



# The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

September 2023  
Volume 69, No. 8

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

200 Lynn Avenue  
Ames, Iowa 50014-7188  
Worship Sundays 9:45 am

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E-MAIL: [office@fbcomes.org](mailto:office@fbcomes.org)  
WEB: [fbcomes.org](http://fbcomes.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.*

## Pastor's Word

Here is a picture of the world in 1998:

- ◆ Flip phones were new. And they came with antennas. It would be years before the iPhone came out.
- ◆ *Seinfeld* aired its final episode.
- ◆ Ginger Spice left the Spice Girls in the middle of a tour.
- ◆ Furby was the hottest toy on the market.
- ◆ *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* was a popular Friday night TV show.
- ◆ Pluto was still a planet.
- ◆ Postage stamps cost 32 cents.
- ◆ AOL bought out CompuServe.
- ◆ We got on the internet via dial-up.
- ◆ We occasionally used a mimeograph in the church office.
- ◆ Most notably, in 1998 Mindy Phomvisay came to First Baptist Church as our Music Director!



Mindy has blessed our church in so many ways. She is a wonderful accompanist, instrumentalist, and soloist, playing and singing with joy. Mindy also shines as a director. As someone who has been in our choir for many years, I continue to be amazed at how she gets the best out of our singers. We will begin work on a cantata or a difficult piece that just seems beyond us, and in the end we are able to sing it well thanks to Mindy's leadership.

Mindy, Aiddy and their family have lived in several different communities over these 25 years; she and her family have had many long commutes. Through it all, she has continued to lead us with joy and care, so often going above and beyond in her service to our church. As much as her musicianship, Mindy blesses us with her caring presence, encouragement, humor, and faith.

We will recognize Mindy's 25 years of service on Sunday, September 10. We will also kick off the fall that Sunday as Church School classes begin. I invite you all to join us for a special day!

Blessings,  
Dave



## “Senior Moments” Airs on KHOI

“Senior Moments” is an exciting, brand new, locally produced program on community radio station KHOI-FM. It airs weekly each Saturday at 11:00 am on FM 89.1. During this 30-minute program, host Phyllis Schrag interviews senior adults who live and thrive in their retirement years right here in Central Iowa.

Our own Johnie Hammond was the very first guest! Past programs are available at <http://archive.khoifm.org>.

Notice other FBC guests in the list below!

- August 19: Lee Smithson and Polly Gilbert
- August 26: Pat and Rosemary Coffey
- September 2: VV and Marilu Ramon
- September 9: Lucille Taylor
- September 16 : Janet and Marvin Bakker
- September 23 : Beth Wunder

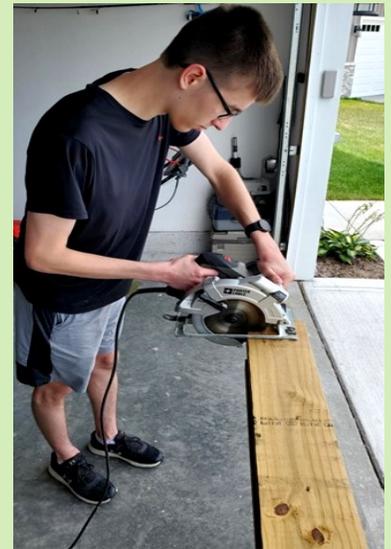
Watch the next issue of the Spire for October scheduled guests.



## Tyler Anderson’s Eagle Scout Project to Benefit FBC

As a Boy Scout, Tyler Anderson has advanced to his Eagle Scout project. For his project, he will be repairing and repainting the fence between First Baptist and Sigma Alpha Epsilon as well as painting the black exterior railings around the church. (He had already painted some railings prior to the Eagle Scout project.)

On August 26, Tyler and others from his scout troop worked several hours scraping the fence and identifying additional boards that needed replacement – as well as removing SIX WASPS NESTS. We appreciate all of the hard work and are thankful that Tyler chose a service project that will benefit the church! We look forward to a bright, renewed fence!



## Welcome, New Member!

We welcome Adde Stegemöller as our newest member! Adde is a junior at Ames High School where she is very active in the music program in both the choir and orchestra. She works at Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt. She is the daughter of Elizabeth and Aaron Stegemöller and older sister to Lucy.

Adde has been a part of our church since she was six years old. She is a member of our choir, often singing solos, and plays violin in our instrumental group. She has participated in numerous church mission trips to Kansas City, Oklahoma, and Puerto Rico.

Adde took part in the Baptism Class that concluded one week before the COVID shutdown. She has attended the Music Conference at Green Lake, our ABC national conference center in Wisconsin, for many years and asked if she could be baptized there. A total of 14 people from FBC were at Green Lake during the conference. FBC folks, youth from around the country who were at the conference, and other friends at Green Lake were there for the baptism in the lake—at 8 am! Pastor Dave performed the baptism and Rob White, co-director for the youth portion of the conference, read scripture and led a prayer. Adde's father Aaron sang before the baptism.

Adde was baptized on July 20 and welcomed as a new member on August 6. A video of the baptism was shown during the service that morning. We celebrate with Adde in her decision to follow Jesus through baptism!



# SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				31 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 5-8p <i>Women United</i>	1	2 
3 9:45a Worship/ Communion 10:45a Fellowship	4 	5 8a Men's Breakfast 2-3p <i>PD Boxing</i>	6 2-3p <i>PD Singing</i>	7 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 2-3p <i>PD Dancing</i> 5-8p <i>Women United</i>	8	9
10 9:45a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:15a Church School Honoring Mindy's 25 year of service!	11	12 2-3p <i>PD Boxing</i>  7p Trustees Meeting	13 2p <i>PD Singing</i>	14 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 2-3p <i>PD Dancing</i>	15	16
17 9:45a Worship 10:45a Church School 	18	19 8a Men's Breakfast 2-3p <i>PD Boxing</i>	20 2p <i>PD Singing</i>	21 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 2-3p <i>PD Dancing</i> 5-8 <i>Women United</i>	22	23
24 9:45a Outdoor Worship 10:45a Church School	25	26 2-3p <i>PD Boxing</i>	27 2p <i>PD Singing</i>	28 10a Virtual Coffee Shop 2-3p <i>PD Dancing</i> 5-8 <i>Women United</i> 7p Deacon Meeting	29	30 



**September 3:**

*Worship Leader:* Barbara Woods  
*Ushers:* Julie Johnston, Aaron Stegemöller

**September 10:**

*Worship Leader:* Erin Johnson  
*Ushers:* Jere Maddux, Bob Parrish

**September 17:**

*Worship Leader:* Kaylinn Taggart  
*Ushers:* Jerilyn Logue, Tom Logue

**September 24:**

*Worship Leader:* John Anderson  
*Ushers:* Stephanie Goodman, Jon Pritchard

## Happy Birthday!

Katherine Thompson	2
Stephanie Keat	3
Lucy Stegemöller	10
John Anderson	12
Jenna McCarley	19
Ethan Phomvisay	22
Dave Russell	22
Rosemarie Starrett	24
Kent Johnson	29
Barbara Woods	29
Elizabeth Stegemöller	30

## Happy Anniversary!

Jill and Michael Leininger 6

### Great Day of Service will return on October 15!

On October 15, we will have a seven minute worship service in the sanctuary followed by hands-on service projects that we will do both here at the church and out in the community. The morning will conclude with a simple meal.

Mark your calendars as we work together to make a difference in our community and in our world!

**GREAT  
DAY OF  
SERVICE**



### 2023 Crop Walk

First Baptist has a long history of supporting the CROP Walk for Hunger. In the CROP Walk, walkers are sponsored by church members and friends with proceeds going to fight hunger globally and locally. The Crop Walk is to bring awareness to people who walk as much as 6 miles to get water and food in developing nations. Seventy-five percent of the funds raised go to Church World Service to fight hunger in the US and around the world; 25% of funds raised go to support local food agencies.

We encourage you to participate in this year's walk on Sunday, October 8. Dawn Doerr-Johnson is our recruiter, and you can get a sponsor form from her. You can also [sign up online](#) to join the FBC team, and use the same link to sponsor walkers or sponsor our team as a whole.

## Retirement Celebration for Dr. Barbara Woods

**Friday, September 29, 2023**

**3:00 - 5:00 pm with comments at 3:30 pm**

Campanile Room, Iowa State University Memorial Union, 2229 Lincoln Way, Ames



Please join us for a celebration in honor of Dr. Barbara Woods' retirement on Friday, September 29 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm with comments at 3:30 pm.

### **Speakers Include:**

**Dr. Sarah L. Francis, Interim Associate Dean and Director**  
ISU Human Sciences Extension and Outreach

**Dr. Bob Anderson, Professor Emeritus**  
ISU Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Dr. Dawn A. Mellion, Retired, Vice Chancellor for Extension and Outreach**  
Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

**Dr. Barbara Woods, Special Projects Manager**  
ISU Human Sciences Extension and Outreach

You are invited to Barbara Woods' retirement celebration! We celebrate Barbara's long service with Iowa State and Extension, making a difference in communities across our state and beyond. Barbara currently serves at First Baptist as our Moderator.

Here is a link to [Dr. Barbara Woods' bio](#).

Click here to [listen](#) to Barbara's Extension and Outreach Oral History Project interview.

### **Ames United Church of Christ Theologian-in-Residence Program**

#### **"Confronting the Hopelessness of Immigration"**

September 15-17, 2023

with Rev. Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre, Professor of Social Ethics and Latinx Studies  
at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado

Free and Open to the Public  
Available in-person and through Zoom

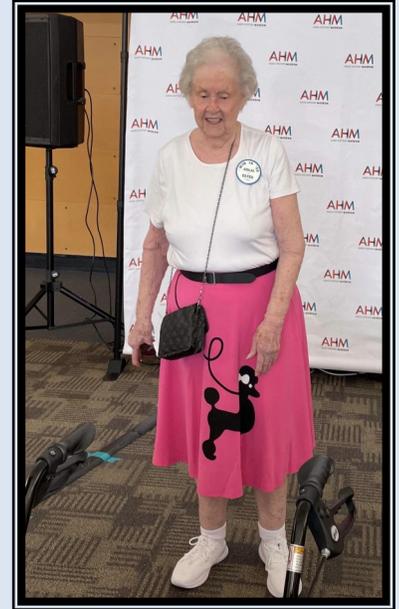
The objective of this event is to educate people about the current immigration situation, including what state and local organizations are doing, and to provide specific information about ways attendees or churches can engage to improve our immigration process. [Click here](#) for details and schedule.

## Johnie Hammond Receives Ames History Maker Award!

The Ames History Maker Award honors an individual, company, organization, or family that has made an impact on the history of the Ames community. At the Ames History Museum's benefit event held in August, our own Johnie Hammond was named an Ames History Maker. From the Ames History Museum:

*Johnie Hammond was the first woman elected to the Story County Board of Supervisors (serving 1975-1979), the first woman to represent Ames in the Iowa House of Representatives (1983-1995), and the first woman to represent Ames in the Iowa Senate (1995-2003). Guided by her belief in justice and dignity for all, the power of public education, and the democratic process to affect change, Johnie has been a leader, activist, advocate, and public servant in far-reaching and enduring ways.*

Congratulations, Johnie!



Johnie at the 50's-themed Ames History Museum event



## Fall Kickoff September 10; Church School News



Our Fall Kickoff will be on September 10 as we recognize Mindy Phomvisay for her 25 years on our staff. We will also begin our regular fall schedule, with Church School at 10:45 and Fellowship Time on the second Sunday of each month after worship, with Church School following. Our Church School year will begin on September 10 with a short description of our classes during fellowship time and some classes beginning that day (others begin on September 17.) We offer classes for all ages:

**Children K-6** will meet in the downstairs classroom with Jan Thompson and assistants. They will be using the "Celebrate Wonder" curriculum and also have Music Time with Mindy.

**Youth 7-12** will meet with Becca Whitaker in the youth room upstairs. They will continue with their study of women in the Bible.

**College Students/Young Adults** will meet in the College Lounge on the second floor for study and fellowship, with a monthly meal. On September 10 they will meet and make plans for the semester. Pastor Dave and Randall and Kay O'Brien will meet with our student group.

**The Library Class** will meet (where else?) in the library with leaders Phyllis Schrag and Barbara Woods. This is a Bible Study class using the Salt and Light curriculum.

**The Theology Class** will meet in the lounge. The class will continue using the video curriculum, "Oh God, Now What? Christianity 20 Years After 9/11" with Tripp Fuller, Diana Butler Bass, and Brian McLaren. The series looks at religious and cultural changes over the past 20+ years and how Christians can live faithfully in the midst of a changing time. Stephanie Goodman is the facilitator for the class.



**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
Emma Phomvisay	Music Intern
Sierra Livengood	Office Manager

**Worship Outdoors**

Sunday, September 25 - 9:45 am

We have been worshipping outdoors on the last Sunday of the month through the summer. Join us again on September 27 for our last outdoor service of the season!



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

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