

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 2022



Baptist Visitor

REV. ROBERT BRANDHAGEN, PASTOR

rememberjesus@ymail.com

Church Office 319-524-3684  
Educational Building 319-524-3665  
Website: www.keokukfbc.org

**SUNDAYS**

9:00 Sunday School  
10:20 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.)

**2022 Offices**

**MODERATOR:** Don Davis

**FINANCIAL SECY:** Jeanne Davis

**CHURCH CLERK:** Trudy Rudd

**Assist. Moderator:** Marvin Nehre

**ASSIST. FINANCIAL SECY:** Dutch Salama

**MISSIONARY TREAS:** Linda Wade

**CHURCH TREASURER:** Tess Brotherton

**MAINTENANCE TREASURER:** David Glasscock

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

**BOARD OF DEACONESES:** 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, Carmalitta Baum

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

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE 2021:** Tess Brotherton, Carol Lynn Williams, Sally Brotherton, Jeanne Davis, Phyllis Nehre, Don King, Lisa Brandhagen, Marvin Nehre (Board of Deacons rep.)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:2021** Chair – Becky McAlexander, Deb Carman, Don Davis, Katie Bierwirth, Caleigh Hayhurst, Mike Schrader.

**CHURCH COUNCIL 2021:** Don Davis, Mark Pfaffe, Liz Swanson, Phyllis Nehre, Carol Lynn Williams, Tim Glasscock, Pastor Bob, Trudy Rudd, Jeanne Davis, Tess Brotherton, Julie Ramsey

**By-Laws Review Committee:** Don Davis – chair, Tracy Adams, James Buerklin, Debra Carman, Bob Collier, Hilary Daniels, Trudy Rudd, tim Glasscock, Jeanne Davis, Pastor Bob Brandhagen

**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
19	46	6	52
26	28	4	47
<b>Jan</b>			
2	28	0	26
9	31	3	36
16	26	0	25
23	28	1	39



### FINANCES

General Missions Maint. Total  
 Needed each week:

DEC	3,747.00	704.00	718.00	5,129.00
19	3,515.00	678.50	255.00	4,446.50
26	1,994.50	180.00	160.00	2,334.50
<b>JAN</b>	<b>3,747.00</b>	<b>704.00</b>	<b>718.00</b>	<b>5,129.00</b>
2	2,875.40	497.00	120.00	3,492.40
9	3,041.66	345.00	295.00	3,681.66
16	943.00	214.00	140.00	1,297.00
23	3,406.05	2,957.05*	623.00	6,986.10

\*Maxwell Estate Funds to Missions for Love Gifts \$2,400.00

#### OTHER TOTALS FOR DECEMBER

Deacons' Fellowship Fund . . . . . \$ 10.00  
 Food Pantry. . . . . \$200.00  
 (Thanksgiving/Christmas offering)

#### OTHER FUNDS TO DATE

Stained Glass Preservation Fund . . . \$22,624.94

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



**\*\*\* 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

I know during the holidays and the winter months it's easy to get discouraged. But God wants you to know that you are not alone. He doesn't promise that our lives will be easy but he does promise to be with us.

“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are numbered.”  
Matthew 10:29/30(ESV)

So when you start feeling discouraged just remember, the Creator of the universe knows you!

Mike Schrader

### 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 38th Annual Lenten Lunch*

Begins March 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through April 10<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to having lunch and praise together again.

*Ash Wednesday*



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

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

Come  
to



**B. E. F. !**

Wednesday Nights -6:00

Huiskamp Hall - Kids

Fellowship Hall - Adults

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Unspoken Requests, Michelle Dorethy and Family, Doug & Amy Roeglin and Family, Ginger Curfman, Barb Collier, Bev Brotherton (eyes), Chris & Valerie, Don Hale, Vera Neuendorf, Mark & Kelly Neuendorf, Carl Wixom – Serious industrial accident, Fouad & Noura – Pastor Bob’s friends in Egypt, Loza – Fouad’s Mother N Law, Sherry Dalton, Family of Tim Nehre (West Nairobi School & Health), Carol Ryland, Kevin & Andrea, Tom & Betty Dickens, Doris Adkins, Simon Bentzinger (11 yr. old in Warsaw cancer free now), Evonne Young – John, Sylvia, Teresa Brotherton, Kristy Engel – Health & Travel, Lexia Rau – thyroid and heart age 20, Mike Gibson (his sister and her family), Emma, 3yr old ran over by pick-up, Herman Johnson, Don Ehler – Stroke (friend of Pastor Bob), Nations of the World,

**Please pray for Christians kidnapped in Egypt!**

Yustina Talaat 24 yr. old engaged woman

Kirolos Girgis Adly Labib 7 yr. old boy

Martina Zakaria 23 yr. old woman married  
w/2yr.old girl

Nancy Girgis Makeen Saleh 13 yr. old girl

Rania Karam Aziz 17 yr. old girl

## AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2022

**“I will praise you and testify about what you have done.”** PSALM 22:22

Thanks to America for Christ (AFC) Offering contributions, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) supported communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19 last year, as the pandemic swept our country and Puerto Rico. We also helped families who lost homes to floods, wildfires and storms, along with children living on the edge because of poverty, and seminarians preparing to devote their lives to sharing the Good News. These are just a few of the ways we minister to those in need; there are many more.

Please help us continue to bring healing and hope to communities, families, children and Jesus’ disciples in 2022 by supporting this year’s America for Christ Offering.

**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



February, A.D. 2022

Dear Church Family,

Having recently written my annual report to the church, I don't have a lot to tell you that is not in that report. So, for my newsletter article this month I decided to bring to you a highlight reel of quotations on the topic of preaching. You may remember some of these as they have appeared over the past two years in the "Pondering This Preaching Thing" section at the bottom of many of my sermon outlines. Be encouraged and take these quotes to heart:

**"For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe"** (1Cor 1:21, NIV).

"Despise not, good brethren, despise not to hear God's word declared. As you tender your own souls, be diligent to come to sermons; for that is the ordinary place where... hearts be moved, and God's secrets be revealed" (John Jewel, quoted by John Stott).

Karl Barth said in 1928, "It is simply a truism that there is nothing more important, more urgent, more helpful, more redemptive... from the viewpoint of heaven and earth, more relevant to the real situation than the speaking and the hearing of the Word of God." [John R.W. Stott, *Between Two Worlds*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982, p. 40.]

"I want you to see biblical preaching for the majestic, text-centered, Spirit-empowered, God-glorifying, Jesus-exalting, body-building, heart/soul/mind-cleansing, city-building, world-shaping, hope-giving, beautiful thing that it is" (Robert Brandhagen).

"The preacher is preaching for a verdict. Powerful preaching is accompanied by response, both positive and negative. The aftermath is as supernatural as is the utterance itself.... **'When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart'**" (Acts 1:37). [David L. Larsen, *The Company of the Preachers*, Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998, p. 54]

"Oddly enough, it is possible for a sermon to be too clear. Jesus was willing to trade clarity for mystery, knowing a mystified person will be more affected by the truth than a bored one." (Robinson, Haddon, and Larson, Craig Brian, editors. *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. Quote by Dave McClellan.)

"The medicine of the gospel (is) prescribed by the Good Physician; we may neither dilute it nor add ingredients to make it more palatable.... Nor need we fear that people will not take it. ...Some may leave, but most will respond. 'People are driven from the Church,' commented G. Buttrick, 'not so much by stern truth that makes them uneasy as by weak nothings that make them contemptuous.'" [J.R.W. Stott, *Between Two Worlds*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982, p. 299.]

"Frame an outline that will change your audience." (M. Fabarez in *Preaching That Changes Lives*, Eugene: W&S, 2002. p. 55.)

"Preaching a sermon, then, is an art, a science, a discipline, and a relationship.... It is a serious exercise that must be bathed in prayer and enabled by the Holy Spirit from the preacher's very first exposure to a text." (Ramesh Richard, *Preparing Expository Sermons*, p. 18)

"Probably no conscientious preacher has failed to question whether the task is greater than the servant. When we face real people with eternal souls balanced between heaven and hell, the nobility of preaching awes us even as it underscores our inadequacies. We know our skills are insufficient for an activity with such vast consequences. We recognize our hearts are not pure enough to lead others to holiness. Honest evaluation of our expertise inevitably causes us to conclude that we do not have the eloquence or wisdom that will turn people from death to life" (Bryan Chapell, *Christ-Centered Preaching*, p. 17. Grand Rapids, Baker: 1994).

Regarding the preacher, "His throne is the pulpit, he stands in Christ's stead; his message is the word of God; around him are immortal souls; the Savior, unseen, is beside him; the Holy Spirit broods over the congregation; angels gaze upon the scene, and heaven and hell await the issue. What associations, and what vast responsibility!" (Matthew Simpson, in John R.W. Stott's *Between Two Worlds*, p. 82.)





"What...weakens proclamation? The first thing that comes to mind is a fear of offending people. We cannot let the cultural mythology of moral relativism and the mandate of tolerance water down the gospel. We have to believe that Jesus Christ is the only way to God, and we have to say that sooner (than) later." (H. Robinson and C.B. Larson, editors. *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. Quote by Greg Laurie, p. 472.)

"I love preaching. I hate preaching. The best description is Jeremiah's: It is like fire in the bones. It is holy work and dreadful work. It exhausts and it exhilarates, kindles and consumes. On Mondays, I am charred remains.... Preaching is not a job. It is (a) fire." (Mark Buchanan in *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*, p. 105)

"A preacher should always be growing and advancing and developing, so that what he cannot do in his younger days he should be able to do in middle and old age." [D.M.L.-Jones, *Preaching & Preachers*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1971, p. 197.]

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Robert Brandhagen


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



- 2 Ryan Brotherton
- 3 Madison Arrowood
- 4 Jamie Gilbert Wolfe
- Mary Jo Bowles
- 5 Aaron Brotherton
- 6 Becky McAlexander
- 7 Mary Piersee
- Amelia Jenkins
- 9 Jerold Helmick
- James Bierwirth
- Mackenzie Sherrill
- 11 Hilary Daniels
- 12 Evonne Young
- Eli Allen Bierwirth
- 14 Mildred Rader
- Tony Arrowood
- 15 Brent Varner
- Rylon Brotherton

- 16 Keegan Pfaffe
- Josh Cook
- Ethan Brobston
- Aidan Derr
- 17 Schuyler Gross
- 18 Jim Kay
- Sarah Ruddell
- 19 Alexis Brown
- Noah Ruddell
- 21 Dutch Salama
- 22 Peter Roeglin
- 23 Katelyn Brown
- 24 David Jones
- Caleb Adams
- 25 Pam Katsumes
- 26 Ross Jenkins
- Seth Swanson
- Tony Cook, Sr.
- 27 Jett David Hotop
- 28 Serenity Anderson



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*