



APRIL 2023

FBCO NEWSLETTER

Our Mission: Drawing our communities and world into a deeper relationship with God.

Phone: 913-764-7088
Email: fbcoffice@fbcolathe.org
www.fbcolathe.org

Church Office Hours
Monday thru Thursday
9:00 am - Noon

SAVE THE DATE

4/15 - Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
4/16 - Business Meeting
4/20 - April Diaconate Meeting
5/16 - Preschool end of year picnic
5/18 - Monthly Diaconate Meeting
5/21 - Celebration of Life Together
6/24 - SENT Conference

Rally article

On March 26, our church family gathered for chicken dinner and to “kick-off” the registration phase of the Sent Conference. After our delicious meal, Dick and Jan Sipe shared the purpose and details for the conference. Each person was invited to be an “ambassador” for the Sent conference by accepting the mission to share Sent conference information with five Christian friends or acquaintances.

The ambassadors, should they decide to accept the mission, were asked to:

- Register for the conference, by signing up on the sheets at The Hub;
- Know the details of the conference: June 24, 2023, 9 am- 4 pm, www.SentOlathe.org;
- Articulate the purpose of the Sent Conference: The conference will present a new way of thinking about sharing our faith and equip each of us with tools to make living a life that invites others to Jesus natural and authentic. The workshops will prepare us to share our “God stories” and will be engaging, interactive and fun;
- Pray for at least five Christian friends or acquaintances to invite them to the Sent Conference;
- Invite, as led by the Holy Spirit, at least five Christian friends or acquaintances to register and attend for the Sent Conference. Invitation cards are available at The Hub.

For more information on the Sent Conference, scan the QR code, visit the website www.SentOlathe.org or contact Dick or Jan Sipe.



Featured Members



MONA HUGGINS

Mona moved from Oklahoma to Olathe when she was four years old. The very first Sunday the family visited FBCO, the Payne family invited them for dinner and the two families were very close for many years..

Mona met Bob in 1975. She commented that if she could meet a man like him, she would marry him in a heart beat. Mona said that her mom loved him more than her. He could do no wrong! This love story came true and the new Mrs. Huggins married Bob on a Tuesday evening, yes a Tuesday, as that was the only day Bob had available! Mona became the mother to two daughters and now four grandchildren. She was a vocalist for special events. Mona completed degrees in Education, Deaf Education and certified in library science. Mona worked 42 years at Kansas School for the Deaf. Now she is blessed with caring for her youngest granddaughter and playing with the other three grands.

ABW is a passion for Mona and as President of the Region ABW Ministries, travels all over the state and oversees activities of the ABW and ABW Girls. She has a dream of growing the girls program and seeing it be successful once again.

Mona does like to fish in their pond, bring home her catch, clean and cook them. Mona had many gray years. God was with her while she felt forsaken. " I know whose hand is imprinted on me."



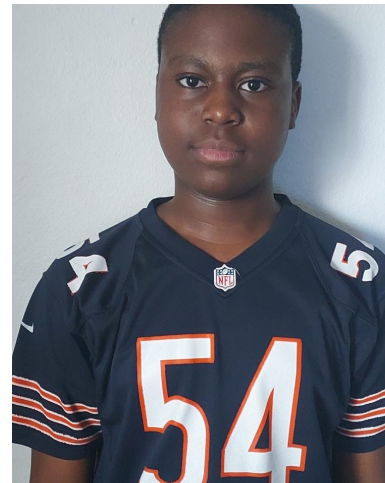
AMY ERICKSON

Amy grew up in Overland Park. She attended Prairie Baptist Church. As a young teen FBCO and PBC youth groups would share youth activities. She met Dale and became sweethearts. As older teens their youth ministry began in Olathe working with Ms. Debby. The couple married in their Junior year at Ottawa University. They were called to the ministry at Ottawa First Baptist.

When they graduated Amy became manager of a daycare at Advent Hospital. She and Dale volunteered at various churches to work with youth and music programs. They heard of a small town in Michigan, needing youth leaders. Amy was mother of two young ones and worked with her husband at the church for six years.

When they returned to the area, they took a break from ministry. Their hearts were stirred by the Lord to return to their origin and ministry at FBCO. Their family had grown by one. Amy is a busy mom to three children and her love to serve God.

Since childhood, Amy has written music. She loves to be in nature and feel the blessings of God's world. Amy likes hiking and camping. They try to take a family trip once a year. She is fond of the ocean and the mountains. Amy and Dale share the cooking duties, she admits that if offered dark chocolate, she doesn't turn that down, anyone!! Her favorite scripture is Psalm 15:1-2.



ELDAD TAKOUKAM

BY EMERSON WEBSTER

Eldad is fourteen years old and in ninth grade. His family attends church at First Baptist Church Olathe and is made up of his parents, Bernard and Jeanne, his younger brother Aaron, and his younger sister Abbie. They live here in Olathe, but he is originally from Cameroon.

His favorite food is cinnamon buns. Among his other hobbies, he enjoys reading and video games. His favorite song is "When I Grow Up" by NF. The time of year he enjoys the most is fall, and he plays basketball for his school. His favorite subject in school is math.

His family doesn't go on vacations often, but if he could choose, he'd like to go to Washington D.C. someday.

Eldad's family has been at FBC Olathe for over five years, and he enjoys being a member of this body. Others say that they enjoy having his calm and respectful presence at church.

Interview Correction

Last month we featured Bernard Tenku. We apologize that we had misspelled Bernard's name.



Sermon Series
Appearances

- April 16th - John 20:19-23 | Fear
- April 23rd - John 20:24-29 | Doubt
- April 30th - John 21:1-14 | Everyday
- May 7th - John 21:15-19 | Shame
- May 14th - John 21:20-25 | Purpose

Egg-stravaganza



February 2023 Finances

General checking \$340,086.98
 Wells Fargo General \$484,606.49
 Wells Fargo Legacy \$286,348.35

Grand Pads \$1,945.00
 Brazilian Grant \$2,450
 Reshaping Grant \$3,350
 PS Grant 2 \$93,725.01

Capital Fund \$29,053.76

Revenue \$27,182
 Expenses \$24,476 = +\$2,706

Thank you to everyone who continues to tithe. Contact Deb Ruse, Treasurer, (913) 206 6342 if you have any questions.

Preschool Spring Outreach

The Preschool collected 201 Hot Wheel cars for kids at Children's Mercy. Showing God's love to others in the community is always exciting for our preschoolers!

March Diaconate Meeting Highlights

- Begin process for part-time staff for children's ministry.
- Switch to Google Fiber completed. Thanks to crew who made it happen!
- Clarification: The Legacy Fund governing document outlines the use of funds as "board designated" rather than "donor restricted"

From the Pastor

Dear FBC Olathe family,

We have just walked through one of the most significant seasons of the Christian calendar. The other two being Christmas, and Pentecost. I hope you all were blessed by God as you pursued Him. In all honesty, this was personally the richest Lenten and Easter season I can remember. It should be no surprise that the daily prayers and readings of Lent, my own personal devotions for J Group, our celebrations on Sunday, and the way our church family walked through Holy Week together were all a big part of that. However, as good as all of that was, God really showed up and surprised me through one of our new ministries.

Our weekly Prayer and Praise gatherings on Wednesday nights have been one of the most profound things I have experienced in ministry. These nights were born out of watching God show up at the Asbury revival. The weekly experience is not flashy, it is not overly structured, or complicated. A small group gets together and seeks after God. We sing, pray, read Scripture, write, and reflect. The common element for those gathered is that they are open to being led by the Lord.

For some of us God is working us through some of our personal struggles, for others He has led us to places that reflect His heart for the church. Sometimes we are even led to the same places and don't even know it. After one of our gatherings, I felt called to share my experience of being led to Revelation 2, where God is addressing the church in Ephesus. It wasn't until a week later that I learned that Amy Erickson had been led to the same place.

In a nutshell the message to the church at Ephesus is that they have held onto the truth, and they have done good works, but something is missing. They have forgotten their first love. The truth for us, all of us, as a church, is that God desires us to be deeply in love with Him. He also desires for us to hold onto the Truth of the Gospel, and to be at work for His Kingdom. If you are looking for a place to seek after God, and pursue your first love with a spirit of surrender, I would invite you to come and experience our nights of prayer and praise.

Be Blessed, Be a Blessing,

Pastor Reed



Thank you for all the cards and sign.
Vivian Jurgens

Celebration of Life Together

May 21st at 9:30am

Celebration of Life Together will be an annual all church breakfast and worship service where we will celebrate what God has done in, amongst, and through us. We will tell stories about and celebrate people and ministries that have accomplished our Mission, while exemplifying our Core Values. This year we will also celebrate our 150th anniversary.

Wednesday Prayer & Worship

We would LOVE for you all to join us Wednesday in the cafe FROM 7-8 PM for our prayer and worship night! This is a great opportunity for us to gather and be praying over our church and seeking the LORD together. It's SUPER laid back, so even if you come late or have to leave early that is TOTALLY fine.

Dale and Amy