

First Baptist Church  
25 N. Eighth Street – P.O. Box 124  
Keokuk, Iowa  
52632-0124

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Keokuk, Iowa  
52632-0124  
Permit No. 234

October 2020

Baptist Visitor



**REV. BOB BRANDHAGEN, PASTOR**

rememberjesus@ymail.com

**Church Office 319-524-3684  
Educational Building 319-524-3665  
Website: [www.keokukfbc.org](http://www.keokukfbc.org)**

**Facebook: Keokuk Iowa First Baptist Church**

**SUNDAYS**  
9:00 Sunday School  
10:00 Morning Service  
6:00 Youth Group (on hold)

**WEDNESDAYS**  
5:30 BEF Meal (bring your own)  
6:00 BEF Adult Group



### Operation Christmas Child

O. C. C. is an opportunity to spread the love of Jesus by sending love and gifts, along with the Good News of Jesus Christ, to millions of boys and girls in over 100 countries around the world!

This year we are again offering you the opportunity to fill a plastic shoebox for a needy child somewhere in this big, wide world! Anyone interested in doing so, may pick up the needed Information Sheet and Instruction Sheet either at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office. Filled shoeboxes should be in Fellowship Hall by Monday, November 2.

**ALL** monetary donations (\$9 each) for O.C.C. should be placed in a separate envelope (designated O.C.C.) and either placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office.

### **From the Deacon Bench**

Summer came and went way too fast but fall is here, like it or not. Soon the leaves will be changing colors. When you look at the beauty of the fall colors, we can see God's plan and the change of scenery work together to make so many blessings in our life.

Speaking of change and blessings, the Deacon's Board would like to start a clothes closet and food pantry here at First Baptist. We thought the outreach to our community would be appreciated. Food and clothes would be offered to all in need inside our church family and also those in the community. We as a church (the body of Christ) have always been very giving so please feel free to bring food, clothes or monetary gifts by the office at any time. If checks are written please make them payable to First Baptist Church food pantry and make sure all clothes are washed and folded.

Also, we are in need of volunteers to assist those who are in need of food. The food pantry will be open to the public on the third Thursday of each month. We would like someone to accompany and assist individuals in getting a pre-made bag with food items. Please feel free to sign up in our church office. Due to Covid-19 we will require all those coming into the church to wear masks and hand sanitizer will be supplied at the door.

Please take the time to read Matthew 25:31-40 and you will see why the Deacons thought this outreach to our community would be worthwhile. If you have any questions about what is needed or how you can help, please contact Don Davis or the church office at anytime. Also, if you know of someone in need, tell them to call or come to the church.



Your brothers in Christ,  
Don Davis and  
Board of Deacons

**STAFF**

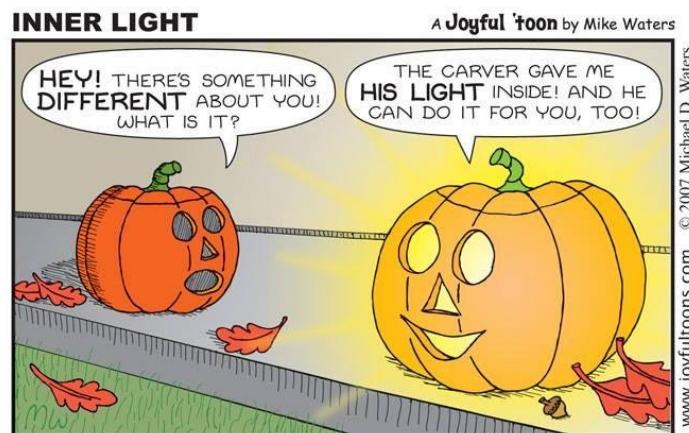
Teresa (Tess) Brotherton ([secretary@keokukfbc.org](mailto:secretary@keokukfbc.org))  
 Julie Ramsey, Organist  
 Russell Brotherton, Custodian

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday  
 9 a.m. – 11:30  
 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

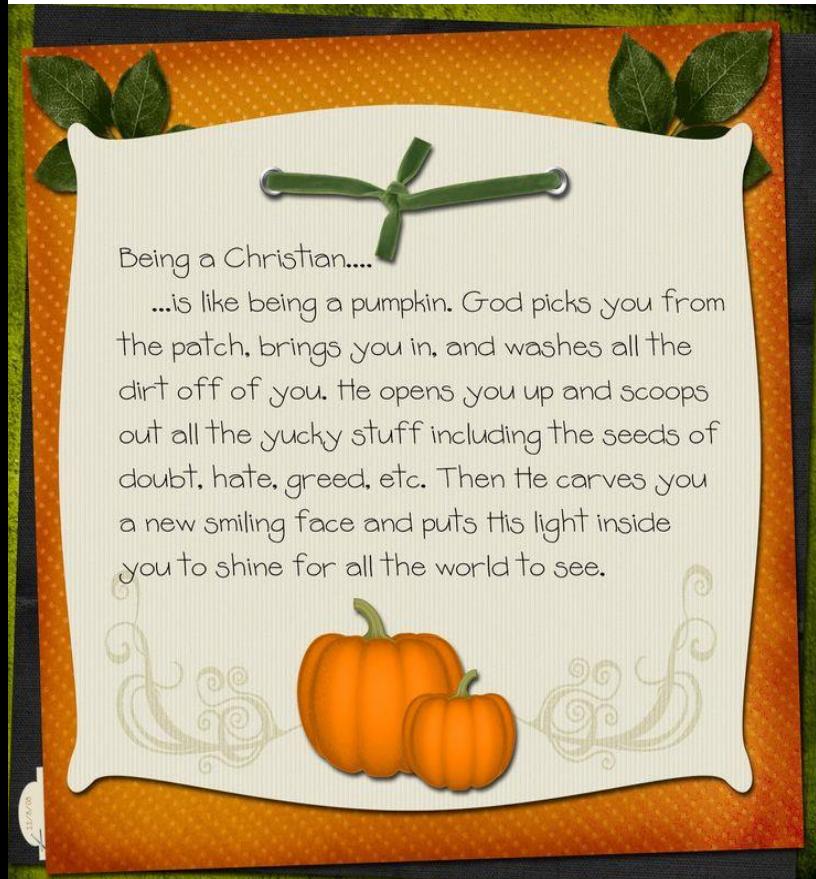
# Stewardship ATTENDANCE

August	SUNDAY SCHOOL	PARKING LOT	MORNING SERVICE
23	34	13	44
30	34	19	54
Sept			
6	32	17	36
13	39	14	54
20	34	9	40

**INNER LIGHT**

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For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. [2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 KJV](http://www.bible.com)



**Third Quarter Reports due October 7.**

**September's Prayer Requests:** Unspoken Requests, Michelle Dorothy and Family, Doug Roeglin, Carol Ryland, Billy Joe Ryland, Ginger Curfman, Juanita Sams, Barb Collier, Carmalitta Baum, Keegan Pfaffe, Carl Wixom – Serious industrial accident, Tim Ayers (Heart surgery), Fouad & Noura – Pastor Bob's friends in Egypt and Fouad's parents Nick Capaldo and his family (kidney Cancer), Gary Martin (Assoc. Regional Minister) Kathy Rader (total knee replacement) Dee's stepmom Elsie (broken hip), nephew Wally (moped accident), and her cousin Elvin for hip surgery Family of Molly Hurley (car accident) Kathy Rader (total knee replacement) USA pandemic and riots

Pray that we will not "despise the day of small things" (Zech 4:10).



**Prayer Chain:** If you need to start a prayer chain you may call the office 319-524-3684 or email me at [secretary@keokukfbc.org](mailto:secretary@keokukfbc.org)



## The Pastor's Corner

Greetings from First Baptist Church! I hope I can be an encouragement to you today. Let's try to take the good and the bad together, not taking for granted the former, and not grumbling about the latter. In spite of all, let us learn to say with Job, "The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD" (1:21, NASB). You might be thinking, "Easy for Job to say, he didn't have a pandemic, social distancing, and social unrest to deal with." You're right. He didn't have to deal with what we have to deal with. He had it worse. Job had Satan himself harassing him (with God's permission!). One bad day, Satan was allowed to persecute Job. That day his seven sons died. His three daughters died. His servants died. His 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys all died (Job 1:2-3). And then, if you keep reading past Job chapter one, things got even worse as Job's health bottomed out badly. To make matters worse still, Job's three obnoxious friends opposed him, saying he was sick because he sinned. Job rose to the occasion, and the battle was on.

I'm guessing Job didn't have access to Psalm 135. It would have greatly helped him. Since we do have access to it, let's explore a bit to see and hear what the Lord has to say by way of encouragement. Among other things, Psalm 135 answers five questions: 1) What does God do? 2) What do we need to do? 3) What is God's character and essence like? 4) What is the expiration date for God's name and fame? and 5) How does the Lord see us? We will look at each of these in order. (This will be selective, not comprehensive, due to limitations of space, time, and purpose.)

1) What does God do? Verse 4 says that God chooses people. We see in verse 7 that the Lord controls the natural order, His creation. Namely, God "makes lightning" and "brings wind out of His treasures." From verse 9 we know that the Lord sends "signs and wonders." Oh, and backing up to verse 6 we read, "Whatever the Lord pleases He does." *Carte blanche*. The Lord answers to no one.

2) What do we need to do? Verse 1 indicates we need to "praise the name of the LORD." God doesn't need anything, so He doesn't need us to praise Him. But He commands that we do so, and blesses us when we do. It is our high honor to praise the holy name of the Lord. Verse 2 reminds us that we need to be in the house of the Lord. That's a little tricky these days, isn't it? Many reading this want to be in the Sunday services of their beloved churches, but still may not be able to do so for health or other reasons. You want to be there, but you cannot. King David wanted to build a house for the Lord. The Lord told David that it would not be him but his son, Solomon, who would build it. The Lord said to David, "You did well to have it in your heart to build a temple for my Name" (1Kings 8:18). Same with you: you did well to have it in your heart to be in God's house these past Sundays, though you could not be there.

3) What is God's character and essence like? Verse 3 tells us that God is good. Amen! The evidence is everywhere. The Lord whispers His goodness while you enjoy dinner or lay down to sleep. He shouts His goodness through the glorious sunrises and sunsets that we see. Verse 5 bears witness that God is not only good, but "the LORD is great, and...above all gods." As Westminster says, "God is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth." God's greatness is eternally His, and His alone. And then, God is not only good and great, but He is also the Blessed One (verse 21)!

4) What is the expiration date for God's name and fame? This is only going to get a little attention in this article. But I hope God's name and fame gets a lot of your attention in your heart and mind, starting now, continuing through eternity. Make it a memory verse: "Your name, O LORD, endures forever, Your fame, O LORD, throughout all generations" (Psalm 135:13, NKJV). Unlike the stuff in the back of your refrigerator, there is no expiration date on God's name and fame. Both are amazing, both belong uniquely to God alone, and both are forever.

5) How does the Lord see us? God's church is the people who believe savingly in Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. He sees His people as *servants* (an exalted role, forever dignified by the Suffering Servant, Jesus Christ). God also sees us as *His special treasure*, and as *His house* (verses 1, 4, 14, 19).

So, there you have it. Some gleanings from Psalm 135. I hope it encourages you as only the scriptures can. May the LORD richly bless you and your loved ones!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	7 Quarterly Reports Due. 5:30 BEF Meal (bring your own food) 6:00 BEF Adult Group	8 9:00 Effie Linquist Circle 6:30 Trustees meeting	9	10
11	12 6:30 CE Board  Columbus Day	13	14 5:30 BEF Meal (bring your own food) 6:00 BEF Adult Group	15	16	17
18	19  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 5:30 Sewing & Craft Group	21 5:30 BEF Meal (bring your own food) 6:00 BEF Adult Group	22	23	24
25 11:30 Deaconess 3:30 Deacons	26	27	28 5:30 BEF Meal (bring your own food) 6:00 BEF Adult Group	29	30	31  Happy Halloween



- 3 Lynn Johnson
- Shannon Neil
- Nick Billings
- 4 Martha Isenmann
- Olivia White
- 5 Joe Collier
- 6 Greg Wirsig
- 7 Cathy Weirather
- Joyce McFadden
- Michael A. Nehre
- 8 Don Davis
- Bruce Billings
- 11 Taylor Dickens
- Brianna Newlon

- 12 Stephanie Ewing
- 13 Carolyn Baker
- 16 Priscilla Clinton
- 17 David Arrowood
- Debbie Seibert
- 21 Kerri Huffman
- Teresa McCombs
- 22 Anthony Glasscock
- 25 Ginger Richardson
- 27 Sophia Roberts
- 28 Max Snodgrass
- 30 Glenna Dickens
- 31 Elvin Harker

*Shawn & Hilary Daniels      Jeremy & "Shy" Matlock*  
*October 2, 1993                      October 15, 2011*

*Bill & Marilyn Wixom      Tim & Sarah Ruddell  
October 4, 1969      October 15, 2011*

*Brent & Rita Varner      Chris & Heather Ryland*  
*October 5, 2012      October 17, 2009*

*Don & Jeanne Davis      Kurt & Emily Hasson  
October 6, 1979              October 18, 2003*

*Donnie & Tiann Davis III      Gabe & Leslie Rose  
October 15, 2005      October 26, 1991*

