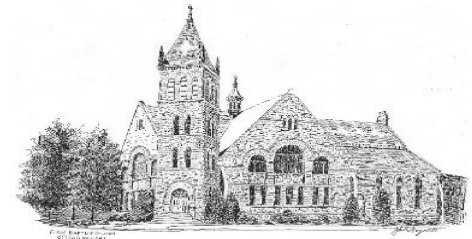


The VISITOR

October 2023

“The Path of Fall”



The changing of the seasons from summer to fall has me reflecting on change. As the season changes, temperatures eventually drop and leaves display their colorful majesty before falling to the ground. Fall is officially upon us and change is indeed in the air.

This fall, however, I find myself reflecting about a different kind of change of seasons. As I write this, it is exactly one year since my Dad passed away. It is a change of seasons, a season acknowledging his physical absence while celebrating the blessing that he was and is my Dad. I could write too many words about the kind of man and father he was; strong yet tenderly compassionate, an athletic, sports loving, fishing, hardworking man who shed tears watching “Little House on the Prairie,” who prioritized being present for my sister and me, who was liked and respected in the community and so much more. Writing this is simply yet profoundly acknowledging the reality of grief. Grieving doesn’t mean we are perpetually sad or burdened but it does mean we face and continue to face the pain and reality of pain of loss.

Jesus tells us, “Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.” Mourning is doing the work of grieving, choosing to remember, choosing to feel sad, grateful, melancholy, tearful, smiling,.....allowing whatever we feel room to breathe. In announcing to us, “Blessed are those who mourn,” Jesus offers hope as we face rather than avoid pain.

Theologian Walter Brueggemann states that one of the prophetic tasks of the church is to grieve in a society that practices denial. Mark Scandrette insightfully writes about the beatitudes in his book, *The Ninefold Path of Jesus*. He names our first instinct is to turn away from pain yet in this specific beatitude Jesus announces God’s presence and blessing in and through the discomfort. Rather than avoiding pain, we are encouraged to face it with assurance of God’s loving presence.

As the seasons change as I write this, I am fully aware that all who read this have likely experienced multiple seasons of grief. Perhaps I am only a novice in this regard, yet can point to the one who said, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted,” to the One whose life, death and resurrection assures us death will not have the final word.

Thank you Dad for being a living embodiment of a loving father. Thanks to each of you for reading this and for being on the journey with Jesus. Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Grace, peace and love,
Pastor Tiger

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](https://www.facebook.com/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).



*Sunday School following worship
for all ages!*

Communion October 1st

Celebrating the Lord’s supper.

Those of you worshiping 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.

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 your support!

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

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the **November** newsletter is **October 23rd**, 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.



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

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Bob Lovett (Kim Randel's father); Norma Coble (Dana Coble's mother); Glenda Schmidt; Nathan Ball; Shelly Frank; Tom Lantis (Kelli Ball's father); Rachel Morsett; Mattie Willhite; Amber Fast; Mason Sweeney; Wayne Jones

Shut-Ins: Betty Bloomer; Dana Coble; Doris Grogan; Sylvia Starky; Bev Hughes; Golden Peterson; Gloria Terrill

Military Service People: Nicholas Hermreck (Virginia); Sgt. Nate Plaschka-Fort Hood Texas; Brad Davis (Bill & Janice Kern's grandson)-Kuwait
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 now 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.



Hope House Needs

spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, ramen noodles, dry beans, jelly, peanut butter, canned peas, soup, canned mixed vegetables, pancake mix, syrup, applesauce, toilet paper

Thankful Thursday Gathering

The next meal will be served October 26, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00pm. Meals will be served the 4th Thursday of each month. We are seeking to fulfill a need, by simply providing a warm meal, a smiling face, and good friendship with people from our church.

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.



Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is October 9th, 9:30am EH

Stewardship

Meeting is October 9th, 5:30pm EH

Outreach

Meeting is October 11th at 6:30pm



Church Council meeting is October 17th at 7:00 p.m. EH

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

WMO 2023: WHAT IS THE WORLD MISSION OFFERING?

Through International Ministries' World Mission Offering (WMO), every fall thousands across the country celebrate and give financial support to ministries that God is using to transform the world.

For more than two hundred years, International Ministries have combined resilience, adaptability and creative approaches to cross-cultural ministry with faithfulness to Scripture. We serve alongside our many local partners in ministry around the globe.

During the 2023 World Mission Offering you can learn more about the work of Global Servants Aaron & Valerie Osterbrock as they train and mentor pastors through Sabah Theological Seminary in Malaysia. You can also see the impact of Global Serpent Faye Yarbrough's ministry as she used her math and science background to tutor children at Teleiosa Christian School in South Africa.

These stories offer a glimpse into what God is doing through International Ministries 120+ global servants and 250+ international partners in 70 countries.

Our church has set a goal of \$2,500 to be given in the month of October. Please be generous in helping to support the work of these Global Servants who have answered the call to go "Into all the world". **There are special envelopes for this offering or note WMO on your check.**

There is also a daily Prayer Guide available.

Jane Smith and Vangie Webb, missions committee

The American Baptist Women's Ministries will meet
October 18, 9:30 in Elliott Hall, Hostess-Janet Wolken
Scripture lesson: Jan Lee, Isaiah:41:10

Local mission project: items for Willow Domestic
Violence Center

*Diapers size 5 & 6 *Pull Ups 2T-5T *Laundry pods
*Textured hair care products *Lotion (face & body)

We will travel to Paola for an Association rally.
October 24, 9:00-1:00

Webinars on October 12, 7:30 CDT. BE STRONG! BE
COURAGEOUS! Follow examples God gave us!
October 26, 7:30 CDT, Leadership: Enjoy the Journey

Remember that the World Mission Offering is taken
during the month of October!

ABWM BOOK OF THE MONTH 1 CORINTHIANS

Saul, a Pharisee from Tarsus and defender of the church of Rome became a zealous persecutor of those radical "Christians". Saul witnessed the stoning of Steven then, while traveling to Damascus he met Jesus [Acts 9:5]. Paul did not know 1800 years in the future our generation would be reading his personal, heartfelt letters to the established churches of Asia Minor and more.

Through his letters we have a glimpse of life in the first century and how alike and different life is for us in this century. Paul, usually in prison, dictated messages to an assistant inscribing his words. Imagine no recorders, no spell check and accurately handwritten. This letter is a reply to messages sent from the church in Corinth. Through Paul's response we have a pretty good idea of the struggles of the Corinthian community.

1 Corinthians examines 6 Themes

*The wisdom of the world does not compare with God's wisdom. [v. 1:19]

*Rewards God is ready to welcome his people to eternal life but he mentions "God's judgment seat" [2 Cor. 2:5]

*Spiritual Gifts Are many, different, special and we are required to find and submit to our gifts with vigor, a humble attitude and respect for others. [1 Cor. 12-14]

*Christ Resurrection is the foundation of our belief and salvation. [v. 15:1-58]

*Living like Christ. Corinth, a metropolis, world trade center, worshipers of many gods. Christian life is a radical change from the pagan way of life.

*Love is indispensable

[Love lifted me. When nothing else could help. Love lifted me]

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Respectably
Lilly Coultis, ABWM Love Gift

International Ministries

Let's Dance: Celebrate Cuba EXIT Pilot

Our first intensive training for the EXIT (Expressive Arts in Transition) Cuba pilot project finished two weeks ago in Matanzas, Cuba, but the yearlong practice and supervision process is just beginning. Ten creative and committed leaders will be artfully accompanying various communities throughout Cuba as they implement early intervention practices to help deal with the impacts of trauma.

Due to ongoing trauma, we armor up to protect ourselves, get trapped in the past, and hold stress in our bodies. The arts help us to engage our senses to make sense of our stories, practice presence by staying in the here and now, and move forward in healthy ways as researchers of our own bodies. With a focus on salutogenesis, an approach to human health that examines the factors contributing to the promotion and maintenance of physical and mental well-being rather than disease and pathology, we are learning to ask ourselves, "Where is health here? What do I need to do that will nurture well-being here?"

While in Matanzas, we held stories of struggle and strength, we processed grief and frustrations, we sat in silence and song, painted and played, used our imaginations to travel in time and danced out animal strengths that would help us face our daily challenges. Immersed in the beautiful surroundings of the seminary overlooking the sea and shaded by flamboyant trees, we rediscovered the resources around and within us that we already possess. With the accompaniment of the community, one participant was able to name and take steps towards healing a debilitating fear that had plagued them for years. Another embraced a new perspective on a negative bias held and saw the benefits of a "both and" approach. By stepping into the future with a resource from the past and surrounded by friends now, another saw themselves accomplishing a long-held dream within the year. These are just a few of the glimpses of transformation that we witnessed together.

I am so grateful for the support of many folks who are making this pilot project a reality. God works in communities to transform our mourning into dancing and our struggles into strengths.

Thanks for being a part of mine,

MyLinda

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

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



Lynda Alderman 10-1

Russ Testorff 10-1

Wendell Smith 10-2

Somneng Phiouphilavanh 10-6

Cathy Brown 10-7

Presley Dryden 10-7

David Drumright 10-8

Colt Huggard 10-9

Doris Grogan 10-10

Bruce Peterson 10-10

Richard Larkin 10-12

Christy Jones 10-16

Marla Drumright 10-17

Edith Rader 10-21

Marsha Hermreck 10-22

Mouk Phiouphilavanh 10-25

Wynndee Lee 10-27