



# *The Spire* First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

## Pastor's Word

First Baptist Church of Ames was organized 150 years ago, in the year 1868. One hundred fifty years is a long time. In 1868, Wyoming Territory was organized, the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment guaranteed African Americans full citizenship, Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* was published, and President Andrew Johnson was impeached. Thomas Edison received his first patent, the stapler was invented, and helium was discovered.

*January, 2018*  
*Volume 64, No. 1*

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.



First Building, 1872

And in the new and growing town of Ames, First Baptist Church was organized, joining the brand new Congregational and Methodist churches. Some of the charter members of the church had previously been members of the Squaw Creek Church, a by-then dissolved Baptist congregation which was the first church in the area.

In this 150<sup>th</sup> year, we will be celebrating our history and heritage. But the celebration is not simply for the sake of nostalgia. Our anniversary theme is "Blessing the Past, Building the Future." We honor the past and remember our history so that we can build on it and renew our vision for a new day.

Throughout the year, we will include a historical vignette or photo in each month's *Spire*. And I want to invite everyone to mark your calendars now and plan to join us June 30-July 1 for our 150<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary Celebration. Plans are still in process, but we will have a choir reunion and a celebration dinner for everyone on Saturday, and a special worship service on Sunday.

We are also hoping to have a Sunday service at the Hoggatt School, where Squaw Creek Church met. The school is now on the grounds of Meeker Elementary.

Happy New Year! I'm looking forward to it!

Blessings,  
Dave



### January 7

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

### January 14

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

### January 21

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

### January 28

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



Dacian Wilson	8
Toyin Clotey	9
Alex Parrish	19
Jere Maddux	20
Alice Clemons	22
Tiffany Nugent	24
Lumi Clotey	25
Howard Johnson	27
Stacy Starrett	29

### Annual Report Time



Our annual congregational meeting is set for **Sunday, January 28 at 12:00 pm**. We will receive annual reports from our various areas of ministry and conduct other items of business. We are asking board and committee chairs, representatives to community organizations, officers and staff to **submit reports to the church office by January 18** to allow time to put together the Book of Reports.

### Costa Rica Mission Presentation

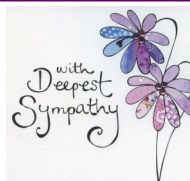
In November, I was part of a group of nine American Baptists who visited a variety of churches and ministry sites that are part of the Federation of Baptist Churches of Costa Rica. This included urban, suburban, and rural churches both in the San Jose region (capital city) and along the Atlantic coast. While most were Spanish speaking, some churches of Jamaican heritage were English speaking. I'll be sharing about this trip on Tuesday, January 23 at 6:30 in the lounge. Everyone is invited!



- Pastor Dave



Mark your calendars and join us for a **Super Bowl Party** on the evening of Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. The festivities will start at 5:15 pm with kick-off at 5:30 pm. Feel free to bring a snack to share. If you are not a big football fan, there will also be board games!



Our love and prayers are with Dawn Doerr-Johnson in the loss of Jim, who died on January 3. Visitation will be on Sunday, January 7, 3-5pm. The Funeral Service will be 10:30am on Monday January 8.

### Pledge Update

Thank you to all who made a financial pledge of support to our church for 2018! Through our stewardship campaign we received 39 pledges, including 4 new pledges, for a total of \$183,400. Thank you for your generous giving! If you would still like to make a pledge, it's not too late. Pledge cards are available in the narthex or from the church office.



## Active Love

### DISPELS DARKNESS

2018 Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Service

January 14, 2018

2:00 PM

Hosted by:

**Trinity Christian  
Reformed Church**

3626 Ontario

Ames, Iowa

Special offering for the  
Dream Seed Scholarship

A Reception

Will Follow

All are Invited

All Are Welcome



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that.  
Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Illustrated by Bryan Collier

### Notes of Thanks

"Thank you so much for the opportunity of using the pianos and beautiful space with my piano students." - Patricia (Izbicki)

"To all the young people and adults who help assemble all of the tasty delights, Thank you so much." - Kay Lambert

"Thank you for the Christmas gifts. We appreciate so much this congregation's support and thoughtfulness." - the FBC Staff



### Capital Campaign Update

***Blessing the Past, Building the Future***  
**First Baptist Church 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign**

As of publication time, we have received 36 gifts and pledges to our capital campaign for a total of \$107,439.47. Combined with an earlier gift, this makes a total of \$122,439.47. And along with \$50,000 in funds on hand that will go toward the campaign, we have a total of \$172,439.47 in available funds. Thank you for your generous response to the appeal to renew our facilities!

Our capital improvement plans included a new parking lot, a rain garden, new east side doors with an awning over the north door, new carpeting in the lounge and library and new flooring in the kitchen. We have talked to contractors and engineers regarding these projects and will soon be signing contracts. We have learned that a complete reconstruction of the parking lot would trigger ordinances and codes that would be costly and difficult for us to implement (for example, a good portion of the current parking lot goes to the edge of the property, and changing this would mean the considerable loss of parking spaces). So, we will likely be resurfacing the existing lot, with repair work to establish a solid base in problem areas. A rain garden may be problematic because of the nearby basement, but some new landscaping is still an option. We will be working with an engineering firm on these issues. We still hope to do parking lot construction work as soon as ISU classes are out in the spring.

### A Way to Do Good and Do Well

The Endowment Committee would like to remind members that contributions from IRAs (either traditional or ROTH) do not have to be included in gross income if certain conditions are met:

- The transferor must be at least 70 and one-half;
- It must be a direct transfer from the trustee of the IRA to the charity;
- The limit is \$100,000 (\$200,000 for married couples if each have IRAs); and
- A charitable deduction is not allowed for the amount excluded from income.

These transfers from your IRA do not increase your adjusted gross income, and may keep you from having your social security income taxed at a higher rate. The qualified charitable distribution (QCD) can count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

You may want to consult with your tax professional and your plan administrator for more details, and before implementing the transfer.



**STRONG CITIES ARE BUILT ON  
STRONG FAMILIES IN STRONG INSTITUTIONS**

# MECHANICS OF STRENGTH



**An Institutional  
Development Training  
presented by AMOS**

Saturday, January 13, 2018  
Registration at 8:30 a.m.  
Sessions from 9:00 a.m. through 5 p.m.  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
1517 Northwestern Avenue

Cost \$20/person (with scholarships if this is a hardship). Lunch included.

RSVP to your institution's core team,  
including dietary restrictions,  
by Tuesday, January 2, 2018.



**AMOS** will sponsor a one-day training on building strong institutions (in our case, a strong church!) Cost is \$20 including lunch; our church will pay half of the cost for all who register from First Baptist. The **registration deadline has been extended to Tuesday, January 9.** To sign up, contact the church office, Jill Grauman, or Pastor Dave.



If worship or other major events are cancelled or postponed, we will post the cancellation on the church website, on the church facebook page, and send an email to our local mailing list. We will also notify KCCI-TV channel 8. For smaller group events (choir, committee meetings, etc.) group members will be notified by phone or email.

# january 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins	3  6:30p Choir	4  6:30p Deacons	5	6 <i>10a Regional Executive Search Comm.</i>
7 9:45a Worship/ Communion  11a Church School  3p Visitation for Jim Johnson	8 10:30a Funeral Service for Jim Johnson	9  7p Trustees	10 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin  6:30p Choir	11  	12	13 9a-5p AMOS Training at Bethesda  <i>1-11p Phi Kappa Psi Meeting</i>
14 9:45a Worship  11a Fellowship Time  11:15a Church School  <i>2p MLK Service, Trinity CRC</i>	15  	16 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins	17  6:30p Choir	18	19	20  
21 9:45a Worship  11a Church School  12p 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch (Culver's)  2p Prayer Shawl Circle	22	23  <i>4:00p Parkinson's Music &amp; Movement Group</i>  6:30p Costa Rica Mission Trip Presentation	24 11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins  <i>3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group</i>  6:30p Choir	25  6:30p Deacons	26	27
28 9:45a Worship  11a Church School	29  <i>5p Women United</i>	30  <i>4:00p Parkinson's Music &amp; Movement Group</i>	31  <i>3:00p Parkinson's Singing Group</i>  6:30p Choir	 <div> <b>Regular Office Hours</b>                      Tuesday—9am-Noon and 1-3pm                      Wednesday—9am-1pm                      Thursday—9am-Noon and 1-3pm                      Friday—8am-Noon                 </div>		

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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
Hanna Saville	Child Care



Our choir before presenting the cantata "What Sweeter Music" on December 10. Along with our fabulous team of director Mindy Phomvisay and accompanist Patricia Izbicki, we had a ten-piece orchestra of talented ISU students and 23 amazing singers ages 9-89!