

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

Return Service Requested

# OCTOBER 2023

## Baptist Visitor

FIRST  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH



REV. BOB BRANDHAGEN, PASTOR

rememberjesus@ymail.com

Church Office 319-524-3684

Website: [www.keokukfbc.org](http://www.keokukfbc.org)

Facebook: Keokuk Iowa First Baptist Church

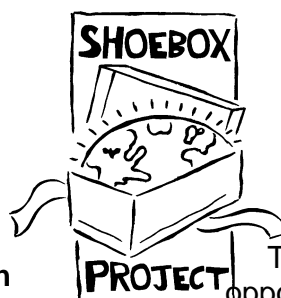
### SUNDAYS

9:00 Sunday School

10:20 Morning Service

### WEDNESDAYS

6:00 BEF



### Operation Christmas Child

O. C. C. is an opportunity to spread the love of Jesus by sending love and gifts, a along with the Good News of Jesus Christ, to millions of boys and girls in over 100 countries around the world!

This year we are again offering you the opportunity to fill a plastic shoebox for a needy child somewhere in this big, wide world! Anyone interested in doing so, may pick up the needed Information Sheet and Instruction Sheet either at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office. Filled shoeboxes should be in Fellowship Hall by Monday, November 7.

**ALL** monetary donations (\$10 each) for O.C.C. should be placed in a separate envelope (designated O.C.C.) and either placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office.

### From the Deacon Bench

The past is coming to a close, the restrictions of the past fifteen months are being lifted, and we will return to normal. But is the pre COVID days what we should return to?

Yes, the church being open is good. Yes, singing God's praises with other church members in our sanctuary is a blessing. Seeing our pastor as he shares God's word is better than just hearing through the car radio. The time to visit with one another before and after service helps us feel like a body of believers who share the same appreciation for God, our church, and its mission.

Will we return to doing the same things the same way, or will we accept and try new things? Will we return to Sunday school classes, maybe even start new ones to meet all member's needs? Will we attend just Sunday school, or just church? Will we become active through our Boards or Committees, or say no when asked to become a more active part of the life of FBC?

Next year marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of First Baptist Church in Keokuk. How will you help celebrate? How will you help continue sharing God's light and work at First Baptist Church? Welcome back, First Baptist!!!



July 2021 Marvin Nehre

**STAFF**

Teresa (Tess) Brotherton ([secretary@keokukfbc.org](mailto: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

August	Sunday School	Parking Lot	Sanctuary /Nursery
27	37	6	45
Sept			
3	39	4	44
10	41	4	66

**INNER LIGHT**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 KJV



**Prayer Chain:** If you need to start a prayer chain you may call the office 319-524-3684 or email me at [secretary@keokukfbc.org](mailto:secretary@keokukfbc.org)



**Third Quarter Reports due October 9.**

**October's Prayer Requests:**

**Friends & Family:** Unspoken Requests, Ruth Ricker, Michelle Dorethy and Family, 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, Carol Ryland, Tom & Betty Dickens, Mike Gibson, Teresa Brotherton, Evonne Case – John, Sylvia, Rowdy Savage, Elsie Sherwood, Minnie Kolditz, Bill Wixom, Teresa Jefferson and her mom Dolly, Lois Mlyniec (healing), Ginger Curfman, Family of Tim Ayers, Jeanne Taylor, Grace Hall, Julie Wixom, Tom Rudd, Tom Brown's daughter Courtney, Jackie Saxon, Gary Martin, Ginger Richardson, Jeanne Davis, Mike Gibson's mom-Tina, , Debby Baum, Autumn Ferguson, Rhonda Bloyd – cancer, Killian King (Tom & Debby Brown's grandson),  
**Missionaries:** Doug & Amy Roeglin, Kristy Engel – Health & Travel, Tim & Erin Nehre (West Nairobi School & Health), Shawn & Teresa Ott

**Political:** Nations of the World

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

The following 4 children were kidnapped March 2022:  
Bishoy Milad (6yr old - boy), Vivian Fady Saad (17 - girl), Magy Mina Samuel (17 - girl), Youanna Adel Noshy (15 – girl),





## Pastor Bob's Corner



### "Encouragement Has Emerged!"

Dear Family of God,

It seems that pastors are often prone to discouragement. I have been discouraged many times in my thirty years of ministry. However, I have been seeing **encouraging** signs at First Baptist Church of Keokuk.

My tenure as pastor began on May 1, 2020. The **encouragement** seemed to begin to flow in 2022 when—past the pandemic—we were able to restart Lenten Lunches. Everyone who volunteered to help did a fantastic job. I believe the Lord was pleased.

Right after Lenten Lunches in 2022, a very excellent committee put together the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. The celebration was in September of 2022. Our theme was, "5G—Grateful for God's Grace, we Give him the Glory!" I was so pleased, **encouraged**, and proud of the hard work of God's people.

The **encouragement** has continued in 2023. From 2020 through 2022 we had just one person baptized. I was grateful for the one baptism, but hoped for more in the future. And my hopes and prayers have been answered! Since January of 2023 we have had six baptisms, including two this past Sunday. Two of the people were baptized at Mississippi Valley Healthcare and Rehab Center. Those who were baptized there were a husband and wife from out of state. The wife was not able to have an immersion baptism due to her medical condition, so I baptized her and her husband by sprinkling. I was also honored and **encouraged** to have a service for this couple to renew their wedding vows. The workers and patients at MVHRC made it a very special day for this couple, including providing wedding cake! I count this couple as dear friends.

No doubt these **encouraging** ministries are happening due to the prayers of God's people. On that note, one of our number (who likely wants to stay anonymous) started a prayer meeting on Tuesdays at 4:00. It has been going for about a year. From 4:00 to 4:20 we each find a space in the church to read scripture and pray on our own. Then from 4:20 to 4:30 or so, we come together to pray. No one is required to pray aloud since not everyone is comfortable with that. Please join us! I think you will be **encouraged**.

So yes, I am **encouraged**. And I hope you are as well. Some things, if I linger on them, do still bring me down with discouragement. But, I know I can't *should* people to the morning worship service. I then choose to focus on those who *are* present, not on those who are not present. I do pray for those habitually, chronically absent. I consider them souls in danger.

**"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had"** (Romans 15:4-5, NIV).

**"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing"**


(1Thessalonians 5:11, NIV).

Sincerely Serving the Savior and the Saints,

*Pastor Bob Brandhagen*



# October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 4:00 Prayer 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	4 6:00 BEF	5	6	7
8	9 Quarterly Reports Due.  Columbus Day	10 4:00 Prayer 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	11 6:00 BEF	12 9:00 Effie Linquist Circle  6:30 Trustees meeting	13	14 
15 11:30 3 <sup>rd</sup> ¼ Bus. Meeting  6:30 CE Board	16	17 4:00 Prayer 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	18 6:00 BEF	19 9-2 Food Pantry	20 	21 5:30 Fish Fry at Ed. Bldg. 
22 11:30 Deaconess  3:30 Deacons	23	24 4:00 Prayer 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	25 6:00 BEF	26	27	28 
29 5:30 Fall Festival	30	31 4:00 Prayer 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group 	2023			



3 Lynn Johnson  
 Shannon Neil  
 Nick Billings  
 4 Martha Isenmann  
 Olivia White  
 5 Joe Collier  
 6 Greg Wirsig  
 7 Cathy Weirather  
 Michael A. Nehre  
 8 Don Davis  
 Bruce Billings  
 11 Taylor Dickens  
 Brianna Newlon

12 Stephanie Ewing  
 13 Carolyn Baker  
 16 Priscilla Clinton  
 17 David Arrowood  
 Debbie Seibert  
 21 Kerri Huffman  
 Teresa McCombs  
 22 Anthony Glasscock  
 25 Ginger Richardson  
 27 Sophia Roberts  
 28 Max Snodgrass  
 30 Glenna Dickens

Shawn & Hilary Daniels  
 October 2, 1993  
 Bill & Marilyn Wixom  
 October 4, 1969  
 Brent & Rita Varner  
 October 5, 2012  
 Don & Jeanne Davis  
 October 6, 1979  
 Donnie & Tiann Davis III  
 October 15, 2005

Jeremy & “Shy” Matlock  
 October 15, 2011  
 Tim & Sarah Ruddell  
 October 15, 2011  
 Chris & Heather Ryland  
 October 17, 2009  
 Kurt & Emily Hasson  
 October 18, 2003  
 Gabe & Leslie Rose  
 October 26, 1991

