

You Are Invited to Worship With Us!

Rev. Jonathan Singer, Pastor

10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship

Sunday, January 1 - Message: Don Huff. Music: Jeff McKelvie. Worship Leader: Chuck Stilwill.
Communion Sunday, January 8 - Music: Adult Sanctuary Choir. Worship Leader: Sandee Harmon.
Sunday, January 15 - Music: Sanctuary Choir. Worship Leader: Marcia Street.
Sunday, January 22 - Music: Celebration Children's Choir. Worship Leader: Kristin Stanford.
Sunday, January 29 - Music: Band of Light. Worship Leader: Clare Palmer.

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 11/30/2022)

Checking/Savings \$56,427.44
Nov. Contributions \$19,879.00
Nov. Expenses \$21,892.88
Foundation \$171,963.00

Striving to serve our neighbors, community, and world with open hearts and open doors for over 168 years.

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Watch our online services at:
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 to subscribe.

The Messenger - January 2023

Resolved

Are you a New Year's Resolution type of person? Many are. Did you know that gyms like Planet Fitness are swamped with people through January, February, and March? Then things get real and people fade away as our resolution to work out and become a stud-muffin fades away and we are left being a couch potato with a muffin top. I've watched it for years at the different gyms I've attended (and was annoyed by the machines being occupied for most the winter), but because of my personal regiment never had to make those type of resolutions.

Then, as COVID ended and we were moving, I got out of the habit of working out. One day off extended to two days to four days to a week. At first, I felt that guilty voice urging me back to the gym, but eventually it faded away. It turns out if you ignore that little voice long enough it goes away. Two years later the voice of my doctor shook me out of my reverie and strengthened my resolve. I've made good workout and food decisions for a couple months now and seen positive results. Interestingly, I feel more like myself even as I've functioned differently! It turns out resolutions are important, whenever they are made. To put it another way, using the agency we have as free and capable people to change our path to a better one is essential to our growth as followers of Christ.

As I look at myself in a spiritual mirror, I think I see myself much as you might see yourself. A work in progress. God has done great things, and but there is much yet to do. With that said I have these three questions for us to consider as we boldly enter 2023!

- What might we resolve this New Year to do to take better care of the temple of our body God has granted us? Exercising each day, practicing dietary discipline, and good sleep patterns can increase our capacity for work and play!
- How might we choose to arrange our schedules differently to make certain those we love and the things that give us life and enrich our whole selves are given primary place? Reminder: just because things are this way doesn't mean they must be this way. You have agency. Use it.
- How might we reach towards those on the margins and those in need? We have been so gifted so that we might reach towards others and help them with all that we have and are. Sometimes you are the gift that transforms another's life. Believe you are a God's gift, and be that to someone else.

Happy New Year. My prayer for you and your family is that you would experience God's blessings and be your best self. I guess you could say that's my resolution!

With great affection,

Pastor Jon



Begin the New Year at FBC!

Dinner, Friends Club (ages 4-5th grade) and *Mom's Group* will begin again on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 from 5:00-6:45 p.m.

Warm Your Heart This Winter and SING!

Celebration Choir will resume weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, January 4th at 5:30 p.m. and *Sanctuary Choir* will resume their weekly rehearsals as well on Wed., January 4th at 7 p.m.

Sunday School at 9am

Sunday School for all ages begins again on Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Youth Group

The Youth will begin meeting again on Wed., January 4th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.



Happy New Year to All!!!

We will resume Wednesday Night Friends Club on January 4th, 2023 from 5-6:45 pm.

Now that Winter is in full swing, if the Waterloo Community Schools dismisses early or cancels school on Wednesdays due to weather, then there will be no Wednesday Night Friends Club.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday January 8th, 2023 at 9am.

The Children's Celebration Choir will be singing in church on Sunday, January 22nd, 2023. Please have your child at church at 9am for a rehearsal followed by Sunday School lesson that day.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact Candi Newman at 319-939-5510 or email candi79newman@icloud.com.

2023 Stewardship Campaign

To date we have received pledge commitments for 2023 totaling \$162,560. This is down about \$7,000.00 from the 2022 total. The number of giving units has dropped from 42 last year to 39 this year. New pledges and increases have offset some of the loss of giving units.

If non-pledged giving and other offerings remain at the current level, we may need to use \$10,000 of our investment monies to meet expected expenses.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support.

Bob Jenkins, Gene Van Gorder, Steve Harty, and the Stewardship Committee - Donna Huff, Don Huff, Shirley Baldwin, Dwayne Price & Pastor Jon

AmazonSmile

What is AmazonSmile? - It is an automatic way for you to support First Baptist every time you shop, at no cost to you.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile? - Simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer.

How do I select First Baptist to support when shopping on AmazonSmile? - On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, you need to select First Baptist Church 434 Baltimore to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account? - Yes, you use the same account.

Which products are eligible for charitable donations? - Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on the product detail page.

How much does Amazon donate? - AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible purchases.

Please consider this easy way to support FBC!

January Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 3 - Jade Chandler | 16 - Grace Brandt |
| 7 - Cloie Bravener | 24 - Phil Kauten |
| 8 - Bobbi Jo Schaffnit | 26 - Chris Lemper |
| 14 - Jonathan Hoppes | 27 - Jim Vaux |
| 14 - David Palmer | 29 - Nolan Faucher |
| 15 - Marshal lehl | 31 - Vicki Hembree |
| 15 - Sharon King | |

January Anniversaries

- 10 - Susan & Dwayne Price
 31 - Donna & Verner Nelson **70 years!**

Team Meetings & Administrative Council
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023

- 6:15 p.m. Teams gather in the Chapel
 7:30 p.m. Administrative Council meets

Please make every effort to attend your church leadership team meeting and contact your team chairperson if you are unable to attend.

Drive-thru Community Meal
Wednesday, January 25, 2023
5:00-6:00 p.m.

The drive-thru style Community Meal will be held on Wed., January 25 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Please sign up on the hallway board to help with this vital ministry. Volunteers are needed to prepare and package the food, hand out meals in the entryway, and bring cookies for dessert.

Please contribute regularly to the **communion offering** on the first Sunday of each month. The funds received from that offering help your Diaconate Team & Pastor Jon reach out to people in need from our congregation and community.

2023 Church Directories

2023 church telephone directories will be available for you to pick up this month on the table in the main hallway.

Winter Weather Policy

If Waterloo Schools cancel or dismiss early on a Wednesday due to winter weather, then all FBC Wednesday activities will also be cancelled.

THANK YOU...

Many thanks to my dear church family for all the prayers of comfort during Lee Bird's journey with cancer. Lee loved our church and was so happy and blessed with the love shown to him. He enjoyed the hospital visits from Pastor Jon and Carol. You have all helped me during this very painful and hard time.

-Lois Rider

To the church,
I want to thank Carol for bringing the pretty poinsettia. I love them at Christmas. Thank you for thinking of me.

-Bev Moser

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Care and love of knitting and crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and prayer. When the shawl is completed, it is offered a final blessing before being sent along its way. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the church library.

If you'd like to give a prayer shawl to someone you know in need of comfort, please take one from the shawl rack in the library.

January Holidays

The church office will be closed for the New Year on Monday, January 2, 2023 and Monday, January 16, 2023 for Dr. Martin Luther King Day.

Rainbow Acres Mission Trip

Rainbow Acres, located in Camp Verde, Arizona is a Christian Community that empowers persons with developmental disabilities to live to their fullest potential with dignity and purpose. You are invited to join a group from our region to go to Rainbow Acres from January 29 to February 4. Contact Jan Grogan (jangrogan@aol.com) for more information.