



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
A community for all people

The Visitor

A newsletter for members and friends
of First Baptist Church, Madison, Wisconsin

No. 14 August 7, 2017 Vol. 60

Dear Friends:

Many people know from experience that many of the most genuine church conversations occur in the parking lot before and after worship. I had the privilege of sharing in one of those just yesterday with one of our very devout and dedicated church leaders.

This person explained to me the deep importance worship held in one's life. It was that weekly time when the demands, stresses and the like were washed away in the presence of God. To this person worship was both critical and essential. I shared with excitement and pleasure how church is the deep center of our church life. Here we turn our eyes to the one who is the reason for our church, in its beginning as well as in its daily life. All that we do pales behind what God is doing.

The leader then went on to share how difficult worship is made by all those who approach with matters of church business immediately before and after worship. This person confessed how difficult this made it for the mind to be clear for God. Such matters of business after worship also took away too quickly the inspiration received.

I knew what he meant. Although I am always ready to hear of pastoral matters from both the height of life and its bottoms, church business is another matter. With my heart, mind, and soul prepared for worship, some detail of church business can prove quite distracting.

We have so many hours during the week for church details, phone calls, emails, texts and meetings. The truth is we have only one hour per week to come together and lift our souls into the glory of God.

That left us both thinking—what if everyone agreed NOT to address church business in the time prior to, during, and after worship. It may help us all to stay alert to the one who is ultimately important at that hour. And I believe it would certainly support our dedicated leaders by allowing them to fully immerse themselves into the presence of God.

Let's strive to keep that hour of worship for the highest. If we can't give God in Jesus Christ this one hour of our undivided attention, then how urgent is the rest of our business really?

So, that dedicated leader and I offer to all this challenge—take time to keep our worship holy. I trust, that being done, everything else will fall into line.

On the subject of worship, let's glance at the closing Sundays of summer:

August 13: A rich Sunday of worship with the Mt. Zion Baptist Women's Choir opening our traditional worship and then sharing in the larger common table worship. The traditional worship will also be lead in inspiration by the summer's final "Instant Choir." After these worship services, we will have a reception downstairs to thank Pastor Colbert for being our Interim Common Table minister as she prepares to move from Madison to Chesapeake Virginia.

August 20: Shared Worship which will offer the inspiration of several of our members as they give witness to their favorite hymn and its place in their faith journey.

August 27: Shared Worship during which we will experience an exercise of shared reflection and testimony upon a section of scripture using the ancient practice of *lectio divina* (holy reading).

September 3: Shared Worship service of Communion. We will welcome Jason's return.

The Common Table musicians will participate in each of these three service.

I look forward to sharing "business free" worship with you.

In peace,

Rev. Mark Clinger



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Web Page: www.firstbaptistmadison.org

Worship With Us

August 13, 2017

11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service,
Sanctuary, Rev. Mark Clinger

11:00 a.m. – Common Table Worship Service,
Fellowship Hall, Rev. Jackie Colbert

12:00 Noon –Light Lunch, Fellowship Hall

August 20, 2017

11:00 a.m. – Shared Worship Service, Sanctuary,
Rev. Mark Clinger

12:00 Noon –**No Lunch Today**

*If you would like to make a confession of faith in Christ
and be baptized into his body, to become a member of
this congregation, or renew your Christian
commitment,*

you are warmly invited to call

Rev. Mark Clinger or Rev. Jackie Colbert (233-1880).

The Visitor Publication Schedule

August 21, 2017

September 5, 2017

**Article deadline is 9 a.m.
on day of publication.**

Email to: fbcoffice@firstbaptistmadison.org

Prayer Concerns

Church Family: Ann Nelson; Loree Davies; Julie Blankenburg; Jody Lara; Paul Brynelson; Katy Marty; Loree Davies; Atlee Wilson; The Rev. Manny Santiago; Lance Dockter; Jeff & Jeanette Kersten & family, and Jeanette's father; Ruth L. Parfrey; Paul Husting's friend, David Baer; Sheila Donald and her son's daughter Cecilia Rose; Linda Stamm's sister, Karen Coleman and brother-in-law, Joe Coleman; and Carol Skala, Jill Thomas' daughter-in-law's mother.

Our Shut-ins: Pat Young; Phyllis Reisdorf; Mercile Lee; Jeanne Maruska; Linda Olson; and Joyce Tardrew.

Others: Those whose names and needs are unspoken.

Fresh News

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Special Recognition of Rev. Jackie Colbert, Sunday, August 13

Jackie's last Sunday in Madison will be Sunday, August 13. A special time of recognition of her contributions to the life of First Baptist will be held in Fellowship Hall after the worship services. A light lunch will be served. Come and wish her well!



Sunday School for All Ages Begins Sunday, September 10, 9:30 a.m.

The Board of Education is working hard to bring high quality educational experiences for all ages beginning September 10. As a reminder, the Sunday morning schedule will look like this beginning on September 10.

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time, Gathering Space
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Common Table Worship, Fellowship Hall
12:00 Noon	Lunch (all are welcome!), Fellowship Hall

Adult Sunday School Class

Starting Sunday, September 10, Rev. Mark Clinger will be leading an adult Sunday school class entitled **Revelation Revisited: The Politics of Faith**. This will be an 8-week class held in Room 302. We will notify you of other adult classes as they become available.

Thanks to Volunteers for the Interfaith Hospitality Network

Many thanks are extended to the following volunteers who provided meals or stayed overnight this month to support homeless families staying temporarily at Covenant Presbyterian in the Road Home's Interfaith Hospitality Network: Chris Blythe, Gene Dewey, Geneva Moore, John Mueller, Dennis Ray, Claire Rider, Dori and Vernon Seay, and Jill Thomas.

Thank You, First Baptist!

Did you know in response to the America for Christ Offering in May, you gave a total of **\$1,632** for furthering the vital mission of American Baptists in "Cultivating Leaders, Equipping Disciples and Healing Communities" across this land. Well done!

And then, during July, your gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering were an amazing **\$4,190** to date! So, you will be there during the year ahead providing: (1) emergency relief when disaster strikes in our land or elsewhere; (2) making possible development projects to meet basic human need of adequate water and food resources; and (3) providing refugee ministries to those fleeing their war-torn or drought-stricken homelands but living in limbo in refugee camps or detention centers. The American Baptist World Relief Committee will ensure that your gifts will get quickly and directly to where needed so you can be there to help!

What a caring and generous congregation you are!
Thank you, First Baptist!

Your Board of Outreach



Third Tuesday Lunch

We welcome you to our annual Third Tuesday Salad Luncheon on August 15. Lunch will begin at noon in Fellowship Hall. Dessert and bread will be furnished so please bring a salad to share.

The program, " Pictures and Observations of India, " will be given by Kim Mayer, a Social Studies teacher at SAPAR, Madison Alternative School for pregnant and parenting teens. Kim participated in a 2-week educational exchange trip to India during the summer of 2016. She will share her experiences through pictures and conversation.

Reservations may be made by signing the pew pad or by calling the church office, 233-1880. Everyone is invited to share our summer lunch of tasty salads and enjoy Kim's remembrances of a wonderful 2-week trip to India.

Building for Ministry Debt Retirement Financial Report

as of June 30, 2017

Total amount pledged or given to the Debt Retirement appeal	\$364,165
Retirement pledges/gifts received since start of the appeal	\$214,384
Retirement pledges/gifts received in second quarter	\$29,334
Member loans converted to gifts in second quarter	\$0
Total retirement pledges outstanding	\$150,934

BMO Harris loan

Interest paid during second quarter	\$879
Principal paid during second quarter	\$3,508
Outstanding principal remaining	\$74,113

MG&E loan

Interest paid during second quarter	\$1,712
Principal paid during second quarter	\$7,868
Outstanding principal remaining	\$123,302

Member loans

Interest paid during second quarter	\$200
Loan repayments during second quarter	\$0
Outstanding loans	\$120,000

Total Indebtedness \$317,415

Paying off our debt incurred for renovating our building is proceeding on schedule.

Gil Emmert
for the Building for Ministry Oversight Committee (Paul Chotlos, Vern Lowell, Mark Clinger, Nancy Emmert, Gil Emmert)

CELEBRATION
of Life

Laney Lou

God has blessed us with a new child. Morgan Turner gave birth to a daughter, **Laney Lou** (not Low as previously announced) on July 15. Both mother and daughter are home and doing well. Laney is the great-granddaughter of Joan Turner and a member of Carol and Les Ferge's extended family.

Maxwell Charles Pearson

We were excited to learn of our being blessed with new life. Great-grandmother Carla Eakins shared on Sunday that her granddaughter, Ashley, gave birth on August 4 to a 7-pound, 14-ounce son **Maxwell Charles Pearson**. Mother and child are both doing well.

Memorial Gifts and Bequests

Over the last couple weeks, we have received a bequest from the estate of Helen Bewick for \$20,000. We have learned from the daughter of Ivy Low that her estate will be leaving the church a bequest of \$10,000. Furthermore, the memorials received in remembrance of The Rev. Art Basile will be, at the request of family, reserved for children's ministries. Finally, Naomi Van Cleave's family has requested her memorials be added to the endowment fund that her dedication to our church may continue for perpetuity.

Such generous acts of goodwill toward our church, speak a great deal of the devotion of these souls to Jesus' witness through our church, and will serve to sustain First Baptist for years to come.

Please think about expressing your devotion in a similar fashion when preparing your own estate.



Men's & Ladies' Breakfast at a New Location in September

We have found a new location without stairs for these breakfasts on the first Wednesday of each month. It is **The Egg and I** at 2501 West Beltline Hwy.

Directions:

--Exit the Beltline at Exit 259 (Todd Drive)

FROM THE WEST:

- Turn right at the traffic light (711 Gas Station on the corner)
- Take the first left into the UW Health parking lot
- Take the first right
- The Egg and I is well marked down a bit in the large building on the right

FROM THE EAST:

- Follow the exit to the traffic light
- Turn left under the Beltline (711 gas station on the corner)
- Take the first left (into the UW Health parking lot)
- Take the first right
- The Egg and I is well marked down a bit in the large building on the right

Call Gene Dewey, 230-3373, if you have any questions.

Dane Sanctuary Coalition Update

The New Sanctuary Movement now has almost 1,000 churches nationwide supporting sanctuary for immigrants and refugees. Reports suggest that there are almost 30 people in sanctuary as they work to resolve their immigration issues. As previously reported to you, the Dane Sanctuary Coalition, of which First Baptist is a support congregation rather than a host congregation, announced its formation at a press conference in early July. News coverage of the announcement, with First Baptist listed, appeared in articles in two local Spanish-language papers and the Capital Times.

The Coalition is making good progress preparing to provide sanctuary. An ad hoc committee on which we served on behalf of First Baptist has completed a written description of the Coalition's organizational structure and operating guidelines. That committee has now disbanded because its work is done, and the Coalition's first Steering Committee has been formed. The first tasks of the Committee include planning the first Coalition membership meeting in early Fall (perhaps as soon as September) and organizing the various Coalition work teams. In the meantime, the five host congregations are preparing their facilities, and developing the necessary policies and procedures for hosting. There are three host sites in total because the congregations share facilities.

We do not know when the first immigrants or refugees will enter sanctuary, hopefully never, but the Coalition is getting prepared to offer this opportunity to enable these families to stay together and continue to be members of the communities in which most have lived for years.

Gil Emmert and Dennis Ray



IMPORTANT

NOTICE

.....PLEASE READ

Kitchen Clean-Up Effort

To tidy up the kitchen and identify ownership of food staples and paper supplies, the Kitchen Committee is asking that all food items and paper supplies need to be labeled as to its owner, i.e., youth, men's shelter, spaghetti dinner, etc. Those items that are not labeled by September 1 will be incorporated into the general kitchen supplies and be used as needed. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 233-1880 or Claire Rider at 836-9721.

Reminders



Celebration of Love

Julia Mueller and Garrett Voss will be joined in Christian marriage this coming Saturday, August 12, in the church sanctuary.



Jason Mack, Minister of Community

Please remember that Jason will return from his sabbatical on Sunday, September 3, and the office on September 5.



Men's Shelter Meals

Needs Volunteers for August 17

Lydia Haynes has volunteered to coordinate the Men's Shelter Meals for Thursday, August 17. She is looking for volunteers to help cook and serve the shelter meals on the 17. If you can help in any way, please contact Lydia at 437-4990 or email her at lydia@mhtc.net. Thanks for serving in this manner.

There is only **one more opening** for any person or group who is interested in serving in this manner. September 21 is open. Please contact me at 256-9287 if you or any group would be interested in filling in this spot.

Sheila Donald
Men's Homeless Shelter Meal Coordinator



August Birthdays

2 Paul Brynelson
3 Art Hebblewhite
8 Bea Dewey
10 William Hurst
11 James Rundell
12 Thomas Gunshor
15 Luis Castillo
16 Raymond Moen
17 Carol Ferge
17 Rachael Hebblewhite
17 Kenny Moore
18 Gwen Abramson
18 Jackson Castiglia
19 Kelly Bybee
20 Austin Woodward
22 Phil Daub
22 Nancy Emmert
22 Tara Mack
25 Chad Vlasak
27 Nick Bybee
27 Byron Parfrey
28 Maddie Frazier
31 Carys Abramson

Dates to Remember

August 13: Special Recognition Sunday for Rev. Jackie Colbert; Mt. Zion Baptist Women's Choir/FBC Instant Choir
August 15: Third Tuesday Salad Luncheon
August 20: Shared Worship; No lunch
August 27: Shared Worship; No lunch
September 3: Rev. Jason Returns from Sabbatical; Shared Worship; No lunch
September 10: Sunday School Begins
September 11: Spaghetti Dinner
October 13-15: ABC of Wisconsin Conference/FBC All Church Retreat; Green Lake Conference Center



Green Lake All-Church Retreat Update

The First Baptist All-Church Retreat will be held simultaneously with the American Baptist Church of Wisconsin Annual Meeting this year. **The dates are Friday, October 13-Sunday, October 15.** Your options for the weekend are plentiful.

- You may attend the ABC Annual Meeting from Friday, October 13-Saturday, October 14 only.
- You may attend the ABC Annual Meeting from Friday, October 13-Saturday October 14 and then stay on one more night to participate with the First Baptist Church group activities. Be sure to specify this when making your hotel/meal reservations.
- You may attend the First Baptist All-Church Retreat Friday, October 13-Sunday, October 15 only.
- Or, you may mix it up...register under the ABC Annual Meeting and attend the sessions that interest you and participate in FBC activities that interest you as well.

The goal is providing flexibility and multiple options for First Baptist Church to maximize their all-church retreat experience.

FBC will host a pizza and salad dinner on-site at the C. Oscar Johnson building on Friday, October 13, at 5:30 p.m. This should give people who have registered for the ABC meeting time to eat and make the ABC evening program at 7:00 p.m. The cost of the pizza dinner has yet to be determined.

FBC will begin their programming after the ABC meeting has ended on Saturday around 4:30 p.m. and then we will go right into the Saturday night potluck dinner in the C. Oscar Johnson building. To top the evening off, we will play outside games and cook s'mores around an open fire pit.

The FBC retreat will end after the Sunday worship service in the morning. And yes, there will be a fishing tournament on Saturday!

Registration

To register for the ABC Annual Meeting go to: www.abcofwi.org. Brochure and registration forms for the ABC Annual Meeting are also in the Gathering Space

To register for the FBC All-Church Retreat, contact Linda Lindley, church secretary, at fbcoffice@firstbaptistmadison.org or call 233-1880.

Retreat/Conference Cost

See ABC of Wisconsin registration form for conference, housing and meal fees.

There will be no conference fees for the First Baptist All Church retreat.

Rooms

Whether you participate as a conference attendee at American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin conference or First Baptist All-Church Retreat, **you must make your own room and meal arrangements with the Green Lake Conference Center at 920-294-3323.** Mention you are with ABC Wisconsin and/or FBC All-Church Retreat.

ABC has a block of rooms at the Kern and Bauer Lodges at the rate of \$94/night. If you register as an ABC conference attendee and wish to stay until Sunday just ask the Green Lake Conference Center for an extension to stay through Sunday.

FBC has a block of rooms at the Kern Lodge for \$94/night and the Moore cabin for \$100/night and Sunshine cabin for \$125/night. **Room rates are guaranteed until August 15.**

Meals

Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday breakfast are added to every overnight stay: \$21.50 ages 12 & older/\$15 ages 6 thru 11 (plus tax).

There will be a charge for the pizza and salad dinner on Friday evening. We have not determined the Friday night pizza cost yet. It will depend on the number of pizzas ordered. To plan for food needed for the Friday pizza night, please let Linda know if you will be attending. Pizzas will be delivered directly to the C. Oscar Johnson building at 5:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call Linda in the church office at 233-1880 or email Linda at fbcoffice@firstbaptistmadison.org.

**American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin/
First Baptist All-Church Retreat Combined Schedule (tentative)
Green Lake Conference Center
October 13-15, 2017**

Friday Schedule – October 13 (All events on Friday and Saturday are in Bauer Lodge, unless otherwise noted)

- 1:00 p.m. Tee Time for Pre-Gathering Optional Golfing Event at Lawsonia.
- 4:00 p.m. Check-in Opens for Green Lake Accommodations (Kraft Centre-Lobby)
- 5:30 p.m. FBC Pizza and Salad Dinner – C. Oscar Johnson Building**
- 6:00 p.m. Annual Gathering Registration Opens
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Program: Call to Order of the 173rd Annual Gathering
Opening Worship Featuring Storytellers and Music followed by Region President and ABWM 140th
Anniversary Reception
Informal jam session for musicians, singers, and lovers of musical fellowship

Saturday Schedule – October 14

Dawn to Dusk – FBC Fishing Tournament

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast for paid guests (Kraft Centre-Dining Hall)
- 8:15 a.m. Registration for Saturday arrivals
- 8:30 a.m. Conference Choir Practice (time may be adjusted)
- 8:45 a.m. Presenters and Facilitators Prayer by Invitation (Bauer-Beaty)
- 9:00 a.m. Plenary: Worshipful Work
Keynote Presentation: The Roots of Our Witness as American Baptists: Dr. Jeffrey Haggray
- 12:00 Noon Lunch for paid guests (Kraft Centre-Dining Hall)
- 12:45 p.m. Conference Choir Practice (time may be adjusted)
- 1:15 p.m. Break-Out Sessions
Option 1: American Baptist Women Ministry Annual Meeting
Option 2: Men's Ministries Program: "Engaging with Young Adults for Intergenerational Discipleship"
Option 3: Self-guided tour of American Baptist History throughout the GLCC Grounds. Map and informational booklets will be available from GLCC Front Desk.
- 2:45 p.m. Closing Worship Service – Conference Choir; Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, Preacher
- 4:00 p.m. Adjournment of ABC Conference
- 4:30 p.m. FBC All-Church Retreat Worship Session, The Tea House**
- 5:45 p.m. FBC All-Church Retreat Potluck, C. Oscar Johnson**
- 7:15 p.m. FBC Outside Games; FBC Camp Fire (S'mores), Outside C. Oscar Johnson**

Sunday Schedule – October 15

- Morning Check Out (before 10:00 a.m.), Kraft Centre Front Desk**
- 7:30 a.m. FBC Breakfast for paid guests**
- 8:30 a.m. FBC Prayer Walk, The Tea House**
- 10:00 a.m. FBC Worship, The Tea House**
- 11:00 a.m. Adjournment**

The Visitor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

518 N Franklin Ave, Madison WI 53705-3699

(608-233-1880)

(Affiliated with the American Baptist Churches, USA)

Worship Schedule

11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship

11:00 a.m. - Contemporary "Common
Table" Worship

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME VALUE: DATED MATERIAL -

MAILED - 8/7/17