

THE VISITOR

August 2026

8 God is ready to overwhelm you with more blessings than you could ever imagine so that you'll always be taken care of in every way and you'll have more than enough to share.

9 Remember what is written about the One who trusts in the Lord:

*He scattered abroad; He gave freely to the poor;
His righteousness endures throughout the ages.*

-2 Corinthians 9:8-9 (The Voice)

It is that time of year again. The pencils are being sharpened. The students eager yet mourning summer's end. Caregivers ready to be back to a routine and schedule. Retired teachers relieved that they do not have any in-service hours to complete. Many preparing for football season to kick off. With school's beginning, August never fails to provoke excitement of some kind. We count on it each year even when we do not have classes and our family members have graduated. Our theme for this school year is "blessed to be a blessing." We are a blessed people. Not in the senses of what we possess but blessed with the truth that we are loved no matter our quirks and doubts. We are a blessed people because Christ has said so. Because we have been blessed to experience God's love, mercy, and abundance. We have the opportunity to share these blessings with the world. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth numerous times. He argued with them, taught them, and reminded them that they must serve each other. Despite their disputes, Paul encouraged them to be generous by giving funds to new churches and in Christian love. In turn, we are blessed more than we can imagine by a God that cares deeply for us and is with us no matter what lies ahead. In our blessedness, we have "more than enough to share." May this month be about giving generously whether it be in our service to the community, to the work of ministry, by sharing our faith at school, or by putting a backpack tag on our bag. God gives freely and may we in response do the same.

Feeling #Blessed,

Joy



JOIN US
SUNDAY MORNINGS
WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:30

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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 August 2

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.

The deadline for the **September** newsletter is **August 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 **August 27, 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.

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.

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

On **Sunday, August 16**, students, teachers, and school staff are invited to bring their school bags for a *Blessing of the Backpacks* during the Pastor prayer!

Church Leadership



Fellowship Committee

Meeting is August 10, 9:30am EH

Outreach

Meeting is August 12, 5:30pm



Church Council meeting is August 5 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 in September. 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.

Back 2 School Bash

Our 5th annual Back 2 School Bash will be in Elliott Hall **Saturday, August 1, 9-noon**. Volunteers are needed to help give out school supplies on August 1 from 8:30-noon.

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. **Registration and deposits are due August 15.**

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.

The next book study will be **Saturday, August 8th at 9:30** in the library.

We will worship at Ottawa University **Sunday, August 23rd at 10 am** in the Fredrikson Chapel. Please join us in connecting with the new students as we worship together. We will be taking a collection at the end of the service.

As I was shelving books lately, two books popped out at me: THE FAMILY OF JESUS and THE FRIENDS OF JESUS by Karen Kingsbury. I had not seen these before. I read a few chapters from both books, INTERESTING. Kingsbury brings these Biblical characters to life and their relationships with Jesus in a Christian fiction setting. They are easy to read, young adults would enjoy reading. They are on the table in the library. CHECK THEM OUT.

It's cool in the library, come find a book!
Carolyn Kimbrel, FBC Librarian



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.

Prayers for our kids and teachers as they start a new school year!



ABWM Book of the Month AMOS

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 allowed a remnant to remain. As generations passed they drifted far from obedience to their One God and became disobedient in ways of marriage, and worshiping idols of foreign gods. They kings chose to lead them. Uzziah was king of Judea, south. Jeroboam king of Israel, north.

Amos 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.

God sent Amos 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 on to...[13] Ammon, [2:1] Moab, [v4] Judah, [6] Israel God warned Amos those "stiff necked people" and would not listen. Yet he prophesied. [see Ch. 9:11-15] But he gives HOPE

Our God is so patient with us.

September 2026 I-II Timothy & Titus

Lilly Coultis

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Visitor

Published by the First Baptist Church

fbcottawa.org

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Ottawa, KS 66067



Tiger Pennington 8-2

Kay Eyman 8-3

Deb Winstone 8-5

Kim Randel 8-7

Mary Lynn Gollier 8-8

Brad Rowald 8-12

Charlotte Macy 8-14

Amber Fast 8-14

Travis Caryl 8-16

Chrissy Robinson 8-17

Trisha Allison 8-24

Kelly Moore 8-26

AJ Allison 8-27

Cathy Duderstadt 8-30

Dean Rich 8-30

Jessica Caryl 8-31