



**FIRST BAPTIST OF
WATERLOO, IOWA**

**WHITE FRAME
CHURCH
1858-1881**



PARK AVENUE CHURCH 1881-1924



PRESENT CHURCH 1924 –TODAY

434 Baltimore Street
Waterloo, Iowa 50701
(319) 234-1537

FBC Messenger
First Baptist Church
(American Baptist Churches USA)

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known as **Body Builder**.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School - 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship - 10:15 AM

10:15 AM service available on Facebook & YouTube

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Jonathan Singer, Pastor
Rev. Carol Teare, Minister of Music
Dr. Randall Harlow, Organist/Pianist
Dr. Melody Steed, Children's Choir Director
Candace Newman, Children's Ministries Director
Bishop Barnes, Custodian
Susan Price, Office Administrator

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

WEBSITE

www.firstbaptistwaterloo.org

REV. SINGER'S CONTACT INFO

Cell Phone: 774-994-3180
Email: jnsinger@gmail.com
Address: 2004 Ashworth Drive
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

FBC Messenger - April 2024

Striving to serve our neighbors, community, and world with open hearts and open doors for 169 years.

As we enter April, we truly are a post-Easter people. The forty days of Lent have past building up through the betrayal of Maundy Thursday, the darkness of Good Friday (talk about a misnamed holiday) and then the transformative glory of Easter Sunday, on March 31st. April comes in and we are a resurrection people. So how then should we live?

Maybe that is question, or indeed the wrong question. Maybe should has nothing to do with it. Now it is possible for us to live in the freedom granted to us by the One who loves us unconditionally and completely. We never need to wonder if we are loved. Jesus message of love, his arms spread wide on the cross, and his death defeating resurrection have reshaped the universe and our selves in the process. Petty spiritual bean counting has no sway in a post resurrection world. As the words of *Jesus Loves Me* proclaims, "we are weak but he is strong." That is always the way it is, we are empowered by his strength, filled with his mercy, transformed by his grace. All of us are in process, trusting in the Jesus' Spirit to continue to guide and move us forward... together.

The great part of this journey is that we journey together. Our paths come together intentionally. There are all sorts of reasons we could disagree, but we are fascinated with, in love with, and transfixed upon Jesus. God has shown us a love beyond imagining in Him.

Living in a post-Easter world means we are called to share that gift with one another. Jesus gave us one job, and told us how to do it, Love God and each other, and so be your best self in our world, and as you explore this world share me wherever you go: honestly, authentically, and freely. Then journey with others as I become a part of their lives.

We can be tempted to add a lot of "have to's" and "can'ts" to the simple job given to us by Jesus, and in one sense it is understandable. As we journey with God, there are truths God has taught us (sometimes with great pain), and they are worth sharing with others, especially as God helps us and we help one another grow. What we never have permission to do is to impose our spiritual journey or our lessons on others. That's the worst sort of bullying, and we need to recognize and excise that willfulness in ourselves when it pops up. The upside of this is what a joy it is to not hold yourself responsible for other's spiritual growth. It never accomplished what we wanted and damaged people and their walk with Jesus. We can rest from that busybody task and let Jesus' Holy Spirit do that job. We'll do ours. Love God, love each other, creatively and completely with our whole lives.

I hope your Easter was great. I hope even more you live in the post-Easter resurrection power of Jesus Christ, loving others and God with all you are!

Blessings, Pastor Jon

American Baptist Women's Ministries

IA East Spring Event
Saturday, April 13, 2024, 9:30 am-2:45 pm
First Baptist of Fairfield, Iowa

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Yvette Jackson, Chaplain
\$10 per person (payable at the door)
Call/Text Donna Hoaglin @ 319-931-5468
by April 8th.

Please let Marcia Street know if you plan to attend
and check with her for rides to Fairfield.

SPRING CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

Saturday, April 13, 9:00-10:30 a.m.
Royal Academy Gym (formerly Sacred Heart)
Start collecting your donations of clothing, shoes,
bedding, etc. for the Spring
Clothing Giveaway!



Place the donated items in
the bin found in the church
entryway.

Youth Sunday

Sunday, April 28th, 10:15 a.m.

Join us for Youth Sunday! Our Collaborative Youth
Group will be leading our worship service on April
28th. They will be discussing Community and how
the youth group has influenced them in their
communities and with their peers. We will be
hearing testimonies from the youth themselves.
Other talents our youth will be providing may
include music, reading, ushering, etc. On this
Sunday, the offering will go towards our overall
youth funds to help support summer plans and fall
festivities.

Pizza Potluck

Sunday, April 28th after worship

After Youth Sunday worship on Sunday, April
28th, plan to stay for a pizza potluck. Please sign up
in worship under *Activity #1*, indicating if you will
be bringing a dessert or fruit to share.

Through the Years with our Baptist Women

ABWM Brunch

Saturday, April 27 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Fellowship, Trivia Time, Remembering those who
passed, and Sharing highlights of our history.
ABWM sponsored for all women of the church.



Winifred Peck & Mrs. Elbert Greene

Spring Music Sunday

First Congregational UCC
608 W. 4th Street, Waterloo
Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

Once again we will gather to worship together with
our 4th St. neighbor churches on Sunday, May 5th
at First Congregational United Church of Christ on
the corner of West 4th & South streets. Choirs and
bells will be featured. A reception will follow.

There will be NO Sunday School or worship service
here at First Baptist that morning. Plan on heading to
First Congregational for worship that day!

*Sanctuary Choir will rehearse each Wednesday in
April starting at 6:40 p.m. and the Wed., May 1st
combined choir rehearsal at First Congregational
will begin at 6:45 p.m.



April Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 4 - Dustin Schlette | 18 - Lily Stanford |
| 6 - Lizzie Zondo | 19 - Jonene Baugh |
| 10 - Alayna Turner | 23 - Susan Price |
| 11 - Beverly McCusker | 24 - Ruth Hatch |
| 12 - Jon lehl | 24 - Ashley Lemper |
| 17 - John Everman | 25 - Lois Rider |

April Anniversaries

- 1 - Jerri & Rex lehl
- 4 - Bobbi Jo & Craig Schaffnit
- 8 - Karen & John Hoppes **52 Years!**
- 8 - Bev & Larry Moser **63 Years!**
- 27 - Heidi & Spenser Gruis

WORSHIP LEADERS

- Sunday, Apr. 7 - Anne Lange
- Sunday, Apr. 14 - Dave Schlette
- Sunday, Apr. 21 - Beverly McCusker
- Sunday, Apr. 28 - Susan Price

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

- Sunday, Apr. 14 - Christian Education Team
- Sunday, Apr. 28 - Lunch hosted by Deacons

SOUND BOARD

- Sunday, Apr. 7 - Chuck Stilwill
- Sunday, Apr. 14 - Bob Jenkins
- Sunday, Apr. 21 - Chris Iehl
- Sunday, Apr. 28 - Rye Lange

VIDEO PROJECTOR

- Sunday, Apr. 7 - Max Lange
- Sunday, Apr. 14 - Kristin Stanford
- Sunday, Apr. 21 - Lizzie Zondo
- Sunday, Apr. 28 - Max Lange

Community Meal

Wednesday, April 24, 2024
Meal served from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to a free
dinner here at FBC on Wed., April 24th. Enjoy a
delicious meal and fellowship.

Volunteers, please sign up on the hallway board to
help with the meal. Dessert items are also needed.

Team Meetings & Administrative Council

Monday, April 8
Team Meetings 6:15 p.m.
Administrative Council 7:30 p.m.

Financial Report (as of 2/29/24)

February Contributions \$22,500.71
February Expenses \$16,947.88
Checking/Savings \$35,537.34
Foundation \$287,855.84

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.

The church office will be closed on Monday, April
1, 2024 for Easter Monday.

Church Business Meeting will be held Sunday,
April 28, 2024, at 10:10 a.m. for the election of
Church Officers and Ministry Team members. New
team members will take office on May 1st.

Forest Lake Kid's Day

Saturday, April 20th 10AM-2PM
RSVP at 641-684-8908 or forestlake@mid-abc.org
by April 8th.
Camp Tour, Crafts, Lunch at the lake, Games

Crime Victims' Right Event

Monday, April 22, 2024 9am-12pm
Central River Area Education Agency
1521 Technology Pkwy., Cedar Falls
Keynote Speaker: Patty Wetterling
FREE Event! Vendors, Resources & Refreshments
Call Amy @ 319-239-9236 for more info
Sponsored by Elizabeth Collins Foundation

PROUD IMAGE SPRING CONCERT

**Saturday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.
Waterloo West High School**

Enjoy an evening of musical harmony when Cedar Valley's Proud Image Chorus, together with River City Chorus from Mason City, will present their Spring Concert, "LISTEN TO THE MUSIC" at Waterloo's West High School on Saturday, April 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$5 for students and available by contacting any Chorus member or calling 515-979-9054.

MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL

Sunday, May 12, 10:15 a.m.

Bring your mom, friends and special people in your life to First Baptist on Sunday, May 12th when we welcome as special worship leader and musical guest, Dr. John Roberts. The Celebration Children's Choir and Sanctuary Choir will also sing that day. There will be a time of refreshments and fellowship following worship hosted by the Trustees Team.



Celebrate spring in style. We encourage anyone who would enjoy dressing in your finest threads to do so on **Sunday, May 12th** for worship. Dig through your closet and break out those ties, Sunday hats, and fun dresses.

Music Camp Scholarships

Music camp scholarships are available for those attending Green Lake this summer. Applications can be found outside the office, or contact Kristin Stanford. Please put completed scholarship applications in Kristin's box in the hallway by Sunday, May 12th.

170th Church Anniversary

Save the date of Sunday, September 29, 2024, and invite past members when we celebrate our 170th anniversary.

First Baptist Church, 1866-1868

In the years after the Civil War, Waterloo was experiencing a boom-town phenomenon, and much commercial activity was begun during this period. In 1866, West Waterloo (west of the river) was made an independent school district. There is also an account of the only bridge in Waterloo across the Cedar River collapsing, killing several horses, an event which severely limited commerce.

The years after the war also found First Baptist Church in what histories call "a prosperous condition." Rev. William Hunter was in the midst of a successful ministry and records show 300 person listed as members in 1869.

Now that the infant church had a building to keep up and a regular ministry to support, the issue of financing became very important. In the days before pledges, a primary method for financing the church was renting pews. Most pews cost about \$2.00 a year in 1868 with some payments given directly to the pastor, bypassing the church treasury altogether.

First Baptist Church, 1869-1871

With the incorporation of the city of Waterloo in 1869, the city set about to elect officials and structure a city government. Some of the earliest leaders of Waterloo were also members of First Baptist. Lewis Lichty served as City Clerk from 1869-1872, and then as Mayor from 1873-76. Henry Nauman served the city as Treasurer from 1872-1873 and John Evans was town Marshall from 1870-1872.

After five good years as pastor of First Baptist, Rev. William Hunter ended his pastorate in 1869. The next five years would be unstable ones as four pastors would come and go from 1869-1874.

This flux in pastorates probably mirrored the changes that were overtaking Waterloo. The years of being a frontier church were coming to an end.

APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

Monday, April 1 - OFFICE CLOSED

1:00 PM - Prayer Shawl Ministry
7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 2

12:30 PM - Quilters

Wednesday, April 3

1:00 PM - ABWM Board Meeting
5:00 PM - Dinner for all ages
5:30 PM - Children's Choir & Friends Club
5:30 PM - Collab Youth - First United Methodist
6:40 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 7 - Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Sunday School
10:15 AM - Worship - Adult Choir
Noon - Church Row Coalition - social room

Monday, April 8

6:15 PM - Team Meetings
7:30 PM - Administrative Council
7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 9

12:30 PM - Quilters

Wednesday, April 10

5:00 PM - Dinner for all ages
5:30 PM - Children's Choir & Friends Club
5:30 PM - Collab Youth - First United Methodist
6:40 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 11

1:30 PM - Women's Group

Saturday, April 13

9:00-10:30 AM - Clothing Giveaway @ Sacred Heart
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM - ABWM Event @ FBC Fairfield

Sunday, April 14 - Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Sunday School
10:15 AM - Worship - Band of Light
11:15 AM - Fellowship hosted by Christian Ed. Team

Monday, April 15

7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 16

12:30 PM - Quilters

Wednesday, April 17

5:00 PM - Dinner for all ages
5:30 PM - Children's Choir & Friends Club
5:30 PM - Collab Youth - First United Methodist
6:40 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 21 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Sunday School
10:15 AM - Worship Service - Children's Choir

Monday, April 22

7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 23

12:30 PM - Quilters

Wednesday, April 24

4:30 PM - Community Meal
5:30 PM - Children's Choir & Friends Club
5:30 PM - Collab Youth - First United Methodist
6:40 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 27

10:00 AM - Women's Brunch

Sunday, April 28 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Sunday School
10:10 AM - Church Business Meeting
10:15 AM - Youth Sunday
11:15 AM - Lunch hosted by Diaconate Team

Monday, April 29

7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, April 30

12:30 PM - Quilters