



The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

December 2016

Volume 62, No. 11

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.



Advent/Christmas Worship

We invite you to join us for worship on Sundays at 9:45 as we celebrate a season filled with music, comfort, joy, and hope.

November 27 – First Sunday of Advent

“Living in the Meantime” (Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 24:36-44)

December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent

“Christmas Conflict” (Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-12)

Yuletide Orchestra will play, flute/oboe piece by Christian Loaiza and John Anderson, solo by Aaron Stegemöller

Saturday, December 10

Church Christmas Dinner and Program, 6:00 pm

December 11 – Third Sunday of Advent

Advent Music Sunday with guest musicians and especially awesome choir anthems!

“How to Begin a Gospel” (Isaiah 35:1-10, Matthew 1:1-17)

December 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

“On Not Burying Joseph” (Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25)

5:00 pm – Northcrest Vespers Service

December 24 – Christmas Eve

5:00 pm - Social Hour (you are welcome to bring goodies to share!)

6:00 pm - Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

December 25 – Christmas Day

Join us for an informal "Come As You Are" service with a congregational-participation retelling of the Christmas story!



Worship Leaders

December 4:

Worship Leader: Jill Grauman

Ushers: Bob Parrish*, Kent Johnson
Jan Thompson, Wallace Sanders

Sound System: Bob Parrish

December 11:

Worship Leader Lorrie Whitaker

Ushers: Michael Thompson*, Jill Grauman
Nancy Maydew, Kaylinn Taggart

Sound System: Tom Logue

December 18:

Worship Leader: Pat Coffey

Ushers: Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue
Tom Logue, Jon Pritchard

Sound System: Kent Johnson

December 25:

Worship Leader Susan Russell

Ushers: Scott Anderson*, Julie Johnston
Jere Maddux, Tiffany Nugent

Sound System: Tom Logue

Flowers for December: Barbara Woods



Irene Shireman	2
Tolani Clottey	4
Walter Fehr	4
Quinn Whitaker	7
Jim Demarest	8
Tonia McCarley	12
Jeanette Gee	13
Killian Murphy	26
Jill Leininger	28
Stephanie Starrett	28



Susan and Dave Russell.....20

A Note From Pastor Susan

Two weeks ago I announced that I will be leaving my position as Associate Pastor here at First Baptist after fifteen years. I will continue serving through the month of December. I am stepping down from this position, but not from being a minister. As of now I am not sure about future plans, but feel God leading me to the next step whatever that is. If you have any questions for me about this I would be glad to talk with you.

This has been a wonderful congregation to serve, and I thank you for the many blessings I have found here.

My love and gratitude,
Susan

Daily Devotions



The Winter 2016-2017 edition of the “**The Secret Place, Devotions for Daily Worship**” is in the narthex. Please take a copy and enjoy the daily readings. May they bring you inspiration during this Advent season.



We celebrate with two students who are graduating this month. **Rachel Wonderlich** will receive a Bachelor of Science in Child, Adult and Family Services from Iowa State. A native of Ollie, Iowa, Rachel will be moving back to Fairfield to serve with ISU Extension as Jefferson County's Youth Coordinator. She will primarily work with K-12 youth in 4-H, developing educational programs and opportunities. Rachel has been an intern with ISU Extension focusing on a Global Citizenship program for 4-H, and last April she was named National Student Employee of the Year.

Rodney Barto will receive a BS in Software Engineering from ISU. Rodney is from Dike, Iowa. He has worked for Innovative Lighting for a year and a half and after graduation will be working there full time as a Software Developer at their Ankeny location (we are glad he will be staying in the area!). Rodney likes to work on vehicles and most anything vehicle related. He also enjoys various technology experiments – from automating the lights in his room to making his own media server so he can access his movie library from anywhere.

Rachel and Rodney are both dedicated and delightful individuals and have been faithful participants in our ministry. We congratulate them on their graduation!

Ames Children's Choirs Holiday Concert

The Ames Children's Choirs Holiday Concert is this Sunday, December 4 at Bethesda Lutheran Church, 1517 Northwestern Avenue at 3 pm. The cost is \$8 per adult and \$5 for students and seniors.

Budget/Election Business Meeting December 4

The annual budget/election meeting is set for this Sunday, December 4 at 12 noon. Items of business include adopting a budget for 2017, electing board and committee members and church officers for 2017. All are welcome to attend.

2016 Financial Contribution Update

To have your contributions to FBC reported on your 2016 giving statement, all contributions need to be in the church office by noon on Wednesday, Dec. 28th. Usually I would want it by the last Sunday of the month, but that is Christmas and many will be traveling.

Thank you for your generous contributions to First Baptist Church. If you have any question about where you stand with your giving for 2016, please let me know.

Jerilyn Logue, FBC financial secretary





This year's Christmas dinner will be Saturday, December 10 at 6 pm with a program following the meal.

The meat, dressing, rolls, beverages and table service will be furnished by the church. Please bring a dish to share. If your name starts with A-E, please bring a potato dish. F-L is asked to bring a dessert. M-P is asked to bring a vegetable dish and Q-Z should bring a salad. Dividing dishes alphabetically is an easy way to make sure that we have a balanced selection. However, if you have something special that you would like to prepare, you are welcome to do that! Please let us know if you can come by emailing or calling the church office at 292-9612, or using the friendship pads in the pews and marking Event 1. Please also let us know if you can help in the kitchen or with table set-up. Students, you do not need to bring a dish, please come as our invited guests!

Northcrest Vespers

Our annual Vespers at Northcrest service will be Sunday, December 18 at 5:00 pm at Northcrest in the Green Room in the main building. Northcrest residents and all others who would like to attend are invited to join us.



Special Offerings in December

In this season of giving, First Baptist receives two special offerings.

REMEMBER with LOVE
GIVE with GRATITUDE

The **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering** is a tangible way of saying "Thank You" to those who have served us. The offering supports those who have devoted their lives to God's service by providing emergency assistance in times of need. The offering also provides Thank You checks to more than 3,300 retired American Baptist ministers, missionaries, and their widowed spouses. The offering will be received on December 4 and throughout the month of December.



The **Christmas Offering** is an opportunity to help provide for those most in need in our community. Half of the offering goes to the Emergency Residence Project, our homeless shelter in Ames. The other half goes to our Benevolence Fund, which is distributed to those coming to our church seeking assistance. The Christmas Offering will be received on December 11 and throughout the month of December.

Bake Sale for Haiti

With a friend from Haiti, Adde and Lucy Stegemöller were concerned about people who are suffering from the recent hurricane there. So our children and youth put together a bake sale. They made cookies, breads, caramel popcorn, and other goodies for the sale. We enjoyed delicious food and our kids raised \$500 to help people in need! The funds will be distributed by a member of Morgan Park Baptist Church in Chicago who will be traveling to Haiti. Thanks to our awesome children and youth and their leaders!




After 39 years at Hach Company Joe Parrish is Retiring! You're invited to celebrate with him at an Open House on December 2nd from 5-7 pm in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Irene Shireman is celebrating her 85th Birthday on December 2nd and we will also celebrate with her. Sandwiches and cake will be served.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6p Executive Council 6:30p Deacons	2 5-7p Joe Parrish's Retirement Open House and Irene Shireman's Birthday Party	3 10-2p Piano Recital
4 9:45a Worship/Communion 11a Church School 12p Budget/Election Meeting	5	6 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Perkins	7 6:30p Choir	8 5:30p Pastoral Relations	9	10 6p Christmas Dinner
11 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship Time 11:15a Church School	12	13 7p Trustees	14 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin 6:30p Choir	15	16	17 
<div> <div>Finals Week</div> </div>						
18 9:45a Worship 11a Church School 12p 3rd Sunday Lunch, Battle Cry Barbeque 2:00p Prayer Shawl Circle 5:00 Northcrest Vespers	19	20 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Perkins	21 6:30p Choir	22 	23 Office Closed	24  5p Social Hour 6p Christmas Eve Service
25 9:45a Worship Christmas Day No Church School 	26	27	28 11:30a Women's Lunch, Mandarin	29	30	



*May God's Blessing Be With You In This
Holy Season*

The First Baptist Staff

Pastor Dave

Pastor Susan

Mindy

Patricia

Bev

Aaron

Karina

Mareika

First Baptist Church
200 Lynn Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50014-7188

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. David Russell	Pastor
Rev. Susan Russell	Associate Pastor
Mindy Phomvisay	Director of Music
Patricia Izbicki	Accompanist
Bev Shirbroun	Office Manager
Aaron Stegemöller	Custodian
Karina Anderson	Child Care
Mareika Thompson	Child Care