

**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
OF MADISON

The Visitor

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

No. 12

December 11, 2023

Vol. 66

Charity vs. Justice

Baptist News Global, Opinion, Mark Wingfield
May 7, 2021



It's an old saying but true: If you have to keep rescuing people out of a raging river, eventually you ought to walk upstream to see who's throwing those people in the river.

This is the difference between charity and justice. Charity gladly plucks people out of the river because it makes the rescuer feel good about helping someone. And at least those who perform charity have enough heart to reach into the waters and not turn away with a certainty that “those people” surely did something to cause them to fall into the river. Next time, they ought to follow orders, work harder, take more precautions. At least they're not saying that nonsense.

But justice goes beyond charity. Justice sees people drowning in the river and eventually wonders how to stop the problem at the source. Justice might even have to walk away from the rescue mission for a minute to investigate what's happening upstream. The problem for way too many people in the church is that charity looks like missions to them but justice looks like politics. And God forbid if the church gives even the appearance of engaging in politics — unless it's your preferred politics.

Have you noticed how an aversion to “politics” in the church most often gets raised by people motivated by politics?

In my experience, at least, those who sound the alarm over politics in the pulpit or politics in the missions projects are animated by a political view that has supplanted religious teaching — or the fear that someone else, maybe a big donor or influential family in the church, will be offended because of their own politics.

Here's a current-day example: We cannot talk about refugees without talking about immigration. Yet there are some in the church who will volunteer and give their money to refugee ministries but become offended when the topic turns to immigration policy. They have been conditioned — by politicians more than preachers — to think of immigration as a politically divisive topic.

“The problem for way too many people in the church is that charity looks like missions to them but justice looks like politics.”

Again, it's nice that these folks are willing to love and serve refugees. That's fantastic. But that is the work of plucking people out of the river and giving them dry clothes.

The love of God compels us to ask how those refugees got in the river in the first place and why they nearly drowned before anyone helped them out. We have refugees to serve because of immigration.

Another example is food and clothing. And here's where the American church of the 20th century became a victim of its own do-gooding. We were trained to believe that missions means running food pantries and clothes closets.

Once again, the world needs food pantries and clothes closets. These are essential and Christ-like ministries. But are we just going to keep handing out food and clothes forever without stopping to ask why people are hungry and naked?

Surely this must be one of the meanings of the scriptural admonition to not grow weary in well-doing. When the church — or its affiliated ministries

— keeps spinning the wheel of bailing people out without learning how to stop the wheel, weariness is the natural result.

There's got to be a better way, a more holistic way that keeps plucking people out of the river while putting up some safety rails so that not so many people keep falling into the water.

“Are we just going to keep handing out food and clothes forever without stopping to ask why people are hungry and naked?”

That better way is to address the systemic problem. And, aha!, just by my use of the word “systemic” you're likely already tensing up and thinking, “Ooh, that's political.”

Why is it political? Who says? Why must we believe that?

It's only true because politicians have said it's true. The very people whose public trust should compel them to go investigate who's throwing people into the river want to obscure their ineffectiveness by saying we can't talk about the system they're in charge of.

Yes, we can do charity all day long and avert our eyes to the reality of systematic injustice. When we take that approach, nothing will ever change. We'll need to be down at the river every day plucking people out — or paying someone else to be down at the river. In the past, that passed for missions.

Justice — the kind of justice preached by the Hebrew prophets and Jesus alike — does its best to make charity no longer necessary.

Charity promises people a better life some day in the by and by. Justice is what happens when God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Permission to share this article from Mark Wingfield, author of this article, serves as executive director and publisher of Baptist News Global.

FROM THE MODERATOR

Pledging Update –December 2023



Thank you to everyone making a financial pledge to the church for 2024.

As of December 7th, we have 41 pledges for a total of \$187,958. Nineteen of us were able to increase their giving, and there are three new pledges.

Last year the church received 59 financial pledges for a total of \$246,601 so we have a bit further to go on the stewardship journey.

If you plan to submit a pledge and have not yet done so, we would appreciate hearing from you soon.

We ask that you give out of your abundance and with a thankful heart.

Peace,

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

[CLICK HERE FOR BUDGET](#)

[CLICK HERE TO PLEDGE](#)

FROM THE RJT

Advent Greetings from the Racial Justice Team!



As we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ in our lives and the world, please join the Racial Justice Team (RJT) as we prepare ourselves and work towards racial justice. We can do that through prayer, introspection as well as by the dismantling of things within us, our church and our community that work against that.

The RJT is offering you an ornament to remind each of us of that work. We will only have fifty (50) available. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per ornament. **Please complete the order form on page 14**, place order and your donation in the black boxes on the kiosk in the Gathering Space, mail it to the office, or contact the church office by Friday, December 15th.

The ornaments will be available before church on December 24th . If you cannot make the donation and would like an ornament, please complete the form and email it to the office or contact the office. In addition to that, for those of you who worship online and order an ornament, we'll make sure you receive it. Thank you.

Linda Stamm for the RJT: Anna Donahoe, Alan Ferguson, Mary Fiore, Beth Gunshor, Tim Schaefer

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Update from the November Trustees' Meeting

Here are some key items from our meeting...

1. We received the quarterly report from the Trustee Investment and Planned Giving Subcommittee. This included updates on the

Endowment Fund, Communion Fund, and other funds and accounts. We also approved the distribution of bequests as requested and the consolidation of small memorial funds. The subcommittee will investigate ways to provide information to the congregation on planned giving.

2. We approved a partnership with the nonprofit Fair Wisconsin. They would apply for a Grant (Carpenter Grant). If received, it will be channeled through the religious organization partner (us).
3. Nancy Emmert will be the Trustee representative to the Church Council.
4. We received updates on repairs/maintenance as well as contracts for cleaning service and renters for 2024.
5. We continue to explore the use of an HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) for both the Pastor and Administrative Secretary.

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

Bill Hausler for the Board of Trustees

FROM THE FBC BOOKKEEPER

Financial Report for October 2023

The budget now has a \$5,779.80 surplus, after receiving the requested transfer of Capital Reserve funds from the American Baptist Extension Corporation. However, we still need to transfer an additional \$3,741.22 to bring the Repairs & Maintenance line down to its budgeted amount, and there is only \$5,115.22 in Uncommitted Capital Reserve to last until the end of the year.

We are 83.33% through the year, but Pledged and Unpledged Income, as well as Use of Facilities, are below that. However, Unpledged Income did receive over half of its annual budgeted amount in October. Backflow testing, which should be done annually, was well over its budgeted amount, but it had not been done since 2018.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Nancy Moore, FBC Bookkeeper

FROM THE BOARD OF ED

Spreading Good Cheer Saturday, December 16 9AM–Hearth Room



Celebrate the holiday season with a morning of caroling and spreading good cheer on Saturday, December 16. Plan to gather in the Hearth Room (aka Choir Room) at 9AM for instructions.

We will be delivering Christmas carols, cookies, and glad tidings to home bound friends. For questions contact Deb Chotlos.

Looking for Volunteers



If you enjoy working with children, the Board of Education is looking for volunteers to help with childcare on Sunday mornings during worship on a rotating basis.

We have prepared activities and lessons for the children. Our nursery is set up for infants to 5-year-olds. The elementary room has stations set up for Godly play.

Please contact Deb Chotlos if you are interested in providing this ministry for children.

Wednesdays Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, December 20 - 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. We hope to see you there!

Deb Chotlos for the Board of Education

FROM THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

2023 Christmas Offering

At Christmas time, it has been our tradition to share love through a Christmas offering to organizations meeting needs in our community. In consideration of our church mission, the Board of Outreach has chosen Allied Fresh and the Black Business Hub Accelerator Program as the recipients.



December 2023

Dear Friends,

As we approach Christmas, we are beginning to celebrate the gift of love that God has given us as shown in Jesus' birth. It has been our tradition to share that love through a Christmas offering to organizations meeting needs in the Madison community. In consideration of our church mission "to follow Jesus by doing justice, loving people, and advocating for equity," the Board of Outreach has chosen Allied Fresh and the Black Business Hub Accelerator Program as the recipients of this year's offering.



Allied Fresh is a Mobile Food Pantry in the heart of Allied Dumm's Marsh neighborhood. Every Friday afternoon volunteers pre-pack food boxes containing about 40 pounds of such items as fresh produce, rice, beans, milk, eggs, flour, bread, and frozen protein/meat for around 100 households (most of whom are Latinx). Residents pick up a food box at one of three locations in a reasonable walking distance. Hand trucks are available. Residents use Allied Fresh because of their need for food and the hardship required to get it anywhere else. Most families do not own a vehicle and it is a 45-minute bus ride to the nearest large food pantry or grocery store. It costs Allied Fresh about \$250 per year for one family. Food is supplied by Second Harvest Foodbank. Volunteers come from the community, including UW-Madison students. The fiscal agent for Allied Fresh is currently Badger Prairie Needs Network in Verona.



The Black Business Hub Accelerator Program is a new program of the Urban League of Greater Madison, created to support entrepreneurs with training, technical assistance, coaching, and mentorship. The need for this program is driven by our region's racial disparities in wealth and in Black business ownership. In Dane County, only 0.4% of businesses with more than one employee are Black-owned. The Black Business Hub's overarching goal is to narrow the racial wealth gap by providing access to the capital and other resources needed to build flourishing businesses. Our Christmas offering will focus on providing culturally-relevant technical assistance, coaching, mentoring, and mutual support. The technical assistance will include individualized coaching to develop strategic business plans, connections to other business support resources, mentorship, and access to a network of culturally competent business experts. These program services will be provided by the Urban League of Greater Madison directly and through its partners including the Madison Black Chamber of Commerce, City of Madison, Dane County, and a growing list of other business support service collaborators.

Your Christmas offering will be divided between the two organizations. Thank you for considering the addition of this offering to your Christmas gift list.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas.

Your Board of Outreach: Cheryl Castillo, Wynn Davis, Barbara Henning, Lynette Miller, Dennis Ray

Please see offering letter on page 12.

About Allied Fresh



Allied Fresh (AF) is a Mobile Food Pantry in the heart of the Allied Dunn's Marsh neighborhood. They deliver pre-packed food boxes containing 40 pounds of fresh produce, rice, beans, milk, eggs, bread, and meat to 100 households every Friday afternoon. There are three pick-up locations: Jenewein Road, Chalet Gardens, and Britta Parkway.

About the Black Business Hub Accelerator Program



BBHAP is a program of the Urban League of Greater Madison, created to support Black entrepreneurs with capital, training, technical assistance, coaching, and mentorship to help their businesses thrive.

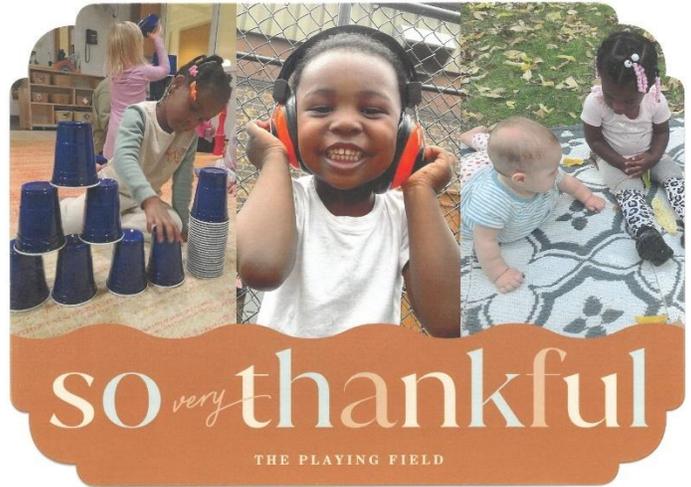
To give online, you can in one of three ways:



Scan the QR code and follow the link
Visit <http://firstbaptistmadison.org/specialoffering/>
Text the word "CHRISTMAS" to
(608) 610-1600

Other Ways FBC's Generosity Has Helped

The Playing Field - offers the highest level of early care and education to children from varied socio-economic backgrounds.



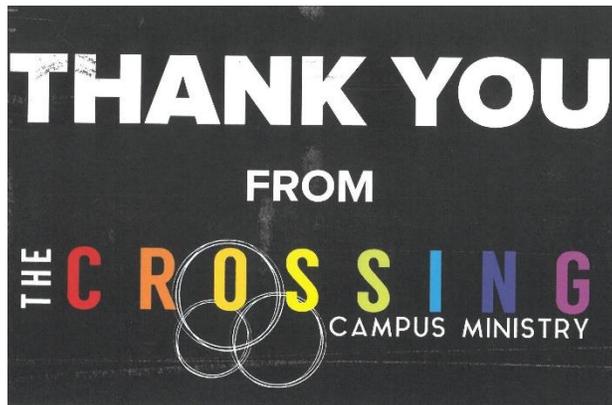
JustDane - helps ensure a person has the chance to put the pieces of their lives back together; creating a community where everyone has an opportunity to succeed.

*Dear Friends at Just Baptist,
As we celebrate JustDane's 50th Anniversary we also want to take a moment to give thanks for our friends. We are keenly aware that our ministry is made possible by the generous support of our partners like you.*

We are truly grateful for your gifts, for your compassion and for your commitment to justice. On behalf of the Board and Staff of JustDane, thank you.

*With deep appreciation and a faith
Tina Ketchum, Director*

The Crossing Campus Ministry - weekly and monthly programming at THE CROSSING includes small groups that address important community issues and Wednesday Dinner Worship gatherings.



Allied Food Pantry - The Pantry exists to provide nutritious food to those who are in need and cannot at the moment totally support themselves.



Dear Board of Outreach,

Thank you for the generous gift of household essentials and personal products to the Allied Food Pantry. We are grateful to be able to provide our pantry guests with items essential for the care of their families.

In 2023, the Allied Food Pantry is serving three times the number of guests as this time last year. Donations such as this are critical for our continued service to the Allied Dunn's Marsh community.

Sincerely,
Janice Ferguson,
Allied Food Pantry



ABC – WI – Camp Tamarack – Camp Tamarack offers a retreat for youth and adults of all beliefs throughout the year.

Dear Congregation of First Baptist Church -
Thank you so much for your continued support of Camp Tamarack. Your monetary gift is very much appreciated.

Camp Tamarack continues to be an active ministry of ABC-WI with all the interaction of our Camp friends and families.

Grace and Peace as we head in to this Advent season -
Rev. Anthony Duggan

MOSES (Madison Organizing in Strength, Equity, and Solidarity) – for Criminal Justice Reform - MOSES is a non-partisan interfaith organization that works to promote social justice with a focus on ending mass incarceration. MOSES is an affiliate of [WISDOM](http://www.wisdom.org).
<https://www.mosesmadison.org/>

October 28, 2023

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

Dear Friends of MOSES at First Baptist,

Thank you very much for your July donation to MOSES in the amount of \$400.00! 2023 is our 11th year, and we are still adjusting to the reality of a post-Covid environment, experimenting to find a good ratio between in-person and Zoom gatherings. For the year-to-date, MOSES members have been active in all of WISDOM's statewide work groups—notably Post Release and Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD)—and in local Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) efforts. At the county level, we have played a major role in discussions around the jail consolidation project. As 2023 is a state budget year, our advocacy work has also focused on the priorities identified by WISDOM's Transformational Justice campaign.

In recognition of your contribution, your name will be listed in the 2023 MOSES yearbook as a Sustainer.

Thanks again! We truly appreciate your generous support.

Sincerely,

Phil Carlson
MOSES Treasurer

Urban League of Greater Madison – The mission of the Urban League of Greater Madison is to ensure that African Americans and other community members are educated, employed and empowered to live well, advance professionally and contribute to the common good in the 21st Century.



November 14, 2023

First Baptist Church
C/O Rev. Dr. Michael Newheart
518 N Franklin Ave
Madison, WI 53705-3699

Dear Rev. Dr. Michael Newheart,

On behalf of the Urban League of Greater Madison, I would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$400.00 which we received on 9/29/2023. Your investment will help us educate, employ, and empower our community.

Since our organization began, our mission has been to eliminate social and economic barriers for African Americans, other people of color, and the economically disadvantaged in Dane County by transforming our community into a place of opportunity, personal and professional growth, prosperity, and success for everyone.

Your contribution supports a wide array of free programs and services that support youth, adults, families, and communities. This includes academic tutoring and coaching, career exploration, job readiness, after school and summer programming, and much more for youth. It includes job training, placement and coaching in high demand fields such as construction, healthcare, finance, insurance, molecular diagnostics, K-12 education, and many others. It includes programming for families such as financial education and homeownership opportunities. It includes civil rights advocacy, community engagement, free legal clinics, cultural celebrations, and so much more.

Our ability to provide these services and respond to community needs is only possible because of thoughtful contributions from people like you. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ruben L. Anthony Jr., Ph.D
President & CEO

THE GREEN CORNER

THE LETTER: A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

From *Blessed Tomorrow Newsletter*, One Home One Future, invites you to gather in-person with others from your congregation, community, or family and friends to watch a screening of **The Letter on December 13, 2023, from 7:00 - 9:00 pm ET/4:00 - 6:00 pm PT. (6:00 – 8:00 PM Central).**

The film, *The Letter*, documents the journeys of five people who received letters inviting them to a meeting with Pope Francis to discuss climate change. It tells the story of these strangers who give voice to the young, poor, indigenous and wildlife. This is a multi-faith event.

[Register Now](#)

THE LETTER: A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

Watch Party Event
December 13
7 - 9PM ET



Break Free From Plastics

And, while you are at the *Blessed Tomorrow Newsletter*, check out another interesting and informative article, “Break Free From Plastics.” It explains issues and offers you a way to contact your Members of Congress to urge them to co-sponsor the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act (H.R.6053/S.3127.) at

<https://www.jewishearthalliance.org/alerts/plastics>

2023 Green Team Award

When you have time, visit the Green Team Table located in the Gathering Space and see what is new.



The Green Team received from **faith in place**, <https://www.faithinplace.org/>, a Green Team Award for the work it’s doing to inform, teach, and participate in protecting our earth.

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

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

Your Winter Wear Donations to the Jail Re-entry Program

The Jail Reentry Coordinator, Paul Hunt, Madison Jail Ministry, picked up many large bags of coats, clothing, gloves, and other miscellaneous items after the FBC Winter Clothing Drive ended. He was very appreciative and touched by FBC’s generosity.



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

SAVE THE DATE

2024 Pledge December 2023



Thank you to everyone making a financial pledge to the church for 2024. Please make your 2024 pledge today.

THE LETTER: A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH Wednesday, December 13, 6:00PM

THE LETTER: A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

Watch Party Event
December 13
7 - 9PM ET



The Green Team invites you to gather in-person with others from your congregation, community, or family and friends to watch a screening of **The Letter** from 6:00 – 8:00 PM Central.

Second Harvest Foodbank Friday, December 15, 8:15AM



Join our team of volunteers in packaging care boxes for families experiencing food insecurity. Contact the church office or Wynn Davies for more information.

Christmas Caroling Saturday, December 16, 9:00AM



Plan to gather in the Hearth Room (aka Choir Room). We will be delivering Christmas carols, cookies, and glad tidings to home bound friends.

Spiritual Renewal Group 1 Monday, December 18, 7:00PM

The Spiritual Renewal will finish reading The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis. The next reading is: Monday, December 18, the last section "Screwtape Proposes a Toast". We will also discuss our next book!

Note: Due to holidays in January we will meet the second and fourth Mondays of January via Zoom at the usual time of 7 PM. If this sounds interesting to you please join us! Connecting information is listed on page -----.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Bill Hausler at hhausler@tds.net or 608-231-2890!

Monthly Church Potluck Wednesday, December 20 | 5:30 PM



Join us for a church-wide potluck meal every Third Wednesday of the month. If you're able, bring a dish to share!

Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 24, 10:30AM



The First Baptist Church Choir will lead us in worship through song and scripture. Nativity Suites: A Cantata for Christmas features familiar sounds of the season. **Come and sing along to your favorites!**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sunday, December 24, 5:30PM



Join us for a special inter-generational candlelight Christmas Eve service.

Service of Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 31, 10:30AM



This year, we'll celebrate Christmastide with a retelling of the Christmas story through Lessons and Carols. Sing along to your favorite Advent & Christmas carols!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Church Family:

Warren L; Bert A; Jim D; the Hebblewhite's friend, Jon; Sheila D; 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

December

January

2 Tyler H	1 Coral B
4 Kyle A	3 Jan A
7 Sue L	4 Ann N
8 Tim S	5 Brenda L
11 Linda C	9 Judy S
15 Ryan B	18 Doris F
15 Beverly D	23 Paul C
18 Linda S	23 Mary R
22 Julie B	25 Virginia E
23 Laurel F	26 Amanda C
24 Geneva M	26 Herman T
30 Lydia H	27 Bert A
30 Dianne H	29 Dennis R
31 Joyce L	29 Jeff M
	31 Bryn A



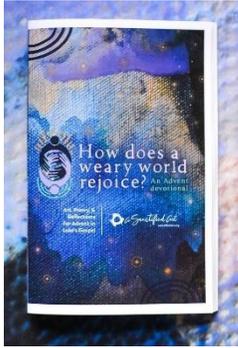
HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

— *Happy Holidays!* —

The church office will close
Dec. 22 @ noon and will
re-open January 2

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

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



Paper copies are available in the Gathering Space or call the office.

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

SEE SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS ABOVE

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>



December 2023

Dear Friends,

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Your Christmas offering will be divided between the two organizations. Thank you for considering the addition of this offering to your Christmas gift list.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas.

Your Board of Outreach: Cheryl Castillo, Wynn Davis, Barbara Henning, Lynette Miller, Dennis Ray



To give online, you can scan the QR code
Visit www.firstbaptistmadison.org/specialoffering
Text the word "CHRISTMAS" to (608) 610-1600

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) – 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 finish reading The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis. The next reading is: Monday, December 18, the last section "Screwtape Proposes a Toast". We will also discuss our next book!

Note: Due to holidays in January we will meet the second and fourth Mondays of January via Zoom at the usual time of 7 PM.

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

Join Zoom Meeting - Call Office for joining information.

Spiritual Renewal Group 2 (Online) – 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.

Christmas Ornament Order Form



**Suggested
Donation:
\$10**

Consider donating
another \$10 to help
someone else take
an ornament home



First Baptist Church: Racial Justice Team

I would like to order a Christmas Ornament.

Name: _____

Number of Ornaments: _____

Amount Donated: _____

Unable to donate, please send me an ornament.

Visit [Donate/Other Fund / Note Christmas Ornaments](#)

Mail to the office 518 N Franklin Ave, Madison, WI 53705

Black Box place your order in the black box in the Gathering Space

**Thank you for your support of the work and efforts of the Racial Justice Team
(RJT).**

WELCOME TO 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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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

Every Sunday @ 10:30 AM

Holiday Schedule

Sunday, December 24 @ 10:30 AM – Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 24 @ 5:30 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 31 @ 10:30 AM – Service of Lessons & Carols

Next Publication: First Week of January 2024 – Article deadline is 1st of the month
/ 200 word limit.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL - MAILED – 12/11/23