



Therefore, if anyone  
is in Christ,  
he is a new  
creation;  
the old has  
gone, the  
new has  
come

2 Corinthians 5:17

## **FIRST CHRONICLES**

**May, 2026**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
4102 190<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
GEORGE, IOWA 51237  
Telephone: 712-475-3440  
Website: [fbcgeorge.org](http://fbcgeorge.org)

Pastor, Jesse Sternke

Cell Phone: 507-370-3368

Email: [pastor@fbcgeorge.org](mailto:pastor@fbcgeorge.org)

Secretary, Crystal deBoer

Cell Phone: 712-298-2124

Email: [secretaryfbc@frontier.com](mailto:secretaryfbc@frontier.com)

***“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.” And he said, “Go, and say to this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.” – Isaiah 6:8-9***

There are a few things about which people do not have to “twist my arm.” Want a cup of coffee? Definitely. Want to watch a Vikings game? Sign me up. Want to go fishing? I’m already waiting in the vehicle with my fishing pole and tackle box. We all have things that we jump at the chance to do. But we also all have things that we don’t jump at—and not only that, we’ll only do them reluctantly. Maybe I should have written this article for the fall when our nominating committee is looking for volunteers... But we’ll keep our focus on seeking the lost. 😊 How quickly do we jump at the chance to share the Gospel?

There tends to be such a resistance to evangelism that even if we twist someone’s arm, they still won’t do it. It can be a scary thing. So, we rationalize our way out of it. Maybe we don’t feel up for it. Maybe we’re too busy. Maybe someone else will do it. We can even take good teaching and misapply it. Case in point—we know we should live a Christian life of integrity. We live out our beliefs and show our faith through our actions. But when we feel prompted to speak the Gospel, we hide behind “well, they’ll at least see my faith through my life.” It is true that people should see our faith in our life, but it’s also true that we need to speak it as well. “Preach the Gospel at all times; if necessary, use words.” Many of us just think that it is never necessary to use words. 😊

We need to pay attention to Isaiah’s example. When God asked who He could send and who would “go for us?” Isaiah immediately responds. God was searching for a messenger—He was looking for someone who would represent Him to the nations. Isaiah was ready and willing to step into that responsibility. Are we? Are we willing to be messengers of the truth of the Gospel? Are we ready to be representatives of the kingdom of God? Are we the laborers that other people are praying for to be sent into the harvest?

Because in some ways, we are expected to already fulfill some of these roles. When we follow Christ, we become His representative in the world. We are ambassadors of Christ—that means we are advocating for the kingdom of heaven. Our homes become embassies on foreign soil, we act in ways that honor God, and we speak as He calls us to speak. But being messengers of the truth and laborers in the field takes discernment on when to engage in that work.

This month, I want to encourage us to consider our willingness to be used by God to share the Gospel. Wherever we are, God meets us there and gently guides us to take the next step in our walk with him. Pray that God would strengthen us to be ready to respond with, “Here I am, send me!” when the opportunity arises.

In Christ,  
Jesse

# OUR SCHEDULE!

GREETERS	NURSERY WORKERS	CHILDREN'S CHURCH
<b>Sunday, May 3</b> Greg & Sharon DeBoer	<b>Sunday, May 3</b> Donna DeBoer	<b>Sunday, May 3</b> Abby Kramer
<b>Sunday, May 10</b> Stan & Crystal deBoer Judy Eben	<b>Sunday, May 10</b> Alyssa den Hoed	<b>Sunday, May 10</b> Sarah Gruis
<b>Sunday, May 17</b> Jim & Sharon Douglass	<b>Sunday, May 17</b> Breanna Schrick	<b>Sunday, May 17</b> Katie DeBoer
<b>Sunday, May 24</b> Bryan & Rachel Kramer	<b>Sunday, May 24</b> Judy Eben	<b>Sunday, May 24</b> Rachel Kramer
<b>Sunday, May 31</b> Darren & Julie Kramer	<b>Sunday, May 31</b> Gerri Spangler	<b>Sunday, May 31</b> Kayla Reck



We would like to thank everyone who remembered us with a card for our 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. God bless you all! – Gayle & Carolyn Wagenaar



May	1	Kory & Dawn Hayenga
	4	Paul Reemtsma
	5	Caleb Johnson
	6	Linda Arends
	10	Harlan & LeAnn Doeden Sara Johnson Donna Shelly
	13	Herm & Linda Christians Dan & Jodi DeGroot
	15	Lanelle Wang
	16	Harold Eben
	17	Landon Reck
	18	Gloria Kruse Kim Winkowitsch
	19	Abby Kramer
	23	Brandon & Katie DeBoer Jeff & Cindy Eben Timothy Kramer
	26	Sharon DeBoer Samuel Kramer Jeremy Wagenaar
	29	Kricket Arends Nicole Kramer
	31	Mac & Michelle McDowell





Junior 1 Camp May 31-June 6

Damien Arends, Noelle Bradshaw, Chassidy Buss, Jesse Cottingham, Lexi Cottingham, Olivia Cottingham, Emersan deBoer, Miley den Hoed, Alize Eklund, Anthony Eklund, Carla Eklund, Aubrey Gerloff, Daniel Gruis, Stephanie Gruis, Brylie Johnson, Alanna Leon, Tessa Middleton, Ariana Olson, Janessa Reck, Harper Tiedeman

Teen Camp 1 June 7-June 13

Dominick Arends, Adrian Bradshaw, Lucas Kooiker, Cole Laleman, Chloe Sternke, Hazel Triplett

Senior High June 21-June 27

Evalyn deBoer, Kody den Hoed, Logan den Hoed, Isaac Kooiker, Lucy Petersen, Sydney Petersen, Chevy Schubert, Miriam Sternke, Obadiah Sternke, Ryleigh Van Briesen



**Isaac Kooiker**  
*(Central Lyon High School)*

Hi, many of you know me as Isaac Kooiker. I've attended Central Lyon in Rock Rapids, where I've been involved in a variety of activities throughout high school, including Football, Baseball, Trap Shooting, FFA, and FCA. I have truly valued these experiences and the friendships I've built along the way.

After graduation, I plan to attend Minnesota West in Worthington in the Production Agriculture program. I'll be living at home and commuting, which will allow me to continue helping on our family farm while furthering my education.

I want to sincerely thank everyone for your support and prayers over the years. I would appreciate your continued prayers as I step into this next chapter of my life.

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." ~ Romans 8:18

**CONGRATULATIONS ISAAC!**

## May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Graduation Breakfast  10:00 AM Worship  11:00 AM VBS Leaders Meeting  6:30 PM Discipleship U	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Visitation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM Union Gospel Mission	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 AM Sunday School  10:00 AM Worship  7:00 PM Baccalaurate	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00 PM Deacon Board Meeting	<b>13</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> MISSION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School  10:00 AM Worship Mixed Choir  11:00 AM All Boards Meeting  2:00 PM Graduation	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 PM Youth  7:00 PM Visitation	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Sunday School  10:00 AM Worship Bell Choir  6:30 PM Discipleship U	<b>25</b> MEMORIAL DAY	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 PM Youth  5:00 PM FBC Serve @ Bread of Life	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> BUILDING FUND SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School  10:00 AM Worship  6:30 PM Discipleship U Bday/Anniv Celeb	Junior Camp 1: May 31-June 6					