



**First Baptist Church of Ames
2019 Plan for Ministry**

Our budget represents our commitment to embody and share the love of Christ in our congregation, in the Ames community, and around the world. Our 2019 Stewardship Theme is “Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with God,” taken from Micah 6:8. Using these three dimensions of active faith as a framework, this Narrative Budget is an effort to tell the story of our plans for ministry in the coming year.

DO JUSTICE **\$68,022 (27%)**

Our mission as a church involves learning and living the way of Jesus, working for peace, justice, wholeness and salvation for all people. Church School classes help us to grow in faith and learn to follow Christ, and our mission outreach promotes ministries of justice around the world, beginning here in Ames. We are members of AMOS, an organization that works to build a community that works for everyone. We support American Baptist missionaries who work for peace and justice around the world. We continue to improve our facilities to make them inviting and accessible for everyone.

In order to be connected and have a voice in our community, we are a member of the Campustown Action Association and participate in community events ranging from Welcomefest at ISU to the Martin Luther King Jr. community worship service. We make our facilities available, or rent at fair rates, to groups whose missions we support including singing and dancing groups for Parkinson’s Disease patients, the Center for Creative Justice, the United Way “Women With Initiative” group, and Heart and Solutions Counseling.



Because we believe that everyone matters and everyone has a gift to share, we make an effort to include and welcome the gifts of all, including our children and youth. Many of our ministries have an intergenerational flavor, including social activities, our choir and music program, and worship.

LOVE MERCY **\$72,758 (29%)**

We reach out in love to care for those who are in need, both near and far. Our mission outreach supports works of both justice and mercy. We support a variety of ministries that help provide food, shelter, medical care, and other support for persons in need. Our plans for 2019 include a mission trip to Puerto Rico to assist in ongoing rebuilding efforts there.

We express caring ministry as a church in many ways. Our staff, deacons, and other members reach out to those who are hurting with visits in homes, hospitals, care centers, and workplaces. Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is an important expression of concern for others. Our annual Great Day of Service is a way to express mercy and care for our community and beyond.

Our concern for one another is expressed through community-building opportunities within our congregation including fellowship times after worship, our annual cook-off, and a variety of social events and opportunities to be together.

WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD **\$108,610 (44%)**

Worship is the center of our life together as a church. Thoughtful and challenging preaching, inspiring music, and congregational participation help to make our worship of God a life-giving experience. We support a wonderful music program for all ages and look forward to our 20th Annual Music Camp in 2019 – an exciting ministry offered to children and youth in the community.



We are blessed by special times of worship including choir cantatas, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter Sunday, our Worship under the Trees service, and worship at the park with friends from other churches. Sermons are made available on the Internet and shared with members and friends everywhere.



We provide opportunities for members of all ages to grow in our walk with God through Church School classes, Lenten Studies, special guest speakers, and more. Our gifts provide materials and training opportunities for teachers and scholarships for children and youth to attend camp. College students gather regularly for fellowship and study. Our library provides reading materials for all ages, and our subscription with Iowa Religious Media Services makes a wealth of resources available to our church.

TOTAL BUDGET **\$249,390 (increase of 0.3% from 2018)**

Note: this narrative budget includes all regular budget expenditures including staff salaries and building and maintenance expenses as well as program expenses for specific areas of ministry. This does not include special mission offerings or other non-budgeted expenses.