

First Word - Issue 44 - November 9, 2025

Beauty from Ashes

It was 1917. Over 30 countries were involved in World War I, and a 43-yearold Scottish preacher named Oswald Chambers was ministering to war-sick soldiers in Egypt. Amid his duties as a chaplain, Bible teacher, and evangelist, appendicitis struck him. He was rushed to Cairo for an emergency appendectomy on October 29. It brought a temporary reprieve. On the morning of November 15, at 7a, he suffered a massive pulmonary hemorrhage and died. At age 43 he left behind a young wife, Gertrude, whom he affectionately called "Biddy," and a four-year-old daughter, Kathleen. Biddy and Kathleen eventually returned to poor post-war England. From a human perspective, it seemed God had forgotten them.

Yet, our Father in heaven is the world's only perfect parent. He cannot forget His children. He is "the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). He is ". . . near to those who have a broken heart and saves such as have a contrite spirit" (Psalm 34:18). Life was not over for this widow and her young daughter. Beauty would arise from tragedy.

Biddy decided to give her late husband's words to the world. She assembled his notes and sermons into a series of devotional readings, publishing this work in 1927 in England. She titled it, My Utmost for His Highest. The devotional's popularity grew beyond all expectations. Today, it is one of the most beloved Christian devotionals in the world, and it has never been out of print.

"God leads His dear children along" the old hymn says so well. The difficulties encountered along the way will either strengthen our faith or dismantle it. We must respond to pain with faith in the character of God. Tell yourself often, "The cross goes before the crown."

His and yours, Pastor Kent

"I will keep the ground that God has given me and perhaps in His grace, He will ignite me again. But ignite me or not, in His grace, in His power, I will hold the ground." - John Knox





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This Week At FBC

Sunday's Sermon

Influencers for Eternity Luke 16: 1-15 **Pastor Kent Hinkel**

November 9 - 15

Tuesday	6:00p 7:00p 7:00p	Celebrate Recovery Leadership Meeting Trustee Committee Meeting Worship Committee Meeting
Thursday	1:30p	White Cross
Friday	7:00p	Celebrate Recovery

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WEEKLY ENCOURAGEMENT

"God so loved, He gave . . ." These words of Jesus put forth a worthy goal for our own lives. God gave His best to us that we might know His love and rejoice in knowing Him. How we are to live and to give? We are now empowered to follow His example. We can give ourselves to God by surrendering our lives and living for His priorities. When you are giving your money to God, you are really giving yourself. While God needs no person's money, His work on earth requires earthly resources. Let's give cheerfully and generously. Someone has said it well, "Don't give until it hurts. Give until it feels good." Scripture affirms this: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).



The ancient city of Pompeii was perfectly preserved by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. Hot ashes fell on the city bringing instantaneous death to everything living while capturing a snapshot of life in the city of 10,000-20,000 people. Some years ago, construction workers laying a foundation outside the ancient city discovered the remains of a woman fleeing the eruption. In her hands were clutched jewels, perfectly preserved. On the last day of her life, those jewels contributed nothing to her life. Today, we will examine what Jesus said about investing our resources in a way that will last into eternity.

Pastor Kent & Trish Hinkel

Missionary of the Week: Crystal Springs Baptist Camp

CSBC sends praise for another successful season of summer camp and thanks FBC for its continued support of their ministry.

NCA Ministry of the Week First Baptist, Valley City, ND

Prayer

The gospel accounts tell us many people consorted to kill Jesus of Nazareth. Eventually, His critics achieved their goal, yet death could not hold Him, and He walked out of the tomb. Jesus tells us, "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first" (John 15:18-19). This hate is being fiercely unleashed in parts of the world today. This year 7000 Christ-followers have died in Nigeria because they identified with Jesus. This is a modern genocide. A Nigerian pastor comments, "At night, we pray and wish each other a good night. If we see ourselves alive in the morning we say, 'Thank you, Jesus.'"

Let's pray our government will get the attention of the Nigerian government and end this violence. Visit https://www.opendoors.org/en-US/persecution/countries/ for more information on Christian persecution.

Giving Thanks

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the "Making Room for Minot" campaign! As the present facility is expanded, so will be the church's mission. Safety, security, accessibility, and gathering space will be improved. Even more significantly, a greater number of children, youth, and adults will have an opportunity to hear the Good News and discover the joy and purpose of living a life of devotion to Christ. Praise God for our partnership in the gospel! With the Apostle Paul, we can say to one another, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-5).

Condolences

We express our deepest condolences to Blair and Annette Backes on the passing of Blair's sister Carla Schilken. She passed in Minot on Oct 29 at the age of 65. A Service was held on Nov. 5 at Our Lady of Grace in Minot.

Nursery Staffed fo 9:50a and

MORNING

THIS

Staffed for kids through 36 months 9:50a and 11:05a

Pre-school/Kindergarten Sunday School - 9:45a

Children's Ministry Sunday School - 9:45a

Adult Ministry Sunday School - 9:45a Children's Church - Ages 3 - 5 Room 101/102 - 11:00a

Middle/High School Ministry Downstairs Lounge - 9:45a

Young Adult Ministry S.A.L.T. Room 106 - 9:45a

hurch Office

WHAT'S COMING UP AT FBC

Card Shower: Sunday, November 9, is Ardith Radke's 90th Birthday. Let's help her celebrate by showering her with cards. She attends the 8:30a service, or you can send a card to the following address: 405 32nd Ave SW Unit C, Minot, ND 58701. **Hope Tree:** This year FBC has adopted **Dakota Hope** for Christmas. A Hope women and their families in need who are clients of Dakota Hope. Consider taking one or more tags and purchasing two gifts per person so all

It's SHE Time! Ladies, join us in the Gym at 6:30p on Thurs., Nov. 13 as Missy Rohrbeck, owner of The Cookie Cutter, teaches Christmas cookie decorating skills that are sure to wow your friends and family. The cost is \$10. RSVP on the Church Center app or sign up in the Church Lobby by Nov. 7.

Hope Forest: Todd and Kim Erickson invite you to join them for Christmas at Hope Forest on Nov. 29 from 5p-8p. This free family event is a great way to kick off Christmas! There will be all sorts of Christmas fun, along with items and a meal to purchase if you wish. All proceeds go toward our Camp Hope program. This is also a wonderful outreach for the unsaved. The gospel will be clearly shared, so invite a neighbor or a friend!

231 Highway 2 W, Towner, ND.

Dakota Hope for Christmas. A Hope Tree is in the foyer. All tags are for women and their families in need who are clients of Dakota Hope. Consider taking one or more tags and purchasing two gifts per person so all family members will receive the same number of gifts. Bring unwrapped gifts with their tags to the church no later than **Dec. 14**. Look for more details soon about gift wrapping on Dec 16. Let's come together and show the love of Christ to the clients of Dakota Hope.

Church Family: FBC is aware that the recent government shutdown may have temporarily halted food benefits. If you—or someone you know—find yourselves in a financial hardship and unable to afford groceries, please reach out. Call the Church Office or Email office@fbcminot.org and let us know. A team is prepared to respond to an increase in needs so no one in our church or community goes without support during this time.

Congratulations

Join us in congratulating Jennifer Thomas and Mitchell Walkup who were married on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, here at First Baptist Church!

ONTACT US

First Baptist Church Office

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Find details for each ministry at the Information Booth in the Foyer, at fbcminot.org, or at the Church Office.