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www.fbcolathe.org

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

SAVE THE DATE

5/16 - Preschool end of year picnic
5/17 - Prayer & Praise 7PM
5/18 - Monthly Diaconate Meeting
5/21 - Celebration of Life Together
7/24 - Prayer & Praise 7PM
6/3 - Bethel Summer Kickoff
6/16 - Quarterly Business Meeting
6/24 - SENT Conference
7/14 & 15 - Stay-near-home Mission
7/30 to 8/7 - Murrow Trip

Meet the Hollemans

Ashley and Heather Holleman love helping people connect with Jesus and their identity as “sent ones.”

Heather and Ashley served as full-time staff with Cru for 20 years, with Ashley serving at the national director of graduate student ministry for the past 7 years. Ashley now serves with Global Service Associates to come alongside churches and ministries to catalyze their efforts to develop an evangelism culture for their context and to mobilize sent-ones.

Heather is an associate teaching professor at Penn State and has won numerous teaching awards in the last 20 years. Her students call her a “walking exclamation point.” She designs the advanced writing curriculum for the Schreyer Honor College of Penn State and loves to help faculty improve their teaching. Heather has written eight books including the best-seller *Seated with Christ: Living Freely in a Culture of Comparison*; and an award-winning book on evangelism (co-written with Ashley) called *Sent: Living a Life that Invites Others to Jesus*.

The Hollemans will be the speakers at the Sent Conference, June 24, 2023. For more information go to www.SentOlatheorg.

Featured Members



DORTHA KEIFFABER

Our Silver Saint Dortha grew up on a farm near Polo, Missouri. One of nine children, grew up in the home their grandparents built. After high school graduation she moved to Kansas City where she married and settled down in Olathe.

Dortha was often found in the kitchen, not just at home but at FBCO. She prepared Wednesday Night dinners weekly, and other dinners held in Fellowship Hall. She noted that she prepared 64 dinners for funerals and special occasions. Often chicken was purchased and she didn't care for the seasoning. The "Chicken Lady", as the store named her, negotiated a seasoning made to order for FBCO!

Dortha is famous for her homemade pizza and her pistachio, coconut, pineapple salad was a big hit at potluck dinners.

Dortha was a volunteer extraordinaire. She answered the phone at church, made calls for Life Line, contacted shut-ins three times a week and was also involved in a county program where volunteers would help people in their homes and she would sometimes drop by for two hours a day. Dortha was also a champion tournament bowler, with high score of 241.

The mother of five, grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of 14, relishes in the memories made. She flew to Guam to meet one of those grand-babies. We have through the years been blessed by this beautiful woman of God.



MORNA WOOD

Morna was born in the Philippines but has been a citizen of the world. Her comfort foods are from her homeland, chicken adobo and a rice noodle dish. Morna is very musical and is a natural for serving as chairman of the Music and Worship Committee through the years.

Morna met her husband, Paul, in Thailand where they served as volunteers. They were in a program through the United Nations.

Morna and her family moved to other countries and eventually brought the family to Kansas. While in Singapore, they adopted a little girl, Camilla, it was then the family was complete.

Morna went back to school and finished her bachelor's degree in nursing and worked in several hospitals and much of that time was PRN or as needed.

For retirement, Morna and Paul are back to being world travellers. They recently returned from a long trip overseas for sightseeing, a reunion and to visit their son and his family.

Morna likes to read, watch action movies and American football. When the Chiefs are on TV, she is focused on the game.

Morna blessed our FBCO family as she stepped in to be the "Girl Friday" in the office and on stage leading congregational singing. One of her favorite scriptures is found in Romans 8:38-39. Morna certainly has a servant's heart.



ELLARIE ERICKSON

Ellarie is twelve years old and in 6th grade at The Daniel Academy. Her parents are FBCO's Directors of Worship Arts & Next Gen Ministries, Dale and Amy, and she has an older sister, Emma and younger brother, Elliott. She has a dog named Teddy and has had bunnies in the past (Easter, Clover, and Oreo). She now lives on the state line, but has also lived in Michigan.

Her favorite book is The Wingfeather Saga, a series of four books that she is currently working through a second time. She enjoys both Enola Holmes movies on Netflix, and listening to the Oh Hellos. She has a lot of interests, including acting, singing, drawing, writing, reading, and eating Asian food — especially sushi. She can do a nice British accent. She plays softball with her friends but doesn't consider herself athletic. Her favorite subject is history and extracurricular is theater.

There are 20 classmates, which are five girls, and she says she feels very close with them. Her favorite memory is the junior high retreat she went on with her classmates in 2022.

She has been at FBCO for 5 months, and is involved in youth group and worship team, which she says is cool and enjoys bonding with the team. She was baptized just before Easter this year in front of her family, friends, and school.

ABW Event

The American Baptist Women held a fun chalk art event.



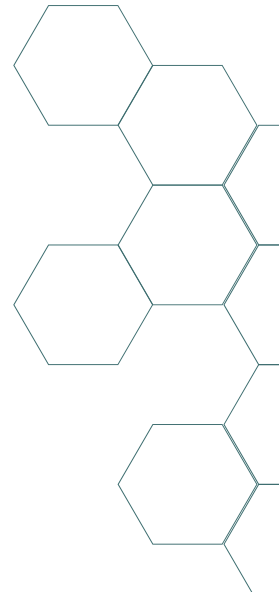
Holy Week Activities



Holy week included a deep meaningful tour of the cross in the sanctuary and another beautiful sunrise service.

Preschool End of Year

Our Preschool is about to conclude another amazing year. Thanks to you all for the support of the Preschool. Our "A-May-Zing" staff, parents and church made this past school year "A-May-Zing" for our preschool kiddos. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!



March 2023 Finances

General Checking \$349,253.78
Wells Fargo General \$486,873.14
Wells Fargo Legacy \$286,350.50

Grand Pads \$1,945.00
Brazilian Grant \$2,450.00
Reshaping Grant \$3,046.00
PS Grant 2 \$102,725.01

Capital Fund \$30,428.76

Revenue \$37,309.00
Expenses \$40,664.00 = -\$3,355.00

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

April Diaconate & Business Meeting Highlights

- Members of the Search Committee for Director of Children's Ministries voted to be Debby White, Heather Ricketts and Reed Webster.
- Plans to update signage inside and outside church in process.
- Trustee recently completed items: refurbished defibulator available; extra outdoor lights; lawn mower repair, phone system fixed except messaging which is still in progress; fire alarm changed to wireless.

From the Pastor

Dear FBC Olathe family,

I hope you are getting as excited as I am for the events that will be happening in the next couple of months. First, on Sunday, May 21st we will hold our Celebration of Life Together. At this event we will celebrate our past, our present, and future. On June 24th, we will hold the Sent conference that will help us to learn a new way of thinking, which will enable us to share our faith with others as Christ has commanded.

The idea for the Sent Conference was birthed out of a dream that Jan Sipe had. It found overwhelming support by the Diaconate and was made possible through Legacy Fund monies. As I researched the founding of FBC Olathe it dawned on me how similar the Spirit was in the efforts to bring about a new congregation and the Sent Conference.

FBC Olathe, as well as many of the other churches in Kansas, were brought about by the urging, work, and faithfulness of lay people. A major milestone occurred on April 1st, 1872, when the forerunner of FBC Olathe, the Olathe Baptist Sunday School, was founded. The superintendent was J.W. Norvell and they had seven members. Two months later on June 1st, 1872, the church was organized and the first pastor was called, a Rev. R.P. Evans.

While I love being a pastor, and believe we are called for a purpose, the past, present, and future of FBC Olathe will not be won by clergy. It is us, all of us, that are needed. This church along with numerous others would not exist without people like Jan and J.W. catching hold of God's dream for an area and faithfully walking into it. Each and every person who has been a part of FBC Olathe's past as well as future has been or will be an integral part of His provision for His purpose.

Be Blessed, Be a Blessing,

Pastor Reed

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.



FBC - Olathe
July 14 - 15

Cutting & Sewing Dome Covers

First Baptist Church of Olathe is hosting a 'stay-near-home' mission trip to make dome covers to send to Global Servants, Rick and Anita Gutierrez in South Africa. These domes provide shade for seeding fruit trees or protection for quail, chickens and other small animals which can be sold to provide income for vulnerable populations.

Stay tuned for more information as the date gets closer.

Wednesday Prayer & Praise

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