



The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

November 2023
Volume 69, No. 11

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

200 Lynn Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014-7188
Worship Sundays 9:45 am

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First Baptist Church is an open and caring family of faith where worship is central and faith engages both heart and mind. We are warmly ecumenical, delight in our diversity, and cherish our Baptist heritage of freedom. We are called by Christ to share God's love with the campus, community, and the world.

As we seek to follow the way of Jesus, we welcome all people to fully participate in our fellowship: all ages, colors, backgrounds, political affiliations, and physical and mental abilities; male and female, gay and straight, rich and poor, single and married. We are all God's children, and all are welcome here.

Rooted in Love, Growing in Community



Our Stewardship Theme for 2024 is “Rooted in Love, Growing in Community.” As we grow in God’s love, we grow as a community of faith, hope, and generosity. In response to God’s love, we share out of the abundance that God has blessed us with.

Last Sunday, we found ourselves without special music at the last minute. A men’s quintet instantly emerged and volunteered to sing. They chose a great old, fun gospel hymn (“Wonderful Grace of Jesus”), singing *a capella*. The congregation burst into “Amens!” and applause as one Zoom worshiper commented in the chat, “That special music really is special!”

This was followed by Joyce Davidson sharing in our Stewardship moment about how she and her family, going back to her parents joining our church in 1968 and continuing on to her grandchildren, have been blessed by this church and the impact it has had on their lives. I found both the music and Joyce’s testimony wonderful examples of the way that community grows as we are rooted in God’s love.

Many of you received a stewardship mailing including a letter, proposed budget, and a pledge card. If you did not receive the stewardship mailing, you can find a [narrative budget](#) and a [pledge card](#) on our website. To further our ministry as a community rooted in love and growing in grace, we encourage you to make a pledge of support for God’s work through our church on or before Stewardship Sunday, November 12. Every gift makes a difference.

I am so thankful to be a part of this community, and I hope to see you on Sunday!

Blessings,
Dave

Great Day of Service!

Our church held a Great Day of Service on October 15. After a brief service in the sanctuary, members participated in service projects including assembling hygiene kits for refugees and victims of natural disaster, making blankets for a Primary Health Care clinic to be given to newborns, and picking up trash in the Campustown neighborhood. A few people also made visits and wrote cards to send. Thank you to all who helped make it a Great Day!



Christian Sympathy



Our love and prayers are with Wayne Shireman, Cathy and Joe, Alex and Serena, and Alissa Parrish, and all of their family in the loss of Irene Shireman. Irene died on October 1. She had been a faithful and caring member of our church since she and Wayne moved to Ames in 2006.

A Memorial Service will be held at our church on Saturday, November 25 at 2 pm, with a time of fellowship following the service. If you are unable to attend, you may contact Wayne or Cathy for details on joining the service via Zoom.

[Here is a link](#) to the obituary.

Fall Festival Held October 29

Following worship on October 29, we held a Fall Festival with walking tacos, cookie and pumpkin decorating, and fun for all ages!



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>2-3p PD Singing</i>	2 10a Virtual Coffee Shop <i>2-3p PD Dance</i> <i>5-8p Women United</i>	3	4 
5 9:45a Worship/ Communion 10:45a Church School	6	7 8a Men's Breakfast <i>2-3p PD Boxing</i>	8 <i>2-3p PD Singing</i>	9 10a Virtual Coffee Shop <i>2-3p PD Dance</i> <i>5-8p Women United</i>	10	11 Veterans Day 
12 9:45a Worship/ Communion 10:45a Fellowship 11a Church School 3p Amos Variety Show, DSM	13	14 <i>2-3p PD Boxing</i> 5p Pastoral Relations Comm. 7p Trustees Meeting	15 <i>2-3p PD Singing</i>	16 10a Virtual Coffee Shop <i>2-3p PD Dance</i> <i>5-8p Women United</i>	17	18
19 9:45a Worship 10:45a Church School	20	21 8a Men's Breakfast	22	23 	24	25
26 9:45a Worship 10:45a Church School	27 	28 <i>2-3p PD Boxing</i>	29 <i>2-3p PD Singing</i>	30 <i>2-3p PD Dance</i> 7p Deacons Meeting		



November 5:

Worship Leader: Beth Douglass
Ushers: Jan Thompson, Barbara Woods

November 12:

Worship Leader: Lorrie Whitaker
Ushers: Julie Johnston, Aaron Stegemöller

November 19:

Worship Leader: John Whitaker
Ushers: Jere Maddux, Bob Parrish

November 26:

Worship Leader: Beth Douglass
Ushers: Jerilyn Logue, Tom Logue



Morgan Ambourn	2
Lyndsay Whitaker	4
Abby Johnson	8
Lucy Johnson	8
Harris Seidel	12
Marilyn Peterson	13
Jill Grauman	13
Brian Starrett	24
Buckley Peterson	27



Catherine and Joe Parrish 20

Coming in December!

- Dec. 3 - Hanging of the Greens, 11 am
- Dec. 9 - Christmas Dinner and Program, 6 pm
- Dec. 10 - Budget/Election Meeting, 12 noon
- TBA - Northcrest Vespers Service
- Dec. 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent, 9:45 am;
 Christmas Eve service, 6 pm

Name Tag Revival!



Since we returned to the sanctuary after a COVID break, we have gotten out of the habit of wearing name tags. Name tags are helpful for learning and remembering names both for newcomers and long-time worshippers, and with new faces in worship we would like to renew this practice – a name-tag revival, if you will. We have printed new name tags for those who did not have one and encourage you to wear one on Sunday. If you need a new name tag, just note on the attendance register or let the office know.

Financial Report through 9-30-23

INCOME

2023 pledges received 9 months	\$133,152
<i>2023 pledges received in 2022</i>	<i>\$33,199</i>
pledges expected for 9 months	\$146,910
other contributions	\$8,322
parking lot + building rental	\$25,746
other income	\$1,303
non-budgeted mission offerings	\$5,736
total received 2023	\$173,979
<i>total incl. 2023 pledges received in 2022</i>	<i>\$207,178</i>

EXPENSES

budget for 9 months	\$201,233
budget expenses 9 months	\$192,109
Memorial Fund expenditures	\$6,768
Non-budgeted mission offerings	\$5,736
Total expenses	\$204,193

CROP Walk 2023

The **Ames CROP Walk** was held on October 8. After many years of walking through campus beginning and ending at Brookside Park, this year's walk was held at Ada Hayden Heritage Park, which proved to be a great location. Our church was represented by Stephanie Goodman, Julie Johnston, Steve Babcock, Willie (Steve and Julie's dog), and Dave Russell. Our church raised \$619.50 to help fight hunger in our community and around the world. Way to go, FBC!



FREE LUNCH!

College Student Meal

We invite college students and young adults to join us for lunch following worship on November 5. This is a chance to gather and get to know each other better and enjoy a good meal. Undergrads, grad students, and similarly aged young adults are welcome! We will meet in the college lounge on the second floor.

Senior Moments

Be sure to tune in to KHOI radio and listen to Senior Moments. The program explores topics of interest with interesting people telling out them. This month's Senior Moments features our own Ryan Smith. The program airs on November 18 at 11:00 am on 89.1 FM. Tune in to learn how Ryan uses music therapy in hospice settings. Other Saturday programs and guests are listed below:

- November 4 Ames Wood Turners
- November 11 Interviews with Veterans
- November 18 Ruthellen Cunnally; Ryan Smith
- November 25 Joan and Joe Traylor



Our very own Phyllis and Larry Schrag and Aaron Stegemöller will be performing at the AMOS Variety Show Fundraiser on November 12! See Barbara Woods for more details.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH - 3PM-6PM



AMOS VARIETY SHOW FUNDRAISER

JOIN US FOR...

**A LINEUP OF TALENTED ACTS,
A SILENT AUCTION,
HORS D'OEUVRES, AND BEVERAGES!**

HOW TO ATTEND?

\$25 PER TICKET

Scan the QR code or go to
www.amosiowa.org/tickets
to buy yours today!



**HELD AT FIRST UNITARIAN OF DES MOINES
1800 BELL AVE, DES MOINES**



First Baptist Church

AMES

200 Lynn Avenue

Ames, Iowa 50014-7188

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. David Russell	Pastor
Mindy Phomvisay	Director of Music
Elizabeth Stegemöller	Choir Accompanist
Sierra Livengood	Office Manager
Kathy Greiner	Custodian



Worship Sunday mornings 9:45 in person or on ZOOM

Details for connecting via ZOOM at fbcames.org