



The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

April 2017
Volume 63, No. 4

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.



H O L Y · W E E K

Palm Sunday, Cantata 9:45 am	April 9
Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm	April 13
Easter Breakfast, 8:30 am	April 16
Easter Sunday, 9:45 am	April 16

Spring Break Mission Team Serves in Oklahoma

First Baptist sent a team of 10 people to Oklahoma over spring break. I was fortunate to be part of the group that worked at Murrow Indian Children's Home in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Murrow is an American Baptist ministry that has been in operation for over 100 years. It serves Native American children who are in state or tribal custody, with around 20-30 children living at Murrow at any given time.

The campus includes four cottages. Our group stayed in one of the cottages and spent most of the time making repairs and improvements on this cottage, which will be used for a transitional program where those who are aging out of the system of foster care/state and tribal custody will live more independently and learn skills needed as they prepare to move out on their own. We painted, hung doors, installed baseboard, did some plumbing repairs, cleaned, organized, and created artwork for the cottage. We also raked leaves and did yardwork on the campus.

Murrow is adjacent to the campus of Bacone College, an American Baptist-affiliated school that has historically served Native American students. Our group had the opportunity to worship on Sunday morning at Bacone Baptist Church, which meets in the college chapel. We also had the chance to visit the Museum of the Five Civilized Tribes and learn about Native American history, the Trail of Tears, and Native American culture.

All in all, it was a wonderful week. We enjoyed cooking and sharing meals together, playing games and hanging out together, and working together. We came up with a list of 25 projects large and small that we completed, and all of the team members, from age 7 to, well, a lot more than that, contributed to the work and led one of our devotion times. We accomplished a lot, learned a lot, and gained from the experience. We had a chance to reflect spiritually on themes including service, humility, justice, compassion, and seeing Christ in others.

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Team members included Barbara Woods, John Whitaker, Lorrie Whitaker, Lucy Stegemöller, Adde Stegemöller, Elizabeth Stegemöller, Aaron Stegemöller, Jere Maddux, Kitty Vang, and Dave Russell. I want to thank all of those who went on the trip as well as those who supported us both financially (through the Cook-Off and other contributions) and through your encouragement and prayer. I have already heard folks talking about the possibility of a mission trip next year!

Blessings,
Dave



Choir to Present Cantata on Palm Sunday



Our choir will present the cantata "His Last Days" on April 9, Palm Sunday. With words and music by Dallas Holm, this musical includes the song "Rise Again."

The cantata includes solos and duets by choir members, narration from the point of view of Jesus, guest musicians, and a powerful message. We invite you to join us! Our choir is directed by Mindy Phomvisay and accompanied by Patricia Izbicki.



Zoe Russell	2
Lorene Hoover	5
Becca Whitaker	7
Rosemary Coffey	18
Elijah Phomvisay	20
Neil Logue	22
Alissa Parrish	26



Dianne and Fred Borgen	4
Ngaire and Kent Johnson	29

It's a Boy!



Congratulations to Chris and Catie Parrish on the birth of a son, Samuel Francis Parrish. Samuel arrived on March 1 at 4:21 am weighing 8 lb 14 oz and measuring 20 1/4". He joins big brother Henry. Proud grandparents are Bob and Rita Parrish.



April 2:

Worship Leader: Lorrie Whitaker
Ushers: Bob Parrish*, Kent Johnson
 Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders
Sound System: Bob Parrish

April 9:

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

April 16:

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

April 23:

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

April 30:

Worship Leader: Phyllis Schrag
Ushers: Jeanine Cole, Lee Davidson
 Mark Reuber, Barbara Woods
Sound System: Kent Johnson

Flowers for April:

Joyce Davidson

Birthday and Anniversary Updates

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed on the church bulletin board outside the library or in the Spire, please send us the information. As a church family, we'd love to include you and pray for you on your special days.



Music Camp

Save the Date!

Our 18th annual Music Camp is set for July 24-28. Campers grades K-6 (completed) will enjoy a week packed with music, learning, friends, and fun! If you can help with the camp as a counselor or assistant, please see Mindy or Pastor Dave. Registration materials will be available later this month.

Order Sign-Up Information Easter Flowers Lilies, Daffodils and Tulips

Please sign up on the bulletin board by the East entrance to order flowers to share with the congregation on Easter Sunday, April 16. This year we will decorate with a variety of flowers: lilies, \$14, daffodils and tulips, each \$13. If you would like to dedicate your flower in memory or in honor of a loved one, please state the information in the space provided on the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please contact the office. Make your checks to First Baptist Church with memo "flowers" and place in the offering or on the desk in the church office. **The deadline to order is Sunday, April 9.**



Congratulations to ISU Award Winners!



Congratulation to two FBC members who were honored recently by Iowa State University for their efforts in outreach.

Barbara Woods was honored with the ISU Award for Distinguished

Service in Extension. According to ISU Extension and Outreach, this is the highest award bestowed on an Extension professional, recognizing "sustained distinguished performance and educational contributions to Iowa State's clientele through extension programs."

A press release noted, "Barbara Woods is a valued leader in Extension statewide and nationally. In her 30-year career at Iowa State, she has led the implementation of technology to support management and program delivery, provided financial management programming for urban families, and, most recently, coordinated state and national programming for at-risk families and youth. She is active in three national Extension associations, and she is widely respected for her volunteer service and leadership with such organizations as Habitat for Humanity, United Way and several community organizations."

Elizabeth Stegemöller was recognized by the College of Human Sciences with the Early Achievement in Outreach award. The award is given to faculty in their first five years of service who have made outstanding contributions in outreach to the community. Part of Elizabeth's research on Parkinson's disease includes the singing and music and movement groups for Parkinson's Disease patients that meet here at our church. Sessions of the singing group are now being videotaped and will be used to facilitate virtual singing groups in other parts of the state.

Congratulations to Barbara and Elizabeth!

“Spirited Listening” Coming in June!

Our church is a member of AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy) - a grassroots, congregationally-based community organizing group. AMOS researches issues that are of concern to the community and works to make changes that benefit and make for a more fair, just, and workable community for everybody.

The way that AMOS determines which issues to address is through “House Meetings” of 6-8 people in which persons share what concerns and pressures they feel in their lives – what “keeps them awake at night.” Out of the stories shared in a multitude of meetings held by many congregations and institutions, themes emerge, and common themes lead to issues for research and action.

These small group conversations can be a great opportunity for our church to not only get involved in our local community but to also learn more about our friends and neighbors. On **Pentecost Sunday, June 4** - when we celebrate God’s gift of the Holy Spirit - we will be involved in “Spirited Listening” as we listen to one another’s stories, and listen to the Spirit leading us.

The way it will work: at the conclusion of that morning’s worship service, those who are willing to participate will break into small groups in which we will share some of our stories. Each group will have a trained leader to guide the conversation, keep us on track, and help us be mindful of time. Participants will only be asked to share what they are comfortable sharing. The exercise will take no longer than an hour, and we will then join together for a meal. Emerging themes from our conversations will help determine the issues for AMOS research teams to address, but perhaps more important than that will be the value to our congregation as we listen to each other's stories.

Be watching for more details, and plan now on joining us on June 4! In the meantime, if you are interested in more information, please see Jill Grauman or Pastor Dave.



Women’s Lunch Bunch

- When:** The 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 11:30 am
- Where:** 2nd Wednesday- The Mandarin Restaurant, 415 Lincoln Way
4th Wednesday- Perkins 325 S. Duff Avenue
- Who:** Any women and friends of FBC

No reservations needed, just come when you can and enjoy lunch with your friends!



- When:** The 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month, 8:00 am
- Where:** Perkins Restuarant 325 S. Duff Avenue
- Who:** Anyone who wishes may join us for breakfast, conversation and fellowship.

FREEDOM TO BELIEVE Rally

Sunday, April 2 2:00-3:30 pm

Iowa Capitol, West Steps

Des Moines, Iowa

In the wake of threats made against mosques in Des Moines and Ames and against a synagogue in Mason City, a "Freedom to Believe" rally will be held on Sunday, April 2 from 2:00-3:30 pm on the steps of the Iowa Capitol. The rally is to stand against hate, bigotry and discrimination and to stand for religious freedom, respect, and love. First Baptist is one of many congregations across the state to endorse this rally as a co-sponsor.

CCJ French Toast Fundraiser



The Center for Creative Justice will hold its French Toast fundraiser here at First Baptist on Tuesday, April 11 from 5-7 pm. For \$5 you get all-you-can-eat French Toast and sausage and help support CCJ, which offers probation services in Story County. Without the services provided by CCJ, many offenders would simply receive a fine and/or a jail sentence with little or no rehabilitative effort and no supervision. CCJ helps offenders get their lives back on track while strengthening our community and reducing crime. You can purchase tickets in advance from Dave Russell or Jere Maddux (CCJ Board members); tickets are also available at the dorr. If you can't attend, you can still buy a ticket to support the cause!.

Good Neighbor 20th Anniversary Celebration

Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Saturday, April 29, from 2:30-5:00 pm. All are welcome.



There is no charge to attend the event, being held at the City Church of Ames, 2400 Oakwood Road. There will be a live and silent auction, with a program beginning at 3:30 pm.

First Baptist was one of the founding groups of Good Neighbor, which provides rental and utility assistance and healthy food vouchers to families in need in Story County. Today there are 33 different congregations that support Good Neighbor. Jere Maddux currently serves as our representative on the GNE A Board.

Spring Graduate Information Request



Are you or do you know of anyone who graduates this Spring? If so, please let the church office know. We will be honoring college and high school graduates on April 30. The church will also be recognizing graduates in the May Spire. Please call the church office 292-9612 or email us at office@fbcames.org.

**Do all the good you can.
By all the means you can.
In all the ways you can.
In all the places you can.
At all the times you can.
To all the people you
can. As long as ever you
can."**

-John Wesley

APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Spring has Sprung!</p>						<p>1</p> <p>APRIL FOOLS' DAY</p>
<p>2</p> <p>9:45a Worship/Communion 11a Church School</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast, Perkins</p> <p>5:15p 150th Anniversary Committee</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6p Lenten Book Study 7p Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30p Cantata Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Palm Sunday 9:45a Worship/Cantata 11a Fellowship Time 11:15a Church School</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:00-7:00p CCJ French Toast Feed 7:00p Trustees</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Maundy Thursday</p> <p>6:30p Maundy Thursday Service 7:15p Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Easter Sunday 8:30a Easter Breakfast 9:45a Worship</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5p Christian Education</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00a Men's Breakfast, Perkins</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>EARTH DAY</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:45a Worship 11a Church School</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:30a Women's Lunch, Perkins</p> <p>6:30p Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30p Deacons</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:45a Worship 11a Church School</p>						

Easter Breakfast

Please join our church family for Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 16 at 8:30 a.m.



Contributions to offset cost will be accepted (suggestion - \$3.00 for individual; \$5.00 for family). All are welcome. Please sign up by emailing or calling the church office or marking the "Register for Event 1" on the pew pad.



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
Bev Shirbroun	Office Manager
Aaron Stegemöller	Custodian
Karina Anderson	Child Care
Mareika Thompson	Child Care