

## Our 2017 Proposed Budget

### First Baptist Church of Ames

A church budget is a plan for ministry, representing our commitment to embody and share the love of Christ in our congregation, in the Ames community, and around the world. This Narrative Budget is an effort to tell the story of our church's ministry plans for 2017.

#### WE WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER

**\$78,316 (31%)**



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. Our Music Camp is an exciting ministry offered to children and youth in the community, and we support a wonderful music program for all ages. We look forward to special times of worship including choir cantatas,

Christmas Eve, our Worship under the Trees service, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Sermons are made available on the Internet and shared with members and friends everywhere.

#### WE CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

**\$50,526 (20%)**

Caring ministry is expressed in many ways. Our pastoral 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. We also take time to celebrate life's joys with one another. Events ranging from the fellowship time after worship to our annual cook-off to hayrides are opportunities to enjoy being together. The Men's Breakfast and Women's Lunch groups are ongoing opportunities for fellowship. The *Spire*, our Sunday worship bulletin and our website keep us informed about church life.

#### WE LEARN TOGETHER

**\$53,052 (21%)**

We provide opportunities for members of all ages to grow in faith. Each Sunday from September to May, we offer Church School classes. Our gifts provide materials and training opportunities for teachers. College students gather regularly for meals, fellowship, and Bible study. Our library provides reading materials for all ages and we have a monthly book group. Our subscription to Iowa Religious Media Services makes a wealth of resources available to our church, and we participate in learning events both locally and through our denomination.



#### WE MINISTER TO OUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD

**\$70,736 (28%)**

Our mission extends far beyond the walls of our building. We are involved in hands-on ministry in our community, and we support local ministries that counsel, feed, and house people in need. We partner with the Center for Creative Justice as a way of helping first time offenders in Story County turn their lives around. We are

members of AMOS, an organization that seeks to make our community a better place, especially looking out for the needs of the poor and marginalized. Through our region and ABC/USA, we support mission both close to home and around the world. Our support for Central Baptist Seminary helps provide ministerial leadership for our churches. Our budget includes funds to help support a church mission trip in 2017.



#### TOTAL BUDGET

**\$252,630 (increase of 2.5% from 2016)**

*Note: this narrative budget includes all staff salaries and building and maintenance expenses as well as program expenses for specific areas of ministry.*