



The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

Worship under the Trees
Sunday, August 28 - 9:45 am

August 2022
Volume 68, No. 7

**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.



**Worship in the front yard with meal following -
Hickory Park barbecue provided!**

**Bring a dish to share
(students, please come as our guests!)**

**Bring a chair if you can
(if you can't, no problem – we will have chairs available)**

**We need tables for the meal – if you can help,
please contact the church office**

Pastor's Word

What a gift it was to experience a time of sabbatical this summer! Thank you to all of you for your encouragement and grace in offering this time away. What did I do these last few months? I'll be sharing some of my experiences and learnings in the weeks ahead, but here is a quick capsule:

I worked on genealogy and visited some cemeteries in southern Illinois with my mom and sisters. I also visited a couple of pioneer cemeteries, including Old Ruff Cemetery (great name!), where I found the graves of my 5x great-grandparents, John and Sarah Curry Hall. John served in the Revolutionary War. I actually found the military marker for John; he was one of the first settlers in the area and was buried on the property years before the cemetery was started. I made some interesting family history discoveries over the summer and had a large 7-generation family tree printed.

We were able to have more extended visits with family than is typically the case, and living as far from family as we do, this was a blessing. I went to church with my mom on Mother's Day, was injured playing Cornhole during some friendly family competition (not seriously, but I had never heard of anyone being injured playing Cornhole so I have that distinction), and we enjoyed time with family in Arkansas and Indiana.

Having a break from the usual responsibilities of ministry allowed me to have a restful time. Susan and I stayed at a cabin on Lake Superior. I enjoyed hiking to several waterfalls there. The setting was beautiful and it was nice to just watch the water and hear the waves. I got up at 5 am to see the spectacular sunrises (and then went back to bed.)

It was also nice to experience worship without being "in charge." I visited several churches in person as well as taking in worship services online. God is at work and good things are happening in all kinds of places. Given the large number of folks who worship with us on Zoom, I was especially interested in how congregations are doing online worship and how those at home are being included in services. You will be hearing more about that.



Toward the end of the sabbatical I bought an electric bicycle. This has been great fun and also a good way to get around – I'll be commuting to church a good bit. It is like riding a regular bike except that the hills and wind are no longer a factor. I suppose this is a nod to the fact that I'm not as young as I used to be, but it is a good way to get exercise and I can ride to the church and not show up all sweaty.

The past 3 months have been a great experience for me, and I hope they have been a good experience for the church as well. We had a great lineup of guest preachers and while I definitely wasn't checking up on you, I nevertheless heard glowing reports on what was happening over the summer. Thank you to all who stepped up and took on added responsibility – to the deacons and others who have provided pastoral care, to all who served as worship leaders and planners, to our Music Director Mindy and Office Manager Charyl for taking on more during this time, to Randall, Phyllis, and John who helped fill the pulpit along with outside guests, to Jerilyn who took on added technology responsibilities, and to all who helped to make things work smoothly. Hopefully this was a reminder to all of us – myself included – that we are all called to ministry, using our gifts in God's service.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave

Katy Seidel Memorial Service

A private family Celebration of Life for Katy Seidel will be held at the church at 11 am on Friday, August 12. The service will be available for church members and friends on the church's regular Sunday morning Zoom link.



AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 8a Men's Breakfast	3 <i>Noon PD Singing</i>	4 10a Virtual Coffee Shop	5	6 6:30p Parkinson's Disease Singing Festival 
7 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship	8	9 7p Trustees 	10 <i>2p PD Singing</i>	11 10a Virtual Coffee Shop	12 11a Katy Seidel Celebration of Life (Family Only, Others on Zoom)	13
14 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship	15 <i>5-8p Women United</i>	16 8a Men's Breakfast	17 <i>2p PD Singing</i>	18 10a Virtual Coffee Shop	19 	20
21 9:45a Worship 11a Fellowship	22 ISU Classes Start 	23	24 <i>2p PD Singing</i>	25 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 7p Deacons	26	27
28 9:45a Worship Under the Trees Meal Following 	29	30	31 <i>2p PD Singing</i>			

Church Camp Report

FBC youth and children participated in our region's camps this summer. Abby, Lucy, and Kent Johnson attended camps at Forest Lake and Killian Murphy went to camp at Dayton Oaks.



Killian Murphy at the fishing camp at Dayton Oaks.



Come Sing in Choir!!

Choir rehearsals for the new school year will begin Sunday- August 14 at 9:00 a.m. We will be changing rehearsals to Sunday mornings before the service and adding in some exciting choir retreats!! Please come sing if you have sung with us for years or if you just want to try it out! We would truly love to have your voice join us!!

Can't wait to see you all!

Mindy



August 7:

Worship Leader: Beth Douglas

Ushers: Julie Johnston, Aaron Stegemöller

August 14:

Worship Leader: Susan Russell

Ushers: Jere Maddux, Bob Parrish

August 21:

Worship Leader: Dawn Doerr-Johnson

Ushers: Jerilyn Logue, Tom Logue

August 28:

Worship: Under the Trees

Ushers: Stephanie Goodman, Jon Pritchard



Lorrie Whitaker	7
Scott Anderson	13
Gary Maydew	13
Maurine MacBride	13
Don Pady	17
Jim Sassaman	20
Johnie Hammond	22
Gabe Whitaker	22
Bob Parrish	24
Carol Pady	28
Randall O'Brien	29



Marilyn and Buckley Peterson	1
Phyllis and Larry Schrag	9
Irene and Wayne Shireman	16

FBCers Attend Music Conference at Green Lake

A total of 13 FBC members were at Green Lake, our ABC conference in Wisconsin, during the Music Conference, with 9 participating in the conference. Children, youth, and adult choirs, handbells, and instrumental groups practiced and performed through the week and there were a variety of workshops and concerts offered. Mindy Phomvisay was named president-elect of the Fellowship of American Baptist Musicians! Here are some scenes from the conference.



BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ

Mid-American Baptist Churches of Iowa and Minnesota

BIENNIAL GATHERING

September 30-October 1, 2022

First Baptist Church Pella, IA
709 Independence St



Speaker: Rev. Sharon Koh, Executive Director and CEO of International Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA



Speaker: Global Servant Rev. Toya Richards is endorsed to serve in Cape Town, South Africa as a teacher and professor at the Camp Town Baptist Seminary.

Join us for worship, Bible Study, workshops and a special celebratory lunch and birthday party on Saturday to close out our event!

Celebrating 52 years as a region!



Plan to join us in Pella for our Mid-American Baptist Churches Biennial Gathering! Rev. Susan Russell is our regional president. Mindy and Emma Phomvisay will provide special music at the gathering and Rev. Dave Russell will lead a workshop. Registration information will be coming soon!

Thank You Note

Deacons and Congregation,

I am Jacelyn Rudderow's Nana and wish to thank you for allowing her to borrow the wheelchair. It made my ability to participate in her graduation weekend so much more pleasant and extensive. I would not have been able to tour the "world" she has been a part of otherwise.

Also I want to thank your church community for being a part of her college experience. I know she has enjoyed participating in the choir and interacting with your congregation. We know all of her Iowa experience has added to her ability to become a contributing member of society.

Gratefully yours,

Marie Jordan



First Baptist Church

AMES

200 Lynn Avenue

Ames, Iowa 50014-7188

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. David Russell	Pastor
Mindy Phomvisay	Director of Music
Emma Phomvisay	Music Intern
Elizabeth Stegemöller	Choir Accompanist
Charyl Winterink	Office Manager
Kathy Greiner	Custodian



Worship Sunday mornings 9:45 in person or on ZOOM

Details for connecting via ZOOM at fbcames.org