



First Baptist Church

2143 Judson Drive
Dubuque, IA 52001

(563) 583-6289

Website: www.fbcdbq.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fbcdbq/>

YouTube Channels:

[FBC DBQ](#) and [First Baptist Dubuque](#)

[FBC KIDS DBQ](#)



WHO WE ARE



We are a small church located in an Iowa city of approximately 60,000. We strive to be a strong family community church. Our Directory lists 66 members and friends. Our average weekly in-person worship attendance has gone from approximately 45 to 35 since the pandemic. We value racial diversity, and as such, have a racially diverse congregation. We feel this openness is a special trait of our congregation. Our congregation is also diverse in the areas of age and education as well. These include, retirees, managers, teachers, engineers, nurses, musicians, and several administrative personnel. We acknowledge that our membership has gradually declined over the past 20 years, and we are currently seeking God's will in this area. We believe that if we are turning to God in every area of our lives, He will equip us to show Christ's love and truth to everyone around us and will bring people to First Baptist to whom we can share this love.

In October 2022, First Baptist held a congregation-wide meeting we called Forward Focus. In this meeting, we discussed some areas of improvement we see as needed in ourselves as a church body. We agreed that we had lost focus in some areas, and we desire to draw closer towards living our lives to serve Jesus in everything we do. To aid in this, we have reorganized our order of service to give a better worship experience for everyone and we have put a large emphasis on congregational prayer, which we participate in during every Sunday service. We are also re-implementing small group Bible studies, which we are calling Spiritual Accountability Groups, and we have started monthly social events as opportunities to build relationships with each other and invite friends. We are praying that God will reveal Himself to us in new ways through this process and bring us closer to Him!

We are a financially healthy congregation and have remained so throughout the pandemic. Our annual church budget exceeds \$100,000 and we currently have no debt or outstanding loans. In fact, we continue to take on projects to improve our facilities. The pews in our sanctuary seat approximately 100, and through several renovations, we have kept our sanctuary and foyer attractive and fairly modern. Four years ago, we enlarged and paved our parking lot and added handicap spaces. In 2022, we improved our technology and are seeing the benefits of our upgraded recording capabilities during live-streaming. Last year we also updated the fellowship hall with new carpeting and vinyl flooring in the bathrooms. The toilets were replaced, and bathroom safety railings added to make them more accessible. Unfortunately, our fellowship hall is in the church basement, but conversations are starting about how to address handicap accessibility. We are also looking towards replacing some old windows for better insulation. We are excited to see how God will work through these renovations so we can better serve Him and the people who will come into our church!

We enjoy hosting special events and want our focus to be on mission related activities. We are the local collection center for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Project, and we support Nightlight Ministries, a mission to bring women out of prostitution in Thailand. We budget and give money to the ABC mission collections and we have also partnered with a neighboring Presbyterian Church for local food giveaways. We have recently started a new Children's Ministry partnership with several area churches and are excited to see what grows within that community. In the past, we have also participated in crafting afternoons

that we used for outreach projects including, making blankets for the Iowa City Children's Hospital, scarves for homeless veterans, and clothes for the Operation Christmas Child boxes.



Judson House/Parsonage



Church Sanctuary



Gratitude Night 2019



Ugly Sweaters at the Cookie Party



Partnering with our friends at Westminster Presbyterian to provide hope during the pandemic.





WHAT WE BELIEVE

First Baptist Church of Dubuque sees itself as a congregation of believers in Jesus Christ whose faith is founded in the Bible – which we accept as the inspired word of God. We believe in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that the Father, who created all things, sent his Son, Jesus, to die for our sins, and so to provide salvation for all who believe in Him. We believe that the Holy Spirit dwells within the heart of every believer, and is active in our worship and daily lives.

For I know whom I have believed. And am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day.

Traditional Hymn based on 2 Timothy 1:12

We believe that the ordinance of communion is open to all who claim Jesus as Lord. We believe in “believer’s baptism” – that is, baptism by immersion as an expression of the individual’s decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord, thus joining Jesus in his death – and in his resurrection.

We believe that the Bible should be the basis, core, and inspiration for all preaching, teaching, and other activities supported and conducted in and by our church.

We believe that all people matter to God, and, therefore, that all people should matter to us.

We believe the church should be racially diverse, and that men and women should have an equal opportunity for serving in all roles in our church.

We believe that leadership in our church is a shared responsibility between the pastor and the leaders elected by our congregation.

We support the connection and relationship of our church with American Baptist Churches USA, and with the Mid-American Region of American Baptist Churches (Iowa & Minnesota).

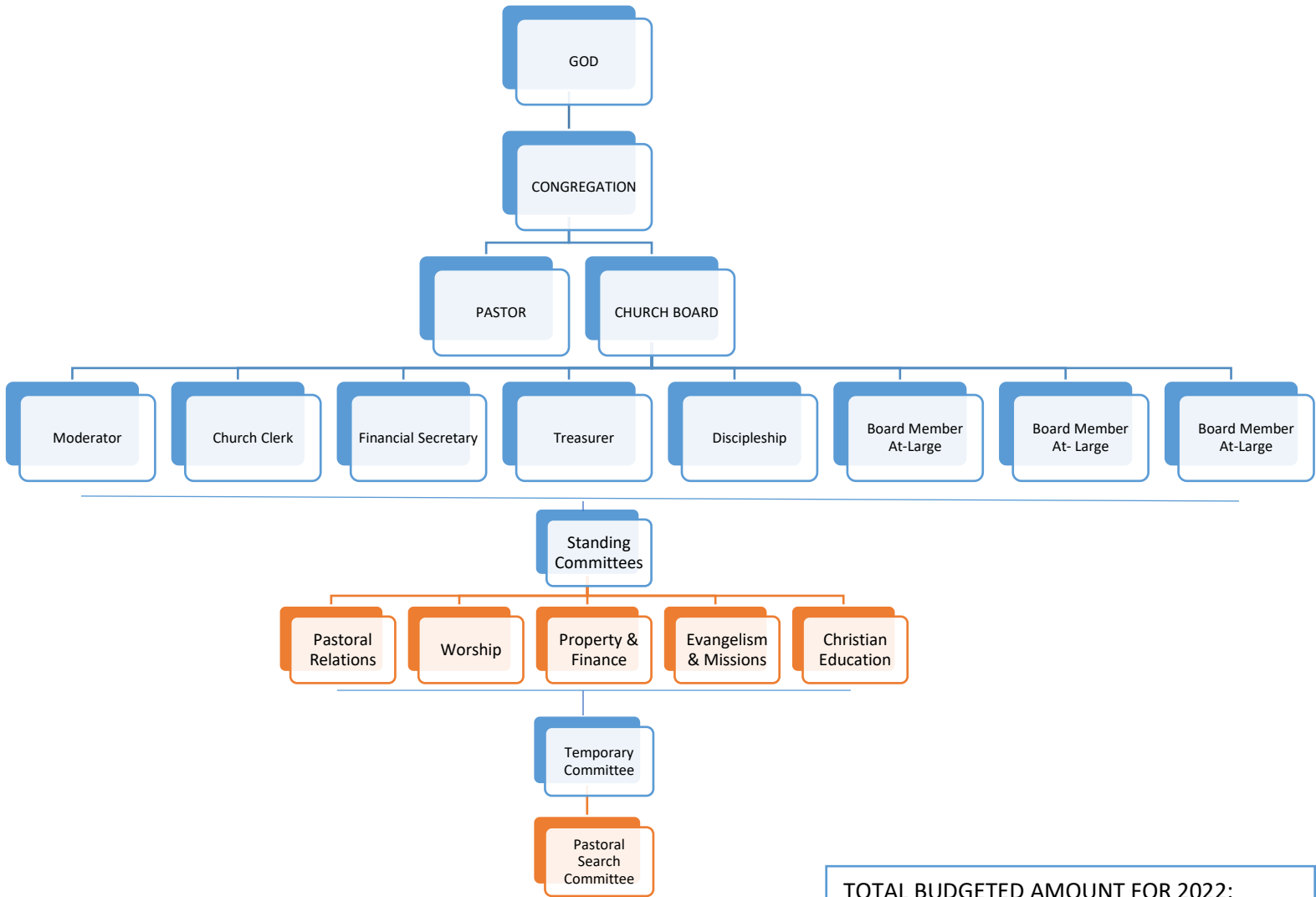
We support community involvement by our pastor and members of our church, and believe this involvement supports our mission of bringing people to God.

We accept that the world we live in is in constant change. We are open to new ideas and worship activities so long as they do not compromise our Bible-based beliefs and activities.

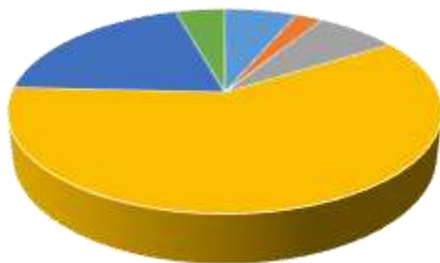
We believe traditional marriage is strongly supported by the Bible. While we openly and sincerely welcome all people seeking God, we only endorse traditional marriage.

We believe and rejoice in the fact that God has provided each of us with a supportive and caring Christian family. We believe it is our calling to share this joy as broadly as possible.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2022 Budget Data



- Administration
- Discipleship
- Evangelism & Missions
- Pastoral Ministry
- Property
- Worship

TOTAL BUDGETED AMOUNT FOR 2022:

\$110,208

MISSIONS OFFERING:

In addition to our budgeted donations for Missions and Evangelism, we received and paid \$7850 to specifically designated Missions & Evangelism funds.

PASTORAL EXPECTATIONS

After surveying our congregation, we have prioritized the following Ministry Specialties using the data collected. We, as a congregation, realize that we are partners in FBC ministry and in accomplishing these goals.

1. Pastoral Care

We believe that a pastor should shepherd our congregation with a strong presence in the life of our membership. This would include showing love through word and an empathetic presence in routine times, times of joy and crisis, and giving assistance when appropriate and feasible. We recognize that pastoral care preferences can vary by generation and expect that the pastor will seek to reach out through a variety of ways such as personal phone calls, home visits, e-mails, visits and prayer at hospital and nursing homes.

2. Preaching

We believe that a pastor should prepare and deliver sermons in such a manner that the Word of God is proclaimed with both clarity and conviction. The sermon should demonstrate the power of the scripture while showing its relevance to the needs of the individual, the Church, the community, and the world.

3. Church Growth

We believe that our pastor should provide guidance in developing programs and activities which can result in expanding the vision and ministry of our church. We would hope that such leadership would assist us in enlarging our congregation. We expect that our pastor be able to provide leadership in a way that honors the creativity of the lay leadership and encourages their spiritual growth and development.

4. Multicultural Sensitivity

We believe that a pastor should have keen sensibilities to other languages, ethnic and/or cultural groups and settings. We believe that differences can be explored, honored and celebrated in our multi-racial congregation. All people matter to God, therefore they matter to us. We believe that the worship service should embrace a variety of worship music styles and instruments, and can include multiple languages, dance, drama and technology as ways to honor our Lord and Savior.

5. Interpreting the Faith/Education

We believe that our pastor should communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology. This should be done in a manner that is understandable to the typical congregation member so that they can see the relevance in their own lives. Since we are a small congregation, we expect that our minister will also play a part in planning and implementing the teaching ministry. This would be in conjunction with lay leaders such as the Christian Education Committee and Children's Ministry Leaders. This leadership should be based on theological, educational, and historical foundations. This may include activities such as teaching an Adult Sunday School class, holding congregation prayer times, leading small group Bible studies or spending some time at children's ministry events.

6. Evangelism

We believe that leading persons to make personal decisions for Christ and encouraging them to identify and participate in the local church and community is a priority. Therefore, the pastor should be welcoming,

approachable, and inviting to visitors, friends, and the community. Their life should be a reflection of this mission, demonstrating love and concern for others at church, home, and in the local community.

7. Communication

We believe that a pastor should have strong communication skills when speaking, writing, or using media to inform others. We recognize that the pastor may need to call upon the technical skills of congregation members when accomplishing these tasks. When communicating with others, the pastor should be willing to listen, and able to meet with members should any miscommunications or misunderstandings occur. We believe this is especially important in a church such as ours that seeks to be a multicultural environment.

8. Mission Promotion

We believe that our pastor should be encouraging and provide opportunities for the congregation and individuals to become informed and involved in Christian witness both at home and around the world. We believe that missions are our modern way of fulfilling the Great Commission, a directive from Christ, our Lord and Savior.

9. Nurturing Fellowship

We believe that our pastor should strive to create an atmosphere in which all persons feel accepted, included, and cared for. We believe that when we accept Christ, we are given a new identity. Each one of us should feel that they can identify with our church fellowship in some way. The pastor should seek out members and encourage them to discover their God-given talents and invite them into service when possible.

10. Program Development

We believe that our pastor should lead and/or assist in the designing and implementation of programs for our church. All programming should serve to enhance the spiritual, educational, recreational, social life, and ministry goals of our church body. We would like to see creative ideas, energy, and excitement for sharing God's love with others in a prospective pastor.



COMPENSATION PACKAGE

The Annual Compensation Package is commensurate with experience and qualifications. This would total \$50,000 to \$65,000 and include the following:

- **Housing** The church has a newly painted parsonage available with a spacious lower office space. The compensation plan would include usage of the parsonage, or designate a portion of the compensation as housing allowance if the pastor seeks other housing.
- **Pension** The church contributes 16% of compensation to the MMBB Pension for the pastor.
- **Insurance** There are no group plans provided for medical or dental expenses. The pastor would need to purchase coverage. In recent years, the pastor's coverage was included in a working spouse's insurance plan and the church contributed approximately \$250 monthly towards the pastor's premium or medical/dental expenses.
- **Social Security Offset** There is an allowance to assist the pastor in paying SECA.

In addition, the following benefits are available.

- **Vacation** Vacation is accrued at a rate of 4 weeks per year in a calendar year.
- **Sick and Personal Days** There is a maximum of 8 days of paid leave and 2 days of personal leave allowed during a calendar year.
- **Holidays** The following are considered paid holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, the Friday following Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.
- **Professional Continuing Education/Conferences or Denominational Meetings** Expenses are not to exceed \$1300 per year.
- **Relocation Allowance** This is negotiable.



Pastoral Search Committee

Committee Chair- Ron Brass

Ernest Jackson, Church Moderator/Board Member/Worship Team

Candi Kamm, Treasurer

Linda Chapman, Board Member

Denise Matthews, Board Committee Member/Worship Team

Emily Ott, Worship Leader

Christine Quintana, Worship & Tech Team/Children's Ministry



Contact Us:

If you are an American Baptist Clergy:

Please apply using the Ministrelife platform:

<https://ministrelife.org/>

If you are not an American Baptist Clergy:

Send your Resume, including references to:

Rev. Jacqueline L. Saxon (Mid-ABC Executive Minister)

2400 86th St. Suite 15, Des Moines, IA 50322

E-mail: exec@mid-abc.org

Please include links to any online sermons for review by the committee.

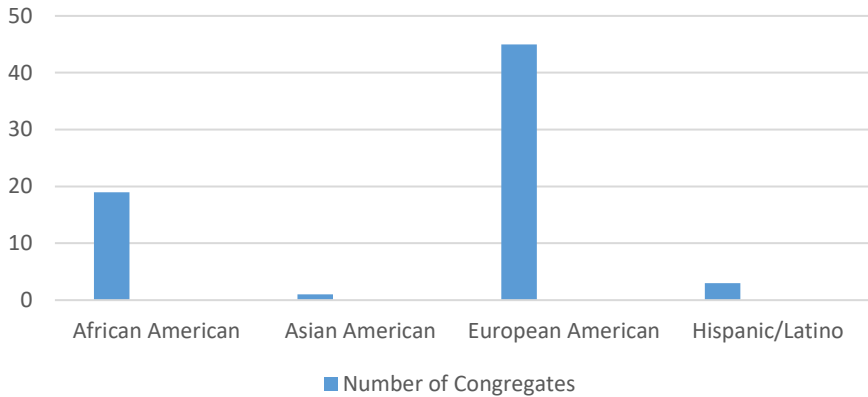
All applicants must submit to applicable background checks to be considered for this position.

“For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give
you a future and a hope.”

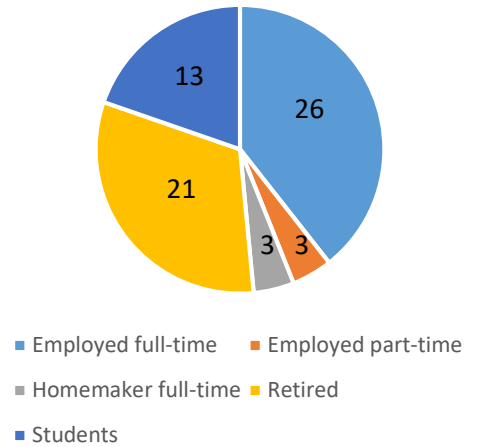
Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

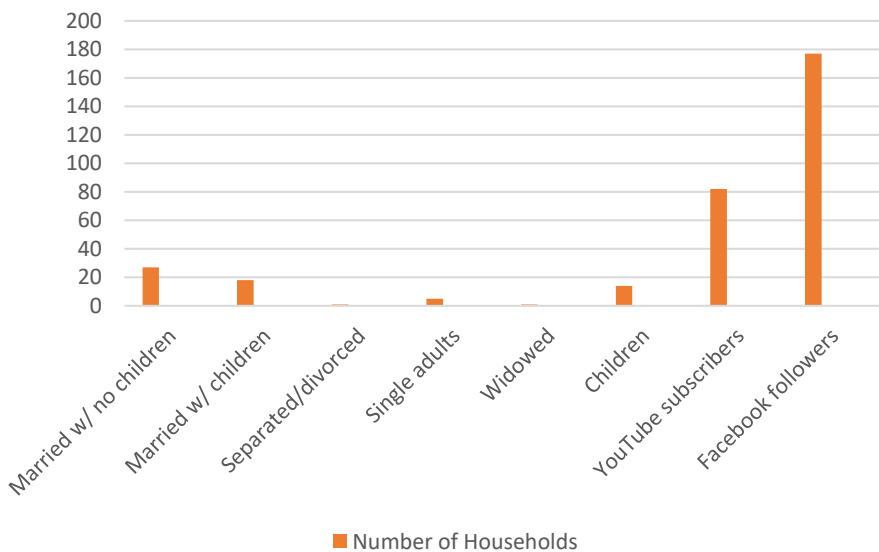
Racial/Ethnic Mix



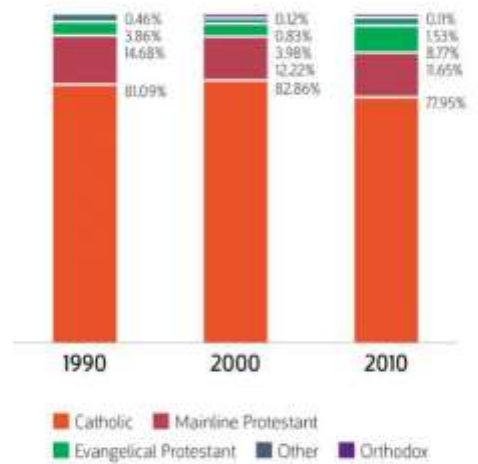
Member Employment Status



Household Status



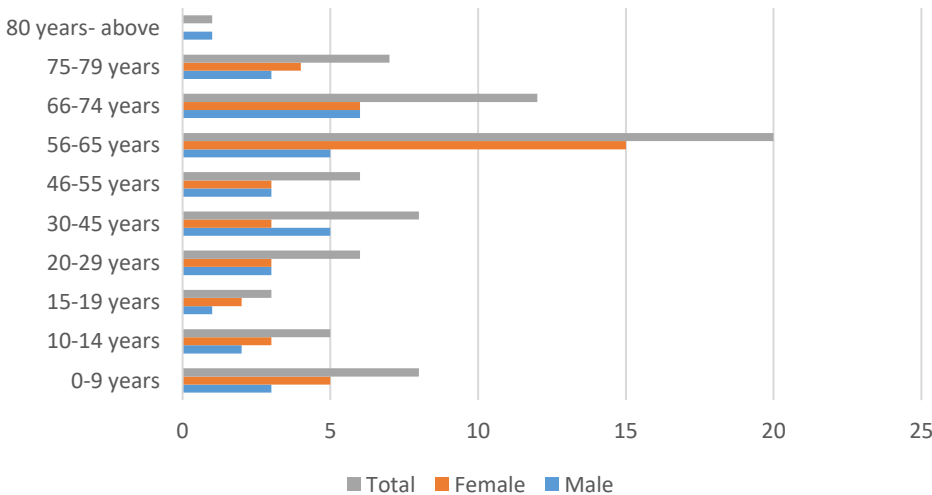
Religious Composition Dubuque County



Source: The Association of Religion Data Archives

*Percentages are taken from the 68.4% of residents who have a religious affiliation.

Estimated Age Breakdown



The religious composition data is taken from the most recent census data available. Our local community is mostly Catholic, registering at 77.95%.

THE CHURCH IN ACTION



Operation Christmas Child Packing Party 2019



Our local High School Swim Team loads up the boxes on the U-Haul each year.



Family Game Night 2019



Cinco de Mayo 2020



A Palm Sunday tradition



Back to Indoor Worship



Worship Dance



Baptism 2020



Outdoor Potluck
September 2021



MISSION CONNECTIONS

As part of our Forward Focus, we want all of our connections to go towards supporting Jesus-centric missions. Below are several missions we support either monetarily or through our time and talents.

- **Operation Christmas Child**

One of our biggest missions each year is our involvement in the Samaritan's Purse program, Operation Christmas Child. We collect boxes from our own members, and host a packing party each year for the entire church to participate in. We are also the local collection center, so community members and other churches can drop off their boxes with us. This past 2022 year, we extended our volunteer opportunities during collection time so that other youth groups and churches could participate during collection week. Several times we have had church members travel to the main distribution center in Minneapolis to serve there as well. It is an amazing experience to pack shoeboxes every year and know that we are giving children on the other side of the world the opportunity to know Jesus. Each shoebox we pack from FBC includes a postcard inviting the children and their families to join our children's YouTube channel. We record a special book reading and message for our OCC children each year!



- **NightLight Ministries**

We provide strong financial support to Jeff and Annie Deislberg, who run Nightlight Ministries in Bangkok, Thailand. Nightlight helps free women from prostitution by providing both economic stability and improved self-worth, in addition to the opportunity to meet and begin a relationship with Jesus!

- **Black History Month Presentation**

Under the direction of Peggy Jackson, a member of the church, we offer an annual presentation we call, "A Walk Through Black History." We see this presentation as an opportunity to reflect God's love for all people by sharing stories of diverse people who aren't usually well-known. This program is also an outreach effort as we invite local community members to join the cast. Typically, the play is followed by a soul food meal provided by the church. We have given this program for 18 years and it is always well attended by the local Dubuque community.

- **ABC Missions**

We participate in denominational giving for ABC Mission efforts.

- **Children’s Ministry**

Although we have a relatively small in-person Children’s Ministry, we place great value on the importance of teaching children about God in ways that are accessible and meaningful to them. We believe that children and teens are a valuable part of our congregation and encourage them to be active participants in ways they can shine through the talents God has given them. Some ways our children serve the congregation are through worship dance, playing music, special songs, assisting with tech, drama, reading scripture, taking offering, and being greeters. We have many opportunities for the children in our church, one of which we very excited to offer on a monthly basis is the Montessori-based Godly Play Program! Some other opportunities we have offered to the children in our congregation, as well as children from the community and other local churches have included the children’s preschool playgroup, Jammies for Jesus story time, VBS, Summer Children’s Movies, Family Game Night, Children’s Easter Egg Hunt, and our Cookies with Claudette Christmas party. During the pandemic, we started a weekly FBC Kids @ Home email with lessons, links, and activities for families to use at home with their children. As families have enjoyed this outreach, we have continued offering this study at-home option, and in 2021, we also started a Children’s YouTube Channel. God has been blessing this online aspect of our Children’s Ministry and we have reached children from 18 different countries with God’s Word so far! This 2023 year, we have formed a new partnership with several local churches and will be offering a Creator’s Camp as a joint community effort to reach children for Jesus!



Children’s Godly Play Zoom on Martin Luther King Day

Praise
Dance
for
Easter
Sunday



Graduates from
Rocky Railway VBS



- **Neighborhood Connections**

Because we have a large property, significant maintenance is required. Several of our neighbors have helped with tasks such as removing large and older trees, and have been a significant help to us. To date, none have attended our services on a regular basis, but we have a good and mutual relationship with our neighbors. Several of our neighbors have attended our Gratitude Nights and outdoor picnics in past summers.



Joint Worship Service with Grace Point Church 2021

- **Community Involvement from the FBC Congregation**

Finally, a number of our members participate in various activities in our community. Members have coached sports activities, been involved in African American outreach and the NAACP, spearheaded the Juneteenth Celebration, organized local bicycle club for participation in RAGBRAI, worked with Bridges Out of Poverty, worked with local music groups, play productions, concerts, and have been affiliated with the University of Dubuque music programs. Members participate in activities with the Multicultural Family Center and local community service days. FBC members were instrumental in making a commercial for Set Free, a local organization that combats human trafficking. Others volunteer their time with the local National Mississippi River & Aquarium, work for non-profit schools and Christian colleges. We believe that when we partner with others in the community, we truly are the salt of the Earth.



Diversity Speakers



WTBH Play Practice 2023



1917 (Bluff St.)

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

1840 - 2000



2020

In the year 1840, THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH was organized. A district missionary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, Rev. C. Burton Carpenter, visited the small village of Dubuque and held prayer meetings in private homes in the vicinity. A great interest was manifested, and of the few that had been baptized in the Mississippi River, eleven decided to organize themselves into a Baptist church. In a small log house near the river's bank, the new church was born.

In 1850, the growing congregation purchased and renovated a larger house at Tenth and Main Streets. Membership grew to more than 150 souls. But, with a change of pastors in late 1859, the progress of The First Baptist Church was suddenly halted, and membership began to decline. The burden of debt and the drain and influence of the Civil War led to serious disintegration. The pastor resigned, and stability was undermined by internal dissention. Finally, a decision was made to suspend the work of the church.

Early in the year of 1863, Rev. Ahead Chapin came to Dubuque to encourage the disheartened Baptists to again take up the work of God. A series of gospel meetings and a house-to-house canvas created new and by 1876, membership had reached the 200 mark and the congregation was crowded for room. A building at the corner of Twelfth and Main streets was purchased. However, the new property brought a serious financial encumbrance, and the membership began to decline.

In 1879, Rev. C. H. Kimball became pastor, and was asked by the State Convention to hold a series of revival meetings. The result was a spiritual awakening, and many were again added to the church. A special subscription, together with help from the State Convention and Home Mission Society, relieved the church of some of its financial worry. In 1889 the church was reincorporated. Membership soon exceeded 300 – then grew to nearly 400.

By 1910, it became evident the church needed to remodel its old building or build a new one. Finally, in 1914, the congregation sold its building and bought a hillside lot at the corner of Eleventh and Bluff Streets. They soon found that funds were not sufficient and the new church could not be completed. The next eight years were very trying as the war, indebtedness, and the lack of adequate space to worship caused the membership to dwindle to as little as 75. The pastor resigned in 1920, making the recommendation that the rest of the membership quit as well.

However, the Director of State Missions visited Dubuque, held conferences with the remaining members of the congregation, and recommended that a field minister be sent to attempt to revive the church. A few members took courage, and dedicated themselves to continuing the work and in 1922, the building was completed. The revitalized congregation grew and again prospered.

But by 1960 the church had begun to suffer financial losses, and seemed unable to attract new Baptists. Once again the congregation was divided and diminished, but this time the larger faction decided to move from the downtown area to the growing west-side suburb. Finally, after five years of hard work under the direction of Rev. Gayle Patterson, a new church and parsonage were planned for the current site on Judson Drive.

The new facilities were completed in 1966 with both coordination and the personal effort of new pastor Rev. Bill Rathbun. Rev. Rathbun had special gifts and a heart for children which helped the church grow from 36 to 100 members by 1969. Throughout the 1980's, First Baptist Church was blessed with a stable congregation of believers and dedicated individuals who built a strong family atmosphere, yet contributed diligently to local and American Baptist mission programs.

With the guidance of a prominent First Baptist member, the congregation supported the origin of the Dubuque NAACP chapter in 1989 by offering a meeting space in its facilities, and continued to provide space for organizational meetings of the fledging Dubuque chapter. In 1987, First Baptist crossed another bridge by ordaining a woman who studied and benefitted from the educational opportunities in Dubuque.

Rev. Selig added a special depth of compassion during his nine-year tenure at First Baptist, especially with respect to minorities and the disadvantaged. He had a gift for teaching as well as preaching, supported Bible study and church planning, and encouraged sponsorship of several local seminary students dedicated to the American Baptist denomination.

In 1993, Rev. Jim Cummings, from the Chicago area, was called as the new pastor. Rev. Cummings also had prior experience with ministry to the deaf, and during this time the congregation was blessed with an interpreter who assisted those with hearing difficulties.



OUR RECENT HISTORY 2000 – 2022

On August 1st of 2000, Rev. Timothy Bees arrived as our new pastor. He was accompanied by his wife, Claudette, and children, Rhonda and James. We had 88 members and about 60 regular attendees at the time.

Rev. Bees holds a strong belief that God has called us to serve all people, and that our worship should include a racially diverse group of members and friends. He has been a good fit since our church history includes a long-standing openness to change and diversity.

The focus of Rev. Bees for his first years at First Baptist was to help strengthen our leadership, using materials developed by The Willow Creek Association in Chicago. With a heart for missions, Rev. Bees helped develop a relationship with NightLight Ministries. Their efforts are being directed to rescuing women from human trafficking and prostitution in Thailand. In 2003 Rev. Bees initiated support for the Operation Christmas Child effort sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. After donating a growing number of Christmas boxes for several years, our church became a box collection center for the region.

With a heart for helping the less fortunate, Rev. Bees helped establish a relationship with a neighboring Presbyterian Church to participate in a food giveaway program. Around seven to twelve of our members have participated in this program for several years on different occasions, and it has clearly had a community-wide impact during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the pandemic, Rev. Bees was instrumental in keeping our church together. He organized weekly online sermons through YouTube, navigated safety issues, supported the incorporation of technology into online worship, facilitated Adult Zoom Bible Studies and FBC Board meetings, encouraged volunteers to be creative in outreach, participated in Children's Christmas & Easter Zoom events, and played an important part in online VBS.

Throughout her time as the First Lady of FBC, Claudette Bees had a steady hand in coordinating social activities for our church. She organized an annual garage sale to add to our missions commitment, arranged special events such as our Valentine's Day Couples Event and our Thanksgiving Gratitude Night celebrations. She supported fellowship by initiating an after worship coffee time, women's luncheons, teas and craft times. She was a steady supporter and partner for all of our church's activities.

Rev. Bees continuously exhibited his special strengths in preaching, and demonstrated a special skill for teaching. He shown a strong community presence by encouraging participation in Black History Month community events and the annual community Juneteenth Celebration, hosting Walk Through Black History at FBC, being a Light for Christ during Interfaith prayer sessions, and by serving on the Foster Care Review Board for many years. During his tenure, he encouraged partnerships with local churches during the Community Sunrise Easter Service, Worship Events, and the Local Food Distribution program. He was a strong and compassionate leader for 21 years. Rev. Bees says that his only regret is that we have not been able to show a growth in numbers during his tenure. We will sincerely miss him, his family, and his leadership.

Rev. David Johnson joined FBC with his wife, Geri for a short time as an Interim Pastor last year. During his time at FBC, Rev. Johnson met with numerous congregation members in an outreach effort for return to church. He led a patriotic celebration, made several original videos, prepared children’s sermons, and led a Bible Study group on Mountains in the Bible. He shared his musical and artistic talents, his love for children, and his excitement for Jesus with us. He and Geri formed many lasting friendships during his time at FBC.



Pentecost Sunday & Healing Service



Outdoor Worship 2020



Freedom Sunday 2022



Pilgrim’s Progress Children’s Sermon Series



Learn more about Dubuque, Iowa

Dubuque has, for several years, been nationally recognized as an “All American City,” has a strong retail and industrial base, and offers good housing at affordable prices.

Community Demographics

To learn more about our community demographics, visit [Inclusive Dubuque](#) . Dubuque has been actively working to become a more inclusive place to live. There are a variety of family friendly cultural opportunities available through the [Multicultural Family Center](#) .

Educational Opportunities

Educational opportunities in the Dubuque area are exceptional.

- [Dubuque Community School District](#) has several elementary schools, 2 middle schools and 2 public high schools. [Tri-State Christian School](#) serves grades K-12 and is located in Asbury (on the outskirts of Dubuque). Since the population is predominantly Catholic, there is also an excellent parochial school system, [Holy Family Catholic Schools](#) which includes Our Lady of Guadeloupe, a Spanish immersion school, and 1 competitive high school. In addition, Dubuque is home to 2 Montessori schools. [Dubuque Montessori School](#) serves children ages 2 through Kindergarten. [Golden Elementary Montessori School](#) serves elementary age children.
- Dubuque has an active homeschooling community. Visit [Dubuque Area Homeschoolers](#) to learn more.
- Dubuque has many higher learning institutions. These include Northeast Iowa Community College, Loras College, Clarke University, Divine Word, Emmaus Bible College, University of Dubuque and Wartburg Seminary.

Business

The [Chamber of Commerce](#) keeps a directory of local businesses and their community programs and contributions.

Employment

Dubuque’s largest employers are: John Deere & Company, Dubuque Community Schools, MercyOne and Finley Hospitals, and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Visit [Greater Dubuque](#) to learn more about employment opportunities in the area.

Child Care

[Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral](#) has two locations in Dubuque. They offer referrals to local child care facilities and registered family home child care providers.



Leisure

Dubuque features many recreational opportunities. There are numerous city parks throughout the communities in Dubuque that have modern outdoor playground equipment, grills, and pavilions for family fun. Eagle Point Park also features water play pads for children to enjoy. We have 2 outdoor city pools, Flora and Sutton that offer swimming lessons and various water activities throughout the summer months. [Dubuque Leisure Services](#) hosts a variety of events throughout the year. Dubuque features biking trails throughout the city and neighboring areas. Dubuque has two main systems of hiking trails: The [Mines of Spain](#) and [Swiss Valley](#) . There are a variety of outdoor opportunities and camping sites available.

Local Attractions

Dubuque has a variety of local attractions such as the [Historic Millwork District](#) which boasts an eclectic assortment of restaurants, cafe's, independent businesses and event centers. Dubuque is home to the Port of Dubuque, the Cable Car, the Town Clock, the Ham House and the [National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium](#). We are also within driving distance of the famous Field of Dreams site. Visit [Travel Dubuque](#) and [Travel Iowa](#) to learn more about the numerous places you can visit.

Farmer's Market

Dubuque holds a large [Farmer's Market](#) every Saturday morning, May through October. Each Saturday, there are a variety of fresh farm goods, crafts, goods and food vendors available to delight the whole family.

The Arts

Dubuque is a city well-versed in the arts. We are home to the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, The Grand Opera House, The Bell Tower, and Five Flags Theatre. In addition, the University of Dubuque hosts many concerts and plays as well through The Dubuque Arts Council. The Dubuque Art Museum specializes in the visual arts. There is also a yearly changing "Art on the River" sculpture display. The Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Center hosts concerts and music in the park events throughout the summer.

Library System

Dubuque is home to the Carnegie Stout Public Library, the Charles C. Myer (University) Library, and the Dubuque County Library-Asbury Branch. The library system hosts toddler and preschool story times and numerous events for children and teens throughout the year.

