



# The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

October, 2019  
Volume 65, No. 9

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.

## GREAT DAY OF SERVICE

### Sunday, October 6

We will have a seven minute worship service in the sanctuary, followed by hands-on service projects including:

- Make Campustown Shine (neighborhood cleanup project)
- assembling hygiene kits for Church World Service
- making no-sew fleece blankets for newborns
- visiting residents at care centers

We'll all gather at noon in the Fellowship Hall for a simple meal.

### Pastor's Word

I want to thank everyone for a wonderful celebration of my 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as your pastor! The meal was delicious and I was very touched by the program. It was also a treat to have Gary Grogan as our guest preacher that morning. Thank you for so many kind words and expressions of support.

Of course, this was an occasion for looking back on those twenty years. Many of our members were here when Susan and Zoe and I moved to Ames, but in looking at our congregation today, I am struck that over 2/3 of us were not in the church 20 years ago. (Some were not yet born 20 years ago!)

Thinking about these past 20 years, I came up with a list of some of my involvements at FBC "by the numbers" – some of these are rough estimates:

- 800 sermons
- 650 children's sermons
- 625 choir rehearsals
- 200 Spire columns
- 200 college student meals
- 65 business meetings
- 20 Worship Under the Trees services (2 indoors)
- 19 Christmas Eve services
- 18 music camps
- 15 years serving together with Susan on the staff
- 8 mission trips
- 2 ½ capital campaigns (one was a smaller appeal for a new elevator lift)
- 2 sabbaticals

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- 2 Ames Church League basketball championships
- 1 church karaoke night

(I decided I didn't want to try to add up how many board and committee meetings I have attended.)

The real story of a church, of course, is not in the statistics. The story is the people and the spirit and the commitment and the joy of this community of faith. The story is in journeying together in both the joyful times and the difficult times, and the way that God's spirit has been with us through it all.

The church is different than it was 20 years ago, and not just because some have moved away or died, and others have joined us. It is different because the context has changed. Ames has changed. Campustown has changed. The culture has changed. Yet amidst all this change, this has continued to be a compassionate, thoughtful, generous and courageous community of faith.

We are far from a perfect church, but maybe that's why this has been a good fit - I'm not perfect, either. But I have to be honest: we're pretty good!

Again, thank you for a great day.

Blessings,  
Dave

(photos from the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event can be found on page 6)

## 2020 Budget Process

Our annual Budget Forum will be Sunday, October 20, following Church School. We invite everyone to participate as we consider not just numbers on a sheet of paper, but our ministry plans for the coming year. Our fall stewardship campaign will follow, leading to Pledge Sunday, November 10. Based on the results of that campaign, the Executive Council will recommend a final budget for adoption at our business meeting to be held on December 8. Thank you to all who contribute so generously to help make this a vital community of faith, on mission in our community and in our world.



## Blessing of the Pets

We were blessed with a beautiful morning, with both canine and human worshippers in our Blessing of the Pets service on September 28. Supplies including dog food, cat food, treats, and toys were received as the offering and taken to the Ames Animal Shelter. Thanks to all who participated as we asked for God's blessing on animals and their people.





**October 6** *Great Day of Service*

**October 13**

*Worship Leader:* Emma Phomvisay  
*Ushers:* Larry Schrag, Nancy Maydew  
 Beth Douglass, Elijah Phomvisay  
*Sound System:* Tom Logue

**October 20**

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

**October 27**

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

**October Flowers:** Dianne Borgen

**Fall Worship Theme: Season of Stewardship**

Here are worship themes for the coming weeks, along with other activities and emphases that may help inform the theme for the day.

October 6 - Great Day of Service

October 13 - The Walk of Life (CROP Walk Sunday, World Mission Offering month)

October 20 – Dimes and Dollars (Budget Forum)

October 27 – Scarcity vs. Abundance (Harvest Festival)

November 3 – Keeping the Garden (All Saints Sunday)

November 10 – Generous Hearts (Pledge Sunday)

**Harvest Festival**

Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> for our first Harvest Festival with games, a pumpkin carving/painting contest, a cake walk, and walking tacos! Bring your



quarters, as we will vote on our favorite pumpkins in various categories with cash, with proceeds going to the World Mission Offering. If you would like to carve or paint a pumpkin (foam or real) please sign up on the bulletin board, so we know how many pumpkins to get. (Foam pumpkins may be painted or carved). Please contact Erin Johnson or Becca Whitaker with questions.

# October

Jeanne Williams	2	Martha Gleason	26	
Douglas Thomas	3	Lucas Anderson	29	
Kenneth Johnson	4	Kyleigh Murphy	29	
Marian Thompson	9	John Whitaker	29	Lyndsay and Gabe Whitaker
Fred Borgen	10	Luke Rustin	29	8
Joe Parrish	12	Larry Schrag	30	Michele and Noel Hassler
Dorothy Ewing	16			21



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.

## New CCJ Director to Speak



Taylor Schram, who began in August as the new Executive Director for the Center for Creative Justice, will share a Mission Moment in worship on Sunday, October 27. A graduate of Ames High School and Iowa State, Taylor worked as the Office Manager and as a

Probation Officer before being named Executive Director of CCJ.

The Center for Creative Justice is a private, non-profit probation agency established in 1974 through the efforts of members of First Baptist and with a start-up grant from American Baptist Churches. CCJ is "Dedicated to positive change in our community... one life at a time." Today, CCJ provides probation supervision for lower-level offenders, most of whom would not otherwise receive supervision, and supervises about 75% of community members placed on probation in Story County. About 85% successfully complete probation, and 94% of those who complete probation do not re-offend.

## World Mission Offering



Through the month of October, we will receive the World Mission Offering, which supports American Baptist mission work around the world. Our gifts help to support missionaries currently in the field and to train new missionaries for service. Our gifts help to build relationships with 240 global partners around the world. It is through these networks with Christian groups in other nations that our missionaries are invited to serve, and we work closely with these partners as

we provide relief and disaster assistance. Our church knows personally some of our mission personnel who work overseas. Based in Amsterdam, Luran Bethell fights human trafficking around the world. Her current work focuses on grass-roots efforts to address exploitation and abuse of women and children. David and Laura Parajon continue their amazing health ministry in Nicaragua, bringing medical care to rural areas and establishing health, hygiene, nutrition, and clean water projects. Some of us met last week with Ray Schellinger, our Global Consultant for Immigrants and Refugees. Ray works with U.S. and global partners to bring compassion, hope, and the love of Christ to some of the most vulnerable people in the world. Our gifts to the WMO support the work of these global servants and much more. We will receive this offering through the month of October, and invite you to give generously.

## Northcrest Ranked #2 Best Workplace

Great Places to Work and FORTUNE have honored Northcrest Community as one of the Best Places to Work for Aging Services. Great Places to Work, a global analytics and consulting firm, considered feedback from 223,183 employees working for Senior Housing Care and At-Home Care organizations, evaluating more than 60 elements of team members experience on the job. Northcrest ranked #2 nationally on the list.



"Northcrest is proud to be recognized... We have a collaborative, respectful and inclusive culture across the board," said Linda Doyle CEO of Northcrest Community. "When we come to work, we know that it is about more than clocking in and out. We know that, at the end of the day, no matter what department, we've made a difference in someone's life."

First Baptist was instrumental in Northcrest's founding and continues to have strong ties to Northcrest. A number of FBC members are Northcrest residents. Congratulations to Northcrest Community on this honor!

# October Happenings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins</p> <p>4p PD Movement &amp; Music</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2p PD Discussion Group</p> <p>3p PD Singing</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5p Women United</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9:45a Great Day of Service</p> <p><b>GREAT DAY OF SERVICE</b></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>4p PD Movement &amp; Music</p> <p>6:15p Stewardship Committee</p> <p>7p Trustees</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin</p> <p>3p PD Singing</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7p Lambda Chi Alpha</p>	
<p>13</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>11a Fellowship Time</p> <p>11:15a Church School</p> <p>1:30p CROP Walk</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins</p> <p>4p PD Movement &amp; Music</p>	<p>16</p> <p>3p PD Singing</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p> 	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>11a Church School</p> <p>12p Budget Forum</p> <p>12p 3rd Sunday Lunch (Culver's, 525 Gilchrist)</p> <p>2p Prayer Shawl Circle</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8a Heart &amp; Solutions</p> <p>4p PD Movement &amp; Music</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30p Deacons</p>	<p>25</p>	
<p>27</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>11a Harvest Festival</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>5p Women United</p>	<p>29</p> <p>4p PD Movement &amp; Music</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>31</p> 	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Church Office Hours</b></p> <p>Monday—Closed</p> <p>Tuesday—9am-Noon &amp; 1-4pm</p> <p>Wednesday—9am-1pm</p> <p>Thursday—9am-Noon &amp; 1-3pm</p> <p>Friday—8am-Noon</p> </div>	



**First Baptist Church**

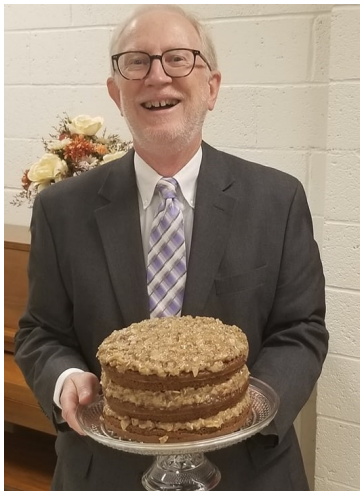
**AMES**

**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



A Special  
**CELEBRATION**

On Sunday, September 22, First Baptist held a special worship service and meal in celebration of Pastor Dave's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Pastor at FBC. In addition, the congregation helped Dave also celebrate his birthday. A short program included several speakers, and a few words from Dave himself.

