



# The Spire

First Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

The start of school is always an exciting time around here. Ames changes seasons and goes from “Tranquil” to “Happening.” Both seasons are great – tranquility has a lot to recommend it - but the fall is a time filled with activities and, here at First Baptist, a time filled with lots of new faces. We have already had 24 different students attend worship this fall, many of them here for the first time, as well as a lot of other newcomers. There is anticipation in the air.

This past Sunday we had our annual “Worship Under the Trees” service (check out our Facebook page for photos!) We had a great time, with a nice morning, new friends, fabulous music, and even dry ice root beer. For me the service always serves as a reminder that the church is the people, not the building.

The next several weeks will bring many events and opportunities, and this *Spire* includes information about these opportunities. Our choir has already started rehearsing and sang for the first time last Sunday. Our “Fall Kickoff” is September 11, as Church School begins in the morning and our first Student Supper is held that evening. On September 17 there is a wonderful learning opportunity for church school teachers and other leaders sponsored by Iowa Religious Media services called Re:Image. Our MABC regional gathering will be held October 1 in Indianola. The CROP Walk for hunger will be on October 9. Our church will host the first gathering of iLead, a regional leadership training program for youth, October 14-16. And then, our Fall Renewal Weekend will be October 29-30 with Brent Walker from the Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty. In the midst of it all, we will be planning and raising money for our mission trip to Nicaragua next March. Add to this our “regular” programs and activities, and it’s a pretty full slate.

There is a rhythm to the Christian life of worship and service – kind of like the rhythm of living in Ames of rest and activity. Yet even in the “busy season,” we maintain this rhythm. We gather for worship to slow down and remember who and whose we are, to be strengthened and inspired and to deepen our connection with God and one another, and then we go forth to serve - in our work, in our school, in our neighborhood, in our circle of friends and family, and through all of the ministries of our church.

I’m looking forward to a great fall, and I look forward to seeing you this Sunday!

Blessings,

Pastor Dave

## September 2011

Volume 57, No. 9

### Inside:

Worship Leaders	2
Birthdays	2
Announcements	2
Calendar	3
Church School	4
Nametags	4
Library News	5
Student News	5
Meetings and Events	6
Mission	7

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## Worship Leaders for September

### September 4

Worship Leader:

Jan Thompson

Ushers:

Bob Parrish\*

Wallace Sanders

Marian/Jan Thompson

Ngairé West-Johnson

### September 11

Worship Leader:

Jere Maddux

Ushers:

Howard Johnson\*

Pat Johnson

Becca Whitaker

Andrew Perrine

### September 18

Worship Leader:

Andrew Perrine

Ushers:

Bob McCarley\*

Dianne Borgen

Tom Logue

Jerilyn Logue

### September 25

Worship Leader:

Emily Slade

Ushers:

Martha Gleason\*

Beth Douglass/

Rosemarie Starrett

Scott Anderson

Jere Maddux

### Flowers for September:

Jill Leininger



Betty Johnson	2
Katherine Thompson	2
Edie Bakley	3
Stephanie Keat	3
Alexis Lee	5
John R Anderson	12
Lois Reissetter	13
Bronson Bakley	14
Matt Obbink	17
Andrew Weldon	18
Jenna McCarley	19
Jeanine Cole	22
Dave Russell	22
Rosemarie Starrett	24
Anadia Daniels	25
Judy Demarest	29
Kent Johnson	29
Barbara Woods	29



Jack and Donna Cleasby	2
Bob and Sandra Englehart	4
Jill and Michael Leininger	6
Regan and Todd Smith	9
Earl and Johnie Hammond	17

## Radio Station Moves

[KHOI-FM](http://KHOI-FM), the new community radio station that has been housed in our church, has been housed in a new location. Operating as an internet radio station at the present and planning to go over the airwaves in the near future, KHOI has been housed in the southwest classroom on the second floor during its start-up period. The station has moved to a downtown location that will be more "in the center of things" in Ames. We wish them well as they get up and running.

## Wedding Shower!

Sunday, September 18, 2:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall --Join us for an all church wedding shower for Gabe Whitaker and Lyndsay Boock.

They are registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond, and Best Buy (Pitch In card). If you have questions, please contact Barbara Woods, [jaguar@isunet.net](mailto:jaguar@isunet.net) or 232.9979.

Congratulations  
on Your  
New Baby!



Congratulations to Regan and Todd Smith, and big brother Meyer, who welcomed a new baby boy, Teague Christopher, on August 19 at 9:51am. He weighed 7lbs, 10oz, and measured 20 inches!

## Fellowship Time Sign Up

Thank you to all who generously volunteered to provide refreshments and work in the kitchen during weekly summer fellowship: Jack & Donna Cleasby, the Board of Deacons, Joe & Catherine Parrish, Lorene Hoover, Kay Lambert, Jeanine Cole, Roberta Ridley, Beth Douglass, Jere Maddux, Lee & Joyce Davidson, Fred & Dianne Borgen, Bob & Jenna McCarley, Earl & Johnie Hammond, Mark Reuber, Jon Pritchard, Jill & Michael Leininger, Buck & Marilyn Peterson, John & Mary Anderson, Pastor Susan Russell, and Barbara Woods.

September 11 we will resume monthly fellowship (every second Sunday of the month). Please look for the sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the library, and contact Barbara Woods with questions.



# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  5:30UnitedWay Workshop 6:30-Book Group at C. Parrish's	2	3
4 9:45am-Worship/ Communion 10:45am-Fellowship	5  Labor Day	6 8am-Men's Breakfast Perkins	7  6:30-Choir	8 12pm Pastoral Relations  5:30UnitedWay workshop 6:30 Christian Ed Meeting	9	10
11 9:45am-Worship 10:45am-Fellowship 11am-Church School  6pm-Student Supper	12	13  7pm-Trustees	14  6:30-Choir	15  5:30UnitedWay workshop	16	17  8:30am-4pm RE:Image IRMS Conference
18 9:45am-Worship 11am-Church School 12pm-3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch-Brueggers  2pm-Wedding Shower for Gabe Whitaker and Lyndsey Boock 6pm-Student Supper	19	20 8am-Men's Breakfast Perkins 9:30am TIM Pastor's Group at FBC	21  6:30-Choir 7:35-Deacons	22  5:30UnitedWay workshop	23	24
25 9:45 Worship 11am-Church School  2-4pm-Prayer Shawl Circle  6pm-Student Supper	26	27	28  6:30-Choir	29	30	

Looking ahead to October...

October 1	Mid American Regional Conference
October 9	Crop Walk Bonfire
October 14-16	i-Lead Regional Youth Retreat
October 29-30	Fall Renewal with Brent Walker

## Church School Classes Begin Sept. 11

Church School classes meet at 11:00 am, following worship (except where noted), and are held from September-May. We use a variety of curriculum materials, and all child care workers and teachers for youth and children's classes have undergone a background screening.

**Child Care:** Staff: Kristin Simon and Kelsey Happe. Location: lower level. *Child care is provided during worship and church school. Paid staff are assisted by members of the congregation. Following children's time in worship, Rita Parrish will have a lesson for young children downstairs.*

**Grades K-5:** Teacher: Jan Thompson and assistants. Location: lower level in the southeast classroom. *The children's class includes activities, music, crafts, and lessons that help students learn about God's love and the story of Jesus.*

**Youth:** TBA

**College/Young Adult:** Leaders: Emily Slade, Dave Russell, Susan Russell. Location: College Lounge, second floor. *A (free!) weekly meal is offered on Sundays at 6 pm, followed by Bible study and fellowship. Other events for students and young adults are held on a regular basis. For more information, go to the [college ministry web page](#).*

**Adult Bible Study:** Leaders: Earl Hammond and class members. Location: Library, first floor. *The class will continue the "Journey Through the Bible" series. They have made it to 2 Timothy and might make it to Revelation this year!*

**Theology Class:** Facilitators: Bob McCarley, Michael Thompson, Joyce Davidson. Location: Church Lounge, first floor. *Various class members will lead a discussion of the book [Thank God for Evolution](#) by Michael Dowd. "Science-rejecting creationism and faith-rejecting atheism are not the only games in town," says Dowd, who sees no conflict between "faith and reason, heart and head, Jesus and Darwin." [Thank God for Evolution](#) offers up a whole new way of thinking about science and religion*



## Name Tags Debut Sept. 11

One of the ideas generated at our planning meeting earlier this year was to use name tags in worship. We will begin using the name tags on September 11. These are magnetically attached tags – a magnet holds the tag to clothing, eliminating pin holes. Alternatively, there will be lanyards available for those who would rather hang the name badge from a lanyard around their neck. Badges will be stored on a magnetic bulletin board in the narthex. Worshipers can pick the tag up there on Sunday mornings and either return the tag to the board, or drop in a basket at the front entrance to the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall.

Some may be saying, "Name tags? I already know everyone; I don't need a name tag!" The reality is,

- Most of us don't know everyone.
- Some who have been attending for years have memory problems, and some of us were never great with names to start with, so this name tag idea might be a really good thing;
- The name tags are not primarily for longtime members who may know most of the people in church, but to help newcomers become acquainted with everyone. The plan to use name tags is part of an effort to be as welcoming as we can be and make things easier for newer folks.
- We certainly won't force anybody to wear a name tag, but we encourage everyone to do so.

We will no doubt have to figure out some of the logistics as we go along, but we are looking forward to using our new name tags

## Pastoral Relations Committee

The Pastoral Relations Committee serves as an advisory and advocacy group to our pastors. They meet periodically with our pastors and work to encourage the pastors' professional growth and well-being and promote mutual ministry between pastor and congregation. This includes understanding the work of ministry, encouragement for continuing education, listening and support through challenging issues, working with our pastors to review and evaluate the church and pastors' ministry, and leading the church in times of celebration. Members of the committee are Fred Borgen (chair), Beth Douglass, Jere Maddux, and Barbara Woods.



## New in the Library!

In Fiction we've added many new books, we have stories that take place in Nebraska, Iowa, and Arkansas. These books contain stories of romance and adventure. We have a series of three books that take place in one of the Amana townships. They will give you a glimpse into the lives of those who lived there when the Amanas were thriving religious communities. Look for author Judith Miller's books:

Somewhere To Belong

More than Words

A Bond Never Broken

For adults and kids we've added a book of poetry - Peaceful Pieces: Poems and Quilts About Peace by Anna Grossnickle Hines. Using handmade quilts as a backdrop, Hines's poems explore the themes of peace, understanding, tolerance, and friendship. You'll enjoy the poems as well as the quilts.

Reaching People Under 40 While Keeping People Over 60: Being Church for All Generations by Edward H. Hammett and James R. Pierce

*"Many church leaders are asking how to keep people over sixty years of age, who often hold church culture values, while at the same time reach people under forty, who often hold postmodern values. Does satisfying the needs of one group necessarily create a barrier to working with the other? Reaching People under 40 while Keeping People over 60 looks at the church as it seeks to function in a postmodern world, a global change that encompasses more than generational differences."*

The Art of Comforting : What to Say and Do for People in Distress by Val Walker It's just as the title says – "In this practical, step-by-step guide to what she calls "the art of comforting," Val Walker draws on numerous interviews with "Master Comforters" to guide readers in gently and gracefully breaking through the walls that those who are suffering often erect around themselves. Interviewees include inspiring individuals..."



## Student Suppers

We need your help providing meals for our weekly 6pm Student Suppers. If you can provide a meal or part of a meal, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the library. The students really enjoyed all the great food shared last year!

Talk to Pastor Susan if you have questions!

## Student of the Month

Our spotlight this month shines on Kevin Lysander Elias. Kevin is a third year student at Iowa State and hails from West Des Moines, where he graduated from Valley High School. He has sung in our choir almost since coming to Iowa State; he also sings solos and in small groups and was part of a rockin' rendition of "Wade in the Water" with Kent Johnson and Mindy Phomvisay just last Sunday.

Kevin has been very involved in student activities at First Baptist and is a regular at our Student Supper. He enjoys writing; Kevin is president of the ISU Creative Writing Club and this year will participate for the fifth time in the national "Write a Novel in November" month.

An Animal Ecology major, Kevin works part-time at the Boone Veterinary Hospital. He will graduate this spring and plans to go on to vet school (when we caught up with him, Kevin was busy filling out vet school applications.) Kevin is interested in missions and has been on mission trips to work at Deborah's House in Tijuana, Mexico with ABC missionaries Ray Schellinger and Adalia Gutierrez Lee. He would like to make another trip to work at Deborah's House (and we are hoping he will go on our mission trip to Nicaragua over spring break!)

We appreciate the enthusiasm and creativity Kevin brings to our church. If you have not already met him, please introduce yourself!



Kevin Elias

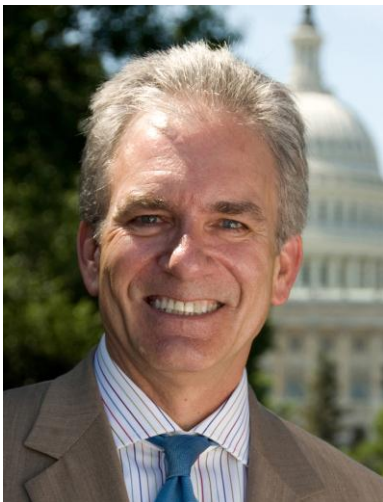
## Fall Renewal Weekend October 29-30

Each year we bring a noted scholar or Christian leader to our church for a weekend event designed to inspire, challenge, and provoke thinking about our faith. This year we are delighted to have Brent Walker, Executive Director of the [Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty](#) in Washington, DC.

The theme for the weekend will be “The Baptist Joint Committee: Directing Traffic at the Intersection of Church and State in the Nation’s Capital.”

Saturday evening sessions (with a meal in between) will be “Exploding the Myths about the Separation of Church and State” and “The Use and Abuse of Religion in Politics.”

Brent’s sermon on Sunday morning will be “Christians: Fight Like Heaven!” He will also lead a conversation during the Church School hour on “Baptists: A Biblical People Committed to Religious Liberty for All.” Plan now to join us October 29-30.



Brent Walker



On September 17, Iowa Religious Medias Services will present its biennial conference, Re:image, with ideas and technologies for tomorrow’s church. Keynote speaker Paul Nixon will share his latest findings on innovation and invention in mainline churches, which will be published in his new book coming out shortly. Paul will also offer afternoon workshops on his earlier books *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* and *Finding Jesus on the Metro*. Other workshops will explore electronic and social media and the church, enhancing worship with technology, shifting ministry focus beyond the walls of the church, ideas for children’s ministry, Connecting with Youth in a Digital Age, the Arts and the spiritual life, and more.

The conference runs from 8:30 am – 4 pm and includes lunch. Cost is \$55/person if 4 or more attend from the same church. We will subsidize the registration fee for those who wish to go so that the cost per person is \$25. We will send in our church’s registration September 8. The registration form is available at [irms.org](#) or from the church office; please turn in the form and your payment to the office. You may see Pastor Dave for more information.

## Making Disciples: The New Normal

is our 2011 Mid-America regional conference, held at First Baptist in Indianola on October 1 from 10am-3pm with speakers Jeff Johnson and Dan Buttry (who spoke here at First Baptist last fall). The cost will be \$10 per person which includes a meal.



## Nicaragua Mission Trip

Our church will go on a mission trip to Nicaragua March 10-18, 2012 (ISU and Ames High spring break). We are particularly encouraging college students to be a part of the trip, but all church members are welcome. We will work in a remote village on a project with [AMOS](#), a health ministry led by ABC missionaries David and Laura Parajon.

We hope to raise enough funds to build a clinic; our goal is to raise \$8000 which would both build the clinic and provide funds to help support those going on the trip. (The total cost will be around \$1250-1400 per person, which includes airfare, food, lodging, ground transportation in Nicaragua, an AMOS staff member to accompany the group, etc.)

Thank you to those who have given generously so that we can send our first payment for our trip to AMOS and get on their schedule. Including \$500 in this year's budget for mission trips, we have raised a total of \$3515 toward our goal! We will have two major fundraisers in the coming months, a "Travel-less Trip" and a Dinner/Auction, as well as a few smaller fundraisers (possibly breakfasts before worship). Look for information on the Travel-less Trip opportunity coming in the mail soon. And if you wish to give toward the trip in your weekly offering, just designate gifts to "Nicaragua Trip 2012."

If you would like to go on the trip or would like more information, please see Pastor Dave or Barbara Woods. We are encouraging those from our church who would like to go to commit in early fall, as the trip will be opened to others in our region and beyond in November, and space may be limited.



## September is Food Shelf Month at First Baptist Church!

Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc. (MICA) serves a variety of families in many different ways – all their families have their own unique needs. First Baptist has a strong tradition of supporting the work the Food Shelf does. We collect items and money twice a year in February and September. We all know times are hard and some families are facing a trip to the Food Shelf when they have never before needed to and may have even donated in other years.

### Most Needed Items!

**Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels, Peanut butter, Tuna, Canned Beans – this provides protein for some families**

### Other items needed:

**Non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food items** - Bring things that YOU would enjoy eating. Rice, flour, sugar, Jell-o, hot cocoa packets, juice, pasta, pancake mixes, syrup, tomato products such as paste and chunks, coffee, tea and canned chicken.

**Personal hygiene items** – bath soap, shampoo, women's supplies, shaving crème and deodorant

**Household supplies** – dish soap, cleaning products

**Infant needs** – diapers of all sizes and wipes, baby food

**Money** – Mica likes to give food vouchers to be used for milk, eggs, meat and fresh vegetables and fruit.

MICA's food pantry is entirely community funded. With financial aid they are able to shop for items that they are out of. Often at reduced prices that are given to food shelves across the country.

If you would like your gift to appear on your church statement, write the check to our church (FBC) and write MICA in the memo area.

Look for the donation display in the Narthex!

## *The Spire*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
200 Lynn Ave.  
Ames, IA 50014  
Worship Sundays 9:45am

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First Baptist Church is an open and caring family of faith where worship is central and faith engages both heart and mind. We are warmly ecumenical, delight in our diversity, and cherish our Baptist heritage of freedom. We are called by Christ to share God's love with the campus, community, and the world.

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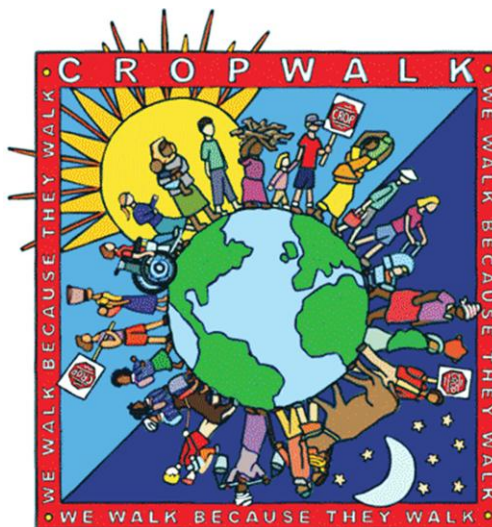
We're on the Web!

*See us at:*

**[www.fbcomes.org](http://www.fbcomes.org)**

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First Baptist Church  
200 Lynn Avenue  
Ames, IA 50014-7188



## Crop Walk October 9

This year's CROP Walk will be on Sunday, October 9, starting at the Maple Shelter in Brookside Park. The walk is 5K through Iowa State campus and back to Brookside. It begins at 1pm. You'll hear more about being a walker and supporting those who walk in the upcoming weeks; Beth Douglass is our church's recruiter.

CROP Walk is an effort of Church World Service, an ecumenical ministry of 36 Christian denominations and communions working in partnership to eradicate hunger and poverty, and promote peace and justice around the world. Donations to the walk are tax deductible as charitable contributions.