



Teaching



KEARNEY  
FIRST  
BAPTIST



May 2026

Volume 4, Issue 5

# First Forum

“How do I get involved in a ministry?” “What ministries are available?” “I don’t have time to be involved in a ministry.” “I don’t know enough about the Bible to be in any type of ministry.” “I don’t like working with other people.” “I don’t like working alone.”

Ministry is simple. ministry is complex. I spent some time before writing this and spoke with several people. I spoke with the group that I play pickleball with at the church. I asked them what ministries they are involved with. They had some great answers. Then without realizing it our conversation became ministry. We started talking about how the morning pickleball group had become an important part of becoming more involved with the church. We would love for anyone to come by and be a part of that group and it’s not my place to tell other people’s stories. I can talk about mine though. At first pickleball was a reminder of how out of shape I was/am. But two things happened. The group was inviting and I remembered I am competitive. Because of those two things I started playing on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Because of those two things I have been blessed to meet people from all walks of life. Because of that group I am able to further my relationship with God. That is ministry.

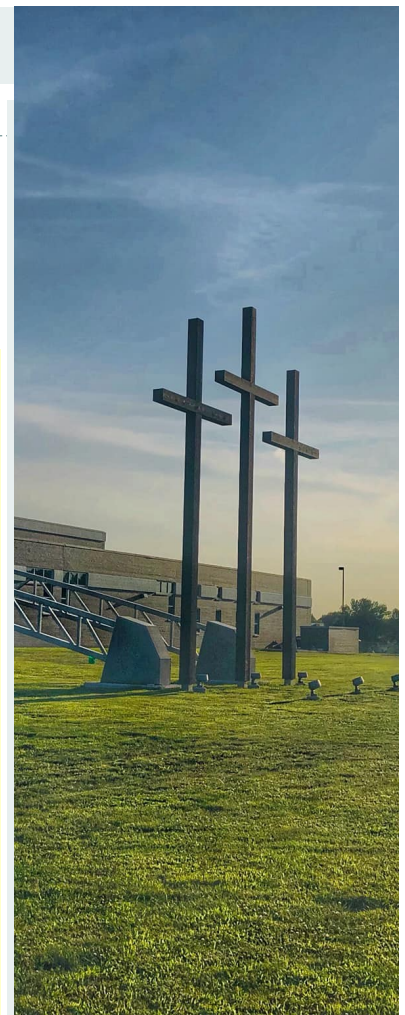
Will ministry be easy? Maybe. Sometimes yes, sometimes no. What ministry will be is an opportunity to grow. An opportunity to learn. An opportunity to help. If you think about all the times in life you have grown, learned and helped you will have the answer to whether ministry is easy. When you reflect on that, you will also see that ministry is rewarding. The reward of growing closer to God is amazing.

I have reasons or excuses about why I don’t help with some ministries. I am not the right person for all ministries. Like anyone reading this, I have skills or talents that naturally point me to certain ministries. I have a lack of skills or talents that make me perfect for some ministries. For example, If I am ever leading a group in song we are in desperate times. I can however help the worship team move things on the stage or help them setup to sing elsewhere. Likewise, others will admit they don’t do well teaching children. They can however help make a meal or fill water cups. All of this is ministry. I had a guy tell me one time that he longer has the ability to lift items and help people move but he does own a truck and can haul items from point A to point B. That is ministry.

What is ministry? It is Kearney Kids Go, making blankets for shut ins, Chariots for Hope, Partners with Christ Sunday School Class, Coordinating Weddings, Cooking meals, Growth Groups, Bible School, Truth Seekers, Social Committee, Ruth Circle, Care Ministry, Meal Deliveries, Planning and Serving Meals, Lumineers, Ushering, Participating in a sport with two or more people, Teaching Sunday School, Choir, Teaching Youth Group, Preaching, Hospital Visits, Counseling, Presiding over Weddings and Funerals, Prayer Groups, Administration or Organization, Activate Global, Serving Communion, Baptizing, Helping in the Nursery, church Camps, Small Groups, The Deep End, Being a Father Mother a Friend, Mentoring others, Helping Extended Family Members, Prison/Jail ministry, Helping with preschool, Faith Singers, Senior Adult Ice Cream Social, Diaper Depot, Embrace Grace, Care ministries, Operation Christmas Child, Camp Moses Merrill, Collage, Jubilee Center, Perspectives, Oaks International, Royal Family Kids Camp, Salvation Army, Todd Becker Foundation, Help Care Clinic, Lana Coffee, Rainbow Acres and Hope for the Poor.

If all the above seems overwhelming and you’re not sure where to start, just contact any staff member. We would love to just have a conversation with you.

~ *Brandon Jacques, Children’s Director*



## 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

### May Finance Committee Update:

Greetings from the Finance Committee. The first quarter wrapped up in March. As you may have heard at the Congregational meeting we are a bit short of our Goal giving for the first quarter by approximately 70 thousand dollars. However, we did have some reduced expenses and finished only -9,000 in total after all income and expenses were accounted for. We have set some lofty goals for the general budget this year and with Faith Christian unable to launch a high school it set us back on some planned income. The trustees are working to adjust building projects and maintenance issues to reduce some of our costs and we remain faithful that God has us right where he needs us. He has always provided!!! (1st capital campaign, 2nd capital campaign, COVID, Staff Expansion, Etc.) I humbly ask that you continue to pray for the trustees and finance committee as we work to steward your gifts well. If you feel lead to increase your giving or give an extra one time gift we always appreciate your generosity. Thank you for being a church that serves together, gives together, prays together, works together; all for the Glory of God to make disciples. As long as we keep the main thing the main thing I personally believe that God will meet us in our needs and show us His generosity through you!

### Capital Campaign Update:

Construction! Construction! Construction! The project continues and is on track for a mid to late May finish date. In April we had the prayer shower and painting days which went very well. Thank you to all those investing in the space through prayer as well as those who volunteered to prime and paint. As of April 20th we have received \$1,204,766.74 of the 2.1 million dollars pledged. Just as a reminder the finance committee and trustees remain committed to splitting campaign funds as close to 50/50 (project and debt reduction) as possible. Now that we have more than the total project price we will be making principle payments to the bank after construction wraps up.

2025 Capital Campaign Update

« Mortgage Reduction »  
« Chapel & Restroom Buildout »

**TOTAL PLEDGED**  
\$2,156,489.62

**TOTAL RECEIVED**  
\$1,204,766.74

\*Funds will be collected thru May 2027.

Hebrews 12:1-2  
**FAITHFULLY FORWARD**  
Thank you for your faithful support!

As always the finance committee appreciates your continued financial support as well as your prayers that construction will progress smoothly and safely. Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord turn his face toward you, and give you his peace."



Searching for ways to give electronically?

Scan here!

A graphic showing two QR codes side-by-side. The left one is blue and labeled "venmo". The right one is green. A red double-headed arrow points between them.

# **Kids Express**



**July 13 -17**  
**9am - 12:30pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Lunch Provided**  
**Kearney First Baptist Church**  
**Register at [kearneyfb.org/kids](http://kearneyfb.org/kids)**



Missions



## Diaper Depot

This month's Diaper Depot will be held Saturday, May 23rd from 10am to noon in the East Lobby.

For more information, or to make a donation, please contact Tonya Cretacci at 308-224-4090.

## YOUTH GROUP SUMMER SCHEDULE

5/6 - Last night of youth group for the school year

5/27 - Guys & Girls Fun Night

6/3 - Summer YG Begins 6-12th grade combined, 6-8pm.

(Supper will be provided the 1st Wednesday of each month. Snacks will be provided on the other Wednesdays)

**Calling All Volunteers!**

**Kids Express**

**July 13 -17**  
**9am - 12:30pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Lunch Provided**  
**Kearney First Baptist Church**  
**Register at [kearneyfb.org/kids](http://kearneyfb.org/kids)**

Our volunteers will be essential to making our upcoming Kids Express week a great success! If you've attended APRM training and had your background check completed, expect to receive a letter asking you to volunteer for Kids Express week. We'd love your help! Haven't attended APRM yet and would like to volunteer? Plan to attend training either June 10th or June 28th! Questions? Reach out to Brandon Jacques, Children's Director!



Caring



# SENIOR SUNDAY

*Class of 2026*  
*Recognition*

**SUNDAY, MAY 10TH**

**PARENTS, BE SURE & GET YOUR INFO TO PASTOR JASON  
NO LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR RECOGNITION.  
JPURDY@KEARNEYFB.ORG**

## Faith Singers Update

Sharing the love of Jesus and music with folks in the Kearney community, Faith Singers did fourteen visits at Nursing Homes/Assisted Living Homes this school year, and sang/played bells for Children’s Church and Wednesday Night Kearney Kids GO! The group is open to children in 2nd-5th grade, with rehearsals on Wednesday evenings 5:45-6:15, in the Children’s Wing. We schedule our music programs on Wednesdays, once or twice a month at 5:45 pm. This year we also did a Sunday afternoon “Christmas Tour” and a “Spring Tour”. We sing fun kids Christian songs to start the program, then play handbells and sing old hymns, inviting the residents to sing along. We have had a wonderful year, and are so thankful for these kids that love to sing, play handbells and share their love for Jesus and for their parents, who transport them to the various places we sing.

We will start our rehearsals for the coming 2026-2027 school year on Wednesday, September 9th. We do not have rehearsals or programs on KPS school days off. If your child(ren) are interested in being in this group, please feel free to reach out to Karen Decker or Debbie Bedke, the co-directors.



# May 2026 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	Arllys 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, Ethan Renner	
May 17	Elaine Siminoe, Benjamin Cretacci, Victoria du Preez, Jenna Moench	Drew & Sydney Wagner, Brandon & Betty Jacques
May 18		
May 19	Heidi Farrell	
May 20	Rob Gwin, Violet Sheen, Errol Adams, Jessie Watts, Noelle Terzi	
May 21	Connie Wiens, 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, Nathan Evans	Andy & Amber Spracklen Matt & Kelsey Harsch



### Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast will be May 16th at 7:30am in the Multi-purpose Room!

Questions? Contact William Bolen at 308-627-5915



**“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”**

**Galatians 6:2**

## Card List

### At Northridge

5410 17<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Carl Gangwish #146  
Lula Cepel #11  
Alex Gangwish, #22  
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 Prairie View Gardens

1705 Prairie View Place  
Kearney, NE, 68845  
Jeanne Chamberlin #211

### 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

### At Brookstone Gardens

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

### At Kearney Manor

2715 Ave I  
Kearney, NE 68847  
Carol Abramson, #12  
Carol Baetz, #81  
Charlcy Hoff, #28

### At Homestead

4205 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845  
Ron Mason, #26

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

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

Richard & Arlys Kleckner  
(Mailing address only,  
Contact office for visitation info)  
44770 Highway 40  
Sumner, NE 68878

Marvin Gillming  
c/o Jerry Gillming  
1711 Eastbrooke Dr  
Kearney NE 68847

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

Ron and Pam Miller  
302 E 32<sup>nd</sup>  
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

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

Andy & Julie Compton  
1421 Ave E  
Kearney, NE 68847

Sam & Merrilee Thomas  
5095 Long Island Rd  
Kearney, NE 68845

Caring



### Sunday School Classes & Growth/Small Groups:

Would your group like to adopt several of our shut ins as a card ministry? If your group is up for sending cards to several of our shut ins each month, please reach out to the church office and let us know. Help bring cheer into their days in this small way! [LReed@kearneyfb.org](mailto:LReed@kearneyfb.org)

# May 2026

May 2026							June 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
31													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 26	27	28	29	30	May 1 6:00am Men's Basketball 12:00pm Godly Men in the Workplace (Pizza Ranch)	2
3 Communion Sunday 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	4 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	5 7:00pm Praise Team	6 5:45pm Faith Singers 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Kearney Kids	7 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 12:00pm 2026 Community	8 6:00am Men's Basketball	9
10 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	11 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	12 7:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Preschool Graduation	13 5:45pm Faith Singers 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kearney Kids 8:00pm Men's Group	14 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 11:00am Blood Drive	15 6:00am Men's Basketball 6:00pm Kids Night Out	16 7:30am Men's Breakfast
17 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	18 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	19 7:00pm Praise Team	20 5:45pm Faith Singers 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kearney Kids 8:00pm Men's Group	21 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	22 6:00am Men's Basketball	23 10:00am Diaper Depot
24 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	25 9:30am PRAYER GROUP	26 7:00pm Praise Team	27 9:30am Ruth Circle 1:00pm Dorcas/Tabitha 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kearney Kids	28 9:30am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	29 6:00am Men's Basketball	30
31 8:30am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Radio Broadcast	Jun 1	2	3	4	5	6


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 Kluver, Assoc. Pastor  
mdekluver@kearneyfb.org

Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor  
jpurdy@kearneyfb.org

Brandon Jacques, Children's Director  
bjacques@kearneyfb.org

Lori Reed, Office Manager  
Lreed@kearneyfb.org

Jennifer Liljehorn, Business Manager  
jliljehorn@kearneyfb.org

Doug Samuelson, Custodial Manager  
dsamuelson@kearneyfb.org

Chuck Kreis  
Facility Maintenance Manager  
ckreis@kearneyfb.org

Dustin Turner, Worship Leader  
dturner@kearneyfb.org

Leola Hill, Youth Intern  
Lhill@kearneyfb.org