

FSBC *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH EL DORADO, KANSAS
MAY 2023

FSBC YOUTH

THANK YOU to all who have supported our youth through flocking, financial support, prayers, and encouragement for youth Sunday!!! We are blessed to have an amazing church family there for us!

The camp deadline was May 1st. Super Summer was sold out every week and we were asked to give up spots we weren't going to definitively need so we gave some up to help other churches be able to go. Please start praying now for God to move in all going to camp in July!

Mission Impossible will finish our youth school year. On May 10th

we will leave the church at 6:30 to go to the Brickley home. We will play the game, eat, have fellowship, and hear our pastor in whatever foreign voice he decides to use that night!!! We will return to the church by 10 pm. If you are able to help out that night in the mission field or with food, please let Lisa know!!! Boys and girls will be asked to bring desserts but we will have s'mores to make too!

Thank you, again, church family, for your love and support of our youth. It is greatly appreciated!!!

Lisa Crook

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May

1st—Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill
7th—Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes
11th—Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill
15th—Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt
18th—Joe Reinert
20th—Nancy Wright
22nd—Jerry Dewitt
23rd—Terry Stephens
27th—David and Lisa Crook
30th—Julie Hill

June

4th—Madylanne Wint
10th—Kelly Davidson, David & Christine Baca
14th—Susan Fyffe
17th—Nathanial Hill, Pastor's 5th "Anniversary" Here
19th—David Hill
20th—Johnie Gragg
27th—Sophia Baca
28th—Brenda Sherman, Tyson & Penny Neilsen

BREAD OF LIFE FOOD MINISTRY

Please Support our Bread Of Life Food Ministry. We distribute food to families in need 6 times per year. We had a fund to help purchase food to fill boxes if not enough was donated. That fund has been depleted. We covet your help. Please shop based on the list to the right to make it easier to make uniform boxes to share. Thank you in advance!

SHOPPING LIST

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • Cereal | • Canned Beans |
| • Peanut Butter | • Canned Meat |
| • Jelly | • Pasta |
| • Rice | • Pasta Sauce |
| • Canned Vegetables | • Mac & Cheese |
| • Canned Fruit | • Ramen noodles |
| | NO DRIED BEANS |

Pastor's Pen

Musings of a Proud Dad

Greetings Church! I love you Church!

I know that May is the month for Mothers and I have no desire to rob you moms from your glory this month, but I have to share what's on my proud heart as a Dad and pastor.

As I write this, I just finished participating in an ordination council meeting for my son, Michael. His church and our sister church, Crossway Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri, has observed him for the last two years as their Pastor of Young Adult Singles Ministry. They are ready to ordain him to the Gospel ministry. He has demonstrated the character and giftedness required for pastoral ministry to their satisfaction. The ordination council was convened of fellow pastors and church elders to test his doctrine and ministry philosophy for Biblical soundness and personal adherence. I was privileged to sit in and ask my own questions and could not be more proud of him and this moment in his life!

The ordination service will be the evening of Mother's Day in Springfield, and I would not miss it for the world. What is an ordination service? It is a special worship time set aside in the life of a church to acknowledge the calling of God on someone's life, hear the candidate's testimony of faith in Christ, affirm the giftedness observed in that person which is suitable for ministry leadership in the Church, and add their backing to his ministry future by commissioning him to serve the Church through the laying on of hands as modeled by the early church in Acts 13:3.

It is a very significant moment in the life of a young servant of the Lord. Words of its import cannot be overstated. The affirmation and commissioning gives a fallible man hope and confidence that a great God has His hands on his shoulder and through God's power can find himself useful to a magnificent Savior who alone is worthy of all praise but has chosen to include mere man for His great purposes. It is an enormous beauty to behold one called of God taking his place among those designated for leading and growing and training Christ's Church, especially for a Dad! (Michael once told his preacher Papa that he wanted to be the greatest preacher who ever lived, so Papa, too, is surely smiling proudly from heaven.)

Such a commissioning is also very important for the Church, and especially a local church like ours! When we observe the hand of God on a young person who expresses a desire to serve God with their life, we should rejoice and train them for serving Him well. Gospel ministry is difficult. It is not a mere choice of career. Its consequences,

challenges, and rewards are not of this world. Every local body needs someone who has been vetted and commissioned to lead us when our previous leader has been required away from us. It is good to have confidence both that our leader



has been tested and trained and also that the church we send someone to receives one who has passed the tests as well. Participating in this kind of affirmation allows our local church to be involved in Kingdom work far beyond our own lives and community. We are able to do something significant in the fulfillment of Christ's Great Commission. We get to realize one part of our purpose for being a church here in our time.

We should therefore fervently and consistently pray that God raises up young people through our church to serve Him in their time. Some may be called to the Gospel-preaching ministry. Others maybe to the international mission field. Some perhaps to be mothers to abandoned children in another location. Still others may be the trainers of the next generation of pastors and missionaries. One of the greatest measurements of a church is not how many they have gathered, but how many they have sent. May God produce that glorious fruit here!

Pastor David Crook

May 4th National Day of Prayer Events

- Mayor's prayer Breakfast **7-9 am**
- Prayer Rally at the Courthouse **NOON**
- Community prayer rally at First Baptist Church **7 pm**
- Sign up for a one hour time slot to pray and facilitate in our Worship Center **7am—6pm**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Packing OCC shoeboxes not only brings joy to us, but also brings joy to those who receive them and those whose lives are touched by the person who received the boxes. Here is a great story of a young girl in Mongolia, who received a shoebox gift as a child and then grew up to plant a church in her area. God is good!

Planting Churches in Mongolia

Mongolia is a spiritually dark land where Buddhism and cults are common, and Christians are scarce.

But a young couple committed to serving Jesus Christ is praying for this to change. Jargalmaa and her husband, Munkh-Erdene, moved with their two young children to Arvaikheer in southern Mongolia because the city is known for being among the most difficult to evangelize.

Jargalmaa and Munkh-Erdene are reaching children with the Gospel through soccer camps, Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts, and The Greatest Journey. This wouldn't have been part of their vision, however, if God hadn't dramatically used a gift-filled shoebox in Jargalmaa's life 14 years ago.

An Ordinary Day Turns Extraordinary

Jargalmaa thought it was just another school day when her teacher made a surprising announcement. She told the class that a local church was hosting a special event and Jargalmaa was invited.

She didn't know it at the time, but the Operation Christmas Child outreach she attended at age 7 would change the rest of her life.

"It was such an exciting day.

There was worship, and there were so many children," she said. "When I received my gift, it had everything."

Jargalmaa rejoiced over her first gift ever. The pretty stationery inside would be immediately put to use in the upcoming school year. Her favorite item was a set of hair clips that she proudly showed to her classmates and even shared with her teacher.

Now, as an adult, Jargalmaa still looks back on that day with fond memories. "I can vividly remember the excitement I had when I opened the box for the first time. I also found a letter in my shoebox, and it said, 'You are valuable and so loved by God.' That was an important message to me. Even today, it is so close to my heart."

That simple letter influenced Jargalmaa because neither her parents nor grandparents had ever told her that they loved her. Yet now she knew that God loved her unconditionally.

Deciding to Follow Jesus

Jargalmaa also attended The Greatest Journey, the Samaritan's Purse discipleship course designed specifically for shoebox recipients. She learned that God created the world and everything in it—a new concept for a child growing up in a culture steeped in Buddhism.

Jargalmaa became very curious about the Bible and began going to church to learn more. Although some of Jargalmaa's classmates teased her because she went to church, she didn't let that stop her from growing in the knowledge of God.

As Jargalmaa continued attending church and learning

more about God's Word, she knew she wanted to commit her life to following Jesus Christ. "I decided to accept Him as my Father and Savior."

She began teaching other children The Greatest Journey Bible lessons and sharing her faith with family and friends. "I realized that I have to be light and salt and be a good example," she said.

Two of her close friends soon became believers. Through Jargalmaa's testimony, her father, sister, younger brother, grandmother, and great-grandmother also professed Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

After graduating high school, Jargalmaa attended a discipleship school and then joined the staff upon completion of her studies. This is where she met her future husband, Munkh-Erdene.

After they were married, Jargalmaa and Munkh-Erdene were ready to devote their lives to serving God together. Although they knew Arvaikheer would be a challenging place to serve and witness, the couple was not deterred; God had called them and they would obey.

They are praying for the Lord to help them start a church in their community. Jargalmaa and Munkh-Erdene are hosting soccer camps and inviting the children to also participate in Operation Christmas Child and The



Continued...

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD, continued

Greatest Journey, where many will hear for the first time that God created them and wants to have a relationship with them.

"Receiving a shoebox, I felt the joy and the value God puts on my life," Jargalmaa said. "I understood that everybody in the world is valuable to God."

She wants to show God's love to children like her who have never received gifts or felt loved. And she is eager for others to join her in

Gospel outreach.

"I would like to challenge people who are preparing shoebox gifts to also write a letter showing God's love," Jargalmaa said. "What's written there may be very simple, but those simple words could completely change somebody's life."

And, there's no telling how God will use a changed life.

Karen Leibbrandt

Shopping list for May—Quality toys

- Balls (foam, bouncy, tennis, soccer-include a manual pump)
- Finger puppets
- Etch-a-sketch
- Dolls (baby, Barbie, etc.) Must fit in the shoebox.
- Small Music instruments (harmonica, woodwind recorder)
- Marbles
- Small cars, trucks, boats (like hot wheels or plastic)
- Yoyo
- Hacky sack
- Baseball & mitt
- Tools (pliers, screwdriver with multiple heads, **no knives**)
- Playing cards
- Any other toy that you see that a boy or girl (ages 2-14) would like that would fit in a shoebox

Church Bulletin Bloopers

- The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and heave a healthy lunch.
- Potluck supper Sunday—prayer and medication to follow.
- Life groups meet on Wednesday evening at 7 pm for food, fun, and fellowwhipping.
- Weight watchers meet 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church—please use large double door at the side entrance.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house—bring your husbands.

Deacon's Corner

Greetings Church Family! By the time many of you read this article, your Easter decorations may already be put away and the candy consumed. However, the fond memories spent gathering with family or going to worship together, celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus will continue to linger. Easter is a Blessed event each and every year, but too often, our Easter celebrations and joyous praises of "He's Alive" or "He is Risen" begin to waver in the days following the formal recognition of Easter. Don't get me wrong. The Christian Faith rests upon the unwavering belief that Christ did indeed die on the cross, but then rose from the grave on the third day... Our very existence hinges on this truth. As I read various Easter greetings on social media and observed brothers and sisters in Christ shouting out "He is Risen", followed by the quick reply of "He is Risen, indeed", I wondered what was keeping us from continuing

this behavior the whole year. One may chuckle at the thought, but what if at your next doctor's appointment, your conversation with your physician were to start in this manner. Your doctor asks, "How have you been feeling?" Instead of replying with the tried-and-true response of "I feel fine", you respond with "Jesus Christ is Risen from the Dead." Here is another example. At your Fourth of July gathering, welcome your guests with a greeting of "The tomb is empty." Laugh if you want, but what is keeping us from proclaiming these truths, all year? In the Great Commission, Jesus instructed us to "go and make disciples of all nations."

We have opportunities every day to share the Good News of Jesus's resurrection. I encourage you to continue celebrating the joy of Easter each and every day. After all, "He is Risen, indeed!"

Rod Luehrs
Chairman of the Deacons

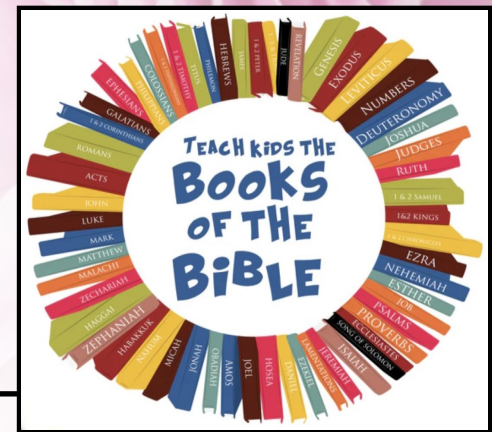
FSBC Kid's Ministry

First Southern Baptist Church

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WHAT A YEAR FOR PRAISE!

Our Wednesday Kid Min 2022-2023 is coming to an end and what a year we have had studying all of the Books of the Bible! God says the Bible is a sword. Just like a sword takes practice to use, we need to practice using God's Word. One of the ways we can do that is by knowing what God has included in the Bible for us to know, and where we can find it.

We've worked all year long on learning how many books are in the Bible (66), how many are in the Old Testament (39) and how many are in the New Testament (27). With games, stories, songs, memorization, and lots of fun activities, we have shared these skills with these students. The students have been committed to meeting goals and challenges set by the teachers and have flourished in their knowledge of God's Word!

I want to give a big shout out to those that have helped make this journey possible in our Kid Min Program:

Thanks to our teachers who were devoted to our theme and the students. Deb Reinert taught the 4th-6th grades, Karen Leibbrandt taught the 1st-3rd grades (and I taught the PreK-Kindergarten Penguins) . We also thank Cory and Jessica Gill, Tina Baca, and Pastor David for helping in the classrooms. A special thanks to Janna Davis and her crew of volunteers for making sure the kiddos and workers had a meal before evening activities started (Rod and Laura Luehrs, Deb Spencer, Johnie and Donna Gragg, Carol and Robert Mitchell, Janessa Leonard, Karen Leibbrandt, Deb Reinert and Cindy Rhodes.)

We could not have gotten all of our students to church safely if not for our faithful transportation crew! Thank you Steve Rhodes, Cory Gill, Lisa Crook, Tina Baca, Sandy Dewitt, and John Throckmorton!

And last but not least, we know it takes a lot of commitment on the part of parents and families for a successful year. Thank you for sharing your precious children with us. We are blessed to get to know the children and watch them grow in their knowledge of God and His Holy Word.

In His Service, Paula Moore



March Winners!

Congratulations to Lane Baca, Jaylynn Boyle, and Obadiah Leibbrandt for winning the March prize drawings! Drawing tickets are earned when kids memorize their Bible verses, bring their Bibles to church, bring a friend to class, or answer questions for their teachers. Way to go kids!



School's Out Bash! Wednesday, May 17th, 5p-7p

Join us for Pizza, Popsicles, and lots of Playing!

Normal Wednesday transportation provided.

Come on out! It's the last Wednesday Kid Min event until Sept. 6th

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14th

Q: What do you call a small mom?

A: Minimum

Q: What did the mama tomato say to the baby tomato?

A: Catch Up!

Q: Why is a computer so smart?

A: It listens to its motherboard.

Q: Why did you chop the joke book in half?

A: Mom said to cut the comedy.

Q: Why did the cookie cry:

A: Because his mother was a wafer so long.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS

June 5th-9th



Pre-Registration is open!
You can now register online.



**Registration forms available at
the VBS bulletin board in the
church foyer.uj**

Free T-shirts will be given out to those registered by May 20th!

There will be a Little Buddies Fishing Derby hosted by FSBC Men, open to all kids ages PreK-6th on 9am-1pm Saturday, May 6th. Please call the church office to register.



One last reminder that regular Wednesday evening activities end with the last day of school and will resume Wednesday, Sept. 6th. Look for fun at our VBS, June 5th-9th. Use the QR code to register or volunteer. There will be a Back to School Splash Party, August 6th to look forward to. Have a great summer!

MAY 2023

30 Youth Sunday	1 Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill	2	3 Barry Mohler	4 National Day of Prayer	5	6 Little Buddies Fishing Derby
7 Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes • Potluck • Neighborhood VBS walk 1-3 pm • 2 pm "A-Team"	8	9	10 • Last Children's Evening Program for Summer • Youth Mission Impossible 6:30-10pm	11 Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill	12 5-9 Respite Night for Branches Family Resource Center	13
14 Mothers' Day Graduation Sunday	15 Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt	16	17 9 am Newsletter Items Due School's Out Bash 5-7pm	18 Joe Reinert 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	19 Zach Thomas, Zara Thomas	20 Nancy Wright
21	22 Jerry Dewitt	23 Terry Stephens	24	25	26	27 David and Lisa Crook
28	29 Memorial Day, Office Closed	30 Julie Hill	31			

Upcoming Events

May Events

4th—National Day of Prayer
 6th—Little Buddies Fishing Derby
 7th—Potluck, "A-Team"
 10th—Last regular Wednesday night kids' Program for Summer
 10th—Youth Mission Impossible
 12th—5-9pm Branches Respite Night
 14th—Mothers' Day Graduation Sunday
 17th—School's Out Bash 5-7 pm
 17th—by 9:00 am—Newsletter items due
 18th—5:30 Facilities Team Meeting
 29th—Memorial Day, Office Closed

Thank You For Serving!

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters
4/30	Linnie & Cory	Brickley	Janna D., Julie H.	Deb S., Diane, Penny
5/7	Deb & Cory	NONE	Diane G., John B.	Johnie G., Rod, Laura
5/14	Sheila & Cory	Reinert	Johnie G., Dianna S.	Deb S., Ulala, Shawn
5/21	John & Cory	Reinert	Donna G., Joe R.	Deb S., Johnie, Susan
5/28	Linnie & Sheila	NONE	Janna D., Julie H.	Deb S., Diane, Penny

Wednesday Night Driver John T.; Monitor Cory G.

Wednesday Night Meals

05/03—Carol Mitchell, 05/10—Laura L. & Deb S.

JUNE 2023

28	29 Memorial Day, Office Closed	30 Julie Hill	31	1	2	3
4 Madylanne Wint	5	6	7	8	9	10 Kelly Davidson, David & Christine Baca
11 Potluck, "A-Team"	12	13	14 Susan Fyffe 9 am Newsletter Items Due	15 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	16	17 Nathaniel Hill, Pastor's "Anniversary" Here
	Pastor Out of Office for SBC Annual Meeting					Bread of Life Food Ministry
18 Fathers' Day	19 David Hill	20 Johnie Gragg	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Sophia Baca	28 Brenda Sherman, Tyson & Penny Neilsen	29	30	

June Events

5th—9th—Vacation Bible School
 11th—Potluck, "A-Team"
 11th-16th—Pastor Out of Office for SBC Annual Meeting
 14th—by 9:00 am—Newsletter Items Due
 15th—5:30 Facilities Team Meeting
 12th—16th Kids' Kamp
 17th—Bread of Life Food Ministry
 18th—Fathers' Day

Thank You For Serving!

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters
6/4	Deb & Sheila	Brickley	Diane G., Deb R.	Rod, Ulala, Laura
6/11	Sandy & Cory	Brickley	Johnie G., Dianna S.	Rod, Johnie, Shawn
6/18	John & Cory	Brickley	Donna G., Joe R.	Rod, Diane, Susan
6/25	Linnie & Cory	NONE	Janna D., Julie H.	Rod, Deb, Penny

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Love God,
Love Others,
Serve All

