



HOME VISITOR NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020

First Baptist Church
100 McDonald Rd
North Platte, NE 69101
Worship Hours
Sunday School-9 a.m.
Worship-10:15 a.m.



Office Hours
M-Th-8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday-Closed
308-532-6772
cwalker@fbcnorthplatte.org
www.fbc@northplatte.org

Right where we Are

It is sad to say, but the church world imitates the business world in many unhealthy ways. Churches try to sell themselves. They try to compete for market share. They try and steal from other churches for consumers of what they have to offer. I even know of a couple of small churches that were subject to an attempted hostile takeover by a mega-church seeking to add a site and expand its territory. While this may be successful in building human kingdoms, it does very little to build God's kingdom.

Sometimes we get discouraged as a congregation. We compare ourselves to a church down the road, or across the state, or across the country that has more people in attendance, more technological bells and whistles in worship, and have pastors that can pull off wearing skinny jeans that look like leggings and have enough hair that it requires hair-styling (sorry folks).

The truth is, smaller churches can be effective churches for the kingdom of God. We don't need to compare our congregation with the congregation down the road or across the country. We have a lot that we can uniquely offer people as a congregation of about 100 people. Study after study will show you that a congregation our size can have very effective ministry if we choose to embrace who we are, and be responsive to the opportunities for ministry that are set before us by the Holy Spirit.

Let me share a few ways smaller congregations, like ours, are uniquely equipped by God to do his work in their communities and the world:

1. Smaller churches can offer individual care and attention to each individual and family that walks through their doors in a way that larger churches can often miss or neglect.
2. Smaller churches, according to Outreach Magazine, are best equipped to bring more people to faith in Christ that larger congregations on a per capita basis
3. Smaller churches can allow individuals to be contributors in leadership, ministry, and service on a broader basis than larger churches can, helping people to grow as disciples in unique ways.
4. Smaller churches can be more intergenerationally bonded. Through intentionally building connections across ages, bonds can form that create a familial ethos. In is no accident that Paul used language of siblings for the people of God throughout the New Testament.

Now, in each of these examples, you read the phrase “smaller churches can...”. This means what it says. These are opportunities smaller churches have, but not all small churches seize these opportunities. It is for this reason we need to focus on being a healthy church that grows in Christlikeness. By choosing to stay close to our missional calling, by striving to grow in our faith, and by being responsive to the leading of the Spirit we can be a healthy thriving church in the next decade. We can find our niche in North Platte, and set a new, healthy, faithful course for the next decade of our life together.

God Bless,

Pastor Clint Walker

ABW NEWS



The afternoon ABW has a desire to serve when the Lord presents an opportunity. A care box has been sent to the Kodiak Baptist Mission of Kodiak, Alaska. The Kodiak Mission uses these items to meet the needs of their community.

Some of the items provided are:

- Children’s quilts
- Scarves
- Mittens/gloves
- Dish towels
- Pot holders
- Aprons
- Baby booties
- Crocheted baby blankets

What a caring and generous community project!



The following appreciative note was sent to the afternoon ABW group after Kodiak Baptist Mission received their care box!! What a great opportunity to cultivate the fruits of the Spirit.

Dear First Baptist North Platte,

Thank you so much for your generosity and thoughtfulness. We appreciate your donation of beautiful aprons, quilts and the variety of other gifts. Thank you for thinking of us and praying for us.

May God Bless you and keep you always,
Kodiak Baptist Mission Staff.



The Afternoon ABW hosted a Salad Luncheon on December 19th and sang Christmas carols. Music to our ears!



Wednesday, December 11th, Discover Kids had their Christmas Party! Games, food and fun!!



January Office Hours

January 1st-Office closed for the holiday

January 13-17-Pastor Clint will be out of the office traveling to Northwestern University in Chicago.

Pray for a safe journey for our Pastor



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Deacon Meeting-Monday, January 13th at 7 p.m.

Executive Board-Tuesday, January 21 at 7 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting & Potluck-Sunday, January 26-After the service-Please bring your favorite dish to share.

Wednesday Suppers will start back up on Wednesday, January 8th.

2019 Living Christmas Tree Moments



Living Christmas Tree Adult and Children's choir.



The Living Christmas Tree Brass!



Linda Logsdon-Musical Director



Pastor Clint giving opening remarks with his cell phone??

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

December has been a very busy month for our church family. Bill and Sharron Henry coordinated our Bell-ringing Saturday at Bomgaars. Gratefully, we got to stand inside to ring on that windy day. Thank you to all of the persons who rang the bells! Jerrilyn and Dave Crankshaw headed the team of elves that provided food and/or presents for some of our own church family and several families which we adopted from the Salvation Army. Thank you to all of you who helped on the project and for your generosity in providing what was needed. The Living Christmas Tree involved nearly all of us at some point. A huge thank you goes to Linda Logsdon, our director, Brittany McDaniel, the script writer, and Todd Turner, the coordinator of lights, sound and stage. Thank you also to the adult and children's choirs, the drama team, the prelude musicians, the technical team, the church staff, the ticket handlers, the set-up and take-down crews, the ushers, the nursery providers, the reception workers, the drama team, and the cookie bakers. Over 600 people were blessed by the presentation and we received many words of thanks and appreciation from some of those who attended each evening. To God be the glory for all that has been done in His name this Advent season!

Margene Phares

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Office Closed 	7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 8 a.m. Men's B-fast 9 a.m. Ladies B-fast 1 p.m. Mission Quilting 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	OFFICE CLOSED	
5 Communion Sunday 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Epicenter	6	7 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	8 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study 3:45 p.m. Discover Kids 5:30 Wed Supper	9 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 8 a.m. Men's B-fast 1 p.m. Mission Quilting 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 10 a.m. Girl Scouts
12 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Epicenter	13 7 p.m. Deacon Meeting	14 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	15 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study 3:45 p.m. Discover Kids 5:30 p.m. Wed Supper	16 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 8 a.m. Men's B-fast 1 p.m. ABW 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
Pastor Clint will be out of the office on January 13-17, 2020						
19 8:30 a.m. Welcome Coffee 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 Worship 3 p.m. Centennial 6:30 p.m. Epicenter	20	21 7 p.m. Executive Board 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	22 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study 3:45 Discover Kids 5:30 p.m. Wed Supper	23 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 8 a.m. Men's B-fast 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship <u>After Service</u> <u>Potluck/Annual Business Meeting</u> 6:30 p.m. Epicenter	27	28 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	29 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study 3:45 p.m. Discover Kids 5:30 p.m. Wed Supper	30 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 8 a.m. Men's B-fast 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	31 OFFICE CLOSED	