



# The Spire First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

January/February,  
2020  
Volume 66, No. 1

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

PHONE:  
515-292-9612  
E-MAIL  
[office@fbcames.org](mailto:office@fbcames.org)  
WEB:  
[www.fbcames.org](http://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.

## Pastor's Word

Last Tuesday, shortly after getting to the office, I had a phone call from Fred Borgen, who alerted me to the earthquake in Puerto Rico and asked if it had affected our sister church in Mayaguez. This was the first I had heard of the earthquake but I soon learned more information through our American Baptist networks.

As many of you know, our church sent a group of 14 people to work in Puerto Rico last summer. We repaired roofs and painted a church in Luquillo, in the northeast part of the island. Our sister church in Mayaguez is on the west coast of Puerto Rico. So we feel a connection and have a heart for the island.

While information on the earthquake was available through the news media, Abigail Medina Betancourt, the coordinator for ABC work teams coming to Puerto Rico, got out more local and personal information on what was happening. Most of the island was without power for several

days, and areas are still without power. A couple of major power plants are in the area that was most affected by the earthquake.



*Felicita Garcia*

While the island has certainly experienced hurricanes, an earthquake was a new thing, especially for younger people. Because of aftershocks and the threat of another large earthquake, many people are sleeping in cars or out in the yard. (And indeed, a second large earthquake followed.)

I was most struck by information Abigail sent a couple of days following the initial earthquake. She traveled to the area in the southwest part of the island most affected by the earthquake to help coordinate the response of the ABC churches of Puerto Rico. There she met a woman named Felicita Garcia. Felicita had lost her home in the earthquake, but since the quake she had been cooking three meals a day at Primera Iglesia Bautista de Guayanilla (First Baptist Church of Guayanilla), which has been serving as a shelter since the earthquake. Sixty people are eating and living in the church's facilities, and she is the head cook. Her home was uninhabitable, but through this difficult time Felicita was serving others.

Abigail later posted that churches in the northern part of Puerto Rico were sending food and supplies to help with the relief effort. She sent a photo of a church van that had delivered supplies and I noticed that it was the van from the church in Luquillo where we worked last summer.

*Continued on page 2*



In the midst of pain and loss, it was inspiring to hear of those who have themselves suffered nevertheless extending a helping hand and sharing the love of Christ with others.

Please be in prayer for Abigail, Felicita, our friends in Luquillo and Mayaguez, and all the people of the island. One concern is that the lack of electricity, water and gasoline will trigger widespread panic in addition to symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder initiated by Hurricane Maria.

If you would like to give toward relief efforts, you may write a check to our church with memo OGHs-Puerto Rico. One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs.

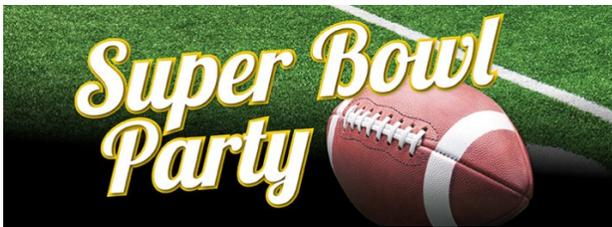
Even in the aftermath of the earthquake, the rebuilding following Maria continues. This week a team from First Baptist Church of Norfolk, Nebraska is repairing and replacing

roofs on homes. Our church is tentatively planning a second mission trip to Puerto Rico in the summer of 2021.

We are delighted to welcome Hope Deets as our new Office Manager. Hope graduated from Iowa State in December with a double major in political science and psychology. She is a native of Fulton, Illinois. Hope has been thrown into the fire with a new semester of parking rental, the *Spire*, and Annual Reports coming right away. When you have a chance, stop by and welcome her to First Baptist!

Blessings,

Dave



First Baptist's annual Super Bowl Party is February 2 at 5 pm. We will watch the big game in the lounge. Everyone is welcome and invited to bring food to share. Those who are really not football fans are welcome to bring board games!

### Deacons, Trustees Name Officers

Our deacons have met and elected officers for the 2020 year. Jere Maddux is chair, Joyce Davidson vice-chair, and Becca Whitaker is secretary. Per our by-laws, this means that Jere will serve as our church moderator for the year and Joyce will be vice-moderator. Wes Johnson will serve as trustee chair for 2020. Jack Cleasby is vice-chair and Dianne Borgen secretary.

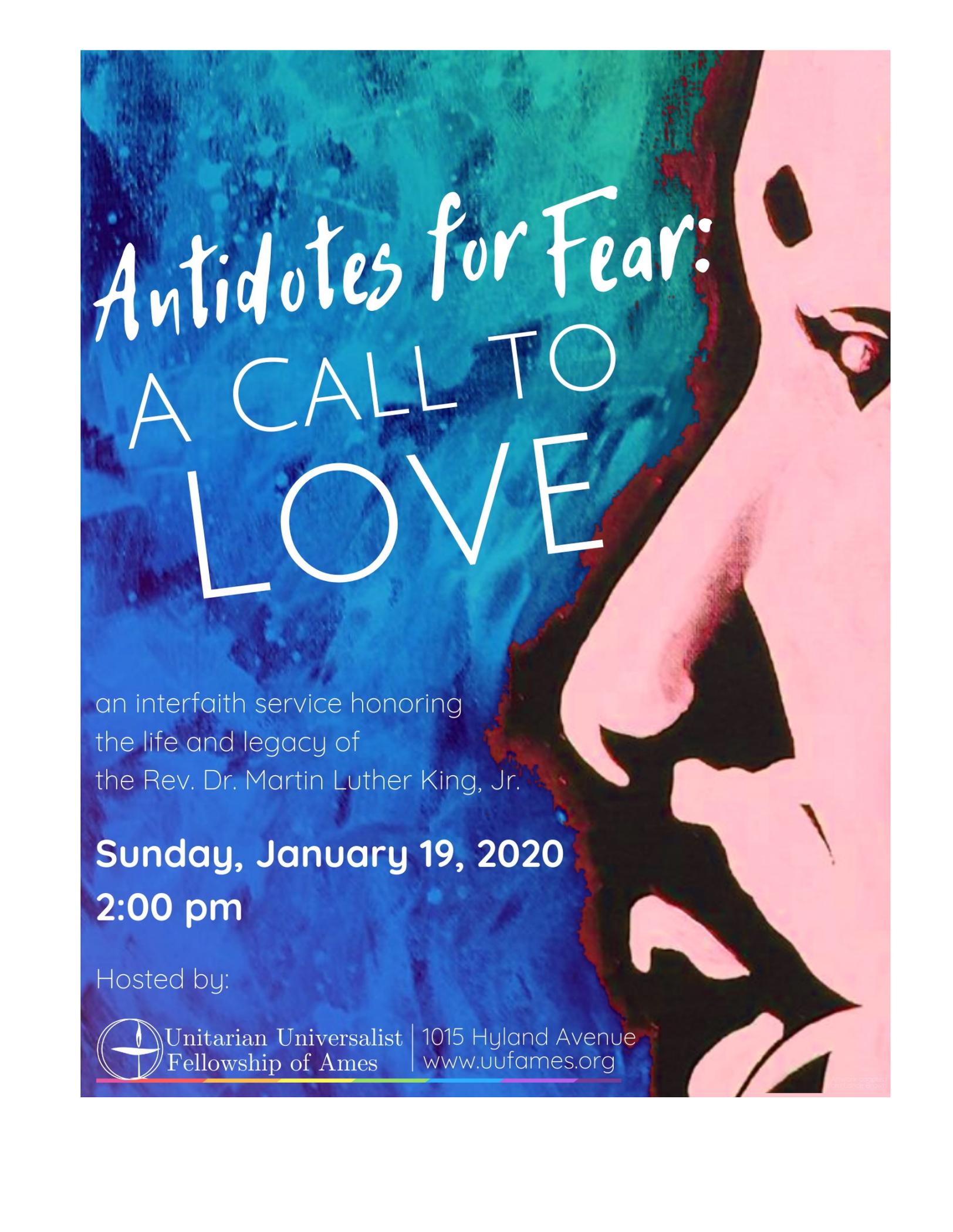
### Invitation from Ames UCC

The congregation of Ames UCC invites your congregation to the ordination and installation of Rev. Hannah Hannover on Sunday, January 19 at 3pm in the UCC sanctuary. A reception follows in Fellowship Hall.

### Gustavus Choir Coming to Bethesda

Bethesda Lutheran Church is excited to host The Gustavus Choir, under the direction of Dr. Brandon Dean, on Sunday, February 9th at 3:00 p.m. Admission is free; no ticket required. A freewill donation will be taken during the performance.

Featuring music from both classic and contemporary composers, the choir will also perform a commissioned piece by Elaine Hagenberg. The tour also includes stops across Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska. Established in 1932, the nationally renowned Gustavus Choir maintains an extensive annual touring schedule throughout the United States and travels abroad every four years.



# Antidotes for Fear: A CALL TO LOVE

an interfaith service honoring  
the life and legacy of  
the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Sunday, January 19, 2020**  
**2:00 pm**

Hosted by:



Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Ames

1015 Hyland Avenue  
[www.uufames.org](http://www.uufames.org)

## Cook-Off Set for February 16

Our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Cook-Off will be on Sunday, February 16 at 6 pm. Since this will be near Valentine's Day, the theme will be "Foods That You Love." We invite you to make a favorite dish (even if it is a favorite food that you have never actually made yourself.) We will have a special prize for Valentine-themed foods. We will vote for our favorites with coins, cash, and checks, with all proceeds going to earthquake relief in Puerto Rico.

Since we have been holding these cook-offs for some time, and raising money for good causes relating to missions and/or hunger, we thought it might be fun to take a look back at past cook-offs. Here are the themes and the Grand prize winner for each year.

2008: "Fish and Loaves." Chris Shivers, Herb and Almond Bread

2009: "Patience in a Dish." Andrew Perrine, Chicken Lips with Maytag Blue Cheese Dressing

2010: "Go Ye Into All the World." Joyce Davidson, Samosas

2011: "Childhood Favorites." Lee Davidson, Chocolate Wafer Dessert

2012: "A Dish for Company." Jim Sassaman, Sweet Potato Casserole

2013: "Plentiful Parishioner-Prepared Palate-Pleasing Plates" (food starting with the letter "P"). Johnie Hammond, Paella

2014: "Beans and Things." Catherine Parrish, Vanilla Bean Cream Cheese Spread

2015: "Creatively Concocted Congregational Cuisine Contest" (food starting with the letter "C"). Kaylinn Taggart and T.J. Nugent, Crack-a-Lackin Cheese and Cool Organic Veggie Tray

2016: "Crock Pot – or Not." Jared Diehl, Virginia-style Pulled Pork

2017: "Test Kitchen." Phyllis and Larry Schrag, Sadie's Rhubarb Delight

2018: "Come and See." Dave Russell, Tropical Fruit Smoothie with Guanabana

2019: "Around the World." Tina Sanders, Mexican Lasagna





**January 19**

*Worship Leader:* Jacelyn Rudderow

*Ushers:* Dianne Borgen, Jerilyn Logue,  
Tom Logue, Jere Maddux

*Sound System:* Kent Johnson

**January 26**

*Worship Leader:* Jan Thompson

*Ushers:* Scott Anderson, Stephanie  
Goodman, Jere Maddux,  
Jacelyn Rudderow

*Sound System:* Tom Logue

**January Flowers:** Stephanie Goodman

**February 2**

*Worship Leader:* Lorrie Whitaker

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

*Sound System:* Bob Parrish

**February 9**

*Worship Leader:* Aaron Stegemöller

*Ushers:* Larry Schrag, Elijah  
Phomvisay, Beth Douglass

*Sound System:* Tom Logue

**February 16**

*Worship Leader:* Emma Phomvisay

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

*Sound System:* Kent Johnson

**February 23**

*Worship Leader:* John Whitaker

*Ushers:* Scott Anderson, Stephanie  
Goodman, Jere Maddux,  
Jacelyn Rudderow

*Sound System:* Tom Logue

**February Flowers:** Rita Parrish

**January Birthdays**

Dacian Wilson	8	Alice Clemons	22
Toyin Clotley	9	TJ Nugent	24
Lauren Peters	15	Lumi Clotley	25
Alex Parrish	19	Stacy Starrett	29
Jere Maddux	20		



Aaron Stegemöller	6	Anastasia Lee	9
Tom Logue	9	Patrick Coffey	12
Kathy Clotley	15	Elijah Belle	17
Emma Phomvisay	17	Viola Thomas	17
Lois Curtis	19	Kaylinn Taggart	20
Michelle Logue	22	Michelle Hassler	27

Rosemarie and David Starrett 23



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch**

**January 19**—Culver's

**February 16**—Pizza Ranch

**March 15**—El Azteca (2727 Stange Rd.)



**Student Lunch**



Our next college student/young adult lunch will be on Sunday, January 26 after worship. This is a chance for students to get to know one another better and enjoy a great meal together. Thank you to Julie Johnston for providing this month's lunch!

**Indoor Work Day**

We will have a church workday on Saturday, February 22 at 9 am. We will be cleaning and straightening closets and storage spaces and working on painting and repair projects, along with cleaning, dusting, polishing, etc. There is plenty of work for everyone!



**WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH**

# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Church Office Hours</b>  Monday—Closed  Tuesday—9am-1pm  Wednesday—9am-1pm  Thursday—9am- 1pm  Friday—9am-3pm</p>			1  	2	3	4 10:30am Judy Demarest Funeral  
5 9:45am Worship/ Communion 11am Church School	6	7	8  5:30pm Baptism Class 6:30pm Choir	9	10	11
12 9:45am Worship 11am Fellowship Time 11:15am Church School	13	14  7pm Trustees Meeting	15  5:30pm Baptism Class 6:30pm Choir	16  6:30pm Deacons Meeting	17	18
19 9:45am Worship 11am Church School 12pm Third Sunday Lunch at Culver's 2pm MLK Interfaith Service at UUFA	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 Annual Reports Due	22  5:15pm CCJ board Meeting 5:30pm Baptism Class 6:30pm Choir	23	24	25
26 9:45am Worship 11am Church School 11am Student Lunch	27	28  4pm Parkinson's Dance Group	29  3p Parkinson's Singing Group 5:30 Baptism Class 6:30 Choir	30	31	

# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Church Office Hours</b>  Monday—Closed  Tuesday—9am-1pm  Wednesday—9am-1pm  Thursday—9am- 1pm  Friday—9am-3pm</p> </div>						1
2 9:45am Worship 11am Church School 12pm Annual Meeting 5pm Super Bowl Party 	3	4 4pm Parkinson's Dance Group 5:15pm Women United	5 2pm Parkinson's Discussion Group 3pm Parkinson's Singing Group 5:30pm Baptism Class	6	7	8
9 9:45am Worship 11am Fellowship Time 11:15am Church School	10	11 4pm Parkinson's Dance Group 5:15pm Women United 7pm Trustees Meeting	12 3pm Parkinson's Singing Group 5:30pm Baptism Class	13	14 	15 
16 9:45am Worship 11am Church School 6pm Cook-off 	17 5pm Women United	18 4pm Parkinson's Dance Group 5:15pm Women United	19 3pm Parkinson's Singing Group 5:30pm Baptism Class	20 6:30pm Deacons Meeting	21	22 9am Work Day 1pm Anderson Birthday Party
23 9:45am Worship 11am Church School	24	25 4pm Parkinson's Dance Group 5:15pm Women United	26 3pm Parkinson's Singing Group 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	27	28	29



**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
Hope Deets	Office Manager
Kathy Greiner	Custodian
Hanna Saville	Child Care
Emily Tonn	Child Care



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 26. Our Ash Wednesday service will be held in the church lounge at 6:30. It will include meditative music, scripture readings, silence, and imposition of ashes. All are welcome.



If Sunday morning worship is cancelled due to bad weather, notice will be posted on the church website at [fbcames.org](http://fbcames.org) and at KCCI-TV Channel 8. We will also send an email with this news and post to our Facebook page. For midweek activities: if Ames schools are cancelled, evening activities will be cancelled; otherwise committee members, choir members etc. will be notified of cancellations.