



**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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**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](http://www.firstbaptistwaterloo.org)

**REV. SINGER'S CONTACT INFO**

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

# **FBC Messenger - May 2024**

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

## **Walking**

Our oldest son Noah walks on May 11<sup>th</sup>. He is graduating from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts majoring with honors in Sociology, and minors in Anthropology, Social Work, and History. (I call him a SASH major). I'm looking forward to seeing him sitting alongside his classmates patiently waiting for his name to be called and then walking across the stage when his name is called with his parents cheering like crazy (if it's allowed). Noah didn't get to walk in high school as his high school graduation occurred during COVID. They had a much more intimate setting graduation celebration. It involved walking across a parking lot in the cap and gown to a tent where the diploma was handed to him by a person of his choice (in our case Sara). It was cool, but didn't feel like a graduation.

I'm glad he gets to make the walk across a real stage this time, and try to remember to shake with the right hand and get the diploma with the left, flip the tassel and then gleefully leave the stage to the applause of a bunch of people he doesn't know honoring what he has done. But then comes the interesting part, what's next? You did this, what's next young man. Full of youth, talent and a hopeful amount of idealism, what will you do? I can't wait to see.

Our church walked across the stage on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and declared ourselves a welcoming and affirming congregation. We are now listed on the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, and I celebrate the step of inclusion that we have taken.

But for us this is not an ending, anymore than a graduation is an ending. It is the beginning of something more, in the same way that baptism is the start of a grown up and owned spiritual life, our brave embrace of the other changes us and that makes everything new.

Think about how we can make our building and service more accommodating to those with physical and mental challenges. Imagine how we can be more inviting to LGBTQ friends who don't know yet they have an advocate and (to quote story) a friend in us. Pray about how we should involved ourselves in the age old/new again struggle between the Palestinians and the Jewish people that is ripping up campuses and unsettles us all. (October 7<sup>th</sup> was horrific, the Israeli response has also become so.)

Our calling is to do all this and more. What's wonderful is that God has equipped us for just this job. We each have the capacity to love, to put aside personal politics and personal theology, and just love the other. Don't overthink it. Don't allow our self-righteous self (that part of us usually formed when we were young that learned somewhere that our way is the ONLY way, and those who disagree are less) to get in the way of Jesus' clear and message of love and acceptance.

I'm excited that like Noah, it's our turn to walk, to flip the tassel and move on to what's next.

I'm even more excited I get to do this with all of you!

With Joy,  
Pastor Jon

**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 luncheon 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 Wed., May 1st at First Congregational at 7:00 p.m.



**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.

**Pajama & Movie Night**

Just a reminder that on Wednesday, May 8th, Friends Club kids will be having a pajama and movie night. Please feel free to come to church in your favorite Pj's and enjoy an awesome movie with popcorn and snacks. This is also our last night for Friends Club until September. The last day of Sunday School is May 19th until this fall.



**Summer Meals! All Kids Eat Free!**  
**June 17 to August 2 (no meals July 4 & 5)**  
**Breakfast 8:30-9:00am**  
**Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm**

First Baptist Church is one of seven open sites for free breakfast and lunch this summer for all kids ages 1-18. We will be providing tables and chairs and the Waterloo Schools will provide the meals.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the tables and chairs and take them down after lunch. Please sign up on the hallway board to help with this important community outreach for kids in our neighborhood.

Volunteers are still needed for the last two weeks.  
 \*July 22 to July 26  
 \*July 29 to August 2



**May Birthdays**

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 - Roxane Runge       | 19 - Rye Lange         |
| 5 - Larry Moser        | 20 - Bob Jenkins       |
| 7 - Shirley Baldwin    | 21 - Sheleah White     |
| 8 - Samantha Satterlee | 22 - Dianne Van Gorder |
| 10 - Marshall Walker   | 26 - Karen Hoppes      |
| 13 - Quinn Anderson    | 26 - Clare Palmer      |
| 16 - Carly Turner      | 31 - Jayda Haywood     |

**May Anniversaries**

- 19 - Liz & David O'Malley  
 21 - Kim & John Chandler  
 31 - Anne & Rye Lange

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

- Sunday, May 5 - Worship @ First Congregational  
 Sunday, May 12 - Anne Lange  
 Sunday, May 19 - Bob Jenkins  
 Sunday, May 26 - Marcia Street

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

- Sunday, May 12 - Trustees Team  
 Sunday, May 26 - Trustees Team

**SOUND BOARD**

- Sunday, May 5 - Worship @ First Congregational  
 Sunday, May 12 - Karder Bravener  
 Sunday, May 19 - Rye Lange  
 Sunday, May 26 - Chuck Stilwill

**VIDEO PROJECTOR**

- Sunday, May 5 - Worship @ First Congregational  
 Sunday, May 12 - Lizzie Zondo  
 Sunday, May 19 - Max Lange  
 Sunday, May 26 - Kristin Stanford

**Community Meal**

**Wednesday, May 29, 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., May 29th. 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, May 13**  
**Team Meetings 6:15 p.m.**  
**Administrative Council 7:30 p.m.**

**Financial Report (as of 3/31/24)**

March Contributions \$20,342.07  
 March Expenses \$15,882.38  
 Checking/Savings \$38,832.03  
 Foundation \$294,227.80

**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, May 27, 2024 for Memorial Day.

**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.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to Noah Singer on his graduation from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts on May 11th. Noah majored in Sociology and minored in Anthropology, Social Work, and History! Way to go, Noah!!



**In Sympathy...**

Our sincere condolences go to the family & friends of Maxine Stone who passed away on April 7th. She was just one month shy of her 100th birthday and a member of First Baptist for 84 years.



**SUMMER FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Do you have a special day to celebrate this summer, or just want to host fellowship time for all to gather after the worship service? Find a date that works for you and sign up on the sheet outside of the office.

**Congratulations on 10 Years!**

Bishop Barnes has been our faithful church custodian for 10 years. Bishop was hired in May of 2014 through Goodwill Industries after being trained in a hospital setting. He has rarely missed a day of work in 10 years and keeps our 100 year old building in tip-top condition. Thank you, Bishop!



**Doo Wops & Fusion**

Friday, May 10th doors open at 6pm  
The Courtyard by Marriott  
250 Westfield Ave., Waterloo  
Tickets: \$15 per person sold at the door  
Doo Wops & Fusion will perform from 7pm-10pm

**170th Church Anniversary**

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

**First Baptist Church, 1872-1874**

As First Baptist Church approached the end of its second decade of existence, it had faced many challenges. During these years the issue of stability in the pastorate remained a thorny one, as a series of one-year tenures continued. In June of 1873 the church called A.A. Russell, but tragedy soon came. Mrs. Russell, described as a tireless worker, and a "lady loved by all," passed away and soon thereafter Rev. Russell resigned. On the first Sunday of September in 1874 the pastorate of Richard Garton began, a pastorate that was to continue for 12 prosperous years. The church had a membership of 276.

Despite short pastorates and a badly damaged steeple from a severe windstorm in 1874, all other signs of health for this growing church were good. In 1872, when the bridge to the east side was out, the church started a mission Sunday School in the Free Will Baptist Church, but this endeavor lasted only a few months.

The most important development of this period might well be the first meeting of the church's Woman's Foreign Mission Society on December 31, 1873.



REV. AND MRS. A. A. RUSSELL.

**MAY CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, May 1**

- 5:00 PM - Dinner for all ages
- 5:30 PM - Children's Choir & Friends Club
- 5:30 PM - Collab Youth - Kimball Ave. United Methodist
- 7:00 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal @ First Congregational

**Sunday, May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter**

- NO Sunday School or Worship at First Baptist
- 10:30 AM - Worship at First Congregational Church
- 11:30 AM - Lunch to follow worship

**Monday, May 6**

- 7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

**Tuesday, May 7**

- 12:30 PM - Quilters

**Wednesday, May 8**

- 5:00 PM - Dinner for all ages
- 5:30 PM - Friends Club Pajama & Movie Night
- 5:30 PM - Collab Youth - Kimball Ave. United Methodist

**Thursday, May 9**

- 11:30 AM - Women's Group

**Sunday, May 12 - Mother's Day & Dress Up Day**

- 9:00 AM - Sunday School
- 10:15 AM - Worship - Children & Adult Choirs  
Dr. John Roberts, guest in the pulpit
- 11:15 AM - Fellowship hosted by Trustees Team

**Monday, May 13**

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

**Tuesday, May 14**

- 12:30 PM - Quilters

**Wednesday, May 15**

- 1:00 PM - ABWM Board Meeting
- 5:30 PM - Collab Youth - Kimball Ave. United Methodist

**Sunday, May 19 - Pentecost & Communion Sunday**

- 9:00 AM - Sunday School
- 10:15 AM - Worship - Band of Light

**Monday, May 20**

- 7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

**Tuesday, May 21**

- 12:30 PM - Quilters

**Sunday, May 26**

- 10:15 AM - Worship - Jeff McKelvie, special music
- 11:15 AM - Fellowship hosted by Trustees Team

**Monday, May 27**

- Church Office Closed**
- 7:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous

**Tuesday, May 28**

- 12:30 PM - Quilters

**Wednesday, May 29**

- 4:30 PM - Community Meal

