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Let's Go!

NOVEMBER 2026

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

Pastor's Notes

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. –Romans 13:11-12

As I was preparing to write my notes for November as October closes down, I ran across a posted article by Jon Brown in The Christian Post, and thought I'd like to share portions of it with you as I begin:

5 Notable reactions to the violent riots roiling France: "They're destroying that country"

"Weeks of escalating unrest throughout France boiled over last weekend as riots roiled Paris, Marseille, Lyon and Bordeaux, leading to 2,400 arrests as protesters destroyed property, looted businesses and torched buildings, including the 143-year-old Limoges Town Hall.

While some media outlets and political figures have suggested that education and the cost of living are driving the protests, others see them as part of a wider assault against a teetering civilization that has been weakened by plummeting birth rates, unsustainable policies and widespread rejection of the Christian faith that built it.

'Nations which abandon God find themselves abandoned by God and overrun by demonic hordes. This is the story of all history and it will continue until there is no more history..' Federalist CEO Sean Davis wrote in response to a rioter desecrating a famous Joan of Arc statue in Paris. Another Joan of Arc statue in Toulouse was defaced when rioters adorned the patroness saint of Franc with a makeshift hijab and a Palestinian flag."

Perhaps you also saw the various reports about the riots in France, and the sometimes ridiculous news coverage insisting that they were peaceful protests by French students, while multiple organizations from other organizations and countries clearly claimed involvement. It is so hard these days to be able to discern truth among the competing news stories, but it is clear there are serious issues in France. Not only that, but Italy is anticipating similar riots in Milan soon, and has taken steps to insure police and military presence to prevent what happened in France from happening there. I also saw one of the "protestors" being quoted and saying that the United States needs to have the same kind of thing happen, and issuing a call for people to join in to do so on November 10-12. Mr. Brown's article and Mr. Davis's comments certainly provide food for thought, and may be prescient of what we will see in the coming months and years.

At the same time that I saw that article, I was also catching headlines about the fraternity rape scandal at Cornell University, the rise of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activities, judges and members of Congress under investigation, and upheaval in New York and California over proposed taxation policies. Overseas, the war rages in Ukraine and Russia as the Ukrainians bomb an important Russian data center while the battles over the Strait of Hormuz continue while Iran's hard-liners continue to widen their attacks to more and more countries. I have heard our friend in India tell of the unconstitutional persecution of Christians, Muslims and other non-Hindus in that country while missionary Ann Clemmer tells of a new ebola outbreak in the Republic of Congo, even as the measles are making a deadly resurgence here.

In all of these things, I observe so many people and so many countries drawing divisive and angry lines around the world, political lines, national lines, racial lines, religious lines…and then going beyond drawing the lines to attacking those not on the same side of their self-centered line. The rise of hostility causes me to wonder where things are headed. Perhaps Mr. Davis is right and as people abandon God, God is withdrawing his protection in nations once known as bastions of Christian faith of one sort or another.

Perhaps, instead, we are seeing the rise of Satan's rebellion edging quickly toward the final battles of eternity, Armageddon and such. And yet, while these things are going on, right in the midst of it all, God is drawing people to himself. In the U.S. many of the upcoming younger adults are finding their way back to faith in Christ. We have heard many times about the great number of Muslim individuals coming to faith in Christ, and last spring Avi Snyder shared with us of the many Jewish folks turning to Jesus as the Messiah. The article by Jon Brown cited above goes on to describe a resurgence of faith in Christ among many young folks in France even as the country is in crisis! What are we to make of all this.

I am not one to spend a lot of time dwelling on the end times, feeling called instead to be focused on making a difference here and now to help people be prepared for their time of God's judgment, but as I read and observe all these things, I find myself considering that we may, indeed, be seeing at least the birth pangs of the return of Christ. My current readings about the American Revolution and the formation of our nation 250 years ago has been reminding me that nations and governments have always be transitory, nothing is guaranteed to last forever, the sands of history are forever shifting. But the promises of God never change, and we have assurance of his imminent return, as well as the assurance that he has never been removed from his throne… nothing is outside of his ultimate control. All of these things lead me to gain a fresh awareness of the power of the Romans 13 passage above: observation of the world's upheaval and evils should always serve to remind us that we are closer to his return now than ever before. The night darkness of this world will soon pass away and yield to the eternal light and glory of the Kingdom of God. And so, while the world may appear to be in disarray and upheaval, God continues to work his purpose even through those unwittingly used by him, ever forward to the glorious return of Christ. So many may consider these times as a cause for fear, let us consider them cause for rejoicing, for the Lord is at hand and his return in sure!



School Outreach Prayer Request

Vicki Anderson had such a heart for serving our local schools, and since her passing, a big hole has been left in this ministry. She was our main connection and helped lead this important partnership between our church and the schools in our community. We are praying that God will call someone forward to step into this leadership role, working alongside our wonderful volunteers to continue building relationships and serving the students, families, and staff in our community.

Could God be calling YOU? You don't have to do it alone! We're looking for someone with a willing heart and a passion for making a difference in the lives of others. Please join us in praying for the right person to step forward and help carry this ministry forward in Vicki's memory.



Officially a Nebraskan!

Nola and I want to say thanks for the dinner celebration, as well as all the other kindnesses you gave and did for us for Pastor Appreciation month. Such a great church to be a part of. We are truly blessed! Pastor Richard

BIBLE STUDENT'S CORNER

Are you ever concerned that you wear clothes that are a wool and linen, or cotton/polyester mix? Do you think women should be required to keep their heads covered whenever they pray? When you pray, do you make sure to keep your head covered? Do you think it inappropriate to eat clams, shrimp, or lobster? Is it your belief that women should keep silent in church? Do you keep Saturday as holy to God? After all, these are all things commanded in the Bible: Deut. 22:11, 1 Cor. 13:5, Lev. 11:10-11, 1 Cor. 14:34 and Exodus 20:10-11.

In some cases, we might claim that the instructions are under the old covenant, part of the Law, but that with Christ a new covenant was established and we are not required to follow the rules such as not eating lobster (or bacon!). That is specifically pointed out in Mark 7:19, for example. But suppose I pointed out that if you aren't obligated to the Law of Moses in that way, then you should also be free of the Ten Commandments, would you agree with that? Probably not…even though you worship on Sunday and call it the Lord's Day, not on the Sabbath which is Saturday. If you were particularly sharp on these things, you might respond by pointing out that Jesus made specific reference to each of the Ten Commandments at one point or another, often strengthening them instead of disallowing them (see Matt. 5:21-22). And you might even point out that Paul discusses the issue of a Sabbath Day in various places (Rom. 14:5).

Okay, well that may work for the Mosaic Law, but the two instructions about women in prayer and in church mentioned above are both in the New Testament. By what authority do we choose to ignore those instructions in our church? Some might respond that those instructions were for a specific church (they are only mentioned in 1 Corinthians after all), or applied for a specific time, rather than lasting and binding instructions. Others might say we need to note the principle underneath the instructions, such as respect for God, or respect for orderly worship.

In the days of the apostles, one of the key issues was figuring out what things from the old Jewish law needed to be retained and imposed on all believers, Jewish and Gentile, and what things should not be considered as a requirement under the New Covenant. Acts 15 records what is called "The Jerusalem Council," at which the apostles sought to understand these issues in relation to the conversion of Gentiles. Though they limited their expectations, it remained a struggle as even Peter and James did not always act according to the wisdom of that Council (Gal. 2:11-12). And passages such as Romans 14:5 sought to help people understand how to sort out which scriptural commands retained relevance and how to apply them.

So ask yourself, assuming you don't think it a requirement for women to keep silent in church, for example, what is the basis upon which you set that aside? How do you know which things are for a time and which are eternal instructions? What is the way you decide whether it is the specific instruction the matters or the principle on which the instruction is given? Often we just go about our business and don't bother to ask, almost as if we think we are free to just pick and choose which of the Lord's instructions we want to follow and which we can ignore without even asking ourselves why we think what we think.

These considerations are important, because those questions have to be thought through afresh in each generation, culture and context. Food sacrificed to idols, for instance, is not something we even think about, because we get out meat at the grocery store. But if you lived in India, or many of the Far Eastern countries where food is offered to all sorts of things in worship, the question might take on different meaning and the answer a little more difficult to decide. It has been said in terms of these things, that what for one person is a binding instruction, another just as devout will decide it to be the underlying principle that matters. In this little article, I merely want to point out that these questions are important, because we all live as if the answers are clear, when sometimes we need to stop and consider why we think what we do, and whether we are applying the scripture appropriately to our time and culture. The apostles had to wrestle with those issues, and we do today, as well.

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."
– Galatians 6:2

FBKIDS & FBYOUTH

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

Hello all, I can't believe how fast this year has gone-by. This month has truly been a fruitful month for us. At the beginning of the month, we wrapped up our series of "What is a Christian" where we explored what it truly means to be a Christian. In between that and the current series we are doing now, our very own Dylan Crytzer led the youth group in an amazing "one-off" sermon over the book of Philippians. As we wrap up this month, the youth kids started a new bible study series over the book of James, which will take us to the end of the year. As this year comes ever closer to a close, I am just reminded of the faithfulness of God in everything that he has provided for us this year. From the small victories to the major success - we give all the glory to God.
From all of us at FBC Youth, we say thank you for all of your continued support and prayers!
-Jesse Kracht









Rain, Rain, Go AWAY... and it DID! The day started with a gloomy sky and a downpour, but the rain couldn't keep the fun away! We LOVE this community and had so much fun seeing all your creative costumes during Halloween Hysteria! 1,000 HOTDOGS... and FREMONT was up for the challenge! You all showed up, and we loved every minute of it! Thanks for making it such a fun day!

WHOEVER PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOVE FINDS LIFE, PROSPERITY AND HONOR.
-PROVERBS 21:21

Thank you everyone for all your prayers, kind words, generous gift cards and the over flow of love. We appreciate you so much.
With heartfelt thanks, Leland and Jean Foreman

THANK YOU!

FBC CONNECT

Life can be hard enough without feeling like you have to face it alone. Whatever you're going through, big or small, you don't have to carry it by yourself. Our church family is here for you, and we'd be honored to pray with you and for you. You don't have to have the right words or all the answers. Just let us know how we can lift you up in prayer.

NOVEMBER BIBLE PUZZLE

As this is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving, how about this for a puzzle: Who is the first one recorded in the Bible as giving thanks, and what was their thanks given for? Bonus points, who was the last?

NOVEMBER HISTORY PUZZLE

After the Bible had been translated into Greek and then by Jerome into Latin in around 400 A.D., what was the next, most influential language into which is was translated? When and by whom?

FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS - MATTHEW 17:20

OCTOBER BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWER

Epaenetus was the first convert in Asia (Romans 16:5). And that is the only thing we know, because that is the only reference to Epaenetus in the Bible!

OCTOBER BIBLE HISTORY ANSWER

The phrase "wall of separation between church and state" is known from Thomas Jefferson's 1802 use of it in a reply letter to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut, which was then quoted by Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black in 1947 which led to the modern emphasis and understanding of the phrase. However, it was originally a metaphor created by an Anglican minister named Robert Hooker, and then picked up and used by Roger Williams as founder of the Rhode Island colony and First Baptist Church of Providence, after which Jefferson applied the phrase.

In 1790, George Washington wrote to a Jewish Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island that they are welcome citizens and that America "gives...bigotry no sanction."

It was also Washington who initiated a treaty with the Muslim nation of Tripoli which was completed by John Adams and ratified by the Senate in 1797, in which was written, "the government of the United States is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion..."

(To understand their choices, realize that these Founding Fathers did not reject God...in fact many attended church regularly. They chose this path for three main reasons: 1) They had seen in Europe...Spain, France, England, Geneva and more....the persecution that can result when a government aligns with a specific church. They had seen similar things, in fact, in here in the colonies...North Carolina, Virginia and Masachusetts especially. 2) They had witnessed the contrast when governments allowed the practice of other faith traditions in the success of Roger Williams's Rhode Island colony, where all were welcome, and where the belief was that people given the chance to choose to believe was more effective than being forced to do so. 3) They knew that if they declared the government as Christian, the next question would be which sect of Christianity...and that had already been problematic in the colonies mentioned above. So instead they focused on a "Creator God" and intentionally left individuals free to practice their faith or no faith as they felt appropriate. At the same time, they were also aware...even the less than devout Benjamin Franklin...that the practice of religion and related teaching of morality was essential if the Constitution was to succeed. After passage of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, from the presidency of James Monroe on, there have been multiple attempts and opportunities to add the words "Christian" into the official language in different ways. Each time the idea was turned down, for the same reasons as above.)



9 - Jim & Deb Peterson



1 - Betty Laughlin
2 - Don Charleston
5 - Cliff Hammond
7 - Leland Foreman
8 - Joan Sorensen
11 - Jean Foreman
12 - Mark Anderson
25 - Dale Tharp



For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.
-Jeremiah 29:11





A BIG THANK YOU to so many of you who did so much to make our hosting of the region conference such a positive experience for those who attended. From baking cookies, to moving tables, to handing out papers, changing light bulbs, teaching children, serving meals, cleaning up after....and perhaps most of all, simply being yourselves in such a way as to make our guests feel welcome. As your pastor, I couldn't have been more pleased and impressed at all you did to make such a good experience for the attendees, and that it wasn't just a handful of folks who did so, it was our church functioning in a spirit of love and unity. All that you did made my work as your pastor during this time so much easier. Truly Appreciated by me and many others!
-Pastor Richard Crooks

We're collecting new or gently used items for our annual Santa's Workshop! This fun and meaningful event gives students the chance to "shop" for Christmas gifts for their parents, grandparents, and siblings. Donations can be placed in the collection box next to the school food donation area. Thank you for helping spread Christmas cheer and make the holidays a little brighter for local students and their families!





Daily Gratitude

Day 1: Romans 16:4
Day 2: Psalm 100:4
Day 3: 1 Thess 5:18
Day 4: Psalm 35:18
Day 5: 2 Cor 2:14
Day 6: Revelation 7:12
Day 7: Psalm 30:4
Day 8: Psalm 116:17
Day 9: Psalm 50:14
Day 10: Colossians 4:2
Day 11: Ezra 3:11
Day 12: Psalm 140:13
Day 13: 2 Cor 4:15
Day 14: 2 Samuel 22:50
Day 15: 2 Cor 9:15
Day 16: Psalm 26:6-7
Day 17: Daniel 6:10
Day 18: Psalm 136:2
Day 19: Psalm 95:2
Day 20: 1 Cor 15:57
Day 21: Psalm 18:49
Day 22: Jonah 2:9
Day 23: Colossians 1:3
Day 24: 1 Chronicles 16:8
Day 25: Ephesians 1:16
Day 26: Psalm 69:30
Day 27: Romans 14:6
Day 28: 1 Timothy 4:4
Day 29: Matthew 26:27
Day 30: 1 Chronicles 16:34

IF YOU COULD WRITE A THANK-YOU NOTE TO YOUR YOUNGER SELF, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?



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Vision Team Minutes: October 10, 2026

- Attendance: Alan Holzerland, Marcia Hill, Eileen Cash, Randy Cash, Betty Laughlin, Joel Foreman, Mary Weldon and Terry Woodman.
- Mary opened with the meeting prayer and devotion.
- ABM Joel reported they are helping serve/grill hotdogs at the Halloween Hysteria downtown on October 15th from 5-7pm.
- ABWM Eileen reported cookies and bars were provided by ABW for the mission conference and the Christmas Party is scheduled for December 3, 2026
- School Outreach Marcia Hill reported for Jim and Deb Peterson that they took candy to Grant, Linden, and Washington Schools for teachers to have during conferences. Donuts will be delivered to Grant since we didn't have a meal for them at the befinning of the School Year. We are collecting items for Santa's Workshop at Grant Schools is a way for children to pick out gift items for their loved ones. The items will be collect until November 15th, and we plan to deliver them before Thanksgiving Break. We continue to collect food for all 3 schools which will be delivered before Christmas Break. We are also collecting coats for kids sizes Small to Xtra Large. There will be NO FBKids on October 14th due to Fall Break. We have an average of 11 children on Wednesday Nights. FBYouth has went down in size due to kids graduating.
- Property Alan Holzerlan reported several projects being looked at and completed.
- Treasurer Randy Cash reported the money discussed to be pulled from the Endowment fund the month prior has been transferred. Memorial funds were received for Cynthia Christensen.
- Terry Woodman shared he has been working with the kids on Wednesday night on some singing.
- Pastor Crooks announced missionaries Gordan and Lee Ann Hwang from Japan will be here November 1, 2026. Speed Chess will be held in the Family Center on November 14, we will provide a meal. We are also working with Hy-Vee to provide a Thanksgiving Meal to families at the Bridge. Harvest Dinner is set for November 22 following our combined 10am service.
- Pastor Crooks wants to ackowledge and thank everyone for their help with the ABC Region Convention, everyone did an incredible job!
- The meeting later moved to the sanctuary where a representative from Electric Sound discussed a proposal for the sound system. The proposal would include a new analog board, install a DSPC (Digital Sound Processor), a new wireless microphone etc...estimated cost $39,000
- No Further business

Submitted by Shelly Bowen, Clerk





Monthly Meetings

Esther Circle
November 9th - 11:00a

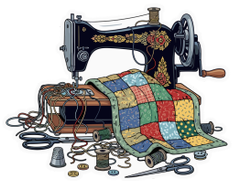
Hannah Circle
November 10th - 11:30a
@ Village Inn

Naomi Circle
November 19 - 12:30p

FOLLOW ALONG WITH US AS WE EXPLORE THE BOOKS OF JOHN! LET'S READ, DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW, AND GROW TOGETHER AS WE SEE WHERE GOD'S WORD LEADS US!



American Baptist Women's Ministries



"but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."
-Isaiah 40:31





SCAN ME!

Things Happen and Plans Change - It's Always A Good Idea to Verify Dates/Times/Places 🙂
*Event in Family Center

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 COMMUNION **Missionaries Gordan and LeeAnn Hwang** 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 6p - FBYouth Groups	**2** 9a - Men's Coffee 6p - Woodcarvers	**3** 7p - AA Meeting	**4** 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study 7p - ESL Class	**5** 5:30p - Kay Circle Mat Weaving	**6** 9a - Men's Coffee 10a - Nye Sq. Bible Study 12p - Bible Study	**7** 7a - ABM Bible Study 8a - ABM Breakfast 9a - Property Team
8 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - Brown Bag/Movie Night* 6p - FBYouth Groups	**9** 9a - Men's Coffee 11a - Esther Circle	**10** 11:30a - Hannah Circle @ Villagin Inn 7p - AA Meeting	**11** VETERANS DAY 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study 7p - ESL Class	**12** 10a - Pastor-Led Bible Study/Zoom	**13** 9a - Men's Coffee 12p - Bible Study	**14** 8:45a - Personnel Team 9:30a - Vision Team 10:30a - ABW Bible Study Brunch in Omaha
15 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - FBYouth Groups	**16** 9a - Men's Coffee 6p - Woodcarvers	**17** 7p - AA Meeting	**18** 10a - Women's Coffee 6:15p - FBKid's Meal 6:45p - FBKid's Group 7p - Bible Study 7p - ESL Class	**19** 12:30p - Naomi Circle 5:30p - Kay Circle Mat Weaving	**20** 9a - Men's Coffee 12p - Bible Study	**21** **ABW Bible Study starts back January 16 @ 9:30am**
22 **10a - Combined Service** **11:30a - Harvest Dinner**	**23** 9a - Men's Coffee	**24** 7p - AA Meeting	**25** **Thanksgiving Break** **No Wednesday Activities**	**26** Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving	**27** Office Closed 9a - Men's Coffee 10a - Nye Sq. Bible Study	**28**
29 1st Sunday of Advent 9:30a - Traditional Service 11a - Casual Service* 11a - Bible Study 6p - FBYouth Groups	**30** 9a - Men's Coffee 6p - Woodcarvers					

Cookies & Coffee

1 - ABM
8 - Hannah
15 - Esther
22 - Naomi
29 - ABM



Did You Know? A quilt is made from many individual pieces of fabric, each with its own color and pattern. When stitched together, those pieces become something beautiful and useful—much like our church family! Each of us has something unique to offer, and when we work together, we can share God's love in wonderful ways.