



## First Baptist Church

### Proposed 2022 Budget

What a challenging time we have been through! Through all of the adversity we have faced both as individuals and as a church, God has sustained us. And through the challenges, we continue to discover new opportunities for ministry.

**“Sustained through Challenge; Challenged for Possibility”** is our stewardship theme for 2022. This Narrative Budget describes how we plan to move forward in ministry in the coming year, looking at our work together in four areas: **Worshipping, Learning, Caring, and Serving**. (Please note that staff salaries, utility costs, etc. are apportioned over these four areas.)

#### **WORSHIPING**

**\$88,518 (33%)**

Worship is the center of our life together as a church. Thoughtful and challenging preaching, inspiring music, prayer that opens us to God’s call, and congregational sharing help to make our worship of God a life-giving experience. We are blessed with a wonderful music program and with musicians of all ages who share their gifts with us.

Over the last year we have gone from completely online services to a hybrid service, with roughly equal number of folks in person

and on Zoom. The hybrid model is a work in process but makes it possible for many to attend and participate in worship who could not do so otherwise. We will continue to work on the way we do worship and to further technology improvements to facilitate this. A wonderful opportunity this has presented: in the past year, folks have attended our worship services via Zoom from 27 states, DC, Canada, and Germany!

We are glad that now that we are meeting in person, our choir is again able to lead us as we are led by Music Director Mindy Phomvisay, our new Choir Accompanist Elizabeth Stegemöller, and Music Intern Emma Phomvisay.



## **LEARNING**

**\$53,647 (20%)**

Christian discipleship is a life-long calling, and our church provides opportunities for members of all ages to grow in faith. Church School classes include opportunities to learn the stories of the Bible, find encouragement and support, study the scriptures in an in-depth way, and discuss current issues in light of our faith. Our Church School teachers have led us in creative ways; some groups are meeting in person, some online, and some in a hybrid format.

In 2022, we hope to hold our Music Camp again and have more in-person programming. Our gifts help provide learning materials, help send children and youth to camp, and help fund the technology that has become especially important.



We like to think of ourselves as a family of faith. Welcoming others to the family and caring for those in the family is important to us. This has been made more difficult through the pandemic, of course, but this has also provided opportunities including Virtual Trivia Nights, a Virtual Coffee Shop, and more.

Caring ministry is expressed as our staff, deacons, and other members reach out to those who are in need. In worship we take time to share prayer concerns and pray for one another. Shared communication



through various print and electronic formats helps to build community. We look forward to potluck meals, hayrides, our cook-off, and more in-person gatherings soon. In the meantime, God continues to sustain us.

## **SERVING**

**\$75,106 (28%)**

Our mission extends far beyond the walls of our building. Some of our hands-on ministry (such as mission trips) has been put on hold during the pandemic, but we continue to find ways to support and be involved in mission.

We have ramped up our giving to support those especially affected by the pandemic. At the end of 2020, with a budget surplus thanks to generous giving and reduced expenses, we used our surplus to send checks to the Story County Emergency Fund for Immigrants, Good Neighbor Emergency



Assistance, Food at First, and American Baptist United Mission. We make our building available to singing and boxing groups for people with Parkinson's disease and work with AMOS to build a community that works for everyone. Through our gifts of both time and money, we continue to reach out to God's people in need.

Natural gas costs are expected to rise 50-90% this winter. The proposed budget reflects an increase in heating costs. We recognize that such inflationary costs affect many people, and we have proposed increases for local mission partners who assist people in need. God continues to sustain us, and your generous gifts have provided the opportunity for us to care for others.

**Total Proposed Budget: \$268,235**