



# The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

October 2023  
Volume 68, No. 9

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

200 Lynn Avenue  
Ames, Iowa 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.*

## Pastor's Word

My longtime friend Monty has just returned from Dusseldorf, Germany where he took part in the Invictus Games. The games offer a path for recovery for international wounded, injured and sick servicemen and women.

Monty has been a part of two Invictus Games, serving as a peer, friend, and support person to a competitor. Imagine the Olympics except that while everyone is trying to win and competing for their country, they are 100% pulling for each other, and the entire enterprise – athletes, support people, friends, family and fans – feels like one big community. At our big celebration for Mindy's 25 years at our church, I visited a bit with Mindy's nephew Justin, a wounded warrior who hopes to compete in the Invictus Games in two years when they are held in Canada.

Watching just a small portion of the games online, there was an infectious joy and feeling of encouragement and support for everyone. This made me think of so many situations in our world where rather than focusing on the common humanity in the other, we tend to focus on the other-ness. Rather than seeing folks as members of our extended human family, we can tend to demean and even demonize those who are different.

The best known verse in the Bible says, "God so loved *the world*." There are no exceptions or carve outs or loopholes for parts of the world that God does not love. God so loved *the world*, period. In the month of October, our church is especially thinking about that world that God created and loves.



October 1 is **World Communion Sunday**. We will remember and celebrate that we gather together with God's people all around the world at the Lord's Table.

On October 8, we will participate in the **CROP Walk**, raising funds and awareness to fight hunger both in Ames and around the world.

On October 15, we will renew the tradition of our **Great Day of Service**, serving neighbors in our community and around the world.

Throughout the month of October we will receive the **World Mission Offering**. This offering supports our work as American Baptists with national partners in countries around the world. A WMO Prayer Guide is included in this issue.

And then you can read an update on the ministry with children that we support in **Honduras**, spearheaded by Linda and Bruce Hanson. After some start-up difficulties, the project is up and running and it is exciting.

You can read on for more details about these events and programs. I encourage you to take part as you are able, as we seek to share God's love for all of this world.

Blessings, Dave

## Project Healthy Children/ Honduras Update from the Hansons

After numerous setbacks, the project to support children in Honduras organized by Bruce and Linda Hanson is up and running! First Baptist and others in the Ames community are sponsoring the project. The program will initially provide weekend meals for children of the community along with spiritual formation. With many parents working on weekends, there is a particular need for such a program on weekends, when children are not in school. There will be opportunities for art, music, and sports (*futbol!*). The program later will expand to include help with school work and computer literacy.

*([Click here](#) for the Linda and Bruce Hanson's blog, which includes a great video about the project.)*

La Jutosa is a new church start, a *campo blanco*, of the first Evangelical and Reformed Church of Choloma. Choloma is the third largest city in Honduras and is just north of San Pedro Sula which is the second largest city. Organized churches like Choloma start new churches in smaller places like La Jutosa and work with them until they are established.

La Jutosa is a few miles from Choloma, on roads of mud and rocks. The evidence of recent heavy rains is found in the potholes, missing patches of road, and occasional boulders littering the roadway. The roads are lined with squatters living in homes made of scraps of metal roofing, or tree branches or even cardboard. Poverty is the norm.

The Evangelical and Reformed Church has recently constructed a new church building. There remains much to do to complete the church including installing a ceiling, putting in flooring on the bare concrete, painting both inside and out, electrical wiring, etc. There is a cement slab ready for the installation of *sanitarios*, bathrooms. Nonetheless the building is in use for worship services.

Pastor Uvalde and his wife Adriana were enthusiastic about beginning this project for the children, and about getting to make new friends in the United States. Next year the hope is to have a group of people from Ames visit to get to know the community.

The church has about fifty children who attend. The hope is that providing a weekend lunch and activities will give the children a safe and secure environment, improved nutrition and will let the kids and their parents know we care about them.





## Mindy's 25 Years Celebration

On September, 17, 2023, we celebrated Mindy Phomvisay's 25th year with us as our Director of Music! She started with us in January of 1998. Mindy's mom, sister, and nephew were here for the celebration.



### Note from Mindy

Dear Church family,

Thank you so much to all who made last week's celebration so special. It meant the world to me and I felt so loved and appreciated. This church family has been such an incredible blessing to our whole family these past 25 years and I was humbled to be honored with such a wonderful day. Thank you dear friends.

With much gratitude,

Mindy



## AMOS Variety Show

Sunday, November 12, 3:00 p.m.

First Unitarian Church, Des Moines

Support AMOS and have a great time! Ticket are \$25 at [amosipl.org](http://amosipl.org)

See Barbara Woods for more information– lets have a good group from FBC attend!



## Senior Moments on KHOI

Senior Moments, a program highlighting the interesting and varied lives of senior adults right here in Central Iowa, continues with people you know. Phyllis Schrag hosts the programs, which air each Saturday on 89.1 FM beginning at 11:00 am. Each 30-minute program features two guests.

Here is the October roster:

October 7 – Neal and Jan Flora on social justice, AMOS, and Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Partners (ASIP)

October 14 – Kay and Randall O'Brien on social work, grandchildren, being an author, and antiquing.

October 21 – Pat Meek; Richard Wood

October 28 - Ames Woodworkers on the wood turning club



### Registration 1 pm – Walk 1:30 pm — Ada Hayden Park

The CROP Walk raises money and awareness to fight hunger. CROP helps stop hunger both locally and globally, with 25% going toward food needs in Story County and the remainder going around the world through Church World Service.

After many years of our local walk beginning and ending at Brookside Park, the CROP Walk is moving this year! **The walk will be held at Ada Hayden Heritage Park.** Registration is at 1:00 at the shelter house at the west end of the main parking area. Walkers can choose from the 1.4 mile shorter loop or the approximately 3 mile longer loop. Walk begins at 1:30.



We invite you to join our FBC team! If you would like to be a walker, see Dawn Doerr-Johnson for a sponsor form, or [sign up online](#) to walk or to sponsor. For those who are out of town, you are welcome to join our team! You can sign up online and walk wherever you are! So far walkers include Stephanie Goodman, Julie Johnston, Steve Babock, Willie B. (Steve and Julie's dog), Barbara Woods, and Dave Russell.

# October



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 a Choir</p> <p>9:45a Worship/ Communion</p> <p>10:45 Church School</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>2-3p PD Boxing</p>	<p>4</p> <p>2-3p PD Singing</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10a Virtual Coffee Shop</p> <p>10:30-1p Women United</p> <p>2-3 PD Dance</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 a Choir</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>10:45a Fellowship</p> <p>11:00a Church School</p> <p>1:30p CROP Walk</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:30-1p Women United</p> <p>2-3p PD Boxing</p> <p>7p Trustee's Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>2-3p PD Singing</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10a Virtual Coffee Shop</p> <p>10:30-1p Women United</p> <p>2-3p PD Dance</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>9:45a Great Day of Service</p> <p>12:00 p Lunch</p> <p><b>GREAT DAY OF SERVICE</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>2-3p PD Boxing</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2-3p PD Singing</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10 a Virtual Coffee Shop</p> <p>2-3 PD Dance</p> <p>7p Deacon's Meeting</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 a Choir</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>10:45a Church School</p> <p>12p Budget Forum</p>	<p>23</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>2-3p PD Boxing</p>	<p>25</p> <p>2-3p PD Singing</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10a Virtual Coffee Shop</p> <p>10:30-1p Women United</p> <p>2-3 PD Dance</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:45a Worship</p> <p>10:45a Church School</p> <p>11:00 a Fall Festival</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>2-3p PD Boxing</p> 	<p>1</p> <p>2-3p PD Singing</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10a Virtual Coffee Shop</p> <p>10:30-1p Women United</p> <p>2-3p PD Dance</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> 



# Worship Leaders

## October 1:

*Worship Leader:* Phyllis Schrag  
*Ushers:* Jan Thompson, Barbara Woods

## October 8:

*Worship Leader:* Jan Thompson  
*Ushers:* Julie Johnston, Aaron Stegemöller

## October 15:

*Worship Leader:* (Day of Service)  
*Ushers:* Jere Maddux, Bob Parrish

## October 22:

*Worship Leader:* Kay O'Brien  
*Ushers:* Jerilyn Logue, Tom Logue

## October 29:

*Worship Leader:* Larry Schrag  
*Ushers:* Stephanie Goodman, Jon Pritchard

## Happy Birthday!



Jeanne Williams	2
Kenneth Johnson	4
Marian Thompson	9
Fred Borgen	10
Joe Parrish	12
Dorothy Ewing	16
Martha Gleason	26
Greg Goodman	28
Lucas Anderson	29
Kyleigh Murphy	29
John Whitaker	29
Dale Grauman	30
Larry Schrag	30

## Happy Anniversary!

Lyndsay and Gabe Whitaker	8
Michelle and Ralph George	11
Michele and Noel Hassler	21

## Great Day of Service

On Sunday, October 15, we will have a seven minute worship service in the sanctuary. Afterwards, we will participate in hands-on service projects at the church and out in the community. The morning will conclude with a simple meal.

Let's work together to make a difference in our world and in our community!



## FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 29 (Following Worship)  
 Sponsored by Christian Education Committee



- Chili
- Pumpkin Decorating
- Fall crafts

Fall FUN FOR ALL AGES!!

*be watching for more details!*



## World Mission Offering

Through the month of October, we will receive the World Mission Offering, which supports the work of our 120+ global servants, hundreds of volunteers, home staff, and 250+ international partners in 70 countries. We work cross-culturally to invite people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to proclaim, through both word and deed, God's reign of justice, peace, and abundant life for all creation. We invite you to give generously to this offering! In this *Spire*, you will find a 30-day prayer guide offered by our missionaries.

## Welcome, Sierra!

We are delighted to welcome Sierra Livengood as our new Office Manager! Sierra started at First Baptist at the end of August. She graduated from DMACC-Newton, where she was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She is a student at Iowa State, studying History Education.

A native of Newton, Sierra has worked as a Customer Service Representative at Wal-Mart and as a Technical Support Representative for Aureon. She worked at Fareway through high school.

Sierra's hours are Tuesdays 9-1, Thursdays 9-12, and Fridays 9-2. She is quickly getting up to speed on the ins and outs of our office. If you are free during her office hours, please stop by and introduce yourself!



## Budget Forum Set for October 22

We are entering the season when we especially consider stewardship of our time, talents and resources. Our Stewardship Committee is planning our annual Stewardship Campaign and our boards and committees, led by the Trustees, are putting together a goal budget for 2023.

Our annual Budget Forum will be Sunday, October 22 at 12 noon. This will be held in the lounge and those at home will be able to join via Zoom. The goal budget for 2022 will be presented, with opportunity for questions and input about funding our ministry plans for 2023. At the Budget Forum, we will vote on a goal budget for the coming year.

Our pledge campaign will follow the Budget Forum, with Stewardship Sunday on November 19. Following our pledge campaign, the final budget will be adopted at our business meeting in December.



**First Baptist Church**

**AMES**

**200 Lynn Avenue**

**Ames, Iowa 50014-7188**

**Our Church Staff:**

Rev. Dr. David Russell	Pastor
Mindy Phomvisay	Director of Music
Elizabeth Stegemöller	Choir Accompanist
Sierra Livengood	Office Manager
Kathy Greiner	Custodian



**Worship Sunday mornings 9:45 in person or on ZOOM**

**Details for connecting via ZOOM at [fbcames.org](http://fbcames.org)**



# Prayer Guide

1 Lord, give hope to those who are in search of a home, and strength to those who continue to provide welcome.

**RAY SCHELLINGER, GLOBAL**

2 Lord, we pray for the people of Lebanon, who are going through immense suffering and trials, particularly financially.

**DAN & SARAH CHETTI, LEBANON**

3 Lord, we pray that all trafficked women with whom we work will experience comfort from God and from our staff at NightLight.

**ANNIE & JEFF DIESELBERG, THAILAND**

4 God, we pray for healthcare workers around the world, that they will turn to you for their peace and strength.

**KRISTY ENGEL, GLOBAL**

5 Holy God, we pray for all those who have experienced trauma, that you would restore them to safety and wholeness.

**KIT RIPLEY, THAILAND**

6 Lord, we pray for perseverance as Nicaraguan immigrant women pursue tutoring to pass through their elementary school-level exam.

**SUE HEGARTY, COSTA RICA**

7 Lord, we pray that the International Baptist Church in Debrecen, Hungary, will faithfully lift up Jesus Christ through the unifying power of the Holy Spirit.

**AMANDA & JON GOOD, HUNGARY**

8 Lord, we pray that Jesus' followers among the Myanmar (Burmese) refugees in Malaysia would be strong witnesses to God's love and justice.

**ANN & BRUCE BORQUIST, GLOBAL**

9 God, we pray that you will give strength and encouragement to all the community leaders and AMOS staff providing health care access to 24,000 people living in poverty.

**CHRISTINE LAFFERTY, NICARAGUA**

10 Lord, we pray for the churches and leadership of the Japan Baptist Union.

**SARAH MCCLOY, JAPAN**

11 God, we pray that the Baptists in Bosnia will be a witness for Jesus, and that political tensions will not result in war.

**NORA & PIETER KALKMAN, EUROPE & THE MIDDLE EAST**

12 Lord, we pray that you will open up opportunities for the House of Blessing to reach more families in our community.

**ALISE & MARK JUANES, THAILAND**

13 God, please help the church to find its prophetic voice to denounce social and political violence in El Salvador.

**ELIBERTO & MOLLY JUÁREZ, EL SALVADOR**

14 Lord, we pray for the students at Kawthoolei Karen Baptist Bible School and College as they prepare to serve you.

**ERIC & YUREE LEMBKE, THAILAND**

15 Lord, we pray for peace and security in Haiti.

**KIHOMI NGWEMI & NZUNGA MABUDIGA, HAITI/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

16 Lord, we ask you to raise up Congolese women and men with a heart to serve in medicine.

**KATHERINE & WAYNE NILES, DR CONGO**



*Seminary students in Malaysia, where Global Servants Aaron and Valerie Osterbrock teach.*

17 Lord, we pray for wisdom as we help the leadership team at Company of Grace, a vocational training center for youth with disabilities.

**MARK & NGOC PHAM, VIETNAM**

18 Lord, we pray for wisdom as we partner with Arab-background Christian leaders in Türkiye, and for your provision as we seek to help.

**LAURA & RICH FREEMAN, TÜRKIYE**

19 Lord, we pray for soul care, self-care, and community care practices to take root and flourish in the lives of spiritual leaders.

**DAVID & JOYCE REED, GLOBAL**

20 God, we pray that your spirit of peace and reconciliation would rest over the entire island of Hispaniola.

**STACY & TIM REESE, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

21 God, please open our hearts and minds to find ways to care for those in need, near and far.

**APHIWAN & SCOTT COATS, MYANMAR & THAILAND**

22 Lord, we pray for a spiritual renewal in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in our lives as well.

**KATHY & TIM RICE, DR CONGO**

23 Lord, bring teachers, administrators, and volunteers to Chiang Rai International Christian School.

**KATRINA & KYLE WILLIAMS, THAILAND**

24 Lord, we pray for support for global leaders to creatively equip their communities with spiritual and faith practices that nurture wholehearted thriving.

**MYLINDA BAITTS, GLOBAL**

25 Lord, we pray for the faculty, staff, and students at Cape Town Baptist Seminary in South Africa.

**TOYA RICHARDS, SOUTH AFRICA**

26 God, we pray for those teaching in our Christian school and our Sunday school in Azacualpa, Honduras.

**DILIA ZELAYA, HONDURAS**

27 Lord, please help all of us who follow you to communicate the gospel clearly.

**AARON & AMYESTELLE TROUT, SOUTHEAST ASIA**

28 Lord, we pray for all the Telugu Baptists in India and around the globe.

**DAVID SAGAR, INDIA**

29 Lord, we pray for all of our Master in Theological Studies students as they prepare to do your work.

**JAE STOCKTON, MEXICO**

30 Lord, give faith to the recipients of the gospel all over Japan.

**SHIGEMI TOMITA, JAPAN**

31 Lord, we pray that you will help us to encourage new believers, as they grow a love for Jesus.

**JEANINE & WALT WHITE, GLOBAL**