



MARCH CALENDAR

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

Friday, March 3	6:00 PM	Family Game Night
Saturday, March 4	8:00 AM	Men's breakfast
Monday, March 6	5:30 PM	Deacon & Worship Board meetings
Tuesday, March 7	6:00 PM	Trustee Board meeting
	6:30 PM	CE & M&E Board meetings
	6:30 PM	Women's Bible study
Saturday, March 11	9:00 AM	Family Church Cleaning Event
Tuesday, March 14	6:30 PM	Church Council meeting
Thursday, March 16	Noon	"SALT" group potluck luncheon
	6:30 PM	Sac & Fox Lapidary Club
Tuesday, March 21	1:00 PM	Maxine Bates Circle meeting
Wednesday, March 22		Spring Break – No Wednesday KidZone/YouthZone
Tuesday, March 28	6:30 PM	Women's Bible study concludes



Baptist Tidings

Fairfield First Baptist Church
"A Faith Building Community"



Vol. XLVIII No. 2

February 28, 2023



Jesus teaches us to "Love your neighbor as you love yourself" (Matthew 22:39). Our church follows the teaching of Jesus by reaching out to the community and providing for our neighbors' needs, physical and spiritual alike.

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) is promoting the 2023 America for Christ Offering (AFC 2023) which seeks to raise \$1,500,000 to support American Baptist mission and ministries through our churches and community partners across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The theme for the America for Christ Offering 2023 is "Grace Upon Grace" (John 1:16-17, NRSV): "From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

You can give during the congregational offerings during worship throughout the month of March, or you can give an individual gift online by visiting abhms.org/afc.

Our gifts to AFC support regions, churches, and community organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico with grants for a variety of purposes, including: -Chaplaincy and spiritual caregivers support, -Aid for children living in poverty, -New, innovative ministries, -Developing church leaders, - and promoting discipleship. AFC dollars also fund scholarships for which our own members may apply, and our church is eligible to apply for ABHMS grants as well! ABHMS does not retain any AFC funds for operations or overhead.

One hundred percent of our AFC dollars support vital ministries. AFC gifts also benefited Alaska Ministries, Asian Ministries, Latino Ministries, and Native American Ministries. AFC 2023 empowers us to provide “Grace Upon Grace.” I am asking you to join me in giving generously to this year’s AFC offering and to help us reach our goal as we partner with ABHMS to provide support and share the Good News!

Working together to share Christ,
Pastor John



Services in Central Park:
May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10

IOWA WILD HOCKEY is hosting Faith & Family Night, Friday, March 24th at 7:00 P.M.? If we have interest in going, we’ll pile in the Church van and have a fun night! Ticket cost: \$22.00. Interested? A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.



PRAYER LIST

Rod Ryan, Niki Mathis, Portia Bisgard’s mom (Gloria), Pastor John’s mom, Henry Salee, Ruth Leazer, Greg Jansma, Roger McHone, Jerry Leazer, Mary Godwin, Lulu Reed, Sonny Harris, Sharie Leazer



We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to **Jeff & Tammy Dunbar** and family on the passing of Tammy’s dad, Larry Porter, recently.

NEW PHONE NUMBER - Sonny Harris 641-233-1148

BIRTH

Chuck and Pat Comfort welcomed their 19th grandchild, Zeydon Isaiah, on February 13, 2023 in North Carolina.

Let's praise God and give thanks alongside Chuck and Pat for another blessing in their lives!!

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear First Baptist Church Family and Deacons,

We want to thank you for the loving care and support you have shown my family in the loss of my mom. The texts, cards, meals, fruit basket, and memorials meant so much at a difficult time. My mom loving coming to the Mother’s Day Teas, Christmas Eve Service, and the Thanksgiving Meal. She could sense this was a special Family of Faith.

We sincerely appreciate each one of you.

With love, John, Diane, Amy,
and ALL the family of JoAnn Allerdice



Dear First Baptist Church Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and volunteers of The Lord’s Cupboard of Jefferson County, I am writing to extend a sincere “Thank You” for your generous General Fund donation of \$200 on 01/30/23. With our prechasing resources, we can really stretch your donation and make it go a long way toward feeding the hungry in Jefferson County. We appreciate your kindness, and we thank you for doing your part for those who would otherwise go hungry here in our community.

Thanks so much for your thoughtfulness.

Susan Frey, Executive Director, The Lord’s Cupboard



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Cricket Reed-Foster	12	Aubrey Ryan	24	Turner Worley
4	Amy Van Winkle	12	Karen Hoyle	24	Jensen Worley
4	Scott Worley	14	Trisha Copeland	26	Emma Kermott
7	Darrel Bisgard	14	Madi Wallace	30	Madden Copeland
8	Dick Hunt	24	Jan Baird		

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

22	Paul & Lisa Greenig
26	Jim & Betsie Wotherspoon

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

HEAD USHERS

March	5	Roger Wright
	12	Dave Goehring
	19	Dick Workman
	26	Dave Bisgard

COMMUNION SERVERS March 5th: Darrel Bisgard, Margaret Wilson, Greg Hanshaw, Ray Woody, Lee Muntz
 CHILDREN'S SERMON March 19th: Greg Hanshaw



MAXINE BATES CIRCLE

Maxine Bates Circle will meet Tuesday, March 21st @ 1:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. They will be making Easter tray favors for the care facilities. They invite all women to join them.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 4 @ 8:00 A.M.
 Fellowship Hall
 All men welcome!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11 – 9:00 A.M.
 CHURCH CLEANING EVENT**

SALT GROUP

The next “SALT” group luncheon will be Thursday, March 16th at Noon in Fellowship Hall. All senior adults age 55 and over are welcome. Please bring one food dish to share and your own table service.



IF: GATHERING 2023

IF. Gathering 2023 will be broadcasting LIVE on March 3-4, 2023 and Fairfield Foursquare invites YOU and your friends to join them as they gather for two days of worship, with Bibles, and ask God to move in our lives. This event is being put on nationally by a non-denominational, Christian, salvation based group and will be live streamed at Fairfield Foursquare Church, 2601 West Briggs (behind Walmart) beginning at 6:00 on Friday night.

To register or if you have questions, please call 641-919-2346.

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

The Tuesday night women’s Bible study continues through March 28th at 6:30 at church. It’s not too late to join!! Free study books are available in the church office.

Call Lisa Greenig (641-919-4343) if you have any questions.

Save the date:

Take Away Hunger packing –
April 2nd - Word of Life Church.
More details later.



AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2023

Thanks to America for Christ (AFC) Offering contributions, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) supported communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19 in our country and Puerto Rico. We also helped families who lost homes to floods, wildfires and storms, along with children living on the edge because of poverty, and seminarians preparing to devote their lives to sharing the Good News. These are just a few of the ways we minister to those in need; there are many more.

Please help us continue to bring healing and hope to communities, families, children and Jesus’ disciples in 2023 by supporting this year’s America for Christ Offering through the month of March.

Our goal is \$600.00.



AND THEY’RE OFF.....78 birthing kits were mailed to the Republic of the Congo last week....a joint effort of Maxine Bates Circle and women of our church....thanks to all those involved!



Left: Boxes ready to be shipped.
Above: A few of the packaged birthing kits.

Forest Lake Camp 2023 Needs List

Toilet Paper (no Charmin or 1 ply)	Paper Towels
Clorox Wipes	Napkins
Hand Soap	Hand Sanitizer
Gallon Size Freezer/Storage Bags	Foil
Quart Size Freezer/Storage Bags	Bleach
Sandwich Bags	Sponges/scrubbers
Air Fresheners	
Lysol Disinfectant Spray	
Floor Cleaner	
45 Gallon/13 gallon trash bags	
Paper Plates	
Dawn dish soap	



Please leave items for Forest Lake Camp in the office by April 14th.

Forest Lake Camp work week – April 17-21

Meals and lodging will be provided for all volunteers!!
Contact camp (641-684-8908) if you will be helping.

DEACONS' FUNDS RUNNING LOW

During the winter months, we all have higher utility bills as we try to keep our homes warm. For some in our congregation, it's a struggle to keep up paying those higher bills.

Therefore, the Deacons step up and try to ease the burden of those in need. Now our Deacons' Fund is in need of being replenished. If you feel led to help with this ministry, right here in our church family, please mark "Deacons' Fund" in the memo of your check. Thanks for helping those less fortunate.



First Baptist Church All Church Planning Meeting

February 5, 2023

Attendance was 32. Groups and extras attended throughout the meeting.

The meeting began with a duet by Pastor John Kermott and Dick Hunt titled, "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus."

We also sang, "I Exalt Thee." Acts 2:42-47 were read. We then opened with prayer time. Jokes were told by Virgil Symmonds & Darrel Bisgard; then by Lisa Greenig & Sarah Stiemsma.

Focus for the year – US BEING US.

Discussion was held on some fun things we could do for the year: game nights, ball games, disc golf, picnics & potlucks, community projects, Christmas gifts for kids, Christmas caroling, mission trips, hayrides, outdoor V.B.S., nerf war, bingo, ice cream social, Valentine's Day with rented limo, birthday party, concerts, and movies, talent shows, dinner theater, conference-quest, park service (May-September), walks, etc. An event committee was selected to possibly have an event every month. Committee members will be JoDee Kyle, Erica Voreis, and Sarah Steimsma.

Some events in the works already are:

March 3 – game night at 6:00 P.M.

April 2 or 16 from 1-3 P.M. – bowling. Lisa will check on this.

Pastor John will look up minor league baseball games for dates and places.

He will also check availability for dates for full family fun retreat at Green Lake Conference Center in Wisconsin.

We will also check into Ashley Worley's Revive Smash Rooms and Forest Lake events and work week clean up.

Group sang, "Give Me Jesus."

Special announcement: March 11 @ 9:00 A.M. – Fun Family Church Cleaning Event

We then broke into separate tables for board meetings.

Closed with song, "Pass It On"; followed by Pastor John praying.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Stephens



Bearing Fruit, Honoring God

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

Ladies Retreat

April 28-29, 2023

Forest Lake Camp & Conference Center

Registration fee is \$50.00 through April 15th (includes meals, lodging, and program materials). After April 15th, cost is \$60.00 and program materials are not guaranteed. Optional one day only: \$30. Registration forms are at the welcome center.

ABW Spring Rally – April 15 – Forest Lake Camp



Daylight Savings Time begins March 12th. Time to set your clocks ahead one hour!

FOREST LAKE SUMMER CAMPS 2023



It's time to be thinking about summer camp! Plan **NOW** to attend and get signed up **before May 1st** to receive the early bird discount! Even greater news: if you are a regular attendee on Sunday morning or Wednesday night, you qualify for a 50% scholarship through our church.

Registration forms are available at the welcome center.

<u>Outdoor Adventure/Canoe</u> <u>6th – 12th Grade</u> June 19-21	Cost: \$125 (\$110 before May 1)
<u>1st – 3rd Grade Camp</u> June 22-24	Cost: \$125 (\$110 before May 1)
<u>Horse Camp 6th – 12th Grade</u> June 25-27	Cost: \$150 (\$135 before May 1)
<u>Fish Camp 4th – 12th Grade</u> June 25-27	Cost: \$95 (\$80 before May 1)
<u>Special Needs Day Camp</u> (fill out special needs camp form) June 28-29 Optional overnight –	Cost: \$125 (\$110 before May 1) Cost: \$165 (\$150 before May 1)
<u>4th – 5th Grade Camp</u> July 10-15	Cost: \$275 (\$250 before May 1)
<u>6th – 8th Grade Camp</u> July 17-22	Cost: \$275 (\$250 before May 1)
<u>9th – 12th Grade Camp</u> July 24-29	Cost: \$275 (\$250 before May 1)
<u>Family Camp</u> June 30-July 2	For the WHOLE family Program fee: \$50/family (food & lodging extra) Registrations due by June 16 th for family camp.

Please return **ALL** registrations and deposits to the church office.