

**You Are Invited to Worship With Us!**  
**Rev. Jonathan Singer, Pastor**  
**Stewardship "Month of Gratitude"**

**All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 7** - Music by Adult Sanctuary Choir. Worship Leader is Patty Jenkins.  
**Sunday, Nov. 14** - Music by Band of Light. Worship Leader is Don Huff.  
**Commitment Sunday, Nov. 21** - Music by Children's Choir. Worship Leader is Kristin Stanford.  
**1st Sunday in Advent, Nov. 28** - Music by Sanctuary Choir. Worship Leader is Rye Lange.

**Tithes and Offerings**

Please continue to contribute regularly to support the work of the church, including the communion offering. Make out a separate check for the regular offering from special offerings such as communion and mission offerings.

Please mail your tithes and offerings to First Baptist, 434 Baltimore St., Waterloo, IA 50701.

If you do online banking, set up a recurring payment of your offering mailed directly to FBC.

**Financial Report**  
(as of 9/30/2021)

Checking/Savings \$72,142.98  
Sept. Contributions \$14,923.33  
Sept. Expenses \$15,745.22  
RBC \$67,748.57  
Ameriprise \$83,825.52

*Striving to serve our neighbors, community, and world with open hearts and open doors for over 167 years.*

**First Baptist Church**  
**434 Baltimore St.**  
**Waterloo, Iowa 50701**  
**(319) 234-1537**  
**waterloofbc@yahoo.com**

Watch our online services at:  
[www.firstbaptistwaterloo.org](http://www.firstbaptistwaterloo.org)  
(Worship: Up-Reach tab)



[Facebook.com/First Baptist Church Waterloo, Iowa](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchWaterlooIowa)



[YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) FBC Waterloo Iowa channel

Want to know what's happening in our Region?  
Sign up to receive the bimonthly e-newsletter known as  
**Body Builder**

Go to [www.mid-abc.org/news](http://www.mid-abc.org/news) to subscribe.

**First Baptist Staff**  
Rev. Jonathan Singer  
*Pastor*

Susan Price  
*Office Manager/C.E. Director*

Rev. Carol Teare  
*Minister of Music*

Abigail Agan  
*Youth Coordinator*

Dr. Randall Harlow  
*Organist/Accompanist*

Don Huff  
*Lay Pastor*

Bishop Barnes  
*Custodian*

**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Sunday:**  
**9:00 a.m. Connect**  
**10:15 a.m. Worship**

**Rev. Singer's Info:**  
Cell # 774-994-3180  
Email: [jnssinger@gmail.com](mailto:jnssinger@gmail.com)  
Address: 2004 Ashworth Dr.  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
Office Hours: 10am-1pm  
Mon-Wed or by app't

# The Messenger - November 2021

## Grateful Bumps

I currently have a big bump on my head. So, you might have noticed I'm rather tall. Yesterday I ran into the light attached to the fan in the church financial office and about knocked myself into next week. Feeling a bit fuzzy, I went home arriving just in time to be of no help as Sara took a tumble while hanging drapes, bruising her shoulder and cheek on the way down. We are currently a matched set of "OW!" But I'm grateful, so very grateful. Grateful for the soreness and the bruises that indicate our bodies are healing. Grateful that Sara's OK, and that we can laugh about our clumsiness together. Grateful that I get to be your pastor right here, right now and into the future.

God loves us passionately and completely, and that love is bigger than our minds can comprehend. But we can express our grateful response to that love with what we say and do. One of the keys to living is realizing that our future joy begins with our present gratitude! God invites us to, not out of some stuffy obligation, but out of joyful thanks to recognize all the good things God has given us. To that end we are going to center ourselves on all that we have to be grateful for during the month of November. It's stewardship month, the time in the life of our church we acknowledge with grateful thanks all that God has given us and pay it forward for the next year. Our theme is "Living Gratefully..."

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, All Saints Sunday, we will be reflecting on our past, centering especially on the people in our pasts who have shepherded, mentored, and guided us to be the people we are today. With songs, candles, and words, and surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (as

Hebrews proclaims) we are going to inspire each other to be the same type of examples to one another.

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, we are going to celebrate who we are right here and now. God has blessed us with each other, bruised and battered though we sometimes be! We each have access to wealth beyond measure in the relationships that we have with each other. These are worth cultivating, celebrating, and enlarging.

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we are looking forward to who God is calling us to be. Our children's choir will be singing and we will pledge ourselves to God's work in our midst, imagining all that God sees possible and inviting each other to be a part of this process. Budgets will be provided for our perusal and an invitation to indicate our continued commitment to one another. We will then vote together on our budget on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

November 28<sup>th</sup> is Thanksgiving Sunday. *Now Thank We All Our God, Let All Things Now Living. Give Thanks.* That's just the music and it is also the first Sunday in Advent!

I hope you are as grateful, hopeful, and excited looking forward as I am. I believe God has called us together both for our good and the good of those outside the four walls of our church. We are a blessing when we gather together, and I am so grateful.

I hope to see you all these next weeks!

With Grateful Thanks even for the bumps along the way!

-Pastor Jon

**Region Youth Event**

**November 5-7, 2021**

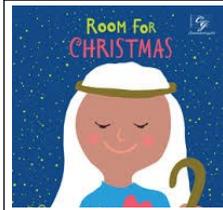
**The Church on Northland, Cedar Rapids**

Abigail Agan, Youth Coordinator, and several of our youth will head south to the region youth event in Cedar Rapids this month. This annual event for Minnesota and Iowa youth is a great way to meet kids from other churches, have fun, and build on their relationship within their youth group and with God. Please keep our youth and their leader in your prayers.

**Meet Jae Stockton**

The Mission Team has made a decision to be part of Jae Stockton's ministry team. She is our FBC Special Interest Global Servant. The support we will give is with our prayers, sharing news from her mission field in Mexico, and sending \$600 a year to help with her financial support.

Jae was born in the Philippines and later settled in the US. Jae was in the military and has helped in many ways in her home church in Billings, MT. Jae was commissioned to be an American Baptist Global Servant in 2020. She is now in language school and will then go to the theological school in Mexico where she will help students navigate technology. We hope you enjoy being part of a Global Servant's life and ministry.



**Room for Christmas  
Children's Choir Musical**  
**Sunday, December 5th,  
10:15 a.m.**

It's one week before the church Christmas pageant. The director is sick and it's up to the children to do the best they can... but it won't be easy. No one has learned their lines, The pageant feels like "just one more thing" during a busy time of year. Everyone has their own opinions about how to make this old story feel new. A bossy angel. Wisecracking shepherds. Unruly sheep. Will the children get it together in time? Come and find out on Sunday, Dec. 5th during our morning worship service. Invite your family and friends to attend.

\*As part of the musical, we are collecting gently used toys and games that will be donated to House of Hope. Bring your donations to church by Dec. 5th.

*There will be a special rehearsal on Sat., Dec. 4th from 10:00 am to Noon with lunch provided.*



**Sing With The Choir  
for Christmas!**

Everyone is welcome to join the Festival Choir for our annual cantata to be presented in worship on Sunday, Dec. 12 at 10:15 a.m.

Rehearsals are on Wed. from 7:00-8:15 p.m. There will be a special cantata rehearsal after church on Sun., Nov. 7th. Sack lunches will be provided for everyone.

This year's cantata will again feature the adult & children's choirs with instrumental ensemble. Narrators will be Leonard Harmon, Sebastian Price & Lizzie Zondo.

Come and sing the music of Christmas with us!

**November Birthdays**

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 - Sebastian Price  | 11 - Jenny Kramer    |
| 4 - Brandon Murray   | 16 - Gwen Ramsey     |
| 4 - Bijou Zondo      | 19 - John Hoppes     |
| 5 - Kristin Stanford | 21 - Charlotte White |
| 6 - Chelsea Faucher  | 22 - Fran Lemper     |
| 7 - Liz O'Malley     | 25 - Shanna Bravener |
| 8 - Sue Harty        | 27 - Judy Thompson   |
| 9 - Marlene Bown     |                      |

**November Anniversaries**

- 22 - Candi & Travis Newman  
 28 - Connie & LaVern Drewes **67 years!**

**A BLAST FROM THE PAST**

Oliver Eason recently passed away and the following letter was sent to us by his family while they were going through his papers:

November 20, 1945

Sgt. Oliver W. Eason  
523rd Eng. Maint. Co., San Francisco, CA

Dear Oliver,

I have a few minutes this morning in which to drop a few lines to you telling you of our happiness and genuine satisfaction in burning our mortgage a week or so ago. That was a great night and some 300 of our members gathered for the ceremony and celebration. How we wish you might have been present to take part.

You will be happy to know that the contribution you sent passed through my hands into the Building Fund and helped to liquidate our debt. One of the great satisfactions of the whole experience was the remembrance on the part of our young people who are away, of their Old Home Church and their desire to help free her from her burden of debt.

Very Sincerely,  
Albert L. Drake, Minister  
First Baptist Church of Waterloo, IA

*Oliver was born in May, 1924 and joined FBC in May, 1936. He passed away in December, 2020.*

**THANK YOU...**

Thanks to all who contributed baked goods and purchased items from our October Bake Sale! We raised \$369 for our upcoming region youth event in Cedar Rapids.

-Abigail Agan & the FBC Youth

Thank you for contributing to the October Communion Offering which was dedicated to the annual CROP Walk for Hunger. We raised over \$682 which will go towards the NE Iowa Food Bank and Church World Service.

**CONDOLENCES** to Bettina Taylor & family on the passing of her mother on Oct. 2nd.

**Happy Thanksgiving**

There will be **NO** Wednesday activities for children, youth, and adult choir on Wed., Nov. 24th. There will be **NO** Community Meal this month.

**The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 25th**

**Ministry Team Meetings** will be held on Monday, Nov. 8 at 6:15 p.m. followed by **Administrative Council** at 7:30 p.m.

**elf The Musical**

**December 3-19**

**Waterloo Community Playhouse**

Make your holiday plans now by purchasing a ticket to "elf The Musical" coming to the Waterloo Playhouse in December. This is a musical based on the 2003 movie starring Will Ferrell. Our very own Max Lange and Andrew Nielsen are part of the cast. Max is in the ensemble as an elf, a bratty boy with Santa in the store, and he sings and dances on the streets of New York at Christmastime. Andrew is the department store manager and also sings and dances with the ensemble. You won't want to miss it! Ticket information can be found at [www.wcpbhct.org](http://www.wcpbhct.org). or call 319-235-0367.