

JUNE CALENDAR

Sundays	@	9:00 AM	Ray's Sunday school class
	@	10:15 AM	Worship Service
Wednesdays	@	5:30 PM	Youth Group

Tuesday, June 1	6:00 PM	Trustee Board meeting
	6:30 PM	Christian Education Board meeting
Saturday, June 5	11-3	Bailey Hird's graduation party
Sunday, June 6		Re-Church Retreat following worship service
Monday, June 7	5:30 PM	Deacon Board meeting
Tuesday, June 8	6:30 PM	Church Council meeting
Thursday, June 10	5:30 PM	Youth Group swimming party
	5:45 PM	Pastoral Relations Committee mtg.
Sunday, June 13	10:15 AM	Service in Central Park
Tuesday, June 15	1:00 PM	Maxine Bates Circle meeting
Thursday, June 17	6:30 PM	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club
Saturday, June 19	2-4 PM	Roemen's 50 th Anniversary Open House

We'll still be providing a Worship experience through Facebook Live. You can tune into that worship by clicking on this

link: <https://www.facebook.com/Fairfield-First-Baptist-Church-104294022934947/>

Baptist Tidings

Fairfield First Baptist Church
"A Faith Building Community"

Vol. XLVII No. 5

May 27, 2021



Re-Church Retreat

Sunday, June 6th, 11:30-3:30

*"See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland." (Isaiah 43:19)*

We have one of the coolest, most awesomest, and fabulouset, churches around! 😊 You all are fun and interesting people. You have a love for Jesus and for one another. You hold strongly to Biblical truth as your foundation but also remain understanding and grace-filled toward one another. We have wonderful servant-leaders both in front of the scenes and behind the scenes, with strong leadership in both men and women. Fairfield First Baptist has been in existence, serving Christ, for 185 years, and there's no reason we can't continue to be a light in Fairfield, for another 185 years, (should the Lord tarry.)

While all this is true, as we consider the current cultural climate, we have to recognize that the trend in the majority of churches in the U.S. is toward decline. Over the last decade experts estimate that over 4000 churches close their doors each year, (and last year, as a result of COVID, that number could be as high as 10,000-12,000.)

We have to acknowledge that, while we're healthy now, we're not immune to the factors that can lead to closure.

But rather than bemoaning the continuing cultural decay and last year's ravages on church-life due to COVID, we can choose to trust that the Father is carrying out his eternal plan and that, somehow, all of the events surrounding us are for our ultimate good. We can hold on to the Father's words through the prophet Isaiah, when, in similar circumstances, he said, "See! I'm doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

Church family, I believe the best is yet to come in the life of Fairfield First Baptist, but in order for it to happen we have to take care to perceive what God is doing around us, and we have to be willing to see the new thing that he's building. Perceiving the Father's movements requires prayerful consideration of the environment around us. (What are the trends? What are people thinking and doing with their lives? What are their thoughts about God and his church?) And the ability to see and engage ourselves in the new thing he's doing among us requires a willingness to adapt, not our message of Life in Christ, but our methods of expressing that Life.

That's what our June 6th Re-Church Retreat, will be all about. We'll gather following worship, and have lunch. (JoDee Kyle and Joyce Roeman are planning food, so check in with them to see what you can bring. Snackage is always welcome.) We'll spend time in prayer, praise, and worship with the Father, and we'll have some fun fellowship together, (something that we've been missing.) Then we'll take a look at the cool things God has been doing in us the last few years, and how he's been setting us up for the next chapter in the life of Fairfield First Baptist.

So we need to talk together about what that next chapter will look like. What do you think and where do you think we're headed? What can help us to be the most healthy expression of Christ in Fairfield for the next 5, 10, 25, 185 years, (should the Lord tarry.) And what recommendations might be offered for a fresh Re-Church coming out of the pandemic and re-igniting this Fall?

You don't want to miss the fun and meaningfulness of this event, so please try to make plans to be there if you can. If you can't be there for all of it, come for as much as you're able. It's all good!

With you, perceiving a new thing,

- Pastor John

PRAYER LIST

Becky England, Mary Keller, Marilyn Holmes, Amy Kermott's parents, Ralph & Mary Paulding, Tiff Widmer, Niel Nielsen, Deanna Wilson, Sonny Harris, Jerry Leazer, Martha Cathey



50th Anniversary Celebration!

Join us in celebrating

MARVIN & JOYCE ROEMEN'S

50th Wedding Anniversary

An Open House will be
Saturday, June 19, 2021

2 PM - 4 PM

First Baptist Church, Fairfield, Iowa

No gifts please.



GRADUATE

Congratulations to **Gwen Kermott** upon her graduation from Upper Iowa University in Fayetteville, Iowa. Gwen has a degree in Psychology and plans on going for her Masters Degree in Art Therapy.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note the change of address for Chuck & Pat Comfort. They have not moved, but any correspondence should be addressed to:

Chuck & Pat Comfort
P.O. Box 785
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641





JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3 Mary Keller	16 Rhonda Goehring	24 Bailey Hird
9 Sharon Meinen	16 Hannah Kermott	26 Sheila Anderson
11 Deb Muntz	17 Connie Rathbun	26 Mia Gates
13 Aaron Kooiker	21 Staci Wright	27 Joe Hird
14 Landon Kooiker	21 Chance Crandall	27 Deanna Wilson
14 Greg Hanshaw	24 Ken Burns	28 Lee Muntz



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

7 Dave & Rhonda Goehring	19 Marvin & Joyce Roemen
11 Dave & Portia Bisgard	20 Scott & Ashley Worley
15 Jerry & Sharie Leazer	23 Carl & Barb McRoy

Note: If your birthday or anniversary is this month, but is not listed, please call the church office with that information.

HEAD USHERS

June	6	Greg Hanshaw
	13	Chuck Comfort
	20	Randy Baird
	27	Scott Reneker

CHILDREN'S SERMON June 20: Lee Muntz



COMING.....RE-CHURCH RETREAT.....JUNE 6

We invite our church family to join us for our "annual" family retreat. This retreat, normally held in January, will be held from 11:30 to 4:00 on June 6th in Fellowship Hall and we are calling it Re-church Retreat. At that time, we will be talking about "life in our church following the pandemic."

Lunch will be provided. All are invited.

NEWS FLASH!

M & E Board will NOT meet in June. Instead, members are encouraged to attend the Re-church Retreat. We are looking forward to your input at that time.

MAXINE BATES CIRCLE

The next meeting of the Maxine Bates Circle will be Tuesday, June 15th at 1:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. June Workman will be hostess. The plan is to help with Vacation Bible School preparation that afternoon.



VBS IS COMING THIS SUMMER!

We're excited to be planning an in-person VBS this year, and it is planned for Sunday, July 25 through Thursday, July 29th, from 6:00-7:30 P.M. each night. Help is needed in all areas: Snacks, Games, Class Groups (Preschool, K/1st, 2nd/3rd, and 4th/5th), Music, and Crafts. To volunteer, contact Jamie Gates at jamie-gates@hotmail.com or 641-919-3177.

A decorative border of various US dollar bills (1, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100) arranged in a circular pattern around the central text.

Tithes and Offerings

An illustration of two hands, one holding a dollar bill, with the text 'Tithes and Offerings' above it.

CHURCH OFFERING

May 2 - \$3485.26

General - 3433.26 HVAC - 25.00
Deacons - 27.00

May 9 - 2747.11

General - 2694.26 HVAC - 50.00
ABWM Love Gift - 2.85

May 16 - \$3117.18

General - 3117.18 Betty McCarty Mem. - 20.00

May 23 - \$2179.95

General - 1736.26 ABWM Love Gift - 43.69
H.S. Youth Quest - 400.00

YOUTH GROUP POOL PARTY

Those entering 6th grade or above are invited to several pool parties this summer. These will take place at Greenig's house on June 10, July 15, and August 18. So mark your calendar now and plan to come for a fun evening! Supper will be served at 5:30 P.M. with swimming to follow.



A one-piece suit is preferred for the ladies. Bring your own towel and goggles. If it rains, indoor activities will be planned.

Have your ride pick you up at 7:30. Any questions, contact Lisa Greenig at 919-4343.



FAMILY CAMP
@



FOREST LAKE CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

August 20-22

Come spend time with friends and family during our family retreat camp event. The goal of the event is to provide an opportunity for families to experience the beauty of camp together. The participation fee is \$50/family. Scholarships are available and registrations may be picked up in our church narthex.

Different lodging options are available and you can find prices on the registration form. Space is very limited, so please register by August 6, 2021.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT @ FOREST LAKE CAMP

Friday, October 1 – Sunday, October 3

\$110 registration – scholarships available!

We will work through devotions, prayer, meditation, relationships, and other struggles we encounter as young adults!

To register, please pick up a form in our church narthex or visit the camp website @ <https://www.forestlakecamp.org> or direct any questions to forestlakecamp@mid-abc.org.

HEY KIDS...YOU CAN STILL SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMP AND AVOID THE LATE FEE! CONTACT JANE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Christian Education Board Meeting - May 4, 2021

Sarah gave a report of the April outing of Barb's former group. Sarah and Amy are planning the May outing.

Jamie gave an update on VBS. The Maxine Bates Circle has offered to help with some prep work, which is greatly appreciated.

Camp registrations are trickling in. The camp is not enforcing the pre-registration fee again this year.

Faithweaver has ended for the year.

We've begun to need nursery attendants again! Volunteers are needed; contact Jamie to get on the list.

Pastor John purchased Bibles for the graduates. Jamie will get them marked and will present them on May 23rd. Families will be notified ahead of time.

Pastor John gave an update on the upcoming all-church retreat.

Mission & Evangelism Board Meeting - May 4, 2021

* Reviewed member responsibilities for monthly articles in church newsletter regarding individuals and organizations the Board is supporting financially in the year 2021.

* Training for "Welcoming New People" times are set. Goals are to learn skills designed to enhance one's effectiveness in making it easy for people to feel welcome as they arrive to church for Sunday morning worship. Four opportunities to attend an introductory training have been scheduled for anyone interested. Led by Joe Hird, opportunities to attend an introductory session will be the mornings of June 13 and 27 at 9:00 and also following those morning worship services.

*At the All-Church Retreat, Pastor John will present an overview of the purpose and responsibilities of church members who will serve on the Welcoming New People Team.

*The meanings of "mission" and "evangelism" were discussed in an effort to allow the M&E team to gain a better understanding as to how these words apply to the team of FBC as they serve God. The beginning of an ongoing discussion: how evangelism can be a conscious effort put into spirit-led action by all Christians will be further discussed by the team at the next meeting.

Trustee Board Meeting

May 4, 2021

Minutes were approved from previous meeting.

Financial Report by Ray: General Fund \$32,910.86
 Loan Balance \$18,616.44

Maintenance Report: Mowing is going okay.

Jane's computer is acting up. Jason Crandall will look at it. It may need replaced.

Summary of sanctuary repair:

\$8850 for painting and \$3235 for new LED lights.

Deacon Board Meeting - May 3, 2021

We put together cards to be mailed to the Church family and friends.

Added Mr. and Mrs. Tom Baerg to Lisa's In-Touch list.

First Baptist Church Council Meeting

May 11, 2021

Present: Pastor John Kermott, Aaron Kooiker, Sue Carr, Margaret Wilson, Joyce Roemen, Jan Baird, Bob Keller, Lorri Deeke

Devotion read by Aaron Kooiker based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-5.

Jan Baird opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous minutes were approved.

Board functions were discussed and the council will continue an on-going discussion to re-evaluate all the boards to make sure all areas are covered.

All-church retreat is June 6. The purpose of the retreat is to remind ourselves our goals as a church and to focus on the direction of the church for the future.

Bob Keller reported the giving for April did not meet expenses, leaving a \$6000 shortfall. So reserves were used.

Church directory needs updating because there have been many changes recently with moves and deaths, etc.

Doors to the sanctuary are to be left open at all times to allow for proper circulation.

A party for recent retirees is in the planning stage.

Margaret closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Lorri Deeke, clerk

LET LOVE FLOW

A Letter from Your World Relief Officer:

Dear American Baptist Leaders,

The year 2020 was unlike any year we have witnessed in our lifetime. Record-breaking fires on the west coast of the U.S. devastated communities and burned millions of acres. An extremely active hurricane season brought destruction to the Gulf Coast and Central America. A massive explosion in Beirut displaced thousands of individuals. All these events happened in the midst of the prolonged COVID-19 global pandemic. We are living in a time of uncertainty. And yet, even with so much that is unclear about the future, one thing is certain: through this ministry of One Great Hour of sharing, you continue to Let Love Flow.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every area of our personal and communal lives. In the same way, it also touched every area of the work of One Great Hour of sharing: sustainable development, disaster relief, and refugee support. With so many in need, your compassion is more important than ever.

We have carried into 2021 many of the same challenges. Disasters will continue to occur. Displaced populations remain vulnerable. And hundreds of millions of people around the world struggle under the weight of poverty. Thanks to your faithfulness and generosity, One Great Hour of Sharing will continue to respond.

Events of the past year have shown us that, even in times when we cannot be physically together in one place, our offerings to support One Great Hour of Sharing continue to strengthen our church's presence all over the world: providing water to the thirsty, food for the hungry, and hope for the weary. When you give to One Great of Hour of Sharing, you "Let Love Flow." Your generosity ensures that the transforming power of love continues to change the world.

In grateful partnership,
Lisa Rothenberger-Winter
World Relief Officer

Please give to our annual
One Great Hour of Sharing
Offering during June. Our
goal is \$1200.



MISSION MOMENT – AFRICAN VIOLET FOUNDATION



The African Violet Foundation (AVF) was founded by Staci and Roger Wright in 2006 in memory of Staci's late grandparents. Her grandmother would gift African Violets as a token of care and concern to anyone who might be struggling in some way and it was her way of telling people, "You matter. I care about you and what you are going through." The foundation, named to honor Staci's grandmother, is a local non-profit with a nine-person board of directors.

The African Violet Foundation's mission is to assist local students and our community in a variety of ways. As many as 500 students from Fairfield, Pekin, and Van Buren middle and high schools receive Christmas gifts each year. Gifts have been given to students for many reasons including celebrating successes, turning a negative situation into a positive one, or maybe just to let them know that they matter and are cared about. Community members and school faculty or staff communicate needs to AVF who then sees how to help meet those needs. It might be clothing through the Boutique, furniture, or purchasing new clothing, shoes, or school supplies for school projects. Each year, the African Violet Boutique hosts a special event where students can get prom dresses or suits for prom. AVF and Fairfield Community School District co-sponsor prom support for students who can use help attending prom, by providing transportation, dinner, and flowers. This has made prom a special event for as many as 12 students annually.

(continued)

The African Violet Boutique is located at 54 South B Street. The Boutique concept evolved from the annual Caring Through Clothing event that AVF hosted here at the church. The fashions are free to those in need and is currently open Thursday evenings and Friday and Saturday mornings. They recently approved the hiring of their first paid employee, who will be working for approximately 10 hours per week.

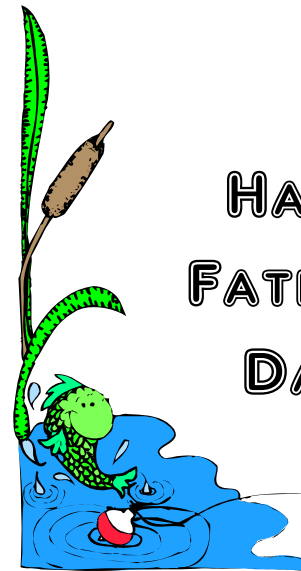
A work day will be held Saturday, June 26, from 9 A.M. until the work is complete. The boutique is extremely short of volunteers at this time which has prevented AVF from expanding their hours. For more information about AVF or to become a volunteer, call Staci Wright at (641) 919-4306.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY



Reminder...our Helping Hands Program, through the Deacon Board ministry, is available to help with a job that you are unable to tackle by yourself. Just call the church office (472-5205) any weekday morning or contact one of your deacons and we will try to fulfill that need.

Jan Baird	472-5293	Lisa Greenig	919-4343
Darrel Bisgard	472-6201	Sharie Leazer	472-3892
Ken Burns	451-4207	Harold Munson	472-8895
John Rathbun	472-1452	Lee Muntz	919-3337



HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY

