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Office Hours: Monday 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. (Closed for lunch) Friday: 9 am– 1
402-721-1265

FBC Fremont

Hoodies for Goats!

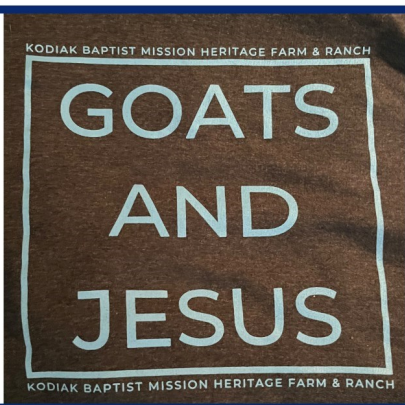
In cooperation with FBC Gibbon, we are offering hoodies that benefit Kodiak Baptist Mission Heritage Farm and Ranch. Hoodies will be delivered before Christmas.

Hoodies are available in sizes Small - XXL

\$40.00

Proceeds go to support Kodiak Baptist Mission. Make Checks payable to FBC Fremont.

In order to receive before Christmas - orders due by December 15, 2022.



December 2022

Lead Pastor Richard Crooks | Youth/Children's Ministry Intern Luke Chavanne | Fremont, NE

Pastor's Notes

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. —Matthew 2:10–11 ESV



What would you have brought to the stable for Jesus as a gift? There have been lots of comments about the rationale and/or symbolism behind these three gifts, symbols unknown to the givers: gold for a king, or some suggest for a child about to become a refugee and needing travel fund; frankincense to be used for incenses by Jesus the eternal High Priest...or to accompany the sacrifice he would make for sin; myrrh for burial, recognizing the upcoming death of the Lamb of God. It is doubtful the wise men had thought in those terms, perhaps the gold for the newborn king, but beyond that is sketchy at best.

Nevertheless, I'm sure they put a great deal of thought into the gifts they would bring. I do that, too, don't you? At least I try. Sometimes I hit the nail right on the head and create a wonderful surprise moment, other times, my gifts meet with the reaction of "really"? But even those, I try to think through. I'm sure most of you have done the same. Let me ask, though, have you ever had a time when you gave what you thought would be the perfect gift, only to see it sitting in a corner unused, or hidden in the back of the closet unworn, even though the recipient expressed how much they appreciated it? Some refer to this as the "Father's Day Tie" syndrome....except we fathers usually will go ahead and wear the tie at least once... When the giver runs across the unused gift, it can stir up lots of emotions, such as feeling rejected, disappointed, or maybe creating a motivation to do better next time. This is one of the reasons many have switched to gift cards...an easier selection, but certainly less personal

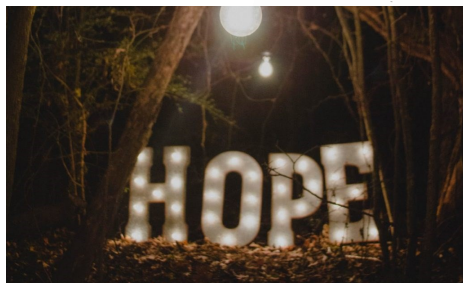
This Christmas, many of us will participate in the tradition of giving and receiving gifts from friends and family. Hopefully, none of the gifts will end up in the corner of the closet (or the return counter at the store). I suspect Mary and Joseph were deeply grateful for the gifts the wise men brought, when they had to flee and live in Egypt for several years, or when they returned to Nazareth to set up shop there. For them, as they marveled at the whole event, it proved to be God's foresighted provision for their needs. Can you relate to that experience? I

know I can.

Let me, however, turn your thoughts another direction. In November, we talked much about the blessings God has given each of us for us to enjoy and with which we are to bless others. This Advent, consider what gifts you could offer to God for his use...often we couch these in terms of our time, talents, and treasure. That is a good practice. But let's add to that a consideration of the gifts God has given to YOU. How often have you heard a reference to God giving us the "gift of salvation"? Have you taken the time to fully unwrap that gift in your life? Have you written your thank you note for that yet? But don't stop there...go a step further. Paul writes in Ephesians that as Jesus rose from the dead, he *gave gifts to men (read: people)*. This Advent, let me ask you, "How has God gifted you?" Peter writes that God has given each of us a gift. And in Ephesians we learn that even our faith is God's gift. But Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4 and 1 Peter 4 all list some of the spiritual gifts God gives to people in his church. What are the spiritual gifts God has given YOU? Do you even know? Have you taken the time to unwrap them? Have you read the instruction manual on how to use them? And most importantly of all, ARE you using those gifts, or have you pushed them to the back of the closet with the tacky ties and the chia pet?

I wonder how God might feel about the way we have handled the spiritual gifts he has given to every one of us. (I don't mean talents or possessions...rather, the supernatural spiritual gifts God describes in the passages above.) I have seen many a Christian who have predetermined what God wants them to do, and in so doing have neglected opportunities in which God could prove himself "strong through our weakness." What was sad about some of those, was that the individuals were so focused on what they *thought* was God's gifts in their lives, that they could not see in themselves what others could see in them, the gifts others knew were there, waiting in the wings for the opportunity to be used, but were neglected because the person wasn't open to possibilities.

This Advent, what are YOU doing with the spiritual gifts God has given YOU? Do you even know where they are? Are they rusting away unused in some dusty old closet, or are they manifested in your life in such a way that others recognize God working through YOU? Let's take the gifts God gave us, and make a truly Merry Christmas for HIM!



Dear First Baptist Church,
Our family has been on the road, traveling to churches and meeting folks like you. We wanted to thank you for joining us in our call to serve in Thailand. We are excited for what is ahead and that you are a part of that journey. You can keep up to date with us by following us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lembkeministry

We would also love to hear from you. You can contact us by email: Lembke@internationalministries.org

We ask that you keep our ministry partner in Thailand, the KKBBSC (Kawthoolei Karen Baptist Bible School & College) and our family in prayer as we travel.

Many Blessings,
Yuree, eric, and Harper Lembke



P.S. We are heading to Thailand December 5, for 6 weeks. Please pray for safe travels.
Thank you

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Kelsi Anderson

**Graduating with an MA in
Human Services from Purdue.**

Prayers and Blessings as you
continue your journey

December Bible Puzzle:

In the Christmas story about Herod slaughtering the children, the prophecy is quoted that mentions "Rachel weeping for her children." Why is Rachel the person mentioned

December Peoples Puzzle:

(Answers provided next month)

This church member recounts the time when in a previous church he/she was involved in coordinating and presenting skits for a puppet ministry. Particularly memorable were the two years the Palm Sunday presentation featured the Triumphal entry from the perspective of animals that might have been present, with the role of "Spotty" the lamb played by our member. (Although, being a lamb in Jerusalem at Passover might be a little risky!)

November Answers



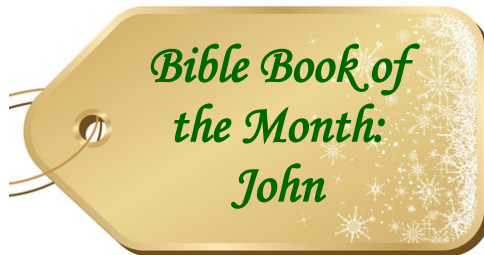
Bible Puzzle

What is the long term significant of the book of Habakkuk? Habakkuk 2:4 contains the phrase: "the righteous shall live by faith." That verse is foundational in Paul's teaching about faith, grace and works in the book of Romans, it is quoted two more times in Galatians and Hebrews, and in addition, Paul's quotation of it in Romans is the passage that sparked Martin Luther's insights resulting in the Reformation and thus influencing every non-Catholic Christian ever since!

Peoples Puzzle

The individual who has 2 grown children who are attorneys in Iowa is Pam Schaff.

Birthdays	Phone	Date	Anniversary	Phone
Kathy Mackey	402-727-4367	1		
Tom Peterson	402-719-5408	2		
Harlan Waugh	402-753-8046	3		
Paul Denny	402-721-0276	4		
Larry Hill	402-727-5171	4		
Emily Schollmeyer	402-677-2933	9		
		10	Mike & Lynda Raasch	402-727-6854
Shirley Angermund	402-727-1937	12		
Nick Raasch		12		
Jerry Adams	402-720-4269	13		
		20	Bryan & Kelly Regier	308-458-7907
Vicki Anderson	402-727-0740	22		
Marcia Hill	402-727-5171	23		
Kelly Adams	402-720-4269	24		
Ethan Peterson		25		
		29	Don & Dorothy Charleston	402-657-0171



December 1, 2022
 ABWM @ 1:30
 Hostess: Hannah Circle

Senior Residential/ Homebound

NYE SQUARE APTS	
650 W 21st St. Fremont 402-721-9224	
Dalton Benson 402-721-7717	#126
Wes Howe 402-721-4163	#133
Joan Sorensen 402-830-6519	#178
SHALIMAR GARDENS	
749 E. 29th St, Fremont, 402-721-1616	
Harlan Waugh (402-753-8046)	#219
Edgewood Vista	
2910 Clarkson St. Fremont 402-753-8800	
Mary Ann Paulger	#7
NYE SQUARE	
655 W 23rd St. Fremont 402-721-9224	
Esther and Leonard Bechtel	#601

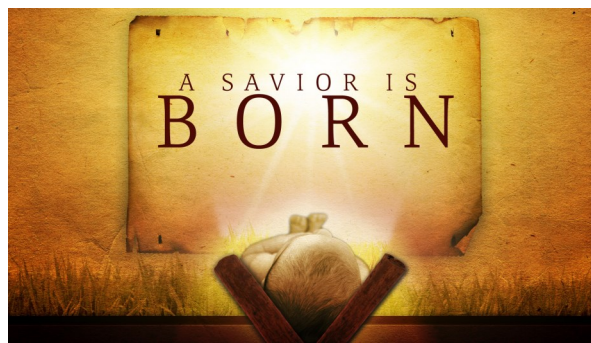


Dear Mission Committee and First Baptist Church.
 Hello and warm greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I was blessed and encouraged to receive your letter in the mail. I so enjoyed visiting your church. One of the memorable moments for me was seeing the group in the kitchen carefully drying every piece of silverware that was used during the meal. It spoke to me of the care that your church shows all ministry. Thank you for your warm hospitality. Thank you for your consistent support of so many of our IM global servants, and thank you for adopting the Trouts! I pray that God will grant you all a very blessed thanksgiving! I am so thankful for you!
 In Christ,
 Sharon Koh



Monthly Meetings

December 12 - Esther Circle - 11:30 am.
 December 13 - Hannah Circle - 1:30 pm.
 December 15 - Naomi Circle - 12:30 pm.



Vision Team Meeting: Meeting November 19, 2022



Members present were Pastor Richard, Mike Raasch, John Mitchell, Marcia Hill, Joel Foreman, Mary Weldon, Mary Lamberty, June Cardwell, Randy Cash, and Dorothy Charleston.

Pastor Richard opened the meeting with a calendar scheduling the Business meeting with Election of officers and the Budget on December 18 at 10:30. The annual meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2023. The Christmas program will be December 7.

Mike continued the meeting with a reading from Psalms and about the drought in 1623 and how the Pilgrims prayers were answered with 14 days of gentle rain.

Joel reported the Men donated \$150 to the Bridge.

Mary W. reported the cookie drop will be this Sunday. They will be providing meals for Nola following her knee surgery this week.

Randy reported \$2674.06 in the checking account. The regular Endowment has \$276,591.16 and the Youth Endowment has \$46,924.36 through December. Memorial Gifts has \$23,189.18. Mission support was itemized and reported. The attached page gives the details. They include Kodiak, Bacone, Habitat, Daniel & Allison in Prague, Stephen & Kelly in Kodiak. Leases for the Family Center have been renewed. Hank is the manager of them.

Eileen reported 15 lap robes and the Bingo prizes we gathered were delivered to the ABCare Center in Omaha. She also sent a box to Cordova Alaska Baptist Community Church.

John reported the parts for the front door repair have not arrived yet. He will investigate replacing the door. A sign by the elevator door will be made. Let him know about any leaks or other areas he should look at. The windows on the North of the educational wing need attention.

June reported the kids and Youth enjoyed the Fall Festival. Included was a special meal, a craft, games, treats, and a story time. The Youth got to go to a concert at Memorial Park with other church teens and their leaders. It was a great time to worship with their friends and meet other teens. There were a few kids who attended the Fall Festival October 15th at Camp Merrill. Luke is averaging 24 kids per night on Wednesdays. He is a good teacher and the kids look to him for guidance. The kids and Youth are learning their parts for the Christmas Program on December 7.



Nola is taking the lead on getting them ready.....BIG JOB! School break will be from December 14 for 4 weeks. They will meet again on January 11. They will be discussing the New Testament in the New Year 2023. Thank you for



December

The Birth of King Jesus

Day 1 – John 1:1-5

Day 2 – Isaiah 9:6-7

Day 3 – Isaiah 11:1-2

Day 4 – Jeremiah 33:14-16

Day 5 – Luke 1:26-31

Day 6 – Luke 1:31-33

Day 7 – Luke 1:34-38

Day 8 – Matthew 1:18-21

Day 9 – Matthew 1:22-25

Day 10 – Luke 1:39-45

Day 11 – Luke 1:46-56

Day 12 – Micah 5:2-4

Day 13 – Luke 2:1-7

Day 14 – Luke 2:8-12

Day 15 – Luke 2:13-14

Day 16 – Luke 2:15-18

Day 17 – Luke 2:19-20

Day 18 – Matthew 2:1-2

Day 19 – Matthew 2:3-6

Day 20 – Matthew 2:7-10

Day 21 – Matthew 2:11-12

Day 22 – Matthew 2:13-14, 19-23

Day 23 – John 1:14

Day 24 – John 18:36-37

Day 25 – John 3:16

Day 26 – Romans 6:23

Day 27 – Galatians 4:4-5

Day 28 – 1 John 5:11

Day 29 – 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Day 30 – Revelation 3:20-21

Day 31 – Titus 3:3-7



FBC Fremont

Youth Christmas Program

Give the Gift Back

December 7, 2022

7:00 p.m.

FBC Fremont Sanctuary

Family Dinner preceding the production @ 6:15



Dear Friends at First Baptist Church,
Thank you so much for your most generous commitment to our ministry, and very encouraging communications. We had a really wonderful time with you. It felt like meeting with old friends. We just returned from a remarkable trip to Assam, Northeast India. 36 people attended the seminar, and I have perhaps never had a more receptive and eager audience. And we experienced the Lord's protection. Within 10 days before our seminar; a group of Muslims were arrested on the charge on inciting religious conversion and within 10 days after our seminar 3 Swedish missionaries were arrested on the same charge. We were able to hold our two week seminar without disruption, and we are so grateful. Please be assure of gratitude for your partnership in what God is doing with us and through us. We look forward to the next time we can be together.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

With thanks

Walt and Jeanine

P.S. Thank you for the generous gift to cover our travel expenses!



I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE.

Jeremiah 3:13



helping give them a foundation of knowing and loving their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. From making meals to teaching and being there to help and support, all of your help on Wednesday nights is much appreciated. ~ June

Outreach for families on Wednesday nights is leading to adults in Bible Studies and other activities. Thank you Joel and Rod for driving on Wednesdays.

The Nominating Committee is working on new people for Vision Team Personnel and the Budget Committee is fine tuning the Budget for 2023.

Pastor Richard is looking at the possibility of a "Sabbatical " From December 27 through March 7 or 12. (A page of details follows) Pastor distributed an Introduction to a new structure for the Vision Team. No discussion followed.

On Christmas Day there will be a combined service at 10:30 in the Sanctuary. The same schedule will be New Year's Day in the Family Center. There being no further business,

Mike closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Charleston, clerk



Order your Christmas
Poinsettias \$8.00
By December 4th



For
unto
you is
born this
day in the
city of David
a Savior which
is Christ the Lord
Luke
2:11

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

December 2022

*It's always a good idea to verify times and places,
Thanks!*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:30 ABWM Meeting	2 9am—Men's Coffee	3 7am - ABM Bible Study 8am - ABM Breakfast 9am - Property Team
4 Communion 9:30 - Traditional 11:00 - Casual 	5 Poinsettia Orders Due 9am—Men's Coffee 7pm - Woodcarvers	6 7pm - AA Meetings	7 9:30 - Women's Coffee 6:15 Meal 7pm - Christmas Program 7pm - Bible Study	8	9 9am—Men's Coffee 10 am—Nye Square Bible Study	10 8:50 - Personnel Team 9am - Vision Team
11 9:30 - Traditional 11:00 - Casual	12 9am—Men's Coffee 11am - Esther Circle	13 1:30 - Hannah Circle @ Chuy's on Main Street 7pm - AA Meetings	14 9:30 - Women's Coffee No Kids Club 7pm - Bible Study	15 12:30 - Naomi Circle	16 9am—Men's Coffee	17
18 9:30 - Traditional 11:00 - Casual Business Meeting will be held after each service.	19 9am—Men's Coffee 7pm - Woodcarvers	20 7pm - AA Meetings	21 9:30 - Women's Coffee No Kids Club 7pm - Bible Study	22	23 9am—Men's Coffee	24 6PM Service 
25 10:30 Combined Service 	26 9am—Men's Coffee Office Closed	27 7pm - AA Meetings	28 9:30 - Women's Coffee No Kids Club 7pm - Bible Study	29	30 9am—Men's Coffee	31 

Cookies and Coffee

4 - Hannah Circle
11 - Esther Circle
18 - Naomi Circle
25 - Sign Up Sunday!

Movie Night
December 4th

5:30 Brown Bag Fellowship

6:00 Movie