



FBC SALINA // JULY 2026

FBC NEWSLETTER



A Father Worth Honoring

PASTOR KEVIN HAZELTON

My dad, Lowell “Buck” Hazelton, died on June 13, 2010—two days after my 44th birthday. His memorial service was the Saturday before Father’s Day at First Baptist Church of Garden City, Kansas, our family’s home church. Every Father’s Day since 2010, I’ve found myself reflecting on my dad. As I look back on his life and legacy, I am honored and humbled to honestly say that I never met a man I respected more than my father.

I still remember the exact words of one of the men who spoke at Dad’s funeral. He ended his remarks by saying, “27 years wasn’t long enough to know Buck Hazelton.”

I didn’t deserve my father. I didn’t deserve to be his only son. But oh, how I thank God for him.

At his funeral, I shared five reasons I respected Dad. I respected him because he was a hard worker, he cared deeply for people, he gave others the gift of time, he did everything without complaining, and most importantly, he was humble

enough to admit he needed Jesus.

Proverbs 10:1 says, *“A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.”*

Reflecting on Dad challenges me to live the way he lived. I still want to live in a way that would bring joy to him. I want to be a man who earns the respect of others like he did. I want to be known not only for how I work, but for how I care about people. Most importantly, I want people to know that I need Jesus.

Some people are blessed to have fathers who love, protect, guide, and encourage them—fathers who rejoice when their children do better than they ever did.

Sadly, not everyone has that experience.

But everyone can know a perfect Heavenly Father. God loves us completely, guides us faithfully, and never fails us. Through Jesus, the Son who perfectly pleased the Father and died as the perfect sacrifice for our sin, we are invited into that relationship.

No earthly father can perfectly reflect God, but faithful fathers can point us toward Him. I’m thankful my father did exactly that.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What godly qualities from your parents or mentors have most shaped your faith?
- In what ways are you reflecting Christ to the people around you?
- Are you living in a way that brings joy to your Heavenly Father?

PRAYER

Father, thank You for the people who have guided and encouraged me in life. Help me live with humility, compassion, and faithfulness. Teach me to reflect Your love in the way I work, speak, and care for others. Thank You for Jesus, the sinless Son who gave His life to make me a child of God. Help me live in a way that points people to Jesus. Amen.



Pastor Kevin & his father, Buck.

A Month of Consecration: Thank You for Your Dedication

Over the past month, our church family has walked together through a season of prayer, reflection, and consecration. We sought not our own ideas, but God's direction. We listened for the voice of the Holy Spirit. We opened our hearts to what the Lord desires for this church in the days ahead. Through surveys, guided questions, and intentional spiritual reflection, we have collectively listened to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

As this period concludes, we reaffirm our commitment to be a church that:

LOVE GOD | LOVE OTHERS | MAKE DISCIPLES

We extend our heartfelt thanks to every member who participated along the way. Thank you for praying. Thank you for reflecting. Thank you for showing up. And a special thank you to those who courageously shared what God has been stirring in your hearts this past Sunday. Your voices mattered. Your insights were received with seriousness and gratitude, and they will play a meaningful role as we discern the strategies God is shaping for our future.

Together, we are listening. Together, we are responding, and together, we will follow where the Spirit leads. Thank you for adjusting to the schedule change we had in the month of June.

From July, we will go back to our usual schedule of two worship services.



1 TIMOTHY 4:12
REFLECTION
July 17-18, 2026

Join us for a weekend of spiritual growth, deepening your roots in the Word, and building lasting connections with friends. The retreat is designed to help you reflect on your faith journey and explore ways to live out your values in everyday life.

Be sure to invite your family & friends!

This is a great time to introduce Christ to someone you love.

6th - 12th Grade
(including recent high school graduates)



**Registration is
now open!**

Scan the QR code below or go to
<https://www.fbcsalina.org/reflection>

**Webster Conference
Center**

(Please note the venue change)

How to Finish What God Started

PASTOR JOEL ODONDI

Nehemiah 6:1 – 7:3

Have you ever noticed that the moment you truly set your heart to pursue the things of God, the path becomes significantly more difficult? It is a reality of the spiritual life: the moment we pick up the hammer to build in the name of the Lord, the enemy picks up stones to throw at us. As we move forward in our mission, we must recognize that the resistance we feel—the tension, the exhaustion, the obstacles—is not a sign of failure. It is a sign that we are on the front lines. The enemy does not need to destroy our building; he only needs to distract, discredit, and discourage us until we stop moving forward.

In Nehemiah 6, we see how Nehemiah faced these same tactics while rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. His story gives us a blueprint for finishing the work God has called us to do.

Don't Take the Bait:

The Tactic of Diversion

When physical threats failed, Nehemiah's enemies tried to lure him to a meeting on the "Plain of Ono." It was a trap designed to pull him away from his post. Nehemiah's response remains the standard for every believer: *"I am doing a great work and I cannot come down"* (Nehemiah 6:3). We must discern which invitations are actually distractions. When secondary administrative noise or external pressure tries to pull us away from our primary calling to Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples: we must have the courage to ask, "Why should the work of the Kingdom stop so I can attend to this?"



"So I sent messengers to them with this reply: 'I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?' Four times they sent me the same message, and each time I gave them the same answer."

Nehemiah 6:3-4

Trust God with Your Reputation:

The Tactic of Defamation

When diversion failed, the enemy launched a public smear campaign to discredit Nehemiah. He was accused of treasonous rebellion to force him into a defensive, panic-driven response. Instead of launching a PR campaign, Nehemiah did the unthinkable: he went straight to the Lord and prayed, *"Now then, O God, strengthen my hands"* (Nehemiah 6:9). When our integrity is questioned, our instinct is to argue. But the best way to discredit the lies of the enemy is to continue working with integrity. Let our hands be busy with the Lord's work, and let God be the one to vindicate our character.

Discern the Trap: The Tactic of Fear

Finally, the enemy hired a "prophet" to convince Nehemiah to hide in the temple, hoping to frighten him into sinning against the Law of God. Nehemiah recognized this "protection" was actually a trap. We must measure every piece of "prudent advice" against the Word of God. If the advice is to retreat in fear, and that retreat compromises our mission, it is not from God.

Finishing the Work

The enemy wants you to focus on the noise, but I am calling you to focus on the Builder. Resolve today that you will not quit, you will not compromise, and you will not come down. Let us lock arms and finish the work!



Reflections from the Mountains and Prairies Youth Conference

Recently, our youth had the privilege of journeying to the beautiful YMCA of the Rockies at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado, for the Mountains and Prairies Youth Conference. The youth who attended were Shaan Galvez, Emmelyn Woody, Morganne Jones, Zeph Woody, Nathan Herbel, Grant Patrick, and Aiden from FBC McPherson. Michael Woody also tagged along. The adults that accompanied the youth were John and Michelle Woody. This year's theme was "Called by Name" and was inspired by the powerful insights of keynote speaker DJ Dangerfield from Chanute, KS.



Nathan Herbel, Zephaniah Woody, & Aiden

The conference was a beautiful rhythm of spiritual depth and community bonding. From the start, speaker DJ Dangerfield challenged the youth to understand our true sense of "Belonging." During free time, our youth explored God's creation—hiking to waterfalls, horseback riding, and even enjoying pickleball and roller-skating. Evenings were spent in worship and prayer, often transitioning into laughter-filled karaoke and cozy campfires.

As the days progressed, we experienced God both on the mountaintops and in the valleys. Whether it was Grant, Nathan, Zeph, and Michael tackling a challenging hike, or the group trip to Grand Lake, the youth were intentional about finding God in every moment. Special highlights included Zeph leading small groups and the joyful moment Zeph and Emmelyn led the "Fruits of the Spirit" song. Emmelyn's testimony about where she saw God each day served as a beautiful reminder of His constant presence. On our final day, we focused on finding our worth in God. We were challenged not to return to our same routines, but to live with renewed devotion: listening for God's prompting, reading our Bibles, and staying in communion with fellow believers.

This experience was a blessing, made possible by the generous support of our church, which funded half of the conference and travel costs. We are deeply grateful to John and Michelle Woody for their dedication in driving and chaperoning. Thank you to the parents for trusting us with your youth, and to our church family for the prayers that sustained us.

MPYC: Testimony

Nathan Herbel, Michael Woody, Grant Patrick,
Emmelyn Woody, Morganne Jones, & Shaan Galvez

SHAAN GALVEZ

My name is Shaan Galvez, and I am a 16-year-old student at Salina Central High School and a member of our church's youth group.

During the month of June, six other youth and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend a youth conference where we learned more about the greatness of God and how to grow stronger in our relationship with Him. It was an unforgettable experience that challenged and encouraged us in our faith.

Personally, this trip taught me to embrace the unique qualities God has given me and to use those differences to help bring people together. It reminded me that God can use each of us in special ways to build unity and encourage others. Many of the other youth who attended shared that they also felt closer to God and gained a deeper understanding of His love and purpose for their lives.

One of the most exciting outcomes of the conference is that several of us have joined a mission group from Central Kansas that participates in mission trips to share the Gospel and bring glory to God. We are grateful for how God is continuing to work in our hearts and opening new opportunities for us to serve Him.

None of these blessings and opportunities would have been possible without the generous support of our church. On behalf of all the youth who attended, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make this trip possible. We would especially like to thank Mr. John Woody and Mrs. Michelle Woody for taking us to the conference, investing in us, and helping make the experience both meaningful and joyful.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and encouragement. Your generosity is making a lasting difference in the lives of our youth as we continue to grow in faith and serve the Lord.



*"But now, this is what the Lord says —
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name;
you are mine."*

Isaiah 43:1

Timely Thursdays:

Cultivating Growth in the Summer Sun

Summer is a season of change. The pace of life often shifts, the days grow longer, and many of us find ourselves juggling vacations, family gatherings, and the rhythm of a slower schedule. While this is a wonderful time to rest and recharge, it is also a season where our spiritual disciplines can sometimes inadvertently take a backseat to our busy calendars. At FBC, we believe that spiritual formation doesn't take a vacation. Fellowship is one of the essential disciplines that shapes our character, and we are committed to helping you maintain your momentum throughout the summer months.

During the summer—specifically between May and September—many of our regular Bible studies pause. To ensure that our community remains connected and encouraged, there is an opportunity for **Timely Thursdays**. This isn't just another meeting on your calendar; it is a vital bridge. For those who work in school systems and find themselves unable to attend Bible studies during the school year, this is the perfect time to reconnect. It is a space to keep the momentum of our faith alive, ensuring that even as the seasons change, our walk with God remains consistent.

AN INVITATION TO EVERYONE

What began as a ladies' fellowship has blossomed into something much larger. We have seen God move in powerful ways, with attendance growing to as many as 22 people. Timely Thursdays are now open to everyone—men and women of all ages.

Our next two sessions will be

**July 16 &
August 20
at 10 a.m.**

We invite you to join us for an hour of authentic connection. This is an informal gathering, centered on fellowship and the power of shared stories. There is something deeply moving about hearing how God is working in the lives of the people sitting in the pew right next to you. It reminds us that we are not walking alone.

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

Proverbs 27:17

**fbc kids
&
fbc youth**

**WEDNESDAY
PROGRAMS**



**KIDS
PROGRAM**

For children ages
Preschool – 5th grade.
*Preschoolers must be
potty-trained.

**YOUTH
PROGRAM**

For youth ages
6th – 12th grade.



Enjoy a meal
together before
lessons begin.

**MEAL
5:30 p.m.**

Questions?

Contact the
Church Office
(785) 825-4643

Stay Connected:

Find the calendar,
registration,
and more at
WWW.FBCSALINA.ORG

Location:

843 LEWIS AVE.
SALINA, KS 67401



**KICK-OFF:
AUGUST 5**



**FIRST LESSON:
AUGUST 19**



fbc salina

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FBC

FAMILY DAY

AUGUST 23

Webster Conference Center
2601 N. Ohio St., Salina, KS 67401

WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10 A.M.

Enjoy an unforgettable day of worship, connection, and joy!

What's Happening:

- An uplifting worship service
- Lunch provided by FBC Salina
- Activities for all ages:
 - Swimming
 - Gym
 - Boating
 - Board Games

This is a great time to extend an invitation to family and friends you want to share Christ with and show them the beauty of God's community.



Thank you to Madelynn Andonie and Kyleigh Phillips for sharing their love for Christ through singing during worship June 21, 2026.

Want to praise Christ through music with your fellow Christian brothers and sisters? Reach out to Barb Karlin and let the spirit move through you!

July Sermons

You don't have to look very hard to see foolishness on display—it's everywhere. But what about wisdom? What about God's wisdom? Do you see it? Do you live it?

Join us for **Godly Wisdom in Foolish Times**, a sermon series through the book of James. Together we'll discover how to be more than hearers of God's Word—we'll learn to be doers of it. James provides clear, practical wisdom for navigating the trials and challenges of everyday life with maturity and grace.

Come discover how to be a wise and faithful Christian in a world full of foolishness.

Sermon Series:

Godly Wisdom in Foolish Times

July 5: Pastor Kevin / James 1:19-27

July 12: Pastor Joel / James 2:1-13

July 19: Pastor Kevin / James 2:14-26

July 26: Pastor Joel / James 3:1-12

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 2

6 p.m. Out of Touch @ John Show's

Friday, July 3

Church Office Closed

Thursday, July 16

10 a.m. Timely Thursday in the Library

Friday & Saturday, July 17 – 18



Find the calendar online at :

www.fbcsalina.org/calendar

Join Us in Person

Sundays

Worship at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

Praise & Growth Groups at 6 p.m.



Wednesdays

Prayer Group at 9 a.m.

Thursday, July 16

Timely Thursday at 10 a.m.

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