

The Visitor

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

No. 20 October 22, 2018 Vol. 61

Dear Friends:

As our time together becomes quite short, I want to share these matters with you:

First, during this final month, I want you to know I will be paying a personal visit to every shut-in. I have known many of them for years and they have allowed me into their lives. While their circumstances do not allow them to participate in our farewell activities, I don't want our shut-ins to be shut out. For this reason, I will visit with them to reminisce and say our good-byes.

Second, I especially encourage you to attend our Remembrance Sunday on November 4. Many of you will participate by offering a rose in memory of those whom you have loved and lost. Your being there will offer support and kindness. During the sermon, I will share memories about some of those members we have known well and entrusted into God's care. I will lift up the witness of their lives. Sadly, time will not allow me to speak of every treasured member. The examples I share will suggest something of the witness of each life lived among us.

This will also be the last time we celebrate communion. This will be a very poignant moment for me, and I will be enriched by sharing this time with you. With the bread broken and the cup shared, we celebrate Christ's presence among us. Each month you have come, not to express and opinion but to seek His presence. We lift up the Name beyond all names and find hope "until he comes."

Thirdly, I remind you that our saying good-bye does mean good-bye. There is a finality. I will no longer be your pastor. By the ethics of our denomination and my call, I will not be available for pastoral care, weddings, funerals and so forth. I will always hold you in my heart and soul, caring deeply for you in my memories and prayers. Meanwhile, another person will be

present with you in whom you will place your trust and from whom you will receive the grace of God's good care.

Finally, please hold November 18th, Thanksgiving Sunday, on your calendars. I would ask you to share this worship time with me as I preach my final sermon. Jason has often teased me about my becoming overly excited about Thanksgiving due to my years in Plymouth. It is true that I learned much about gratitude there. Yet, I have great gratitude for the many good years here in Madison, the greater part of my ministry. Sometimes, one cannot be too thankful. I will be offering much gratitude to God that day for all our times together.

I continue to treasure our final days together.

In Peace,

Rev. Mark Clinger

Attendance Numbers

September & October 2018

Date	Worship #
9/02/18	72
9/09/18	73
9/16/18	97
9/23/18	70
9/30/18	75
10/7/18	79
10/21/18	106



Remembrance Sunday Sunday, November 4, 2018

The worship service will include our time of remembrance. At that time, you can come forward with a rose in remembrance of those you've loved and lost.

Please return the reservation form found on the last page; and payment (\$3.00 per rose) to the Church office. Checks can be made out to First Baptist Church, by **Sunday, October 28** or place in collection plate on Sunday.

What's Happening



Budget Report for September 2018

The budget deficit is now \$40,535.66, although we will receive \$9,000 or so in December towards the budget from the Mary Schmidt

memorial funds. In September alone we spent \$6,855.70 more in the Budget that we received.

We are 75% of the way through the year, and have received only 68% of the amount budgeted, and have spent 77.74% of the amount budgeted.

The budget income lines under 70% are Pledged Income, Unpledged Income, Use of Facilities, and Transfer of Minister of Community Funds.

Expenses already over their budgeted amounts are Communications & Promotions 125%, Background Checks 114%, Pastor-Hospitality 109%, Piano/Organ Maintenance 143%, Snow Removal 166%, Fire Alarm Monitoring 223%, and Fire Extinguisher Testing 135%. The biggest dollar amount of those overages is Snow Removal, at \$2,419.

Other expenses that are expected to exceed their budget by the end of the year are Secretary (salary, health insurance, and payroll taxes), Fuel (by only a little, unless it gets very cold), and copying. – *Nancy Moore, Bookkeeper*

Notes From Your Church Trustees

The Board of Trustees meets the fourth Tuesday each month. Most of our meeting time in September was focused on creating a budget proposal for 2019. We also celebrated a presentation/training by Pam Bennett that was held for our nursery staff and other interested adults on children's brain development. Thanks to Diane Adams for organizing this event.

As a board, we are closely monitoring a deficit exceeding 30 thousand dollars in our operating account. For transparency sake, we want to inform you that we had to borrow from designated funds in order to pay salaries and bills this month. Those funds will need to be repaid. Although pledged and unpledged giving tends to increase during the final quarter of the year, there is a strong chance that we will end the

year with a deficit. At the present time, we ask that church members and friends please keep their pledges up to date and church boards limit nonessential spending. – *Paul Chotlos, Board of Trustees Chair*



2018 Christmas Offering Suggestions?

Your Board of Outreach invites your suggestions for the recipient of our **2018 Christmas Offering**. Each year our congregation selects one or more organizations serving our community to receive this special offering to celebrate Christ's Coming. Please send your suggestions to Outreach Chair, Wynn Davies. He can be reached by phone at (608) 238-1817 or by email at lorwyn@sbcglobal.net.

THIRD TUESDAY LUNCH



Thank you to all of the participants on Tuesday, October 16.

The story behind each presentation made it just as interesting as the hobby, craft, or collection itself.

Our Participants:

Brenda Lempp - Origami
Sue Lutter - Beading
Beverly Davison - Silver spoons
Bert Adams - Coins
Gladys Carlson - Wood Carving
Nancy Moore - Bird Stamps
Gene Dewey - Gardening with Lilies
Palmer Haynes - Poetry
Lynette Miller - Quilt Making
Nancy Emmert - Genealogy
Cheryl & Luis Castillo - Bolivia
Jim & Edith Davison - Homemade Christmas Cards

Talent and interests are all around us at FBC.



Infant Dedication

On Sunday, November 11th you are invited to be in worship as Julia (Mueller) and Garrett Voss dedicate their son, Shepherd John Voss, to God.



Remembrance Sunday What to Expect

On November 4th, we will observe our yearly Remembrance Sunday during which you will have an opportunity to remember those, so dear to you, whom you have loved and lost.

To participate in this act of remembrance, you will be asked to fill out a form. The cost of each rose is three dollars (\$3) and payment should be included when you fill out the form (last page).

When you arrive on Sunday, you will be given your remembrance rose(s). During the service, when your loved one's name is read, you will bring your flower forward and place it in the front of the sanctuary. At the end of worship, you are encouraged to take your remembrance rose with you.

Baptist Peace Fellowship

Registration is open for the 6th Global Baptist Peace Conference that will take place in Cali, Colombia July 15 – 20, 2019 on the campus of the Baptist University of Cali (Unibautista).

Visit www.globalbaptistpeace2019.org or www.bautistaglobalporlapaz2019.org for more information and to register.

The conference theme, **Peace in Our Land: Toward a World without Violence**, will provide an overarching guide for week filled with thought-provoking workshops and activities; inspiring leaders who are all devoted to the work of peacemaking; and challenging, age appropriate programming on a variety of ways to practice peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 Consecration Sunday Sunday, November 11

To make our budget proposal a reality, we must have faith that God will provide and an understanding that he does that through us. If you would like to look at the draft budget proposal in detail, it can be found on the Gathering Space kiosk, church **website**, or you can contact the church office and request a copy.

Kindly bring your 2019 pledge card with you to worship on November 11th or mail it in at

your first convenience. There will also be pledge cards in the Gathering Space area and pews for anyone who needs them.”

Blessings – Bill Fiore, FBC Moderator



Hourglass Bible Study Suspended

We will be suspending our classes in November to allow class members to participate in the church's listening sessions planned for those Sunday mornings.

We'll resume our study of the choice of leaders in the Bible in December.

Flowers, Flowers, Flowers!



FBC is seeking a volunteer as Flower Coordinator.

Two skills are required: the ability to coordinate and some knowledge of flowers. Contact the church office at (608) 233-1880 if you want to share

your gifts and continue to make our church beautiful.



From the Discernment

Committee – NEW – A table in the Gathering Space has been set up and designated for the Discernment

Committee information (minutes, listening session, and other communications). You can also request copies of documents/forms/results from the FBC's Office (608) 233-1880.



EAT RIGHT WHEN MONEY IS TIGHT!

FoodShare is a monthly benefit deposited on a debit-like card, the QUEST Card, to help with food purchases, freeing up money for

bills, medications and other necessities.

Did you know... Eligibility is based on income and certain expenses, so you can own a home and car and even have a savings account; claiming FoodShare helps your community (the USDA estimates that for every \$5 spent in FoodShare benefits, about \$9 circulates through local businesses and to our farmers; receiving benefits does NOT take away from others. EVERYONE who is eligible and applies will get benefits.

For more information, call the FoodShare Helpline at 1-877-366-3635 today!

The FoodShare Helpline is a service of Feeding Wisconsin and its member food banks. For information on food pantries you can also contact The United Way 211.

Reminders



Pastor Mark's Retirement Reservations

As we continue with preparations for the celebration of Mark Clinger's 28 years of ministry with our church, we are finalizing registrations for the big event on **Friday, November 16th, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., in the Great Hall of the UW Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street, Madison, WI.**

Reservation Forms and Contributions may be sent to the church by **October 31, 2018.**

First Baptist Church
Attention: Mark's Retirement Party
518 N. Franklin Avenue
Madison, WI 53705

RESERVATION FORMS, which were mailed out to most of you, can also be found on the kiosk at the Gathering Space

Thank you very much! *Mary Fiore, Gwen Abramson, Bill Hausler*



Let's Make Music Together!

I am enjoying exploring a different facet of recent music in our blended worship service.

Is there a song from the hymnal we have not sung in a while that we need to revisit? Is there a contemporary song that we do not have in rotation that we should add? Please e-mail me at music@firstbaptistmadison.org and let me know. I cannot guarantee that everything will be used, but I want to continue helping all of us make music together. *Chris Boveroux, Music Director*

The Jirani Project



Harambee & African Drumming Presentation

The non-profit Jirani Project, serving vulnerable children in Kenya, will have its annual "harambee" (let's all pull together) event on **Sunday, November 4** at Oakwood Village University Woods.

3-4 p.m. African Drumming presentation by Wongai Africa, Ltd.

4-5 p.m. Harambee

Join us at Oakwood Village University Woods, Westmorland Room, 6205 Mineral Point Rd, Madison, Wisconsin (Parking underneath the Heritage Oaks building) - *Diane Adams, Jirani Project board member*

Adult Sunday School

Last Class on "Nuclear Nonproliferation" Led by Dr. Tara Drozdenko. Room 302. Sunday, Oct. 28, 9:30 a.m.

New Session, Sundays, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25 "The Power of Civility"

Led by Tom Kersten. Room 302.

How do we talk with and treat those we disagree with... and is it worth the effort? Can we break out of the insulated, self-perpetuating thinking that our modern world seems to push us toward? Do other people's opinions even matter anymore, and if so, is there anything valuable we can learn from them? Where have society's manners gone?

Drawing on 3 bestselling books, these are a few of the hard questions we can wrestle with while exploring the political, social, economic and moral implications of our fast-paced, money obsessed, media-driven modern world.



The Road Home
14th Annual Homes for Families Fundraising

Breakfast – Thursday, November 8

7:30 - 8:30 am, Alliant Energy Center

If you want to attend, contact Peggy Halloran, Development Director, 608-294-7998, extension 311. If you would like to coordinate a First Baptist Church table at the breakfast, please let Peggy know.

There is no registration fee, but people are encouraged to donate to help The Road Home



Summit by the Sea
2019 The American Baptist Mission

Summit (formerly call the Biennial)

Sponsored by ABC-USA

The American Baptist Churches USA 2019 Mission Summit will be held **June 21-23, 2019**, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Va.

VBS-style classes will be offered for elementary, middle, and high school ages. Day care will also be available. For more information go to <http://www.abc-usa.org/2018/04/16/save-the-date-for-a-summit-by-the-sea-at-the-2019-biennial-mission-summitchange-the-lives-of-homeless-families>.

Prayer Concerns

Church Family: James Evans; Jeanette Kersten’s father; Paul Husting’s friend, David Baer; Sheila Donald; Linda Stamm’s sister, Karen Coleman; Rhiannon Tibbetts; Bill Hausler; Julie Blankenburg; Rev. William Metzger; and Sylvia Lowell; Lance Dockter; Jason Mack’s father, Darrell Mack

Our Shut-ins: Virginia Henderson, Mercile Lee, Pat Young, Phyllis Reisdorf, Linda Olson, Ruth Parfrey, Martha Fuguitt, Atlee Wilson

Others: Those whose names and needs are unspoken.

Birthdays

October

November

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 Jim Thompson | 7 Judy Rundell |
| 5 Olivia Hebblewhite | 8 Diana Long |
| 5 Leona Moen | 8 Carla Eakins |
| 7 Janet Clinger | 9 Joy Miller |
| 7 Angela Thomas | 10 Mary Fiore |
| 11 Bill Hausler | 13 Una Torosian |
| 16 Greg Dean | 13 Laura Clark-Taylor |
| 18 Carolyn Cross | 14 Deb Chotlos |
| 19 Janet Reinke | 17 Barbara Mueller |
| 21 Marci Henderson | 20 Mark Clinger |
| 21 Jason Mack | 20 Jill Thomas |
| 22 Jody Lara | 21 Ruth Parfrey |
| 25 Richard Bishop | 25 Brooke Siddell |
| 28 Ken Arneson | |



Remembrance Sunday

Sunday, November 4, the worship service will include our time of remembrance. At that time, you can come forward with a rose in remembrance of those you've loved and lost. Please return the reservation form with your request and payment (\$3.00 per rose).

Checks can be made out to First Baptist Church

Return to: First Baptist Church
518 N. Franklin Ave, Madison, WI 53705

OR place in collection plate on **Sunday, October 28**

Your name: _____

Number of roses ordered: _____

Total amount paid (\$3.00 per rose): _____

Remembrance Names as you want them to appear in the bulletin:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____