



Build, Love, Grow Serve  
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Find us on



**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm | Friday: 9am - 1pm | 402-721-1265



## FBC CONNECT



**Do you want us to help pray for you?**

We have a way of reaching the congregation to share important information and prayer request. Contact the church office to sign up!



# November 2023



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

### Pastor's Notes

In several conversations I have had recently in various places, I ended up sharing about all the projects and resulting funding our church has had to address this year. Sometimes in those discussions, I also end up reviewing with them all the other challenges our church has dealt with in the last seven years while I have been here, such as dealing with the flood while also celebrating our 150th anniversary and working our way through Covid, not to mention the loss of so many of our beloved saints as they went home to the Lord or simply moved away. And of course, each of those losses has been a huge challenge not only for the church body, but for the family left behind who then has to make all the adjustments required that are sometimes so overwhelming. Together, we have faced some pretty big challenges, haven't we? Especially when one takes into account the size of our congregation. This year, at least to me, our having to figure out how to come up with over \$300,000 for these projects in a single year is a pretty big undertaking...but really, it is just one more challenge in the list, isn't it? We have faced some pretty big issues together, and come through them together, and found God has brought us through them in some very surprising ways, I would say. Even the fact that this October we handed out nearly 900 hotdogs to trick-or-treaters during the Downtown Halloween Hysteria. If you took that number and divided it by our average attendance, even that is a big deal!

Let me suggest that all these are examples of what may very well be God's specialty: doing a lot with a little. One of the scriptures I have always found striking comes from a story about King Saul's son, Jonathan, during a time when Israel and the Philistines were at war with one another. Jonathan and his armor-bearer are somewhat stranded away from their comrades and near a number of Philistines in the enemy lines. Jonathan sees this not as a time to hide, nor to retreat, but a time for God to show himself strong through them. This verse contains Jonathan's response to the dilemma:

Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, ***"Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few."*** --1 Samuel 14:6 (esv)



Jonathan is relying on the same principle we have seen at work within our church in recent years. How often have any of us said or thought how nice it would be to have more people involved in activities or in worship on Sunday (and it would be!)? But then, after saying or thinking that, how often have any of us followed up with the words and faith of Jonathan: “nothing can hinder the Lord from saving by many or by few”? Or the faith of Paul when he said, “when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Corinthians 12:10)? For Paul knew that it was in his weakness that God’s power was most powerfully revealed. I say it is God’s specialty because the principle is demonstrated so many times by God and his people in the Bible. Moses and Aaron, two simple men, were used by God to bring a mighty empire to its knees and rescue an enslaved people. Gideons was told to reduce the number of soldiers in his army when outnumbered by tens of thousands of enemy troops. Elijah met a widow with just a tiny amount of flour and oil, which God extended to provide food for herself, her child, Elijah and his servant for three years! God used Elisha to multiply a tiny amount of olive oil into a roomful of containers for a widow in need of an income. Jesus fed thousands with just a few loaves and fishes. For that matter, Jesus selected only 12 men to start the spread his message with the intent that it would reach the entire world.



Max Lucado has written that big problems create opportunities for God to do big miracles! So, the fact that God is using you and me to meet this year’s financial challenge, or to help others during a flood, or any of the other things God has been doing in our midst is surprising only to us! Or perhaps better, only to us when we forget the lesson that Jonathan knew: nothing can hinder the Lord from saving by many or by few. NOTHING! God plus one is always a majority in the face of anything life can throw at us. Who knows what else God might accomplish through us in months and years. We just have to

*Richard*

Dear First Baptist,  
I am writing you to you as a member of Jae Stockton’s Missionary Partnership Team to Thank You for your on-going and faithful support. Jae is going into her second of year of Ministry in Mexicali, MX. She is thankful for God’s presence and guidance. Jae works in seminary library there and assists the students doing on-line Master’s in Theology studies through Palmer Seminary in Pennsylvania. Blessing, Gail Grovenstein



Dear First Baptist Church,  
My sincere thanks for your support of my call to full time mission service in South Africa. There is so much work to do there, and I am grateful you are joining me and local partners to do God’s will. I will keep you posted on my progress an welcome continued prayers. Peace, Toya Richards

# LINDEN ELEMENTARY *Outreach*



This year we are building on our relationship with Linden school. We recently met with the school counselor Linden school, to discuss ways our church could enhance outreach. They first provided some background information for us:

1. Linden school is K - 4<sup>th</sup> grade, consisting of 15 classes and 368 students
2. Over 90% of their students are on free or reduced lunches
3. 20% of their families are doing okay financially, about 30% are high needs, and the rest manage but have various needs that we might assist with.

The school counselor mentioned that the testing snacks are greatly appreciated. The times when these are needed are September, January, and March/April. Their other needs are coats, hats, and gloves for the winter season, and especially gloves. They could also use canned fruits and vegetables. (Later we will provide instructions for canned items.) He said many of the families do not have healthy diets, so these food items would be very beneficial.

As a result, we plan to collect the following items as an outreach to Linden school during November:

- **Coats, Hats, and Gloves (K - 4<sup>th</sup> grade sizes)**
- **Funds to purchase these items**

If you would like to help with this outreach, we will have a box in the foyer of the main church building and in the entrance of the Family Center. Your generosity would be a way to show Christ's love to these students and their families. We also provide snacks and some meals for teachers and staff, and recently took some snacks to Washington and Linden Schools.





If you know of someone in our church family whose name should be on this birthday and/or anniversary list and it is not, please call the office at 402-721-1265 to let us know.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## Happy Anniversary!

Birthdays	Phone	Date	Anniversary	Phone
Don Charleston	402-657-0171	2		
Cliff Hammond	402-721-7453	5		
Leland Foreman	402-719-4099	7		
Joan Sorensen	402-830-6519	8		
		9	Jim & Deb Peterson	
Jean Foreman	402-719-1298	11		
Mark Anderson	402-727-0740	12		
Steve Dodd	402-727-7228	22		
Dale Tharp	402-720-4912	25		
		27	Doug & Mary Ann Ritthaler	402-721-1623

### Senior Residential | Homebound

#### NYE SQUARE APTS

650 W 21st St. Fremont 402-721-9224

Dalton Benson 402-721-7717 #126

Joan Sorensen 402-830-6519 #178

#### SHALIMAR GARDENS

749 E. 29th St. Fremont, 402-721-1616

Harlan Waugh (402-753-8046) #207

#### Edgewood Vista

2910 Clarkson St. Fremont 402-753-8800

Mary Ann Paulger #7



What are you grateful and thankful for?

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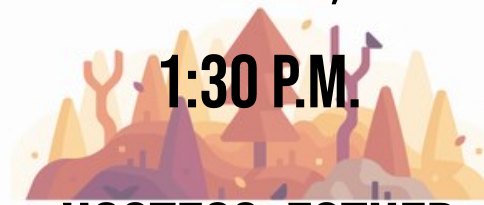
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# NOVEMBER 2, 2023



## 1:30 P.M.

## HOSTESS: ESTHER

# American Baptist

# Women's MINISTRIES

## November Monthly Meetings

November 13 | Esther Circle - 11:30 a.m.

November 14 | Hannah Circle - 11:30 a.m. @ BK East

November 16 | Naomi Circle - 12:30 p.m.

We are collecting **Bingo** Prizes for **Maple Crest Health Centers**

Please bring your donations to the office of the ABWM meeting.

Examples:

- Lap robes
- Shawls
- Scarves
- Lotions
- Puzzle Books
- Socks
- Stamps/ Stationary
- Knick Knacks
- Pop
- Small Candy Bars
- Individual Kleenex

Bible Book of the Month:  
2 Corinthians



Vision Team Meeting: OCTOBER 14, 2023

The meeting was attended by Pastor Richard, Marcia Hill, Mary Weldon, Marilyn Pueppke, Randy Cash, Joel Foreman, Mike Raasch, John Mitchell and Dorothy Charleston.

Pastor opened with prayer and a devotion from Psalm 9:1. Remain close to God.

Marcia reported November 19th has been set for the Thanksgiving Dinner from Mel's. Since turkey is in short supply, Broasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, and Cranberry Salad are on the menu. As part of our Mission, we will also arrange for the clients of the Bridge to have a Harvest Dinner of their own. Dinner rolls and pie will be purchased from Sam's. A combined worship service @ 10:00 am will be held on that day.

Luke's last day will be December 10, and they will have a dialog sermon.

Outreach to Linden School includes winter clothes, coats, hats, and especially gloves. Canned fruit and vegetables are also to be gathered.

Christmas Eve service will be combined on Sunday December 24 and on the 31st as well. We will still have a an evening service on Christmas Eve.

Summaries will be distributed at church tomorrow ( October15)

On Halloween the grilling will start at 4:00 by the Men. A discussion was held about transporting the products and equipment downtown. Marcia's son may use his ATV for that.

Randy reported the bank balance at the end of September was \$6,738.23. Memorial Fund \$16,864.18. Buildings account \$12,189.52. \$36,000 more in cash. The roofs are paid (most covered by insurance). Furnace and air conditioner are installed. Bus sale in progress. Windows approved and ordered. Sound system ordered. Lighting is being changed to LED bulbs along with old fixtures that need repaired or replaced.

Our missionaries, Larry and Becky Stanton will be on Zoom on the 18th at 7:00.

There being no further business, Mary closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Charleston, clerk



### November Bible Puzzle:

What is the first record of someone actually giving thanks to God in the Bible, and what is the last? (Use the biblical order, not necessarily the chronological order.)

### November Peoples Puzzle

This church member celebrated a significant birthday in grand style by going on an elephant ride!

(Answers provided next month)

### October Bible Puzzle:

What does the Bible say about angels and their wings? There really isn't any reference that I have found that specifically states that "angels" have wings. There is explicit reference to heavenly beings that *do* have wings: Seraphs (see Isaiah 6:2—six wings!) Cherubs (see Ezekiel 10:5ff) and nameless Living Creatures (Ezekiel 1:5-6 & Rev. 4:8). Assuming that cherubs, seraphs and angels are distinct beings, the closest connection I know of between angels and wings might be that the shepherds saw them up in the sky at Jesus's birth...and so perhaps wings were needed for them to stay there? On the other hand, in Jacob's dream the angels were using a ladder to ascend and descend between heaven and earth...they probably wouldn't have needed one if they had wings, right? We can be pretty certain that, if they *do* have wings, it is because they were created with them, not because they earned them when a bell rang in Bedford Falls! (see Clarence and *It's a Wonderful Life*)

### October Peoples Puzzle:

The other trip winning sales champ who went to the Caribbean is Jerry Woodman

- Day 1: 1 Thess 5:16-18
- Day 2: Colossians 3:15
- Day 3: Colossians 3:16-17
- Day 4: 1 Chron 29:10-11
- Day 5: 1 Chron 29:12-13
- Day 6: 1 Chron 29:14-15
- Day 7: Psalm 9:1-2
- Day 8: Psalm 69:30
- Day 9: Psalm 79:13
- Day 10: Psalm 106:1-2
- Day 11: Philippians 4:6-7
- Day 12: Ephesians 5:19-20
- Day 13: Colossians 1:12-14
- Day 14: Colossians 2:6-7
- Day 15: Colossians 4:2
- Day 16: Jonah 2:9
- Day 17: 1 Chron 16:8-9
- Day 18: 1 Chron 16:34
- Day 19: Psalm 118:1-2
- Day 20: Psalm 118:3-4
- Day 21: Psalm 118:5-6
- Day 22: Psalm 118:28-29
- Day 23: Psalm 136:1-2
- Day 24: Psalm 136:23-24
- Day 25: Psalm 136:25-26
- Day 26: Psalm 100:1-3
- Day 27: Psalm 100:4-5
- Day 28: Hebrews 13:15
- Day 29: Revelations 5:11-12
- Day 30: Revelations 5:13-14

A Heart of Gratitude and Thanksgiving  
November





# FBKIDS | FBYOUTH

FBKids and FBYouth Groups are in full swing!!  
For Registration/Transportation information please contact  
Luke Chavanne or the Church office.



This month in the youth group we have continued journeying through the Old Testament focusing on seeing God reveal Himself to us and point to His plan of Salvation through Jesus. We had a successful event with the greater Christian youth community in the greater Fremont area which was orchestrated by Midland's FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes). We had youth from our church and the community join together at Heedum Field to worship God, hear a message from Nebraska Running-back Coach Ron Brown, and engage in prayer for the community and students individually. This month we look forward to our Lock-In at FBC Fremont with FBC Benson the night of November 17th along with continuing to focus on continuing to develop our relationships with God and our knowledge of His Word. Thank you for all your support.—Luke Chavanne



**SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER 11  
VAN LEAVES @  
11:30 AM**

We are heading out to the community for a Prayer Tour, where we will go to areas of Fremont and say a word of prayer for that specific part of town...join us as we pray for our Community, our Friends, our Family, and Strangers alike. Spread the LOVE of Jesus Christ!



Join us in the Family Center the second Sunday of the month!

6pm Brown Bag Fellowship

6:30 Movie Starts

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at First Baptist Church! With the Advent season quickly approaching, we would like to invite you to perform your favorite Christmas Carol during our services. If there is a particular carol you would like to sing or play an instrument to, please sign up with your song of choice, the Sunday you would like to perform, and how you will perform your song on the sign up sheet (provided at church) now until November 26th!"

## Halloween Hysteria

We love this community! In October we were able to participate in Fremont's Halloween Hysteria. We were down town passing out Candy and almost 900 FREE Hotdogs. With lots of personal contacts. Praise God for the wonderful evening and the great turn out. Thank you to all that volunteered, donated and prayed for this event to be so successful.



Glory be to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

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

# November 2023



**Coffee & Cookies**

5 - Naomi Circle  
12 - ABM  
19 - Hannah  
26 - Esther

**Prayer Emphasis  
For November:**

*Pray for the farmers  
who are harvesting  
their crops.  
Pray for families that  
may not have food for  
a meal to eat.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. -Galatians 5:22-23</p>			<p>1 9:30am - Women's Coffee</p> <p>6:15pm - Meal 6:45 pm - FBKids   FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study - New Topic - Angles</p>	<p>2 1:30pm - ABWM Meeting</p> <p>2:30pm - Pastor Led Bible Study - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>3 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>4 7am - ABM Bible Study 8am - ABM Breakfast 9am - Property Team 10:30am - Prayer Room w/ Pastor Richard 11am - Husker Vs Mich. State 6pm - Fun and Fellowship</p>
<p>5 <b>COMMUNION</b> 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service</p> <p>Day Light Savings Ends. Set Clock Back 1 hour @ 2am</p>	<p>6 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>7pm - Woodcarvers</p>	<p>7 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>8 9:30am - Women's Coffee</p> <p>6:15pm - Meal 6:45 pm - FBKids   FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>11 8:50am - Personnel Team 9:30am - Vision Team 11am - Prayer Tour</p>
<p>12 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service 11am - Bible Study in Parlor</p> <p>6pm - Brown Bag 6:30pm - Movie Starts</p>	<p>13 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>11:30 - Esther Circle</p>	<p>14 11:30am - Hannah Circle @ BK East</p> <p>7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>15 9:30am - Women's Coffee</p> <p>6:15pm - Meal 6:45 pm - FBKids   FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>16 12:30pm - Naomi Circle</p> <p>2:30pm - Pastor Led Bible Study - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>17 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p> <p>7pm - FBYouth Lock - In</p>	<p>18 9am - FBYouth Lock - In is scheduled to be over.</p> <p>9:30 - Hosting Chess Club in Family Center</p>
<p>19 <b>10am - Combined Service</b></p> <p>11:30am - Harvest Dinner</p>	<p>20 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>7pm - Woodcarvers</p>	<p>21 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>22 9:30am - Women's Coffee</p> <p>6:15pm - Meal 6:45 pm - FBKids   FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>23  Office Closed</p>	<p>24 9am - Men's Coffee</p> <p>12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>25 NO ABW Bible Study</p>
<p>26 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service 11am - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>27 9am - Men's Coffee</p>	<p>28 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>29 9:30am - Women's Coffee</p> <p>6:15pm - Meal 6:45 pm - FBKids   FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>30 2:30pm - Pastor Led Bible Study - Fellowship Hall</p>		