

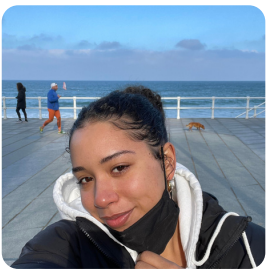


# THE LIGHT

March 2022 Newsletter

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





**MARISSA SMITH**

Marissa Smith was raised at FBC from birth through high school. She is a third generation member. Marissa loved singing in the adult choir with her Nana, Lynn Tomash. and attended children's activities and camps. When she went on mission trips with the FBC youth she was able to immerse herself in God's Word, making lifelong friendships and memories.

Marisa graduated from K-State with a degree in Accounting. She is engaged and has relocated to Spain. She will marry her high school sweetheart in Barcelona on March 17.

May you feel the love of your First Baptist family as you carry your witness across the ocean. God bless your marriage!

## CAFE 18:20

Number of cups served: 1,834

The Cafe has a new manager, Crystal Daws. You will find Crystal with her husband or son with her working the cafe on Sundays.



*Discipled*

LENT SERMON SERIES  
SUNDAYS 10:30

3/6 Luke 9:51-62  
3/13 Luke 10:1-24  
3/20 Luke 10:25-37  
3/27 Luke 10:38-42  
4/3 Luke 15:11-32  
4/10 Luke 19:28-40

During the season of Lent, we will follow Jesus through the Gospel of Luke. During the week you will have the opportunity to follow along in the provided devotional book, Grace Unbounded. Each week during our midweek message, Pastor Reed will reflect on stories told in that book. On Sundays, we will follow Jesus as he fulfills his promise to the Disciples to make them fishers of men. Our sermon series, Discipled, will look at stories in the Gospel of Luke with an eye towards understanding both what and how Jesus taught. The sermon series is entitled, Discipled.

## SAVE THE DATES

- 3/27/22 - Quarterly Business meeting (after service)
- 4/3/22 - Congregation Value Workshop #1
- 4/9/22- Easter Eggstravaganza
- 4/14/22 - Maunday Thursday
- 4/17/22 - Easter
- 5/15/22 - Congregation Value Workshop #2
- 6/11/22 - Bethel Summer Kickoff  
FBC volunteers entertain the children and serve a meal while the parents hear the orientation for the summer program.
- 6/19/22 to 6/24/22 - Mission trip to Murrow Indian Childrens home. Please contact Paul Wood at woodp@fbcolathe.org

## 2022 CHURCH DIACONATE MEMBERS

Keith Laws - *Moderator*  
Will Cross - *Vice Moderator*  
Deb Ruse - *Treasurer*  
Jan Sipe - *Church Clerk*  
Paul Wood - *Missions*  
Rene Holmes - *Education*

Charles White - *Trustee*  
Bob Huggins - *Member at Large*  
Carolyn Ibach - *Member at Large*  
Matt Ricketts - *Member at Large*  
Sheri Drake - *Member at Large*

The Diaconate is the church leadership board. The Diaconate meets once a month to discuss church progress and areas of concern. All meetings are open to member and meeting minutes are available in the church office.

Church leadership is required to run a congregational meeting once a quarter. **Next quarterly meeting will be held on March 27th, after service.**

# Featured Members



## CHARLES PERRY

In 1971 FBC was fortunate to meet Charles. He has been involved in many different parts of the church. Active in the same Sunday School class, Charles finds love and friendship. He has been a valuable Financial secretary for 34 years, and served on the diaconate.

Charles grew up on a farm with his five siblings before moving to town. His father died when he was only six. Charles was married and is the father of two sons. He is a proud grandfather of four and happy to be a great grandfather.

Before Safeway Grocery closed their company, Charles worked faithfully for over thirty years. Fortunately, he was hired by the Olathe School system where he worked until 2020. In retirement Charles enjoys watching TV and reading Science Fiction. Nice weather he urges him to go fishing at various local lakes. Charles catches and releases the fish as he doesn't like to clean and cook them.

Charles has been to Hawaii five times, Alaska a couple of times and the Bad Lands. There's no place like home for him. He goes to Old 56 restaurant for liver and onions or other homestyle meals. His favorite dessert would be raisin pie.



## SHAWN EDWARDS

Soon Shawn will have a new name. Yes, just call him Pops! Baby Drey will have a proper name and there will be big smiles. Shawn is married and the father of 3 adult children. This will be his first grand.

Shawn is from Marysville, Kansas. He has had several places to call home throughout his career. He settled in Olathe with his family and has been active in many areas of church life at FBC. Presently, he is Co-youth Leader. Shawn has served as the Moderator, Trustees, building projects, VBS and Sunday School teacher. He coached three FBC softball teams, the Angels.

Shawn can be found at classic car shows where one of his several restored classics is shown. An avid outdoorsman, Shawn takes his dog, Cooper, out to flush birds and hunt deer. Ask him what his hobbies are and he says he smokes a mean pork butt. Another hat Shawn wears is with the Hope Builders, a group that modifies homes so people can stay in place by building ramps and other accommodations.

He met his wife while they were students at Emporia State at FBC Emporia. His favorite dinner would be a good steak and potato. Traveling to see his children has become his choice of destination, which is a good thing.



## MEGAN SONSTHAGEN

Megan grew up in Olathe. Attending Olathe Northwest, Megan played the clarinet and saxophone in the band. It was there she met her husband, Matt. They both moved on with their education to Pittsburg State. Megan will graduate in May with a degree in Psychology and public health.

Not only a wife and full time student, Megan works in education with medically fragile children. She comes home from a full day to prepare dinner. She and Matt will soon celebrate their first year of marriage.

The family pet is a Leopard Gecko lizard. One day she hopes to have a dog! Before life got so busy Megan was involved in church activities, such as VBS and feeding the homeless. She likes to bake and is an amateur photographer.

Something people do not know about Megan, but is quick to share, she has a younger twin brother!

## CHURCH FINANCES JANUARY 2021

General Operations \$137,325.05  
Capital \$13,137.76  
Loan Balance \$29,519.88

Brazilian Grant \$2,450  
Reshaping Grant \$3,350  
PS Grant \$21,624

Revenue \$36,236  
Expenses \$25,831 = +\$10,405

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

## February Diaconate Highlights

- Preschool has new floors and a new wall partition due to a grant.
- Baptism will be a part of our Easter worship, interested? Contact Pastor Reed
- Diaconate to begin the visioning process.
- Minutes available by contacting the church office.
- Information on committees listed on the connection board by the front door.
- Quarterly business meeting scheduled for March 27th, immediately after service.

## ONLINE CHURCH

We encourage everyone to join in on Sunday around 10:15 AM for online worship to chat with our church family.

Go to [fbcolathe.org](http://fbcolathe.org) or Scan this QR code.



## CHURCH INFORMATION

Phone: 913-764-7088  
Email: [fbcoffice@fbcolathe.org](mailto:fbcoffice@fbcolathe.org)  
[www.fbcolathe.org](http://www.fbcolathe.org)

Church Office Hours  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
9:00 am - Noon

If you would like to submit news for the newsletter, please send to :  
[Communications@fbcolathe.org](mailto:Communications@fbcolathe.org)

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR REED

If you follow sports, it is a safe bet that you have heard the phrase, "trust the process." Behind this phrase is the idea that every day of training and practice is important, so give your all on that day, don't look ahead. Under Chip Kelley, the Oregon football teams mantra became, Win the Day. This sentiment applies to the visioning process we began last Saturday at our Diaconate Retreat. Every step is important, so give it your all every step of the way. We need to trust the process and not jump ahead to "providing solutions."

Our first step was to reaffirm our Mission Statement, "Drawing our communities and world into a deeper relationship with God." This statement describes why we exist. During our discussion we wanted to clarify three things. The first is that the verb, Drawing, is not meant to be a passive one. Instead, it is an active one where our lives, words, and actions alert people to the reign of God in everyday life and seek to connect them with Him. Second, when we say communities, we are describing both the neighborhood where our church resides, but also the streets around the homes where we live. Third, our reason for existing is not necessarily to grow the church by bringing people in, but making disciples by helping people learn to walk with God.

The next step in our process is to identify and define our core values. During our first retreat we began this process by examining the core values expressed in Scripture, the Reshaping the Church results and pastoral survey, and our own observations. This is important because our Core Values describe how we will live and minister together. Our core values will shape our culture and along with our Mission shape our vision. As we walk through this process we will continue to share our insights and thoughts with you and invite you to join the discussion at our first Values Workshop to be held after service on April 3rd.

Blessings, Pastor Reed