

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

Return Service Requested

July 2022



REV. BOB 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  
10:20 Morning Service

**WEDNESDAYS**

6:00 Adult BEF

Baptist Visitor



Galatians 5:1



**ATTENTION**

ANY and ALL mail being sent to the church through the United States Postal Service MUST be addressed to;

First Baptist Church  
PO Box 124  
Keokuk, IA 52632

We do not have a physical mail box at the church. If you have sent the church mail and it was returned, please check how it was addressed.

Thank you 😊

**STAFF**

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



**OFFICE HOURS**

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

# Stewardship ATTENDANCE

MAY	SUNDAY SCHOOL	SANCTUARY	PARKING LOT
22	37	50	4
29	52	49	5
<b>JUNE</b>			
5	37	44	5
12	40	41	4
19	28	40	5



**FINANCES**

General Missions Maint. Total  
**Needed each week:**

<u>MAY-</u>	<u>3,105.00</u>	<u>721.00</u>	<u>626.00</u>	<u>4,452.00</u>
22	3,483.65	423.00	328.00	4,234.65
29	1,364.00	147.00	175.00	1,686.00

<u>JUNE-</u>	<u>3,105.00</u>	<u>721.00</u>	<u>626.00</u>	<u>4,452.00</u>
5	3,563.66	595.00	370.00	4,528.66
12	2,895.15	697.05	363.00	3,955.20
19	2,177.00	196.00	750.00	2,347.59

OTHER TOTALS FOR MAY

Deacon Fellowship Fund. . . . . \$ 15.00  
 Food Pantry . . . . . \$160.00

OTHER TOTALS FOR JUNE

Deacon Fellowship Fund. . . . . \$ 60.00  
 Food Pantry . . . . . \$ 60.00

OTHER FUNDS TO DATE

Stained Glass Preservation Fund . . \$22,630.52

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Reports due July 8. Thank you.**



★★ THE PLEDGES ★★



**AMERICAN FLAG**

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



**CHRISTIAN FLAG**

I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Saviour for whose Kingdom it stands, one Saviour, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty for all who believe.



**THE BIBLE**

I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word; I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path and will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.



## July Prayer Request

Unspoken Requests, Michelle Dorethy and Family, Doug & Amy Roeglin and Family, Ginger Curfman, Barb Collier, Bev Brotherton (eyes), Don Hale, Mark & Kelly Neuendorf, Doris Adkins, 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, Tom & Betty Dickens, Mike Gibson, Simon Bentzinger, Evonne Young – John, Sylvia, Teresa Brotherton, Kristy Engel – Health & Travel, Emma, 3yr old ran over by pick-up, Joyce Wade, Nations of the World (Ukraine), Steve’s Aunt, Stantons in Hungary, Minnie Kolditz, Elsie – 91 year old with blockage, Don & Grace Hall, Diana Cook – (Cheryl, her friend had cancerous growth removed),

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

Sandy Emad Wissa	17 yr. old girl
Marian Hany Saad	16 yr. old girl
Karas Adel Sedky	12 yr. old girl

**“Do not be afraid.... Still others will write on their hand, ‘the Lord’s’ .... Do not tremble, do not be afraid”  
(Isaiah 44:2,5,8, NIV).**



Deacons Bench

Summer is now in full swing. It seems that the school and various sports teams offer numerous opportunities to participate and be active in their programs. Among all of this, the church needs to have our first priority. We should be present in our weekly Sunday services as well as BEF midweek. Volunteer to be part of the United VBS to encourage the young people of our community in their spiritual growth. Promote children’s attendance at Forest Lake Camp this summer.

Yours, mine and our children’s relationship with Jesus has more than a passing, temporary affect on our lives and our eternal destiny. Let us take advantage of the opportunities God gives each of us to be part of His Kingdom work. Possibly we can serve as an example and encouragement to those around us.

Hebrew 10:23

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – all the more as you see the Day approaching (NIV).

Steve Baum





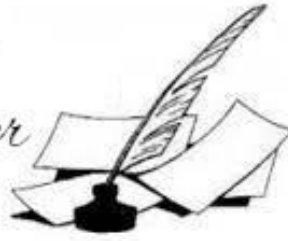
# United Vacation Bible School (UVBS)

When: July 24-28

Where: First Christian Church – 3476 Main St.

What time: 6-8 pm





July, A.D. 2022

Dear Church Family,

It is trendy in our culture to not bother with coming to the house of the Lord on the Lord's Day. Better things, more pressing things to do, right? Have you ever said, "We can't come to church because we are having company for lunch today." Or, have you ever said, "I can worship God just as well on the river, or out hunting, or while golfing"? I think those are lies from our archenemy, the devil. Such statements may have some truth in them, for Satan almost always mixes truth with his lies. But if it is true, it is true only 167 hours per week. How many hours are there in a week—168, right? So there is *at the very least* one hour per week when you cannot "worship God just as well" doing your own thing. That is especially true in light of the scripture that says, **"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching"** (Hebrews 10:24-25, NIV). May the Lord awaken the fear of God in us as the Day of Judgment looms.

Part of my duty as pastor is to **"reprove, rebuke, exhort"** as we read in 2Timothy 4:2. As you read the rest of this, please know that I am aware that there are many who are not present at church because they are truly unable. They are faithful, but cannot be present with us due to age, health, or other legitimate reasons. For those in that category, take this as an exhortation and encouragement. For those members who are not in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day and could be, take this as a reproof and a rebuke.

Let's reason together. Do you know what part of the body you are? And do you know what your spiritual gift is? Maybe you are the right hand at First Baptist, and your spiritual gift is serving others. If you are not in the Lord's House on the Lord's Day, and you are the right hand, then the body of Christ suffers an amputation. If you do show up but you don't serve, then the body of Christ suffers a paralysis. We may get by, but not like we would with everyone both attending and serving. I would guess that any amputee might agree that they can make it through a day and do what they have to do. It just isn't as easy, nor as efficient, as it would be if the person had two hands instead of just one.

In a Gallup poll, the question was asked, "Do you happen to be a member of a church, synagogue, or mosque?" "U.S. church membership was 73% when Gallup first measured it in 1937 and remained near 70% for the next six decades, before beginning a steady decline around the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century." In 2020 it was 47% (news.gallup.com/poll). It is important to understand that those percentages were for *membership, not attendance*. Pew Research did just the opposite. In a study, they tracked *attendance, not membership*. Pew found that 36% of adults attend worship service once per week, while 33% attend once or twice a month/a few times each year, and 30% seldom/never attend (pewresearch.org).




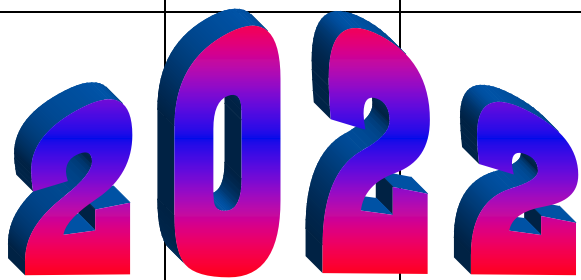
By the way, when I heard at the last annual meeting that we have 441 members, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Our attendance averages in the 40s to low 50s. Doing the math, about 10% of our members show up each week. Part of the problem is that we have set the bar too low. Someone might think, "Hey, if that's all they require for membership, church must not be that important." Who could keep a job if they never showed up? What baseball team could win the World Series if only 10% of their players attended practice and games?

**His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me"** (John 2:17, NIV). Doesn't our Lord deserve better from each of us? We can all do better. There may be situations in which a person with ungodly secrets and habits may be in Sunday worship each week. Likewise, there may be situations in which a person who is very godly stays home and worships with just an open Bible or a good preacher online or on t.v. But, if at all possible, God being our witness, let's make it to church every Sunday. **"And all the more as you see the Day approaching."** Sunday School is at 9:00. Refreshments are served at 11:00. Worship is at 11:20. Call for a ride if you need one.

In Christ,

Pastor Bob Brandhagen



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 5:30 Carry in with the Roeglins	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> OFFICE CLOSED 	<b>5</b> OFFICE CLOSED 5:30 Sewing & Crafts	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter Reports Due	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:00 CE Board	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00 Effie Liguist 6:30 Trustees	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 11:30 2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Business meet	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30 Sewing & Crafts	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9-2 Food Pantry	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 3:30 Deacons						



1 Lois Mlyniec  
3 Neil Newlon  
6 Jon Swanson  
7 Don King  
9 Tim Rudd  
Anna Ruddel  
10 Tom Brown  
11 Devon Riffle  
13 Jeff Plowman  
Kendra Snyder

14 Linda Wade  
15 Lori Ryland  
17 Doris Adkins  
Paetton Brotherton  
18 Laura Newlon  
21 Jim Buerklin  
22 Jeanne Davis  
David Glasscock  
Autumn Ferguson  
23 Brittney Arrowood  
Chase Breemeersch  
Izaak Huffman  
24 Kathy Kirby  
26 Leslie Rose  
28 Wendy Kelly  
Lyndsay Arrowood  
Don Hale  
30 Christian Young



Gabe & Megan Brown  
July 6, 2013

Steve & Debby Baum  
July 10, 1971

Tim & Erin Nehre  
July 11, 2004

Jamie & Kayla Taylor  
July 12, 2008

Mike & Toni Glasscock  
July 20, 1974

Marvin & Phyllis Nehre  
July 27, 1968