

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

Return Service Requested

March 2021

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

FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH



Baptist Visitor

REV. BOB 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

WEDNESDAYS

5:30 BEF Meal On Hold
6:00 BEF Groups



The Lord opened the
understanding of
my unbelieving heart,
so that I should
recall my sins.

Saint Patrick

Saint Patrick's Prayer of the Faithful

May the Strength of God pilot us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Host of God guard us
Against the snares of the evil ones,
Against temptations of the world.

May Christ be with us!
May Christ be before us!
May Christ be in us, Christ be over all!
May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours,
This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.



STAFF

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



OFFICE HOURS

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

Stewardship

ATTENDANCE

JAN	SUNDAY SCHOOL	MORNING SERVICE
24	30	39
31	33	34
FEB		
7	35	29
14	31	29
21	33	48



As the winter season draws to a close, congratulations and well done to all who have been involved in athletics, school groups and entertainment.

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2021

For the Purpose of Equipping Saints

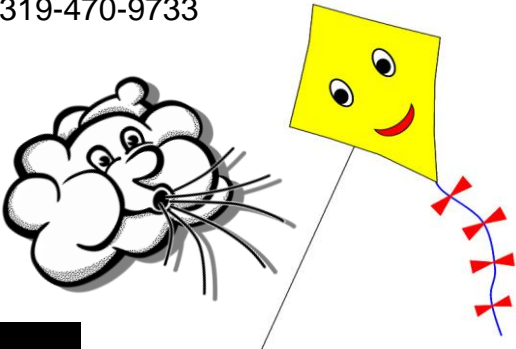
EPHESIANS 4:11-13 (NIV)

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.

We have been answering God’s call to heal broken families and communities—as well as cultivate strong Christian leaders and equip passionate disciples—since 1832. So, when you contribute to AFC, you increase our capacity to fulfill the biblical mandate in Ephesians 4:11-13: “Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service.”



Contact Suzy Glasscock if you would like to order lilies at:
319-470-9733



Graduate Recognition...

Coming up the end of May! If you or someone you know will be graduating from high school, college, etc., please contact the church office.

Please Remember in Prayer

Unspoken Requests, Michelle Dorethy and Family,
Doug Roeglin, Ginger Curfman, Barb Collier, Vera Neuendorf, Mark & Kelly Neuendorf, Tom & Betty Dickens, Minnie Kolditz, Carl Wixom – Serious industrial accident, Steve Schlater, Fouad & Noura – Pastor Bob’s friends in Egypt, Sherry Dalton, Steve Burdett, Family of Anna Varner, Junie Weirather, Family of Tim Nehre (West Nairobi School & Health), Linda Wade, Ella Maxwell, Rhett Gross (M. Pfaffe grandson), Nick Castan – 1st grader with Lukemia,
Lynn Johnson’s cousin’s daughter – Expecting twins, husband has kidney cancer = Matt & Tara Jenkins



From the Deacon Bench

I hope this note finds you all doing well as this is another day the Lord has made. Every day we wake to find so many miracles around us should be a good day. The sun and the rain are all gifts from God. Today we see so many things happening that give us doubts that God is truly in charge. In the days of Jesus they were thinking the same things. Remember Jesus was popular because he was able to cast out demons, heal the blind, lame, sick and even bring back the dead. The Hebrew people (the Jews) had been conquered by the Romans and were struggling to keep their way of life going in very turbulent times. Turn the pages of time and we see the Romans turn to Christianity and spread it throughout the world. Who knew or could have guessed that God could use those who abused and tortured, even killed, the Jewish people as the ones to spread his message of eternal life through God's son, Jesus Christ. Today, remember God is truly in charge and to praise Him. The Lord gives you true joy.

**It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name,
O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your
faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre
and the melody of the harp. For you make me glad by your
deeds, LORD; I sing for joy at what your hands have done. Psalms 92:1-4**

Praise the Lord,

Don Davis, Deacon



well hello,
march

Come to



B. E. F.

Wednesday Nights – Huiskamp Hall

6:30 p.m. BEF Groups



Sometimes I just look up, smile and say, "I know that was you God! Thanks!"



Saint Patrick's Day, feast **day** (March 17)
of **St. Patrick**, patron **saint** of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century, he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned about 432 to convert the Irish to Christianity.

2021 Forest Lake Summer Camp

Mark your calendar!! Camp Kick Off **date to be determined** in Huiskamp Hall during the Sunday school hour for all kids AND their parents. Kids will earn points for bringing a parent to the Camp Kick Off. Information on the different camps for this summer, Camp Points, Scholarships, church grant money and other means of payments for the week of summer fun at Forest Lake. We will have complete information, registration and health forms available at that time.

INFORMATION TO SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

FOREST LAKE CAMP
11733 Copperhead Road
Bloomfield, IA 52537-8073

TELEPHONE: 641-684-8908

EMAIL: forestlake@mid-abc.org

WEBSITE: www.forestlakecamp.org



Camp work week will be Monday April 18th through Saturday April 24th this year.

Daylight
Saving Time
Spring Forward
March 14, 2021



The Pastor's Corner

March, 2021

Dear Friends,

We are now in the midst of the Lenten season. It is a time for all of us to meditate on the mighty deeds of the Suffering Servant, Jesus Christ. What mighty deeds? Jesus died, was buried, rose from the dead on the third day, and ascended on high to the right hand of God, the Father Almighty (1Corinthians 15:1-5 and Acts 1:1-2)! And why did Jesus do these mighty deeds? He did them because of the spiritual death and eternal peril we are in. God has ordained that only those who keep *all of His* commandments perfectly can go to heaven. As Jesus interprets the Ten Commandments (see Matthew 5:17-48), *all of us* have broken *all of those* commandments. So, none of us is worthy to go to heaven, and in fact, none of us will go to heaven.

Did you get that? *None of us* will go to heaven. Unless. Unless what? Unless Someone who is perfect keeps God's law perfectly *for us*, on our behalf, and transfers that perfect record to our ledger, if and when we believe savingly in His death, burial, and resurrection. And, of course, that Someone is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent looks different again this year at First Baptist. Last year Lisa and I had not yet started our ministry here when Lent began. But I'm told that only two weeks into the Lenten Lunches they were shut down due to the COVID-19 virus. And this year, after consulting with various boards and committees, as well as with the Keokuk Ministerial Association, we have cancelled it completely. It seems sad that such a long-standing and successful event as the Lenten Lunches is not happening this year. But, that does not mean that you cannot have your best Lenten season ever! It does not mean that you cannot grow spiritually stronger than ever this Lent.

Some have the tradition of "giving up" something for Lent (i.e., soft drinks, coffee, caffeine, desserts, etc.). That can be very beneficial if one does it humbly and from a heart that is full of faith and love for Jesus Christ. As you must know, giving up things for Lent does not earn us a place in heaven, but it can be done well, and thus it can be blessed by the Lord. But besides giving things up for Lent, what are some other good practices for this season? Here's a short list:

- 1) *Read* through the passion narratives in Mark 14-15 or in one of the other gospels.
- 2) *Give* up a specific sinful practice.
- 3) *Get* on your knees (if you are able!) and thank our Father in Heaven for sending His Son to earth to pay for our sins.
- 4) *Sing* Lenten hymns and songs to the Lord in wonder and awe in light of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. You might need a hymnal, or a YouTube video on any hymn is freely available.
- 5) *Sit* down with a friend or with your family and discuss how our lives may be different if we follow Jesus ever more, starting this Lent, and for the rest of our lives.
- 6) *Memorize* Philippians 3:10, a verse about suffering and resurrection: **"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead."**
- 7) *Pray* to the Lord, confessing your sins, praising God that He has provided a way for us to be forgiven—if we would **"repent and believe the Good News"** (Mark 1:15).

I hope that you will choose to put into practice all of these seven ideas between now and Easter Sunday (which some prefer to call Resurrection Sunday). The Lord will bless your best efforts. Give the Lord your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Nothing half-way. No blemished offerings. And thanks be to God that He gave His Son as an unblemished offering to pay for our sins! In keeping with the words of John the Baptist, let us **"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world"** (John 1:29)!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Bob Brandhagen

P.S. I want to strongly encourage you to read 1Corinthians 15 in its entirety. It is the most comprehensive passage in the Bible about the doctrine of the resurrection. It is hard to overestimate its importance.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 5:30 Sewing & Crafts Group	3 6:00 BEF Groups 7:00 Church Council	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 6:00 BEF Groups	11 9:00 Effie Linquist Circle 6:30 Trustees	12	13 
14  3:30 CE board 6:00 Movie Night	15	16 5:30 Sewing & Crafts Group	17 6:00 BEF Groups 	18	19	20 
21 3:30 CE board	22 	23 7:00 Church Council	24 6:00 BEF Groups	25	26	27
28 11:30 Deaconess 3:30 Deacons 	29	30 5:30 Sewing & Crafts Group	31 6:00 BEF Groups			



1 Henry Varner
Marianne Jacobsen
Amelia McCombs
3 Caleigh Hayhurst
6 Carol Lynn Williams
Wesley Weirather
Stephanie Wilkerson
9 Rob Riffle
12 Heidi Wixom
15 Ethan Hotop
16 Abigail Schrader
18 Kayla Clark
Aaden Anderson

19 Kristy Engel
Jason Arrowood
20 Landen Varner
21 Trenton Atterberg
24 Betty Boyer
25 Mike Glasscock
Susanne DePew
27 Michelle Pfaffe
Kelsey Newlon
Jonathan Newlon
Yvonne Derr
28 Marcia Lawson
30 Scott Hays
Katie Bierwirth

2021



Jamie & Ron Wolfe
March 7, 2015

Jordan & Teresa McCombs
March 9, 2013

Logan & Olivia White
march 16, 2013

Mike & Hila Cook
March 27, 2004

Kory & Leah Hotop
March 30, 2013