

First Baptist Church

Build, Love, Grow Serve

505 N C Street, Fremont, NE 68025

www.fremontfbc.org

Phone 402-721-1265

Email: office@fremontfbc.org

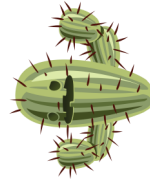


Find us on 

 YouTube



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



AUGUST 2023



Lead Pastor Richard Crooks | Fremont, NE Children and Youth Pastor Interm Luke Chavanne

AUGUST 2023



"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)

"So now give me this hill country of which the Lord spoke on that day, for you heard on that day how the Anakim were there, with great fortified cities. It may be that the Lord will be with me, and I shall drive them out just as the Lord said." Caleb's words in Joshua 14:12

I love this scripture. There are so many others it reminds me of, and all of them are great encouragements for me. In the story from above, the Israelite people were battling with the Philistines, as they did for many years during the infancy of their kingdom under Saul, for all around them nations were shifting, forming and peoples migrating. In the midst of these uncertain times, Jonathan (Saul's son and David's friend) was away from the other troops, and stumbling across an enemy encampment, he decided that he and his aide could attack. Of course, the aide was less than certain, but Jonathan was a man of great faith, and a man who knew that God was capable of more than they could imagine. The aide saw the obstacle of overwhelming odds stacked against them and far too many enemy soldiers. Jonathan saw the same thing, but perceived it was an opportunity for God to show his power BECAUSE the challenge was so big. Where do you suppose Jonathan got that idea? He, of course, knew the stories of how God rescued them out of their slavery in Egypt through Moses and miracles when they were powerless and downtrodden. But I bet he also knew about Gideon who, in Judges 7, was told to make his army smaller, because the enemy army was big and if Gideon's army was too big, the people would think THEY won the victory, instead of recognizing that victory was from God!

Does this remind you of any other stories? I think of things like trying to feed thousands of people with a handful of fish and bread loaves. Twice! Or supplying months of income for a widow, her son and Elisha out of a little flour and a few drops of olive oil. These stories give the impression that God SPECIALIZES in doing impossible things with the smallest of resources... with the smallest of resources that is, in the hands of people who have faith and are obedient to him. In fact, God favors this way of operating so much, that when Jesus decided to change the world with the message of the Gospel, he decided NOT to assign the task to the 5,000 plus who ate the multiplied fish and loaves, but to 11 people he called apostles, plus one named Paul added in later. And because 12 unknown, regular sort of guys decided to simply do whatever God asked them to do, the mighty Roman Empire fell before the Gospel of Christ in just a few generations of preaching. Soldiers, Senators and Emperors were powerless to stop these simple

fishermen from transforming their world!



God worked a mighty deliverance through Jonathan, because Jonathan paid more attention to God than to the distractions of all the circumstances around him. What do YOU see when you look around? In your life? In our church? Do you see a God bigger than any obstacles, or do you see only the obstacles and your own weakness? When Israel was settling their land, a land that had giant people in it who had struck fear in the hearts of all the spies Moses had sent in, one spy alone saw an opportunity for God to do something great. Only one of those spies ever got to step foot in the land, and that was the elderly Caleb, now well into the sunset years of life. And yet, when the senior citizen named Caleb (age 85) chose his inheritance, he asked for the area that had the giant people living there...because he knew that his God was bigger than any giant, and because, like Jonathan, he knew God could work through many or few, strong or weak, young or old...whoever was obedient in faith, THAT is who God could use. Caleb wanted to see God at work in and through his life, even in his declining years!

What do YOU want to see? Obstacles too big for you and me, or opportunities? It depends on where you are looking! God has some great opportunities in our midst these days...all he needs are some Jonathans and Calebs. Want to be one?

God + 1 is always a majority!



Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge. Psalm 16:1

AUGUST BIBLE PUZZLE

At the nativity, the wise men came asking to see Jesus, who was born King of the Jews. Prior to that, who was the youngest ruler in Israel's history, and how old was the person?

PEOPLE PUZZLE

This church member, whose mother liked to write poetry, comes from a large family and yet mom wrote a poem about each of her children. This member's poem including a reference to "brown eyes and blonde hair," remains a treasured possession even now in adulthood.

(Answers provided next month)

BIBLE PUZZLE JULY



The Book of Philemon is the book focused on a slave and emancipation...written by Paul to the owner of the slave Onesimus, both of whom were Paul's friends. The other New Testament letters written to individuals would be Titus, 1 and 2 Timothy, and 3 John (to beloved Gaius). In addition, 2 John is addressed to "the elect lady and her children" (which may refer to an individual, but many believe to be a reference to a specific church)

Two other books that seem to be written to individuals, but may be dedicated to individuals or to a symbolic name are Luke's two writings (Gospel of Luke and Acts), which are addressed to "Theophilus"—which translates as 'God's friend,' which many believe Luke used to refer to all believers.

PEOPLE PUZZLE JULY

The adult church member who is a 3rd generation member of First Baptist is Don Charleston...although Don indicated that he did NOT descend from a charter member.



August

Never Alone

- Day 1: Rom. 8:31-32
- Day 2: Rom. 8:33-34
- Day 3: Rom. 8:35-36
- Day 4: Rom. 8:37-38
- Day 5: John 14:15-16
- Day 6: John 14:17-18
- Day 7: John 14:19-20
- Day 8: Isa. 30:21
- Day 9: Josh. 1:9
- Day 10: Psa. 34:17-18
- Day 11: Isa. 54:1-2
- Day 12: Isa. 54:3-4
- Day 13: Isa. 54:5-6
- Day 14: Isa. 54:7-9
- Day 15: Isa. 54:10
- Day 16: Matt. 28:18-20
- Day 17: Isa. 41:10
- Day 18: John 15:1-2
- Day 19: John 15:3-4
- Day 20: John 15:5-6
- Day 21: John 15:7-8
- Day 22: John 15:9-11
- Day 23: 1 Cor. 1:10
- Day 24: Psa. 139:1-2
- Day 25: Psa. 139:3-4
- Day 26: Psa. 139:5-6
- Day 27: Psa. 139:7-8
- Day 28: Psa. 139:9-10
- Day 29: Psa. 139:11-12
- Day 30: Psa. 139:13-14
- Day 31: Psa. 139:15-16

With God

All Things

Are Possible




Commit 10 minutes each day to read each verse, write it out in your journal, meditate on it, and reflect on what it means to you.



Birthdays & Anniversary's

Senior Residential | Homebound

	2	Jerry & Roxanne Woodman
Doug Ritthaler	4	
	6	Leonard & Esther Bechtel
	10	Clarence & Trudy Reiss
Jim Peterson	11	
	11	Randy & Sue Rector
Alan Holzerland	13	
Bryan Ritthaler	13	
Jessica Peterson	15	
Avalyn Ward	16	
Nancy Stoltenberg	18	David & Cynthia Christensen
	20	Hank & Amy Schollmeyer
	21	Dale & Sherri Tharp
	25	Alan & Shelly Holzerland
Rick Crytzer	28	
John Mitchell	28	
Sherri Tharp	29	
	31	Wayne & Mary Lamberty

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)	#207
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



Come see us at our Booth!!!
Enjoy food, music, culture and more!!!
Hispanic Festival
August 25-26
In Downtown Fremont

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES

August
Bible Book of
the Month:
1 Samuel

ABWM
THURSDAY
AUGUST 3, 2023
1:30 P.M.

the Bridge
VIOLENCE ENDS. EMPOWERMENT BEGINS

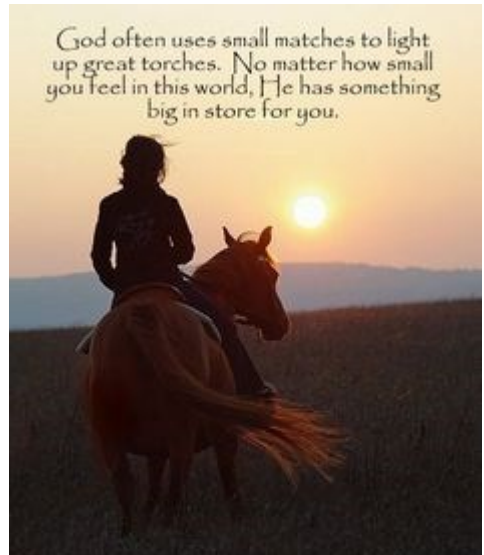


MEETINGS

Hannah
August 8 – 12:30 p.m.

Esther
August 14 – 11 a.m.

Naomi
August 26 – 12:30 p.m.



SASHA WHITE COMES PART-TIME AS OUR MUSIC LEADER AND GRANT WRITER. SASHA AND HER HUSBAND, TYLER (TY), MAKE THEIR HOME IN OMAHA, WHERE SHE WORKS FULL-TIME AT THE OPEN DOOR MISSION AS EVENTS COORDINATOR/ PHILANTHROPIC OFFICER-HIGH IMPACT. AT THE END OF JUNE SHE COMPLETED 12 YEARS SERVING AS YOUTH PASTOR AT OUR SISTER CHURCH IN VALLEY. WHILE AT VALLEY, SASHA HAS SERVED AS CHAIR OF THEIR LAST PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE, ON THEIR GOVERNING BOARD, AND MODERATOR. YOU WILL ENJOY THE ENERGY, FAITH AND EXCITEMENT THIS VISIONARY AND GIFT MUSICIAN BRINGS WITH HER, AS SHE JOINS WITH US IN THE ADVENTURES GOD IS BRINGING OUR WAY!

(402)250-8156 | 3438 WEBSTER ST | OMAHA NE | 68131

VISION TEAM JULY 8, 2023



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

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer. He then read from Joel 3:10 -"Let the weak say I am strong". Sometimes we have to make music with what we have left.



The position of Worship Coordinator on the Vision Team for 2023 has never been filled. Marcia moved Marilyn Pueppke be nominated to fill that position. Motion seconded by Mary. and the vote was unanimous in favor. Marilyn is Worship Coordinator".

The schedule for July activities began with: JCFremont Days - 14th& 15th. Eileen reported needs for the Bake Sale include cookies, bars, chex mix , etc. Have them to the church by 6:00 on Friday evening. She has cash drawers for Randy and Dorothy. Joel is taking care of the ice. Set up will be Friday evening at Midland. Saturday morning at 7:30 continue preparations and set-up.

Wednesday, July 19 - Paul Weers from the American Baptist Foundation will be here to make presentations about the Foundation and about Planned Giving. A light luncheon will be served in the Family Center for a noon presentation, and then a supper presentation followed by a Bible Study Paul will lead. Individual consultation appointments are available Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning.

Joel reported Sasha White will begin working with our church as our Music Leader. She is a member at the Valley Church and served on their staff until the end of June when she stepped aside from that position. Sasha has a degree in music education and is very talented, and her first Sunday will be July 23rd, when she will lead our music and also be speaking. Sasha will also have other responsibilities using her grant writing skills to assist the church's programs by seeking grant funding where possible. Both Music Leader and Grant Writer will be paid positions.

On Tuesday the 25th a new International Ministries missionary to South Africa, Toya Richards, will be at our church. There will be a cookies and coffee meet-n-greet in the Family Center at 3:00 in the afternoon where she will be sharing her vision and her work. For those unable to attend, they may join her for supper at a local restaurant (location to be determined).



FBKIDS | FBYOUTH

U - No Report -

Wednesday Night are for FBKids|FBYouth and we need your HELP! If you are interested in volunteering there is a mandatory Background Check and Child Protection Training Course that need to be completed before you start. Please contact the office for more information.



FBC FREMONT AB GIRLS CRAFT DAY!
 Back to school de-stress craft day!
 open to all girls 3rd grade and up
 join us to make bath bombs and a water stress ball!

Back to School

August 19, 2023
 9:00 a.m.
 FBC Fremont
 \$5 materials fee

rsvp deadline: August 12, 2023
 office@fremontfbc.org

AUG. 26 @ 11 AM
PRAYER TOUR
 More than Sunday.

SOAP CARVING FOR GUYS!
 BOYS 3rd grade and up - COME LEARN HOW TO CARVE STARTING WITH SOAP!!

Saturday - August 19, 2023 -- 9:00 a.m.
 FBC Fremont - 5th & C Streets

\$5 material charge
 rsvp by August 12, 2023
 office@fremontfbc.org

BIBLE STUDY

PASTOR LED
BIBLE STUDY
 To include Zoom
August 10th & 24th @ 2:30
 Join us here at the church or in the comfort of your own home, either way we have a spot for you!



JOHN C FREMONT DAYS IS A SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR. WE LOVE BEING OUT IN THE COMMUNITY, GIVING BOOKS AND BIBLES, SHARING GOD'S LOVE, AND SELLING HOTDOGS! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR DONATIONS, PRAYERS, AND SUPPORT. WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU.

Thank you to everyone who donated items, money, and/or their time for the Fremont Days event. We made \$1,009 from the hotdog, water, pop, and baked goods sales, which was divided between the ABM and ABW. The youth made \$129 from their popcorn sales. In addition, many books were given away and people were prayed for at our stand. We are thankful to God for providing a beautiful day for our event between the rainy days, and for making this outreach successful. We are also grateful for everyone's help and support.



Welcome Jennifer Rodriguez who presented herself to membership on July 16th. She will be baptized soon, if you are interested in being Baptized please contact Pastor Richard or Amity in the office.

Melody Scott would like your help in reminding her parents, Dale and Sherri Tharp, how special 40 years of marriage is by showering them with cards. August 21 is there anniversary. Cards can be mailed to:
2120 Irene St. Fremont Ne 68025

HAPPY Anniversary

Dear Women of FBC, Thank You for the lovely luncheon you provided for Dad's funeral I remember my mom helping with many in years gone by. Blessings and thanks Peggy (Howe) Wolverton



YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOUR HELP!

PLANNED PROJECTS



Family Center Roof, Church Roof, Windows, Sound System, Water Fountain, Church Van and more...

Anticipated Cost of \$120,000+

Please mark your gift "Fix It Fund"

The Women's Mission Tour trip to Bethel Neighborhood Center and other ministries in Kansas City will be July 27-29 which includes lunch at Bethel with the Senior Citizens. Richard indicated that he thinks Joyce Jokumsen and her daughter from Derby, Kansas will be attending. Three woven mats are completed of the five that are planned. There are two nearing completion and one more night of weaving remaining.

Sunday the 16th will begin the Fundraiser for the Family Center roof replacement and the other projects needing attention. We are still awaiting final estimates, but are setting \$120,000 as our best guess to start with, and will inform the congregation of details as we get them. The concern is that when the roofing company begins, we will need to be able to pay the required deposit for them to get started. At this point, Richard indicate he is aware of \$6,000 that has been promised and/or donated. John reported from the Property Team that roofing projects hopefully will get started this month, as they are just awaiting the details to be worked out with the insurance and contractor.

John mentioned the possibility of having a defibrillator available, and also to review our security plans. While we will be looking into these things, we are also aware we need to obtain updated personal, emergency contact and medical notice information from our congregation. Pastor will look into getting those updates started. He also reported that the Property Team is looking into selling the bus and the green van, and replacing them with a second newer vehicle.

Randy reported \$7,763.02 balance in the checking account. \$3200 more was spent in June. \$500 not designated and insurance due June 30. Memorials Fund has added \$685. He also reported that he has not yet received a statement from the Foundation for the Endowment Funds.

Marcia reported 11 hygiene bags were delivered to "The Bridge".

Personal reports: Deb Peterson's has surgery for her kidney stones that was only partially successful. Wes Howe's funeral service will be Monday at the church. Dinner at 12:30. Service at 2:00.


There being no further business, Eileen closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Charleston, clerk



AUGUST 2023

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7pm - AA Meeting	2 9:30a- Women's Coffee 7pm - Bible Study	3 1:30pm ABWM Meeting	4 9am - Men's Coffee	5 7am - ABM Bible Study 8am - ABM Breakfast 9am - Property Team 10:30 - Prayer Room with Pastor Richard 6pm - Food & Fellowship
6 COMMUNION 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service	7 9am - Men's Coffee	8 12:30 Hannah Circle 7pm - AA Meeting	9 9:30a- Women's Coffee 7pm - Bible Study	10 2:30 - Zoom Bible Study	FBYouth Lock-In	
13 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service	14 9am - Men's Coffee 11am - Esther Circle 7pm - Woodcarvers	15 7pm - AA Meeting	16 9:30a- Women's Coffee 7pm - Bible Study	17	18 9am - Men's Coffee	19 9am - AB Girls Craft Day 3rd grade and up 9am - AB Boys Soap Carving 3rd grade and up
20 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service	21 9am - Men's Coffee	22 7pm - AA Meeting	23 9:30a- Women's Coffee 7pm - Bible Study	24 2:30 - Naomi Circle 2:30 - Zoom Bible Study	25 9am - Men's Coffee	26 9am - ABW Bible Study 11am - Prayer Tour
27 9:30 - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service	28 9am - Men's Coffee 7pm - Woodcarvers	29 7pm - AA Meeting	30 9:30a- Women's Coffee FBKids FBYouth KICK OFF	31	Hispanic Festival	

SMALL GROUP

BIBLE STUDIES

† **Marcia and Larry Hill & Jim and Deb Peterson**
Fridays 12pm - Parlor

† **Mary Weldon**
Tuesday's 10am @ Her house

† **Joel Foreman**
After Sunday Worship in the Parlor
(to exclude Communion Sundays)

† **Rowena Gonzales**
Anger Bible Study
Thursday's 8am @ her house



COOKIES

6 - Esther
13 - Naomi
20 - ABM
27 - Hannah

