



## *The Visitor*

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

No. 8                      April 16, 2018                      Vol. 61

### Summer Worship Experiment!

Hi friends,

This summer we will be trying something new. There are fewer people around in the summer time, affecting worship attendance. People, including your pastors, want to get away for a bit to enjoy the better weather. Because of this, your leadership has decided that this summer, beginning May 20<sup>th</sup> and running through Labor Day weekend, we will have one worship service each week.

It will be held at 11a.m. in the sanctuary and will be a blending of Traditional and Common Table worship styles. Our goal is to create a worship experience that is as meaningful as possible for as many of us as possible. Admittedly, this will mean that not every part of worship will speak to all; but hopefully, with some creative planning, we'll get close.

This is an experiment of about three months. We trust that you will keep an open mind, understanding that some elements, not terribly meaningful for you, are likely very meaningful for someone else. Also, because this is an experiment, we invite your feedback. Please let us know what works for you and what doesn't. This is a learning opportunity for all of us.

To be honest, we are looking forward to this. We have missed worshiping with many of you on a weekly basis. We hope that we can create a worship experience that is meaningful for all. Like we said, that's our goal!

Sincerely,

*Pastors Mark & Jason*



Worshiping Together!



*“Our goal is to create a worship experience that is as meaningful as possible for as many of us as possible.”*



### *Worship With Us*

#### **April 22, 2018**

- 11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service  
Sanctuary, Rev. Jason Mack
- 11:00 a.m. – Common Table Worship Service  
Fellowship Hall, Rev. Mark Clinger

#### **April 29, 2018**

- 11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service  
Sanctuary, Rev. Mark Clinger
- 11:00 a.m. – Common Table Worship Service  
Fellowship Hall, Rev. Jason Mack

#### **May 6, 2018**

- 11:00 a.m. – Special Music Service/  
Shared Worship Service  
Sanctuary, Rev. Mark Clinger and Rev. Jason Mack

#### **May 13, 2018**

- 11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service  
Sanctuary, Rev. Mark Clinger
- 11:00 a.m. – Common Table Worship Service  
Fellowship Hall, Rev. Jason Mack  
(There will not be a “Light Lunch” after Service)

*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. Jason Mack (233-1880).*

## Prayer Concerns

**Church Family:** Virginia Henderson; Jim Siddell, Carl's father; James Evans; Brenna Kersten's friend; Julie Blankenburg; Bill Lutter; Katy Marty; Atlee Wilson; Lance Dockter; Jeff & Jeanette Kersten & family, and Jeanette's father; Ruth L. Parfrey; Paul Husting's friend, David Baer; Sheila Donald; Linda Stamm's sister, Karen Coleman; Linda Lindley; the family of Donald Anderson; and Susan Donahoe's father, Rev. John Davey; Sue Lutter's friend Mary

**Deployed to Afghanistan:** Art Hebblewhite

**Our Shut-ins:** Mercile Lee; Connie Smith; Pat Young; Phyllis Reisdorf; Linda Olson; and Joyce Tardrew

**Expecting Parents:** Andy & Nikki Borchardt (May 3)

**Baptismal Candidates:** Beni Lara, Robbie Gunshor

**Others:** Those whose names and needs are unspoken.

gardeners who would like to "adopt" a flower bed at the church.



We are looking for 3-5 people who would like to be church gardeners and take responsibility for growing plants and tending a section of the gardens at church. Gene can supply information on what has been planted successfully in the past and what care is needed throughout the season. You can garden whenever the task fits into your schedule, consulting with Gene and others who chose to join the team. Please contact the church office to claim one or more of the following areas:

1. Front yard by the big church sign
2. Along the front sidewalk
3. Beds in front outside the choir room windows
4. Beds near the old front entrance

Paul Chotlos, for the Board of Trustees

## POST-EASTER ART

From the DECO Committee

For our post-Easter musings, the DECO Team has hung two portraits in the Gathering Space.



One is the well-known "Head of Christ" by Rembrandt. The painting is very dark, so that you are forced to focus, not so much on person as on his eyes. In them is all the love, concern and disappointment that the savior must have felt in his final days with his closest

followers. The other is a picture of Saul, on his mission to hunt down Christians in Damascus, when he was blinded by a vision of the crucified Christ, and became temporarily blinded by a vision of the risen Christ that changed him into "Paul", a committed believer.

In the lower lobby is a beautiful hand-woven linen banner with a Celtic Cross. This cross symbol of Christ's sacrifice, is surrounded by a circle – a symbol that the sacrifice was for the whole world.

## Fresh News

### Green Lake Retreat

Per the Council's decision, staff will not be coordinating the Green Lake retreat this year. If members want to head up in the fall, now is the time we would typically be making reservations. You can reach the conference center at (920) 294-7250 or [GuestGroups@glcc.org](mailto:GuestGroups@glcc.org).

### April 2018 Attendance Numbers

Date	Traditional Worship	Common Table Worship
4/1/18	128	Shared Service
4/8/18	56	27
4/15/18	42	24

### Gardeners needed at First Baptist

You might have heard that our master gardener, Gene Dewey, will no longer be tending the flower beds at church. Thankfully, that is not completely true. Gene has agreed to continue to plant and tend the large flower box outside the parking lot entrance and to serve as a consultant to other church

## First Baptist Art Collection

First Baptist Church's DECO(ration) Team decided that we needed to inventory all the attractive and interesting items that hang on our walls or wait their turn in our closet. There is a variety not only of paintings (both original and copies), but also of other decorative items that enhance our building and speak



to us of our faith as Christians. When we finished our count, the total was FIFTY-SEVEN!!! In addition, there are eight paintings owned by parishioners that are available on loan! This does not include our magnificent stained glass windows, which are in a class by themselves.

As you know, some of the paintings are in semi-permanent places like the elevator lobbies and our main hallway. Others are rotated seasonally by the DECO Team to make us think about what we are seeing. The purpose of all this effort is to share the Good News to all who grace our building with their presence --- so look, ponder, and enjoy the good news of Christ which can be shared in many ways art forms.

The Deco Team has spent many hours this winter seeking out, photographing, and researching our varied art pieces to create a notebook for use by the church office and in our library. During the next few weeks it will be available in the Gathering Space. Look for it on the table near the 1,000 Cranes.

Our thanks to the DECO Team—Gwen Abramson and Edith & Jim Davison – for their efforts.

## Reminders

### FBC Adult Sunday School Class

#### Creation and Evolution Discussion Group

Sunday, April 22, 2018  
9:30 a.m., Room 302

The class will be considering The Book that Changed America; and will talk about a “hanging” and a “New Year’s Day dinner party”, both of which helped the book change America. Led by Bernie Long.



### Talent Show, Friday, May 11!!!

Mark your calendar for the First Baptist all-church talent show on the evening of Friday, May 11! And share your talents! Contact Pastor Jason or Julia Voss to sign up for a time slot. Music, acting, comedy, dance, performance art – It’s all good!

### An Invitation to American Baptist Women’s Ministry at Camp Tamarack

You are invited to help celebrate 140 years of American Baptist Women’s Ministry in Wisconsin at Camp Tamarack the weekend of June 1-3. First time ABWM Retreat guests will receive a gift certificate of \$25. For more information contact Lynette Miller 238-4155.



### Camp Tamarack

The 2018 schedule for church camp (Camp Tamarack) is now out and a copy of the schedule can be found on the bulletin board at the kiosk in the Gathering Space. There are camping opportunities for first and second graders (a shorter schedule), middlers (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>), juniors (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>) Junior High (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) and Senior High students. There is also a family or grandparents camp from July 1 to the 4. If you are considering sending your son/daughter/children please contact Jason for the details of our generous “campership” funding.



## The Exciting Things Happening at Milwaukee Christian Center

Join a First Baptist group on Saturday, May 12, for a visit to Milwaukee Christian Center. American Baptist Women's Ministries of Wisconsin is inviting men and women to see:

- Updated MCC Facilities.
- Youth Build Homes (training high school students).
- Programs offered in individual high schools to help encourage and retrain students in areas of attendance, studies and stress management.

Contact Lynette Miller 238-4155 if you are interested in going. We will plan group transportation.

## Porchlight Shelter Volunteer Brunch Saturday, April 28



## The Crossing Campus Ministry Spring Gala Is April 27!

The Spring Gala is the primary fundraiser for The Crossing Campus Ministry, an ecumenical and mission-focused ministry for UW students. The Gala starts with social time and building tours at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner and program at 6:00 p.m. We are excited to again host the event at our "home" this year: 1127 University Ave., Madison. Crossing students will share transformational stories from their experiences in Madison and on the recent Quest trip to Costa Rica. You will also be invited to donate items, time, or funds to The Crossing "Registry" of ministry and facility projects and improvements.

Tickets are \$50 per person, and you can also choose to "Sponsor a Student" for the same amount. Please join other members of our church for an evening of joy, hope, inspirational stories, and good fellowship. Half of the ticket cost (\$25) is tax deductible for attendees; the full cost is tax deductible for student ticket sponsorships. **For questions or tickets, please contact: Pastor Jason, Gil Emmert or Bill & Mary Fiore.**

You can also contact The Crossing at [office@crossingministries.org](mailto:office@crossingministries.org) or call directly and speak to Immer Valle (608-257-1039 x2). For more information about The Crossing and its mission, visit the website ([www.crossingministries.org](http://www.crossingministries.org)). The Crossing celebrates and affirms students of every identity as they explore their spirituality in an ever-changing world.



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 Laura Dresser	25 Judy Marquardt
12 Dorothy Swennes	26 Gladys Carlson
13 Aaron Hebblewhite	26 Steve Books
15 Norika Kita	27 Kathryn Hill
17 Wayne Bischel	28 Timothy Castillo
18 Geta Cvetkovic	29 Robbie Gunshor
24 Charles Reinke	29 Carmen Porko
24 Thomas Reinke	30 Brenna Kersten

### *The Visitor* Publication Schedule

May 7, 2018

May 21, 2018

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

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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 - 4/17/18**