

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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WWW.FREMONTFBC.ORG



SEPTEMBER 2026

Lead Pastor- Richard Crooks | Music Director- Sasha White | Youth Leader- Jesse Kracht

"He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on —since you have come to your servant." Genesis 18:2-5 esv

In the Middle East (and many other places in the world), hospitality is more than just being polite; it is a sacred obligation. Abraham's story above illustrates how quickly individuals went out of their way to make sure visitors felt welcome and had their needs supplied. Similar examples are described in the stories of Rebekah and Eleazar, Rachel and Laban to Jacob, Jethro for Moses, or Manoah for the angel. Other stories...such as Lot in Sodom (Genesis 19) and the story of the Levite and the concubine at Gibeah (Judges 19)...just how evil being inhospitable had become and how harshly it was judged. What is your hospitality quotient, do you suppose? Probably somewhere in between those two I suspect.

Next month we will have the opportunity to meet a number of our extended church family from all across Nebraska. We will host brothers and sisters in Christ, fellow American Baptists, (even some from beyond Nebraska). In addition, as we move toward hosting an ESL class and more, there will be opportunities to make our Latino brothers and sisters feel welcome and included. We have a couple of individuals, Arturo and Sharling, presently attending who will be around and can assist with translating conversation with those who do not yet speak English. I know they'd be thrilled to help you meet and get to know these folks. So let's take a few lines to consider how we practice hospitality, especially as we face the upcoming region conference, though the same general principles will apply with a Latino group as well as other visitors that come our way on Sunday mornings or other activities.

When you are having company come, what things do you do for that time, both in preparation and during their visit? That is the goal of our list of ways for our congregation and the Valley congregation to be involved...things like rocking babies in the nursery, helping get coffee or tea ready for breaks and meals, or simply helping people find their way around (our building can be overwhelming for those unfamiliar with it). And, of course, we also have been taking time to "spruce up the place" and "clean house" a bit. So I want to get you thinking in a "hospitality mode," and talking together about ideas by trying to expand your perceptions or perspectives.

Consider that for a visitor in your home, you would want to make sure your guests had clean towels for washing their hands and their morning shower. People coming here will need not only paper towels when they wash up for meals, but would appreciate some kind of clear direction of where to even find the restrooms so they can! How could you help someone with that simple need?



pine cones,
pumpkins
and prayer!

2026 Fall ABWM Retreat

JOIN THE WOMEN OF NEBRASKA FOR A WEEKEND OF REFLECTION AND PRAYER AND CREATE YOUR OWN PRAYER JOURNAL TO TAKE HOME WITH YOU.

October 23-24, 2026
Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center
Noon-4 p.m. Preconference -
6 p.m. Friday/5 p.m. Saturday- Conference

Register Today

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship, encouragement, and renewal at Camp Moses Merrill! It's a great opportunity to step away from the everyday, connect with other women, and enjoy some time together.

Don't wait—register today! We'd love to have you join us!



At home, we would never bring a guest into our house and then ignore them by not talking with them at all, or not introducing ourselves, right? How can you plan to greet visitors you may not know when they come? Sometimes a simple, "Hello, my name is Luigi, and I'm so glad you are here. Is there anything you need?" can mean a lot to someone feeling a bit awkward or out of place, especially if you add, "Okay, well if you need anything at all while you are here, just let me know. Here is my cell number you can text or call anytime." Even following up with, "Where are you from? Tell me about your family," can be the start of a new friendship.

One thing I find very important in our facility is to pay attention to individuals' hardships. Many a time I have seen someone a bit unstable on their feet headed toward the stairs and stopped to let them know the way to the elevator. Other times, I have stood by the entry doors and warned them to watch their step as they go down that step by the door they often don't expect. So many simple things can mean so much to people entering an unfamiliar facility.

I want to encourage you now to plan to be present for at much of the conference as you can....but to do so not just for your own benefit, but as a welcoming presence for our guests. As the specific sign-up sheet of requested help circulates, find one that you can help with, even if it is just for an hour or two. But beyond that, when you can be here, pay attention to the people around you and what they might be experiencing that you could help make easier for them. Some of these folks will have come by themselves, some will have come to our church for the very first time, and some will be at the Region Conference for the very first time (maybe YOU!). Let's make our space one that feels warm and welcoming. We don't have to slaughter a fattened calf and make a big feast with rings for everyone....but surely we all can find ways to give them a great, big, Fremont First Baptist WELCOME!

Start imagining now, 



Preserving Our Legacy for Generations to Come



Updates, Updates, Updates!



The work continues in our Main Sanctuary! We are grateful to be moving forward with additional repairs, painting, and continued restoration of our beautiful stained-glass windows. Each window, wall, and detail tells a little piece of our history, and we want to preserve that beauty for those who worship here today and for generations to come. Thank you to everyone who has supported these projects through your generosity, encouragement, and prayers. We look forward to sharing more updates as the work continues and watching our sanctuary continue to shine! -Amity



BIBLE STUDENT'S CORNER

This month, instead of my usual Bible Student's article, I would like to share some details concerning the usage of the recent grant Sasha obtained for us to use with our outreach to the Spanish speaking community. Someone asked what the next steps were, and what all would be involved, and I thought that is a question worthy of more than just a quick answer, and for more than just a few people to understand, so this article is to provide you with as much information and detail as I am aware of, and a the vision associated with the idea.

Over the years since I have been here, I have known of a number of people in our church who have sensed a special concern for the Spanish speaking folks in our community, and especially those down in Regency Park, who have felt God calling them and our church to be involved in helping them. As far as I am aware, before I came there were those who ran our van to Regency on Wednesday nights to bring children to the Kid's Club meal and program, and then later by providing supplies for weekend food supplies that were distributed through Washington School. We have provided flood assistance there and hosted other activities for the children. But the difficulty has always been the language barrier between the adults and ourselves, and much as I may think I want to learn more Spanish, there are just so many other things that consume my time.

In several conversations within the church and with individuals in the Latino community, we discovered that was a need and an opportunity to help these folks by providing "English as a Second Language" classes, as some that had been offered previously no longer were in operation. In researching grants, Sasha became aware that there are a number of groups interested in helping fund activities of this sort, and some especially geared toward doing so as a ministry of the church. After discussion of how such a ministry could work, she made application for the grant we recently received. What are the next steps? Where are we going?

We now gather a team of individuals willing to guide or oversee the ministry on behalf of the church, and develop a detailed plan and start date. The proposal limits the number of people in the initial class to about 10-12, so we will access our connections to identify individuals to invite to participate. Our hope is that we will have a parallel track that meets at the same time as our Kid's Club so that the children have opportunity to learn about God while the parents are learning English. We also hope to include some kind of Spanish speaking Bible study group as well that will nurture the spiritual needs of the folks we meet, as we have learned that in spite of the number of Spanish speaking churches In town, the belief structures of those churches are limited and don't really match up with the Baptist teaching of personal conversion, redemption by grace through the cross and the importance of biblical learning. We also hope that there will be ways we can interact that study group with our adult Bible studies in a bilingual format. Eventually, perhaps God will use this as a way to build a Spanish speaking arm to our church, and strengthen the ministry we have here in Fremont. And, it is our ultimate goal that all of these connections will result in some individuals coming to know the Lord Jesus in a personal way for the very first time!

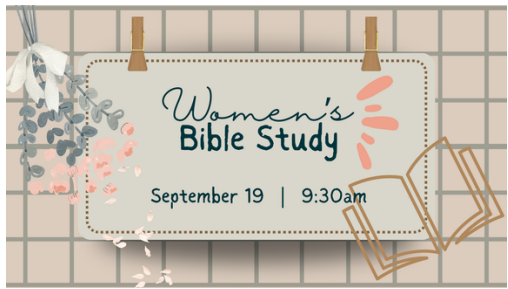
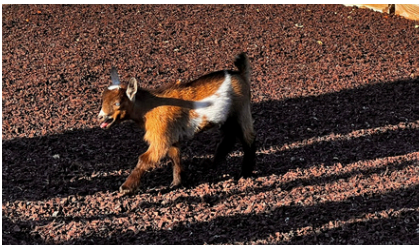
So, the key issues are: 1) program planning of schedule, materials and location. 2) personnel planning of the church liaisons and those who will facilitate the class. 3) identifying and enrolling attendees. 4) follow wherever God leads beyond these things. We have a 3 year grant to get us started, so we will probably make some mistakes at first and create something that will need tweaking, but the tweaks can only be discovered as we implement our best judgment as begin. Please, please, please, keep this entire outreach in your regular prayers....we are stepping into an unknown and challenging calling, and only with the guidance and help of God's Spirit will it work as it should.



FBKIDS & FBYOUTH

READY TO JOIN?
REGISTER ONLINE - WWW.FREMONTFBC.ORG

A HUGE Thank-You to everyone who helped make our Wednesday Night Kick-Off such a success! The petting zoo was an obvious HIT! What a joy it was watching the kids chase after a bellowing goat, chickens, and rabbits! It was great to see new and familiar faces enjoying fellowship on such a beautiful evening. The hotdogs were grilled to a true “Mert Olsen” standard, and the cupcake walk left plenty of icing on the smiles! Goody bags were grabbed up, and the kids sure enjoyed the simple animal-shaped erasers as an extra gift. One thing was clear—God was present and working among us! ❤️ As we continue to grow and discover what God is guiding this ministry to be, we truly appreciate everyone’s grace, patience, support, and willingness to give us a little room to learn and grow along the way. Please continue to keep this ministry, our volunteers, and especially our kids in your prayers as we begin another great year together. We’re excited for what God has in store! —Amity



Monthly Meetings

Hannah Circle

September 8 - 11:30a

@ Gringo's

Esther Circle

August 14 - 11:00a

Naomi Circle

August 24 - 12:30p



First Baptist Church

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

PRESENTS:

LADIES

Join us as we head to Valley Nebraska!

DAY OUT

LET'S SEE WHERE THE DAY TAKES US!

Wednesday | September 3, 2026

Depart @ 10:15 a.m.

505 N C Street | Fremont | NE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Cynthia Christensen

MARCH 9, 1933 - AUGUST 16, 2026

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

-Matthew 5:4

"Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted"

-Matthew 5:4

07:00
AM

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST

MEN'S

BIBLE

STUDY

LET'S GROW TOGETHER
IN GOD'S WORD



- Happiest Birthdays
- 1

Mike Conway
- 1

Melody Scott
- 6

Sasha White
- 11

Lynda Raasch
- 20

Bryan Regier
- 21

Wayne Muff
- 26

Doug Depue



SEPTEMBER BIBLE PUZZLE

What is Lex Talionis, where is it found, and would you consider it “prescriptive” or “restrictive”?

AUGUST BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWER

The “Year of Jubilee” described in Leviticus 25 was to take place in each 50th year, during which debts were forgiven, slaves set free, land was not to be cultivated and more. Sadly, in the Bible and in the later history of the re-established nation after the exile, there is no record of it having ever been actually observed! Jeremiah 25:11-12 combined with 2 Chronicles 36:21, along with the fact that there is no written record of a Jubilee celebration in the Bible, suggest that it was because they did NOT observe this, and were not as faithful with their Sabbatical (7th) year celebrations that the exile was set for 70 years—to give the land rest! In modern times, it has been used to celebrate the 50th anniversary of a monarch's reign, most recently called a Golden Jubilee as England's Queen Elizabeth had in 1977. In 2022, she celebrated what was called a "Platinum Jubilee" for 70 years reign. The term "Jubilee" comes from the Hebrew word often translated "trumpet," which was to be sounded at the start of the celebration.

SEPTEMBER HISTORY PUZZLE

A number of the mainline non-Catholic denominations can be traced historically to specific individuals and countries. Can you identify any with these countries as your hint?? Switzerland, Germany, England, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic (modern name) and Scotland?

AUGUST BIBLE HISTORY ANSWER

About the time our country was being founded, William Carey, a poorly educated cobbler in a gathering for Baptist ministers in England was told by a senior pastor, John Ryland, “Young man, sit down; when God pleases to convert the heathen, he will do it without your aid and mine.” Carey had been inspired reading accounts of Captain Cook’s voyages and the Great Commission in Matthew 28 to challenge his fellow Baptists to mission outreach. He later went himself to India, and is now known as the “Father of Modern Missions.”

FBC

CONNECT

How Can We Pray For You?



"To everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."
-Ecclesiastes 3:1

September

Forgiveness
Scripture Writing

Week 1

- Day 1: Colossians 3: 12-13
- Day 2: Colossians 3: 14-15
- Day 3: Colossians 3: 16
- Day 4: Colossians 3: 17
- Day 5: Numbers 14: 18
- Day 6: Numbers 14: 19
- Day 7: Numbers 14: 20-21

Week 2

- Day 8: Psalm 103: 1-5
- Day 9: 1 John 1: 5-7
- Day 10: 1 John 1: 8-10
- Day 11: Acts 2: 38
- Day 12: Matthew 6:9-14
- Day 13: Luke 6: 37-38
- Day 14: Proverbs 19: 11

Week 3

- Day 15: James 5: 15-16
- Day 16: Luke: 23: 33-34
- Day 17: Ephesians 4: 31-32
- Day 18: James 2: 12-13
- Day 19: James 5: 15-16
- Day 20: Proverbs 17: 9
- Day 21: Chronicles 7: 14

Week 4

- Day 22: Matthew 26: 26-27
- Day 23: Matthew 26: 28-29
- Day 24: Luke 7: 3-4
- Day 25: Ephesians 1: 7
- Day 26: Daniel 9-: 9-10
- Day 27: Matthew 18: 21-22
- Day 28: Micah 7: 18-19

Week 5

- Day 29: Psalm 32: 1-5
- Day 30: Psalm 11: 25



Vision Team Minutes: August 8, 2026

Members: Pastor Richard, Eileen Cash, Randy Cash, Terry Woodman, Joel Foreman, Betty Laughlin, Marcia Hill, Alan Holzerland, Sasha White was on speaker phone.

Devotion and Prayer: Joel Foreman



TREASURE: Randy went through finances. Some flooring tiles were replaced. The cost will be around \$2000 Eileen made a motion to pay for that out of the Paulger Memorial Fund. Alan seconded. Motion was passed.

ABM: The men will be grilling hotdogs for the Kick Off on August 26. They have hot dogs left from JC Fremont Days so we have a great start for our Halloween giveaway. The men gave money towards the painting needed in the sanctuary and also towards the Good Neighbor Fund.

ABWM: Ladies Day Out is in the planning — Where are we going???? It will be a surprise. Stay tuned for the rest of the story. There may also be the possibility that women will be asked to make desserts for the meal for our Region gathering in October. Eileen brought up our Mission Project for Aaron/Amy Trout in getting them a new truck. Our goal is \$5000. Anyone can donate to this, and the help would be appreciated. Thank you in advanced.

MISSION: Melanie Baggao will be here Friday, September 11. There will be more information on that. Walt and Jeanine White will be here for our Region gathering.

KIDS/ YOUTH: Kids Club Kick Off will be August 26 with registration starting at 6:15, eating some amazing hot dogs, chips and cookies at 6:30, 7-8 cake walk, other games and a chance to play with some animals (yes real live ones). Our first night of Kids Club will be September 2 with the meal at 6:15. Our Youth group will start Sunday, August 9 at 6:00. Gabby Burt will be putting the Kick Off night together. Darlene Guhde is putting the Wednesday night meals together. If there is anyone that would like to be a part of that and help Darlene I know she would be open to any help. Let Marcia know. We are looking forward to a great year with our young people.

At the Second Service a young family has been coming. It was discussed that they would like to have a Hispanic Bible Study meet at our church. He is an ordained pastor and already has a group started. This would be on a Wednesday night so the kids could be a part of our kids' program. We will be doing this on a trial bases into October. Pastor Richard will set up some guide lines.

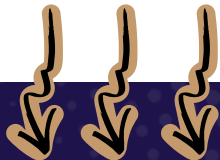
In regard to this Sasha is waiting on an approval on a grant to help fund a Spanish/English class. This pastor may be the one to be a huge part of this program. Sasha met with the group that gives these grants and she said the meeting went very well. Pray this will be a ministry, that we as a church can be a part of/

PROPERTY: August 10 the stain glass windows will be finished up. Sound system is still a working project. Security cameras being installed were approved. We will have 8 cameras installed. Motion light switches for our bathrooms is being discussed. The bathroom lights are left on a lot and this would take care of that. The approach cement work by the front door will get started soon.

Respectfully submitted: Marcia Hill



WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE



First Baptist.Fremont

Welcome
MISSIONARY



MELANIE BAGGAO

**Friday
September 11th**

10:00a - Nye Square - Senior Assisted Living - Bible Study Group

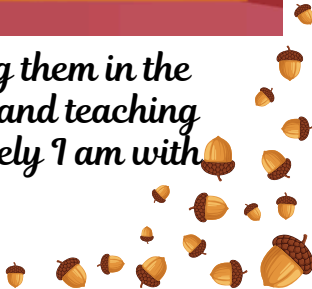
12:00p - Open Luncheon (Soup/Sandwiches) in FBC Family Center

4:30p - Q&A with Youth in Fellowship Hall

5:30p - Presentation with Q& A in Family Center
(Open Invitation - Brown Bag Dinner)



*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”
Matthew 28:19-20*





SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>Cookies & Coffee</u>  6 - Naomi 13 - ABM 20 - Hannah 27 - Esther		1 Maple Crest Delivery 7p - AA Meeting	2 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's s Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study	3 10a - Ladies Day Out!	4 9a - Men's Coffee 10a - Nye Sq. Bible Study 12p - Bible Study	5 7a - ABM Bible Study 8a - ABM Breakfast 9a - Property Team 6p - Fun & Fellowship*
6 COMMUNION 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 6p - FBYouth Groups	7 Labor Day Office Closed 9a - Men's Coffee 6p - Woodcarvers	8 11:30a - Hannah Circle @ Gringo's 7p - AA Meeting	9 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's s Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study	10 5:30p - Kay Circle Mat Weaving	11 9a - Men's Coffee Missionary Melanie Baggao	12 8:45a - Personnel Team 9:30a - Vision Team
13 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - Brown Bag/Movie Night* 6p - FBYouth Groups	14 9a - Men's Coffee 11a - Esther Circle	15 7p - AA Meeting	16 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's s Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study	17 10a - Pastor-Led Bible Study/Zoom	18 9a - Men's Coffee 12p - Bible Study	19 9:30a - ABW Bible Study
20 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - FBYouth Groups	21 9a - Men's Coffee 6p - Woodcarvers	22 7p - AA Meeting	23 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's s Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study	24 5:30p - Kay Circle Mat Weaving	25 9a - Men's Coffee 10a - Nye Sq. Bible Study 12p - Bible Study	26
27 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - FBYouth Groups	28 9a - Men's Coffee	29 7p - AA Meeting	30 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's s Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study			
 IF YOU'RE ABLE, PLEASE CONSIDER PICKING UP A FEW EXTRA ITEMS ON YOUR NEXT GROCERY TRIP AND BRINGING THEM TO THE CHURCH. EVERY BAG, BOX, AND CAN HELPS PROVIDE FOOD FOR LOCAL SCHOOL FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY AND FOR HELPING US CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS!						