

First Baptist Church  
25 N. Eighth Street – P.O. Box 124  
Keokuk, Iowa  
52632-0124

Non-profit  
U.S. Postage  
Keokuk, Iowa  
52632-0124  
Permit No. 234

Return Service Requested

February 2021



Baptist Visitor

REV. ROBERT BRANDHAGEN, PASTOR

rememberjesus@ymail.com

Church Office 319-524-3684  
Educational Building 319-524-3665  
Website: [www.keokukfbc.org](http://www.keokukfbc.org)

**SUNDAYS**

9:00 Sunday School  
10:00 Morning Service  
~~6:30 Youth Group~~ on hold

**WEDNESDAYS**

~~5:30 BEF Meal~~ on hold  
6:00 BEF Groups



(Place in a convenient place for future reference.)

**2021 Offices**

**MODERATOR:** Don Davis      **FINANCIAL SECY:** Jeanne Davis      **CHURCH CLERK:** Trudy Rudd  
**Assist. Moderator:** Marvin Nehre      **ASSIST. FINANCIAL SECY:** Dutch Salama      **MISSIONARY TREAS:** Linday Wade  
**CHURCH TREASURER:** Tess Brotherton      **MAINTENANCE TREASURER:** David Glasscock

**BOARD OF DEACONS:** Bob Collier, Tom Rudd, Marvin Nehre, Steve Baum, Tom Brown, Don Davis, Mike Schrader, Patrick Baum, Mark Pfaffe

**BOARD OF DEACONESSSES:** Betty Dickens, Becky McAlexander, Julie Ramsey, Sally Brotherton, Jeanne Davis, Ella Maxwell, Ana King

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Chairperson Tim Glasscock, Vice-Chairperson Ryan Brotherton, James Buerklin, Mike Glasscock, Tom Ruddell, Yates Brotherton, Don King, Chuck Williams, Shari Dunagan

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** Debra Carman, Diana Cook, Katie Bierwirth, Liz Swanson, Alyssa Glasscock, Lisa Brandhagen, Caleigh (Adams) Hayhurst

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:** AUDITING, Bobbi Lutzin; MUSIC, Carol Lynn Williams; TRANSPORTATION & USHERING, Russell Brotherton; MISSIONARY, Phyllis Nehre; NURSERY, Jeanne Davis; HOSPITALITY, Diana Cook, Dee Ruddell; FLOWERS, Suzy Glasscock

**FINANCE COMMITTEE 2020:** Tess Brotherton, Carol Lynn Williams, Dutch Salama, Sally Brotherton, Jeanne Davis, Tom Rudd, Phyllis Nehre, Don King, Marvin Nehre (Board of Deacons rep.)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:2020** Chair – Becky McAlexander, David Glasscock, Don Davis, Yates Brotherton, Katie Bierwirth, Caleigh Adams.

**CHURCH COUNCIL 2019:** Marvin Nehre, Tess Brotherton, Suzy Glasscock, Carol Ryland, Jeanne Davis, Phyllis Nehre, Carol Lynn Williams, Bob Collier, Debra Carman, Tim Glasscock, Julie Ramsey

**STAFF**

Teresa (Tess) Brotherton (secretary@keokukfbc.org)  
 Julie Ramsey, Organist  
 Russell Brotherton, Custodian

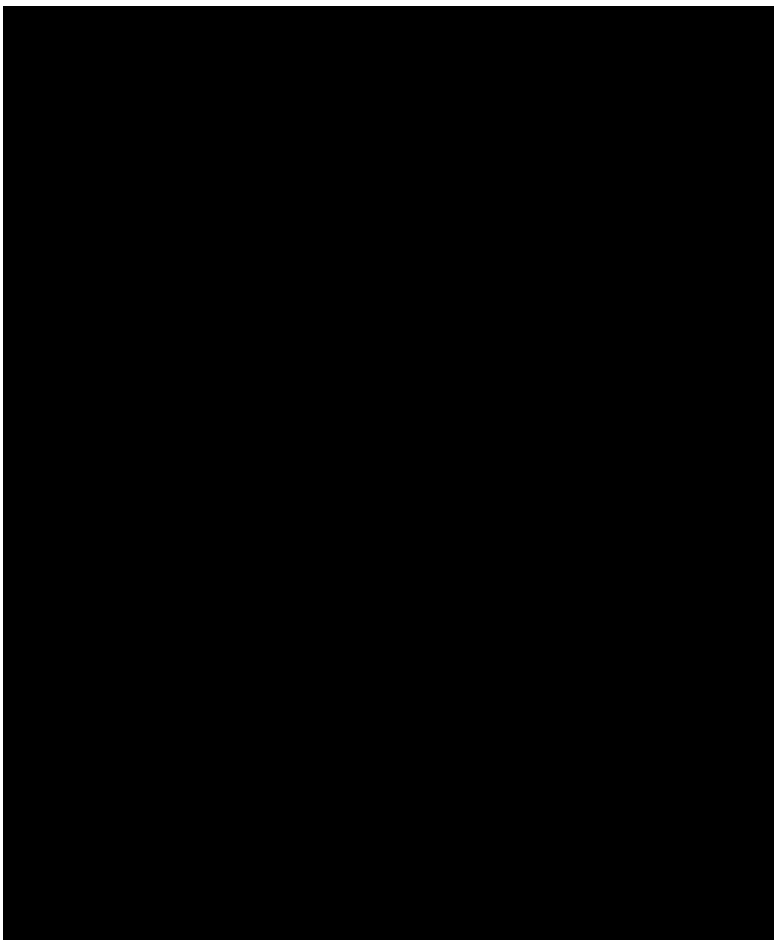


**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday  
 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

# Stewardship ATTENDANCE

Dec	SUNDAY SCHOOL	PARKING LOT	SANCTUARY
16	31	23	31
20	39	19	36
24	Candle Light Service		98
27	33	21	33
Jan			
3	31	12	34
10	38	9	35
17	33	11	37



**M & M Scholarship Committee**

Gladys Garnett gift of the early 1950's, the Clauzelle Pfaffe Medical Scholarship fund established in 1985, and the Elizabeth Maxwell Scholarship fund started in 2003 have helped church members including our current full time missionaries Doug Roeglin, Kristy Engel, and Tim Nehre. We have been blessed by the gifts of these three scholarship funds.

M & M Scholarship Committee

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Unspoken Requests, Michelle Dorethy and Family,  
 Doug Roeglin, Ginger Curfman, Barb Collier, Bev Brotherton (eyes),  
 Vera Neuendorf, Mark & Kelly Neuendorf, Linda Wade, Ella Maxwell,  
 Carl Wixom – Serious industrial accident,  
 Fouad & Noura – Pastor Bob's friends in Egypt, Tom & Betty Dickens,  
 Steve Schlater, Families of Don Boley and Melinda Plowman,  
 Chris & Julie Ramsey, Becky McAlexander, Steve Burdett,  
 Sue Mallory, Sherry Dalton, Junie Weirather,  
 Family of Tim Nehre (West Nairobi School & Health),



**\*\*\*\* February 12**  
**is the deadline by which to have any corrections, additions or changes on**  
**the secretary's desk for the new 2021 Communications Directory.**



## From the Deacon Bench

### Faithfulness

Far from being a “doomsday preacher”, Paul left us, through his letter to the Galatians, a picture of the complete Christian. Emphasizing what he called the “fruit of the spirit”, he listed nine characteristics that reap a harvest of nourishing fruit in the life of a believer. They are – Love-Joy-Peace-Patience-Kindness-Goodness-Faithfulness-Gentleness-Self Control. Faithfulness, as nurtured by the Holy Spirit in your life, is an absolute necessity for productive Christian living! (Let Love and Faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Prov. 3:3).

Jesus loves you and so do I.  
Sincerely,  
Bob Collier

### ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to put an Easter lily on the altar in March or put a flower on the altar anytime throughout the year, please contact Flower Committee Chairperson, Suzy Glasscock at 319-470-9733.




***Our 37th Annual Lenten Lunch***

It is with a sad heart we announce that this year there will be no Lenten lunches due to the Covid19 pandemic. Both, the Ministerial Association of Keokuk and the Hospitality Committee felt strongly that it just is not safe enough yet and do not want to put more people at risk. Pray this thing dies down and we may resume our tradition next year.



Russell and Steve for all the help with the newsletter!  
You are much appreciated!

*Ash Wednesday*



*Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.*

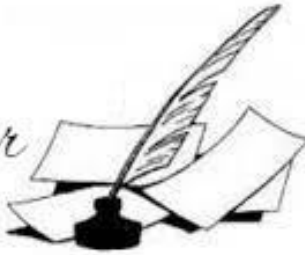
Come  
to



B. E. F. !

Wednesday Nights – Hutskamp Hall

Pastor Bob's Corner



+



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Dear Friends,

In last month's newsletter I wrote that we really don't need a bunch of New Year's resolutions. What we each really do need is a new year's *revolution* in our lives. The *Oxford Dictionary* says that a revolution is a revolt, an uprising, a mutiny. Let's *revolt* against our pet sins. Let's stage an *uprising* against mediocrity. Let's have a *mutiny* against those idols and frivolous distractions that we have allowed to commandeer the ship of our lives.

So, what about that? How's it going? For me, I decided to stage an uprising in a part of my ship that was not pleasing the Captain. Bottom line, I have a drinking problem. No, it's not alcohol. Now don't laugh: I drink a lot of soft drinks (soda/pop). This habit may sound trivial to you, but for me it is not. Carbonated, caffeinated, sweet drinks are not the healthiest thing in the world. The diet versions get mixed reviews as far as whether the artificial sweeteners are unhealthy. A Mayo Clinic article from maybe 15 years ago said that diet soda sweeteners get "a mostly clean bill of health." Sugared soft drinks are not better, and may be worse for us than diet versions due to the weight gain they cause.

Really though, the problem isn't mostly about my physical health, nor soft drinks. The problem has to do with my heart, and God's lordship over my life in terms of two things: 1) my priorities, and 2) what I am spending "my" money on. You must understand that I was drinking *a lot* of soda, every day. Often I drank the equivalent of six cans per day. By almost anyone's standards, that is excessive. As far as what was important to me, getting my caffeine and fizz was at times my top priority. And as far as the cost, I calculated that I was spending \$15 per week just on soft drinks. That's about \$65 per month!

To remedy this, beginning the first day of January my new year's *revolution* began. Now I drink soft drinks just when Lisa and I travel. So, I might not have any soda for a couple of weeks at a time. Since the new year started, I do recall having one or two cans of soda when we weren't traveling, but that will be a rare exception. Even with that kind of occasional exception, I am drinking 90% fewer soft drinks than I did previously.

Again, this isn't ultimately about soft drinks. The above words have to do with living more self-controlled lives, and not being controlled by bad habits and runaway desires. Your thing will be different than mine. But what is "the thing" in your life? What can you *add to* or *subtract from* your life for the benefit of your body and soul, and for the benefit of the Kingdom of God? There is likely a bad (and expensive) habit in the cargo area of each of our ships that needs to be the object of a good old-fashioned mutiny. Please do not put this letter out of sight or mind. What habit can you block so that you can *stop* harming yourself physically, and *start* doing more financially for needy people in God's Kingdom?

Because I am now saving \$65 per month, I am able to send that amount to two families who are oppressed by radical Hindus and Muslims in India and Egypt. Please understand that I am not trying to boast. But I am trying to give you an example of how you can end a bad habit that is harmful to you, and then start a good habit that is helpful to others. Please also understand that this is not a fundraiser for the church. If you end a bad habit, send the monies you saved to a good cause. I am not asking you to send it to First Baptist Church. Pick your own good cause.

Finally, I am not committing to doing this necessarily for the rest of my life. Maybe, maybe not. But if I decide at some point to help PepsiCo and Coca-Cola with their bottom lines again, I still plan to keep my \$65 commitment to my two beleaguered friends overseas. Will you join me in this revolution?! You could even tell about it at our Fifth Sunday Testimony during the church service on May 30. May the Lord guide us all in this endeavor. Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Bob Brandhagen

**"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup> and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love" (2Peter 1:5-7, NIV).**

Sir, my concern is not whether God is on my side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for He is always right.



-Abraham Lincoln

February 15, 2021



If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.



-George Washington

FMCH employees voted **Kayla Clark, IT**, as their **2020 Employee of the Year!**

Congratulations Kayla!



# AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2021

## For the Purpose of Equipping Saints

EPHESIANS 4:11-13 (NIV)

Our America for Christ Offering 2021 campaign—“For the Purpose of Equipping Saints,” based on Ephesians 4:11-13—focuses on our discipleship and leadership empowerment ministries, which nurture the faithful followers who find their call and life's work as the hands and feet of Christ.






ABHMS' Discipleship Ministries sends more than 5,000 Discipleship and Christian Education Guides to regions, churches and individuals annually and provides 62 Church Life and Leadership workshops in English, Spanish, French and Karen, available for download at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org). On average, more than 1,000 Bible studies—ranging in subjects from stewardship and eco-justice to children in poverty—are distributed each year, and, in 2019, several hundred American Baptists attended discipleship workshops addressing the church's viability in these changing times.

On behalf of American Baptist Home Mission Societies, thank you for your past generous support of our transformational mission. Our ministries, along with the ministries of our mission partners, are making a difference in the lives of so many individuals and families. With your help, we can bring God's healing touch to so many more. May we count on your generosity once again?

*Dr. Clifford I. Johnson*


President, Board of Directors

American Baptist Home Mission Societies

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		5:30 Sewing and Crafts	6:00 BEF Groups			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			6:00 BEF Groups	6:30 Board of Trustees		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Happy Valentine's Day 3:30 CE Board 6:00 Movie Night	 PRESIDENTS DAY	5:30 Sewing and Crafts	 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:00 BEF Groups	 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
11:30 Annual Business Meeting			6:00 BEF Groups			
28						
11:30 Deaconess 3:30 Deacons						



- 16 Keegan Pfaffe
- 2 Ryan Brotherton
- 3 Madison Arrowood
- 4 Jamie Gilbert Wolfe
- 5 Aaron Brotherton
- 6 Becky McAlexander
- 7 Mary Piersee
- 9 Jerold Helmick
- 14 Mildred Rader
- 15 Brent Varner
- 21 Dutch Salama
- 22 Peter Roeglin
- 23 Katelyn Brown
- 24 David Jones
- 25 Pam Katsumes
- 26 Ross Jenkins
- 27 Jett David Hotop
- 28 Serenity Anderson
- Josh Cook
- Ethan Brobston
- Aidan Derr
- 17 Schuyler Gross
- 18 Jim Kay
- Sarah Ruddell
- Noah Ruddell
- 21 Alexis Brown
- 22 Peter Roeglin
- 23 Katelyn Brown
- 24 David Jones
- 25 Pam Katsumes
- 26 Ross Jenkins
- Seth Swanson
- Tony Cook, Sr.

For God 

So loved the world  
that he gave his  
only  
begotten  
son  
that whosoever  
believes  
in him should  
not perish but have  
everlasting life

John 3:16

*Tom & Debbie Brown  
February 14, 1987*

*Jeff & Angela Breemeersch  
February 14, 2003*

*Bob & Barbara Collier  
February 20, 1970*

*Neil & Kim Newlon  
February 28, 1992*