



## JANUARY CALENDAR

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

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Sunday, Jan. 1	Annual reports due!
Saturday, Jan. 7	8:00 AM Men's breakfast
Tuesday, Jan 3	5:30 PM Worship Board meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 10	6:00 PM Trustee Board meeting
	6:30 PM C.E. and M&E Board meetings
Tuesday, Jan. 17	6:30 PM Council meeting
	1:00 PM Maxine Bates Circle meeting
Thursday, Jan. 19	Noon "SALT" group soup luncheon
	6:30 PM Sac & Fox Lapidary Club
Sunday, Jan. 22	Annual Family meeting



# Baptist Tidings

Fairfield First Baptist Church  
"A Faith Building Community"



Vol. XLVIII No. 12

December 29, 2022



**A New Year's Prayer  
From George MacDonald**

George MacDonald's writings have helped me to know and understand Jesus much more fully. CS Lewis said, of George MacDonald, "I know hardly any other writer who seems to be closer, or more continually close, to the Spirit of Christ."

One of MacDonald's writings that many have found to be deeply strengthening is his, ***A Book of Strife in the Form of a Diary of an Old Soul***. Here, he writes a seven-line poem for each day of the year. These brief poems are rich and full of practical Biblical wisdom, but they're not simplistic. It takes some effort of thought to gain the value that they contain.

As this New Year begins, I thought I would share the first two entries in this daily Diary. I'm hoping you'll find them "nutritious" and will be hungry for more. ***The Diary of an Old Soul*** is in the public domain so it's available free online. Please take some time to think them through.

## **JANUARY.**

1.

LORD, what I once had done with youthful might,  
Had I been from the first true to the truth,  
Grant me, now old, to do--with better sight,  
And humbler heart, if not the brain of youth;  
So wilt thou, in thy gentleness and ruth,  
Lead back thy old soul, by the path of pain,  
Round to his best--young eyes and heart and brain.

2.

A dim aurora rises in my east,  
Beyond the line of jagged questions hoar,  
As if the head of our intombed High Priest  
Began to glow behind the unopened door:  
Sure the gold wings will soon rise from the gray!--  
They rise not. Up I rise, press on the more,  
To meet the slow coming of the Master's day.

3.

Sometimes I wake, and, lo! I have forgot,  
And drifted out upon an ebbing sea!  
My soul that was at rest now resteth not,  
For I am with myself and not with thee;  
Truth seems a blind moon in a glaring morn,  
Where nothing is but sick-heart vanity:  
Oh, thou who knowest! save thy child forlorn.

4.

Death, like high faith, levelling, lifteth all.  
When I awake, my daughter and my son,  
Grown sister and brother, in my arms shall fall,  
Tenfold my girl and boy. Sure every one  
Of all the brood to the old wings will run.  
Whole-hearted is my worship of the man  
From whom my earthly history began.

Happy New Year!

Pastor John

## **PRAYER LIST**

Rod Ryan, Jerry & Sharie Leazer, Roger &  
Diane McHone, JoAnn Allerdice, Niki Mathis,  
Portia Bisgard's mom (Gloria), Amy  
Kermott's cousin, Nancy & family, John  
Wilson



We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to Darrel & Brenda Bisgard and family on the December 16<sup>th</sup> passing of Brenda's mom, Pat Bates.

## **THANK YOU NOTES**

Dear 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church,

On Thanksgiving, there was a potluck at your church. I entered it by mistake. My son had invited me to the church across the street (now called "Phoenix Rising".) I thought your church was the one he directed me to. He found me at your church and told me, "Mom, you're in the wrong church!" The people in your church were so very kind to us and urged us to stay. Thank you so much!!! Patricia Coit  
P.S. When my son & I said we were leaving for the other potluck across the street, some lady covered my plate of food so it would stay warm.

I was so impressed with and touched by all that kindness!! I felt like your church people were like angels!!!

We would like to thank the youth group for their beautiful voices and smiling faces when they came caroling at our home on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed the Christmas Carols and seeing everyone!

Jeff & Tammy Dunbar

First Baptist Family,

Thank you so much for the love and support you have shown me recently. It was difficult to be home with Covid while my stepfather was hospitalized with Covid.

Thank you, deacons, for the fruit basket of love as I mourn the death of Gary. Thank you, prayer warriors, for his salvation. Mission accomplished!

Thank you youth group for lifting my spirits with your beautiful caroling.

Thank you to all who called, sent texts, and cards. I appreciate your support through this difficult time. I count my church family as a blessing!

Lisa Greenig



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- |                  |                     |                    |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 7 Addie Crandall | 15 Justin Morehouse | 24 John Van Winkle |
| 9 Nigel Baerg    | 23 Joyce Roemen     | 26 Deb Fritz       |
| 13 Julie Hanshaw | 23 Karley Ryan      | 31 Ted Diers       |



**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 David & Margaret Wilson

**HEAD USHERS**

- |           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| January 1 | Virgil Symmonds |
| 8         | Roger Wright    |
| 15        | Dick Workman    |
| 22        | Ralph Paulding  |
| 29        | Darrel Bisgard  |

CHILDREN'S SERMON January 15: ???  
 COMMUNION SERVERS January 1: Lorri Deeke, Pat Comort, Lee Muntz, Jan Baird, Dick Hunt

**MAXINE BATES CIRCLE**

Next meeting of the Maxine Bates Circle will be Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. Janet Morris will be hostess. All women are invited to join them.

After the first of the year, birthing kits will be available in the church office to take home and sew for the Congo.



**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Saturday, January 7 @ 8:00 A.M.  
 All men welcome!

**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**

Just a reminder to all board chairpersons: Your 2022 annual reports are due in the church office by January 1<sup>st</sup> please.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Plan to attend our annual meeting on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will follow our morning worship service. The main item on the meeting agenda will be the approval of the 2023 budget.

Also, all newly elected board and committee members will officially take over their duties at this meeting.





**November Finances:**

Giving: \$18,142.57  
 Expenses: \$15,290.44

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY**



Need help shoveling snow this winter? Can't get out to get your groceries or medication? Need your garbage carried to the curb? Well, our Helping Hands Program, through the Deacon Board Ministry, is available to help you with many small jobs that you are unable to tackle by yourself.



Sometimes even the smallest task is too big to do on a given week. 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 | Darrel Bisgard | 472-6201 |
| Margaret Wilson | 472-5594 | Sharie Leazer  | 472-3892 |
| Jan Baird       | 472-5293 | Harold Munson  | 472-8895 |
| Lee Muntz       | 919-3337 | Lisa Greenig   | 919-4343 |

**DEVOTIONAL – CHRISTMAS SPIRIT**

Now that Christmas is over, the wrapping paper thrown away, and the big dinner cooked and left-overs gone, what do we do now? Do we keep the Christmas Spirit in our hearts and minds going, or do we put it away with all the gifts we received? People think just because Christmas is over, we should forget about the Baby, who grew to be our Savior, should be put on a shelf also until next year! I think they are wrong!! The Christmas Spirit and meaning of Christmas is Jesus, all year, not just at Christmas time! Don't put the Spirit away on a shelf in the closet! Keep the Spirit, Jesus, alive in your hearts and minds all year!! Thank you, God, for the Spirit of Christmas, your Son, Jesus, who you put on the tree, not under it!

Written by June E. Workman  
 December 28, 2018

**PLEASE NOTE**

Since Martha Cathey has moved to a permanent room at Addington Place, she now has a new room number. Please change her address in your new church directory to:

Martha Cathey, #405  
 3000 W. Madison  
 Fairfield, IA 52556



**MISSION MOMENT –**  
**JEFFERSON COUNTY LITTLE FREE PANTRIES**

The Mission & Evangelism Board has agreed to establish a Little Free Pantry on the church grounds in 2023 as part of our local mission. Erica Voreis will be leading the project with the support of the M & E Board. The following information shares the history of Little Free Pantries, both nationally and locally, and how it helps meet the needs of those challenged with food insecurity. More information will be forthcoming, as well as opportunities to get involved.

Jessica McClard launched the grassroots mini pantry movement in May 2016 in Fayetteville, Arkansas, when she planted the Little Free Pantry Pilot, a wooden box on a post containing food, personal care, and paper items accessible to everyone at the time, no questions asked. She hoped her spin on the Little Free Library concept would pique local awareness of food insecurity while creating a space for neighbors to help meet neighborhood food needs. Now they are in every state, and even in Jefferson County.

“Take what you need. Give what you can.” is the motto of the Little Free Pantries. The pantries are a grassroots solution to immediate, local needs, created and run by anyone who gets the urge to do a bit of carpentry – build a small cupboard or upcycle a piece of furniture (think filing cabinet, bookcase, etc.), and mount it on their property. The idea is that members of the public who wish to donate can simply stock the little pantry at their convenience and those who need the groceries can take them, no questions asked.

Fairfield resident, Barbara Hays, was the first person to build a Little Free Pantry in Fairfield, which she did in 2016 as part of her health-related fitness class at Maharishi International University. In the spring of 2020, a group of Fairfield residents began building pantries throughout the

community. The number of pantries quickly grew from one to six by the end of 2020. Once Lockridge added a pantry in 2021, the group rebranded from Fairfield Little Free Pantries to Jefferson County Little Free Pantries. As of this writing, there are 11 pantries throughout Jefferson County. While there are several organizations in Jefferson County working to reduce food insecurity, such as The Lord’s Cupboard and Carry On Bags, the Little Free Pantries can fill some of the gaps. It’s an anonymous and immediate way for folks to pick up what they can use to get by, for today. No strings attached, no questions asked.

To learn more about Jefferson County Little Free Pantries, search for Jefferson County Little Free Pantries on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/jeffersoncountylittlefreepantries>) or YouTube (video by Warner Elmker). Learn more about the Little Free Pantry Movement at <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>.

Check out the pantries in person:

- 1112 Granville Avenue, MIU Campus
- 605 E. Madison Avenue
- 410 West Lowe
- 1300 South Second Street
- 500 East Burlington Avenue
- 2200 West Jefferson/SIEDA
- Gear Avenue between 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets
- 501 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street/Everybody’s Grocery Store
- 2601 West Briggs Avenue (behind Walmart at the new location of the Foursquare Church)
- 103 South Center Street, Lockridge (near the post office)
- Libertyville City Hall/108 North Main Street, Libertyville

- Information provided by Erica Voreis

## **HECKENBERG HERALD**

It was a busy summer. We have lost some of our homeless friends.

Mr. D. was a long-time friend who died this summer. He was an alcoholic but still a good guy to me. He would come to our breakfast and sit in the same spot almost every day. When we would give a devotion or pray he would hold his cross, bow his head and point to heaven when we said “amen”. I don’t know if he was a Christian (that’s between him and God) but I miss him. Please pray for his brother who is also an alcoholic and living on the streets.

Mr. J. was in a rehab program when the city that hosted it pulled a fast one. Because the program had some sex offenders (which they didn’t like) they put a playground close by. So people like Mr. J. had to leave the program. We found another program (in Peoria, about 3 hours away) which would take him. I therefore drove him there. Pray that Mr. J. will succeed.

Mr. P. showed up last month. I hadn’t seen him in years. He ask if I remembered him. I had taken him to a rehab program in 2001. He told me he had been clean since then and had lived in California and Arizona. He even worked as a guide at the Grand Canyon while he was in Arizona. Pray for Mr. P. that he will continue on the right path.

Judith and I flew to Canada to see Heidi and her family. We were there for our granddaughter’s 1<sup>st</sup> birthday party.

We also drove our camper to Mount Rushmore while some of Judith’s family joined us there. It was a good time seeing the sights and being with family.

Late in the summer both Gene’s brother and nephew came to the US for visits (at different times). Gene’s family had two get together, it was good seeing his brothers, sister, nieces, and nephews (and their families).

It looks like we will have another grandchild soon. He is to be born in Texas in late November. Please pray for Peter, Alley and their growing family.

Pray for the staff and volunteers for the breakfast ministry. Many have been working at the breakfast for years and it can get draining.

We have regular volunteers to bring in food once a month and now some who can’t help anymore. Please pray that God will bring new volunteers to take their place.

Pray for our guests as it is getting cold here and has snowed already. Pray for their safety as they live on the streets or in a tent.

I do believe God has blessed and sustained my life and ministry through you all. We are a team. You are an awesome support team! I think, the very best!!!!

Yours in Christ, Gene and Judith Heckenberg

## **THE WELL – FAIRFIELD**

The Well Resource Center has had a presence in Fairfield, Iowa for 18 months. As we strive to expand programs and resources to people in the area, we hope you can participate in the many exciting opportunities coming 2023. We would love for you to experience firsthand the joy of supporting Fairfield and its surrounding communities.



We have expanded programming resources such as: Money and Me, Grief Talk Café, Grounding, New Life, Breaking Free, NAMI – National Alliance for Mental Illness and Well Works. Here are some highlights:

\*More than 300 people attended recovery and life skills programming in 2022.

\*The Well Works program was launched in partnership with local manufacturers to serve four employees engaged in their recovery, developing soft and technical skills, and stabilizing their resources.

\*Our Resource Center has built relationships with over 1000 people through the services we offer.

Please come by and take a look at what The Well in Fairfield is all about!

Blessings, *The Well Fairfield Team*

## **SHINING THE LIGHT MINISTRIES**

A message from Greg Lentz November 2022

Over this past month there has been continued progress in a few different areas of the ministry. The ministry continues to remain active on a variety of different projects.

We have started a new flock of chicks at Monte Sinai (Felix's). This is a flock of 220 birds and they are currently at 6 weeks of age. There was only 1 bird that was lost, but that bird was replaced by the seller leaving the flock to be 100% with no mortality over the past 4 weeks.

The ministry continues to work with Felix in maintaining this flock and reestablishing two flocks at Monte Sinai. The other flock of 146 birds are at 76 weeks and there has been a steady decline in the egg production over the past 4 weeks. In the beginning of October egg production was averaging 89% and currently the egg production is at 78% weekly average.

There are still 4 weeks until we hit the 80 week age for these birds so we will need to continue to monitor the egg production. There was also 1 bird that was lost this past week and the reason for death is unknown.

Project Hope currently has 235 birds with 150 birds being STLM and 85 birds being Project Hopes. These birds were combined into one coop to make room for 80 new chicks in the other coop. These birds are currently at 66 weeks with a small reduction in egg production. Last week's egg production average was 83.5%. The birds were given special vitamins to improve egg production. These birds were also more affected by the tropical storm/hurricane. Everything was done to protect the birds, but Project Hope is in the open with very little to protect it from the winds especially at the velocity that was received from this storm.

Also in partnership with Paula's, we have been working on another house in 28 de Mayo. This house was built for Gustavo Toruno and his wife Veronica. The construction of this house began in mid-October with it being completed this week.

October was also the beginning of the new evangelism project. We had the introduction session on October 27th. During this

session we were able to gather 15 - 20 pastors and church leaders at Colegio Segunda Iglesia Bautista. During this session we presented the direction and goals of the evangelism program moving forward. We would have liked to see more pastors and church leaders present, but before the session Pastor Martin and Angel emphasized the importance of commitment to the program to all of them.

It is a program where the pastors of the churches have to be involved and active for this program to work within their communities and churches. We will be having our second session on Nov. 17th. It is during this session we will be working through Matthew 28: 16-20 "The Great Commission". I will be presenting this session and we will work through these verses to gain greater understanding of them and how they apply to evangelism through sharing our faith and the Gospel.

Discipleship continues to move forward with Pastor Angel and Pastor Martin. They continue to serve communities with their teachings.

Construction of the kitchen began during the 1st week of October even though not all of the money was completely secured at that time. There was enough to start so we placed our trust in the Lord that the remaining funds would be provided as the construction moved forward. We truly believed that God would provide and touch the hearts of many to be a part of this ministry. Through the faithfulness of God and the generosity of the supporters enough money was provided to complete the construction and 1st phase of this ministry and also begin the 2nd phase of providing meals to increase the children's ministry from gathering once a week to twice a week. We will be gathering on November 13th to bless the kitchen and give thanks to all those who gave to make this vision provided to Pastor Pedro by God a physical and operational reality. Praise God!!

Greg Lentz, STLM Vice President