



First Baptist Church

125 SE Cowls St.

McMinnville, OR 97128

Semi-Annual Meeting

2022 Election of Officers

Program & Ministry Reports

Meeting convened June 26, 2022

In-Person, FBC Sanctuary (also live stream on Facebook)

We find our unity in the power
of Christ's love for us.

NOTE: The January Semi-Annual Meeting contains the prior year's fiscal and statistical information, as well as the proposed budget for 2022.

The June Semi-Annual Meeting pertains to the Election of the Church Board and Reports on the programmatic life of FBC.

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Thanks to Dave Ferry, Dave Larmouth, Barbara Burr, Marianne Mills, and Erika Marksbury for their work as this year's nominating committee. The Church Board recommends the following names for election:

Elected Church Board Members, June 2022 - June 2023

Moderator	Dave Larmouth	2022-2024
Assistant Moderator	TBA	2022-2024
Secretary/Clerk	Cynthia Parker	2022-2025 (3 year term)
Treasurer	Barbara Burr	2020-2023 (3 year term)
Ministry Team Leaders (6):		
Building & Grounds	Cherie Walker	2022-2024
Children & Youth	Mary Dressel	2022-2024
Faith Formation	Virginia Holmstrum	2022-2024
Membership & Member Engagement	Marianne Mills	2022-2024
Worship & Community Engagement	Heidi Toth	2021-2023
Mission Ministry	Janet Langenwalter	2021-2023
At Large Members (2):		
	Sam Ross	2022-2024
	TBA	2022-2024
Ex Officio Church Board member:		
Senior Pastor/Administrator	Erika Marksbury	
Appointed by Church Board (non-member):		
Financial Secretary	Roger Dell	
Assistant Financial Secretary	Jane Apel	

Pastor's Report

Dear Friends,

"People say '*carpe diem*.' I mean, yes, unless you need a nap."*

In some ways, we gave ourselves what we needed this year. We spent a season of worship focusing on delight, and play, and joy; we spent another one asking big questions. We dedicated an extra-long All Saints' Day service saying goodbye to those we've lost since COVID, since for many of them, we were unable to gather to give thanks for their lives. We did a book group this spring, but the title, *No Cure for Being Human (and Other Truths I Need to Hear)*, sort of gives away that it was more an act of self-care to read Kate Bowler's memoir than it was a challenge or an inspiration, like our other books have been. In a world where for years now just the basic acts of meeting with friends, going to the grocery store, or gathering for holidays have been reclassified as threats, we've tried to acknowledge the toll that's been taken on our bodies and our spirits, and to be gentle with ourselves. To rest in God's love and care.

"All of our masterpieces, ridiculous. All of our striving, unnecessary.
All of our work, unfinished, unfinishable. We do too much, never enough,
and are done before we've even started. It's better this way."*

And yet, we continued to reach out as a congregation to try to provide this community some of what it needed, too. Even with worship returning in-person for those who wanted that option, many of our small groups, committees, and classes either remained on zoom or opted for a hybrid approach. Our hiking group ventured to new destinations and our Men's Breakfast invited in fascinating speakers. Our STARS volunteers didn't miss a beat - packing bagged lunches and serving them outside, then transitioning back to an indoor, sit-down breakfast just recently. Our shelter continued to see record numbers of guests, serving two week-long icy-cold spells and now offering a safe space every Friday night. Our Safe Families volunteers surrounded folks in need with support and resources. Our Social Team modified the traditional Easter brunch so it could be given to people in adorable, individual boxes. As I write this, we're a presence at the Pride Street Fair, so we can proclaim God's expansive, inclusive love to our town.

And that's just some of it. It is so inspiring to me, the myriad ways this congregation finds to live out our mission of responding together to the call of the Spirit and the teachings of Jesus, to learn, love, serve, and seek justice and joy for all.

"Time is not an arrow anymore, and heaven is not tomorrow.
It's here, for a second, when I could drown in the beauty of what I have
but also what may never be."*

Here are just a few memories of this past year's goodness, a few glimpses into that heaven that's right here, for a second:

- in July, at the church campout, the kids and youth spent an afternoon sending gigantic bubbles high into the air, above the tops of the very tall trees, floating away, colors shimmering, and we all marveled as they went so far we lost sight of them;
- in August, we enjoyed the peace of kayaking down the Yamhill River;
- in September, we helped neighbors find treasures at our giant rummage sale, with funds benefiting AMOS Health & Hope in Nicaragua and Safe Families for Children of Yamhill County;
- in October, we hosted an art exhibit of works celebrating peace and joy, and came together for a concert centered on the same theme, with hundreds of peace cranes flying above our heads in the sanctuary;
- in November, we had great fun with a cabaret, a line-dancing lesson, and the most popular youth event of every year, the all-night lock-out;
- in December, we participated in a delightful all-church impromptu "paper bag Christmas pageant," and I have a picture of Bernie Turner with frog ears on his head to prove it;
- as the calendar turned, in addition to other cold nights throughout the season, we operated the Community Low-Barrier Shelter every night from Christmas Eve through New Year's Day, helping keep neighbors safe, warm, and cared for;

- in January, we began a book group that invited us to share vulnerably about those circumstances and realities that derail our lives, and formed deep connections through that sharing;
- in February, we traveled to Nicaragua from our living rooms on a virtual AMOS mission trip;
- in March, we came together for a rousing St. Patrick's Day hootenanny;
- in April, as we celebrated resurrection, we listened to the soaring sounds of a choir, live in our sanctuary, the first time in more than two years;
- in May, we celebrated 155 years as a congregation, with tasty cupcakes and great conversation and the music of Bootleg Jam;
- in June, we set up a game of Nine-Square-in-the-Air in our Courtyard on a Farmers' Market afternoon, and enjoyed playing with lots of new friends, young and old alike;

...all of these connections with one another, and with strangers-turned-friends, give us some glimpse into God's kindom of justice and joy being made real among us.

We've done all of this with some incredible volunteers and wonderful leadership this year, so I want to acknowledge that, and to say a special thanks to those who terms on the board are coming to an end: Moderator Dave Ferry, Clerk Georgine Benner, Children's & Youth Chair Myra Huff, Faith Formation Chair Tai James, Building & Grounds Chair Steve Howard, and At-Large Representative Wayne Beckwith. They have each been thoughtful, committed, energetic, and wise contributors, and people who love this community deeply, and it has been a real honor to serve alongside them.

Some other board members are continuing, and we're bringing on new folks, too - you can see the slate on page 3. I'm excited about working with this talented group and hopeful that the time is right to do some whole-church visioning work, maybe this fall. It's been a long time since we had a strategic plan, and while this outgoing board had set sights on that, we were derailed by just managing the day-to-day of surviving the pandemic as a congregation. I hope it's not too soon to say we're safely on the other side of that, and - while we are still cautious and attentive - we've got hybrid worship, online meetings, and the like basically figured out, so we can begin to zoom back out and take a larger view once again. We can think about what it means to be God's people at this moment in time, in this location in space, and how we might offer our particular gifts to this community and to our wider world. What a gift it is, to do and be all of this together.

Gratefully yours,
Erika

*All quotes taken from Kate Bowler's *No Cure for Being Human*.

Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) consists of Linda Watson, Peggy Lilly, Bill Millar, and Mike Burr acting as Chair and reports directly to the Church Board.

The PRC exists as a formal support for the pastor and seeks to support her in achieving her ministry goals. We operate with a n eye to the pastor's mental, spiritual, and physical wellbeing as well as acting as a bridge between the pastor and the congregation. We meet with Pastor Erika regularly to listen and give feedback as well as to act as a regular channel of communication between the pastor and the congregation. The PRC functions to augment and enhance the variety of formal and informal support and communication with the congregation. The committee urges members of the congregation to contact them if they have concerns relating to the ministry of FBC and/or its staff. The PRC holds communications in confidence and aims to create acceptance and trust within the congregation. Congregation members are invited to approach any PRC member with issues of concern or kudos for what is perceived as high achievement.

Mike Burr, Chair

Report of the Moderator & Farewell

Submitted by David Ferry

Welcome FBC congregation to the semi-annual congregational meeting to elect your new Board!

This is my last report, as I am one of those who will be replaced at the meeting. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve this community . . . and I will enjoy stepping back a little. I appreciate all of those who have given their time and energy to serve along with me, and those who will continue to do so after I step down. Although this is farewell as your moderator, I won't be going away anytime soon. Please feel free to continue to approach me to discuss FBC, its challenges and its opportunities. I enjoy those conversations. And I look forward to continuing to work on new challenges with the membership committee, on the music team, and wherever else I end up finding myself useful.

I thank you all for the opportunity to serve and work with you, and I am excited for the future of FBC because of the wonderful people that form this community. I also want to give a particular thank you to those other members of the Board who are rotating out of service this month. Each and every one of them have contributed so much to FBC and embody what it is to be a member of this Church family.

Some of them have served through personal challenges that vary from minor inconvenience to incomparable life-altering losses. I pray that each one knows how much their efforts have been appreciated, and how much we will continue to love and care for them as they face tomorrow and the next day. I suspect that some will find their way back to more leadership roles in the future, but right now I simply want to appreciate all that they have already done. It is enough. I know that it may seem that we are always asking for more, that there are always needs to meet, but truly, we are satisfied with whatever you have been called to provide and we thank you sincerely for it.

As in my previous semi-annual reports, I will not use this space to repeat what you will read in the other, specific reports presented at the semi-annual meeting. There is plenty of reading available there, you don't need repetition. Instead, I will give you a general overview and sense of what we have been doing for the last 6 months, and what is on the docket for the future (should the new leadership choose to continue current projects).

As you know, we have been transitioning out of the COVID-only operations and have settled into a mixed presentation of in-person and online worship opportunities. We have found that helpful both for those who continue to be at a high-risk from COVID and those with mobility and other challenges that make in-person worship hard to do (including those folks who have found us online and joined our community despite being located in some far-away places). In the spirit of maintaining our relationship and community with those who cannot make it in every Sunday, we are upgrading our audio-visual equipment so that both video and sound will be better for online viewers. In truth, we have needed to upgrade our audio system for many years (it was on the agenda when I joined the Board years ago, and I was told it had been there for some time before that). The heavy speakers hanging from our ceiling are not ideal for earthquake safety, and our sound system has been something of a hindrance for visiting musicians and concert presenters (which I quite enjoy and want to continue to attract). So it is a blessing that we were finally able to get that process started, and I look forward to seeing (and hearing) the completed project soon.

We are also in the midst of making some personnel changes (and we will update you on the budget changes relating thereto at the meeting). We are in great hands with our two, full-time staff members (Erika Marksbury and Sean Williams, as if I need to name them), who, between them, are able to provide spiritual leadership *and* handle the day-to-day practical tasks needed to run the Church. I am excited for the future of the Church under Erika's guidance, with Sean's gifts available at her right hand, and I believe that that two-person leadership model will prove advantageous to FBC for years to come.

Of course, we have lost a half-time music leadership position, but we are in the process of hiring a choir director, bells director, and music team leader, all with specific expertise but less time requirements. I believe we will both save some money with the new model *and* be able to provide a variety of

high-quality musical experiences that will be enriching (and fun to listen to and sing with). Again, I am excited to see how that project works out too.

Of course, the Church is grateful for the continuing efforts of all of the staff, and I do not want to suggest that I under-appreciate any of them — for example, our office is well managed by Donna (office administrator), our physical plant is in good hands with Ron (superintendent), our shelter activities well-managed by Geoff, and there are countless others who work tirelessly for our Church and its missions, including wonderful volunteers and individual project employees that are critical to our efforts. I thank them all, though I will not try to name them all here, for all of the time, expertise, and elbow-grease they have applied to our missions and projects during the years that I have served on the Board. And I have no doubt that they, and others, will continue to provide those necessary services, and others, into the future.

As a final thank you, I wish to thank you - the congregation of FBC - for your hard work and big hearts - a wonderful combination of traits. I also thank you for your community and your kindness. I look forward to continuing to be and work with you on committees and simply as a fellow congregant.

I believe that FBC is in good shape (and in good hands) as we transition out of the last couple of years in which COVID was the dominant reality. Although COVID is not truly gone, it is no longer dominating all of our discussions and plans, and I hope that we will continue to re-energize those missions that are better served with interpersonal contact and live interaction as we lean into our community's ongoing recovery from the COVID years. We live in troubled times, with many people in our community facing mental and physical hardships that are daunting. I believe that.

Thanks to you, FBC is a force of love and support in that community and will continue to be so.

Thank you. David Ferry,
Moderator 2020-2022

Endowment Committee Report

Charles Walker, Committee Chair

A recent report from Headwater Investments shows that the Endowment Fund totals \$417,000.

The \$500,000 initial goal is in sight and the plan, the hope, is to reach it by March 2023. Then the interest on the \$500,000 principal will grow each year, providing funds perpetually to help meet church major maintenance needs.

From 2017 to the present there have been 39 givers to help build the principal. Most of them came from church members and friends, but some came from the wider McMinnville community. In addition, one bequest has been received, and there are several planned bequests.

Committee members meet with interested individuals from time to time to increase understanding of the endowment, and to encourage investment in it.

Questions and comments are welcomed and appreciated.

Charlie Walker, Chair

Financial Report

Unaudited Statement of Revenues and Expenses for First Baptist Church of McMinnville For the Five Months ended May 31, 2022

Our contribution income is 8.6% lower than at this time in 2021 and our expenses have decreased by 2.5%. Our Net Income from this year is 29% lower than 2021 at this juncture.

Remember, the budget is divided into 12 equal amounts and some items will vary during specific months. Wages, Benefits, and PR Taxes category is under the budgeted amount due to Music Ministry position still remaining unfilled. A separate line item in Buildings and Grounds has been added to tally the cost of unplanned expenses for the Low Barrier shelter. YCAP is slated to reimburse FBC for these items.

A newly approved (May 2022) revised budget reflects the move of Sean Williams to full time including his newly added retirement benefit.

REVENUES	Actual	5 Month Budget	Over/(Under)
Contribution Income	\$142,195	\$145,850	(\$3,655)
Use of Facilities	13,783	12,165	1,618
Carry Over from Prior Year	8,335	8,335	0
Fundraiser	291	310	(19)
Total Revenues	\$164,604	\$166,660	(\$2,056)
EXPENSES	Actual	5 Month Budget	(Over)/Under
Wages, Benefits & PR Taxes	\$94,380	\$103,619	(\$9,239)
Reimbursable Ministry Expenses	1,708	1,558	150
Building/Grounds Maintenance	7,612	12,500	(4,888)
Low Barrier Shelter	2,266	0	2,266
Utilities & Van	15,129	13,333	1,796
Administrative & Office	13,341	14,708	(1,367)
Children & Youth	820	2,292	(1,472)
Faith Formation	125	458	(333)
Membership	0	292	(292)
Missions	13,730	14,583	(853)
Worship & Community Engagement	1,891	3,323	(1,432)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$151,002	\$166,666	\$15,664
NET INCOME	\$13,602		

Financial Report, Part 2:

Matthew 25 / STARS & Shelter

Matthew 25 / STARS Fund

TOTALS:

Balance January 1, 2022		\$5,717
Income:		
FBC Fellowship	\$ 600	
FBC Missions	400	
First Federal	288	
Gifts from Individuals	1,905	
Give a Little Foundation	1,800	
Turtle Dove (closing)	<u>550</u>	
Total Income		+ \$5,543
Expenses:		
Clothing	\$ 654	
Equipment	141	
FBC Recology – Trash	120	
Food & Supplies	2,357	
Laundry Cards	450	
Pantry	16	
Personal Items	329	
Shelter	<u>122</u>	
Total Expenses		<\$4,189>
Balance June 14, 2022		<u>\$7,071</u>

Matthew 25 / STARS Fund:

This fund supports the work of our STARS program, Serving Those Around us, plus some help for our Community Low-Barrier Shelter and related ministry.

Over the course of the pandemic (these past 2 years) we have been serving a simple breakfast-to-go on Mondays and Fridays @ 9:15 am on the First Street steps. And continued to provide personal items, and some laundry cards.

As of June, STARS began serving in the Fireplace Room again, offering the simple breakfast as in the past. Plus offering needed items & laundry cards.

The former Winter Shelter is now offering weekly Friday Shelter (CLBS) stays at FBC, thanks to a generous YCAP grant including a support staff person.

Fellowship Fund

TOTALS:

Balance January 1, 2022		\$11,482
Income:		
Gifts from Individuals	<u>\$2,622</u>	
Total Income		\$2,622
Expenses:		
Auto/Travel	\$ 248	
Food	50	
Housing/Utilities	597*	
STARS	600	
Other Assistance	<u>232*</u>	
Total Expenses		<\$1,797>
Balance June 14, 2022		<u>\$12,307</u>

Fellowship Fund:

This longtime fund is administered by Pastor Erika and staff. It is used to help folks with a variety of financial needs.

*The lower than usual figures are due to continued Covid pandemic issues, such that fewer found their way to FBC to ask for much needed assistance. On the plus side —YCAP has been helping, through COVID Funding, for rent/utility assistance and other needs. They also were able to purchase a motel in town to transition some of our clients into permanent housing.

There has been an uptick in rent/utility requests over the past 2 weeks, noting expenses are projected to be \$1,500 over the next 6 months of 2022.

Matthew 25 Committee

JoAnn Sims, Interim Church Board Ministry Team leader

Matthew 25 Structure

Matthew 25 is a committee which operates as FBC's response to the call of the Bible verses in Matthew chapter 25.

Operating programs/spaces - Volunteers are always needed.

STARS: (Breakfasts, food, clothing, companionship, showers, rest room access, laundry cards, bus passes, food pantry, hygiene packets.) Lockers are distributed on a rotating lottery. For past 2 years, STARS operated at the 1st Street Gates, serving simple to-go-breakfasts. Recently moved back indoors to the Fireside room. Guests like being inside again. Geoff will launder STARS shower towels while he sets up for Frequent Friday shelter nights.

Community Low Barrier Shelter (CLBSherter)- (dinner and breakfast served, mats, blankets, showers, rest room access provided in the Social Hall)

- Will be ready for emergency sheltering for summer heat & winter cold weather.
- Frequent Friday shelters averaging mid-30 attendance/ sign-ins and 20-25 staying all night.
- The anticipated move to Adams Street will likely happen around Labor Day.
- Third Street Pizza supplies Friday meal.

Courtyard: (people able to use for up to two-hour respites)

Open to new programs/collaborations to fill needs.

Current Actions stemming from Matthew 25 goals

This year 2022, the COVID pandemic continued to alter our actions in implementing our goals.

Goal #1: Welcome and respect those in need.

- All volunteers try to use smiles, learn names, initiate conversations, direct them to areas(s), ask them to respect and follow posted rules.
- Masks and anti-bacterial cleanser are available in the building.
- The signs in the courtyard colorfully and clearly state usage requests/requirements.
- A free library was established for a short time in the courtyard, working to keep it going.

Goal #2: Provide space/programs for vulnerable/marginalized to build trust/relationships for potential growth in mental, spiritual, physical health.

- Training for volunteers in all operating programs/spaces so they would be able to point people to where they can get help locally if needed. This training is a video series "Guide to homelessness" from Niche Academy based on successful practices in the Chicago area. YCAP funded this purchase.

Goal #3: Work to Balance FBC programs & policies to provide welcome, safety and respect, for all at FBC.

- Appointed liaison (Don Watson) from Matt 25 to work with building and Grounds.
- Cameras are now monitoring the courtyard. Increased random surveillance by our night watchman has decreased disturbances and noise levels.
- Food offered at both STARS and the Community Low Barrier Shelter are provided with health and the environment in mind (eliminated hard boiled eggs due to egg shell debris).

Goal #4: Advocate for the marginalized and vulnerable in our community.

- County Health provided FBC with 100 fast working COVID test kits.
- Through a generous COVID grant, YCAP continues to fund a CLBS manager and program needs at FBC.
- **Volunteers from the community and FBC are needed.** Currently the STARS program has approximately 20 (with 3-4 volunteers from outside FBC). For LBCShelter program there are 12 new volunteers (with 8 from outside FBC). There are 3 new meal volunteers and 5 shift volunteers from FBC.

- The zoning has changed so that CLBShelter can now operate at FBC every Friday from 8pm-8am.
- Matthew 25 is beginning to develop connections and relationships with all organizations, faith groups, and government organizations to better coordinate services for marginalized.

Goal #5: Host and provide education about vulnerable and marginalized for FBC, neighbors, and other stakeholders.

- Events and programs are being planned. They are in the beginning stages.

Goal #6: Inform regional and national denomination of our work.

- An article is being prepared for submission to our region and our national denomination.

Goal #7: Make recommendations to FBC Church Board and inform the CB of actions of Matt 25 and status of programs/space use.

- Matthew 25 continues to supply the CB with summaries of its meetings with potential actions, if any, to the CB for approval.

Members of Matthew 25 committee:

Rev. Erika Marksby-Pastor, Dave Larmouth, JoAnn Sims- Interim Chair
Don Watson, Mike Burr, Danny Browne, Geoff Clayton

Building & Grounds Committee

Steve Howard, Church Board Ministry Team leader

The responsibility of the Building & Grounds Committee is to oversee the church facility and anticipate and discuss repairs. As of June 30, 2022:

- Began to study and plan for replacement of aging elements of Church building . . . carpet, chairs, etc.
- LED project finally complete and paid for.
- New signs of welcome and rules of behavior in courtyard.
- Diligent attention by Ron to maintenance and repair of important machines:
Rooftop unit parts replaced, expansion tank for hot water heater, boiler, water issues, etc.
- New water dispenser by Sanctuary entrance in Education wing.
- Education Entry door strengthened.
- Security camera and Internet operations continuing to improve.
- Sanctuary freshened by Steve and Pam Howard with new paint.
- Spring church clean up (refrigerators cleaned, Washington St. entry power washed, new bark mulch, atrium weeded and trimmed, etc.) with some help from our Scout Troop.
- Safety concerns addressed: replaced AED pads, purchased new defibrillator to replace stolen one.
- Normal inspections done: fire extinguishers, sprinkler heads, elevator, back flow -- and issues addressed if any deficiencies found.
- New gates for garbage area have been ordered.
- New doors for the Cows St ramp entrance (replacing the wooden ones) have been ordered.
- Individual thermostats installed in Education wing classrooms and offices to better provide heat and cooling to those rooms.

B&G Committee: Tim Duerfeldt, Barry House, Cherie Walker, Don Watson,
Ron Richter (Building Superintendent) and Steve Howard, Chair

Membership Ministry

Barbara Nelson, Church Board Ministry Team Leader
Sean P. Williams, Staff liaison

The Membership Ministry Team has done a lot of good work over the past year!

Our team manages Realm, our church database, making additions and changes regularly throughout the year. We've also spent time educating leadership and the congregation on the value of Realm, as a way to give, share personal info, connect with others, organize groups, and more. We're happy to assist anyone who wants to use Realm, or learn more about it, and might need some help!

We also track attendance for our worship services each week, both from in-person and virtual attendees. Once attendance is collected, from the red books and the online Google form, this data is added to Realm, and shared with staff and other teams if there is interest in ministry, prayer needs, etc. We also track guests who join on Facebook Live, and follow up with them if/as appropriate.

We continue to send Birthday and Anniversary cards monthly to members and friends. With the help of Barbara Kauer and Susan Chambers, we sent hundreds of cards this past year. We also feature bios of FBC members and friends in Tidings each month; this last year alone we helped our community get to know over 40 FBC-ers better through our monthly interviews, stories, and pictures.

Over this next year, we hope to continue working on documenting the processes around births, deaths, and new members at FBC, and help implement these with staff and other volunteers. We are also wanting to resume our celebrations of members as well as be more intentional about reaching out into the community, to help potential members and friends know more about FBC and connect with who we are, and what we're doing.

It's a joy and honor to be responsible for all of this and, ultimately, work to support, celebrate, and connect all who are a part of our FBC community.

Membership Ministry Team:

Barbara Nelson, Chair; Judee Kunze; Martha VanCleave;
Marianne Mills, Susan Chambers; Sean P. Williams, Staff liaison

Children, Youth, and Families Ministry

By Sean P. Williams, Children & Youth Minister
Myra Huff, Church Board Ministry Team leader

Highlights from 2021-2022

It's been YET ANOTHER interesting year, but it feels like we're getting back to normal – whatever that means! – while also discovering some new normal in our ministry. The last year has been encouraging and educational, and we're excited about all that is ahead of us. We couldn't do what we do without our awesome Leadership Team, the best volunteers around, some incredible children, youth, and families, and support from this amazing church. Here are some highlights of the past year, and a preview of what's coming up!

LOOKING BACK

Now that we are gathering in-person again on Sunday mornings for worship, we've brought back many of our favorite programs for children, youth, and families. We continue to have a fun and meaningful **Children's Time** during the service each week, and our **Grace Space** – the area in our sanctuary with materials and activities specifically designed for our kiddos – is back open again! Plus this year saw the return of **Children's Chapel**, which is a special time of worship for preschool and elementary children, with music, a story, crafts & reflections, and a snack. Plus we just recently re-opened our **nursery** with a great team of childcare staff!

Also, this spring, we brought back our **Parents Breakfast and Kids Connection** on Sunday mornings, which happens the first Sunday of every month. While parents meet for breakfast/coffee prior to the service, the children and youth meet at the church to learn about a specific part of our worship services, and then lead the congregation in that particular piece during worship that morning. Plus we continued to dedicate time in our services, throughout the year, to bless backpacks, gift Bibles to our third grade children, honor our graduates and their families, and celebrate other milestones in the lives of our children, youth, and families.

Outside of Sunday mornings, we offered a variety of other opportunities for children, youth, and families to connect and engage. We met regularly – some virtually and some in-person – for activities like **trivia, movies, picnics**, and more. We participated in **Camp Arrah Wanna's** summer and winter camps, and did **Vacation Bible School**, year two of Compassion Camp – ALL IN-PERSON! And in June we did our first **Parents Night Out**; we hosted all ages of children at the church for games, dinner, and a movie, while parents had a free night to do whatever they wanted. It was a lot of fun for all ages involved.

Our youth ministry continued as a member of the **McMinnville Youth Collective (MYC)**, partnering with First Presbyterian Church and McMinnville Cooperative Ministries. Last summer we offered a mix of virtual and in-person activities and events, and in the fall we returned to in-person Youth Group at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday nights. Each gathering includes a meal, games, conversation, and projects, all designed to help us know God, one another, and the world more, and better. Plus we got to do some of our favorite Sunday night events again, like a Super Bowl Party and Friends-giving!

In the fall the MYC brought back a modified version of one of our favorite events, the Lock Out – we spent seven hours together on a Friday night, eating, playing, swimming, and watching movies... and NOT staying up ALL night! And in 2022, we started meeting once a month for dinner at a local restaurant, and gathering for a fun activity each month, like bowling, video gaming, movies, and more.

LOOKING FORWARD

We're still finalizing some plans, but are already excited about everything we know that's coming over the next year! We just had our youth end of school party and are planning more pool parties and dinners for the youth over the summer months.

We'll get back to Youth Group in the fall, and already have dates/reservations for a beach retreat, plus some version of the Lock Out will return.

We will be part of summer camp at Camp Arrah Wanna in July and will offer Vacation Bible School once again, in June. Plus we've got a few family focused events planned for the summer, like picnics, some whiffle-ball, and more trivia, and Children's Chapel will be back next school year.

So lots of our reliable, beloved events and programs will be happening, and we know we'll have new opportunities and more ways to meet the needs of our children, youth, and families, and be better connected as a church and community. Amen, and... woo hoo!

Children, Youth, and Families Leaders Team:

Myra Huff, Chair; Mary Dressel; Zorissa James; Oscar Marksbury Page;
Sean P. Williams, Staff Liaison

Worship & Community Engagement

Heidi Toth, Church Board Ministry Team leader

The Worship and Community Engagement Team strives to provide the congregation with varied avenues of involvement in an effort to expand and deepen their experience of spirituality and church life. As Covid restrictions have lifted, we have had more opportunity to lead these activities.

Greeters and Ushers Team (led by A collaborative effort): organizes volunteers to serve as greeters and ushers at each service. They provide a friendly welcome to all who come through the doors of our church.

Social Team (led by Anne Engen): plans and prepares meals for special events.

Memorial and Funeral Reception Team (led by Jeanette House): provides refreshments for those services throughout the year.

Communion Team (Heidi Toth): organizes and recruits volunteers to serve communion on the first Sunday of every month.

Congregation Care & Concern Team (Erika): provides support and care for congregation members experiencing life difficulties.

Worship Planning Team (Staff and Worship committee): this formal planning committee meets monthly to discuss sermon themes and incorporating them with music, art and activities creating ways to connect our lives with current issues and Christ's teachings.

Audio-Visual and Recording Team (Sean): Provides camera and computer technicians continue to live stream the services to Facebook live each Sunday.

Music Team (currently volunteers): We have a committee looking to hire leaders/coordinators for Worship team, Choir and Hand Bells.

Any of these teams would welcome your involvement and all of us would benefit from such participation.

Worship Happenings -

Church opened back up to in person church July 4, 2021. We continue to have live streaming for those who wish to stay at home or live out of town. Services are recorded so they can be watched at any time.

Community Engagement Happenings -

The Thursday Farmer's Market — We now have activities scheduled in the courtyard each month during the market from 12n to 6p.

While on FBC's webpage at www.fbcmac.org, please continue to 'like' and 'share' the FBC posts to help spread the good news.

Seek Justice, love kindness, walk humbly

Music Ministry

FBC is so fortunate to have a deep well of talented musicians and leaders, and that's become ever more clear during the pandemic and as we're slowly emerging from it. We've been meeting in-person, some of us, since almost exactly the last time this report came out in the summer of 2021. Initially, the congregation was listening to music, appreciating the beauty and joy it added to our services, but not singing together, because of the COVID risks associated with that activity. But around Advent season, the risks were lowered and we embraced the return of congregational singing right at the time we were breaking out beloved Christmas hymns and carols. Some sing in masks and some sing without and some sing from home, and together we make a joyful noise.

We are grateful for those who worked hard to make special musical events happen this year, like the annual Christmas concert coordinated by Jesse Cromer and an inspiring Easter choir under the direction of Marilyn Dresser. At the turn of the calendar year, Jesse resigned from his position as Director of Music Ministries, and since January our communal singing has been led by congregational talent. We give thanks to these folks who have served in that role for us:

Marilyn Dresser, Dave Ferry, Joel Kiff, Dave King, Nancy McCann, Robin Pederson, Heidi Reinker, Heidi Toth, Doug Verigin, and Sean P. Williams, and to the many folks who have sung along with them. We are also grateful for the faithfulness of our accompanists, Geoff Clayton and Muriel Dresser, and for the gifts of special music from both vocal and instrumental soloists, the handbells, and the Ukulele Ukestra!

At the writing of this report, a small group of us - Dave King, Dave Ferry, Gary Langenwalter, and Erika Marksbury - is engaged in the interview process, looking for the person/people who will lead music ministries at FBC into the future. We have several promising candidates and we're hopeful that they'll be leading us on Sunday mornings in July, as a second step in the interview process, so we can get a sense for how they work with musicians in rehearsal and for how they would lead our congregation during a worship service. If you are a musician and can make yourself available to rehearse with them, please do! And if you are able to be present on Sunday mornings in July and give us feedback, we'd love to hear it.

Mission Ministry

Janet Langenwalter, Church Board Ministry Team leader

The Mission Ministries Team works to educate and inform the congregation about the local, regional, and global organizations and people whom First Baptist supports.

To name just a few of the local ministries:

Safe Families for Children	Juliette's House	STARS	Food Closet/Pantry
Climate Action group	YCAP food bank	Winter Warming Shelter & Friday Shelter	

We give support to:

Linfield Chaplaincy	Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Camp Arrah Wanna	Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America
Rainbow Acres	Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists
World Friendship Center	

Our global reach is through the financial support of our Global Servants:

Christine Lafferty	Ray Schellinger	My linda Baits
Kyle and Katrina Williams	AMOS	

Since we were unable to send a team to Nicaragua this year, Nicaragua came here by way of a Virtual Mission Trip. We all had a chance to visit Nicaragua through a video program produced by our friends at AMOS.

This past fall we held a Peace & Joy Concert and Art Show to benefit the World Friendship Center. The whole congregation participated in making origami cranes which we hung from our sanctuary beams; the cranes were then sent to the WFC. Malachi Nelson, a member of this church, is now serving as one of two directors of the World Friendship Center in Japan.

As a committee we are proud to represent this church in its generosity here at home and around the world.

Members: Janet Langenwalter (chair), Vicki Cartwright, Russell Mark, JoAnn Sims,
Don Watson, Sean P. Williams, Erika Marksbury

Faith Formation

Tai James, Church Board Ministry Team leader
Sean P. Williams, Staff Liaison

The Faith Formation Team (FFT) has worked this year to help FBC facilitate many small groups, classes, other opportunities/ways to support and nurture the spiritual development of members, friends, and the larger community. Our team regularly checks in with leaders of all the groups and classes, to offer help and get updates on plans and happenings. We also work on short term initiatives and collaborate with other teams on special programming and events.

Our current, ongoing small groups include: Men's Breakfast, New Mom's Group, Senior Breakfast, Together Works, Knit Wits, Sister Circle, Hiking Group, Climate Action Group, So and Sews, Original Mom's Group, Meditation Practice, Bible Study, and Dad's Group. Our current, ongoing classes include: Chapel Class, Rainbow Class, Bereans Class, and Faith and Java. Some groups and classes are still meeting on Zoom, while others have resumed in-person gatherings. But all of them have continued to welcome regulars and guests, engage in spiritual conversations and activities, and offer a time and space to build/grow community.

The FFT has also helped organize and facilitate special groups, like the No Cure for Being Human book groups, and the Revolutionary Love practice groups. We are also currently working on new groups which we hope will start soon, and are looking forward to getting back to planning special events, like movie/discussion events, church parties, beach outings, and other intergenerational opportunities.

God intends for us to experience life together, and grow in community, and that's why we encourage you to join a small group, attend a Sunday class, or participate in any or all of the activities we offer. The FFT is here to help find the best class, group or activity for you, and, if we don't have the right fit for you, we'll help you start something new!

Faith Formation Team:

Tai James, Chair; Peggi Lilly; Gloria LaFata; Frosty Lay;
Sean P. Williams, Staff liaison

NOTES

