



*September, 2018*  
*Volume 64, No. 8*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
200 Lynn Ave.  
Ames, IA 50014-7188  
Worship Sundays 9:45 am

PHONE:  
515-292-9612  
E-MAIL  
[office@fbcomes.org](mailto:office@fbcomes.org)  
WEB:  
[www.fbcomes.org](http://www.fbcomes.org)

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.

# *The Spire*

*First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa*  
*Celebrating 150 Years!*

## Pastor's Word

We had a wonderful summer including a fabulous celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and another awesome Music Camp. We also enjoyed outdoor worship services on three different Sundays – in June at the Hoggatt School, in July at Brookside Park together with our friends from Ames UCC and First Christian, and then last Sunday at our Worship Under the Trees service.

Now ISU students are back, school has started, and we are gearing up for the fall. I invite you to take note of the many opportunities for worship, service, and fellowship highlighted in this month's *Spire*, as well as the latest installment of our series on FBC history. As part of the search team, I am particularly excited that we have selected a new Executive Minister for our region, and I invite you to join us in St. Paul for our regional gathering (info on back cover).

I hope to see you this Sunday!

Blessings,  
Dave

## FALL KICKOFF

### Church School News



#### **We kick off our fall schedule on September 9**

with Church School classes following worship. 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 (through grade 6):** Teacher Jan Thompson and assistants (including youth) lead the class that meets in the downstairs children's classroom. They will be using the One Room Sunday School curriculum.

**College/Young Adults:** Pastor Dave Russell will lead the college/young adult fellowship, meeting in the college lounge on the second floor. The groups meets for Bible study, support, fun, conversation about the great and not-so-great issues of the day, and lunch once a month.

**Adult Bible Study:** This class meets in the library and studies books of the Bible. Class members will share leadership.

**Theology Class:** Jere Maddux and others facilitate this discussion-based class. The group will be viewing and discussing the video series "The American Protestant Experience."

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

## FBC History: Changing Times and Social Justice, 1958-1977

Rev. Stanley Borden was called as pastor of First Baptist in 1958. He arrived at a time when church attendance was still riding the wave of postwar Protestantism. Average attendance for 1958 was 221, and the Roger Williams Club had over 40 members. Within a few short years, however, participation in the Roger Williams Club (renamed Baptist Student Fellowship) dropped off dramatically. The 1960's was a time of social change and increasing unrest on campus, and student interest in "organized religion" decreased significantly.



*Rev. Stanley Borden*

In 1960, as this trend was just beginning, an opportunity came about to purchase the house next door to the church at 304 Lynn. It was a Sears and Roebuck house, and the church purchased it for \$25,000 for use as a Covenant House. It would serve as the residence for the Associate Pastor/Campus Pastor, Frank Murdock, and include student apartments and meeting space. It was to serve as a place for an integrated program of study and worship for students. The Covenant House continued for several years, but the project ended when Bill Belli was called as Associate Pastor in 1965. At that time the house became the parsonage for the Associate Pastor, and campus ministry was increasingly done ecumenically together with the Presbyterians, UCC, Disciples, and Mennonites through the United Christian Campus Ministry.

The church responded to cultural changes of the era by increasing involvement and leadership in community ministry. Working with child development faculty at the university, First Baptist began the first nursery school in Ames in 1961. Johnie Hammond served as chair of the Ames Community Nursery School Board (which often meant unpaid director). The school was well-regarded and seen as a model by state inspection officials; at their suggestion our board wrote a

"how-to" manual for other groups contemplating beginning a nursery school. Because of our existing nursery school, the church was able to get in on the ground floor soon after federal legislation to establish the Head Start program, and in 1965 First Baptist became the site of the first Head Start program in Iowa.

Rev. Borden encouraged the church to pursue such social justice initiatives. Another effort related to senior adults. Rev. Borden was on the community Golden Age Cooperative Board, serving a term as president. The group founded what became Northcrest Retirement Community, with a site selected in 1962, groundbreaking in 1964, and the first residents in 1965. The board had difficulty getting a loan for the construction cost of \$265,000. Finally, Des Moines Savings and Loan agreed to make the loan with the Iowa Baptist Convention serving as guarantor. Rev. John Anderson became the first full-time administrator in 1967, and his wife Elaine became the bookkeeper. The Andersons served for many years at Northcrest and for many years in retirement as faithful members of First Baptist.

Another area of concern and action was affordable housing. Church members were involved in Story County Housing, Inc. and in 1969 the church made a \$5000 interest-free loan to Story County Housing. First Baptist was also involved in the formation of Ames Ecumenical Housing, which today includes the Keystone and Stonehaven apartments for low-income seniors.

Esther Borden, Stan's wife, was a musician and served as church organist. The music program, long a strength of the church, continued to thrive even while students no longer made up the bulk of the choir as they had a generation before.

In 1962 the church began providing a meeting place for the fledgling Jewish congregation in Ames, which met in the church lounge until 1972. Church members remember fondly assisting with bar mitzvah and bas mitzvah celebrations in the church fellowship hall. Ecumenical and interfaith services with the Jewish congregation and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic church were held. The space for the Jewish congregation continued the pattern began when the church welcomed the Friends congregation to meet in the church in earlier years.

Back in 1936, the church had established a Board of Deaconesses for women, alongside the Board of Deacons. The boards had for some time met together as a Diaconate. In the decade of the 60's, the question began to arise as to the role of women on the board. Longtime member and life deacon Christian Thomsen, at a deacons meeting in 1965, made the motion that women as well as men serve communion. The annual report from that year says that no one spoke against the motion, but neither would anyone speak for it. The motion died for lack of a second. It might be noted that women as well as men were a part of this meeting.

Three years later, the deacon board decided differently. Writing in the 1968 Annual Report, Deacon Chair Ross Talbot commented, "Necessity being, at least on occasion, the mother of invention, we did institute the practice of having lady deacons serve communion. The cake of custom cuts hard in our church, but the congregation seemed to accept the innovation."

It might be noted that before this time, the group was referred to in Annual Reports as “Board of Deacons and Deaconesses,” but afterwards simply as “Board of Deacons.” Lorene Hoover and Donna Cleasby were among these first women to serve communion.

While campus ministry was now done ecumenically, the church continued its own efforts with students through Church School classes and its Student Life Committee. In 1970, the University class taught by John McCully reported a high attendance of 25 students. Average worship attendance for the year was 159 and average Church School attendance 111.

The Borden years represented a significant time for the church, and First Baptist reached out in ministry to the community in a variety of ways that are still felt to this day. Rev. Borden’s progressive, activist ministry was appreciated by many members and was a good fit for the times. Many members grew in their understanding of Christian service and the ability to see Christ “in the least of these.” At the same time, his approach, if not his theological commitments, did not agree with everyone.

In December 1969, Rev. Borden preached a sermon that called for a reassessment of the doctrine of the Virgin Birth. The sermon was immediately controversial. As was the custom at the time, it was available in print form and found its way to the *Ames Tribune*, which printed the sermon. The publication only served to increase the sense of crisis in the church. Some families left the congregation, and there was a real sense of conflict and unease.

After a significant and eventful 12-year pastorate, Rev. Borden resigned in July 1970 to accept the call to the Trinity Community Church (ABC) in Minneapolis. Rev. William Davison, a retired ABC minister, served as interim pastor, and his caring and calming presence was just what the church needed during a time of transition.

In 1971 Rev. Kenneth Huyck came to First Baptist from University Baptist Church in Minneapolis, another university congregation. Huyck also had a social justice orientation and had marched with Dr. King in Selma. His wife Elnora was a professor of Home Economics. She led workshops at the church on topics including “Communication in the Family” and “Death and Dying” and preached on occasion.

Rev. Huyck began the tradition of Christmas Eve services as well as the Christmas Vespers service at Northcrest. With reduced numbers of children in the church – a trend of many years - the church began conducting Vacation Bible School together with Collegiate United Methodist Church, and later in cooperation with Ames UCC and First Christian Church.



*Rev. Kenneth Huyck and Jean Seidel*

The church continued to make its facility available to community organizations. Those using the building in the 1970’s included Alcoholics Anonymous and al-Anon, the Chinese Bible Study group, the Lay Theological Institute, and a Neighborhood Bible Study as well as the continued operation of the Ames Community Nursery School.

In 1974 church members including Rev. Bill Belli (now employed solely by UCCM), Jenna McCarley, and Johnie Hammond were part of a group studying ways to help those in the criminal justice system. The Committee on Criminal Justice eventually became what is today the Center for Creative Justice. Beginning with a \$10,000 start-up grant from American Baptist National Ministries, CCJ provided community-based probation services as well as mediation services.

First Baptist’s missional orientation extended beyond the local community to world mission. The church continued to be a leading church in the region in financial support for mission work, and in 1976 the church sponsored two Tai Dam refugee families from Southeast Asia. The church provided housing, clothing, home furnishings, English lessons, and more, as well as assistance in navigating all that comes with entering into a completely new culture. The relationship with the families continued for many years.

In February 1977, Rev. Huyck resigned as pastor. The Huycks moved to Manhattan, Kansas where Elnora assumed a position as Assistant Dean at Kansas State University.

*In celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will be highlighting a story from FBC history each month. These stories are available on our website at [www.fbcames.org](http://www.fbcames.org).*





### September 2

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

### September 9

*Worship Leader:* Jan Thompson  
*Ushers:* Michael Thompson, Nancy Maydew  
 Kaylinn Taggart  
*Sound System:* Tom Logue

### September 16

*Worship Leader:* Jared Diehl  
*Ushers:* Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue  
 Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard  
*Sound System:* Kent Johnson

### September 23

*Worship Leader:* Susan Russell  
*Ushers:* Scott Anderson, Julie Johnston  
 TJ Nugent  
*Sound System:* Tom Logue

### September 30

*Worship Leader:* Lorrie Whitaker  
*Ushers:* Barbara Woods  
*Sound System:* Kent Johnson

**September Flowers:** Jill Leininger

## Landscape Committee to Meet

As part of our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign, a Landscape Committee has been formed to address landscaping needs on our property. Members include Jill Leininger, Phyllis Schrag, Beth Douglass, Jan Thompson, and Wes Johnson, chair. The committee will be looking at a variety of issues, including damaged and diseased trees, beautification of the grounds, storm water runoff, and low maintenance plantings.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch

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



September 16—Culver's  
 October 21—Arby's on Duff  
 November 18—Mongolian Buffet

For more information, see Catherine Parrish



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



Donna and Jack Cleasby	2
Jill and Michael Leininger	6
Jeanette and Dick Gee	10
Janelle Keltgen and John Lauridsen	16

## Parking Reminder

ISU classes were back in session Monday, August 20, which means (among other things) that our parking lot is a busy place. Numbered parking places are rented to students. If you are here for choir rehearsal or another midweek event, please park in one of the church parking spots in back of the building. If needed, 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.

**Thank you**, members of First Baptist Church, who sent get well wishes, called, and visited both in the hospital and at the house. And, Pastor Dave, I deeply appreciate your contacts and concern. Of course, prayer—you all did a great job. The hip surgery recuperation is moving along nicely. Thanks, Thanks, Thanks!

Buckley Peterson



## Welcomefest Report



Our church participated in Welcomefest, an event for ISU students featuring local businesses and non-profits, city departments, and student services at ISU. We were able to

give away about 375 FBC stadium cups and pens, as well as information about our church and Hershey's kisses. We enjoyed interesting conversations with students and spread the word about FBC. TJ Nugent, Kaylinn Taggart, Becca Whitaker, and Pastor Dave staffed our table.

On September 9, 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](mailto:jaguar@isunet.net) or Dianne Borgen, [fhborgen@aol.com](mailto:fhborgen@aol.com).



## Fellowship Time

Thank you to all who provided refreshment for Fellowship Time over the summer: Phyllis and Larry Schrag, Jon Pritchard, Buckley and Marilyn Peterson, Julie Johnston, Jeanine Cole, Mark Reuber, Adde and Lucy Stegemöller, Barbara Woods, Trey Belle-Lawson, Rita and Bob Parrish, John and Lorrie Whitaker, Gabe and Lyndsay Whitaker, Becca Whitaker, Gary and Nancy Maydew, Joe and Catherine Parrish & Greg and Stephanie Goodman.

## Hymn Sing



All are welcome to join their voices in a community hymn sing on Sunday, September 16, beginning at 2 pm in the Farwell T. Brown Auditorium, Ames Public Library. This musical opportunity is a joint effort by Ames Public Library, Ames Mennonite Church and First Baptist Church of Ames. Participants are asked to bring a snack to share during the fellowship time following the hymn sing.

## Habitat for Humanity Offering

On September 16 we will receive our annual offering for Habitat for Humanity. Dan Thomsen, manager of the local Habitat Store, will give an update on Habitat during worship that morning. Our church is a Covenanting Congregation with Habitat, supporting its efforts through prayer, financial support, and volunteers.



## Region Names New Executive Minister



*Search Committee with new Executive Minister  
Rev. Jacqueline Saxon (center)*

The Rev. Jacqueline Saxon was elected as Executive Minister of Mid-American Baptist Churches (MABC) at a region board meeting on August 25. MABC is a regional body of American Baptist Churches and includes 125 congregations in Iowa and Minnesota. Rev. Saxon comes to the region from Austin, Texas where she most recently served as Vice-President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She has previous experience on the staff of University Baptist Church in Austin and worked for 12 years as a Financial Analyst for IBM. Jackie is a lifelong American Baptist and has served in a variety of ways nationally, including co-director of national youth gatherings, chair of the national Women in Ministry task force, national leadership team for ABGirls, president of ABC Campus Ministers Association, ABC/USA General Board member, and American Baptist Foundation board member. She will officially begin on October 1 and will be installed at our Regional Gathering in St. Paul October 5-6.



This year, Ames Pridefest will include a worship service on Sunday, September 30 at 2 pm at Collegiate United Methodist Church. The service is sponsored by Collegiate UMC, Ames UCC, First Christian Church, Unity Church, and First Baptist. All are welcome.

### CROP Walk



The 2018 Ames Area Crop Walk for Hunger will be held on Sunday, October 14th. The walk will start and end at Brookside Park. Registration is at 1:00 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 had a long tradition of supporting the CROP Walk and we encourage everyone to participate by walking or sponsoring a walker. Last year, the Ames walk raised \$37,000 to support local, national, and international hunger relief efforts.

**Bethesda Lutheran Church**  
 1517 Northwestern Ave., Ames

**Saturday, September 8**

**Noon-5 pm**



Food (and drink available for purchase)...face-painting...inflatable bounce house & slide....contests...  
 polka lessons & dancing....Admission is FREE!

*(see flyer on the bulletin board for more info)*



### 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PIG ROAST

**Sunday, September 23**  
**Noon-2 pm**

**Gilbert Lutheran Church**  
 135 School Street, Gilbert

Free Will Donation (suggested prices \$10 adults, \$8 seniors/military, \$5 children 6-11, free for children 5 and under)

Proceeds benefit the GLC Building and Ground Fund

*(see flyer on the bulletin board for more info)*

# SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <p>Monday—Closed  Tuesday—9am-Noon &amp; 1-3pm  Wednesday—9am-1pm  Thursday—9am- Noon &amp; 1-3pm  Friday—8am-Noon</p>   </div>						<p>1</p> 
<p>2</p> <p>9:45a Worship  11a Fellowship Time</p>	<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>8a Men's Break-fast, Perkins  5p Women United</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:45a Worship  11a Fellowship Time  11:15a Church School</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4p Music &amp; Movement  5p Women United  7p Trustees</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin  3p Parkinson's Singing Group  6:30p Choir</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:45a Worship  11a Church School  12p 3rd Sunday Lunch at Culver's  2p Prayer Shawl Circle  2p Hymn Sing at Ames Public Library</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8a Men's Break-fast, Perkins  4p Music &amp; Movement  5p Women United</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3p Parkinson's Singing Group  6:30p Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30p Deacons</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> 
<p>23</p> <p>9:45a Worship  11a Church School</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5p Women United</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4p Music &amp; Movement  5p Women United</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins  3p Parkinson's Singing Group  6:30p Choir</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:45a Worship  11a Church School  2p Pridefest Worship at Collegiate/Wesley</p>						





**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

**Mid-American Baptist Churches Biennial Gathering**  
**Friday-Saturday, October 5-6**  
**First Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota**

"Tell Me the Old, Old Story Today"

Rev. Dr. Cindy Halvorson of First Baptist, Owatonna, Minnesota will be our keynote speaker and we will install our new regional Executive Minister, Rev. Jacqueline Saxon. Those attending may choose from workshops including ministry with children, ministry in Puerto Rico, and an update on the AMOS medical ministry in Nicaragua and political challenges facing that country. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board; you may see Pastor Dave or call the church office for more details. A group rate is available at the Embassy Suites near the church through September 5.

