

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sundays	@	9:00 AM	Adult Sunday school class
	@	10:15 AM	Worship Service
Wednesdays	@	5:30 PM	Family meal
		6:15 PM	Kid Zone & Youth Zone

Saturday, Sept. 3	8:00 AM	Men's breakfast
Sunday, Sept. 4	2-6 PM	Birthday Party for Harold Munson
Monday, Sept. 6	6:00 PM	Trustee Board meeting
Sunday, Sept. 11	9:00 AM	Adult Sunday school class
	10:30 AM	Worship in the Park
Monday, Sept. 12	5:30 PM	Deacon & Worship Board meetings
Tuesday, Sept. 13	6:30 PM	CE meeting at Greenig's
	6:30 PM	M&E Board meeting
Thursday, Sept. 15	6:30 PM	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club
Saturday, Sept. 17	10:00 AM	Kiwanis Kid's Day Parade
Sunday, Sept. 18	12 Noon	Church Picnic @ Jeff. Co. Park
Tuesday, Sept. 20	1:00 PM	Maxine Bates Circle
	6:30 PM	Council meeting

SERVICE IN CENTRAL PARK SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

10:30 A.M.

BRING LAWN CHAIRS



Baptist Tidings

Fairfield First Baptist Church
"A Faith Building Community"



Vol. XLVIII No. 8

August 25, 2022



Back to Church Sunday And Church Picnic – Sept. 18th!

One of the best exercises for any Spiritual Athlete, in helping to condition themselves to be fit, like Jesus, is to consistently gather with a community of faith for worship and fellowship. In other words...going to church on Sunday mornings is good for our health! It's very difficult to maintain a healthy relationship with God without the nourishment and strengthening that a focus on worship and fellowship provide.

Families' calendars are being stretched, though, from every direction, and there's so much competing for our time. Sunday mornings often get crowded out.

The pandemic didn't help. According to surveys taken by Outreach Magazine, churches are averaging 36% - 60% what they were pre-Covid. While our Sunday morning worship attendance is slowly building back up, many families are finding it hard to re-start the habit of getting out to be with their church family.

I understand. It's hard to build back a habit after filling that time with other options for a couple of years, so there's no judgement, here. As your Pastor/Coach, though, I do want to strongly encourage you to reconsider the great benefits that Worship gives to your Spiritual conditioning and that of your family.

Our lives are filled with so many voices that shout at us to give them room in our lives and influence in our thinking and behavior. But none of these voices are as important as the gentle, still, small voice of God that calls us to put first things first, and maintain a healthy connection with Him, our Creator, and Sustainer.

A connection with a Church Family also provides the necessary moral and ethical foundation for us and our children. Doing what's good and right seems to be a concern that's slipping away in our culture as the concept of a great Authority over us is pushed aside.

There are many other spiritual and physical health benefits to a weekly habit of worshipping God. Not to mention the laughter and fun that is always happening among us, here. So, again, as your Pastor/Coach, if you consider Fairfield First Baptist your church home let me encourage you to restart this part of your spiritual training.

Just for this purpose, thousands of churches around the country are designating **September 18th**, as **Back to Church Sunday**. We're joining in, as well, and would love to see you if you've been away. (Just for fun we're going to ask everyone to show their team spirit and wear something with their favorite sports team logo on that day.)

To add to the festivities, following worship we'll be having an "All Church Picnic" out at Jefferson County Park! Fun, good conversation, and games for everybody! More info to come on that.

There's never a bad time to rebuild a good habit. Consistent worship of the God who created the universe is one of the best training exercises we can take part in. Don't let it slip away. If you've gotten out of the habit, no worries, make the effort to start back up. It may take extra effort to make it part of your life again, but, like anything worthwhile, if you keep at it, you'll find it becomes natural again.

One more reminder as I close. On September 11th, we'll have our last outdoor service of the year in Central Park. This will be an extra special service, though, as we've invited our brothers and sisters from other church families of Fairfield to join us for a unified gathering of the followers of Jesus in Fairfield! So far at least 7 church families are planning on taking part and I couldn't be more excited about it. It will be at 10:30, which is different than our usual 10:15 worship time, so make a note of that. This is an event we hope everyone can make!

Let's get back to church and regain some spiritual fitness!

Running with you all,
Pastor John

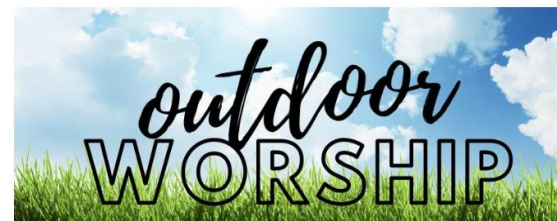
PRAYER LIST

Jerry & Sharie Leazer, Roger & Diane McHone, Dewey & Sharon Meinen, Kimberly Angel (Deanna Wilson's sister), Amanda Person, family member of Lulu Reed

Our heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to the families of Leota Boyce and Niels Nielsen.

Leota passed away August 6, 2022. She was the sister of Treva Hawbaker.

Niels passed away July 26, 2022 in Adel, Iowa.



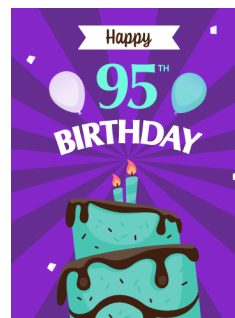
CHRISTIANS IN FAIRFIELD UNITING FOR WORSHIP IN THE PARK ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11!

Six Fairfield Churches will be joining us for worship together at the outdoor service in Central Park on September 11th! This will be led by the pastors of our Fairfield Area Ministerial Association, and promises to be a fun and meaningful expression of the Body of Christ in Fairfield! The time has been set for 10:30 that morning to accommodate all the participating churches. As always, bring your lawn chairs and your expectation to connect with God!

BIRTHDAY PARTY SEPTEMBER 4TH

95th Birthday Party for Harold Munson will be held Sunday, Sept. 4th at Ted's new home, 3199 Wheat Boulevard, Lockridge. The church family is welcome to attend between 2-6 P.M.

For those who can't make it on the 4th, there will be a 2nd party on Sept. 25th from 2-5 P.M.





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1 Fred Hickenbottom | 9 Margaret Stephens | 17 Adler Voreis |
| 4 Claire Epperson | 12 EmmaGrace Crandall | 20 Joyce Taylor |
| 7 Christopher Kyle | 15 Margaret Wilson | 20 Harold Munson |
| 8 Sue Carr | 16 Diane McHone | 22 Terri Reneker |



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Fred & Dixie Hickenbottom | 22 John & Diane Van Winkle |
| 4 Bob & Mary Keller | 28 Terry & Jamie Gates |
| 17 Lee & Deb Muntz | 28 Mike & Sarah Stiemsma |
| 19 John & Deanna Wilson | 30 Lundy & Sheila Anderson |

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

HEAD USHERS

- | | |
|---------|--------------|
| Sept. 4 | Dave Bisgard |
| 11 | Randy Baird |
| 18 | James Kyle |
| 25 | Greg Hanshaw |

CHILDREN'S SERMON SEPTEMBER 18: Jan Baird
 COMMUNION SERVERS SEPTEMBER 4: Lisa Greenig, Dick Hunt, Joyce Roemen, Darrel Bisgard, Margaret Wilson



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, September 3 @ 8:00 A.M.
 Fellowship Hall
 All men welcome!



CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday, September 18
 @

Noon until?
 Jefferson County Park
 (by the pond)

Meat and drinks will be provided.
 Please bring a side dish to share.
 There will be lawn games...fun for all ages.

NEW PROJECT FOR ABW!

Maxine Bates Circle is taking on a new project! They will be providing items and assembling “Birthday Bags” to donate to the Lord’s Cupboard. These bags are given to clients during the birthday month of household members (under 18). The Birthday Bags have been a special surprise for many clients and have brightened many a child’s face when they pick out their bag of birthday goodies! Our Circle is asking the church family to assist in providing items for this project. ABW



Circle will then supplement any additional supplies to complete the bags. This is a list of what will be used for each gift: a birthday-themed gift bag (large enough to place all the other items in it), 1 cake mix, 1 can of frosting, package of candles, package of paper plates, package of party napkins, package of balloons, package of party favors, pack of fun stickers. The goal is to begin the donation with about 20 bags and then keep them in supply. Thanks to those in our church family who are able to contribute to this project!

The next meeting of Maxine Bates Circle will be held in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, September 20th. Margaret Stephens will be hostess. All ladies are welcome to attend.



New address: Lorri Deeke
614 Lindenwood Court
Fairfield, IA 52556



June Finances:	
Giving:	\$17,495.50
Expenses:	\$26,041.91
July Finances:	
Giving:	\$18,040.24
Expenses:	\$17,620.70

BETTER TOGETHER

Building up the Body of Christ

Mid-American Baptist Churches of Iowa and Minnesota

BIENNIAL GATHERING

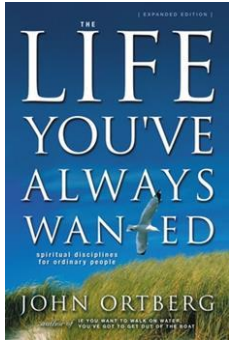
September 30 – October 1, 2022

First Baptist Church, Pella, Iowa
709 Independence Street

Speaker: Rev. Sharon Koh, Executive Director and CEO of International Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA
Speaker: Global Servant Rev. Toya Richards is endorsed to serve in Cape Town, South Africa as a teacher and professor at the Cape Town Baptist Seminary – a ministry of IM partner the Baptist Union of Southern Africa.

Join them for worship, Bible study, workshops, and a special celebratory lunch and birthday party on Saturday to close out the event!

Celebrating 52 years as a region!



THURSDAY NIGHT
“ALL CHURCH STUDY”
HAPPENING THIS FALL

Following up on our series on our being Spiritual Athletes, we’re going to read through John Ortberg’s book, *The Life You’ve Always Wanted*. (Books are available for \$13.00 at the Welcome Center in the narthex. Just add cost to your offering.) This study will help us to see how we can

apply the Biblical Exercises that Christ-followers have used over the centuries to help condition themselves, (in the power of the Holy Spirit,) to be more spiritually fit/more like Jesus! Come and learn how to better “train yourself for godliness.” (1 Tim. 4:7)

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY THIS FALL (Lisa Greenig)

I am offering a women's Bible study this fall. I'm willing to host multiple sessions. To allow individuals time to discuss, I would like to limit the size of each group. If you are interested, please let me know your preference for meeting times.

Tuesdays:

9 - 10:30 A.M.

2 - 3:30 P.M.

6:30 - 8:00 P.M.

Sunday Morning:

8:30 - 10:00 A.M.

We can meet weekly or twice a month.

I'm hoping one of the times above will work for you. If not, I can try to schedule a time that will. I am not available on Mondays or Wednesdays.

The link below is the series I will be using. I believe this study will merge well with the book study Pastor John is leading on Thursdays.

Encountering God - Kelly Minter

Cultivating habits of faith through spiritual disciplines

This series has seven sessions.

<https://www.christianbook.com/encountering-god-bible-study-book/kelly-minter/9781087730417/pd/730419>

Once I know how many will be attending, and time preferences, I will create a schedule and order the study books for you.

I look forward to studying God's word together!

Lisa Greenig 919-4343 greeniglis@gmail.com



BRIEF FAMILY MEETING

We will have a brief Church Family Meeting following worship on August 28th to fill in a few board and committee positions that are open. Please plan to stay for a few minutes if you can.

END OF SUMMER BLOW-OUT POOL PARTY!

Our last Youth Pool Party will be after our worship service on August 28th, at Greenig’s, (804 E. Fillmore Ave.) 12:00 lunch (loose meat sandwiches, chips and ??) Swimming until 2:30, with ice cream sundaes to follow! Fun stuff!



Mark your calendar for September 13th.....



The C.E. Board will be meeting at Paul & Lisa Greenig’s home to decorate the First Baptist Church float for the Kiwanis Kid’s Day Parade. All available hands are welcome to join them at 6:30 on the 13th. Any questions may be directed to JoDee Kyle (919-0411) or Lisa Greenig (919-4343).

MISSION MOMENT: THE LORD'S CUPBOARD

September is just around the corner, but The Lord's Cupboard is beginning to prepare for the Holiday Christmas Meal Box. They accept cash donations to help alleviate the cost of these boxes. Last year it cost \$37 to put together a small holiday box. With the cost of food going up it will cost more this year. In the past, The Lord's Cupboard has distributed 500 Christmas Boxes. A list of items with their current needs is provided. If you are interested in donating needed items or money to help with Christmas Boxes you can contact the Lord's Cupboard at 641-472-8457 or lordscupboardjeffco@gmail.com.



We accept unopened food which is ***NOT*** expired:

Cans/ Jars

Canned fruits
Canned vegetables
Canned beans
Canned meats: tuna, chicken, beef, pork, chili, fish, Chunky Soups
Peanut butter and other nut butters
Jelly / Jam

Boxed / Dry Goods

Pasta – spaghetti, elbows, egg noodles
Mac and Cheese
Breakfast cereal
Dried beans / lentils / peas
Flour
Sugar

Paper Goods and Soaps

(these items are rarely donated and are NOT covered by Food Stamps!)

Paper towels	Laundry detergent
Toilet tissue	Dish soap
Facial tissues ("kleenex")	Toothpaste
Shampoo	Toothbrushes (child and adult)

Things We Need Around the Cupboard

Black dry-erase markers
Single-window "Release and Seal" business envelopes
Packing tape
Post-it Notes



HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Our Helping Hands Program, through the Deacon Board Ministry, is available to help you with a job that you are unable to tackle by yourself. Sometimes even the smallest task is too big to do...like changing a high-hanging light bulb, taking the trash out to the curb, or picking up a few

groceries! Our church members and attendees are blessed to have such a program. Just call the church office (472-5205) any weekday morning or contact one of your deacons and we will try to fulfill that need.

John Rathbun 472-1452

Margaret Wilson 472-5594

Jan Baird 472-5293

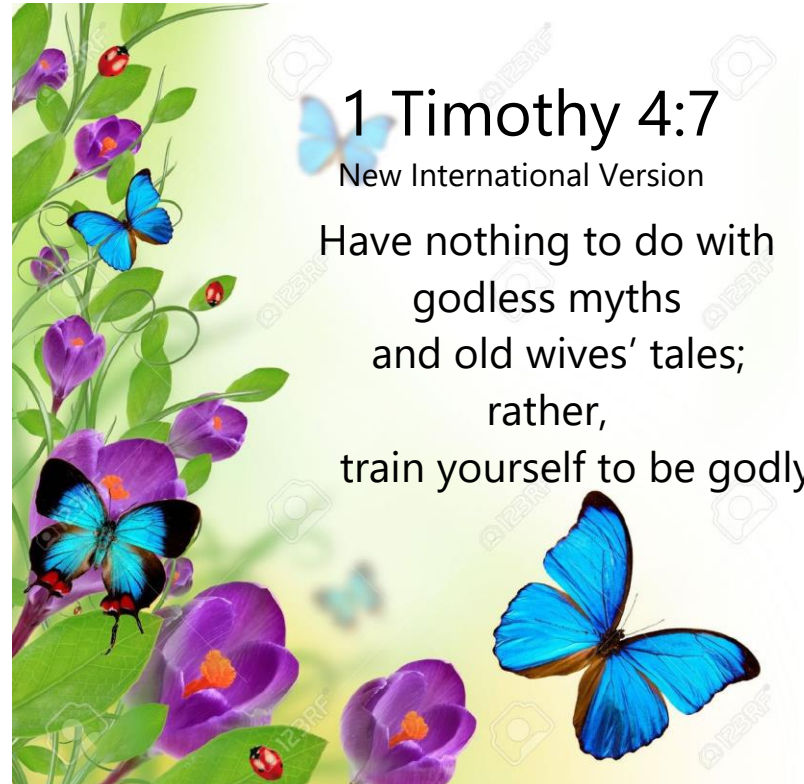
Lee Muntz 919-3337

Darrel Bisgard 472-6201

Sharie Leazer 472-3892

Harold Munson 472-8895

Lisa Greenig 919-4343



S U M M E R U P D A T E - SHINING THE LIGHT MINISTRIES

During this second quarter, we have been praying and trusting in the Lord even more because the NGOs situations in Nicaragua is not easy at this time because there have been many requirements that we have to fulfill in order to satisfy the new laws which have been approved lately. More NGO's have been shut down for different reasons, but we believe that ABLLDCCEN is going to be able to operate normally and continue serving our Lord even though we know that is going to take time.

It is important to mention something which has been very impacting for the country and our people here because what has been going on in the last months; there has been a lot of Nicaraguan migration to the United States due to the lack of employment and the crisis in the country, and this makes the families situations more difficult and unstable. Some people think that this looks like what happened in the 80s.

Regarding all the different projects that we are implementing as STL and ABLLDCCEN, it is significant to mention that at this time of the year, raining season started in May, which has been very good for our Garden Project in the communities; we planned to start the new cycle at the end of April, so the community's members started their seed beds and then at raining time they could be able to replant their crops. In this new cycle, the number of gardens has increased about 20%.

The Poultry Project has been a great blessing for Felix's families and other community's members because they are able to get fresh eggs and in a reasonable price. At this time, Felix has only one galley with 148 chickens because the second galley was transferred to Project Hope Worldwide because Felix wasn't able to handle both galleys. Now ABLLDCCEN staff is in charge of taking care of the second flock. We have more chickens in small numbers in other communities; their condition is very good even though some of the community's members have faced some challenges, but with God's help in our staff we have been able to overcome them. Now the chickens look healthy.

We have been very active in the discipleship programs in the different communities. This time of the year we know that it is

challenging for our staff because of the rain but that is not stopping us from doing God's work. The discipleship program has been a blessing for the churches and communities, but it has been a blessing for us, as well, because it is another way of serving the Lord and enlarging his kingdom. Glory to God!

Evangelism is a great tool for Christian lives, so in the last months, ABLLDCCEN staff have been working on planning new ways of how to help the churches in the area of evangelism. We have met at different times to work on this and then to be able to present our plan to Jeff and Pastor Greg Lentz. They can then give us some guidance with the purpose of finding the best way to help the Nicaraguan churches and pastors in order to enlarge the kingdom of God and reach out more souls for our Lord and Savior.

Concerning construction projects, Paula's Project has been helping and supporting the 28 de Mayo Community with house building. In the second quarter we were able to build house number 12. We know that it has been slow this year, but it is because of the NGOS situation in Nicaragua. We believe that it is going to get better. For this new quarter we are planning on working on house number 13 and if things improve, we are going to be able to build more houses this year. Paula's Project is not just helping 28 de Mayo community building houses but they are also helping people who have been very helpful for their Ministries as well.

We want to thank you so much for your hearts, Love and prayers for ABLLDCCEN and Nicaragua during this time. We know that God will bless you and honor you in everything you do because you have been obedient and faithful to his command and his word. We also want to continue being the hands and feet of Jesus working alongside Shining the Light Ministries, local churches, and communities. To God be the Glory!!!

Roger Gonzales Fuentes, ABLLDCCEN Executive Director

We are all very blessed to continue the work in Nicaragua and we want to thank you all for your prayers and financial support. If you are feeling called to help support Greg and his work in Nicaragua, he will need monetary assistance for training of staff and pastors in the amount of \$150 per month starting in August. Blessings,
Jeff Schweizer

