

THE VISITOR

July 2026

If becoming a mother has taught me anything, it is that I do not know a song by heart. Experts say to sing to our baby, but what do you do when all the songs somehow end up to the tune "Jingle Bells?" So, I did what any sleep-deprived pastor would do, I sang the hymns or at least how I could remember them. Back to the basics of worship that teach us Scripture, theology (not always good theology), and how to glorify God. It should be no surprise though that then all the hymns were to the tune of "To God be the Glory." It is this hymn that my family sings at almost every worship service together in the Primera Iglesia Bautista.

*To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
so loved He the world that He gave us His Son...*
Palmer's eyes still wide open

Ain't that the truth? God has been doing great things in the midst of our congregation, community, and world if we look close enough. If we are open to being surprised by hope we cannot unsee it. Indeed, to God be the glory for bringing newness into our lives and for offering all people abundant grace.

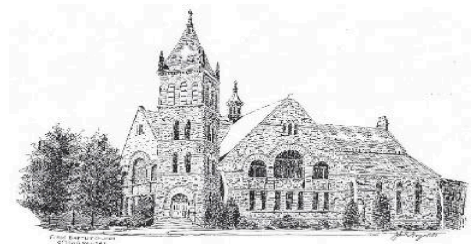
*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!*
Struggling to keep his eyes open

This month, let us embrace praise that leads to rejoicing. There is much in store for us yet this summer and the months to come. We must be bold enough to hold on to that promise and willing enough to live out of our faith. I am grateful for your generosity in extending maternity leave and am excited to return to fellowship with a new member in tow.

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give Him the glory, great things He hath done...*
Asleep at last

Great things He hath done and will do as we seek Him together.

Pastor Joy



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

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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 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 **August** newsletter is **July 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 **July 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; Darnell Johnson

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

The office will be closed Friday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day. Christy will be off Monday, July 6.

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

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is July 13, 9:30am EH

Outreach

Meeting is July 8, 5:30pm



Church Council meeting is

July 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.



FBC Pool Party

Invite your friends and family to our pool party at the city pool on Friday, July 24th 6:30-8pm. The pool holds 300 people, all are welcome.

Pastor Joy will return to the pulpit July 19. The remaining pulpit supply during Pastor Joy's maternity leave will be covered by the following

July 5
July 12

John Williams
Rev. Dr. Pam Durso

FBC Library

If you need some reading materials while staying inside during this heat wave, please visit our FBC library to check out some great books. Did you know there is a book in our library written by our very own Dr. Bud Gollier? What a great read!

Back 2 School Bash

Our 5th annual Back 2 School Bash will be in Elliott Hall Saturday, August 1, 9-noon. A list of school supplies needed will be in your bulletin mid July. Helpers are needed to set up July 30 & 31 from 9-12. Volunteers are needed to help give out school supplies on August 1 from 8:30-noon.

OGHS

Thank you for giving \$972 during June.

Mountain Prairie Youth Conference at YMCA Snow Mountain

Two of our FBC youth attended camp/conference in Colorado this summer. Thank you to Morgan Aspinwall for providing transportation for them. Teens and sponsors from five ABC regions gathered at YMCA Snow Mountain last week for MPYC. We spent time in worship, small groups, workshops, and, of course, free time enjoying the mountains! Our keynote speaker was Pastor DJ Dangerfield from our own Central Region! The praise band was from the First Katchin Baptist Church from Omaha, NE. Folks from five ABCCR churches were at the conference.

From Megan at Westminster Presbyterian

It has been a month now and everything is sorted and stored away, pictures have been posted, and our hearts are still full! I want to thank you so much for partnering with us for this summer's VBS experience. I enjoyed getting to know you and working with all the volunteers! To be honest there weren't as many kids as I had hoped, BUT every kid who attended seemed to have a great time and learned that God loves them and is always with them. What more could I hope for?!

It was a wonderful 3 days of love, fellowship, and knowing that God was with us every step of the way! I think if we continue to work together, we have potential to reach more kids every year!

Thankful for 41 kids and 29 volunteers!

VBS mission offering to World Vision for fruit trees collected **\$322.03**. That will purchase **35 trees** for families in need.

FBC Branson Trip

Sign ups have been emailed, are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the office. Our FBC bus trip to Branson is **November 6 & 7**. We will enjoy seeing The Miracle of Christmas at the Sight & Sound Theatre, followed by dinner at the Keeter Center at the College of the Ozarks. Hopefully we will be able to tour some of the Branson light exhibits as this is the beginning of their holiday season. We will stay at the Grand Oaks Hotel again, breakfast included (and they have an indoor and an outdoor pool!). We will visit the Tanger Outlet Mall before heading our bus back to Ottawa. We have room for 55 on the bus, so reservations will be on a first come first serve basis.

ABWM Book of the Month July 2026 JAMES

Christ was crucified on April 30 A.D.
James probably wrote this letter A.D. 49.

James, a brother of Jesus, was a leader in the Jerusalem church. Written to the first century Christians living in Gentile communities outside Palestine and to all Christians everywhere. His goal was to expose hypocritical practices within the church and to teach right Christian behavior. This letter expresses James' concern for the persecuted. Christians who were once part of the Jerusalem Church

James begins his letter by outlining some

1. basic characteristics of the Christian life James 1:1-27
2. Christians must act justly in public. James 2:1-13
3. Good advice on theological discussions and relationship between faith & action. James 2:14-26
4. Be careful how you speak, Be nice, kind James 3:1-12
5. Two kinds of wisdom: earthly & heavenly. James 3:13-18. Then he encourages his readers to turn from evil desires and obey God. James 4:1-12
6. James warns about trusting their own plans and possessions. James 4:13-5:6
7. Be patient with one another. James 5:7-11
8. Be straight forward in their promises. James 5:12
9. Pray for each other. James 5:13-18
10. Help each other to remain faithful to God. James 5:19,20.

"This letter could be considered a how to book on Christian living. Confrontation, challenge, and a call to commitment await you in its pages. Read James and become a doer of the Word (1-22-25)" [Life Application Study Bible] NIV1991 LMC

2 Chronicles 7:14 " If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." PRAY

Pray for the USA, Israel, people of Iran, and beyond!

Lilly Coultis

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

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Ottawa, KS 66067



John Dryden 7-2

Phyllis Cunningham 7-7

Bill Kern 7-7

Carol Hahner 7-8

Adley Huggard 7-8

Janet Wolken 7-11

Eric Duderstadt 7-13

Haddie Wolken 7-13

Landon Neal 7-14

Seth Cubbison 7-18

Golden Peterson 7-27

Ramon Schmidt 7-31

Beth Testorff 7-31