

First Forum



In Matthew 9:37-38 Jesus says to his disciples “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” This is in response to the harassed and helpless crowds mentioned in v. 36. Here we see two problems Jesus identifies, and one solution he charges us to.

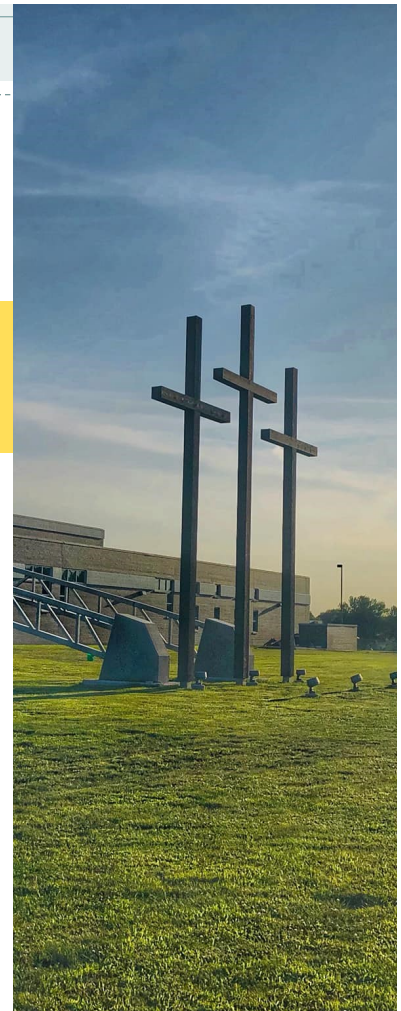
Problem 1: The crowds are harassed and helpless. He sees multitudes around him, hustling and bustling, all in vain. This is much like today. People are looking for satisfaction and hope in things that can’t provide them, and they wind up harassed and helpless like the crowds in v. 36

Problem 2: There aren’t enough laborers (v. 37). He identifies that there aren’t enough laborers to meet the need of the harvest. In this case there aren’t enough everyday, ordinary, disciplemakers to go and meet the needs/preach the gospel to the harassed and helpless.

Solution: Pray to the Lord to send out laborers. Jesus calls his disciples (and us), to pray for laborers to send into the harvest. Funny enough, oftentimes when we pray for laborers, God himself invites us to participate in his plan to share the gospel with the crowds. Join me in praying for laborers!

~ Ryan Jonas

Navigators Campus Director, UNK



RENTALS & RESERVATIONS

If you would like to reserve or rent a ROOM in the church (for Bible studies, events, weddings, etc.), please contact Lori Reed at LReed@kearneyfb.org or through the church office. If you would like to reserve or rent the GYM, please contact Zach Ondrak via text at (308)390-2308. or at zondrak@fmne.com. Please **NOTE** the facility use reservations are visible on the calendar via the church website. *Please double check your reservations on that calendar.*

Update from the Finance Committee

God continues to bless First Baptist in so many ways. Because of your generous giving during the first quarter of 2024, we can support various ministry programs for all age groups and meet our budgeted operating expenses. This allows us to faithfully spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our church community.

All of this would not be possible if not for the many faithful and regular givers that give to First Baptist. The Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:14-20, talks about and thanks the people of Philippi, for their faithful giving to support his ministry. It is with that same gratitude, the leadership of First Baptist, thank you for your continued and faithful support.

Giving for the first quarter exceeded our projected giving goal as can be seen on our giving thermometer. First quarter giving was \$349,359, which exceeded our goal of \$336,821, or 30.3% of our budgeted giving for 2024. Additionally, First Baptist was able to meet all of its budgeted expenses for the quarter and showed a surplus of \$78,000 after expenses.

This generous giving has allowed the church's cash position to continue to improve. The trustees and finance committee are currently working on a plan on how best to use some of its cash reserves for future ministry needs and to potentially prepay the mortgage.

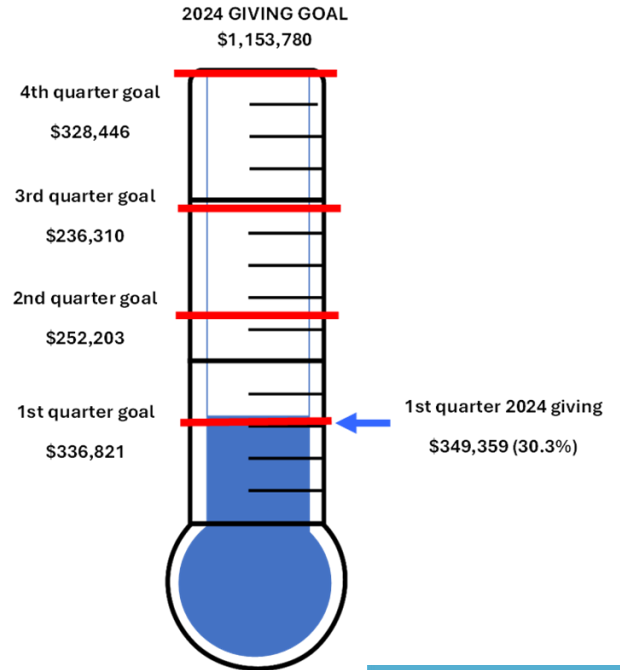
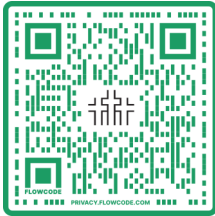
Additionally, the Trustee board has approved various projects that have been funded and completed during the first quarter. Likewise, we continue to faithfully support designated missions First Baptist has chosen to support for 2024. If you would like more information about the church financial report for the first quarter, please contact the Church Business Manager.

Projects Completed and Missions supported during the first quarter of 2024.

- Purchase of a sprayer for Utility Vehicle
- Purchase of additional Bibles for Sanctuary
- Purchase of Rokus for Sunday School rooms
- Updated decor in Mother's room
- Replace old light fixtures with new energy efficient LED lights.
- Complete electrical work to split lights between Sanctuary and Saints Hall
- Received new Sanctuary Chairs
- Approved purchase of window washing equipment
- Missions supported – ABC Nebraska, Diaper Depot, Todd Becker, Our Daily Bread, Activate Global, Thailand Missionaries, & Royal Family Kids Camp

Searching for ways to
give electronically?

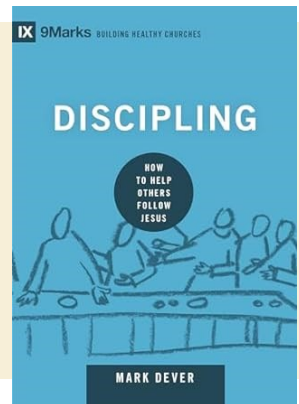
Click here!



Pastor Sean's Book Recommendation

Discipling by Mark Devers

Want to grow in your understanding of the word "discipleship" we use around the church all the time? This book is a great little introduction to how you can jump into using the gifts you have to influence people toward treasuring Jesus.





SPORTS CHALLENGE SPONSORSHIPS FOR BUSINESSES

Our summer *Sports Challenge* has become the largest summer VBS in the Kearney area and one of the largest missions of our church! The **2024 Sports Challenge** at Kearney First Baptist Church will take place July 15-19, 2024, and we will provide 500-700 elementary-aged children from the greater Kearney community with outdoor sports activities, lunches, and a daily gospel message of hope and salvation. This is 3000+ lunches!

Sports Challenge needs additional financial support as it grows. If you know a business or organization that would sponsor this event through monetary or food donation, please get a **sponsorship form** from the church office.

FBC Prison and Jail Ministry

Ministry to female inmates at Buffalo County Detention is such a blessing amid the hard. Currently at this writing there are 151 people incarcerated for various crimes. 83% (126) are male and 17% (25) are female. All have brokenness in their lives and need God in their lives. Joan E. Mickelsen and I co-lead a group of approximately 10 to 15 female inmates once a week in Bible study. Some of these women are surprised that we are willing to come in and give our time to minister to them. I always say, "Joan E and I are no different from you. We have had brokenness in our lives, and someone cared enough to share Jesus with us. We are one bad decision from joining you in this place. God can make all the difference in our lives, and we want you to have that same opportunity that we've had to ask Jesus for forgiveness and to come into your lives." Many of these women have children and grandchildren. By ministering to these women, we in turn can minister to their children. We have been blessed that several women have grabbed hold of our Lord and Savior, continue to hold on tight, have turned their lives around and are now serving their communities and helping others. We are thankful for the opportunity to be Christ's hands and feet, blessed to have Him working in and through us to reach those that are incarcerated. We not only bring the Gospel to these women, but we also teach accountability, helping them to find patterns in their daily living that are negatives that bring them down and patterns of positive behaviors that lift them up. By recognizing those patterns, they can focus on strengthening their strengths and positives and decreasing the negatives. We give them Scriptures to memorize, and we work with them on praying - talking with our Lord and listening to Him. We celebrate victories with them and sometimes cry with them. If any of you are interested in finding out how you can serve these women, please contact Kathy Adams at 308-440-2150.

In August 2023 Roger Anderson invited Troy Peterson to become a part of FBC's Prison and Jail Ministry, with Troy soon learning that Roger would be retiring from the ministry after many years of leading it. Troy has taken on the challenge to lead the two men's groups. "We pick a book in the Bible and go around the room, each reading a chapter, then it's open for discussion. Talk about real-life discipleship! I can't help to think if Jesus were on earth today would we find Him in jails and prisons talking to criminals and outcasts. "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but the sinners (Mark 2:17). I was in prison and you came to visit me... I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me." (Matthew 25:36, 40). Throughout the Bible we are reminded that Jesus identifies strongly with the weak, the helpless, and the outcast. He considers the way we treat them to be the way we treat Him. He wants us to identify with them as well, putting ourselves in their shoes and caring for them. Since I have volunteered for the Jail Ministry my faith has grown so much it's hard to put into words. We have to remember we are all equal." If you're interested in volunteering for the men's jail ministry, please reach out to Troy Peterson at 619-227-6155.



Hello First Baptist Friends! This is Ryan with the Navigators. The Navigators at UNK is a discipling ministry that exists to “Know Christ, Make Him Known, and Help Others do the Same”. We are so excited to partner with you in sharing the gospel, and discipling college students at UNK. I’d love to share with you a little bit more about who we are as a ministry, and how we hope to join you in seeing the great commission come to fruition at UNK.

Firstly, we hope to “Know Christ”. We seek to personally Know Christ in meaningful and deep ways. We don’t do “diet Jesus” but rather dig deep and solid foundations built on the Word of God, and prayer. We seek to spend daily time in the Word, pray for our needs, the needs of others, and in praise to Jesus, fellowship in community with other believers who will both encourage us, and spur us on to love and good deeds, and build patterns of sharing the gospel both with our words and actions. All of this being rooted in the gospel, and motivated by the love that Christ demonstrated to us in his life, death, and resurrection. A ministry is only as strong as the foundation it is built on, and we pray and strive to be a ministry rooted and built on Christ alone, and for the glory of Christ alone.

Secondly, we hope to “Make Christ Known”. Last words are really important, and Jesus’ last words to us were the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations”. As we personally know Christ, we, being motivated by the gospel, want to share the good news of Jesus with those around us. We seek to help students share Christ with friends in their classes, clubs, and workplaces. One example of this has been with Ben. Ben is a sophomore student at UNK. Ben, as a section leader in the marching band, met Bryce, a Freshman trombone player. Ben began to share his faith with Bryce, and invited Bryce to read the Bible with him. As the semester has progressed, Bryce has grown in his own hunger for God, has begun spending time in the Word on his own, and is now growing in his desire to help others walk with God!

Finally, we strive to “Help Others do the Same”. I often think about discipling as a chain. Each person represents one individual chain link. Jesus was the original chain link, and as he disciplined the 12, they became the second link. After Jesus left, the disciples began to add links to their chain. All of us are here, because individuals have faithfully “helped others do the same” for the last 2000 years. We are praying that students like Bryce will learn to entrust others with the gospel that was entrusted to them, ultimately keeping the chain growing.

That’s who we are. The Navigators at UNK are a team, committed to “Knowing Christ, Making Him Known, and Helping others do the Same”





PRESCHOOL YEAR END UPDATE

The preschool wants to thank all of you for your support. We appreciate all the prayers, volunteer hours and financial support. The attendance at our restaurant fundraisers has been amazing and the pie sales are many. The gift funding the purchase of bibles for each of the preschoolers at Christmas was a blessing!

The preschool was blessed to have full classes this year and has been able to license a second classroom. This gives us the ability to offer more spots for students in the upcoming year. With more students comes more staff. We have the pleasure of introducing Jamie Turner, Sarah Kulhanek and Claire Kostrunek as our paras for the next school year.

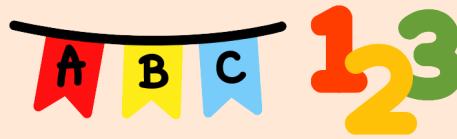
As we look toward the future, we would like to be able to offer scholarships to families in need. We have a small scholarship fund started but feel it would be prudent to have a fully funded line in the budget so that a scholarship program is something we can maintain long term. If this is something you are interested in helping with, we would love to chat with you.

The preschool has spots still available for the 2024-2025 school year. We have flyers and applications available if you know of anyone who would like more information or a tour.

Thank you for being a blessing!

Tricia Bishop

Preschool Director



ONE WEEK ONLY!

SPORTS CHALLENGE

1st-6th Grade

FREE!

9:00am-12:30pm

JULY 15-19

First Baptist Church

AMAZING PRIZES!!

PRE-REGISTER: 308-234-2311

Kearneyfb.org/kids

ONE WEEK ONLY!

May 2024 Celebrations



DATE	BIRTHDAY	ANNIVERSARY
May 1	Sandi Petersen, Carol Abramson, Teyah Jacobs, Chad Mefferd	
May 2	Jeff Smaha, Diane Hays, Elijah Bennett	
May 3	Rachel Bisbee, Kate Roehrich	Joe & Cheryl Cipov
May 4	Arlys Kleckner	Mike & Mary Skyler
May 5	Pam Murdoch, Letti Martin, Chandler Bush	Jim & Marilee Kulhanek Luke & Heather Estes
May 6	Jerry Hill, Milton "Bill" Wood	
May 7	Chandler Bush, Jalisa Keeney	
May 8	Isaiah Dunn	
May 9	Kipp Petersen	Tony & Cindy Castillo
May 10	Orin Clinger Zach Spracklen, Savannah Murdoch	
May 11	Christian Terzi	
May 12	Craig Fidler	
May 13	Maxwell Murdoch, James Dantzler	
May 14	Theresa Hemenway, Izek Cervantes	William & Julie Bolen
May 15	Kathryn LaVassaur	Brian & Holly Peterson
May 16	Larry Brown, Ethan Renner	
May 17	Elaine Siminoe, Benjamin Cretacci, Victoria du Preez, Jenna Moench	Drew & Sydney Wagner
May 18		
May 19		
May 20	Rob Gwin, Violet Sheen, Errol Adams, Jessie Watts, Noelle Terzi	
May 21	Connie Francis, Chinyere Obasi	John & Jessica LaVassaur
May 22	Kara Estes	
May 23	Tim Parsons	Annie & Jeremiah Littlejohn RJ & Marissa Perez Ryan & Ashlee Bauer
May 24	Luke Schmidt, Mike Skyler, Janice Woods, Clint Schneringer	
May 25		Elliott & Joy Kruger
May 26	Steeley Wagner	
May 27	Andrea Upson	
May 28	Maverick Gillming	
May 29	Amy Bettles, Janelle Myers	Roger & Pat Anderson
May 30	Keith McFarland, Jamison Cawley, Adalie Kruger	Kipp & Sandi Petersen Wade & Katherine Goodwin
May 31	Brett Gillming, Jack Borgmann	Andy & Amber Spracklen Matt & Kelsey Harsch

Card List

At Northridge

5410 17th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845
Loree Elliott #1r
Carl Gangwish #146
Richard & Arlys Kleckner #41
Lula Cepel #341

At Autumn Village

1712 E 39th St
Kearney, NE 68847
Marvin Ebinger #4
Rose Hullinger #14
Beryl Topps #6

At Wel-Life

5616 4th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845
Jeanne Chamberlin #110

At Mother Hull

125 E 23rd St
Kearney NE 68847
Shirley Rosenthal #20

At Prairie View Gardens

1705 Prairie View Place
Kearney NE 68845
Wanda Skov #405
Joyce Artrup

At Cambridge Court

4107 Central Ave
Kearney NE 68847
Linda Salter, #116

At Mount Carmel

412 W 18th St
Kearney, NE 68845
Gary Hansen #114

Steve Salter
1004 W 11th F 18
Kearney, NE 68845

At St. John's

3410 Central Ave
Kearney, NE 68847
George Bundy N 7
Gary Wuehler N 15
Charlie Mefferd N12

At Brookstone Gardens

2615 W 11th St
Kearney, NE 68845
Marvin Gillming Apt. 414
Norman Hicken Apt 404 (for rehab)

At Country House

Country House
Attn: Eulah Gangwish
5605 K Ave. (Room number not needed)
Kearney, NE 68847

At Kearney Manor

2715 Ave I
Kearney, NE 68847
Carol Abramson, #12

Mrs. Faith Kamm
2309 W 42nd Street
Kearney, NE 68845

Jeanette Evan
1415 E 34th St
Kearney, NE 68847

Elaine Siminoe
c/o Cindy Lauby
42780 Rd 756
Lexington, NE 68850
(At Elwood Care Home for visits)

Lloyd Mead & Doris Van Vleet
4429 P Ave
Kearney, NE 68847



Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast will be May 18th at 7:30am in the Multi-purpose Room!

Questions? Contact William Bolen at 308-627-5915

Violet Sheen
2701 Grand Ave Trailer 110
Kearney, NE 68847

Keith & Mary Lou McFarland
44086 Rd 768
Sumner, NE 68878

Jerry & Julie Stall
2665 E 95th St
Kearney, NE 68847

Pat Hird
2005 7th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845

Carol Baetz
2715 Ave I Apt 81
Kearney, NE 68847

Darrell Gregg, Echo #308
Central Nebraska Veterans Home
4510 East 56th Street
Kearney, Nebraska 68847

Alex Gangwish
600 E Landon St
Kearney, NE 68847

Roger & Pat Anderson
515 W 1st St



**"Carry each other's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill
the law of Christ."**



Save The Date

Our church will be celebrating its 150th birthday in 2024. Please mark October 18-20, 2024 on your calendars! There are many plans to celebrate in the works. You will not want to miss out!

May 2024

May 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 28	29	30	May 1 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Children's Ministry	2 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	3 12:00pm Godly Men in the Workplace (Valentino's)	4
5 Communion Sunday 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Embrace Grace 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	6 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	7 7:00pm Praise Team	8 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Children's Ministry	9 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	10 6:00pm SS Game Night (Rm 136)	11
12 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Embrace Grace 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	13 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	14 Primary Voting (East Lobby) 2:00pm Rebekah Anna Circle 7:00pm Praise Team	15 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Children's Ministry	16 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	17	18 7:30am Men's Breakfast
19 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Embrace Grace 2:00pm Growth Group 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	20 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	21 7:00pm Praise Team	22 10:00am Ruth Circle 1:00pm Dorcas/Tabitha Circle 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Children's	23 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	24	25 10:00am Diaper Depot
26 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Embrace Grace 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	27 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	28 7:00pm Praise Team	29 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Children's Ministry	30 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	31	Jun 1

Did you know...

The calendar is also available to view on the church website? <https://kearneyfb.org/calendar/>

Kearney First Baptist
3610 6th Avenue
Kearney, NE 68845

Phone: 308-234-2311

E-mail:
contact@kearneyfb.org

SCAN FOR GUEST INFO



KEARNEY
FIRST BAPTIST



KFBC Staff

Sean Dougherty, Senior Pastor
sdougherty@kearneyfb.org

Mark de Kluyver, Assoc. Pastor
mdekluyver@kearneyfb.org

Lori Reed, Office Manager
Lreed@kearneyfb.org

Mark Liljehorn, Worship Director
mliljehorn@kearneyfb.org

Scott Peace, Children's Ministry Director
speace@kearneyfb.org

Jennifer Liljehorn, Business Manager
jliljehorn@kearneyfb.org

Doug Samuelson, Facility Manager
dsamuelson@kearneyfb.org

Have an hour to give each week to help with landscaping the church grounds?

Please reach out to Stan Esslinger at 308-991-4632 if you can help!

