



The Tidings

FBC's monthly newsletter



First Baptist Church, 125 S.E. Cows St., McMinnville, OR 97128
503-472-7941 • www.fbcmac.org • office@fbcmac.org

FBC's annual Christmas Concert and Candlelit Dessert Buffet Sunday, December 8th at 6:30 pm



Join us to celebrate the season of Christmas through music. Concert repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary, featuring performances by many talented musicians - the FBC Choir, Ukulele Ukestra, Jubilee Bells, a men's ensemble, Heidi Toth, Tim Duerfeldt, Max Dixon, Brynn Hurdus, Rob Porter, Dave King, Heidi & Matt Reinker, Nadya King, Emma Linder, Daphne Riddle, Muriel Dresser, Nancy McCann, Bob McCann, Frosty Lay, Marilyn Dresser, Dave & Debbie Harmon-Ferry, and more - plus a visit from old FBC friend Rob Rife (before he and Rae move overseas in the spring). Following the concert in the Sanctuary - enjoy the annual dessert potluck in the Gathering Room - bring a special holiday favorite to share.

Advent HAPPENINGS...

Sunday, Dec. 1

Church Family Holiday Gathering - 11:15 am

All are invited to this after-church intergenerational gathering. Share in lunch, games, crafts, conversation, and wagon rides downtown pulled by Wayne Beckwith's "reindeer"!

Sunday, Dec. 15

Church Family Open House - 3-7 pm

Everyone is welcome to Pastor Erika's home, 1929 NW Fir, McMinnville, for some holiday cheer.

McMinnville Youth Collective Christmas Party - 5-7 pm
at First Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday, Dec. 18

Service of Remembrance - 7 pm

This service of song, scripture, and ritual makes space for those experiencing difficulty or heartache this season.

Sunday, Dec. 22

Christmas Caroling - 3 pm

Join in sharing gifts of song and presence with FBC friends.



Christmas Eve - Tuesday, Dec. 24

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols - 7 pm
Come to usher in the Christ child in community.

Advent is all about holding your breath. It's all about the promise of what's to come - that unexpected in-breaking that will change the world as we know it. We talk about it; we read about it;

we sing about it; we count down the days... We wait for it. We're told that patience is a virtue. There's wisdom in that, of course. And yet - there are some things in our world, some things in our own lives, that just cannot wait. There is what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once referred to as "the fierce urgency of now" also confronting us daily, a world that demands our engagement, a world that calls forth a response from us.

This Advent, we'll consider the time-honored traditions of anticipation and expectation - alongside the truths that hope, peace, joy, and love cannot wait.



Financial Report: January to October, 2019

December 2019

	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$242,963	95.5%
Total Income:	\$295,561	95.6%
Total Expenses:	<u>\$282,052</u>	91.2%
Net Income:	\$ 13,509	

Financial Update:

- After 10 months, our income from Contributions is at 95% yet short of our goal by \$ 12,500. Of the net income balance above, a good portion will be spent on building maintenance and repair before the end of December. Having no big repair surprises this year has enabled us to spend more on needed maintenance projects. We have completed three LED upgrade projects this year with most of the cost covered by anonymous donors.

- The Courtyard repair project will be paid from 150th Major Maintenance Project funds. That fund is about \$10,000 short of covering this repair. If you have not completed your pledge and you can do so before the end of the year, that will be very helpful.

We are so appreciative of your financial support! It is a privilege to be together in ministry -
FBC Finance Committee, Jane Apel, Roger Dell, Judee Kunze, Martha VanCleave, Don Watson

Church Board Notes

Expressions of Community & Friendship filled the November meeting. Your Board demonstrates compassion and care in your name each time we meet.

The Matthew 25 group reported that our Social Hall was open as an emergency warming shelter from Oct. 28-Nov. 2. This action was taken as a result of temperatures in the 20's and the Gospel Rescue Mission (GRM) stating they would open their emergency shelter on Dec. 1. Mike Burr presented a letter to the City Council stating our group's concern and disappointment with the Mission. A meeting is being called by the City Council to include the GRM and key members of Matthew 25 group with Rev. Erika Marksbury. The date of the meeting is not yet confirmed.

Highlights from Team Leaders follows:

- Building and Grounds announced discussion of purchasing security cameras. The Board agreed by consensus to proceed.
- Children and Youth shared the success of the "Lock-out" and the parent group met for breakfast early in November.
- Mission reports that Safe Families is beginning to start up at FBC with 7-8 people expressing interest.
- Membership has received back 58 questionnaires. Contact with Linfield's LGBTQ community has been made. A suggestion from membership is

for people to come to the Gathering Room after church to have a chance to visit with one another to help strengthen community.

- Faith Formation reports that many groups and activities are functioning with good success.
- Worship & Community Engagement said feedback on music is good. Classes have adjusted to the new time. They also encourage everyone to submit an advent devotional for the theme of "What Can't Wait?"
- The Financial report is stable at this time. Estimate of Giving cards need to be returned to create a workable budget for 2020.
- Erika mentioned the increase of Sean's hours. He will provide staff support for the Membership and Small Group teams.

Your Board then planned the appreciation luncheon with the Social Team's direction for Sunday, Nov. 17. About 80 members and friends attended the luncheon. Each received a small card thanking them for their contributions to friendship and community at FBC.

Compassion and Friendship are valuable gifts to give and receive this season. May you both receive and give this season. That is what community is all about!

Peace, JoAnn Sims
Moderator



Sunday Worship Highlights

FBC is a Matthew 25 church, inspired by the words of Jesus,
 "Whatever you do unto the least of my sisters & brothers, you do unto me."

9 am - 11:30 am - Nursery care for Infants through Preschool

9 am - Adult Sunday Classes

10:00 am WORSHIP Services

- Dec. 1 Communion Sunday**
1st Sunday of Advent - "Hope Can't Wait"
Jeremiah 33:14-18
 Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching
 Music led by FBC Children & Sean P. Williams
 Offertory from Dave King, Rob Porter, Geoff Clayton,
 and Raina Banu-Clayton

- Dec. 8 2nd Sunday of Advent - "Peace Can't Wait"**
Isaiah 40:1-11
 Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching
 Music led by Robin & Mark Pederson

- Dec. 15 3rd Sunday of Advent - "Joy Can't Wait"**
Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13
 Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching
 Music led by Nancy & Bob McCann
 Offertory from the Ukulele Ukestra

- Dec. 22 4th Sunday of Advent - "Love Can't Wait"**
Luke 1:5-25, 57-80
 Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching
 Music led by Muriel Dresser & the FBC Choir

- Dec. 29 1st Sunday of Christmas - "The Dedication of Jesus**

& All of Us" Luke 2:21-36
 Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Sunday's Chapel Class will be studying *Help, Thanks, Wow!* by Anne Lamott, through Dec. 15. She says, "I do not know much about God and prayer, but I have come to believe...that there's something to be said about keeping prayer simple. Help. Thanks. Wow." This New York Times bestseller explores three simple prayers that help people through tough times, help them celebrate the good times, and help them see God's amazing presence.



Pick up copies of the **ADVENT CALENDAR** with suggested activities each day and the **ADVENT DEVOTIONAL** with contributions from our FBC family to inspire you during the Advent Season. These will be available at the Christmas Family Gathering on December 1, at Sunday worship services in December, and at the church office during the week.

Service of Remembrance

Wednesday, December 18,
7pm in the Sanctuary

For some of us, the holidays are a reminder of heartache - loss of loved ones, memories of what once was, and painful transitions can be difficult to carry alongside the cheer of the season. This service, led jointly by FBC and the CoOp, honors all that we bring with us, making space to remember all that we have loved, and to call on God who loves us through it all. Light a candle, sing a carol, and consider how, even in the midst of sorrow, the Advent promises of hope, peace, joy, and love might be made real this year.

Gather for
 the joy and
 wonder of

CHRISTMAS EVE

7 pm, in the
 Sanctuary



Experience the awe of this age-old story again as we gather around lessons, carols, and candlelight. After a season of balancing the importance of stillness and waiting with the urgency of the moment, we'll consider God's own patience, and urgency, as God breaks into history, comes to be born among us and known within us, this night and forever. Bring family, friends, neighbors - all are welcome, always.



Thanking Our Staff

First Baptist Church has customarily given our staff a financial gift at the end of the year as one way of thanking them for their dedication and devotion to our congregation and community. We are extending the opportunity for thanking our staff financially to each member and friend of First Baptist.

The gifts will be divided equally among the 4 staff who are half time or greater: Erika, Sean, Donna, and Ron. All gifts are completely confidential - only our financial secretary will know who has given.

If you would like to participate, you can put a check, with a note saying "Staff Gift," in the offering plate during worship. Alternatively, you can put cash in an envelope, again marking it "Staff Gift." Or you can mail your gift, marked "Staff Gift," to:

Roger Dell, Financial Secretary
First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cowls St.
McMinnville, 97128

Thank you, and may you be richly blessed during this holy season and throughout the coming year.

Gary Langenwalter, Chair, Personnel Team
Mike Burr, Chair, Pastoral Relations Team

Save the Date . . .

Men's Circle

A new session begins Sunday, January 5, 2020
6:30-8:30 pm in the Fireplace Room

In this moment, this glorious moment, someone's life is changing for better or worse. What do men know of courage, honor, and commitment in this culture? Who is the man sitting next to you?

Where are you going in your own journey?
Bring yourself & a friend and we'll walk the path and learn from each other together.

Contact Daryll Alt: 971-241-1529

Introducing your Church Board members, by the numbers



JANET LANGENWALTER, missions

- has **2** sons, **2** grandchildren, **2** cats, & **0** siblings.
- has visited **49** states, lived in **7** states, and moved **21** times.
- spent **15** years teaching in elementary schools in **3** states - had **84** kindergarten kids in her **1st** teaching job!
- has been a member of First Baptist Church for **5** years.
- has read **31** books and listened to **15** books on tape so far this year. Loves to read and to be read to.
- has been married to Gary for **47** years. Janet is a native Hoosier (from Indiana); Gary is a native Oregonian. They met and married in Birmingham, Michigan - with the stipulation that she would be willing to move to Oregon. She thought she'd love to live in Oregon. It took **32** years and moves to **7** states to get here. **1** of their **2** sons made it to Oregon before they did; they finally made it to Tigard in **2004**. Their older son moved from Portland, Maine to Portland, Oregon **6** months later.

Mission Moments

Partnering with AMOS for Health & Hope in Nicaragua

AMOS Health and Hope will welcome our small but mighty group of travelers to share in their work in Nicaragua in February 2020. We will join with delegates from Christ the King Church of Anacortes, WA, to meet the folks in our partner communities, La Pimienta and El Calderon. Together with AMOS staff we will build water filters, meet the recently trained WASH water promoters, and possibly hold vacation bible school for the area youth.

In April 2018 Nicaragua entered a time of civil unrest, disrupting the lives of everyone in Nicaragua. People lost family members and friends, their livelihood, their access to health care, and more. Many non-governmental organizations left Nicaragua for safety, but AMOS continued their work. From Dr. David Parajon, Executive Director of AMOS:

"AMOS has chosen to remain actively neutral in the midst of the ongoing crisis here in Nicaragua. In the midst of any crisis, the poorest and most vulnerable people are the most affected. We are here to stay. We are here to serve."

There cannot be a better time to remember that AMOS and FBC provide both health AND hope. Yes, we will be working for health when we build the water filters and thereby provide an essential tool to reduce the incidence of diarrhea and so reduce the need to miss school or work. But we will also be walking with them, if only for a few days, to show that, despite their challenges, we believe in the work they do for better health. And we have great hope that their work leads to a better life for their community.

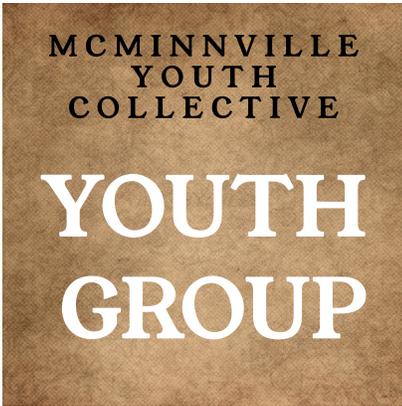


Recently, staff members from the AMOS delegations team have been training WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) promoters in the rural communities of La Majada (Boaco), Banco de Sikia (South Caribbean Region), and the communities of Rancho Pando, La Consulta, El Obraje, and Calderón, and La Pimienta (Chinandega) - where FBC's partnerships happen! Hygiene, kitchen conditions, and functioning of the water filters were the main topics of focus.

To raise funds for our travels and for our 2020 annual commitment to the AMOS rural health care ministry, you will see us selling T-shirts and canvas bags, collecting change during Advent Conspiracy (bring change to make change!), and offering the services of the Nicaragua work team. We will also collect photos of you and greetings from you to share with the families of La Pimienta and El Calderon. We will tell them how our small but mighty band of travelers represent the belief and hope that all of FBC have for the people of their communities.

For more information on the 2020 delegation and our fund-raising efforts contact Jennifer Scott, 971-237-5786, or Cynthia Parker, 214-986-3807. For more information on AMOS Health and Hope visit their website, www.amoshealth.org.

Bring change to make change this Advent! Collect your coins and place them in the offering plate, the jar in the Gathering Room, or bring them by the church office during the week to support AMOS Health & Hope's life-giving work.



Youth Group continues in December as part of the McMinnville Youth Collective!

We'll meet on Sunday, December 8 for a program, games & dinner at First Presbyterian Church!
 MIDDLE SCHOOL: 5-6 pm
 DINNER for ALL: 6-6:30 pm
 HIGH SCHOOL: 6:30-7:30 pm

And Sunday, December 15 is our Christmas Party! We'll meet all together from 5-7pm at First Presbyterian Church for dinner, games, and a gift exchange!

Christmas Family Gathering

The entire FBC community is invited to be part of the next holiday gathering hosted by our children, youth, and families.

We will meet on Sunday, December 1 in the Gathering Room following worship for lunch, conversation, and activities to help us all prepare for Advent.

Plus Wayne Beckwith and his mules will be with us for wagon rides around downtown!

Please plan to join us!

Save the Dates!

March 20-28, 2019
 (over spring break)
for High School Youth
 (9th-12th Grades)
and College Students.

Info Meeting on Sundays, December 8 & January 12, at 12pm in the FBC Social Hall.

Pick up a registration packet at the church now.

Planning and fundraising will begin in January!

Sunday Mornings @ FBC

DECEMBER 2019

December 1
NURSERY: Infants through Preschool, FBC Nursery, 9-11:30 am
WORSHIP @ 10 am: Communion Sunday
 children & youth remain in the Sanctuary for the full worship service

December 8, 15, 22
NURSERY: Infants through Preschool, FBC Nursery, 9-11:30 am
WORSHIP @ 10 am:
Children - Children's Chapel following the Children's Story
Youth - sit with your family/friends, join other youth in the balcony, or help with children

December 29
NURSERY: Infants through Preschool, FBC Nursery, 9-11:30 am
WORSHIP @ 10 am:
 children & youth remain in the Sanctuary for the full worship service`

LUNCH ON CAMPUS
December 4: McMinnville HS ~ **December 11:** Duniway MS ~ **December 18:** Patton MS

COMMUNICATION

Email: Email sean@fbcmac.org to be added to our weekly enews list

Text: Via Remind, text @seanpw to the number 81010 for updates

Facebook: Join us at FBC McMinnville KIDS and FBC McMinnville Youth

Instagram: Follow us at @fbcmacyouth

Seasonal Happenings



An alternative way to give this Christmas.

A Family Place (AFP) is the Relief Nursery of Yamhill County, which supports 60 families in McMinnville. AFP runs early childhood classrooms, offers parents education, provides basic needs assistance, and more, all from their First Baptist Church location!

As a way to care for these families, who are a part of our community, we will provide BOXES of HOPE for each family, which will contain food & household items to be used during the holiday season. We hope this will meet a need and free up resources for families to give personal, meaningful gifts to one another.

Visit our BOXES of HOPE table any Sunday morning in the Gathering Room to pick up a list of items and a box, and sign up to buy for one or more families. **We are hoping to provide 60 boxes and we're about halfway to our goal!** If you would like to be a part but don't want to be responsible for an entire box (total cost around \$40), you're welcome to partner with other individuals/families. Completed boxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, Dec. 15.

If you would like to participate, or have any questions about Boxes of Hope, please contact Sean P. Williams at sean@fbcmac.org or 503-472-7941. Thank you!

The Elder Circle: A Gathering to discuss and share around the issues of aging & Elderhood. Monday, Dec. 9 - 1:30-3:30 pm at FBC

A time of sharing for First Baptist & Community elders. An Elder Circle is an opportunity to explore and share what is deeply meaningful to each of us regarding the journey of aging. The aim is to create a dialogue that focuses on topics related to aging and the changing role of elders in our society. Among possible topics and questions that might be considered in an Elder Circle are: What is an elder's role in society today? In the Church?; How do I feel about aging?; How do I feel about change?; Do I resist it?; Forgiveness: What is it and how is it done?; How do I prepare for my mortality?; What do I have to offer my family, my community, my world?; What regrets do I have?; What do I celebrate? These are just a few of the many topics that might be considered in an Elder Circle. The circle will decide together what direction they want to go.

This session will be led Mike Burr (ABC Clergy, retired). Please feel free to bring cookies (or the like) to share. We'll provide coffee and tea. For more information contact Mike Burr (971-241-4950) or Gina Foster (971-241-2780).

ONGOING Gatherings

Wednesday Sacred Conversations - 7 pm (Rm 102)
Come each week for song, prayer, silence, and soulful reflection. Questions? Contact Erika, erika@fbcmac.org.

Friday Bible Study - 12 noon (Fireplace Room)
Bring a lunch and join in an exploration of the text that will be the basis of the coming Sunday's sermon.

AM Knit Wits - Every Thursday - 9:30 am
Contact: Linda, 971-237-2793

PM Knit Wits - 1st & 3rd Tuesday - 7 pm
Dec. 3 & 17 - Contact: Gina, 971-237-2789

Senior Breakfast - 1st Wednesday, Dec. 4 - 8 am
Join us at the American Legion Post 21 (126 NE Atlantic St).
Contact: Gina, 971-237-2789

Meditation Practice - each Wednesday - 12 noon
Silent Christian Prayer & Buddhist Traditions
Contact: Lindsay, 619-933-8402

Together Works - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 pm
LGBTQIA+ monthly gatherings (Fireplace Room)
Contact: Dee, deerocksmoore@gmail.com

Gluten Free Friends - 1st Sat. each month in 2020
Monthly support group
Contact: Susan, susanlanechambers@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, Dec. 21 - 9 am
Les Toth's Toy Barn (2700 NW Pinehurst, Mac)
Stimulating conversation & a great breakfast! Join us!
Program: Tim Duerfeldt, "Some Leave an Impression, Others a Dent" Join us in 2020 for more great programs.

1st FRIDAY FORUM

Friday, Dec. 6th - at 7 pm - in the Social Hall
Good Vibrations: Benefits of Sound Healing

Presenter Rachel Hayward brings the power of sound to her healing work and community drum gatherings to help people better understand how sound can be used to heal and to connect to each other and to the Divine. This forum will include demonstration, group play, and discovery of new ways to listen and to be heard.

WORD of INTENTION Workshop

Sunday, Jan. 5, 12:30-4:30 pm (Room 102)

Through meditation, reflection, and ceremony - we'll take aim for a fabulous 2020 - the outcome, a Word of Intention to guide & support you throughout the year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9 am - Christian Education Adult Classes</p> <p>10 am - WORSHIP</p> <p>11:15 am - Church Family Gathering</p> <p>5-7:30 pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>12n - Personnel</p> <p>4p - Mission Ministry</p> <p>7p - Boy Scouts & Scout Girls</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4p - Pastoral Relations Committee</p> <p>6:30p - Cub Scouts</p> <p>9a - Building & Grounds Team</p> <p>7p - Knit Wits</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8a - Senior Breakfast</p> <p>12p - Meditation</p> <p>7p - Sacred Conversations</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30a - Knit Wits</p> <p>5:45a - Jubilee Bells</p> <p>6:30p - Choir</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>12n - Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9a-1p - Free Medical Clinic</p> <p>9:30a - Gluten Free Friends</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9 am - Christian Education Adult Classes</p> <p>10 am - WORSHIP</p> <p>6:30 pm - Christmas Concert</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>12n - Personnel</p> <p>4p - Mission Ministry</p> <p>7p - Boy Scouts & Scout Girls</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4p - Pastoral Relations Committee</p> <p>6:30p - Cub Scouts</p> <p>9a - Building & Grounds Team</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8a - Senior Breakfast</p> <p>12p - Meditation</p> <p>6:30p - Church Board</p> <p>7p - Sacred Conversations</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30a - Knit Wits</p> <p>6:30p - Choir</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>12n - Bible Study</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9 am - Christian Education Adult Classes</p> <p>10 am - WORSHIP</p> <p>3-7 pm Pastor Erika's Christmas Open House</p> <p>5-7 pm - Youth Group Christmas Party</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>7p - Boy Scouts & Scout Girls</p> <p>7p - Together Works</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30p - Cub Scouts</p> <p>7p - Knit Wits</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12n - Meditation</p> <p>7p - Service of Remembrance</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30a - Knit Wits</p> <p>6:30p - Choir</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>12n - Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9a-1p - Free Medical Clinic</p> <p>9a - Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9 am - Christian Education Adult Classes</p> <p>10 am - WORSHIP</p>  <p>3 pm - Caroling</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR</p> <p>7p - Boy Scouts & Scout Girls</p> <p>7p - Care & Concern</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>Candlelight Worship Service at 7 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9-10:30a - STAR Church office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9 am - Christian Education Adult Classes</p> <p>10 am - WORSHIP</p>	<p>30</p> <p>STAR Closed</p> <p>7p - Boy Scouts & Scout Girls</p> <p>6p - Matthew 25 Mtg.</p> <p>7p - Together Works</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>January 1st</p> 			

December Birthdays:

Keira McMillan 4
Nancy Skowrup 5
Mathew Lenker 8
Evelyn Banu 9
Don Watson 9
Tom Simpson 11
Linda Watson 11
Sally Geistweit 12

Margy Porter 12
Evonne Cramer 13
Mary Jackson 13
Holy Galer 15
Neil Kunze 16
David Spalding 16
Marcy Berg 17
Tony Marler 18
Eliana James 19
Eric Sloss 22
Stewart Stout 25

Bernard Turner 29
Donna King 31

December Anniversaries:

Don & Linda Gilbert
12.28.1963
Sherill & Mike Roberts
12.27.1966

Marcy & Ted Anderson
12.31.1982
Greg & Charlotte Hendricks
12.21.2002
Jay & Jessica Payne
12.11.2010

