

# **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WATERLOO, IA**

**SERVING WITH OPEN HEARTS, OPEN  
DOORS, AND OPEN MINDS FOR  
OVER 165 YEARS.**



**434 Baltimore Street Waterloo, IA 50701-2699  
Ph: 319-234-1537, [Firstbaptistwaterloo.org](http://Firstbaptistwaterloo.org)**



*Our Mission: We strive to grow faith in God and make a difference in the community by welcoming all, and providing a strong tradition of worship and spiritual growth.*

## **Search Committee**

Pastoral Search Committee Co-Chairs  
Rye Lange and Kristin Stanford

Region Consultant  
Rev. Jacqueline L. Saxon (Mid-ABC Executive Minister)  
2400 NW 86th St Ste 15  
Des Moines, IA 50322  
Ph: 515-278-1411 Ext. 13 [exec@mid-abc.org](mailto:exec@mid-abc.org)



## **Church History**

The community at First Baptist Church of Waterloo, Iowa has been a strong, loving presence since the church's foundation over 165 years ago. We are involved in local ministry and international missions, and have taken care of each other through economic depression, wars, the post-war boom and many other crises. The family of faith at First Baptist has a history of love, support and resilience through Christ.



# **Who We Are**

## **We are family.**

At First Baptist Waterloo, we respond to the unconditional love of God. As Christ's witnesses and workers, and with the guidance and help of God's Holy Spirit, we extend His love and care for the individual, the church, the neighborhood and our world. We honor being a diverse congregation, reflecting our community and its variety and we commit to responding to the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of each person. We invite all people, regardless of race, culture, gender, or sexual orientation, to unite as full participants in this Christian fellowship.

## **We are a team.**

We team together to serve one another, from facilitating all aspects of our worship to finding ways for spiritual care, expression and growth to making connections available for all people. We team together to make sure this church building continues to support its legacy as a house of open doors for members, visitors and groups.

## **We are mission-driven.**

We team together in our calling as a missional church – inside our walls, inside our neighborhood, inside our community and region and around the world.

Locally, we cooperate with Waterloo's 4th Street Churches, The Church Row Historic Neighborhood and serve as a Partner in Education with Irving Elementary School in our neighborhood.

Nationally, we are part of a greater team, the American Baptist Churches USA (ABC-USA) and a member of the Mid-American Baptist Region. We also have a sister church in Ponce, Puerto Rico where members traveled in 2019 to help rebuild after Hurricane Maria.



# Our Church & Family





# Community

## **What is a Missional Church?**

“Missional Church is an authentic faith community whose primary ministry focus is outward, on mission with God bringing Christ’s love alive in their neighborhood and beyond.” In 2010, several First Baptist members expressed an interest in becoming a more missional church in our local community. They participated in Missional Church Learning Experience training with the Mid-American Baptist Churches. Based on input from the Church Row Historic Neighborhood Association, First Baptist created a proposal to clean up the church property and spread that pride throughout the local block surrounding the church. Members participated in several activities to reach out and get acquainted with our neighbors, from Christmas caroling and passing out cookies, cupcakes and loaves of bread door-to-door, to invitations to a Chili Cook-off and an ice cream social. More of the neighbors are beginning to recognize persons from the church and are attending some of church events and activities.

## Some of our Local Out-Reach:

### **Monthly Community Meal**

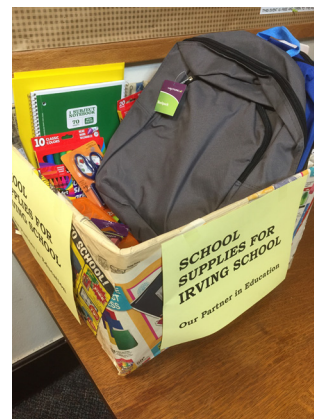
Last Wednesday of the month (except December), from 4:30-6:00 p.m. We serve a meal to anyone in the community who needs a meal or social interaction.

### **Friends in Fun & Fellowship**

Also known as, FFF, Friends in Fun & Fellowship is a four-week summer program for kids located at the church. We are also a site for the Waterloo Community Schools free lunch program.

### **Partners in Education with Irving Elementary School**

Some of our members volunteer to listen to children read. During the year, we help with specific needs: in the fall with school supplies, at Christmas in adopting families to give gifts, and during Iowa Tests of Basic Skills in the spring, we pack up brain-food snacks to help the students.





# Music Ministries

## **Celebration Children's Choir:**

We enjoy young voices of celebration once a month in our Sunday worship service. This choir is open to grades Kindergarten through 5th.

## **Adult Sanctuary Choir:**

Led by talented musicians, the adult choir has a strong tradition of enhancing worship with God's gift of music. The Adult Sanctuary Choir is open to 9th grade to adults.

## **Band of Light Praise Band:**

Our "Band of Light" joins together in performance with vocals, keyboard, guitar, horns and drums. This group leads a service once a month with contemporary music that gets us on our feet and clapping.

## **Bell Choir:**

FBC owns a set of Schulmerich four octave handbells that are used by children, youth and adults to enhance our worship.

## **Organ – Zimmer Tracker:**

In 1983, First Baptist Church of Waterloo dedicated the first Mechanical Action Tracker Organ in Waterloo. With two manuals, twenty-one speaking stops and twenty-six ranks – over 1000 pipes, it has a very unique and magnificent sound and is a joy to the ears and the spirit.





# **Waterloo, Iowa is the model mid-sized American City!**

Waterloo is the major metro of the Cedar Valley Region of Northeast Iowa. As the Black Hawk County Seat, Waterloo is the hub for government, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, education, employment, and retail for the region with a labor force draw of over 300,000.

## ***Diversity is Waterloo's key strength.***

The population of over 70,150 is made up of 17% African Americans with growing Latino, Congolese, and Burmese populations among others. There are 45 different languages spoken in the Waterloo schools. The Waterloo Community Schools are preparing students for college, career, and citizenship through the Leader in Me, International Baccalaureate, and Career Academies. Waterloo is home to Hawkeye Community College, Allen College, and Upper Iowa University.

Waterloo is also home to TechWorks Campus, a 30-acre advanced manufacturing, research & development, innovation, education, commercial and manufacturing center including the University of Northern Iowa Metal Casting Additive Manufacturing Center and Design Lab, Hawkeye Community College Design Lab and North America's largest 3D printer.

Waterloo has a rich history of entrepreneurialism and a strong start-up ecosystem. Major brands located in Waterloo include John Deere, Tyson Foods, ConAgra Grocer Products, Ryder Integrated Logistics, Bertch Cabinets, and Omega – MasterBrand Cabinets.

There are three major health systems: Mercy One Healthcare Iowa, UnityPoint Allen Health System, and Cedar Valley Medical Specialists. Waterloo is improving the health and well-being of its citizens as a Blue Zones community and through the Healthy H2Loo initiative.

Another major city that makes up the Cedar Valley is the city of Cedar Falls. This neighboring city is home to the University of Northern Iowa. Throughout the Cedar Valley we have 110 miles of bike trails, multiple theatres and art galleries, local farmers markets and historic downtown areas. For more information, you can visit the following sites:

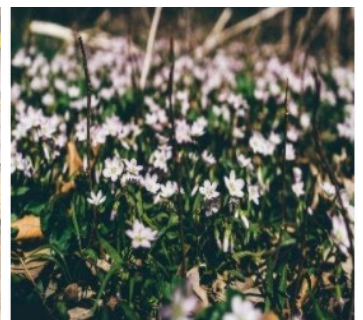
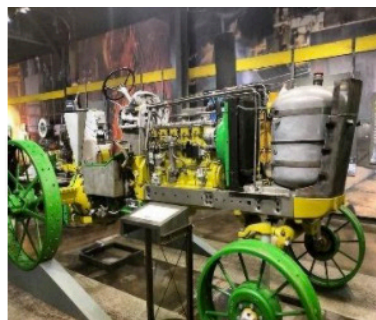
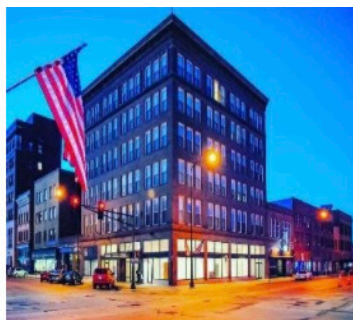
[experiencewaterloo.com](http://experiencewaterloo.com) – Waterloo

[cedarfallstourism.org](http://cedarfallstourism.org) – Cedar Falls

[uni.edu](http://uni.edu) – University of Northern Iowa

[gbpac.com](http://gbpac.com) – Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

[cedarvalleynaturetrail.com](http://cedarvalleynaturetrail.com) – Bike Trail



# Financial Information, Compensation Package, and Church Membership

Current total budget: \$236,000

Current expenses of the church: \$213,000

Annual mission giving: \$25,000-35,000

Current endowment: \$100,000 (Income from the endowment is used for capital improvements, when needed)

Pastor compensation: \$45-50k (salary & housing), depending on experience

Benefits: MMBB Retirement, \$2k Professional expenses (books/periodicals, continuing education, professional dues), \$2k Auto expense

Vacation: 4 weeks

Continuing education: 2 weeks

Will pay moving expenses, within reason

## **Church membership data:**

198 members

134 active members

87 average Sunday worship attendance

FBC Members by Age

