



First Southern
Baptist Church

Messenger

NOVEMBER 2024

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
CHURCH

200 Oil Hill RD

El Dorado KS 67042

316-321-3465

fsbclaura@gmail.com

The Deacon's Corner

Greetings Church Family,

Wasn't our Welcome Home Sunday wonderful? I couldn't help weeping as I looked around and saw all the happy faces. My tears continued during our worship service, as our special worship leader and Pastor David led us in music and scripture that helped us to focus on what God is doing and what He may be preparing us for in the near future. I appreciated the testimony time, as it was uplifting to hear what God is doing in the lives of my brothers and sisters in Christ. I did not stand up to share on that Sunday because I wanted to hear from all of you, and because I wasn't sure I could get through what I wanted to say without becoming emotional. Here are my three takeaways from what God revealed to me through this process.

My first "God Moment" was when I walked into the church a few weeks ago having not been in the church for months. I was just walking around the church to see what changes had been made. I happened to walk into one of the restrooms and saw a calendar from May posted

on the mirror. It struck me how long we had been out of the building, but God has been faithful and has continued His work. My takeaway from that moment was that God's work continues through our interruptions.

As I continued my church tour, I wandered into our church fellowship hall. I was taken aback by the shiny new floor. Some of my readers will laugh, but I audibly said "Oh my, how pretty!" I was just taken back by how much it had changed since I had last seen that same room, still covered with the soot of a burned out vending machine. God reminded me of the following scripture from Isaiah 61:3, "To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified." God can make anything beautiful.

Finally, I was reminded that God is still in the miracle working business. For weeks, I had heard

through the church staff and others that things wouldn't be done in time for us to have our special day on Oct 6. The week prior, carpets had still not been cleaned, the pews were still a mess, the fellowship hall floor needed to be finished up. Then on top of all of that, truck loads of boxes and furniture started arriving from their temporary storage. Every room in the building was full of boxes. But then God arrived. Jobs that had to be finished in a short amount of time, miraculously were finished. Carpets got cleaned. Pews were ready for our worship service. Boxes that had taken over the building somehow got emptied to the point that everyone said, "I think this is going to work." I know God has taught me much through this process. Praise the Lord. I would love to hear your stories as well. Until next time.

Blessings To All ,
Rod Luehrs
Chairman of the Deacons



The Pastor's Pen



Greetings Church! I Love You, Church!

With all that we have been through this summer, it is natural that our concerns get us to turn our attentions solely upon our own journey, troubles and needs as a church. As your pastor, however, I want you to be amazed by the *supernatural*! I want you to be able to celebrate what God is doing not only in our church family, but also outside of our immediate scope. Here are some highlights from the reports I received recently of what God is doing in our partner churches of Church Forward (Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists) and South-Central Association of Southern Baptists.

- Baptisms are on the rise in our churches! SCASB had 85 baptisms last year! You may not think that is very many in our 21 little churches, but that is 124% increase over the 38 baptisms last year! Praise God! Our goal as an association is to baptize 100 people next year! May God so move the hearts of people that we see such glory!
- Our sister churches in Kansas and Nebraska baptized 882 people in 2022, and 2294 in 2023. With only 18.1% of our churches reporting this year, we have baptized 673 people!
- 18 of our 25 Christian Challenge collegiate ministries affecting 41 KS/NE colleges report 128 people have already been baptized this year! They are outpacing our association churches! Just think of that! In some of the most anti-Gospel communities in our land, God is on the move! Perhaps we need to be thinking differently about how receptive people around us are to the Gospel.
- What if next year our church baptized a mere 25 people? That would be 25% of our church and great glory! Who could you be praying for and talking to about knowing Jesus? The challenge put before us at the Church Forward annual meeting to baptize 1 more this year than last year. That would be 7 for us. We can do more than that if we labor.
- To help us reach that goal, the North American Mission Board Evangelism department is promoting 3:16 on 3/16. They want there to be a national baptism holiday on March 16 next year.
- This year the Christian Challenge Fall Conference at Webster Conference Center had to expand to 2 weekends because over 600 college kids were there last year, far beyond capacity. This year's conferences had over 900! One of those who were at last year's conference was an unbeliever named Lauren, a friend of Marin who invited her. Marin had known Lauren for several years and shared Jesus with her throughout that time. During the conference Lauren said "yes" to Jesus. She began devouring the Word of God as Marin and two other ladies began encouraging and mentoring her. Lauren started sharing with her friends who did not yet know Jesus and quickly started a Bible study. She was discipled personally; sharing what she learned with her girls and helping them take steps towards Jesus. Soon after, Lauren made the decision to be baptized and brought many of her Washburn University sorority sisters to watch. Since that night, she has had an active witness in her sorority house. Now in her senior year, she is discipling two girls and leading a Bible study. She is also exploring Seminary in response to a ministry calling in some capacity!

Yes, God is at work in us and also all over our region! Glory to Jesus and boundless praise! While we are finding ourselves on the cusp of some great dreams He will show us, may our prayers see fulfillment like these great works of God!

Please pray for Aidan Davis and me as we will be in Mexico November 5-10 to build a house for the Aguilera Araujo family. Please pray for our journey across the border and our ministry to bear much fruit and for God to show us how much a difference our lives can make surrendered to Him.

Have the hurricanes and other disasters stirred your heart for compassionately wanting to bless their victims? Consider being trained for disaster relief work in food service, chainsaw crew, flood mud out, and shower & laundry service. We will host that training at our church on Saturday, November 16 from 9 am to 3 pm. The cost is \$40 to cover the shirt, hat, and credentials as well as lunch. You will need to register by Tuesday, November 5 to make sure enough materials are secured, but walk-ups will be welcomed. Ask me for a form.

Asking the Lord of the Church to give our church His dream of the church He wants us to be so we can do it for His glory,



Operation Christmas Child

Yay! It is November! This is THE month for OCC. Operation Christmas Child began 31 years ago with a request to fill shoeboxes with gifts for children in war-torn Bosnia. A total of 28,000 shoeboxes were packed and delivered that Christmas. Since then, more than 209 million children in over 170 countries and territories have received a shoebox gift.

All the shoeboxes that have been packed here in the U.S. are collected at local churches (the 3rd week in November), then taken to central drop offs. After that, they get taken to one of the 8 regional processing centers. Ours go to the Colorado processing center. There volunteers go through each box to make sure there isn't anything that shouldn't be in the box like war related items, money, liquids, food. Then the boxes are put into cartons specific for each group, like girls 2-4, boys 2-4 and so on. Then they are off to their destination in one of the 170 countries and territories around the world. Shoebox gifts are collected in the U.S., Germany,

Switzerland, Austria, Spain, Finland, Australia, New Zealand, and South Korea.

When the boxes get to their country, local churches will use them to reach children in their area for the Lord. They have an outreach event for the kids where they present the gospel and then pass out the boxes along with The Greatest Gift Booklet. (It has been translated into 97 languages with more translations in progress) Then they invite the children to come back to participate in The Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship program. Since 2009, over 1.7 million teachers have been trained to lead more than 35 million boys and girls in the program and 17.4 million children have made decisions for Christ! It is an amazing time for all involved. I have had the opportunity to participate in a few distributions in Ecuador. It is so awesome to see how God uses these simple boxes to reach children around the world

and then get to see His tangible love in these simple gifts.

We will be packing our shoeboxes Sunday morning, November 17 at the end of our worship service in the Fellowship hall. Please come and join the fun. A free will donation lunch will be provided to raise money for the shipping of our boxes. Shipping is \$10 a box and this money covers all the things in the picture below.

I love this time of year! It is such a great time. I am so thankful for each and every one who has graciously donated items and money for the shipping of our boxes.

Karen Leibbrandt



Blessing Box items

Crackers
Nuts
Jerky
Ready-to-eat pop top canned food
Instant coffee
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Brushes/combs
Deodorant (men's and women's)
Soap
Shampoo
Baby wipes
Feminine products
Socks
Stocking caps
Gloves
Hot hands

Bread of Life shopping list

Canned fruit
Canned vegetables
Canned meat
Cereal
Pasta
Pasta sauce
Mac and cheese
Ramen noodles
Rice
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Instant potatoes

Outreach

The December 7th city Christmas parade preparations are under way. We will be doing a walking Nativity and need people to dress up. We also need people to hand out candy canes to the children and a small gift to the adults. There is a small list of volunteers that have signed up already. If you are able, the Outreach team would love for you to join us. Please reach out to any Outreach team member if you would like to help.

Now that we are back in our building, the Bread of Life food pantry and Blessing Box items need to be restocked. You may place items in the wagon outside the library. Bread of Life places a loaf of bread in each food box. If you would like to help purchase bread put Bread of Life on your offering envelope. Thank you to all that help and give to Bread of Life.

You can place Blessing Box items directly into the Blessing Box. They don't have to go into the wagon unless you have large amounts. Once the temperatures start to drop below freezing, items that will freeze will be removed until warmer temperatures.

Thank you
Outreach team

***Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker,
but he who is generous to the needy honors Him.***

Proverbs 14:31

Pre-Teen

The pre-teen group is going well. It started with just one, but now we are up to three. We are all excited to decorate our new classroom and to take this awesome journey of becoming Soldiers in Christ.

Share with anyone you know that has a preteen in 6th or 7th grade. We meet on Wednesday night 6:30 to 7:30. If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out.

Janna Davis

***God's Army is a movement. A God sustained organism that
will never stop moving.***

**B.A.S.I.C.
Training**

**Becoming A Soldier
In Christ**

FSBC Kid's Ministry

November 2024

First Southern Baptist Church

200 Oil Hill Rd, El Dorado, KS

Office Phone: 316-321-3465

Need a Ride? Bus Phone: 316-452-3594

Paula Mattice 316-258-6596

Important Upcoming Dates

Nov. 3rd: Daylight Savings Ends

Nov. 17th: OCC Packing Party

Nov. 27th: No Kidz Club

Dec. 8th: Kids' Program

Dec. 18th & 25th and Jan. 1st: No Kidz Club

Dec. 22: Caroling & Cocoa

Hello!

What a beautiful Fall we are having so far! God gives us changes to prepare us for the new growth; both in flowers and in ourselves. Have your kids spoken about sharing Jesus with others? That is our theme this year. We want to empower them with the confidence to share the love of Jesus Christ with others. We are beginning our theme on kids as missionaries, in the hope that they will be spurred on to fulfill God's will for them. Please find ways to encourage your child throughout these studies.

In His Service,
Ms. Paula

We had another successful Sunday Sundae Club! This time the kids memorized Psalm 23 in order to participate and eat the ice cream flavor of their choice. Congratulations to all!



Congratulations to: Obadiah, Nathaniel, Liz, Carrie, Ida, Anastasia, Ameliyana, Agnes and Emma!



During a Wednesday Kidz Club, Ms. Deb showed us the acronym for LOVE.

Left (Jesus left heaven and came down to earth.)

Obey (We need to obey God's Word.)

Victory (Jesus gave us victory over sin.)

Eternal (We can have eternal life with Jesus in our hearts.)



FSBC Sisters of Faith

***Please Come Join Us
For our First
Prayer Partner Cup Exchange
and
Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange
Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 5PM, FSBC***

All ladies are welcome to come for fun and fellowship even if you do not wish to participate in the Prayer Partner Cup Exchange.

We will be serving finger foods, if you would like to bring a finger food to share, there will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

This will also be the time we will be doing our annual cookie exchange. Please bring enough cookies to exchange 2 cookies per person. We will let you know how many you should bring closer to the event date.

If you are going to be participating in the Prayer Cup exchange, please don't forget to grab a packet from Susan Fyffe beginning Nov. 24, 2024 with the instructions.

Looking forward to an evening of fun and fellowship!!!

Volunteer Rotations

	Prayer	Bus Driver	Children's Church	Nursery	During Worship Service	Head Counter	Counter 2	Counter 3	Date	Wednesday Meal Prep	Week
11/3	Joe R.	Angel	Reinert	John B.	Julie H.	Deb S.	Susan F.	Donna	11/6	Robert & Carol	1st
11/10	Rod L.	Deb	Reinert	Kat H.	Cara S.	Deb S.	Janna D.	John T.	11/13	Susan, Marsha, Paula	2nd
11/17	Johnie	Janna	Reinert	Keith A.	Rod L.	Deb S.	Laura L.	Marsha	11/20	Mary G. Carolyn J.	3rd
11/24	John M.	Sheila	Guest	Johnie	Karen L.	Deb S.	Ulala P.	Johnie	11/27	Darlene & Sandy	4th
12/1	John B.	John	Brickley	Julie H.	John B.	Rod L.	Susan F.	Donna	12/4	Robert & Carol	1st
12/8	David C.	Angel	Brickley	Kat H.	Cara S.	Rod L.	Janna D.	John T.	12/11	Susan, Marsha, Paula	2nd
12/15	Joe L.	Deb	Brickley	Keith A.	Cara S.	Rod L.	Laura L.	Marsha	12/18	Mary G. Carolyn J.	3rd
12/22	Joe R.	Janna	Brickley	Johnie	Cara S.	Rod L.	Ulala P.	Deb	12/25	Darlene & Sandy	4th
12/29	Rod L.	Sheila	Guest	Julie H.	Cara S.	Rod L.	Susan F.	Donna	1/1	Robert & Carol	1st



NOVEMBER 2024 (70 YEARS OF FSBC)						
27 Lawanda Borger	28	29	30	31	1	2 Bentley Baca
	Pastor out of Town 28th-1st, Staff Sabbath					
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends	4 Michelle Spivey	5	6 Kat Heubner, Karen Drake	7	8	9
		Pastor and Aidan on Mexico Mission Trip				
10 Robert & Carol Mitchell "A-Team" <div>Pastor out of Town</div>	11	12	13 9 am Newsletter Items Due	14	15 Jan Smith	16 Rod Luehrs
17 OCC Packing Party Free Will donation lunch to raise money for shipping	18	19	20 Lauren Davis, Joe & Karen Leibbrandt	21	22	23
	OCC Collections Week 18-25					
24 <div>OCC Collections 18-25</div>	25 <div>Pastor out of Town 25-26</div>	26 Jessica Zumalt	27 David & Julie Hill No Programs	28 Thanksgiving 	29	30 3 pm Christmas Decorating Party
		Office Closed 27-29				

DECEMBER 2024

1	2 Olivia Baca	3	4	5 Carolyn Jorn, Mark Wint	6 David Crook SCASB Christmas Dinner	7 City Christmas Parade
8 Brian Huston Holidays Meal Annual Meeting Kids' Program	9	10 Paula Moore	11 Penny Nielsen 9 am Newsletter Items Due Last night of programs for the year	12 Kinley Nielsen	13	14 Bread of Life Food Ministry
Lottie Moon Week of Prayer 8-14						
15 5 pm Ladies Christmas Event	16	17 Glenna Wise, Carol Mitchell	18	19 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	20 Nathan Wright, Mark & Melynda Wint	21 Bread of Life
22 Jerry & Sandy DeWitt Caroling & Cocoa	23	24 6:30 Candle- light Service	25 Christmas 	26 Susan Ballard, Tom Edwards	27	28 Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson
Office Closed 24-Jan 2nd						
29	30	31	1 David Baca	2	3	4
Office Closed 24-Jan 2nd						

