



The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

September, 2019
Volume 65, No. 8

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
200 Lynn Ave.
Ames, IA 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.

Worship Under the Trees

Sunday, September 8 9:45 am

Worship in the front yard with meal following
Hickory Park BBQ provided

Bring a dish to share
(students, please come as our guests!)

We need card tables for the outdoor meal. If you can help,
please contact the church office.

Pastor's Word

You can feel the energy in the air around Campustown. It has been growing for about a month now. It began with new apartment leases on August 1, and increased activity in town. Then our neighbors in fraternities and sororities moved in, followed by sorority rush. Our church parking lot filled up. Last week students moved in to the residence halls and now classes have started. It was great to see new and returning students in worship last Sunday!

This also means that after a wonderful summer filled with activities like a mission trip, music camp, and worship services at both McFarland Park and Brookside Park, we are gearing up for our fall schedule here at First Baptist. Our choir began rehearsing again last Wednesday, and sang in worship last Sunday.

Fall really arrives for us on September 8. We will have our annual Worship under the Trees service on the front lawn, followed by a meal and fellowship. This is always a fun service and a good way to introduce new friends to our church. Our Church School classes will begin the following Sunday, September 15.

This fall will also see the return of a Blessing of the Pets Service, on Saturday September 28 – I'm looking forward to that! Throw in our Great Day of Service on October 6, the CROP Walk on October 13, and a Harvest Festival planned for October 27, and we will have a busy fall.

The point of it all, of course, is not simply to stay busy. With all of these activities, you will find a mix of worship, service, fellowship and community-building, and learning. We need all of these, and our activity as a church is purposeful. I look forward to being with you this Sunday!

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This summer I have been preaching sermons based on suggestions by church members, and last Sunday I preached on Fred Borgen's suggestion: "A Scientist (Chemist) Looks at Life from a Faith Perspective." (You can read the sermon [here](#).) Here is an update from that sermon.

As I shared on Sunday, while I have a degree in chemistry I would not call myself a scientist or a chemist. But I appreciated the spirit of Fred's question, and I am still thinking about it. Fred's question helped me to reflect on the similarities and differences between faith and science. And I thought about the scientific work that many of you do.

As a chemistry major, and then someone with a chemistry degree, I have always been predisposed to give engineers a hard time. There was a bit of a rivalry involved and it was all in good fun, of course. I liked to tell engineers that we were doing *pure* science. But I came to a startling revelation just this week. I shared last Sunday that theology was once called "Queen of the Sciences." But at some point it hit me: If theology is akin to pure science, then ministry is more of an applied science. After giving engineers a hard time since my college days, I have come to the awful realization that as a pastor, *I am basically an engineer*.

But it's not all bad. If Iowa State's motto is "Science with Practice," then as a pastor – and really, as Christians – our motto might be "Faith with Practice."

Then again, with the unpredictability of ministry, there are those days that I feel like a chemist, remembering an old motto: "If we knew what we were doing, it wouldn't be research."

Blessings,
Dave

Church School News



Our Church School classes will begin on September 15. On the second Sunday of each month, we will have Fellowship Time at 11 am and Church School at 11:15. On other Sundays, Church School follows worship at 11 am. Our classes include:

Children – Youth: Teacher Jan Thompson and assistants (including youth) lead the class that meets in the downstairs classroom. They will be using the One Room Sunday School curriculum.

College/Young Adults: Pastor Dave Russell will lead the college fellowship, meeting in the college lounge on the second floor. The group meets for Bible study, support, fun, conversation about the great and not-so-great issues of the day, and lunch once a month. All college students and near-college aged young adults are welcome!

NEW! Fellowship Hall Class: Erin Johnson and Becca Whitaker are convening this group especially for those beyond college and younger adults (broadly defined), including younger adults with families. There is no class name yet and the group will determine more details, but it will be a "no homework, no prep" class and meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Adult Bible Study: This class meets in the library, with class members sharing leadership. The group will begin the fall with a study on Resurrection.

Theology Class: Class members share leadership in facilitating this discussion-based class, which meets in the church lounge on the first floor. The group will be viewing and discussing the video series "Serious Answers to Hard Questions," which address ten issues that present obstacles to faith, both inside and outside the church.

Child Care: child care is available as needed through the Church School hour.



September 1

Worship Leader: Rita Parrish
Ushers: Bob Parrish, Kent Johnson
 Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders
Sound System: Bob Parrish

September 8

Worship Under the Trees
Ushers: Larry Schrag, Nancy Maydew
 Beth Douglass, Elijah Phomvisay
Sound System: Tom Logue

September 15

Worship Leader: Joe Parrish
Ushers: Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue
 Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard
Sound System: Kent Johnson

September 22

Worship Leader: Joyce Davidson
Ushers: Scott Anderson, Jere Maddux
 Stephanie Goodman, Jacelyn Rudderow
Sound System: Tom Logue

September 29

Worship Leader: Erin Johnson
Ushers: Barbara Woods, Julie Johnston
 Trey Lawson-Belle, Aaron Stegemöller
Sound System: Kent Johnson

September Flowers: Jill Leininger

Celebrating 20 years of Pastoral Service

September 22, 1999 began Pastors Dave and Susan's pastoral service at First Baptist Church. We want to celebrate their work in our church's ministry through their commitment and service to our members, friends, and broader community.



Please come and celebrate with the Russells on September 22, 2019. There will be a special worship service, with guest preacher, Dr. Gary Grogan, and luncheon following. This will be a great day.



Betty Johnson	2	Ethan Phomvisay	22
Katherine Thompson	2	Dave Russell	22
Stephanie Keat	3	Rosemarie Starrett	24
Alexis Lee	5	Anadia Daniels	25
Lucy Stegemöller	10	Judy Demarest	29
John R. Anderson	12	Kent Johnson	29
Jenna McCarley	19	Barbara Woods	29
		Elizabeth Stegemöller	30

Work Day September 8



Work Day

Worship Under the Trees service!

We will have a church work day on Saturday, September 8 beginning at 8 am. There is plenty of work for everyone including shrub trimming and other landscape work, painting, cleaning, and more. Help us to beautify the building and grounds for our



Jill and Michael Leininger
 Jeanette and Dick Gee
 Janelle Keltgen & John Lauridsen

September 6
 September 10
 September 16

Great Day of Service Sunday, October 6, 9:45 am

We will have a seven minute worship service in the sanctuary followed by hands-on service projects including picking up trash in Campustown, assembling hygiene kits for Church World Service, making no-sew fleece blankets for newborns at Primary Health Care, and more.



Fellowship Time

On October 13, we will resume our monthly Fellowship Time (every second Sunday of the month). We are looking for hosts for each month. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the kitchen door in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, contact Barbara Woods, jaguar@isunet.net or Dianne Borgen, fhborgen@aol.com.

Thank you to all who provided refreshment for Fellowship Time over the summer: Fred and Dianne Borgen, John and Lorrie Whitaker, Joyce Davidson and Annalee O'Connor, Bob and Rita Parrish, the Stegemöller family and Julie Johnston, Beth Douglass and Jere Maddux, Gary and Nancy Maydew, Jenna McCarley, Jill and Michael Leininger and Barbara Woods, and FBC's Deacons (Jere Maddux, Becca Whitaker, Julie Johnston, Barbara Woods, Dawn Doerr-Johnson, John Whitaker, and Joyce Davidson).

CROP Walk

The 2019 Ames Area Crop Walk for Hunger will be held on Sunday, October 13th. The walk will start and end at Brookside Park. Registration is at 1:00 pm and the walk will start at 1:30. The walk follows about a 3 mile loop through the campus and back to Brookside Park. There will be an optional abbreviated walk for those that prefer a shorter distance.

Our church has a long tradition of supporting the CROP Walk and we encourage everyone to participate by walking or sponsoring a walker. The Ames walk raises money to support local, national, and international hunger relief efforts. Please see Dawn Doerr-Johnson for a sponsor form and more information.



3rd Sunday Lunch

On the 3rd Sunday of each month, following Church School, let's meet for lunch at the following locations:



September 15—El Azteca
(2727 Stange Rd.)

October 20—Culver's
(525 Gilchrist St.)

November 17—Pizza Ranch
(1404 Boston Ave.)

Parking Reminder

ISU classes were back in session Monday, August 26, which means (among other things) that our parking lot is a busy place. Numbered parking places are rented to students. If you are in the building for choir rehearsal or another midweek event, please park in one of the church parking spots in back of the building. If necessary, the CCJ spots on the south side of the church are also generally available in the evenings. All parking spaces are available on Sunday mornings.

Habitat for Humanity



Our church is a Covenanting Congregation with Habitat as together we work to provide decent housing for God's people in need. As part of our support for Habitat, we receive an offering for Central Iowa Habitat for Humanity each year. On September 15, a Habitat representative will give a Mission Moment in worship and we will receive an offering for Habitat.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45a Worship/ Communion 11a Fellowship Time	2 	3 8a Men's Break- fast, Perkins	4 6:30p Choir	5 <i>5p Women United</i>	6	7 8a Work Day at FBC
8 9:45a Worship Under the Trees 11a Lunch	9	10 7p Trustees	11 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin <i>3p PD Singing</i> 6:30p Choir	12 <i>10a Video Feed for PD Group</i> <i>5p Women United</i>	13 <i>9a Music Teachers of Central Iowa</i>	14 
15 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 12p 3rd Sunday Lunch (El Azteca, 2727 Stange Rd.) 2p Prayer Shawl Group	16	17 8a Men's Break- fast, Perkins	18 6:30p Choir	19 <i>5p Women United</i>	20	21
22 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 	23	24 <i>8a Heart & Solu- tions</i>	25 11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins 6:30p Choir	26 <i>5p Women United</i> 6:30p Deacons	27	28 10:30a Blessing of the Pets
29 9:45a Worship 11a Church School	30	<div>  <div> Church Office Hours Monday—Closed Tuesday—9am-Noon & 1-4pm Wednesday—9am-1pm Thursday—9am-Noon & 1-3pm Friday—8am-Noon </div>  </div>				



First Baptist Church

AMES

200 Lynn Avenue

Ames, Iowa 50014-7188

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. David Russell	Pastor
Mindy Phomvisay	Director of Music
Patricia Izbicki	Accompanist
Janelle Keltgen	Office Manager
Kathy Greiner	Custodian

Blessing of the Pets

**Saturday September 28, 10:30 am
(on the front lawn)**

**All God's creatures are welcome!
Please bring a lawn chair.**

We will have a short service celebrating all of creation and asking God's blessings on pets and their people, followed by treats - for both animals and humans!

Please bring pets on a leash or in a carrier.

We invite you to bring a donation for the Ames Animal Shelter: dog food, cat food, litter, dog or cat treats, towels (may be old), or cash donations.

