

# Messenger

Monthly Newsletter of First Sothern Baptist Church, El Dorado

September 2023



*Love God,  
Love Others,  
Serve All*

**First Southern**  
Baptist Church

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El Dorado KS 67042  
316-321-3465  
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## September OCC Shopping List School Supplies

- Pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Erasers
- Crayons
- Notebooks / paper
- Colored pencils
- Pens
- Scissors
- Glue sticks (no liquid)
- Watercolor paints (no liquid)
- Rulers
- Pencil cases
- Markers

## Operation Christmas Child

September is upon us, and that means school has started up. School supplies are on sale and that is what we are collecting this month. I have read many stories about children who receive shoeboxes with school supplies in them, and their parents are so grateful for those supplies! Some places don't allow you to go to school if you don't have school supplies. So, by including school supplies, we are not only giving these children an opportunity to go to school and improve their lives, we are also giving them a chance to learn about the Gospel and how God loves them. Thank you for helping gather items to pack boxes and share the love of God to children around the world.

(Items that are bold and italicized are the most needed)

Karen Leibbrandt



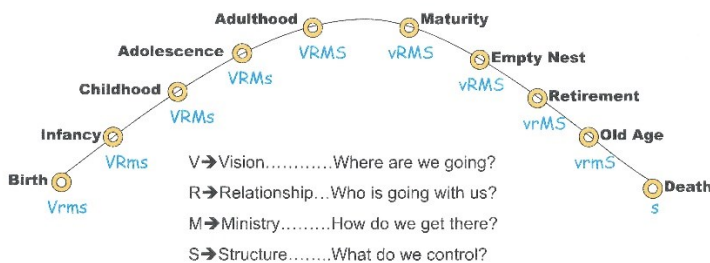
# The Pastor's Pen

Greetings Church! I love you Church!

Early last month some of the leaders of our church gathered for a night of thinking about our church and its future. We spent some time listening to insights from the former Executive Director of our Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, Bob Mills. You might remember the surveys I asked some of you to fill out a few weeks prior to that event. Part of our conversation had to do with the analysis of those survey results. Before we were to discuss those results, Bob led us in a different exercise that captured my thoughts. I want to share them with you.

Bob taught us that churches, like all living things, have a life cycle. In other words, churches go through observable, relatively consistent stages. You can see the stages on the included chart. You also see under each stage a series of letters that are used to describe that stage. Those descriptions can each be captured in a question.

## Life Cycle Of A Church



Each of the 4 elements are important in a church. At different stages, the elements are stronger or weaker in the church, based on the focus that element receives. In fact, each stage is described precisely by the focus on each of those elements. As a church is being born, Vision is stronger than all four other elements. It may not have a lot of relationships, resources, ministry, and no governing structure, but there is passion about what they can accomplish together! That is why the descriptor is Vrms. As the church matures, Relationships get stronger. Then Ministry is added. The church wrestles with how they will govern, and once Structure is set up, the church is in a healthy adulthood phase.

In the graph, what element begins to fade first as the church matures further? Vision. The church stops thinking about where they are going together even though they really enjoy being together, do several ministries to help meet the needs of

people, and have a functioning set of bylaws and leadership to keep running smoothly. They can even be enjoying life together so much that a long time can pass before they even realize that they don't know where they are going and forget why they started the church in the beginning. Then, as the church starts to get smaller, there are fewer Relationships and Ministries until all that is left to talk about is the Structure, which is long-codified but ill-designed to revive any of the other 3 elements.

Bob showed us that our church is at the Empty Nest stage by scoring our responses to another brief survey. He then encouraged us by telling us that all we have to do to avoid the declining wing of the cycle is to get passionate about a new vision for our church. We need to have a clear direction from the Lord about where He wants us to go with His message of salvation. If we can discover it, get behind it, labor for it, then there is no reason we can't thrive as a productive, healthy, adult church.

So I ask you to pray for your church leaders to regain God's vision for us. We can no longer give the excuse that Covid changed everything. Our mission expressed in a vision for our church needs to drive us. I know that God will provide it in me, our leaders, and you. He's not done with us yet!

Pastor David

*<sup>19</sup>“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:19-20*



# The Deacon's Corner

Greetings Church Family! School has been in session for just a few days, and for students and teachers, it is time for new beginnings. This time of the year brings excitement for some, and apprehension for others. Some students look forward to a new classroom with a new teacher or teachers, while some may dread the unknown. For many of you reading my article, you remember these feelings well and can easily put yourself on one side of the spectrum or the other. If I may, I would like you to compare this situation that students are going through right now to how a potential servant of Christ might feel in preparation for stepping into a new ministry role. I have used this newsletter forum to encourage members of FSBC and others who consider FSBC their church home to consider areas where God may be leading them to serve. For some, the idea of serving in church is exciting and something to look forward to. Like the new student heading off to the next grade level, the prospective church worker can't wait for what's in store for them. On the flip side, some church members or attendees have that same nervous apprehension that many students face starting a new school year. Fear of failure is a common thread in both cases.

In 2 Timothy 1:7, Paul writes, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." A feeling of timidity is normal, but the Holy Spirit empowers us to do what God is calling us to do. A child of Christ is not called to just sit on the sidelines. God has called every one of us to serve in His Kingdom. Fear is not the only factor that may hold a person back from serving. As you read this, it is possible that you might not know where God wants you to serve. Our church has resources that can help you to search within yourself and find where you are best suited to serve. The Pastor and deacons have access to Spiritual Gifts surveys that can help guide you to where your gifts lie. There are copies in the foyer as well. Speaking of Spiritual Gifts, did you know that **every** believer is blessed with a Spiritual Gift? The great thing about our gifts is that God uses our passions and interests as building blocks to serve Him. For all of us, it just comes down to obedience to God's calling on our lives. Let me or one of the other deacons know if we can help you.

Rod Luehrs

Chairman of the Deacons

## September Events

- 4th**—Labor Day, Office Closed
- 6th**—Evening Programs Resume
- 10th**—National Grandparents' Day, Potluck, church family meeting, "A-Team" Meeting
- 13th**—by 9:00 am Newsletter items Due
- 16th 10am-2pm**—Hearts of Fire Event
- 17th—24th**—Church Forward Week of Prayer,
- 21st**—5:30 Facilities Team meeting
- 23rd, 12-8pm**—City-Wide Revival

## October Events

- 2nd**—SCASB Annual Meeting
- 8th**—"A-Team" Meeting, (No Potluck)
- 9th & 10th**—KNCSB Annual Meeting in Omaha Nebraska
- 18th**—by 9:00 am Newsletter Items Due
- 19th**—5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting
- 21st**—Bread of Life Food Ministry
- 22nd**—Potluck, Outreach Day (for Fall Festival)
- 28th**—Fall Festival, Youth Mission Impossible
- 29th**—Youth Sunday

## November Events

- 1st**—OCC Packing Party
- 5th**—Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 6th-11th**—Casas Por Cristo, Association Mission Trip
- 12th**—A Team
- 15th**—by 9:00 am Newsletter Items Due
- 12th-20th**—OCC Collections Week
- 21st-25th**—Office Closed
- 24th**—Thanksgiving
- 26th, 3 pm**—Christmas Decorating Party

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.  
2 Timothy 1:7*



# Deacons' Family Lists

Joe Leibbrandt 620-554-4233	Joe Reinert 316-210-1748	John Brickley 316-371-1898	Larry Huebner 316-305-7660	Rod Luehrs 316-323-5660
Baca, David & Christine	Adkison, Lonn	Axtell, Sheila	Crook, David & Lisa	Anderson, Keith
Baca, Linnie	Ballard, Susan	Borger, Lawanda	DeWitt, Jerry & Sandy	Baker, Joanie & Ellis
Drake, Phil & Karen	Bishop, Todd and Becky	Branaman, Greg	Hollis, Cheyenne and Keaton	Boss, Norma
Frye, Jenny	Conrade, Clay	Fyffe, David & Susan	Herbel, Larry	Brickley, John & Christine
Kruesel, Dani	Gragg, Johnie & Donna	Goertz, Diane	Jackson, Jackie	Davidson, James & Kelly
Lemaster, Jessie & Kendall	Griggs, Marsha	Hill, David & Julie	Luehrs, Rod & Laura	Davis, Janna & Aidan
Mitchell, Robert and Carol	Herrmann, Gene & Mary	Huebner, Larry & Kat	Meister, John	Diffendahl, Bryan, Cheri, and EJ
Mehaffey, Mary	Jorn, Carolyn	Jones, Marilyn	Scott, Marty	Gill, Cory & Jessica
Prewit, Austin & Ulala	Leibbrandt, Joe, Karen & Pat	Moody, Mary Lou	Spivey, Willie	Peacock, Vicky
Reinert, Joe & Debbie	Tarrant, Kevin	Moore, Paula	Zumalt, Jessica	Piha, Marsha
Simpson, Joey	Wise, Glenna	Nielsen, Tyson & Penny		Sherman, Dan & Brenda
Smith, Roger and Jan	Wright, Nathan & Nancy	Sawyer, Dan		Spencer, Deb
Throckmorton, John		Trumpower, John		Stephens, Terry & Penny
Tucker, Gloria				



**FSBC Kid's Ministry**  
**First Southern Baptist Church**  
**200 Oil Hill Rd, El Dorado, KS**  
**316-321-3465**  
**Bus 316-452-3594**  
**Paula Moore 316-258-6596**

### **AND WE'RE BACK!**

Hello friends! I hope and pray that the school year is off to a great start for the kiddos and teachers. Lots of prayer and preparation has gone into this coming Kids Club. We have planned an exciting year for the kids! Last year we focused on the Books of the Bible and we will continue to work on memorizing all the books. We are going to introduce some exciting Superheroes from the Bible as well as work on how we can be Superheroes for God! Who doesn't love a good Superhero story, right?

Now for some necessary housekeeping. Parents will need to complete the child information and transportation contracts before Sept. 20. This is vital information and of great necessity for FSBC. The Child Info form is available online (see QR code below). The Transportation Contract is available to download and print. Both forms are also available in the FSBC office. We are looking forward to helping your child get to know and love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

With Jesus' love,

Ms. Paula

### **Superheroes For God!**

Starting Wednesdays, Sept. 6th  
Dinner Served at 6pm  
Activities 6:30-7:30pm  
Register Online Now!



**Come Join us for an  
Ice Cream Social  
and help us kick off this  
year's  
Kids Club!  
Sept. 6, 6:30pm**



A **hero** is a person who combats adversity through feats of ingenuity, bravery or strength in the face of danger, often sacrificing their own personal concerns for a greater good. Will you be a hero for God?



**Sunday, Sept. 10th is Grandparent's Day!**

**We would like to invite all grandparents to come to come visit us at church.**

**Sunday School 9:30-10:30am**

**Worship Service 10:45-Noon**

**Children's Church 11:00-Noon**



**Mark your calendars now for our  
Fall Festival  
October 28th!  
Trunk or Treats, Food, Games, and  
Prizes!**

More information to come.

***"Lord who rules over all, blessed is  
the person who trusts in you."***  
**Psalm 84:12 NIRV**



### Our Current Schedule

- **Sunday School 9:30 am**
- **Sunday Worship 10:45 am**
- **Sunday 5 pm** Women's Bible Study
- **Mondays 6:15 pm** Prayer meeting
- **Tuesdays 6:30 pm** Celebrate Recovery
- **Wednesdays 6:30 pm** Adult, Children and Youth Bible studies
- **Thursdays 6-8 pm** GriefShare (Starting Sept 14)

# Fall Festival

On October 28th, we will host a community Fall Festival. We will offer games, trunk or treat, cotton candy, popcorn and hotdogs. Volunteers Needed! Some of the jobs available are:

- Decorate your car and hand out candy
- Help with set-up
- Help with activities
- Help with Clean-up

**Watch for the sign-up sheet in the foyer!**

## Youth News

Well, August flew by as we had a lock-in and started back to school! We will start up our 23-24 youth group year on September 6th. I'm excited about the new things that we are putting into place!!!

Sunday mornings will become a Bible study time for teens who want to go deeper. They can earn tickets to enter a \$25 gift card giveaway. They will earn tickets by being there on a Sunday morning, participating in the lesson during the week, and completing the study.

Wednesday nights we will be doing a similar reward

system. They will be able to earn tickets toward a gift card for things like memorizing scripture, bringing their Bible, doing a Bible plan on YouVersion app, memorizing the books of the Bible, and other challenges.

We will begin the school year studying "The 13 Most Important Bible Lessons for Teenagers" by Group Publishing. We hope to instill the Word of God in these students as they face unbelievable pressures in their life.

Cory will be joining the

youth group again and we are excited to have him. We SO appreciated Janna for all the hard work she did for the youth, and we are excited to see her work with the children's ministry now! If you would like to volunteer to help with the youth in any way, please let me know!

God is active among the teens. We ask you to be in prayer for the students as they face pressures you and I might never have had to face before.

In Christ,  
Lisa Crook



# SEPTEMBER 2023

<b>Sundays</b> <b>9:30 am</b> —Sunday School <b>10:45 am</b> —Worship <b>5:00 pm</b> —Women's Bible Study	<b>Mondays</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Prayer meeting	<b>Tuesdays</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>Wednesdays</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> Adult, Youth and Children's Bible study	<b>Thursdays</b> <b>6-8 pm</b> GriefShare (Starting Sept 14)	<b>1</b> Melynda Wint <div>Pastor Out of town (Aug 29th-September 5th)</div>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Austin & Ulala Prewit <div>Pastor Out of town (Aug 29th-September 5th)</div>	<b>4</b> Labor Day, Office Closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Karen Leibbrandt, Shawn Luehrs Evening Programs Resume	<b>7</b> Phil Drake	<b>8</b> David & Susan Fyffe	<b>9</b> Emma Leibbrandt
<b>10</b> National Grandparents' Day Potluck, church family meeting, "A-Team" Meeting	<b>11</b> Agnes Leibbrandt	<b>12</b> David Fyffe, Marsha Griggs	<b>13</b> Christine Brickley, Sandy Dewitt 9 am Newsletter Items Due	<b>14</b> Laura Luehrs	<b>15</b> Dan & Brenda Sherman	<b>16</b> Hearts of Fire Women's Event 10-2
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Men's Ministry Motocross	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:30 Facilities Team meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> City-Wide Revival
Church Forward Week of Prayer 17-23						
<b>24</b> Mary Herrmann	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Kardyn Nielsen	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Deb Spencer, Micah Wint	<b>30</b>

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters
8/27	Sandy & Cory	GUEST	Diane G., Deb R.	Deb S., Ulala, Johnie
9/3	John & Cory	Reinert	Johnie G., John B.	Rod L., Laura, Susan
9/10	Linne & Cory	Reinert	Kat H., Christine B.	Rod L., Diane, Deb
9/17	Deb & Cory	Reinert	Julie H., Gloria T.	Rod L., Deb, Penny
9/24	Sandy & Cory	GUEST	Keith A., Karen D.	Rod L., Ulala, Laura

## September Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st— Melynda Wint  
 3rd—Austin & Ulala Prewit  
 6th—Karen Leibbrandt, Shawn Luehrs  
 7th—Phil Drake  
 8th—David & Susan Fyffe  
 9th—Emma Leibbrandt  
 11th—Agnes Leibbrandt  
 12th—James Davidson, David Fyffe, Marsha Griggs  
 13th—Christine Brickley, Sandy Dewitt  
 14th—Laura Luehrs  
 15th—Dan & Brenda Sherman  
 24th—Mary Herrmann  
 26th—Kardyn Nielsen  
 29th—Deb Spencer, Micah Wint



# OCTOBER 2023

Sundays 9:30 am—Sunday School 10:45 am—Worship 5:00 pm—Women's Bible Study	Mondays 6:15 pm Prayer meeting	Tuesdays 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	Wednesdays 6:30 pm Adult, Youth and Children's Bible study	Thursdays 6-8 pm GriefShare (Starting Sept 14)		
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> SCASB Annual Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Penny Stephens	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Gene Herrmann
<b>8</b> Norma Boss "A-Team" Meeting (No Potluck)	<b>9</b> Greg Branaman KNCSB Annual Meeting in Omaha Nebraska	<b>10</b> Ida Leibbrandt	<b>11</b> Ryan Luehrs	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Diane Goertz	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Steve & Cindy Rhodes	<b>18</b> Obadiah Leibbrandt 9 am Newsletter Items Due	<b>19</b> 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Terry & Penny Stephens Bread of Life Food Ministry
<b>22</b> Mary Lou Moody Potluck, Outreach Day	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Lawanda Borger	<b>28</b> Fall Festival Youth Mission Impossible
<b>29</b> Youth Sunday	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> OCC Packing Party	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Michelle Spivey

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters
10/1	Sheila & Cory	Brickley	Rod L, Deb R.	Johnie G., Susan, Deb
10/8	John & Cory	Brickley	Joe R., Karen L.	Johnie G., Diane., Penny
10/15	Linnie & Cory	Brickley	Janna, Gloria T.	Johnie G., Rod, Laura
10/22	Deb & Cory	Brickley	Diane, Karen D.	Johnie G., Ulala, Deb
10/29	Sandy & Cory	GUEST	Johnie G., Christine B.	Johnie G., Susan, Rod

## October Birthdays and Anniversaries

4th— Penny Stephens  
 7th—Gene Herrmann  
 8th—Norma Boss  
 9th—Greg Branaman  
 10th—Ida Leibbrandt  
 11th—Ryan Luehrs  
 13th—Diane Goertz  
 17th—Steve & Cindy Rhodes  
 18th—Obadiah Leibbrandt  
 21st—Terry & Penny Stephens  
 22nd—Mary Lou Moody  
 27th—Lawanda Borger