



The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

Celebrating 150 Years!

January, 2019
Volume 65, 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.

Fabulous First Baptist Breakfast Buffet



Sunday, January 27 – 8:30 am
no charge for meal
donations accepted to support mission trip to Puerto Rico

Come early to church on January 27 and join us for a delicious breakfast before worship! Donations will be accepted to support our Puerto Rico mission trip, June 8-15. The menu will include biscuits and sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, cheesy potatoes, fruit, coffee cake, and more. Bring a friend and have a great breakfast while supporting our trip to assist with rebuilding efforts in Puerto Rico.

Pastor's Word

I'd like to begin the New Year by looking back, briefly, at the last year. We celebrated our 150th Anniversary in grand style, repaved our parking lot, sent a group on a mission trip to Oklahoma, and held another great Music Camp. We welcomed new members and new students. What I am thinking about specifically just now is the end of the year. Our children and youth put on what had to be one of my favorite Christmas programs of all time – with humor, energy, musical and dramatic talent, and a great working-together attitude. It was a highlight of the season for me. And I always love playing the saxophone in our Yuletide Orchestra, but this year it was extra special with elementary, middle school, and high school students along with college students and more seasoned members playing violins, viola, cello, clarinet, saxophones, oboe, and trombone as well as a guest trumpeter and occasional flute. The mix of ages and instruments was wonderful! I am thankful for a church that welcomes everyone's gifts and especially thankful for the contributions of our young people. And I'm looking forward to what the New Year will bring! I hope to see you this Sunday.

Blessings,
Dave



January 6

Worship Leader: Aaron Stegemöller
Ushers: Bob Parrish, Kent Johnson
 Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders
Sound System: Bob Parrish

January 13

Worship Leader: Joyce Davidson
Ushers: Larry Schrag, Nancy Maydew
 Wilson Korges, Beth Douglass
Sound System: Tom Logue

January 20

Worship Leader: Phyllis Schrag
Ushers: Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue
 Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard
Sound System: Kent Johnson

January 27

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

January Flowers: Stephanie Goodman

Annual Report Time



Annual Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting is set for **Sunday, February 3 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 23** to allow time to put together the Book of Reports.



Mark your calendars and join us for a **Super Bowl Party** on the evening of Sunday, February 3rd. 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!

January Birthdays



Dacian Wilson	8
Toyin Clotey	9
Lauren Peters	15
Alex Parrish	19
Jere Maddux	20
Alice Clemons	22
TJ Nugent	24
Lumi Clotey	25
Stacy Starrett	29

2019 Board of Deacons



Deacons for the current year include Barbara Woods, Dawn Doerr-Johnson, John Whitaker, Joyce Davidson, Julie Johnston, Jared Diehl, Jere Maddux, and Becca Whitaker.

Jere Maddux will serve as deacon chair and moderator. John Whitaker is vice-chair and Julie Johnston is secretary.

The deacons will continue with the Deacon of the Week designation. The Deacon of the Week is an “on-call” person who may be contacted in case of need or emergency and who will assist the pastor and respond to concerns as needed.

All-Church Baby Shower

Please join us for a Baby Shower for Michele (Anderson) and Noel Hassler, to be held Saturday, January 19, 10-11:30 am. The shower is in celebration of the upcoming birth (due in February) of their first child, a boy. They are registered at Target and Buybuybaby.com.



College Student/Young Adult News

Our student/young adult group will resume meeting after worship on January 20. We will have lunch that day and invite all college students and recent grads/similarly aged young adults to join us for food and fellowship. We meet in the College Lounge on the second floor.



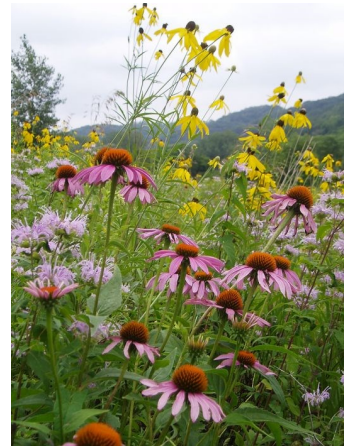
3rd Sunday Lunch

January 20—Culver's
February 17—Pizza Ranch

Landscaping Update

One part of our “Blessing the Past, Building the Future” capital campaign involved improved landscaping. A Landscape Committee met in the fall to investigate needs and recommend options. The trustees have approved options recommended by the committee. This includes:

- Shrubs will be trimmed and hedge will be cut back significantly.
- All trees will be pruned to remove dead limbs and improve health and light filtration.
- Lindens in back of church will be pruned to improve building clearance.
- Underdeveloped shrubs around the lindens will be removed and replaced with hostas.
- Hostas will be planted on west side of building around the library door.
- Two ash trees will be treated for emerald ash borer prevention.
- Ground will be graded and grass seed then planted in order to improve drainage from curved portion of sidewalk to the south of front steps.
- Native prairie will be introduced in the south portion of the buffer strip at the east edge of the property.



Dan's Landscape will do all of this work, with the exception that members will donate hostas and we will plant hostas ourselves.

One of the original hopes of the capital project was to add a water garden near where the hedge is. As it turned out, the proximity to the building made this a less than ideal location for a water garden. The introduction of a prairie area will help to beautify a “problem” area of the grounds and also allow for the addition of native plantings and some measure of stormwater runoff mitigation.

AMOS “Housing First” Initiative



Housing First is a strategy to address long-term homelessness among persons with mental illness. Housing First means providing stable, long-term housing with no preconditions to the most vulnerable of the homeless population with mental illness. Often, such persons are required to go through therapy, go through a treatment program, be employed, go through a stay in transitional housing, or meet other criteria before they qualify for public housing. Experience shows that when a person has housing first, all of the other issues facing a person are much easier to address.

Housing First projects in many communities around the country have shown much better outcomes for individuals in terms of health, quality of life, staying in housing, and more, while saving taxpayers a significant amount of money. In Charlotte, NC, for example, a Housing First program saved \$1.8 million in public money over one year through fewer emergency room visits, fewer hospitalizations, less jail time, less police time and resources, etc. This was a savings to taxpayers of \$29,000/person. Similar results have been found in other programs, including in Des Moines.

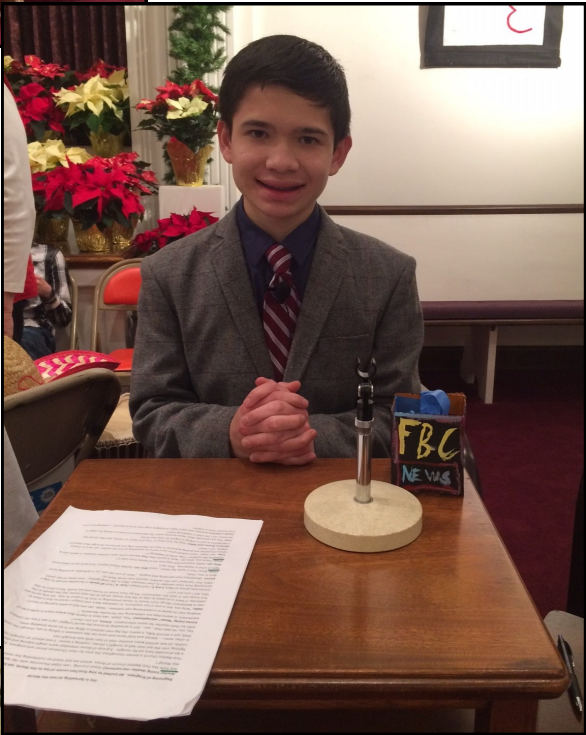
Ames Police Department Mental Health Advocate Julie Saxton has identified 12 individuals who are long-term homeless with mental illness and who take up an inordinate amount of public resources. The AMOS Research Team is currently researching the cost of public resources for these people as part of developing a proposal for a Housing First Strategy in Story County.

At the fall AMOS Assembly, the proposal for a Housing First Strategy in Story County was presented. All elected officials who were present endorsed our proposal. Each AMOS institution is collecting signatures to show support for such a strategy while a detailed proposal is being developed.

As an AMOS member institution, we hope to collect 70 signatures from First Baptist. A large poster with a statement of support is on the wall in the Fellowship Hall. If you have not already signed and would like to, please do so by the end of this month as we will turn in our posters in early February. (You do not have to be an “official” church member, over 18, or a Story County resident to sign that statement - this is simply a way of showing that folks in our church support the idea). You can see Pastor Dave for more information.



Children's Christmas Program
December 8, 2018



JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Office Hours Monday—Closed Tuesday—9am-Noon & 1-4pm Wednesday—9am-1pm Thursday—9am– Noon & 1-3pm Friday—8am-Noon		1 8a Men's Break-fast, Perkins 	2 	3	4	5 
6 9:45a Worship 11a Church School	7	8 7p Trustees	9 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin 6:30p Choir	10	11	12
13 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11:15a Church School 	14 5p Women United	15 8a Men's Break-fast, Perkins	16 5:15p CCJ Board, lounge 6:30p Choir	17	18 	19 10a Hassler Baby Shower 
20 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 12p 3 rd Sunday Lunch 2p Prayer Shawl Circle	21 5p Women United	22 4p Music & Movement	23 Annual Reports Due 11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins 3p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	24 	25	26
27 8:30a Breakfast Fund-raiser for Puerto Rico mission trip 9:45a Worship 11a Church School	28 5p Women United 	29 4p Music & Movement	30 3p Parkinson's Singing Group	31	Coming in February Feb. 3—Annual Meeting Feb. 3—Super Bowl Party  Feb. 24—Cook-off 	



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
Hanna Saville	Child Care
Emily Tonn	Child Care



ABC Biennial information is available on the bulletin board or see Pastor Dave for more details.