



505 N C Street, Fremont, NE 68025
www.fremontfbc.org
Phone 402-721-1265
Email: office@fremontfbc.org



Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:6-8



February 2024



Lead Pastor Richard Crooks | Fremont, NE

February 2024

I generally like to write my own articles for our Chimes, but this month I'd like to do something a little different. I am currently reading Elisabeth Elliot's book Keep a Quiet Heart as part of my morning devotional time. Most of you know how much I enjoy and am inspired by our universe's witness to God's glory and power. Elisabeth had a chapter that approached the concept in a unique way, and I would like to share it with you this month...or at least most of it. Hope it inspires you as it did me.



Why Is God Doing This To Me?




"An article appeared in the National Geographic years ago which has affected my thinking ever since. 'The Incredible Universe,' by Kenneth F. Weaver and James P. Blair, included this paragraph: How can the human mind deal with the knowledge that the furthest object we can see in the universe is perhaps ten billion light years away! Imagine that the thickness of this page represents the distance from the earth to the sun (93,000,000 miles, or about eight light minutes). Then the distance to the nearest star (4-1/3 light years) is a 71-foot-high stack of paper. And the diameter of our own galaxy (100,000 light years) is a 310-mile stack, while the edge of the known universe is not reached until the pile of paper is 31,000,000 miles high, a third of the way to the sun.

...I read somewhere else that our galaxy is one (only one) of perhaps ten billion. "I know the one who made all that. He is my Shepherd... (quotes Isaiah 48:13, 17, 18)... Hardly a day goes by without my receiving a letter, a phone call, or a visit from someone in trouble. Almost always the question comes, in one form or another, Why does God do this to me?"

"When I am tempted to ask that same question, it loses its power when I remember that this Lord, into whose strong hands I long ago committed my life, is engineering a universe of unimaginable proportions and complexity. How could I possibly understand all that He must take into consideration as He deals with it and with me, a single individual! He has given us countless assurances that we cannot get lost in the shuffle. He choreographs the 'molecular dance' which goes on every second of every minute of every day in every cell of the universe. For the record, one cell has about 200 trillion molecules. He makes note of the smallest seed and the tiniest sparrow. He is

not too busy to keep records of even my falling hair.

"Yet in our darkness we suppose He has overlooked us. He hasn't. I have been compiling a list of the answers God Himself has given us to our persistent question about adversity: 

1. **We need to be pruned.** ... If we are bearing fruit, then we must be pruned. This is a painful process. Jesus knew that His disciples would face much suffering. He showed them, in this beautiful metaphor, that it was not for nothing. Only the well-pruned vine bears the best fruit. They could take comfort in knowing that the pruning proved they were neither barren nor withered, for in that case they would simply be burned up in the brush pile.

Pruning requires cutting away not only of what is superfluous but also of what appears to be good stock.

Why should we be so baffled when the Lord cuts away good things from our lives? ...

2. **We need to be refined.** Peter wrote ...that even though...under trials of many kinds...they were nevertheless chosen in the purpose of God, hallowed to His service, and consecrated with the blood of Jesus Christ. With all that, they still needed refining. Gold is gold, but it has to go through fire. ...

'But Thou art making me, I thank Thee, sire.

What Thou has done and doest Thou knows't well.

And I will help Thee; gently in the fire

I will lie burning; on Thy potter's wheel

I will whirl patient, though my brain should reel.

Thy grace shall be enough the grief to quell,

And growing strength perfect through weakness dire.' George MacDonald Diary of an Old Soul, Oct 2."

(from Keep a Quiet Heart by Elisabeth Elliot, Vine Books, Ann Arbor, MI, 1995. Pp40-42)



ON BEHALF OF THE BRIDGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF, THANK YOU FOR YOUR MONTHLY GIVING THROUGHOUT 2023. YOUR ON-GOING SUPPORT TOTALED \$1200!!! THIS LAST YEAR YOU HELPED US CREATE A POWERFUL FORCE OF CHANGE. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN OUR COMMUNITY! SINCERELY, SUZANNE SMITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"FOR GOD GAVE US A SPIRIT NOT OF FEAR BUT OF POWER AND LOVE AND SELF-CONTROL." ~ 2 TIMOTHY 1:7

FBC ANNUAL MEETING: January 21st, 2024



Following the first service, a congregational meeting was called at 10:30 by Pastor Crooks.

Mike Raasch opened the meeting by reporting no new business to be voted on. The 2024 Budget and 2024 Vision Team and Elected Officials have been approved.

Pastor Richard is currently working with the Youth group on Wednesday night while Mike Raasch is leading the Wednesday night bible study. Options are being considered for future leadership of the Youth Group. It is being considered in getting another youth leader as part of the internship to lead the group.

Mary Weldon, Event Committee, reported bringing back Grandparents Day in lieu of delivery care packages for Mother's and Father's Day. Additional events were discussed to be added.

Nola Crooks announced the Kids Club Bingo night is scheduled for March 20th, 2024. Nola asked for donations of items as prizes.

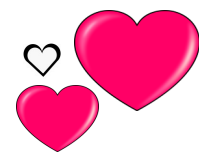
Mark & Vicki Anderson shared they are now collecting nonperishable items to be delivered to the schools. Marcia Hill added will be collecting winter clothing items as well.

Pastor Richard reported he is working on the Endowment update and educating the church on how it can be used.

All the committee reports can be seen in the Annual Report.

As there was no other form of business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Shelly Bowen, assistant clerk



Has God been whispering in your ear to be more involved?
We have a spot for you!





VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED

"But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one."

2 Thessalonians 3:3



YOU ARE HERE FOR A PURPOSE!!! **BUILD** FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD, **LOVE** ONE ANOTHER AS HE LOVES US, **GROW** AS CHRISTIANS, AND **SERVE** IN HIS NAME. WHAT BETTER WAY TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN THAN DIVING CLOSE IN THE WORD! SMALL GROUPS ARE HAPPENING! SO FIND YOURS TODAY, OR START ONE!

Birthdays	Phone	Date	Anniversary	Phone
Marilyn Pueppke	402-721-0714	2		
Ron Hornberger	701-852-5244	3		
Eileen Cash	402-721-6418	4		
Jill Pochop	402-727-1295	6	Ron & Beryl Hornberger	701-852-5244
Wayne Lamberty	563-299-1804	9		
Shelly Bowen	402-720-4559	10		
		12	Jim & Nancy Stoltenberg	402-721-7814
June Cardwell	402-478-4593	15		
Arienne Summers	 Amity's Daughter	18		
Trudy Reiss	308-258-1533	24		

NYE SQUARE APTS

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

Dalton Benson 402-721-7717

Joan Sorensen 402-830-6519

#126

#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

Joyce Jokumsen

1731 Oxford Circle, Derby, KS 67307

January Bible Puzzle Answer

What animals were present at Jesus's birth and which included in the nativity stories? Even though our nativity sets have camels, sheep and donkeys, none of them are mentioned specifically as being actually in the presence of the baby Jesus. In fact, the only kind of animal even mentioned in the Nativity stories are the flocks of the shepherds...but there is no statement that they brought any sheep with them to see Jesus. It is only our assumptions that Mary rode a donkey and the wise men rode camels. Jesus was laid in a feeding trough, so it was home to some kind of livestock...but we are not told anything about them.

In 1223, when St. Francis created the first live Nativity, he included animals to help create a sense of realism, showing that Jesus was lain in a manger between an ox and a donkey. So if you in your nativity set you break a sheep or camel, and have to remove them, it's probably ok!

January People Puzzle Answer

Our ex-military Missile Launcher is none other than Amity Bruce! Don't get her mad at you!!!

February Bible Puzzle

In Pastor's January 21st sermon, he mentioned that Noah had a few famous ancestors who may have directly influenced his faith and life. Who was he referring to, and what were they famous for?

February People Puzzle

This month's individual was born in Oakland, CA (bay area) and once wanted to be a photographer. Favorite things include reading in spare times and enjoys the feel of folding freshly dried towels!



No ABWM Meeting this Month



Esther - February 12 | 11am | Village Inn
 Hannah - No Meeting
 Naomi - No Meeting



FBC Fremont
Saturday Women's Bible Study



Study Guides Available!

Rachel

February 24, 2024
9:30 a.m. - Parlor

"I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears."

~ Psalm 34:4



If you could ask Jesus to change one problem in the world today, which problem would you pick?

Vision Meeting Minutes - Saturday January 20th, 2024

Attendance: Betty Laughlin, Joel Foreman, Mary Weldon, Mike Raasch, Mark & Vicki Anderson, Larry Hill, Randy Cash, Shelly Bowen and Pastor Richard

Mike opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

Treasure Report: Randy reported the First State Bank account at \$19,145.75 on December 31, 2023 and the Building Account at \$15,167.71. The current balance is \$1,900.00 after paying expenses and repairs to the church. The Endowment money for HVAC and fans has been pulled and Capital funds now stand at zero. The December installment payment from the Laten's memorial was received. America for Christ received \$1,842.00, One Great Hour of Sharing received \$1,765.00 and World Mission Offering received \$2,226.00. The Communion Fund is to be renamed later to better explain what the funds are being used for.

Joel Foreman made a motion that we simply absorb the \$697.48 balance that was being carried as a sort of Interfund Loan and close the books on it. Betty Laughlin second the motion was approved. .

Mary Weldon made a motion for the \$18,000.00 to be pulled out of the endowment to cover church expenses as approved in the 2023 Budget. Joel Foreman second the motion. Motion was approved.

Property Team: Larry Hill had no new information to report. Larry shared the air conditioner, furnace and windows were replaced. A new van was purchased. Looking into getting more keys made for the van.

Caring Ministry: Betty Laughlin reported she continues to send out cards. Events: Mary Weldon reported bringing back Grandparents Day in lieu of delivery care packages for Mother's and Father's Day. Additional events were discussed to be added. Vicki Anderson suggested using the movie "Cokeville Miracle" for an upcoming movie night.

Mark & Vicki Anderson shared they are now collecting nonperishable items to be delivered to the schools. Marcia Hill added we will be collecting winter clothing items as well. Pastor Richard will this put announcement in the bulletin.

Children/Youth Ministries: Pastor Richard reported the FBC Fremont AB Girls are scheduled for 3 crafts days. April 20th, June 22nd and September 14th, 2024.

Pastor Richard: ABC-USA's national World Mission conference scheduled May 20th & 21st (Tuesday & Wednesday), this year to be online. Two missionaries, Walt and Jeanine White will be present here with us as we meet with others will be online. Pastor Richard is currently working with the Youth group on Wednesday night while Mike Raasch is leading the Wednesday night bible study. Personnel is considering getting another Midland student to be youth leader intern again to lead the group. A Lenten Devotion Book is being created on what Jesus said for Holy Week, and pastor encouraged Vision Team members to contribute to it. In June, different neighboring ABC regions, including Nebraska, are creating their own youth conference at Estes Park, Colorado. The hope is some of our youth will be able to participate.



FBC FREMONT

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 20, 2024

DINNER - 6:15 BINGO 7:00 P.M.

BRING YOUR FAMILY - NO CHARGE TO PLAY

FBC FREMONT NEBRASKA • 5TH & C ST

FIND US ON FACEBOOK@FBCFREMONTNE
WWW.FREMONTFBC.ORG

We are collecting Bingo Prizes Now!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Kay Circle

Mat Weaving

From Bags to Beds

THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 8TH & 22ND | 5:30PM

505 N C ST - FREMONT

Ways to Help:
Donate Plastic Bags | Turn Plastic Bags into Plarn | Volunteer to Weave Bags

Check Out Our Library!!

We have a wide assortment of books that are available to borrow...just remember to return them when you are finished.



FBKIDS | FBYOUTH



As there was no other form of business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Shelly Bowen, assistant clerk



Luke Chavanne Address: 612 Horger St. - Newton, TX 75966

FBC FREMONT
FBC YOUTH GROUP

JAPAN NIGHT

wednesday february 28, 2024

6:30-8:30 p.m.

(optional dinner served at 6 p.m. RSVP required)

FBC Fremont, Fremont

email office@fremontfbc.org to RSVP or for additional information

Learn about life in Japan
Try Japanese Foods
Learn some basic Japanese words
Japanese board game



Meet Gordon and
LeeAnn Hwang

International Ministries
Global Servants to Japan

Bring your youth
group for a night of
fun.
(7th-12th grades)

YOU DON'T
WANT TO MISS
THIS!



*May the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace as you
trust in Him, so that you may
overflow with hope by the power
of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13*



At the last Vision Team meeting, we discussed renaming our *Communion Fund* that is used to assist people with various needs. While we often think of making those donations on Communion Sundays, that name doesn't really communicate well the purpose of the fund to people who aren't already aware of its purpose. Some of the wordings discussed were Benevolence Fund, Caring and Support Fund...things like that. Some churches even use the title "Agape Fund." You are invited to help us create a meaningful name, by offering your ideas and suggestions. Leave them at the church office or share them with one of the Vision Team members.



February Scripture Writing Plan

Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Commit to spending ten minutes each day listening to God's voice as you simply copy these texts out of your Bible.

- Day 1- Mark 12:28-31
- Day 2- Luke 6:27-36
- Day 3- Romans 12: 9-16
- Day 4- Romans 13: 8-10
- Day 5- I Corinthians 13: 1-7
- Day 6- I Corinthians 13: 8-13
- Day 7- Ephesians 4:1-6

- Day 15- Deuteronomy 11: 13-15
- Day 16- Deuteronomy 11: 18-23
- Day 17- Matthew 22: 37-40
- Day 18- Matthew 5: 43-45
- Day 19- John 13: 34-35
- Day 20- John 14: 15-21
- Day 21- Romans 5: 1-8

- Day 8- I Peter 4: 7-11
- Day 9- I John 4: 7-12
- Day 10- I John 4: 13-16
- Day 11- I John 4: 17-21
- Day 12- John 15:9-13
- Day 13- John 3: 16-21
- Day 14- Deuteronomy 10: 12-19

- Day 22- Romans 8: 28-30
- Day 23- Micah 6: 8
- Day 24- I John 2: 15-17
- Day 25- I John 3: 1-3
- Day 26- Hebrews 10: 24-25
- Day 27- Deuteronomy 6: 4-9
- Day 28- Luke 10: 25-28
- Day 29- Choose your own



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

February 2024

Cookies & Coffee

4 - ABM
11 - Hannah
18 - Esther
25 - Naomi

JOIN A MINISTRY

Linden Project

We encourage you to get involved and pick up non perishable foods, mittens, gloves, hats and coats and drop them off on Sunday Mornings, as items are collected we will deliver them to Linden Elementary to be shared with Washington School. Mark & Vicki Anderson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><i>Love is patient and kind, love does not envy or boast, it is not arrogant</i> <i>-1 Corinthians 13:4</i></p> </div>						
<p>4 Communion 9:30am - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service</p>	<p>5 9am - Men's Coffee</p>	<p>6 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>7 9:30am - Women's Coffee 6:15pm - Meal 7pm - FBKids FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>8 5:30pm - Kay Circle Mat Weaving</p>	<p>9 9am - Men's Coffee 12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>10 8:50am - Personnel Team 9:30am - Vision Team 11am - Prayer Tour</p>
<p>11 9:30am - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service 11am - Bible Study in Parlor 6pm - Brown Bag Fellowship 6:30pm - Valentine Movie</p>	<p>12 9am - Men's Coffee 11am - Esther Circle</p>	<p>13 No Hannah Circle 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>14 Valentines Day 9:30am - Women's Coffee 6:15pm - Meal 7pm - FBKids FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>15 2:30pm - Pastor Led Bible Study in Parlor and via ZOOM</p>	<p>16 9am - Men's Coffee 12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 9:30am - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service 11am - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>19 9am - Men's Coffee</p>	<p>20 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>21 9:30am - Women's Coffee 6:15pm - Meal 7pm - FBKids FBYouth 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>22 No Naomi Circle 5:30pm - Kay Circle Mat Weaving</p>	<p>23 9am - Men's Coffee 12pm - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>24 9:30am - ABW Bible Study on Rachel</p>
<p>25 9:30am - Traditional Service 11am - Casual Service 11am - Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>26 9am - Men's Coffee</p>	<p>27 7pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>28 9:30am - Women's Coffee 6:30pm - Japan Night! 7pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>29 LEAP YEAR 2:30pm - Pastor Led Bible Study in Parlor and via ZOOM</p>		