

# First Forum

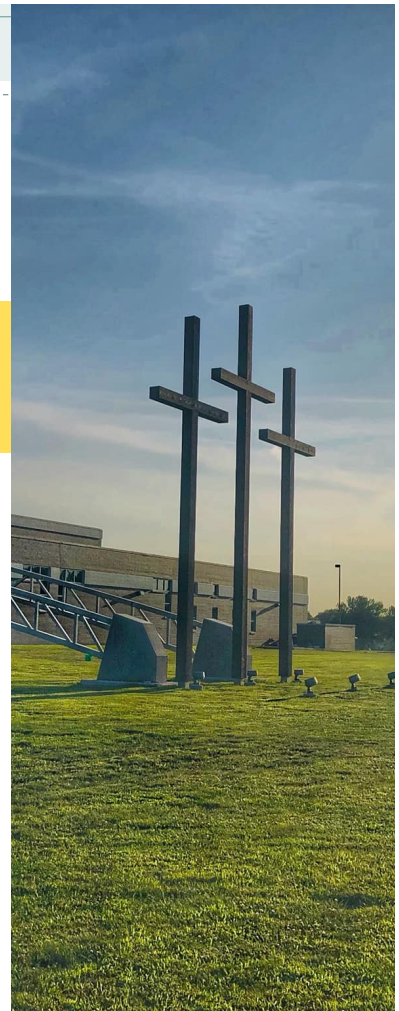


What a full month May is! Planting, Mother's Day, graduations, summer sports ramping up, school ending, vacations beginning – it can be easy to lose track of God's good and perfect will when the schedule hits overdrive. As we move into our Summer season, we will be continuing through the book of Luke. July will feature Dwell and Delight, Sports Challenge, and baptisms at Yanney Park. Groups will be encouraged to continue to meet in fulfillment of Acts 2:42 activities, trying to encourage one another through prayer and Scripture to live out sacrificial love for the Lord. Each of these events and teaching opportunities are meant to continue to provide opportunities to grow in relationship with God and one another.

Prior to those events, though, Mallory and I lead a group through Greece in a Journeys of Paul tour in the last week of May. We will land in Thessaloniki on May 25th and return to Denver on May 31st, having traveled from North to South through the locations that Paul brought the gospel from Acts 16-18. We will be studying the books of 1 and 2 Corinthians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, and Philippians as we walk those paths. We will attempt to learn about being "Bereans" that were applauded by Paul for their desire to examine news by going to the Scriptures. I am looking forward to us considering the passage like Philippians 1:21 – "to live is Christ and to die is gain" – as we talk through the reality of living lives in such a way that others are drawn toward the holy goodness of God.

I ask that you would pray for the group as it travels. Every journey taken by groups of believers is an opportunity for relationships to deepen, joy to grow and encouragement to take place. If you would like to see pictures of our journeys, we will be updating the Facebook page (as WiFi allows) during that week.

*~ Pastor Sean*



## RENTALS & RESERVATIONS

If you would like to reserve or rent a ROOM in the church (for Bible studies, events, weddings, etc.) or rent the gym, please contact the church office at (308)234-2311 or [LReed@kearneyfb.org](mailto:LReed@kearneyfb.org). New rental forms will be required for ALL reservations (including in house) in 2025. These forms are available at <https://kearneyfb.org/room-reservations/> or through the church office. Please **NOTE** the facility use reservations are visible on the calendar via the church website. *Please double check your reservations on that calendar.*

## NOTES FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The first quarter of 2025 is now behind us, and God continues to bless First Baptist in so many ways — from the excellent teaching of God's Word, to new members joining the fellowship, and continued financial support that allows the ministry of the church to thrive.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, giving has been below expectations in early 2025. However, we saw encouraging improvement in March, with increased giving totaling \$120,346. This brought total giving for the first quarter to \$296,898 — or 25% of the \$1,192,788 giving goal for 2025. It's worth noting that the first-quarter goal was \$333,632, which represents 28% of the total annual budget.

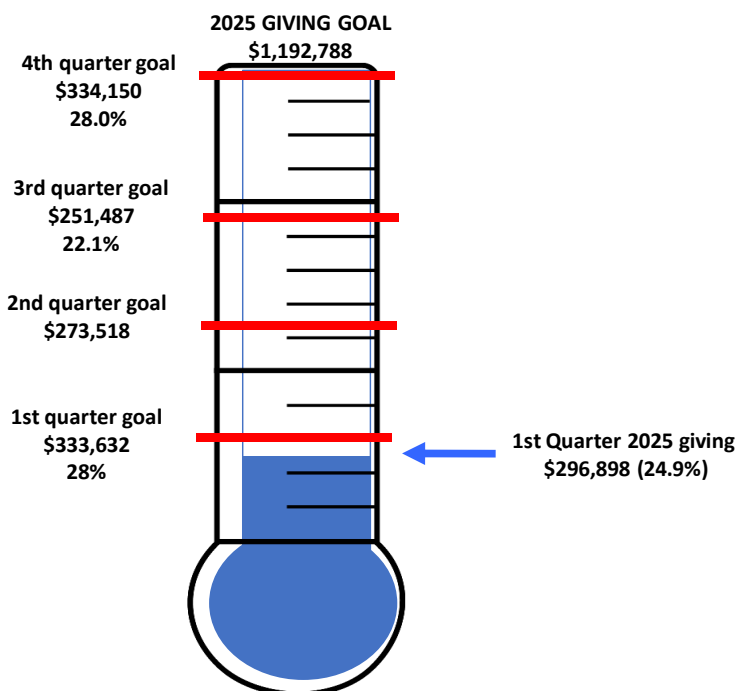
When you review the attached giving thermometer, you'll see that historically, 28% of annual giving is received in the first quarter, and another 28% typically comes in during the fourth quarter. The second and third quarters each account for approximately 22% of the annual budget. In order to meet our 2025 giving goal, we will need consistent giving throughout the remaining three quarters.

First Baptist's overall income from all sources for the first quarter was \$309,000, while overall operating expenses totaled \$359,199. This resulted in a shortfall of \$50,000 for the quarter. It's important to note that \$40,000 of this shortfall was due to HVAC system updates approved by the Trustees in late 2024. Operating expenses were right in line with projections, accounting for 25% of the annual budgeted expenses.

First Baptist's overall cash position remains strong, with \$128,000 in checking, \$411,000 in the money market account, and \$425,000 in CDs — for a total of \$965,000 in cash on hand.

Finally, the Trustees continue to need your prayers as they make important and often difficult decisions about expenditures and requests that impact the future of First Baptist. Scripture reminds us of the importance of prayer. Philippians 4:6 says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (ESV)

As always, we are deeply thankful for those who faithfully give to First Baptist. Without your generosity, the ministry of First Baptist would not be possible.





# SPORTS CHALLENGE

1st-6th Grade

9:00am-12:30pm

**JULY 14-18**  
**First Baptist Church**

**AMAZING PRIZES!!**

**FREE!**

## 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 **2025 Sports Challenge** at Kearney First Baptist Church will take place July 14-18, 2025, 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.

### Diaper Depot

This month's Diaper Depot will be held  
Saturday, May 24th from 10am to noon  
in the East Lobby.

For more information, or to make a  
donation, please contact Pam Hill at  
308-627-5720.



# Mission Spotlight:



Embrace Grace exists to help inspire and equip the church to love and encourage single and pregnant young women and their families. Women experiencing unexpected pregnancies receive practical, spiritual, and emotional support through our global support groups.

Through our message of love, we are helping women see that they can have their baby and their dreams too! Being pro-life is a stance, a belief system, a vote. And it's important. But being pro-love is an action, the boots on the ground, the hands and feet of Jesus, the church. Together, we can make abortion unthinkable.

The dream of Embrace Grace is for every young woman who experiences an unplanned pregnancy to have a safe church to turn to for healing, hope and help in her local area.

How can you help?

You can donate, either financially or through items needed, to our local Embrace Grace group.

If you would like to volunteer, you can contact our local group for more information.

And if you know an expectant mother who might be helped by Embrace Grace, please share this information with her.

Contact Sydney Wagner, Embrace Grace at Kearney First Baptist Leader  
308-746-3333 or [swagner\\_21@outlook.com](mailto:swagner_21@outlook.com) for more information.







# SPORTS CHALLENGE

1st-6th Grade

9:00am-12:30pm

**JULY 14-18**  
First Baptist Church



**FREE!**

**PRE-REGISTER:** 308-234-2311  
[Kearneyfb.org/kids](http://Kearneyfb.org/kids)

## TONS OF PRIZES!

Electric Scooters

Nerf Guns

NFL, NBA, MLB &  
Pro Soccer Jerseys

Footballs, Basketballs,  
Soccer balls

Pro Sports Hats

Gel Ball Blasters

Sports Posters

Large Stuffed Animals

Sports Action Figures

1000's of Sports Cards  
Hundreds of pounds  
of candy!!!



**AWESOME ACTIVITIES!**

**AND SO MUCH MORE!**

# May 2025

## Celebrations



### Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast will be May 17th at 7:30am in the Multi-purpose Room!

Questions? Contact William Bolen at 308-627-5915

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, Lynda Francis	
May 7	Jalisa Keeney	
May 8	Isaiah Dunn	
May 9	Kipp Petersen, Tristen Evans	Tony & Cindy Castillo
May 10	Orin Clinger Zach Spracklen, Savannah Murdoch	
May 11	Christian Terzi, Anna Rodehorst	
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, Tim & Heidi Farrell
May 16	Larry Brown	
May 17	Elaine Siminoe, Benjamin Cretacci, Victoria du Preez, Jenna Moench	Drew & Sydney Wagner. Brandon & Betty Jacques
May 18		
May 19		
May 20	Rob Gwin, Errol Adams, Jessie Watts, Noelle Terzi	
May 21	Connie Francis, Chinyere Obasi, Troy Trelka	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, Benjamin Keene, Kayla Lackore	
May 25		Elliott & Joy Kruger
May 26	Steeley Wagner, Betty Jacques, Olukenle Amoo	
May 27	Andrea Upson	
May 28	Maverick Gillming	Heath & Addison Perez
May 29	Amy Bettles, Janelle Myers	Roger & Pat Anderson
May 30	Jamison Cawley, Adalie Kruger	Kipp & Sandi Petersen Wade & Katherine Goodwin
May 31	Brett Gillming, Jack Borgmann, Nathan Evans	Andy & Amber Spracklen Matt & Kelsey Harsch



## Card List



### At Northridge

5410 17<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Loree Elliott #15  
Carl Gangwish #146  
Lula Cepel #341  
Alex Gangwish, #226  
Jo Wright, #245

### At Autumn Village

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

### At Wel-Life

5616 4<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Jeanne Chamberlin #110

### At Mother Hull

125 E 23<sup>rd</sup> St  
Kearney NE 68847  
Shirley Rosenthal #20

### At Cambridge Court

4107 Central Ave  
Kearney NE 68847  
Linda Salter, #116

### At Mount Carmel

412 W 18<sup>th</sup> St  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Gary Hansen #114

### At St. John's

3410 Central Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847  
George Bundy E 15  
Gary Wuehler S 8

### At Brookstone Gardens

2615 W 11<sup>th</sup> St  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Marvin Gilling Apt. 414  
Norman Hicken Apt 404

### 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  
Carol Baetz, #81  
Charley Hoff, #28

Mrs. Faith Kamm  
2309 W 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Kearney, NE 68845

Jeanette Evan  
1415 E 34<sup>th</sup> St  
Kearney, NE 68847

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

Richard & Arlys Kleckner  
44770 Highway 40  
Sumner, NE 68878

Charlie Mefferd  
Central NE Veteran's Home  
Bravo 3 Room B304  
4510 E 56<sup>th</sup> St  
Kearney, NE 68847

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

Mary Lou McFarland  
44086 Rd 768  
Sumner, NE 68878

Jerry & Julie Stall  
2665 E 95<sup>th</sup> St  
Kearney, NE 68847

Pat Hird  
2005 7<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845

Quidon Brown  
1909 W 38<sup>th</sup> St, #4  
Kearney, NE 68845

Roger & Pat Anderson  
515 W 1<sup>st</sup> St  
Minden, NE 68959

Melanie Morrison  
Heritage at Sagewood  
Room 236  
1920 Sagewood Ave  
Grand Island, NE 68803

Ron Mason  
Seneca Sunrise  
710 Grand Ave #116  
Ravenna, NE 68869

Doug DeNeui  
Nebraska Veterans Home  
4510 E 56<sup>th</sup> St.  
Foxtrot 2 Rm 215  
Kearney, NE 68847

Caring



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



# May 2025

May 2025							June 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 27	28	29	30	May 1	2	3
				9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	6:00am Men's Basketball 12:00pm Godly Men in the Workplace (Valentino's)	9:00am Foster Care Closet (Gym)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion Sunday 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	9:30am PRAYER GROUP	7:00pm Praise Team	6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Kearney Kids 6:30pm Women's Bible 8:00pm Men's Group	9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 11:30am Blood Drive (Community Room)	6:00am Men's Basketball	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	9:30am PRAYER GROUP	7:00pm Praise Team	6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Kearney Kids 6:30pm Women's Bible 8:00pm Men's Group	9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	6:00am Men's Basketball	7:30am Men's Breakfast
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	9:30am PRAYER GROUP	7:00pm Praise Team	6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Kearney Kids 6:30pm Women's Bible 8:00pm Men's Group	9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	6:00am Men's Basketball	10:00am Diaper Depot
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	Office Closed 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	7:00pm Praise Team	9:30am Ruth Circle 1:00pm Dorcas/Tabitha 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Kearney Kids	9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	6:00am Men's Basketball	

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](mailto:contact@kearneyfb.org)

SCAN FOR GUEST INFO



**KEARNEY**  
FIRST BAPTIST



## KFBC Staff

Sean Dougherty, Senior Pastor  
[sdougherty@kearneyfb.org](mailto:sdougherty@kearneyfb.org)

Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor  
[jpurdy@kearneyfb.org](mailto:jpurdy@kearneyfb.org)

Lori Reed, Office Manager  
[Lreed@kearneyfb.org](mailto:Lreed@kearneyfb.org)

Jennifer Liljehorn, Business Manager  
[jliljehorn@kearneyfb.org](mailto:jliljehorn@kearneyfb.org)

Mark de Kluver, Assoc. Pastor  
[mdekluver@kearneyfb.org](mailto:mdekluver@kearneyfb.org)

Scott Peace, Children's Ministry Director  
[speace@kearneyfb.org](mailto:speace@kearneyfb.org)

Doug Samuelson, Custodial Manager  
[dsamuelson@kearneyfb.org](mailto:dsamuelson@kearneyfb.org)

Chuck Kreis  
Facility Maintenance Manager  
[ckreis@kearneyfb.org](mailto:ckreis@kearneyfb.org)