



The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

Pastor's Word

In a few days, I will be traveling to Costa Rica to participate in a mission trip (October 30-November 7). I will be part of a group of American Baptists that will travel to visit a number of churches and ministry sites (including a camp and a school) that are part of the Federation of Baptist Churches of Costa Rica. We will mostly be in the area around the capital of San Jose but will also travel to the Atlantic coast to a part of the country settled by people from Jamaica. Churches in that area are mostly English-speaking.

November, 2017
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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.

I am looking forward to seeing the country – the rain forest, the biological diversity, the colorful birds and variety of wildlife. But I am also looking forward to the opportunity to meet with people in a setting that is much different than ours. We will meet with pastors and church leaders and worship in Costa Rican churches. We will also be visiting with American Baptist missionaries Ruth Mooney, Sue Hagarty, and Peter and Sarah McCurdy.

One of the best ways to learn and grow is to interact with folks who are in a different context than we are in – people who may think about church differently and do church differently. I have been on a number of mission trips, and learned something from all of them. Those of you have gone on mission trips can probably attest that far beyond whatever help or encouragement we may provide or projects we may complete, the greatest value in such trips is often in what we learn and bring back from the experience.

The group I will be a part of is fairly diverse: nine individuals, men and women, from six states, including pastors, lay people, and denominational staff. We will fly from eight different airports!

Some of you may recall that a trip I was planning to go on as a part of our sabbatical a couple of years ago was cancelled, so some of the funds planned for that use are supporting this trip. I am grateful for the support and the opportunity to go. You can count on hearing a report when I get back!

Blessings,
Dave

Mark Your Calendar!

**First Baptist Church
150th Anniversary Celebration**

July 1, 2018

Details to come!

Worship Leaders

November 5

Worship Leader: Michael Thompson

Ushers: Bob Parrish*, Kent Johnson
Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders

Sound System: Bob Parrish

November 12

Worship Leader: Joe Parrish

Ushers: Michael Thompson*, Jill Grauman,
Nancy Maydew, Kaylinn Taggart

Sound System: Tom Logue

November 19

Worship Leader: Pat Coffey

Ushers: Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue
Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard

Sound System: Kent Johnson

November 26

Worship Leader: Beth Douglass

Ushers: Scott Anderson, Julie Johnston,
Jere Maddux, Tiffany Nugent

Sound System: Tom Logue

Flowers for November: Jenna McCarley



Lyndsay Whitaker	4
Janelle Keltgen	5
Abby Johnson	6
Lucy Johnson	6
Helen Sassaman	8
Harris Seidel	12
Marilyn Peterson	13
Jill Grauman	17
Brian Starrett	24
Donna Cleasby	25
Buckley Peterson	27
Ngair West-Johnson	28



Catherine and Joe Parrish 20



Many thanks to Fred and Dianne Borgen for hosting October's Fellowship Hour. November's Fellowship gathering will be held on Sunday, November 12th.



Our Capital Campaign Committee has formulated a proposal for facility improvement and funding. Our 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign has a goal of \$150,000 which will go toward a reconstructed parking lot, new rear doors, new floor covering in the lounge, library, and kitchen, and other improvements. A mailing went out last week with details of the proposal. This proposal will be discussed and voted on at the Budget Forum, held at noon on Sunday, October 29th.

A packet of stewardship materials will be mailed next week. This will include a proposed budget and a pledge card for 2018 as well as (if the proposal is approved) information about and a pledge card for our capital campaign, proposed for November 2017-December 2019.

For more information you may see one of the Capital Campaign/Stewardship Committee members: Barbara Woods, Jere Maddux, Wallace Sanders, and Wes Johnson.

Music News

Our choir has just begun working on a Christmas Cantata. If you are not a regular part of the choir but would like to join us for the cantata, we would love to welcome more singers! The choir rehearses at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings.



Our instrumental ensemble will be playing in worship on October 29th, and then again during the Advent/Christmas season. See Mindy or Pastor Dave if you would like to join us – if you play nearly any instrument, you are welcome!

Christian Sympathy



Our love and prayers are with Elizabeth Stegemöller and her family in the loss of her father, Larry Whitener. The funeral was held on October 24th in Farmington, Missouri.

Combined Choir Concert

Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc. presents their Annual Combined Choir Concert. Featured will be 13 choirs from the Ames area. The concert will be held Sunday, November 5, 2:00 pm at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church (2900 Hoover Ave.). A free will donation will be taken to support Good Neighbor's rent, utility, food, and transportation programs.



AMOS Assembly Report

Nine FBC members were part of the Ames AMOS Assembly held on October 23 at Bethesda Lutheran Church. Around 140 people gathered to learn more about AMOS' organizing strategy of using relational power to bring about positive change. Pastor Dave gave a report on our Spirited Listening meetings held in June, and we heard reports on the successful initiative on establishing a Story County Housing Trust fund as well as the great need for better mental health care in Ames. There were also questions for mayoral, city council, and hospital board candidates, who had the chance to learn about the way AMOS works and the issues that concern us. All 12 AMOS institutions in Ames were represented, and all committed to sending members to the mental health house meeting on November 9 and an AMOS training on Martin Luther King weekend in January.



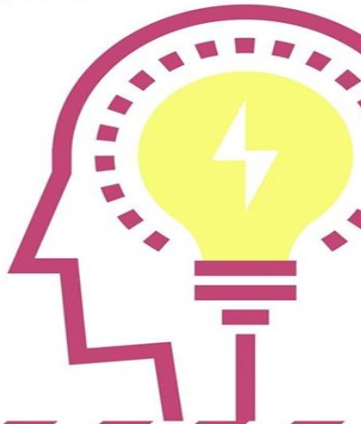
AMES AMOS CLUSTER

MENTAL HEALTH HOUSE MEETING



Thursday,
November 9,
7-8:30 p.m.

BETHESDA
LUTHERAN
(1517
NORTHWESTERN
AVE, AMES)



Great Day of Service

On October 22 we held our annual Great Day of Service. After a very brief worship time in the sanctuary, we divided into groups to work on a variety of service projects. We picked up trash throughout Campustown, participating in the “Make Campustown Shine” program. We assembled 212 Hygiene Kits for Church World Service, which will go to refugees and victims of natural disasters. (The CWS warehouse was completely emptied of hygiene kits following the hurricane and flooding in Texas.) Some participants made fleece baby blankets to be distributed to newborns through Primary Health Care, and others wrote cards to communicate our care to others. Our children and others went to Northcrest and visited and sang for residents.

After completing our projects, we met back at church to share a meal together. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make our Great Day of Service a truly great day!





November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> Regular Office Hours Tuesday—9am-Noon and 1-3pm Wednesday—9am-1pm Thursday—9am-Noon and 1-3pm Friday—8am-Noon </div>			1 2:00p Parkinson's Discussion Group 3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	2 5:00p Women United	3	4 2:00p Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
5 9:45a Worship 11a Church School	6	7 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins 4:00p Parkinson's Music & Movement Group	8 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin 3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	9 5:00p Women United	10	11
12 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11:15a Church School	13	14 4:00p Parkinson's Music & Movement Group	15 3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	16 5:00p Women United	17	18 9:00a Work Day
19 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 12p 3 rd Sunday Lunch (El Azteca, 2727 Stange Rd.) 2p Prayer Shawl Circle	20	21 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins 4:00p Parkinson's Music & Movement Group	22 11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins 3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group	23 Church Office Closed 	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 9:45a Worship 11:00a Church School	27 5:30p Women United	28 4:00p Parkinson's Music & Movement Group	29 3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	30		

First Baptist Church
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
Karina Anderson	Child Care
Hanna Saville	Child Care

Thanks to all who participated in the CROP Walk! Seven folks from FBC took part in the walk to fight hunger in our community and around the world. Thanks to Julie Johnston, Barbara Woods, Mariah Gilbertson, Becca Whitaker, Stephanie Goodman, Jill Leininger, and Dave Russell.



Coming in December

December 3	Hanging of the Greens following worship
December 9	Christmas Dinner and Program, 6 pm
December 10	Cantata, 9:45 am
	Budget and Election Meeting, 12 noon
December 17	Vespers at Northcrest, 5 pm
December 24	Social Hour, 5 pm
	Christmas Eve service, 6 pm

Guest Preacher

We welcome Rev. Dr. Marshall Peters to our pulpit on November 5. Marshall has served since 2002 as Executive Minister for our Mid-American Baptist Churches, which includes around 130 churches in Iowa and Minnesota. He has announced his retirement from that position in May 2018.