



March, 2019
Volume 65, No. 3

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
200 Lynn Ave.
Ames, IA 50014-7188
Worship Sundays 9:45 am

PHONE:
515-292-9612
E-MAIL
office@fbcames.org
WEB:
www.fbcames.org

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.

The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

Pastor's Word

Last year, we canceled exactly one worship service due to weather – on the very first Sunday in January. If I had to guess, I would say that we have averaged less than one weather cancellation a year – maybe 2 every 3 years. When it comes to choir rehearsal, we are a little more likely to cancel, as the choir can rehearse on Sunday morning before church.

While it is not terribly unusual to cancel an event due to weather, we have been setting records this winter. Choir rehearsal was canceled three weeks in a row. (The choir sang on Sundays anyway, and was excellent as usual!) We also shut down the church office for two days strictly because of cold weather. Temperatures were less than – 20 and wind chills were –45. That's cold.

And then we have been hit by winter storms the last three weekends. On February 10, it was snowing on Sunday morning and road conditions were less than ideal. We had a smaller than usual crowd in worship. On February 17, we canceled due to the snow. (That morning, CyRide detoured one route – to avoid Lynn Avenue.) Then then this past Sunday, February 24, we canceled again due to blizzard conditions.

It has been a tough stretch. A Fall Prevention Class is meeting at our church on Thursday afternoons. I was struck by the irony of it as senior adults made their way through a snowy parking lot to attend a class on preventing falls.

Through it all, I have missed seeing you and worshipping together! But in all of the cold weather and snow, there have been opportunities to be the church. When we offer to pick up groceries for someone who has trouble getting out, we are being the church. When we shovel a sidewalk or run the snow blower for a neighbor, we are being the church. When we pray for those who are traveling in difficult weather or call to check on a friend or stop by to visit, we are being the church.

I appreciate trustees and others who have spent extra time clearing snow and ice off of the sidewalks and ramp. Bob Parrish came in two or three times a day for a week to manually open and close a valve with heat to CCJ until Mechanical Comfort could repair the problem. I have noticed folks giving others rides to worship in bad weather.

We wouldn't have a snowstorm four Sundays in a row, would we? I'm hoping not. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday – a little more than usual!

I'll close not with an Irish Blessing, but a Polar Vortex Blessing that is something like what I offered recently at a community meeting:

May your streets always be plowed,
May your sidewalk be ice-free,
May your furnace keep on running,
May your car stay out of the ditch,
And may you be warmed by the love of Christ until we meet again
(which I hope is this Sunday!)

Blessings,
Pastor Dave



March 3

Worship Leader: Dawn Doerr-Johnson

Ushers: Bob Parrish, Kent Johnson

Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders

Sound System: Bob Parrish

March 10

Worship Leader: Jan Thompson

Ushers: Larry Schrag, Nancy Maydew

Wilson Korges, Beth Douglass

Sound System: Tom Logue

March 17

Worship Leader: Joe Parrish

Ushers: Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue

Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard

Sound System: Kent Johnson

March 24

Worship Leader: Barbara Woods

Ushers: Scott Anderson, Julie Johnston

TJ Nugent, Jere Maddux

Sound System: Tom Logue

March 31

Worship Leader: John Whitaker

Ushers: Barbara Woods, Trey Belle-Lawson

Aaron Stegemöller

Sound System: Kent Johnson

March Flowers: Jan Thompson



March Birthdays

Jack Cleasby	1
Chase Toliver	1
Phyllis Schrag	5
Michelle Leininger	8
Caimbrie Parrish	8
Joseph Core	9
Pat Johnson	17
Gretchen Anderson	18
Wes Johnson	18



3rd Sunday
Lunch

3rd Sunday Lunch

March 17—El Azteca (2727 Stange Rd.)

April 21—Easter—no meeting

Daylight Savings Time to Start

Remember to “spring forward” and set your clocks one hour ahead before bedtime on Saturday, March 9th.



Student Lunch

Our next college student/young adult lunch will be on Sunday, March 31 after worship. Thank you to those who have provided these meals! If you would be willing to provide a student lunch, please see Pastor Dave.



Board and Committee Mini-Retreat



The Deacons, Trustees, and Christian Education Committee will meet together for a mini-retreat/planning meeting on Saturday, March 9. The gathering will begin at 9 am and conclude by noon or before. The morning will include team building, brainstorming, and planning, both in the large group and as individual board/committees.



Puerto Rico Mission Trip Update

Our mission team of 14 people will be traveling to Puerto Rico June 8-15 to assist in rebuilding with the American Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico. Those going on the trip will have a meeting on March 10 at 2 pm. You can help make the trip possible by attending and making contributions as you vote at our cook-off on March 3!



Thank you to those who have hosted the Fellowship Time in recent months:

December: Wes and Erin Johnson and family
January: Barbara Woods and Trey Belle-Lawson
February: Gary and Nancy Maydew

No one is currently signed up to host the March 10th Fellowship Time. If you're interested, there's a sign-up sheet near the kitchen door in the Fellowship Hall, or you can phone the church office.

Church History Book to be Published

Pastor Dave has compiled and edited articles written during our 150th Anniversary year into a book that will be published soon. *Blessing the Past, Building the Future: The History of the First Baptist Church of Ames, Iowa 1868-2018* will be around 60 pages in paperback, with many color photos. Cost will be \$10. You may contact the church office or indicate on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like a copy.



Church History



Lenten Reflection and Worship

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Lent is a season of 40 days, not including Sundays, in which we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter. Our Sunday worship takes on a different tone in this season, and we will be offering special opportunities for worship and reflection.

On March 6 we will have an **Ash Wednesday service** including music, prayer, and imposition of ashes. The service will be at 6:30 in the church lounge.

We will have two **Faith and Film** events during Lent. We will watch a movie together and reflect on the themes and meaning of the film as it relates to our faith. The first will be on Sunday March 31 (time and film TBA). The second will be "Jesus Christ, Superstar" on Friday, April 12 at 6:30 pm.

During Holy Week, our **Palm Sunday** service with palm procession will be April 14 at 9:45 am. **Maundy Thursday service** will be April 18 at 6:30 pm.

Easter Breakfast will be April 21 at 8:30 am with **worship** following at 9:45.

This year, our **Easter Cantata** will be presented on the Sunday following Easter, April 28, at 9:45 am.





12th Annual FBC Cook-Off

Sunday, March 3, 6:00 pm

Theme: “Around the World”



Make plans to be here on March 3 for our annual cook-off! Contestants will prepare a dish and everyone is invited to sample as many of the dishes as you would like. We will vote for our favorites by placing monetary contributions in containers corresponding to each dish. Cash, coins, and checks are welcome (to make counting easier, please don't use pennies).

This year's theme is “Around the World.” We invite you to bring food from a place you have been or a place you would like to go. (This could be anywhere from New Orleans to Rome to Bora Bora to Iowa!) All of the money raised will go toward our mission trip to Puerto Rico – and there will be a special award for Puerto Rican food.

Theologian in Residence Program March 1-3, Ames United Church of Christ

This year's Theologian in Residence program focuses on the very timely issue of immigration. The keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. David Vasquez-Levy, president of the Pacific School of Religion. Earlier in his career, he was the campus pastor at Luther College and was involved in response to the ICE raid at Postville in 2008. He regularly contributes a faith perspective to the national conversation on immigration. In addition to Dr. Vasquez-Levy, there will be workshops and a panel discussion with immigration lawyer Sonia Parras Konrad, American Friends Service Committee organizer Erica Johnson, and filmmaker Luis Arueta. Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller will also take part in a conversation about immigration on Friday evening.

With a timely topic and a larger than usual number of speakers, First Baptist made a contribution toward the expenses for this year's TIR program. FBC member Joyce Davidson serves on the planning committee for the event as a community representative.

Friday, March 1 – at ISU Memorial Union, Pioneer Room

7-9 pm - Dialogue between Rev. Dr. Vasquez-Levy and Attorney General Miller









Saturday, March 2 – at Ames UCC

9:15 am – 12:30 pm – morning session

1:15-3:00 pm – workshops

Other presentations are scheduled on Sunday at Ames UCC. See the bulletin board for more details, or go to amesucc.org/tir.

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 (March) 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 11a Student Lunch 6p Lenten Film (title TBA)	<div>  <div> Church Office Hours Monday—Closed Tuesday—9am-Noon & 1-4pm Wednesday—9am-1pm Thursday—9am- Noon & 1-3pm Friday—8am-Noon </div>  </div>				1 <div> <i>Theologian in Residence Program at UCC</i> </div>	2
3 9:45a Worship/Communion 11a Church School 6p Cook Off	4	5 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins 4p Music & Movement 6p Women United	6 2p PD Discussion Group 3p PD Singing Group 6:30p Ash Wednesday Service 7:15p Choir	7 1p Fall Prevention Class	8	9 9a Board/Committee Retreat Set clocks ahead! 
10 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11:15a Church School 2p Mission Trip Meeting	11	12 4p Music & Movement 6:15p Choir 7:15p Trustees	13 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin 3p Parkinson's Singing Group	14 1p Fall Prevention Class	15	16
17 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 12p 3 rd Sunday Lunch 2p Prayer Shawl Circle	18  	19 8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins	20  5:15p CCJ Board	21 1p Fall Prevention Class	22	23
24 9:45a Worship 11a Church School	25	26 4p Music & Movement	27 11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins 3p Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30p Choir	28	29	30
March 31 at top of this calendar						



First Baptist Church

AMES

200 Lynn Avenue

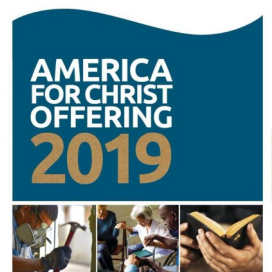
Ames, Iowa 50014-7188

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

America For Christ Offering

Your gifts to the America for Christ Offering impact thousands—through ministries with marginalized children, mission trips that transform lives torn asunder by hurricanes, resources that cultivate Christian leaders, chaplains who bring comfort to hospitals and nursing home, and much more. Let us not become weary in doing good! www.abhms.org



March 3	Cook-Off, 6 pm
March 6	Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30 pm
March 9	Board/Committee Retreat, 9 am
March 10	Puerto Rico Mission Trip Meeting, 2 pm
March 31	Lenten Film—film and time TBA
April 12	Lenten Film—Jesus Christ, Superstar, 6:30 pm
April 18	Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm
April 21	Easter Breakfast, 8:30 am
	Easter Worship, 9:45 am
April 29	Easter Cantata, 9:45 am