austin's baby shower (4/19) and Mother's Day (5/10)

ABW Ministries

ABWM will meet on April 15 at 9:30. The program is Skylor Yeager from Ad Astra Advocacy Center. Janet Wolken is hostess. The project is individually wrapped snacks for Backsnacks for Ottawa Elementary School Students. All women are invited.

The office will be closed Monday, April 6. Christy will be out of the office April 7 & 8.

Good Friday service will be at the gazebo at city park at **noon April 3rd**, will be moved to FBC if inclement weather.

Silent Saturday Service-- April 4 at 11-11:30 am in the Sanctuary. Join us for a reflective service as we observe Silent Saturday and hold space for doubt, contemplation, and prepare to be surprised by hope.

Easter Sunday Baptism

We are excited to celebrate believer's baptism Easter Sunday as a testament to new life.

Mark your calendars!

VBS on May 26, 27, 28 from 6:00- 8:30 pm at

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Ages: potty trained through completion of 5th grade

Volunteers: 6th grade & Beyond!

We are excited to partner with Ottawa First Methodist Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church to share the love of Jesus with our community.

Please let Pastor Joy know if you are willing to volunteer. More details to come.

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.

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

ZECHARIAH

APRIL 2026 BOOK OF THE MONTH

ABWM LR / FBC OTTAWA

Zechariah is a book of Israel's prophets. It's a collection of messages and visions from God. Zechariah's parents were among the first Jewish captives from Jerusalem to Babylon, the place of his birth. That must have been a terrible journey for his parents. The name Zechariah means "The Lord remembers."

Zechariah 1:1 The Lord did remember. As a young man (In the 8th month of the second year of Darius), the word of God came to the prophet Zechariah with an angry message concerning the evil ways of HIS chosen people. But the LORD knew they would not listen or pay attention. Chapters 1 - 8 are the first of two parts that covers the time that some of the exiles were allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.

Zechariah, a young man recorded the following: God gave him parables the people could comprehend. First part-(Chap. 1 -23)

1:1-6 **A call to pay attention to the Lord**

1:7-6-8 **Eight visions**

1:7-17 **The man among the Myrtle Trees**

1:18-21 **Four Horns and Four Craftsmen**

2:1-13 **A Man With A Measuring Line**

3;1-10 **Joshua the high Priest**

4:1:14 **The golden lampstand**

5:1-4 **The flying scroll**

5:5-11 **The ephah and the woman**

6;1-8 **The four chariots**

6:9-15 **The crowning of Joshua**

7:1-8:23 **Reply to the deputation from Bethel**

Second part written many years later consists of 2 messages believed to be the word come from God.

9-11 and 12-14 speaks of wars and rumors of wars
13:7-9 **The smiting of the shepherd and scattering of his flock.**

14:1-21 **Messiah's appearing and the establishment of his kingdom on earth.**

In reference to talk of war between the World and Israel, in the first judgment through which Gentile power over Israel is finally destroyed and Israel is blessed with strength to overcome all enemies.

"I hope you enjoy this journey with Zechariah."

LR April 2026 Book of the Month
Personal Development Lilly Coultis

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

410 S. Hickory Street P.O. Box 308

Ottawa, KS 66067



Briley Huggard 4-2

Eldon Rader 4-2

Raygen Paddock 4-3

Nathan Ball 4-4

Cheryl Dryden 4-4

Heidi Duderstadt 4-4

Austin Marshall 4-6

David Alderman 4-8

Therese Payne 4-9

Tim Van Leiden 4-10

Karen Campbell 4-13

Brian Fast 4-17

Brian Lewis 4-17

Lex Gislar 4-19

Gloria Tyler 4-28

Pat Larkin 4-28

Dawn Cubbison 4-28

David Testorff 4-30