

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER | FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH | EL DORADO, KANSAS

The Deacon's Corner

Greetings Church Family! Recently our church celebrated worker's appreciation Sunday. Many of you received a small gift as a sign of appreciation for your faithfulness to your church family and your obedience to God's call on your life to serve the body with the talents and gifts that He has bestowed upon you. At our last "A" Team meeting, the committee was presented with a spreadsheet listing all of the volunteer teams and their members. It is quite an impressive list. I do not bring these two connected events to your attention to be boastful, but only to express my gratitude for all of you who are serving faithfully. The reality is that this signifies a healthy, vibrant church. This is also by our Heavenly Father's design. Church is not just a 2–3-hour social gathering once or twice a week. It truly is a family of believers joined together by the shed Blood of the Lamb. Our Father gloriously designed the Church to be a family who first and foremost glorifies Him. We can glorify God both corporately and individually, but there is unmistakable joy when we gather to praise our Lord and Savior and share our talents as we serve the body.

You may have just recently started attending First Southern Baptist Church. If this is true of you, may I say, "Welcome, we are so happy you have chosen to come and live life with us." I hope that you have found our church warm and welcoming. People come for a variety of reasons, but maybe you were invited by a friend. Guess what? As the Church, God calls us to extend the invitation to be part of the church family to others. We are not to seclude ourselves. The regeneration that Jesus performs on the lives of those who put their Faith and trust in Him should compel us to tell others about Him. This is another sign of a healthy church when others are sharing their Faith and inviting others to come. Maybe you have been attending for a while and wondering, "what next?" I would like to invite you to be a part of a vibrant small group. Small groups within the church are so important. Within the small group, relationships are deepened and often we can encourage one another and hold one another accountable. Our small groups take more than one form. Sunday School classes are great small group settings. We have three adult classes that meet an hour prior to the morning worship service each week. We have a youth Sunday School class as well as classes for our children. Now I know some of you reading this article may be thinking, "Sunday morning is the only morning all week that I get to sleep in," or you might think "Sunday School is just another sermon. Why do I need to sit through two sermons on Sunday morning?" Let me encourage you to come and check it out for yourself. Yes, you are disciplining yourself to getting up one hour earlier, but as far as a second sermon, you may be mistaken. Sunday School is fun. We like to laugh. We share life together. We pray together. We care about one another, and we have great discussions about relevant topics that affect all of us in the community we live in. If you are sitting on the fence about the whole Sunday School issue, let's talk. I can help get you plugged in to a group perfect for you. Until next time, Blessings Church.

> Rod Luehrs Chairman of the Deacons

The Pastor's Pen

A Dome, God's Home, Red Cow, What, Now?

Greetings Church! I love you Church!

Do you think the time for the Church to live on earth is quickly closing? Do you think Messiah Jesus' return is at the door? Here is something to ponder.

100 days after the October 7 Hamas attack in the West Bank, a spokesperson for Hamas made an eye-opening proclamation that missed the headlines until Mid-March. He accused Jews of "bringing red cows" to the holy land. What does that have to do with motivating the attacks?

The red cows referred to are 5 red angus heifers imported from Texas to Israel in September 2022 and awaiting perhaps a prophetic fulfillment leading to the end of days.

Red Cow: Numbers 19:2-10 describes what some have called the "Rite of the Red Cow." It records instructions God gave Moses to sacrifice and completely burn "an unblemished red cow that has no defect and has never been yoked." So far, 4 of the 5 cows now in Israel still have no more than 2 black or white hairs on their body, remaining unblemished, as qualified by the Temple Institute rabbis. The purpose of the sacrifice is to purify the unclean. Nine such red cows have been sacrificed since the time of Moses; none since the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD.

Moses ben Maimon, commonly known as Maimonides or, by the Hebrew acronym, Rambam, was a Sephardic rabbi in the late 12th Century. It just so happens that there has been constructed on land overlooking the Mount of Olives (directly across the Kidron Valley from Temple Mound) a giant white altar in preparation for a sacrifice to purify the grounds where a third Temple would be built.

God's Home: Jesus' discussion of the end times (see Mark 13), known as the Olivet Discourse (spoken on the same Mount of Olives), indicates that Daniel's abomination that causes desolation in the Temple would mark the time of great tribulation. Supposing someone does not see a complete fulfillment of Jesus' words in Rome's ransacking of Jerusalem in AD 66-70, ultimate

fulfillment would require a third temple be built before He returns.

"A Dome": Hamas dubbed its Oct. 7 terror attack on Israel "the Al-Aqsa Wave," and the group's emblem features the Dome of



the Rock behind two crossed swords. Al-Aqsa is the Muslim name for the Dome currently sitting on Temple Mound. By their own statement, Hamas has viewed the presence of the red cows, potential purification sacrifices of the grounds, as a threat to the future of their third-holiest site Al-Aqsa.

Their concern stands to reason if a Third Temple is to be built, an effort which the Temple Institute in Jerusalem has been leading the drive for years. They have created all the furniture and the utensils necessary for resuming worship at the temple. Only two things delay the construction of the temple: the disputes between Muslims and Jews about control over the Temple Mount and the absence of the required red heifer.

What, Now? It has been reported that there are hopes to sacrifice the red heifer during Passover. Could we be just days away from witnessing the beginning of the purification of Temple Mount, an escalation of war leading to Armageddon, the rebuilding of the Temple, an abomination and the Age of the Messiah?

Upcoming Events:

New Member Class: 6:30 Wednesday nights in April (3, 10, 17, 24) in the church Library. Come find out who we are and why God may want you to officially be part of our church family!

Little Buddy Fishing Derby! The men's ministry is again offering to take any children who would like to learn to fish for a special day, April 13. We will meet at the church at 9 and feed them lunch and bring them back at 1 with all hooks removed!

Baby Dedication Coming! We are going to offer a baby/child dedication on Mother's Day, May 12. Interested parents will need to attend our classes on Saturdays, April 27 and May 4, from 9 to 11 am. Let me or Paula know if you are interested.

Pastor David Crook

Operation Christmas Child

A new month means new items to collect for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes that we pack in November. We are focusing on hygiene items. Also, you can pack your own box anytime of the year. You can also pack one online at www.samaritanspurse.org/buildabox Below is a story from Mexico about how shoebox gifts remind the children there that God is near.

Esmeralda startled her daughter Fernanda awake as Hurricane other family members, and neighbors. Otis roared over their town just outside of Acapulco. Gentle words did little to sooth the 10-year-old's fears as she saw the terror in her mother's face, especially as the sheet metal roof peeled away.

"I told them, 'We're going to stay here and nothing's going to happen. We're OK,'" Esmeralda said. "But it was more fear than I've ever felt."

Hours before, as Fernanda fell asleep, it had only been a gentle rain. Now, Otis was a Category 5 storm, the strongest ever to hit Mexico's Pacific Coast.

It was very cold. They shivered and prayed as they hid under the bed. Fernanda's cat was with them, clawing under them for cover. Then the rest of the roof caved, covering the bed and trapping them as the mud poured in, quickly filling the floor through the walls of their one-room home. Everything they owned was being buried, and so were they.

"That mud was ugly," Fernanda later said as she recounted that night, which included the heroism of her grandfather.

Somehow the ailing man had made it from four houses away, alongside another of his daughters. He burst into the home and shouted "Let's go!" He pulled off the sheet metal and dragged them out of the mud.

"I was paralyzed with fear! But God sent my dad," Esmeralda said. "Even though my dad can't walk well, he came to save us. I don't know how, except God gave him the strength to help him walk."

They fled for cover, walking bent over into the wind as sheet metal roofing sailed like blades overhead. Across the way, an apartment owner had given shelter to Fernanda's grandmother, her aunts and uncles, Now Esmeralda and her daughter were safe.

Bundled in borrowed clothes. Fernanda warmed up but could hear through the apartment walls as roofs continued to peel and homes continued to fill with rain and mud. The whole apartment trembled in the force of the wind.

up. And Fernanda and Esmeralda could see through the open door how Otis had ripped up the homes in their community. When they returned to their own abode, only the walls were there—the walls made of palm tree timbers roughly nailed into corner posts. Everything else was drenched by rain or filled with mud.

Blessed by God's People

All was lost. Dishes, furniture, beds, and valuables. The children's clothes and all their books for school. Even Fernanda's cherished notebooks and crayons were gone.

The October 2023 hurricane took lives and destroyed homes across the state of Guerrero's coastal areas, leaving a city and surrounding towns in ruins. Samaritan's Purse responded shortly after, working in Jesus' Name alongside local churches to provide water filtration systems, shelter, food, mosquito netting to protect against dengue fever, and solar lanterns that

kept homes illuminated at night in communities without electricity.

Then we worked with hundreds of churches to host Operation Christmas Child outreach events, sharing the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and providing shoebox gifts for children in need—children who'd lost everything.

Fernanda and her family were invited to attend one of these outreach events by a local pastor in her neighborhood.

Days later, as she and Esmeralda walked from their house to Iglesia Cristiana Filadelfia, several blocks down the dusty road, they could hear the music and laughter from a distance.

Esmeralda watched as Fernanda found a seat with the other kids. They played games and sang Then it was calm. The sun came songs. It was one of the few happy events the family had experienced in the weeks since the storm struck, and one of the most tangible reminders for the children that generous Christians were thinking about the city's young people. "I found some kids from school there. We played a fun game of Piojo Juancho. We prayed. They taught us how the heavens and the earth were made, how God made the water and the animals, and Adam and Eve," Fernanda recounted. "They taught us about Jesus, too."

> Fernanda was also excited to attend The Greatest Journey 12-lesson discipleship classes, which the church invited her to during the event. She'll be able to learn more about Jesus Christ and what the Bible says about following Him.

And when Fernanda opened her shoebox alongside the dozens of other children, her eyes widened with delight. Inside she found a toy boat, little toy kittens, socks, and, most exciting, notebooks, colored paper,

Operation Christmas Child, continued

crayons, and pencils.

"I was excited because I wanted to draw many things—like flowers and cats—and a picture of how God took care of us during the storm," she said. "My box also had a letter, from a 12-year-old girl named Abel who wants me to send her a letter. I'm going to write her a letter to tell her thank you."

Growing Closer to God

Esmeralda said the storm and everything that's happened after the storm, especially the love shown by the church and by Samaritan's Purse, has encouraged her to reconnect with God and other believers. And she also wants to be an encouragement to other hurting people, the way others have encouraged and helped her and Fernanda.

"It's very beautiful to see the children's smiles because of the gifts," Esmeralda said. "For children it is very significant. They will remember this forever because it is in the moment of childhood that marks many things in your life."

She has also become friends with the pastor and his wife, people she and Fernanda never knew before. And now she's excited to pursue what God is calling her to do in the community—to remind people of what God has reminded her about in the midst of crisis.

"Sometimes people are going through hard times and they need a word or just a hug," she said. "And I want to tell them that 'Jesus Christ loves you and He is with you even in difficult times.' God has shown us that even in the most difficult moments, He brings the right people. These gift boxes and the church are a blessing to us and to this whole community."

This is why we pack shoeboxes, to share the love of Jesus with kids around the world who need to experience God's love in a tangible way. Let's keep collecting items, church family.

Karen Leibbrandt

Camp Registration Information

- Parents/campers need to enter their own registrations online. **The link below went live March 6.** This link takes you straight to the camper registration form for our group.
- Use the link and Group ID below. Without this information, you will not be able to register.

Enter camper information at this link:

kncsbevents.org/sscamper

Your Group ID is: W523034

- After entering your registration details, you will be automatically directed to the online Challenge Course Agreement. This is a legal document and must be completed by an adult camper or the Parent/guardian of a minor.
- When you register, you will receive a detailed confirmation email, and your leader will receive an email telling them a camper has added their details to your group.

Items to collect for April: Hygiene items

- Toothbrushes
- Floss
- Combs/brushes
- · Bar soap
- · Wash clothes
- · Nail clippers
- · Stick deodorant
- Non liquid lip balm
- Adhesive bandages
- Compact mirror (ones that fold)
- Washable/reusable menstrual pads

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

4th—Ulala Prewit, 5th—Donna Gragg, Phil & Karen Drake 28th—Johnie & Donna Gragg, Rick Stewart

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

21st—Lonn Adkison

22nd—Jerry Dewitt

23rd—Terry Stephens

27th—David and Lisa Crook

30th—Julie Hill

Outreach Ministry

It looks like we are headed for warmer days. It should be safe to start placing liquid items like toothpaste, shampoo, soap and lotion in the blessing box again. Non-perishable, ready-to-eat foods are still needed. Please refer to the suggestion list.

Butler Homeless Initiative is looking for volunteers to cook a hot meal for 20 people. If this is something you feel led to do, you can contact BHI at 316-323-4122 or

email admin@butlerhi.org to volunteer. Thank you for your time and donations.

"Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."

Proverbs 14:31

Thank you, FSBC Outreach team Janna, Karen D, Joe L, Karen L, Paula, Pastor David

- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Rice
- **Canned Vegetables**

Food Pantry Grocery List:

- **Canned Fruit**
- **Canned Beans**
- **Canned Meat**
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Mac & Cheese
- Ramen noodles

NO DRY BEANS

Blessing Box Suggestions

- Non-Perishable, ready to eat foods (crackers, jerky, trail mix, granola)
- Canned goods with pull tabs
- Socks
- **Snacks**
- Soap
- **Toothpaste**
- Toothbrush
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Lotion
- **Baby** wipes
- Deodorant
- **Hand Sanitizer**

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 6:00 pm dinner served to children
- Wednesdays 6:30 pm Adult, Youth & Children Bible study
- Thursdays 6:00 pm GriefShare

Thank you for Serving!

Date	Prayer	Bus Driver	Children's Church	Nursery 1	Nursery 2	Lead Counter	Counter 2	Counter 3
4/7	Rod L.	Linnie	Brickley	Keith A.	Karen L.	Johnie	Laura L.	Marsha P
4/14	Johnie G.	Deb	Brickley	Johnie G.	Rod L.	Johnie	Ulala P.	Deb
4/21	John M.	Janna	Brickley	John B.	Julie H.	Johnie	Susan F.	Donna G.
4/28	John B.	Sheila	Guest	Kat H.	Cara S.	Johnie	Janna D.	Penny S.
5/5	David C.	John	Reinert	Keith A.	Karen L.	Deb S.	Laura L.	Rod
5/12	Joe L.	Linnie	Reinert	Johnie G.	Rod L.	Deb S.	Ulala P.	Marsha P
5/19	Rod L.	Deb	Reinert	John B.	Julie H.	Deb S.	Susan F.	Donna G.
5/26	Johnie G.	Janna	Guest	Kat H.	Cara S.	Deb S.	Janna D.	Penny S.
6/2	John M.	Sheila	Reinert	Keith A.	Karen L.	Rod L.	Laura L.	Marsha P

Thank you for helping to make FSBC

SPERIE

Over twenty people came on or before March 23rd to pitch in with our Spring Clean-Up! Everyone who came worked hard, and the results are amazing! No one stopped their labors long enough to take pictures, but here are some of the jobs that were accomplished just this month (most of them on the 23rd):

- The library and other rooms were thoroughly dusted.
- Trash cans were scrubbed and disinfected.
- Smudges, hand prints and scuff marks were scrubbed off of walls in the main spaces and around all of the dryerase boards.
- Baseboards were scrubbed—not just dusted.
- The flower beds were stripped clean of weeds, dead growth and rock, new weed barrier potting soil and mulch added.
- The cement car stops were put in place and secured down.
- Chairs were moved up from the youth room to the coffee area.
- Every inch of woodwork in the worship center was cleaned and shined.
- The vans were washed and cleaned inside and out.
- Vent covers were dusted and cleaned.
- The hand rails in the stairwells were scrubbed, conditioned and tightened.
- The worship center walls (top half) were repaired and repainted.
- Tables and chairs in the Children's wing were cleaned and disinfected.
- Nursery toys and clothing were sorted, purged, and cleaned.
- The old foam, tape and glue was removed from the support poles in the fellowship hall, poles and some of the walls were painted.
- The kitchen was cleaned, and the grout lines scrubbed on the floor.
- The youth room was cleaned and organized.
- The wood barriers in the playground were replaced and partially painted.
- Playground picnic table and bench were sanded and readied for painting.
- The shed was painted

Thanks to all of you, our church is "spiffed up" for Easter Services. Way to show the love of God in a very tangible way! Your church staff and Facilities Team cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work! The facilities team is a small group who work hard to keep this building up and running, but they cannot do everything by themselves. Team work makes the dream work! Keep your eyes peeled for future sign-up sheets for projects to come.



		АР	RIL 202	24			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
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 6:00 pm GriefShare	Camp Fundraiser (all month)		
31 John Throckmorton	1	2	3	4 Ulala Prewit	5 Donna Gragg, Phil & Karen Drake	6	
7 VBS recruiting Sunday	8	9	10	11	12	13 Little Buddies Fishing Derby	
14 12:30 pm A-Team (BYOL) (No Potluck)	15	16	17 9 am Newsletter Items Due	18	19 WCC Board Meeting	20 Bread of Life Food Ministry 10-11:30 am	
21 Kid's Pop-tarts, PJs & Praise Party	22	23	24	25	26 6pm Church Movie Night, Season of Miracles	27	
28 Johnie & Donna Gragg, Rick Stewart	29	30	1 Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill	•	April Events Fundraiser (all ruiting Sunday	month)	

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				

Meal Helpers

1st Wed (04/3): Donna & Johnie G
2nd Wed (04/10): Carol & Bob M.

3rd Wednesday (04/17)—Glenna Wise, Gloria Tucker
4th Wed (04/24): Leibbrandts

7th—VBS recruiting Sunday

13th—Little Buddies Fishing Derby

14th—12:30 pm "A-Team" (BYOL), NO

POTLUCK

17th—By 9 am Newsletter items due 20th—Bread of Life Food Ministry (10-11:30)

21st—Kid's Pop-tarts, PJs and Praise Party 26th, 6pm—Church Movie Night, Season of Miracles

April 27th & May 4, 9-11am—Classes for baby & child dedication day

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

4th—Ulala Prewit 5th—Donna Gragg, Phil & Karen Drake 28th—Johnie & Donna Gragg, Rick Stewart

		M	AY 202	4						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
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 6:00 pm GriefShare						
28 Johnie & Donna Gragg	29	30	1 Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4				
5 12:30 pm "A-Team"	6	7 Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes	8 Last Children's Evening Program for Summer, Youth Mission Impossible	9	10	11 Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill				
Mothers' Day, baby and child dedication day Graduation Sunday	13	14	Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt 9 am Newsletter Items Due (for SUMMER EDITION)	16 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	17	18 Joe Reinert				
19	20 Nancy	21 Lonn	22 Jerry	23 Terry	24	25				
	Wright	Adkison	Dewitt	Stephens		3 pm Church reserved for a Wedding				
26	27 David and Lisa Crook Memorial Day, Office Closed (NO prayer	28	29 30 Julie Hill 31 May Events							
	meeting)		2nd—National Day of Prayer 5th— 12:30 pm "A-Team" (BYOL), NO POTLUCK 8th—Last Regular Wednesday night kids' & Youth Program for							

Meal Helpers

1st Wed (05/01): Donna & Johnie G 2nd Wed (05/08): Carol & Bob M. Summer 12th—Mothers' Day, baby and child dedication day, Graduation

Sunday

15th—by 9:00 am—Newsletter items due 16th—5:30 Facilities

Team Meeting

I 19th—Graduation Sunday

25th—Church reserved for a Wedding

FSBC Kid's Ministry April 2024 First Southern Baptist Church 200 Oil Hill Rd, El Dorado, KS 316-321-3465 Bus 316-452-3594 Paula Moore 316-258-6596

Hello Spring!

I love this time of year and all the new life we see around us; new plant growth, new animal life, longer daylight in a day. God is great! Is God changing you? Do you want a new life in you? God is waiting for you to come into His family. Come and visit with me or Pastor David to tell us about how you are changing.

All the fun activities here at FSBC are held with the intent to share Jesus and His love for you. Even more exciting is when we all share about Jesus. Let's all try to invite someone new to church and bring someone with us to Vacation Bible School this year.

We are blessed with these opportunities and to get to share them with others.

Please take a look at all the news in this month's newsletter. Feel free to share it with someone when you are finished reading.

In His Service, Ms. Paula

Thank you to all that came out for the Easter Egg Hunt and to all that helped. What a blessing it is to share the story of Jesus with children. We hope that you will join us again for more of the fun filled faith activities we have planned. See Upcoming Events above.

"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice." Phil. 4:4

Upcoming April Events
7th-VBS Recruitment Day
13th-Little Buddy Fishing Derby
9am-1pm
21st-PJs, Pop Tarts, and Praise Day!
26th-Church Movie Night 6pm

Upcoming May Events
8th-Last Wed. Kldz Club for this year
12th-Baby Dedication, Mother's Day





Congratulations!

These students worked hard to store up the word of God in their hearts. They memorized the Ten Commandments and the older students also memorized Exodus 19:5-6 to make it into the Sunday Sundae Club! Stay tuned for our next challenge.



Little Buddy Fishing Derby
Saturday, April 13th 9am-1pm
Fishing supplies provided, lunch served,
and transportation is available.
Registration is required. Call the church
office to reserve your spot! 316-321-3465



Congrats to Ida, Agnes, Obadiah, Juliet, Eli, Harlynn, Olivia, Nathanial, Emma, August, Lane, Savannah, and TJ



Pop-Tarts, PJs, & Praise Party!

Join us Sunday, April 21st at 9:30 am in the Children's Wing at FSBC. We will have Pop-Tarts, milk, juice and fruit for the kids that come. Wear your comfy, modest PJs and your craziest slippers or socks and be a part of this fun event!

We are excited for you to "POP" in!

We are currently seeking volunteers for our Twist and Turns **VBS** on June 3rd-7th, 9am-Noon. Helpers are needed with publicity, providing needed supplies, leading kids, teaching, games, singing, feeding the kids, donating certain foods, decorating, tearing down, prayer partners, greeters, bus drivers, and follow ups. Can only spare 1 day? No problem! We've got a place for you !!! **Online registration begins May 1st**. There is a Special incentive to those that register before May 20th.

Please contact Ms. Paula or FSBC.





We will be honoring new babies and parents in our FSBC community with a Baby Dedication on Mother's Day, May 12 during our Worship Service. Child Dedication is an opportunity for parents to make a public commitment to raise their children to know and love Jesus. To participate, you must attend classes April 27th and May 4th 9-11 am. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

Proverbs 22:6