

# **The VISITOR**

August 2024  
"A Generous Vision"

In the booklet titled *The Spirituality of Fundraising*, Henri J.M. Nouwen says when we are raising funds for ministry, we are declaring, "We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources God has given you-your energy, your prayers, and your money-in this work to which God has called us." I believe in First Baptist Church Ottawa, I believe in you and I believe in us!

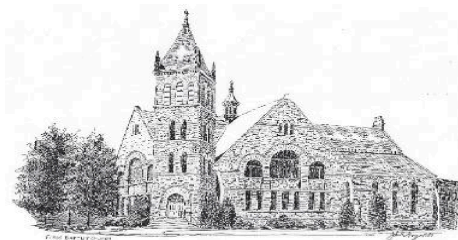
God is moving, stirring and working in and through us in a myriad of ways. As we worship, pray, sing, serve, share meals, care for one another and serve our community with compassion, we are being the "light on a hill" revealing the love of God through our shared life together. Youth ministry is expanding. We held a meaningful VBS, children and youth have gone to camp, Bible study groups meet and a men's Bible study is starting in September. ABW continues to thrive and serve, Church Council is engaged and serving and we have been recognized by the City Commission for opening our building to our homeless neighbors. Thankful Thursdays are a beautiful expression of hospitality where strangers become friends around a shared meal. The Back to School Bash continues to expand in scope and in numbers served. Our building is being used by a Girl Scout troop and a Christian dance group and so much, much more. We are enthusiastically loving God, loving people and serving the world!

Speaking of our building. In our building we are incredibly blessed with a spiritual and architectural treasure! As I write this, the exterior painting of the education building is nearly complete and next comes all the beautiful and artistic wood around the stained glass windows. In light of the beauty and location of our building, enhancing its beauty and maintaining its function is a gift beyond us to the community of Ottawa. Our building is in the process of becoming an even greater "wow" than it already is. And that "wow" points to the awesome God we love and serve.

We have an incredible opportunity between now and the first of the year to increase our giving to the church's general budget to excitedly support all that God is doing in us, through us and around us. We have a vision that is indeed amazing and exciting and an awe inspiring house of worship as well. For some, giving extra may involve choosing to "sacrifice" a pizza, or a meal out or a fancy coffee and giving that extra to the church. For some, it may involve significantly more as the Holy Spirit nudges each of us to consider our available resources. So let's ask God what God would ask of us as we seek not necessarily equal gifts but rather shared sacrifice to support the vision.

How awesome would it be to increase our giving between now and the end of the year by \$50,000?! One may say, "why that is an audacious goal!" Maybe. Or perhaps it is not big enough:)

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**  
**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 4th**  
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.**



## **Newsletter Deadline**

Deadline for the **September** newsletter is **August 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.

**Youth group will meet August 7th at 6:30pm in Elliott Hall**



**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); Mattie Willhite; Mason Sweeney; Janet Wolken; Bill Kern; Carol Fenton (Janet Wolken's sister)

**Shut-Ins:** Betty Bloomer; Dana Coble; Doris Grogan; Sylvia Starky; Bev Hughes; Golden Peterson; Gloria Terrill; Carol Allen; Marsha Hermreck; Gene Brommert

**Military Service People:** Sgt. Nate Plaschka-Fort Hood Texas; Brad Davis-Kuwait (Bill & Janice Kern's grandson); PFC Aaron Bigge-Fort Meade, Maryland (Sandy Holbert's grandson); Lt. Matt Ashwill in Kuwait (Melissa Ashwill's son); Mathew Caryl, Gulf Port, Mississippi

*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.



**We will be collecting for Hope House the first Sunday of each month.**

spaghetti sauce, pasta noodles, saltine crackers, pancake mix, pancake syrup, sugar 2 lbs, flour 2 lbs

\*No longer needing plastic containers

**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.**

**ABWM**

We will meet at PrimeTime Grille for lunch on Wednesday **August 21st at noon**. Please let Jane Smith know if you are planning to attend by Sunday August 18th at 785-214-2936.

**Church Leadership**



**Fellowship Committee**

Meeting is August 12th, 9:30am EH

**Outreach**

Meeting is August 14th, 6:30pm



Church Council meeting is August 20th, 7:00 p.m. EH

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



August 24th at 9:30am in the church library there will be time to fellowship with one another and discuss the book we have been reading. Everyone is welcome to come join us! If you have any questions please contact Jordan Fritz at 785-342-0539.

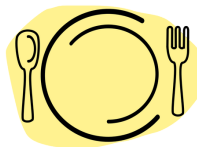
**Help Support Our Church**



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.**



Our next Thankful Thursday gathering will be August 22nd from 5-6:30pm

Our Annual **Back 2 School Bash** will be Saturday **August 3rd 9-noon**. We can use help setting up Friday, **August 2nd from 10am-noon**. For more information call Beth Testorff at 785-248-1676

Ottawa University Fusion will be August 27th 6-8pm. Please join us at Legacy Park to welcome new students, hand out pens and share smiles.

Thank you for giving **\$1600** in July. Although we emphasize OGHS in July, you are welcome to give any time of year, the needs are ongoing throughout the year.



This book is a sequel to 1 Chronicles and a supplement to the book of Kings.

The history of Judah related here is on the whole a dark picture of instability. **Jews losing faith and falling away from their worship of the One God, depending upon their Kind in power**, interspersed with periods of spiritual reformation.

King Solomon fulfilled his father David's desire to build a temple for the Lord God. Chapters 1:1-9:31 describes the 20 year project, in detail. Solomon's dedication and prayer. Solomon was a good wise king; he loved the lord and reigned over the 12 tribes over 40 years. But after finishing the temple construction the next 20 years worship became "blended" with idol worship. And he developed other "activities". At his death he rested with his fathers in the city of David.

His son, Rehoboam, crowned king. He reigned for 17 years. He was loyal to the Lord. Waged a campaign removing idol worship from the Jewish nation. This did not go well with all citizens so ten of the twelve tribes seceded from his kingdom. **Rehoboam** reigned over **Judah**, the 2 tribes in the South and **Jeroboam** reigned over **Israel** ten tribes in the North.

After the split chapters 9-31 of 2 Chronicles focuses on trials and tribulations' invasions & family feuds' war and peace of the 2 tribes of Judah, Manasseh & Benjamin.

So many bloody wars. No wonder God allowed invasions from Egypt, Babylon, Syria.

Chapters 10-36 record stories, 336 years Judah had 19 Kings & 1 Queen. 7 Good Kings 13 wicked, evil leaders. Even some good kings were so prideful the Lord grieved.

Key Verse:

**"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (7-14)**

Fast forward to 2024 our land, our world is broken.

Father forgive us. Heal our land.

May we be a light for healing.

ABWM Lilly Coultis

## 7 THINGS THE JUANES KIDS WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT FOLLOWING GOD IN MISSION:



**You'll say a lot of goodbyes.** "One of the hardest things is leaving your friends," Gavin told us. The good news, however, is that you get to make new friends from all over the world!

**The trip is long.** It took the Juanes family twenty-four hours to travel from California to Chiang Mai. No one slept on the plane. "I was crying by the time we arrived because I was so tired," Sydney reported.

**God's timing is everything.** Gavin, Sydney, Kolin, and their parents landed in Thailand right before the COVID-19 shutdown. "It was definitely hard," Gavin said, "but it was all in God's timing."

**You can love someone even if you don't know the word for "love" in their language.** The Juanes family serves at House of Love (HOL), which protects at-risk hilltribe children and families, and at House of Blessing (HOB), a preschool for underprivileged hilltribe children. Sydney, Gavin, and Kolin spend every Friday at HOB teaching English and playing with the preschoolers. Once a week, they connect with the HOL kids, playing games like tag and hide-and seek. **"We don't know how to tell them about God in Thai yet," Sydney shared, "so we show them God's love through our actions."**

**Not everyone knows what a family is, but you can show them!** Abuse, abandonment, and risk of trafficking are all serious problems in Thailand. Many children who come to HOL don't know what it's like to experience living with a healthy family. "Once a week, college students who have been raised in the House of Love come over to our home for dinner just to experience what it's like to be in a family," Gavin said.

**God will change your heart.** Sydney knows God is moving in her life now because when she sees someone who is sad or has a disability, she's moved to reach out to them with compassion, care, and friendship.

**You'll see God do amazing things.** HOL began as a ministry to HIV-positive women and their children, but the focus has shifted to helping families work through challenges and foster a safe environment where their kids can thrive. "It's nice to know this is making an impact in Thailand," Gavin said. "Even if it means just uniting a few families, that's still a huge success."

Children are precious to God, and they serve a fundamental role in God's mission to the world. Missionary kids (MKs) are integral to cross-cultural ministry as witnesses of God's love to their peers. When you support International Ministries (IM), your giving makes an impact across generations to come. Sydney (14), Gavin (12), and Kolin (9) Juanes are three of our MKs in Thailand. Their parents, Alise and Mark Juanes, are global servants who focus on evangelism and discipleship. The childlike faith of MKs like Sydney, Gavin, and Kolin paints a picture of what it's like to serve others so that it may be "on earth as it is in heaven." IM's global servants come alongside local communities and global partners to plant seeds that, with patience and care, will grow into flourishing ministries with eternal impact. MKs lead special lives, but they are still kids, and the lack of stability can be quite challenging. That's why IM invests in our global servants and their families.



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

## Visitor

*Published by the First Baptist Church*

[fbcottawa.org](http://fbcottawa.org)

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



Tiger Pennington 8-2

Kay Eyman 8-3

Beverly Hughes 8-4

Deb Winstone 8-5

Kim Randel 8-7

Mary Lynn Gollier 8-8

Marilyn Eichner 8-11

Brad Rowald 8-12

Charlotte Macy 8-14

Amber Fast 8-14

Travis Caryl 8-16

Chrissy Robinson 8-17

Trish Peterson 8-21

Gene Bromert 8-23

Trisha Allison 8-24

Kelly Moore 8-26

AJ Allison 8-27

Cathy Duderstadt 8-30

Dean Rich 8-30

Jessica Caryl 8-31