



**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
OF MADISON

The Visitor

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

No. 8

August 5, 2022

Vol. 65

Announcement from Pastor Tim and John

Friends,

Earlier this year, we made the decision to expand our family by beginning the adoption process. Although many of the details are still unknown, we wanted to share this news with you as early in the process as possible. This month, we moved a big step closer in the process when our home study was completed and approved. This means that we are approved as adoptive parents, and our adoption profile will now be shared with prospective birth mothers.

Now the uncertain part of our adoption journey begins as we wait for a birth mother to choose us as adoptive parents. This “matchmaking” part of the process may take weeks, months, or even years. Other adoptive couples have shared with us their own stories of false starts, failed adoptions, and successes—we recognize that all of these are possibilities during our own adoption journey. So, we welcome your prayers, your words of encouragement, and your support during this process.

Over the coming months, we will share more news and milestones with you. We are excited to be on this journey, however uncertain it may be. And we are grateful for your love and support.

Sincerely,
Pastor Tim and John

INTERFAITH PRIDE SERVICE

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022
AT 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MADISON**

This service centers Queer voices and celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community and our allies.



Gather with us for an interfaith event to celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community.

FOOD TRUCK & VENDORS @ 5:00PM

Featuring the Holy COW (Church on Wheels) Food Truck and Queer-affirming community organizations on the front lawn.

HOSTED BY:

- First Baptist Church of Madison

PARTICIPATING FAITH COMMUNITIES:

- Advent Lutheran Church of Madison Christian Community
- Bethany United Methodist Church
- Christ Presbyterian Church
- Circle Sanctuary
- Community of Hope UCC of Madison Christian Community
- First Unitarian Society of Madison
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- Holy Wisdom Monastery
- Jewish Social Services of Madison

- Memorial United Church of Christ
- Middleton Community Church UCC
- St. John's Lutheran Church
- St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- Temple Beth El

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Briarpatch Youth Services
- JustDane
- League of Women Voters of Dane County
- Madison Area Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Association (MATA)
- Outreach LGBTQ+ Community Center
- Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin
- Vivent Health
- Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice

In-person attendance requires masking and social distancing, regardless of vaccination status.

The interfaith service can be viewed online at live.firstbaptistmadison.org.

FROM FBC'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Update of July 2022 Meeting

At the July Trustee meeting we addressed the following:

- 1) a review of our COVID policy (this is done at each of our meetings) - no changes were made this meeting.
- 2) Formed a Music Advisory Committee as a subcommittee of the Trustees. This group will work with our paid music staff to make recommendations regarding music instruments, music assets, and the use of the sanctuary for music performances.
- 3) Added the Juneteenth federal holiday as a paid holiday for staff. Discussion also involved FBC participation in Juneteenth celebrations.
- 4) We discussed cybersecurity and policies that can minimize issues related to this.

Other items to note: we are fortunate to have our building being used more - as a polling place for the August primary, the Interfaith Pride Service this

month, and having new and continuing renters. Also, as you can "see", we have new lighting in the sanctuary and a newly resurfaced parking lot! Many good things are happening!

– Bill Hausler, Chairperson, Board of Trustees

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Assembly and Rally in Washington DC



Dear Church Friends,

We are so grateful for your support as we participated in the **Poor People's Campaign** Assembly in Washington, D.C. on June 18th. Things did not go entirely as planned, but we are glad we went; we met interesting people, and we added our voices to an important cause.



We departed Madison on Friday afternoon, with plans to arrive in DC the next morning at about 9:00, DC time.



Unfortunately, we did not arrive in DC until closer to 10, and then our bus took an unplanned tour of Washington DC that took an additional hour, so we did not arrive at the event until 11. We were met by folks with breakfast food,

which was very thoughtful as we were quite hungry by that time (I admit, I was wishing for coffee!). When we arrived, we heard speakers giving short

speeches that were simultaneously distressing and inspiring; if you'd like to hear the speeches, you can go to this Facebook page (you do not need to have a Facebook account to access this video):

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=external&v=1013560726003602>

After spending several hours at the rally, our hunger overcame us. We understood that the event would end around 2 and that our bus would pick us up at Union Station, so we decided to walk over and get food before leaving. On the way there, we were approached by a woman who told us that what was happening "over there" at the rally was "crap". She said everyone at the rally should be taking a tour of the building she was standing in front of, which was a homeless shelter. She also shared that her son had been killed by the police. We listened to her share her story until she was ready to let us keep walking, and I think it's fair to say that what she had to say and where we stood as she was saying it was as impactful as anything we heard at the assembly.

After learning our bus wouldn't be leaving until much, much later, we walked to the Capitol and also explored the garden at the US Botanical Garden. We left Washington DC at 9pm, DC time, and arrived home the next day at 11am, WI time.



As Reverend Barbour said in his speech in DC, it's time for us to have a moral meeting: we need to meet in the streets, at the ballot box, and at the political suites of this nation, we must cry loudly from the pulpits and from the public square. Thanks for supporting Robbie, Thomas, and me as we met with so many

others in the streets of DC and we look forward to continuing to stand with you as we work towards a Third Reconstruction.

Beth, Robbie, and Thomas Gunshor

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST

A WOMEN'S LECTIONARY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH, YEAR W

August 7:

- 1 Samuel 17:1–7, 12–16, 24–27; Psalm 10:1–14; Romans 8:31–39; John 10:11–16

August 14:

- 1 Samuel 17:55–18:9; Psalm 47:1–2, 5–9; Hebrews 1:1–9; Matthew 5:33–37

August 21:

- 1 Samuel 14:49–51; 18:17–21, 29; Psalm 31:1–7, 14–16, 19–24; Romans 13:8–10; Mark 12:28–34

August 28:

- 1 Samuel 25:14–19, 23–25, 32–34, 42–43; Psalm 37:1–2, 7–11, 16, 35–40;
- Galatians 5:13–21; Luke 19:1–10

September 4:

- 1 Samuel 27:1–3, 8–12; Psalm 94:1–15; James 2:8–13; Mark 7:14–23

SANCTUARY RENOVATION UPDATE

Sanctuary Lighting

In the past month, the intended sanctuary lighting changes have been made. The main ceiling lights in the chancel have been replaced with new modern LED light modules that are dimmable. The light is brighter, crisper and serves to illuminate the chancel for live streaming in a much better way. In addition, the pendant lights that hang in the main sanctuary and in the choir loft had the light bulbs that shine up and shine down replaced with LED light bulbs that are also dimmable. The dark wood ceiling is now illuminated and more overall light is added to the sanctuary.

This is part of an intended improvement plan that includes being able to dim lights as needed in the future.

Bill Beaudreau and the Sanctuary Renovation Team

Monthly Collection - August

The FBC Youth Group has two opportunities for donations this month!

First, we are collecting school supplies for Middleton Outreach Ministry (MOM). You can help by donating new school supplies for kids in our community! Items needed this year include:

Backpacks – including extra-large (XL), sturdy backpacks for high school students
Dry erase markers
Crayola thin or wide markers – 10 pk
Pink erasers and pencil tip erasers
#2 pencils and pencil sharpeners
Pens
Highlighters
Composition notebooks – wide ruled
Spiral notebooks – wide and college ruled, assorted colors
Binders (1 inch) and binder dividers
Poly pocket folders without prongs, assorted colors
Earbuds / Headphones
Loose leaf paper, wide and college ruled
Graph paper – loose leaf and notebooks
Crayola colored pencils – 12 pk
Crayola crayons, 24 pack
Watercolor paints, 8 color tray preferred
Post-it notes – 3x3
Ruled index cards 3x5
Sharpies (black), ultra-fine and fine
Protractors and compasses
Scissors – blunt and pointed
Glue and glue sticks
Pencil pouches and boxes

You can also visit their website at:

<https://momhelps.org/support/seasonal-support/>

Secondly, we are collecting clothing for Casa Alitas, an immigration welcoming center in Tucson, Arizona, run by Catholic Charities. Casa Alitas provides compassionate welcome, hospitality and logistics for newly arrived asylum seekers as the first stop on their way to their sponsors in the United States. Newcomers almost always arrive

wearing the clothes they have worn for the entirety of their long journeys to the U.S. They have a great need for:

Children

- Underwear (not used)
 - Girls – all sizes, esp. sizes 2-3, 14, 16
 - Boys all sizes, esp. sizes 2-3, 12, 14, 16, 18
- Casual Clothes – comfortable and practical for travel, school and play
- T-shirts; knit shirts - sizes ages 6 - 18
- Flip Flops
- Socks (not used) – all kids' sizes, all styles
- Pants, shorts – all kids' sizes ages 2 - 16
- Backpacks – book size

For Women and Teen Girls

- Underwear (not used) all sizes, sizes 5, 6, 7 in particular
- T-shirts; collared shirts; blouses – new or gently used, S,M,L,XL; appropriately printed messages; no dress shirts are needed
- Bras – new or gently used; nursing bras
- Shoes – all, sizes 4, 5, 6, including half sizes
- Dresses – casual summer dresses, S,M
- Leggings – especially S,M
- Flip Flops
- Maternity
 - Underwear (not used) – all sizes
 - Tops, casual dresses, pants – new or gently used, S M L

For Men and Teen Boys

- Underwear (not used), boxers, briefs, S,M,L
- T-shirts, golf shirts – new or gently used, S, M,L; appropriately printed messages; no dress shirts are needed
- Jeans, casual pants – new or gently used
 - Men's waist 26-31, length 26-32
 - Boys' sizes 2-20
- Sweatshirts, hoodies – light summer weight and heavy, warm weight for winter (zipper hoodies especially appreciated)
- Baseball caps
- Flip Flops

The school supply donation is through Tuesday, August 9th. The clothing donation is through Friday, August 26th. A box will be outside at FBC and at Beth's house for both organizations. Thank you in advance for your generosity!!

HOURGLASS BIBLE STUDY

Paul's letters: Galatians and Romans



The Hourglass Bible Study will start up again the Sunday after Labor day, September 11, and we plan to continue meeting via Zoom from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Beginning Sunday, September 11, we will read two of Paul's letters: Galatians and Romans.

We'll work together to understand how these letters speak to us today by studying the historical context in which the letters were written to specific congregations about their specific problems.

Several members will contribute their research, and all will contribute their unique points of view as we learn together in a non-judgmental and relaxed atmosphere of sharing.

JOIN THE ACTION

Second Harvest Foodbank

Join our team of volunteers at Second Harvest Foodbank



Upcoming Date:

Friday, August 19 | 8:30 - 11:30 AM



The Crossing - Dinner+Worship Meals for UW Students - Update

Dear Crossing Friends,

Many thanks to all the congregations listed here who have supported this campus ministry with meals in the past -- and to those of you who have yet to do so! We welcome all of you as you help us to nourish students with food and Worship.

Earlier this summer I contacted all of you with the offer of an opportunity to serve The Crossing students with a meal (or meals as some churches have several groups provide more than one meal during the year) from your congregation. Now that it is August and committees are probably resuming meetings in preparation for the Fall, I wanted to thank those of you who have signed up your church (or are still working on finding a date) and send those who haven't scheduled yet an update with what dates are still open (please send me your first 2-3 choices so if your first choice is taken, hopefully one of the other dates is still open for you):

September 28

October 5, 12, 19, 26

November 2, 16, 30

Dec. 7

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22

March 1, 22, 29

April 5, 12, 19, 26

May 3

If serving a meal does not work for your congregation, we would also welcome a financial gift toward ordering food from a local establishment. Or you might want to make it a joint project with another congregation. We always welcome people from your congregation to help serve and set up, but if that isn't possible, just bringing the food will be a big help and we can set it up.

Blessings,
Karla

Karla Schmidt (she, her, hers)
Campus Minister, The Crossing, Inc.
karla@crossingministries.org
608-257-1039 ext. 3

The Crossing Campus Ministry is supported by American Baptists, Methodists and United Church of Christ. It has been an important meeting place for UW students for many years. We are offering this opportunity from Karla Schmidt, Campus Minister, to be involved with the UW students that enjoy the services offered there.

AUGUST - MEET & GREET

Meet & Greet - Fellowship Time Saturday, August 27, at 10 am



- ❖ Are you new to Madison?
- ❖ Just visited First Baptist Church through our Sunday worship services?
- ❖ Interested in joining the church?
- ❖ Want to know more about who we are and what we do?

We invite you to our monthly “Meet and Greet.”

If you are interested, please contact the church (608) 233-1880.

THANK YOU

From the Chotlos Family

Paul and Deb Chotlos, and their children, deeply appreciate the cards and expressions of support that they received from First Baptist folks and Pastor Tim at the passing of Paul's mom, Charlotte Chotlos, on April 8th. We are grateful to have such a caring church family.



In July, Paul and his sister, Elaine, hosted a memorial service in Granville, Ohio to celebrate Charlotte's life. Family and friends shared memories and sang Charlotte's favorite songs.

From Second Harvest Foodbank

FBC Friends,

Your recent gift of time was used to prepare food for distribution throughout our 16-county service area in southwestern Wisconsin. I am delighted to share that the 24 hours your group donated as of 6/17/2022 has an equivalent value at Second Harvest of up to 1,618 meals!

It will likely come as no surprise that more of our neighbors are struggling to keep a meal on the table than before the pandemic – 13% more – including nearly 47,000 children who need nutritious food to learn, grow, and be healthy all summer long. Thank you for your work alongside us with community.

With gratitude,

Becca Saubermann
Volunteer Services Coordinator

P.S. Consider volunteering with us again! Check out our Sign Up Genius [linked here](#) for current availability.

From the Triangle Community Ministry

Dear Members of First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your recent gift. Support such as that you have provided is essential for the continuation of our Ministry. God sees and approves of your generosity:

“For God is not unjust; he will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do.”

Blessings on you and your ministry,

Bob Vetter, Chaplain

REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS

We Remember



Ruth L. Parfrey
November 21, 1925 - July 15, 2022



Bernard (Bernie) E. Long
December 4, 1931 - July 26, 2022

We will miss our friends and keep them in our hearts and prayers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Church Family: Jim & Edith D; Long family; Parfrey family; Paul H's friend, Kathy H; Linda R; Ann N; Pat Y; Carla & Doris E; Alan F

Our Homebound: Sheila D; Pat & Harley Y; Linda O; Byron P; Martha F; Ruth E

Others: Those whose names and needs are unspoken.

(Send your request to the office's email, office@firstbaptistmadison.org or call the office.)

GIVING, OFFICE VISITS / HOURS

Ways You Can Give

There are several ways you can contribute to your pledge, offerings, memorials, and other / special gifts.

- Online – This link will take you to FBC's Donate page—firstbaptistmadison.org/give to make a donation.
- FBC's Website – <https://tinyurl.com/FBCDonate>
- Smart Phone – GivingPlus Application - <https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/>

Thank you for your spiritual and financial support.

Office Visits



You can schedule an appointment with Pastor Tim over Zoom or phone, at the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/2p8d7yhh>

OR call the church office (608) 233-1880 to schedule a time.

Pastor Tim's day off is on Mondays

Office Hours

Monday – Friday – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

518 N Franklin Ave, Madison WI
Monday through Friday

FBC'S COMMUNICATIONS

Weekend Update

- weekly e-digest, released each Friday, article submission deadline is Thursday, and 60 word limit. The purpose of this publication is to provide information and links to joining worship, special events, upcoming events, news from our ministry partners, advocacy and volunteer opportunities.

Worship Bulletins

- released every Sunday or for special services. The publication of the bulletins is strictly for use during worship services. Inserts may occasionally be permitted and must be worship related.

The Visitor

- monthly newsletter, released 1st week of each month, deadline is 1st of the month, 200-word limit. This monthly newsletter provides church news, summary of activities, future events, and updates.

FAST ACTION INTERFAITH RESPONSE (FAIR) TEAM



Join the **FAIR Team**, and you'll receive periodic text messages inviting you to participate in social justice actions that have been vetted by one of our partner organizations. We'll keep it simple by telling you where, when, and how to participate.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

In person – join us Sunday mornings at 10:30 am. Fellowship time after worship.

Online

Livestream to Worship:

<http://live.firstbaptistmadison.org>

Livestream to YouTube:

<https://tinyurl.com/eubzz6mr>

Livestream to Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FBCMAdison>

Zoom Fellowship Time can be accessed directly from FBS' Livestream to Worship or at the following link.

MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

Thursday evenings (6:30 PM) - Sanctuary



Our midweek worship will provide an additional opportunity for worship during the

week that is less structured, more participatory, and designed to supplement our Sunday morning worship.

You are invited to join us for a more relaxed worship experience featuring contemporary worship music, prayer, and reflection.

All are welcome!

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

2 Paul B
3 Art H
10 William H
12 Thomas G
15 Luis C
17 Carol F
17 Rachel H
18 Gwen A
22 Phil D
22 Nancy E
25 Chad V
27 Adan L
27 Byron P
28 Maddie F
31 Carys A

SEPTEMBER

5 Alan Ferguson
6 Christopher Evans
8 Ann Miller
9 Cheryl Castillo
9 Jeff Kersten
14 Judy Craig
14 Tyler Mack
16 Claire Rider
24 Jeanette Kersten
25 Bob Martens
25 Rhiannon Tibbetts
27 Moira Kersten
29 Linda Mintener
30 Sara Strain

FBC Bible Study and Other Groups

Men's Breakfast (Online) – **Via Zoom only** - bring your breakfast to your computer and connect with other men via Zoom; we meet at 8:30 a.m. **the first Wednesday of each month.**

Join Zoom Meeting: Call the office for information.

Hourglass Bible Study (Online) –Beginning Sunday, September 11, we will read two of Paul's letters: Galatians and Romans. We'll work together to understand how these letters speak to us today by studying the historical context in which the letters were written to specific congregations about their specific problems.

We will continue to meet via Zoom from 4:30 to 5:30 each Sunday evening.

Bible Study Group (Online) – This group is led by Rev. Bob Martens (retired ABC pastor). The focus is on the lectionary texts for the following Sunday. It meets for about **one to one and a half hours on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting: Call the office for information.

FBC @ Prayer (Online) – Pastor Schaefer will lead in prayer. This prayer group lifts up joys and concerns of the congregation. It meets for **half hour on Thursdays at Noon.**

Join Zoom Meeting: Call the office for information.

Spiritual Renewal Group 1 (Online) – **Summer Schedule is the third Monday of the month at 7 PM (June 20, July 18, and August 15).** We will conclude our reading/discussing of the historical fiction book, "God's Liar," by Thom Satterlee. This is a 174-page book with a lot of chapters! Contact Janet Reinke with any questions at (608) 831-7317.

Join Zoom Meeting: Call the office for information.

Spiritual Renewal Group 2 (Online) – The group plans to continue to meet the **second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 4:00 PM.** Books are picked to help them grow through a spiritual journey. They have become a support group as well and endeavors to not share with the general public and no one is wrong. They do not discuss church business during meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting: Call the office for information.

elcome to Worship at First Baptist Church

We extend a special greeting to visitors and hope that you will find meaning and fellowship in our church. If you are searching for a church home and would appreciate a call or visit, please contact the office.

Our Mission

The Mission of First Baptist Church is to follow Jesus by doing justice, loving people, and advocating for equity.

Our Purpose

The purpose of First Baptist Church of Madison is to invite all people, regardless of race, culture, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or marital status, to unite as full participants in this Christian fellowship.

Our Shared Beliefs

God loves all people unconditionally and seeks a personal relationship with every person.
God offers forgiveness and hope to heal our lives and make us whole.
Jesus shows us who God is and who we can become.
God is present, speaking to us through prayer, our sacred scriptures, other people, and creation.

Our Core Values

Inclusive Community ♦ Soul Freedom ♦ Spiritual Growth ♦ Mission
Beyond these shared values and beliefs, a great diversity of personal faith, beliefs, and values is found and treasured within our community.
We expect no conformity to any creed.

First Baptist Church Madison

518 North Franklin Avenue, Madison, WI 53705-3699

Telephone: (608) 233-1880 | **E-mail:** fbcoffice@firstbaptistmadison.org

Office Hours | Building Access

Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm