



The Baptist Bulletin

June 2022

Playing for the Team

We live in a world in which greatness is considered the ideal. I grew up wanting to be a professional baseball player. Ken Griffey Jr. of the Seattle Mariners was my favorite player. He played center field and made so many amazing catches. He has one of the purest swings ever in the game of baseball. I spent so much time in the yard swinging as imaginary pitchers threw 100 mile per hour fastballs for me to crush into deep center field just like Ken Griffey Jr. I would also run up to my fence and throw a ball in the air to catch just as it was ready to leave the yard. I don't know how many homeruns I hit and how many deep fly balls I caught in my mind, but it was a huge number.

In reality, I was never even a great Little League baseball player. I tried hard. I practiced often. But I was just not that good no matter how good I wanted to be. Even the year I was on one of the best teams in the league. Even though I wasn't the best, I had a role on every team I played on. I often played third base and I was pretty good at not committing errors. I had a decent batting average and played the roles well. I would have traded almost anything to have been the best. I remember a couple of times that I attempted to play a role that I was not asked to or even capable of. I really wanted to be the best at everything and not serve the team as I was equipped to. I once had a coach sit me down after I was supposed to swing for a hit and run, and instead I swung the bat for a homerun. The purpose of the hit and run was for the runner on first to run and the ball to be hit in play. Instead of making contact, I swung and missed because I was swung so hard. After that play my coach told me that I was asked to play for this team, not for the team to play for me. That was a difficult lesson for me to learn because I really wanted to hit a homerun and be the best. An account of a couple of Jesus' Disciples who really wanted to be the best is recorded in Mark 10:35-45.

James and John wanted to be the greatest, so they asked Jesus if he would give them the two most powerful positions in His kingdom (Mark 10:37). This request led to a big issue between them and the other ten disciples who also wanted to be in those positions (Mark 10:41). This led to a very important lesson for everyone to know about the kingdom of God. It is not about us. God's kingdom is never about man's greatness. Jesus stated in Mark 10:45: For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

James and John asked Jesus for something they desired because they didn't know the reality of relationship with Jesus. They were expecting Jesus to have a huge, great earthly kingdom. But Jesus' kingdom is not about this temporal life, it is about eternity with our Lord. Jesus came to redeem sinful man. Which meant that He would be in the position of service to mankind. Taking on the sin of man. Dying in the place of man on the cross. He ransomed His righteous life, for our sin destroyed life. We are called to be Christ-like. Which means we are to serve just as Jesus served. That means that we maybe won't be the flashiest or fastest on the team, but we will be faithful to the call of our King.

Contact Us:

First Baptist Church
1002 Ave C
Gothenburg, NE 69138
308-537-3881
gothenburgbapist@msn.com

Pastor Dan Urman
308-650-2035
daniel_e_urman@yahoo.com

Facebook page:
Gothenburg First Baptist Church

Web site:
gothenburgbaptist.org

Prayer Requests:

Our Nation & Leaders
War in Ukraine
Church Family

Health:
Jack Kniss
Kelli Beck
Kendra Mercer

Ministries:
VBS in July
Monthly Youth Gathering
Bible Camps

Missionary of the Month—Converge

What we do—We help people meet, know and follow Jesus by:

STARTING CHURCHES STRENGTHENING CHURCHES GLOBAL MISSIONS

Throughout our history we have seen generations of Converge churches, leaders and missionaries join forces through God's power to accomplish the impossible. His command to go and make disciples resonates in our hearts and churches. Our national and district leadership teams have established a 10-year plan for our movement. Our plan has 4 parts.

Open the front door to see more churches started, disciples multiplied and missionaries sent out

Plant or multiply // Send

Close the back door to develop more healthy, growing churches and leaders

Strengthen your church // Leadership

Tear down the walls to expand our cultural diversity and address racial barriers to advance the gospel

Learn why // Resources

Build the house to increase collaboration and resources needed to start and strengthen more churches

Partner with us // Support

First Baptist was established as a Baptist General Conference church (now Converge) in 1883 and are part of the Converge Heartland region that covers ND south into KS/ MO and all of NE. In our own region of NE we have helped start the Hershey Baptist Church, The Table in Kearney and Centro de Vida Cristiana in Grand Island through our partnership and support. Our giving to Converge Heartland continues to help establish and strengthen this work across the region.



VBS is July 25-27



“Zoomerang, Returning to the Value of Life” is the theme.

Join us for 3 evenings of Australian fun with faith building teaching, crafts, snacks, music and more for kids entering K—6th grades this fall. Julie Czochara is the director.

Volunteers needed for Zoomerang: Prayer Coordinator, 3 teachers and 3 assistants, Craft Coordinator and helpers, Snack Coordinator and helpers, Game Coordinator and helpers, Music/Drama Coordinator and helpers, Photographer, Decorating help, Soundboard. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center.

We could also use any Aussi stuffed animals and safari type hats you might have.



Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$166,528.52
 Fiscal Year ends 2/28/23
 Offerings Received for 3 months:
 \$33,682.50
 Expenditures Paid for 3 months:
 \$42,842.27

Birthdays ~ ~ ~

Holly Ballmer	June 2
Helen Johnson	June 2
Titus Coleman	June 5
Mya Peterson	June 9
Jack Kniss	June 13
Kailynn Mercer	June 14
Matthew Keith	June 16
Steve Linegar	June 22

Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

Bob & Marla Fattig	June 1
Aaron & Sara Coleman	June 2
Laurie & Michael Viter	June 6
Dick & Jody Nelson	June 10
Greg & Julie Czochara	June 12
Ken & Kelli Beck	June 18

Greeters ~ ~ ~

1st week	Jim Flesch / Jenelle Larson
2nd week	Marsha Weeks / Joyce Sabin
3rd week	Kim Crisman / Kelli Beck
4th week	Val Parsons / Connie Sitorius
5th week	Sara Coleman & boys

(See Kelli Beck or Marsha Weeks to volunteer)



Camp Scholarships

We have camp scholarships available to help them “earn” points toward the cost of camp. Return the scholarship form (located at the Welcome Center) to the church office for reimbursement once registered for a camp. We also want to make sure that any child needing further financial assistance be able to attend camp has it. Please contact Pastor Dan or an elder if this is a need. Funds are available to make sure each of our kids are able to experience Bible camp this summer.





1002 Ave C
Gothenburg, NE 69138



MONTHLY SCHEDULE

June 5 Christian Ed meeting—noon
June 5 Movie Night “Sabina”—6 pm
June 13 Management Finance—6:30 pm
June 13 Elder Board—7 pm
June 19 Worship Watchcare meeting
June 19 Fathers Day
June 26 Fellowship Outreach meeting
June 26 Youth Gathering—6:30 pm

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun. Worship Service—9:45 am
Sunday School—11:00 am
Wed. Men’s Bible Study—6 am

Free Movie Night at the Sun Theater—June 5th at 6 p.m.

Sabina: Tortured for Christ, the Nazi Years is the story of how God’s love transformed an ambitious, worldly atheist into one of the greatest Christian women of the 20th century. The film opens with Sabina Wurmbrand risking her life to show Christ’s love to three Nazi soldiers. Why would a Christian from a Jewish background risk her life to help her enemies — members of the army that killed her entire family? Experience a true story of biblical love and forgiveness that has inspired millions around the world.

