

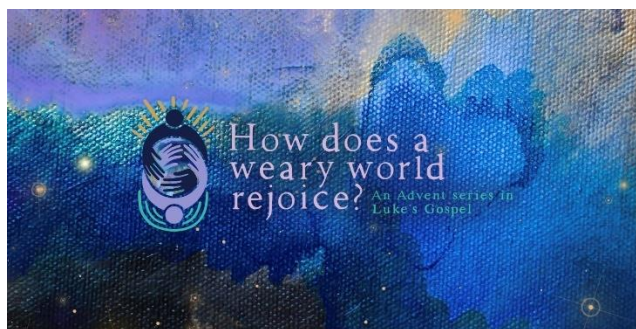


The Visitor

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

No. 11 November 9, 2023 Vol. 66

Announcing This Year's Advent Series



“Christ was born into a weary world. King Herod ruled the land with a legacy of ruthlessness. The Romans treated the people of Israel with contempt, imposing harsh taxes and land seizures that forced many into subsistence farming. Poverty and destitution were pervasive. And yet, Christ was born, bringing good news of great joy for all people.

As Advent comes again to a weary world, we ask, ‘How does a weary world rejoice?’ From the opening chapters of Luke’s Gospel, we have found a few answers: we acknowledge our weariness, we find joy in connection, we allow ourselves to be amazed, we sing stories of hope, we make room, we root ourselves in ritual, and most importantly, we trust our belovedness. In the parallel birth stories of Jesus and John, joy arrives—despite trepidation, fear, or grief. In these stories, we find rhythms for rejoicing. As we move through our series, we hope to create space for acknowledging the weariness of our world while celebrating God’s closeness with great joy.

And so, this Advent, we will hold space for our weariness and our joy. We will seek a ‘thrill of hope’ in our hurting world. We will welcome joy—even if, like the prophet Isaiah, we cry out for comfort (Isaiah 40:1). In this weary world, may we find many ways to rejoice.”

Upcoming Special Services

Transgender Day of Remembrance Interfaith Service & Vigil

Monday, November 20 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Memorial United Church of Christ
5705 Lacy Rd, Fitchburg, WI 53711

First Baptist is proud to cosponsor this third annual service of remembrance. The service will begin at 6:00PM, followed by a time of fellowship and a Community Resource Fair.

Ecumenical Service of Gratitude

Wednesday, November 22 | 6:30 PM
Bethany United Methodist Church
3910 Mineral Point Rd, Madison, WI 53705

First Baptist Church will be participating this service along with other near west side congregations of various denominations. Music will be led by a joint choir and handbell choir, and worship will be led by clergy and lay leaders of participating churches. Rev. Tim Schaefer, preaching.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

- DEC 3** ADVENT BEGINS
Join us for worship on Sundays @ 10:30AM
THEME: How Does a Weary World Rejoice?
- DEC 24** ADVENT CANTATA
10:30 AM The First Baptist Church Choir presents an Advent Cantata in morning worship
- DEC 24** CHRISTMAS EVE
5:30 PM Intergenerational candlelight service with lessons and Advent hymns
- DEC 31** LESSONS & CAROLS
10:30 AM Join us for a special Christmastide service of Lessons & Carols during morning worship

2024 Stewardship Season



“Rooted in Faith & Rooted in Community” makes me think of a tree that is solidly situated in the soil with branches reaching out. The particular tree in my vision is not a single tree alone in a field. Instead, it is part of a forest. That forest is our church.

As a follower of Jesus, I have roots, but my faith is vulnerable to extreme weather. Our world is experiencing a lot of that. Tough times nurture anxiety, cynicism, weaknesses, and blind spots. By joining a community of believers, my faith is made stronger. Encouraged by others, I find time to talk and listen to God. I feel connected to a common cause and often find myself being challenged and inspired to consider different faith perspectives. It is life enriching to be a “tree” in a “forest” of Christians that is diverse in age, race, sexual or gender expression, and economic status. Collectively, our church’s roots and branches extend deeply into the broader community. Our mission is to take a faith-based message of justice, love and equity to our neighborhoods, city, state, country, and world.

Our church has deep roots, and after the difficult time of COVID, there are signs of new growth. We have been a welcoming and affirming church since 1992, and our church’s voice in the larger community as a faith-based support for the LGBTQ+ community has never been stronger. Our Racial Justice Team is providing us with leadership to examine our own biases and become a more anti-racist church. Our worship team plans Sunday morning services that are inspiring and relevant. We sponsor social events, meals, and groups for making

new friends and finding support. Our Outreach Board has identified a score of community organizations that align with our mission to bring justice and resources to the most vulnerable among us.

The attached budget offers a vision for the coming year. It is a proposal and a road map. Because we believe in supporting our staff, personnel costs are a little less than 50% of the budget. Building costs are less than 30%. Our Outreach Board has challenged us to distribute almost 20% of our income to community organizations. We are also proposing increases for initiatives related to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. If you are concerned about the deficit, rest assured that there will be a time set aside, after all the pledges are in, when the Church Leadership Council will reconcile our projected expenses with our projected income. In the end we will have a balanced budget.

There are many ways to offer support to the church. Wherever you are in life, what are you doing to live out God’s plan? How do your thoughts, actions and words show God’s love? How does making a financial pledge to the church fit in with everything else? If you have not pledged money to the church in the past, we hope that you will consider doing so. If you pledged last year, we encourage you to increase your commitment by 5% if you are able. With new pledges and increased pledges, we can continue to grow a church “Rooted in Faith & Rooted in Community”.

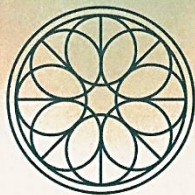
This year, we will kick off our stewardship season on Pledge Sunday, November 12, with a 3-week sermon series that will encourage us to transform our stewardship practices into more full expressions of who we are and what we believe. As you consider your pledge for 2024, we ask that you give out of your abundance and with a thankful heart.

For planning purposes, it is very helpful to receive financial pledges by November 26th.

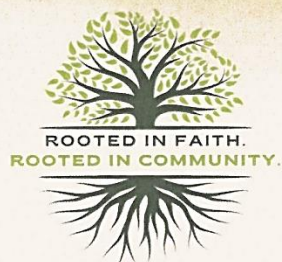
Peace,

Your Church Leadership Council, Paul Chotlos, Erica Kersten, Bill Fiore, Carla Eakins, Deb Chotlos, Wynn Davies, Alan Ferguson

[CLICK HERE FOR BUDGET](#)



**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
OF MADISON



2024 Pledge Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

If this pledge is a joint or family pledge, the additional family members to whom this pledge should apply includes:

I/we commit to payments in the amount of: \$ _____

I/we commit to payments every (check one): ___ Week ___ Month ___ Quarter ___ Year

Payment method (check one): ___ ACH ___ Credit/Debit ___ Cash/Check ___ IRA/Trust

FOR A TOTAL YEARLY PLEDGE OF \$ _____

Check any that apply:

- I/we would like to receive monthly offering envelopes.
- I/we would like more information about Planned Giving.
- I/we would like to set up automatic payments. Please contact me/us to help.
- I/we would like more information about IRA/Trust Fund transfers.
- I/we would like more information about supporting First Baptist Church when shopping with Amazon.

Signature _____



Scan the QR Code to submit your pledge online, or visit firstbaptistmadison.org/pledge.

What We Talked About

On Sunday, October 22nd, we completed a very successful session of “Let’s Talk”, to learn about ourselves and about FBC as we continue our work on race. This session was organized jointly by the Racial Justice Team (RJT) and the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC), to begin taking the “pulse” of our congregation around racial justice. After sharing a meal together, we organized into tables of 6-7, reviewed DEIB principles (diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging) and then shared our thoughts on a series of related questions - our feelings about implementing this practice into our church functions, our vision on how we might accomplish that, and how it would be different from the present. We had good attendance, with 44 people attending, both in person and on-line. We had a variety of age groups, racial make-up, and both long term members as well as newer, young attendees. Discussions covered a wide variety of responses and suggestions, so a general summary of the table conversations are as follows:

There were many who had little or no knowledge of DEIB but there were as many who were somewhat familiar or more experienced with DEIB and a very small number who were very knowledgeable. General inexperience with this concept is indicative that we need more education.

There was a full range of **emotions** that arose when considering the implementation of DEIB into FBC, including:

Happy/hopeful (to begin the process), sad/impatient/angry (that we hadn’t begun sooner), confused/anxious (how do we begin?), skeptical/uncertain/feeling ill-equipped (can we really be effective? Do we know how to meet the needs of people of color?), positive (looking forward to the work), uncomfortable (with difficult conversations), and curious (what will our racial justice work entail?)

Discussion of the **vision** for the future of DEIB at FBC included the hope to build on what we have

already done to achieve a more diverse congregation, including leadership roles, conscious efforts to make the church more welcoming to people of color, finding opportunities to build diverse relationships, opening the pulpit to more Black preachers/teachers, and having a variety of music styles. Many questioned whether our church is comfortable for people of color, that we can improve on having more outward signs to make the experience more welcoming.

Overall, there was a sense of interest, curiosity, and engagement within the discussions. Two common threads among many participants were the knowledge and appreciation of DEIB, but the feeling that it is difficult to incorporate, and the observation that our worship services are quite “rigid”, which may alienate people of color. It was suggested that as a white church, we may be content and complacent with the way things have been, although showing signs of positive change through Pastor Tim’s leadership. The discussions were rich and honest, a good beginning to work towards racial justice, indicative that there is a real interest and commitment to begin walking this path together. We have made progress, but there is still much work to be done.

Please join us for these important conversations at upcoming “Let’s Talk” sessions.

*Mary Fiore for the RJT and PRC:
Anna Donahoe, Gil Emmert, Alan Ferguson, Mary Fiore, Beth Gunshor, Bill Hausler, Gloria Hawkins, Rebecca Hebblewhite, Erica Kersten, Linda Stamm*

“Let’s Talk”—Apology and Appreciation

I recognize there were those of you who were interested in participating virtually in the October 22, 2023, “Let’s Talk” session. While the Zoom link was provided in the October *Visitor*, it wasn’t provided again on the 22nd. Please accept my heartfelt apology for that oversight. You and your voices were missed. There is information about the discussions in this *Visitor*. The discussion questions are here if you would like to reflect on them.

After “Let’s Talk”, What’s Next?

1. How familiar are you with the practice of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) on a scale of 1-5 (I am not familiar at all...I am very familiar)?
2. What are three feelings that come up when you think about implementing/bringing the practice of DEIB into FBC?
3. Let’s all take 1 minute to come up with as many examples of DEIB, as it relates to race, that we might put into practice at FBC. OR What is 1 part of your vision of DEIB, as it relates to race, at FBC? What is 1 thing that might need to change at FBC to realize this vision?
4. Overarching questions: What would your vision be of a Diverse, Equitable, Inclusive, Belonging FBC, particularly as it relates to race? How would it be different from the present?

While I realize it’s not the same as engaging in conversations, you are welcome to provide your feedback to me, and we will update our summary to include that. I apologize again for the oversight.

In addition to apologizing, I would like to express my appreciation to all the PRC and RJT members who worked to bring this “Let’s Talk” session to fruition. We extend special thanks to the kitchen crew who have a great system of setting up, serving and cleaning up. We were grateful to those of you who invested your time and energy by attending and engaging. There were many of you who not only engaged in the conversations, but also helped break the room back down! What a caring community!

That “Let’s Talk” session was just a start. The work is not done for us as individuals or as a church. Please take time to reflect on DEIB in terms of your own life and join us in future endeavors to make it more of a reality at FBC.

Thank you!

*Linda Stamm for the Pastoral Relations Committee
& Racial Justice Team*

We’ve had that session, so now what do we do? While there’s work for us to do as a church regarding DEIB, there’s also work for us to do as individuals. After all, individuals make up the church! The church is in the midst of determining how we move forward. Here are some thoughts about how we can move forward individually.

The Racial Justice Team hosted a book study of The Color of Compromise by Jemar Tisby in 2022. You may or may not have read the book and participated. I encourage you to read or reread the book. It does provide a comprehensive look at “the American church’s complicity in racism.” That complicity still exists. Racism still exists and is even found in places as “welcoming and affirming” as First Baptist Church. For example, over the course of FBC’s history, have African Americans been considered for pastoral positions? Do we regularly solicit bids from African American vendors for church projects?

Ibram X. Kendi offers some definitions of racism in his book, How to be an Antiracist. “Racism is a marriage of racist policies and racist ideas that produces and normalizes racial inequities...Racial inequity is when two or more racial groups are not standing on approximately equal footing...A racist policy is any measure that produces or sustains inequity between racial groups...Racism itself is institutional, structural and systemic...”

It can feel overwhelming and even paralyzing trying to figure out what to do. While it is not a checklist, because this is ongoing work, one approach is the ARC of Racial Justice, created by Jemar Tisby. It is a useful framework to utilize.

The A is for Awareness. Tisby says, “To increase your capacity to fight your own complicity in racism, you can start by increasing your awareness of the issues and people involved.” In addition to reading, he provides some other examples of how to do this: “Diversify your social media feed by following racial and ethnic minorities...” and “Access websites and podcasts (on a variety of topics, not just racial ones), created by racial and ethnic minorities.”

The R is for Relationships. Tisby says, “The long history of racial segregation in this country coupled with the tendency to associate with those most like ourselves has left all of us in mostly homogeneous social networks.” According to Tisby, one can “find new places to hang out” or “join a sport, club or activity with people who are different.” Keep in mind that “you may have to engineer these opportunities, but they can lead to organic friendships that cross traditional lines of social division.” It is critical to examine the power dynamics that may be at play in our relationships. Are we operating from a level playing field, as peers or is the White person operating from a place of power and privilege as the helper and rescuer?

The C is for Commitment. Tisby says, “Commitment to the ARC model requires a total shift in disposition so that antiracist activity is a way of life, not simply a topic to which you give occasional and superficial attention.” Some action steps towards developing a lifelong commitment include, “create something that speaks to racial justice,” “join an organization that advocates for racial justice...” and “speak with candidates about their views of racial justice and the policies they advocate.”

What’s next for you?

Linda Stamm for the RJT: Anna Donahoe, Alan Ferguson, Mary Fiore, Beth Gunshor, Gloria Hawkins

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Update from the October Trustees’ Meeting

Here are some key items from our meeting...

- 1) For renters, we clarified the distinction between “agreements” (short term renters) vs “contracts” (long term renters).
- 2) We established a mechanism by which for-profit individuals/organizations that align with our values may be approved for rental.

- 3) We worked on a preliminary 2024 budget for Trustee items.

Feel free to contact me or a board member with any questions. Peace.

– *Bill Hausler for the Board of Trustees*

FROM THE BOOKKEEPER

September Financial Report

The September reports, they finally are in balance!

I had requested ABEC to transfer funds to the church's BMO Harris account from both the Capital Reserve and Designated Accts there in September (one early in September and the other late in September) to help with cash flow, but neither were received during September. At this point the ABEC Capital Reserve still owes the budget \$3,938.90, plus an additional \$9,761.59 to bring the 18620 Repairs & Maintenance down to the budgeted amount of \$5,000 and leave only \$5,353.63 in the Uncommitted Capital Reserve. If and when we receive that transfer, the budget will have a slight surplus to date, but the year-to-date budget deficit is \$5,543.24.

I did transfer all the funds designated in the budget to 10006 Transfer Other Funds, otherwise the deficit would have been even larger. Budget lines newly exceeding their annual budget in September include 17177 Pastor - Hospitality, 17223 Bookkeeper, and 18909 Fire Extinguisher Testing.

If you wish to receive the monthly reports or have any questions, please contact at bookkeeping@firstbaptistmadison.org.

– *Nancy Moore, FBC’s Bookkeeper*

FROM THE CHOIR



**FBC CHOIR
JOIN US!**



Hi Everyone,

When I think about what makes me happy, I know it's music! And, within music, it's singing. Yes, it's singing!

You don't have to have a gorgeous voice to join us, so please consider coming to our rehearsals on **Mondays at 6:45 PM** and sing with us in worship on **Sundays at 10:30 AM**.

It will make you happy!

You are invited to find out more about this opportunity or in joining the choir, please contact Youngjoo Hong, Music Director, youngjoo@firstbaptistmadison.org or call the office (608) 233-1998.

– Ann Nelson, FBC Choir Member

FROM THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

Board of Outreach Support

Milwaukee Christian Center

In each Visitor your Board of Christian Outreach would like to report on one of the groups we support through the Outreach Budget.

The Milwaukee Christian Center is an ABC ministry whose mission is to build strong neighborhoods. The areas of focus are housing, youth development, older adults, food security and neighborhood revitalization.

Milwaukee Christian Center recently reported they are in full swing for the fall. They will have before and after school programs at multiple sites across Milwaukee. Their art projects will focus on Joan Miro, Catalan painter and sculptor. MCC also sponsors a Violence Free Zone program that mentors students to decrease disruptive behavior and develop life skills.

Youth are harvesting produce from the Growing Connections Youth Development Garden, a summer project guided by student interns from UW Extension. MCC has also announced a new Youth Build site.

American Baptist Women of Wisconsin had been assigned Milwaukee Christian Center as the AB Women's project. For many years the women in our church supported Milwaukee Christian Center with items we purchased from a list of clothes, art supplies, books, sports equipment, and other requests. When MCC moved to their new building First Baptist church members took a bus trip to tour and learn about their programs. We decided to purchase window coverings for their education room to make it easier to see projected information.

You can learn more about Milwaukee Christian Center at <https://mccwi.org>.

The Board of Outreach Thanks You!

Thank you FBC and friends for giving to the four denominational offerings (numbers as of mid-October):

America for Christ (\$3,245), One Great Hour of Sharing (\$5,580), Retired Ministers and Missionaries (\$1,555), World Mission (\$2,920).

These gifts about equaled or exceeded giving in 2022. Know that you are making a difference in ABC-USA's national and world-wide ministries.

–Board of Christian Outreach Members, Cheryl Castillo, Wynn Davies, Barb Henning, Lynette Miller, Dennis Ray

Order Your Poinsettias Today



I don't know about you, but for me, time feels like it's zooming by! It seems like just yesterday that I was writing about ordering roses for Remembrance Sunday. Now I'm writing again to encourage you to order poinsettias! The order form is included in this Visitor.

The plants are \$10.00 each and the **orders are due by noon on December 1st.**

Please consider ordering a poinsettia plant(s) as a way to decorate our church for the coming **Advent season, beginning on December 3rd. They will be displayed in the church beginning December 10th. You can take them home beginning December 24th after the service.**

If you are unable to pick up your plant, then, please contact Blanca James, FBC's Administrative Secretary, to make arrangements to pick up your plant. Furthermore, if you'd like a plant, but are unable to purchase one, you may still complete an ordering form noting that. We will have a poinsettia plant for you.

Order form and options are available on page 11; or use the following link to order online:

[**CLICK HERE TO ORDER**](#)

Let's join together to adorn our church as we await the coming of Christ this Advent season! Thank you!

—Linda Stamm, Flower Coordinator

Clothes Dryers and Energy Use

It's hard to write something about clothes dryers in the 21st century without thinking about the beginning of clothes drying (and washing). Just a quick Google search and I found this statement:

“After boiling, ‘blueing’, starching, and rinsing, the washing had to be dried. In the winter, or in wet weather, the washing had to be dried indoors. Lines were strung across the kitchen and the kitchen fire left quite high so that the washing dried through the night.” *From the collections of Bruce Castle Museum (Haringey Archive and Museum Service)*

My purpose for the Green Team on the subject is to just give a couple of tips on cloths drying:

- Your dryer is responsible for about 6% of home energy use. Add dryer balls to your next load (especially those made of wool). This will reduce drying time by creating space between your clothes, reducing drying time by 25%.
- Air drying is the best choice for climate issues. If you don't have the luxury of outdoors, clothesline, consider using drying racks or hanging clothes inside. It's not only better for the climate, but easier on your clothes.
- Dry towels and heavier cottons in a separate load from lighter-weight clothes.
- Don't over-dry your clothes. If your machine has a moisture sensor, use it.
- Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load to improve air circulation.
- Use the cool-down cycle to allow the clothes to finish drying with the residual heat in the dryer.
- Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. **This will save energy and may prevent a fire.** Manufacturers recommend using rigid venting material. Plastic vents may collapse and cause blockages.

Good to Know:

Purchasing new laundry equipment
Look for the [ENERGY STAR®](#) label when buying washers and dryers.

- ENERGY STAR® washers clean clothes using 40% less energy than standard washers. Most full-sized ENERGY STAR® washers use 18 to 25 gallons of water per load, compared to the 40 gallons used by a standard machine.
- ENERGY STAR® models also spin the clothes more effectively, resulting in less drying time.
- Consider switching from electric to natural gas when replacing your water heater or clothes dryer.

If interested in some of the history, read *Washday in the 1920s* on the following website:

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/memories_on_a_monday_attachment_for_23_march_2020_washday_in_the_1920s_by_leonie_kitchener.pdf

This article brought back many memories of my mom and grandmother's washdays.

– Barb Henning for the Green Team: Lynette Miller, Wynn Davies, Gil Emmert, Mary Ray

FROM THE BOARD OF ED

Wednesdays Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, November 15 - 5:30PM
Fellowship Hall



Invite a Friend

Join us for a church potluck meal every third Wednesday of the month. If you haven't attended previously, it is a relaxing social event with awesome food and conversation. You should come!

We hope to see you there!

– Deb Chotlos for the Board of Education

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

Released in the Cold of Fall and Winter



WINTER WEAR DRIVE

TO BENEFIT DANE COUNTY JAIL REENTRY PROGRAM

Please donate gently used winter coats, hats, gloves, or boots.
Men's/Women's/Unisex sizes L/XL/2XL/3XL/4XL needed.

PLEASE DONATE YOUR ITEMS BY NOV. 20

The Jail Reentry Coordinator in the Dane County Jail is asking for help. There is an immediate, dire need for winter wear for incarcerated individuals who are being or will be released in the cold of fall and winter.

If you have any gently used winter coats, hats, gloves, or boots that you would like to donate in men's, women's, and unisex sizes L, XL, XXL, 3X, and 4X, please bring them to First Baptist and place them in the clothing box by parking lot entrance.

**Please make your clothing donation by
November 20.**

Link to the Madison Jail Ministry
(<https://www.madisonjailministry.org>)

–Dennis Ray for the Board of Outreach

THANK YOU...FROM

FBC's generosity helps...



October 27, 2023

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

Dear Community Partners,

Thank you for your generous contribution to Allied Partners, a fiscal agency of JustDane.

With your partnership, the work continues to build a more equitable and inclusive community. Because of you- change is possible - thank you.

With sincere appreciation,

Jean Alt,
Office Manager

Gift Amount: \$1,000.00
Gift Date: October 27, 2023

Madison-area Urban Ministry dba JustDane is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

No goods or services were provided in exchange for your generous financial donation.



October 18, 2023

First Baptist Church
Reverend Tim Schaefer
518 N Franklin Ave
Madison, WI 53705-3640

Dear Rev. Schaefer,

What a wonderful thing you have done!



The most heroic of acts come directly from the heart and yours is boundless. Thank you for your generous and compassionate gift of \$300 on 9/27/23 to WI Faith Voice for Justice.

It's a challenging time to be an interfaith education and advocacy organization trying to create a more just and equitable society. Your gift is a bright spot and the encouragement we need to keep fighting to advance the common good.

Your investment will advocate for worker's rights, immigrant rights and racial justice. You are mobilizing faith communities around voter engagement. And you are allowing us to advocate for policies that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion.

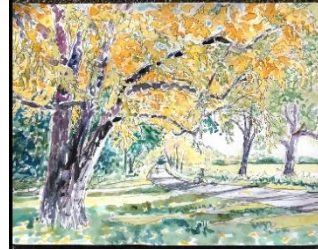
Thank you for your grace, generosity and good will. Your gift is the fuel that keeps us addressing the needs of the hungry, poor, and marginalized. We could not accomplish this work without you.

Rabbi Bonnie Margulis
Executive Director

GIFT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ART EXHIBIT

Watercolors by Doug Haynes



In October, Doug Haynes painted 31 watercolors, 1 per day, and will be exhibiting them on:

Sunday, November 12
1:00PM
1008 Emerald St
Madison, WI 53715

It is open to the public. Images of the art and information can be found at:

<http://emeraldstudio.com/>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Church Family Our Church Family:

Susan H; Glenn F; Nancy M's sister, Marty;
Linda O; Ann P

Our Homebound: Sheila D; Harley Y

Others: Those whose names and needs are unspoken.

(Send your prayer request to the office email at office@firstbaptistmadison.org.)

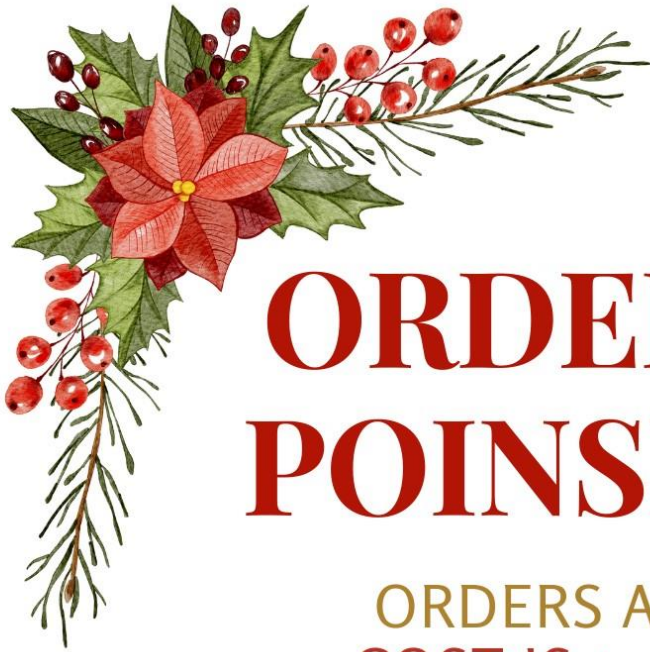
BIRTHDAYS

November

1 Jim L
7 Judy R
8 Carla E
9 Joy M
10 Mary F
10 Johan T
13 Una T
13 Laura CT
14 Deb C
17 Barbara M
20 Mark C
20 Jill T
28 Craig T

December

2 Tyler H
4 Kyle A
7 Sue L
11 Linda C
15 Ryan B
15 Beverly D
18 Linda S
22 Julie B
23 Laurel F
24 Geneva M
30 Lydia H
30 Dianne H
31 Joyce L



ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS

ORDERS ARE DUE 12/1
COST IS \$10 PER PLANT



NUMBER OF POINSETTIAS: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

IN MEMORY / CELEBRATION / APPRECIATION OF:

RETURN YOUR ORDER FORM AND PAYMENT BY MAIL
OR PLACE IN A BLACK COLLECTION BOX
IN THE GATHERING SPACE

**TO ORDER AND PAY ONLINE, VISIT:
FIRSTBAPTISTMADISON.ORG/FLOWERS**



OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

A Sanctified Art / How does a weary world rejoice? Devotional



Paper copies will be available before the end of November. An e-reader version can be accessed here now:

<https://online.flippingbook.com/view/136123036/>

(In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.)

Ways You Can Give

There are several ways you can contribute to your pledge, offerings, memorials, and other gifts. (See blue, boxed information on last page for ways you can give.)

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.

Church Office Hours

Office: Monday – Friday – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
518 N Franklin Ave, Madison WI 53705
(608) 233-1880

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 – 1st of the month, 200-word limit. This monthly newsletter provides church news, summary of activities, future events, and updates.

Worship Service

Sunday Mornings

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

Online

Livestream to Worship:

<http://live.firstbaptistmadison.org>

Zoom Fellowship Time:

Call Office for joining information.

Livestream to YouTube:

<https://tinyurl.com/eubzz6mr>

Livestream to Facebook:

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

If you missed the service, you can go to FBC's YouTube Channel at any time and view it:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJHk7PdGaa700k4UFphlnhw/videos>

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 Office for joining information.

Hourglass Bible Study (Online) – Beginning October 15 and lasting until Easter, The Hourglass class will study the gospel of John, seeing how this gospel complements the three synoptic gospels and deepening our understanding of John's view of the meaning of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection. Newcomers are always welcome--no previous experience is necessary. We also like to provide a safe place where all honest views of the meaning of the scripture are respected and shared.

Hourglass meets via Zoom from 4:30 to 5:30 on Sunday afternoons. Questions? Contact Mary Ray at mbray5@sbcglobal.net.

Join Zoom Meeting - Call Office for joining 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 Office for joining information.

Spiritual Renewal Group 1 (Online) will continue reading The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis. We meet the first and third Monday of the month via Zoom. The next readings are: Monday, November 6 letters 14-19, Monday, November 20 letters 20-25, and Monday, December 4 letters 26-31.

If this sounds interesting to you please join us! Connecting information is give below and if you have questions, please feel free to contact Bill Hausler at hhausler@tds.net or 608-231-2890!

Here is the connecting information.

Join Zoom Meeting- Call Office for joining information.

Spiritual Renewal Group 2 (Online) – The group resumed in September. 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.

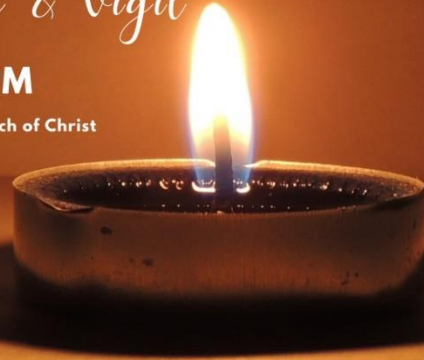
Join Zoom Meeting - Call Office for joining information.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Interfaith Service & Vigil

NOV. 20 6PM

Fitchburg Memorial United Church of Christ
5705 Lacy Road



First Baptist Church of Madison

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

Ways To Give

<p>1</p>  <p>OFFERING BOXES</p> <p>Place your cash or check gift in the black offering boxes located in the Gathering Space.</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>ONLINE</p> <p>firstbaptistmadison.org/give</p> 	<p>3</p>  <p>MOBILE</p> <p>Text the word "GIVE" to (608) 610-1600</p> <p>Or give through the Church App</p> <p>firstbaptistmadison.org/app</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>MAIL</p> <p>Mail your gift to:</p> <p>First Baptist Church 518 N. Franklin Ave. Madison, WI 53705</p>
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