



# The Tidings

FBC's monthly newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023



First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cows St., McMinnville, OR 97128  
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## 2024: Making the Ordinary Sacred

*"Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement, to get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. To be spiritual is to be amazed."*

-Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Next year, in worship and in small groups, at feasts and on field trips, FBC will be engaging with Bonnie Smith Whitehouse's 52-week devotional *Seasons of Wonder: Making the Ordinary Sacred through Projects, Prayers, Reflections, and Rituals*. We'll be invited to dwell in the holiness of every moment, every ordinary happening, and to find and celebrate God's presence in all of it. Our prayer is that nurturing this awareness of presence will deepen our connections to one another and to all of creation; will strengthen our witness for justice and peace; and will encourage us to delight in the stuff that often seems "just" ordinary. If you'd like to help lead this work, tell [erika@fbcmac.org](mailto:erika@fbcmac.org).

## Planning Process Gets Underway

At the end of October, board leadership and Pastor Erika met with four consultants from the Oregon Organizational Development Network to begin our Community Consulting Project partnership. We told the OODN team about FBC's gifts (*passionate! creative! welcoming! wise! and more!*), as well as some of our current challenges (*small donor base, potential for volunteer burnout, and more*). They shared their belief that FBC has "a lot of strength to build on." We discussed some goals for this strategic planning process, though we will refine those, with congregational input, in the coming months. Watch this space for updates and invitations to participate in this important work!

## Speaker Series

*FBC is full of deep wisdom and wonderful stories.*

Our new speaker series celebrates that, as it features congregants sharing their unique experiences, passions, and expertise. Everyone is invited to bring a lunch and stay after the service on the first Sunday of each month, listen to the sharing, and enjoy a conversation about it. Here's what's coming up:

### November 5:

#### ***Why Do the Beckwiths Keep Going Back to India?***

Wayne & Kathy will share some of the reasons India has become a destination for them over many years, and share a few ideas about family sabbaticals in general. Be thinking about what you would take along in your carry-on luggage on a 5-month sabbatical, to make sure it arrived with you - an attribute of you that you'd want to share, a passion to explore, even an object. We'll talk.

### December 3:

*Virginia Holmstrom shares about interreligious dialogue and friendship*



	YTD/Actual for Period for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$247,388	97.4%
Total Income:	\$298,418	98.3%
Total Expenses:	<u>\$288,489</u>	95.0%
Net Income:	\$ 9,929	

## Financial Update:

We appreciate your ongoing contributions in support of our ministry. You may check on your financial contributions to First Baptist Church through our secure church software database, Realm. If you would like assistance creating a Realm profile or have other questions, please contact Treasurer, Don Watson ([donjw@comcast.net](mailto:donjw@comcast.net)) or Realm administrator, Barbara Burr ([barbaracoleburr@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracoleburr@gmail.com)).

**FBC Finance Committee:** Don Watson, Barbara Burr, Judee Kunze, Roger Dell, and Jane Apel

## Church Board Notes, October 11<sup>th</sup>

*The Church Board met as scheduled on September 11th in person.*

Mary Dressel shared a devotion from Donna Ashworth's book *Wild Hope*. The poem "Joy Chose You" says that joy sneaks in, cares nothing for your messy home, so you must be ready when she appears.

There are still some spots available for the All-Church retreat at Camp Arrah Wanna on October 20th - 22nd.

Kathleen shared that FBC will host a First Aid/CPR class at the church on Saturday, November 4th (time TBA). This two-hour course will help you learn the basics of first aid, CPR, and AED devices. Erika shared that our shelter volunteers will receive training on mental health first aid from County staff.

The Board discussed options and decided the Matthew 25 group should report to the Missions team for regular business, and directly to the Board for any pressing matters of concern.

Don Watson shared the Financial Report, and our blessings continued for another month. Thank you for all the ways that you support FBC. Don shared a comparison of our current budget compared to 2015. One area that needs some exploration is the idea of bringing back fundraisers to help raise funds for some of our "wants" as the regular budget must cover our "needs".

## *Your giving makes our ministry together possible.*

The Budget Team has been hard at work preparing FBC's 2024 budget. This effort always brings with it the reminder that ministry is work we all do together.

From keeping our lights on and paying our staff, to putting food on the table for struggling neighbors, to supporting rural health care work in Nicaragua, your gifts make a difference in our church, in our wider community, and around the world. **Thank you.**

We're providing several opportunities to learn more about the 2024 budget building process and goals. Feel free to attend any of the following sessions to learn more about how FBC spends the dollars entrusted to it, to ask questions, or to share ideas.

### **Q & A Budget Conversations Via Zoom:**

Sunday, Nov 5 @ 4:00 pm  
Wednesday, Nov 8 @ 11:00 am  
Monday, Nov 13 @ 7:00 pm

### **Q & A Budget Conversation In Person:**

Tuesday, Nov 21 @ 1:00 pm  
Fireplace Room

We had some good news regarding our strategic plan: we were selected by the consulting group as a worthy project! See page 1 for an update.

The topic of gender-neutral bathrooms on the main floor was discussed again. It was agreed that more work is needed to figure out how best to integrate this idea in our worship space.

Finally, our next Board meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 8th in hybrid format - in person in the FBC second floor conference room AND also on Zoom. Guests are always welcome at Church Board meetings, so please email me at [gbdlinor@gmail.com](mailto:gbdlinor@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Larmouth, FBC Moderator





# Sunday Worship Highlights

NOVEMBER 2023

*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."*

## Adult Sunday Classes: (details on page 11)

- ✦ 8:30 am - **CONNECTIONS Class** - Contact - [barbaracoleburr@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracoleburr@gmail.com)
- ✦ 8:45 am - **FAITH & JAVA** - 1st Sundays only - in person, Fireplace Room / Contact - [schulmanrob@yahoo.com](mailto:schulmanrob@yahoo.com)
- ✦ 8:45 am - **CHAPEL Class** - Contact - [gary@portlandconsultinggroup.com](mailto:gary@portlandconsultinggroup.com)
- ✦ 8:45 am - **BEREAN Class** - Contact - [doug.verigin@outlook.com](mailto:doug.verigin@outlook.com)

**10:00 am - WORSHIP** in person in the sanctuary, or streaming live:  
[www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmac/](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmac/)

## November 5, Communion Sunday

### All Saints Day Observance

"Those Who Will Not Leave Us Alone"

Luke 18:1-8, Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Nancy McCann

*After Worship: Speaker Series, Kathy & Wayne Beckwith share about their recent sabbatical and more - see details on page 1*

## November 12

"I Call You 'Friend'"

John 15:9-15, Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Marilyn Dresser & the Choir

Sharing from AMOS Health & Hope staff and board

*After Worship: Artist's Reception - Doug Verigin*

## November 19

"I Call You 'Kin'"

Matthew 12:46-50, Story-Sharing from Congregants

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

*After Worship: Fellowship hosted by the Chapel Class*

## November 26

"I Call You 'Beloved'"

Matthew 3:13-17, Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

*After Worship: Volunteer Appreciation Reception hosted by the FBC Staff*

**Sunday, November 5**

## All Saint's Day Observance

We'll remember those we've said goodbye to this year, and honor those who remain in our hearts always. Bring a photo or other tangible memory of a saint from your life to lay on our altar tables for this day's special worship service.



## CHRISTMAS CHOIR Rehearsals:

**November 2, 9, 16, 30 and Wednesday, Dec 6** - Dress Rehearsal for Bells 5:20p / Christmas Choir 6:30p  
Worship Team 8:00p

**Thursday, Dec. 7** - Dress Rehearsal for all participants, 5-9p (including Sound techs)

### SAVE-THE-DATES:

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**FBC's Annual Christmas CONCERT**  
with a Candlelit Dessert Buffet  
4 pm, FBC Sanctuary

**Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>**  
The Christmas Choir will have a special part in leading 'A Musical Worship service'.

Contact [marilyn@fbcmac.org](mailto:marilyn@fbcmac.org)  
with any questions

## Climate Action - November's Recipe of the month: **Burmese Style TOFU**

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup dried red or yellow lentils, red Mung beans (or other small beans) - rinsed well
- 3 cups boiling water
- 3/4 teaspoon Salt
- Optional: If you want to add spices, a savory option is to stir in 3/4 tsp onion powder and 3/4 tsp garlic powder to the mash before cooking.

Leaving the Tofu plain allows more options for using in different recipes. Since it's already cooked, you can add to salads with no need for reheating, or add it at the end of a stir fry,

I like to add a piece of Kombu (kelp) to beans while soaking, which adds minerals and aids digestion. Soak beans a bit longer (reduce the salt to 1/4 tsp).

### Instructions for making Tofu:

1. Cover beans with boiling water in a Pyrex or other heat resistant bowl, and soak beans for at least 30 minutes.
2. Place beans, soaking water and salt in blender, blend until smooth.
3. Pour mixture into a large saucepan.
4. Heat on low until it is very thick; remove from heat.
5. Using a spatula, pour into an 8"x8" baking dish. Smooth the top, and place in the refrigerator to cool for a couple of hours.
6. Once the Tofu is set and cooled, it will easily slip out of the dish. Cut into cubes or slices, and store in a glass container for use later (or add some as a bean paste to a favorite recipes).

Recipe & method from Simnett Nutrition via YouTube.

Four participants of the **Becoming Rooted** book group were able to tour **Chachalu**, in Grande Ronde with an expert guide, Crystal, Oct. 11th.

She greeted us at the former elementary school transformed into a plank house.

She spent 2 hours talking about the two exhibits, **Shimkhen** and **The Forest**.



**Shimkhen** is a historical figure important to Grand Ronde tribes. She/he was "two spirit", a shaman, and healer who lived in the 1800's. You can make an offering of tobacco and listen to his power song, recorded on a wax cylinder.

We also saw beautiful carving and artwork, and the canoe used with other Northwest tribes on their canoe journey down the coast. She answered our many questions. We learned the indigenous names for trees such as ant'wat (Douglas fir) and K'anawi-stik (Oregon White Oak).

There will be a new Forest exhibit for each season. We ended the day with a delicious lunch at the Chinese restaurant in the casino.

## World Class Music in McMinnville! ~ Keynote CONCERT Series ~

**Wednesday, November 15**

in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary

Doors open at 7pm. Concert starts at 7:30 pm.

Receptions to follow concerts.

**Featuring the Mike Fite Trio**



The Keynote Concert Series is a once a month, 3rd Wednesday event, that will feature music ranging from classical to jazz to pop and more.

The McMinnville Lions Club and McMinnville Performing Arts Association will be partnering with us on our inaugural season. We are excited to have featured acts from our local area, as well as from all around the country. **Opening acts will be local schools ensembles and/or local musicians.**

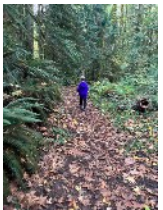
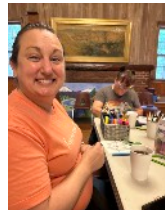
**The Concert Series goes through May 2024.**





## FBC's Second Annual All-Church Retreat at Camp Arrah Wanna

The weekend of October 20-22, thirty FBC folks gathered in Welches, Oregon to soak up the beauty of the forest and the river, to create art and music together, to spend time in quiet meditation and in raucous karaoke singing, to hang out by the fire, to play games, to rest, to pray, and to deepen our communion. We'll head back next fall - make plans to join the fun!





## Getting to Know your New Church Board Members



This month we are introducing the Board members who assumed their positions in July 2023. While you may recognize faces, you might not know these folks and our aim is to introduce them so that you might know them a bit better.

**1st Row:** Don Watson, Vicki Cartwright, Mary Dressel

**2nd Row:** Marianne Mills, Pastor Erika, Virginia Holmstrom, Kerry Ballati, Cynthia Parker, Nadya King, Kathleen Verigin, Heidi Toth

**Back Row:** Dave Larmouth, Steve Howard

**Don Watson:** Don is currently serving as church treasurer and the finance committee chair. He has participated in the life of First Baptist in a number of capacities since returning to the congregation in 2010. Don and his wife, Linda, were first members from 1970-72 before moving to Salem. He says that he has been blessed by the many opportunities at FBC to serve, learn and make many friends. He has been part of the choir, Nicaragua team, climate action group, and the Matthew 25 Committee. He also enjoys the Chapel class, the hiking group and being part of various other committees of the church including Missions, STARS, and Building and Grounds. What drew Don and Linda back to FBC was the progressive and thoughtful culture of the church as well as being able to renew friendships long ago established while Don was at Linfield.

Don was a math teacher for Salem Keizer for many years, spending most of those at Whiteaker Junior High/ Middle School in Keizer. He also tutored, working on math assessment with Oregon Department of Education and supervising student teachers for Willamette University.

Outside of church, Don and Linda enjoy traveling, reading (fiction and non-fiction) and their multi-generational family including Linda's mother, each of their siblings, their three adult children, three adult grandkids and three great grandchildren! Don has been working diligently on his front yard since July, creating a new landscape. He enjoys the rewards of the hard work as his vision comes to fruition! (He is grateful for Linda's help with the project, too!!!!) Thanks, Don, for all that you do and have done in service of the FBC community.

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**Vicki Cartwright:** Vicki is serving on the Church Board as the Missions Team lead. She participates in the STARS program and acts as an usher on Sunday mornings. Vicki has also worked as the ministry lead for FBC's Safe Families for Children and currently volunteers as a family friend for Safe Families. Vicki came to FBC as a result of her search for a spiritual community that was a good fit for her. She was drawn to FBC's inclusiveness and that it is a welcoming church. She became a member 4-5 years ago. She loves the people at First Baptist and our mission. She says she feels privileged to be a part of this community.

Vicki enjoys spending time with family and friends and doing activities together. She also is a gardener who loves working with her flowers and going to nurseries, particularly in the spring and fall. At this point a retiree, she was involved in Human Resources and worked for a small water resources firm in Portland.

Thank you, Vicki, for your contributions to the FBC community. We are delighted that you are in our midst.

## Getting to Know your New Church Board Members

**Nadya King:** Nadya is serving on the Board as an “At Large” representative. She has held this position in the past, as well as serving on the Worship and Growth committee. Music is one of Nadya’s loves and she has been in the choir, bell choir and plays the harp. She also does sign language song interpretation at services. Nadya also enjoys reading stories for children’s chapel and has helped with VBS in the summer since about 2005. Groups she participates in include the Saturday morning mom’s group, Sister Circle, the singles group and the environmental book group. Sundays, she is also a communion server.

Nadya was drawn to FBC upon her return to McMinnville in the late 90’s after attending the Dances of the Universal Peace gatherings at the church. She decided to check out the services and found that we fit well with her ecumenical background and beliefs. She ended up transferring her membership from a Presbyterian church and has been active since.

Outside of church, Nadya enjoys gardening and volunteers with the Edible Landscaping Yamhill project on Alpine Street. She leads a creative circle bimonthly via zoom and she loves all kinds of dance. She loves family and grandkid time, as well as reading and enjoying accumulating esoteric information. Nadya is an Oregon licensed massage therapist and was one of the co-founders of Key to Health Clinic in 1983. For a while, she worked at Breitenbush Hot Springs. She has led Tai Chi classes, and Reiki workshops. Now, she plays and teaches folk harp, Reiki, intentional Art classes and offers massage part time. A very busy woman!

Thanks for all you do, Nadya, for FBC, our children and for your “healing touch” on our lives.

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**Kathleen Verigin:** Assistant Moderator, Kathleen Verigin, is looking forward to serving on FBC’s Board during this period of exploration and visioning. If you have met Kathleen, you know that she is full of fun....and she anticipates that this journey as a Board member will be just that! Kathleen is a co-leader of the the Connections Class on Sunday mornings. She also is involved with STARS and organizes the ushers. She is currently teaching a 4-week class on Celtic Spirituality and has offered a variety of ceremonies at FBC. You will also see her doing the Children’s Story from time to time on Sunday mornings.

Kathleen and Doug, her husband, arrived in McMinnville on Labor Day week-end in 2016. Their realtor, Stacy Martin, recommended FBC. Although a bit hesitant because of the “Baptist” part, she decided to visit a few times and almost immediately felt at home. Doug joined her a few months later and now both are proud members of our loving community. (And, she notes she has made amends to all Southern Baptists!)

Outside of church activities, she enjoys movies, traveling to Ireland and Scotland, walking through Goodwill at least once a week, restaurants (thrilled with the arrival of really good Indian food in town!) and little kids visiting her “Fairy Shed.” Kathleen had a long career in radio and television. She started in promotions and then started producing “AM Northwest” (many will remember KATU’s long timer morning program). Later she took a job at KGW writing and producing documentaries. A lay off in 1991 forced her to re-evaluate and she found a spiritual path that led to the ministry. She is a licensed and ordained minister and has her own ministry, Anam Cara Connections. Anam Cara means “soul friend” in Irish.

We are delighted to have Kathleen (and Doug) in our midst and appreciate their many contributions.

## Ray Schellinger, Global Consultant

I have just returned from Central America, where I accompanied a team of leaders from RECONPAZ (Red Continental Cristiana por la Paz) on a three-nation immersion trip to/with indigenous leaders from various indigenous groups. We visited several remote communities in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and my extended time in the back of pick-up trucks on long dusty bumpy dirt roads was just about as much as I could handle. (Reconpaz is a Pan-American Christian network of native American organizations struggling for justice and peace, especially in areas where the lives, communities, water, land rights and well-being of indigenous peoples are being threatened by the incursion of large-scale mining, petroleum and agricultural projects.)



These people are standing up against forces with economic power far beyond their resources, and they have been paying the price, as dozens of leaders from these communities and others like them have been silenced, murdered or disappeared over the last several years. Yet they fight on and have won some limited successes. In each country, they are fighting against not only multi-national interests, but also the local and national government leaders who are in their pockets.

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to travel to Ecuador with Reconpaz leaders in both the heights of the Andes and in the Amazon Jungle. In the Andes we hiked with Quechua activists to several remote villages to hear the stories of their desperate fight to preserve their water supply from Canadian mining companies. The scars in the land and the contamination of their water was evident all around us. In

the Amazon, the threats come from oil drilling and palm oil plantations. As we were able to get beyond the burning fires and the clear-cut forests, we accompanied a Siekopai leader on a several hour hike into this dense lush green forest. She knew the forest so intimately and described in detail the practical and medicinal uses of each plant. Even as it seemed that this section of rainforest had hardly been touched by human beings, she described all the ways that the encroachment of civilization has impacted her forest home. The animals are mostly gone, the water is polluted and the birds that once filled the air are disappearing.

All this is for the gasoline for our cars, and the precious metals in our phones.

The people are leaving too. Into the cities, or across borders. There are fewer and fewer native peoples with this ancestral knowledge, and fewer and fewer people who can defend what is left of their lands. My interest in these trips goes beyond the obvious need to protect our planet. It is also because I wanted to understand why so many people are leaving these areas and joining the streams of migrants looking for new places where they can live. It is one more part of the journey I have been on for the last two years. I have spent several weeks on the highways of Colombia, walking with Venezuelan migrants, hearing their stories, laughing and sharing bread and mangoes. I have gone to Darien, the jungle between Colombia and Panama which every migrant describes as the most horrifying part of the journey, and sat with Haitian sisters and Cameroonian brothers whose loved ones didn't survive. And I have accompanied caravans from Honduras on the road, and received others as they arrived in Tijuana, looking for a place to rest until they are permitted to knock on our southern door to ask for asylum.

(continued on page 9)





## Ray Schellinger, continued from Page 9

In all these places, there are amazing faith leaders (and others) who are accompanying and providing for these migrants. A big part of my job is to come alongside them and see how we can strengthen their ministries.

International Ministries has a project page, "A Mile in their Shoes" which is there to raise support for these ministries. But another big part of my job to share these stories with you and our US churches. I have become so incredibly disheartened at the reaction in the US to the plight of the least of these in our world. I have walked a tiny, tiny, tiny fraction of what these people have walked and I can't begin to imagine the courage, strength and desperation that they have had to make it this far. And it is devastating to me when I hear so many good Christians say that we have no place here for them.

When I advocate for a better asylum policy and for our churches to sponsor asylum seekers, one of the replies I often get is, "why don't they stay in their home countries and make them better?" My answer to this question comes from my latest experiences in Central America. I bear witness to the struggle of indigenous people to make their homelands better, to make OUR world better. I bear witness to the threats, to the beatings, to the disappearances, to the murders that they have endured. I bear witness to the theft and destruction of their lands and the contamination of their water. They are trying with everything they have, but the powers they face are much greater than they have the reserves to face. These powers are not of their making. In fact, the powers they are facing and the interests they serve come much more directly from our world than they do from theirs.

I see my role as a pastor to the displaced. They are the tired, the poor, the huddled masses; they are in large part the indigenous, those which no country seems to value as much as we value what we can take from them. In as much as God said "welcome the stranger," I also see OUR role as pastor to the displaced. I ask that God help us all to see that too.





**Church Potluck**  
**Saturday, November 11**  
**6pm in the Social Hall**  
**with AMOS Staff & Board**  
**Members**

The Board and Staff of AMOS Health & Hope will gather for their annual meeting this year at FBC McMinnville! This hosting privilege is our in part because FBC member David Hallett serves as Vice President of the Board. This hosting is a unique opportunity to interact with the folks who help to ensure the well-being of this ministry we've long been partnered with.

Board members and AMOS staff will travel from around the US and from Nicaragua to be here November 9-12. Some classes and small groups have been asked to host lunches or snack times for them. Everyone is invited to a potluck with our guests on Saturday, November 11, at 6pm in the Social Hall. Their meetings conclude on Friday, but some of them will stay through Sunday morning worship and share with us then. Please welcome these friends warmly and share our appreciation for their important work!

**FBC is sending a 2024 delegation to serve with AMOS Health & Hope!**

**Who?** *You, plus FBC friends!*

**What?** *Participate alongside local community health workers to bring aid and support the empowerment of rural Nicaraguans.*

**When?** *January 26 - February 3*

**Where?** *We'll begin in Managua and travel to our rural sister communities.*

**How?** *Let trip leader Jennifer Scott know you're thinking about this, or ask her any questions, at [jgscottweaver@gmail.com](mailto:jgscottweaver@gmail.com).*

**Why?** *To learn, love, serve, and seek justice and joy for all!*



## Youth Group November 12, 19, 26

at *First Presbyterian Church*  
Middle School from 5-6 pm  
Dinner for ALL from 6-6:30 pm  
High School from 6:30-7:30 pm

NO Youth Group  
November 5  
weekend of Lock Out 2023

## Youth Dinner

Wednesday, November 29 at 6 pm  
at *Alf's Ice Cream & Burger*  
Drop off & pick up there,  
bring money for dinner, and friends!



## Children's Chapel!

Sunday mornings following  
the Children's Time during worship.  
Children of any/all ages are invited to join  
us in the chapel, for songs, a story,  
reflection, and snack.

*Our nursery is also open on Sunday  
mornings, for infants through preschool  
children, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.*

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## Kidventure - JUST FOR KIDS!

Monday nights from 5:15-6:30pm  
at *First Presbyterian Church*  
for children Pre-K thru 5th Grade.

We meet for dinner, games, music, a story  
and activities, and our focus for this year is  
on stories of the Gospels.



## It's time for Parents DAY Out!

Saturday, December 16 from 10am-2pm  
at *First Baptist Church*  
for children age zero through 5th grade  
(and we need youth volunteers to help!)

## FREE!

Registration Required

**Deadline is Wednesday, December 13**

While the Parents are OUT...

Nursery/Childcare and lunch will be  
provided for infants/toddlers/preschoolers.  
And we'll have games, lunch, and a movie  
for elementary children.

**To learn more and/or register, visit**  
[fbcmac.org/parents-day-out-december-2023](http://fbcmac.org/parents-day-out-december-2023)

## McMinnville Youth Collective FALL BEACH RETREATS

The MYC spent two weekends - one with high school youth and one with middle school youth - in September/October at Harbor Villa Retreat Center in Rockaway Beach for our annual fall beach retreats. We enjoyed the beach, played games, watched movies, shared meals, hung out at a campfire, and got a little bit of sleep. Everyone had an awesome time just getting away and being together, and we're already looking forward to next fall!





## Stay connected with your church family!

There are many FBC Committees, Classes, and Small Group Opportunities that meet, both in-person or via Zoom, to help our community stay connected. Join one!

### FBC Classes

#### Bible Study - Tuesdays, 12 noon

This group meets with Pastor Erika. All are welcome!

In-person in the Fireplace Room OR via Zoom.

A discussion-based Bible study with opportunity to delve deeper into highlighted scripture for the week. It's a great forum for asking difficult faith-based questions and/or sharing life's ups and downs, and requesting prayer, too.

#### Sunday Connections - Sunday, 8:30 am, via Zoom

Each week this class watches a short video by an interesting speaker, on various topics, with lively discussions that follow by all participants. Our format gives us the ability to connect with one another and with others beyond our local area. Join Us!

Contact: Barbara Burr, [barbaracoleburr@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracoleburr@gmail.com)

#### Sunday Bereans Class - Sunday, 8:45 am, in person

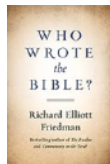
The class is currently reading and discussing "Re-Imagining the Divine A Celtic Spirituality of Experience" by Dara Molloy.

Contact: Doug Verigin (503) 913 3401

#### Sunday Chapel Class - Sunday, 8:45 am, in person

**Who Wrote the Bible?** - This controversial question has intrigued faithful followers of Jesus for almost 2000 years. Join our class in the Chapel each Sunday (for those members who cannot join us physically, see you on Zoom). We'll use Richard Elliott Friedman's book, Who Wrote the Bible, as the foundation for our lively, thoughtful conversation. Differing viewpoints are very welcome and honored. Hope you join us for a facilitated discussion/conversation.

Contact: Gary Langenwaller with 971-221-8155 (mobile), or [gary@portlandconsultinggroup.com](mailto:gary@portlandconsultinggroup.com).



#### Sunday Faith & Java Class - Sunday, 8:45 am

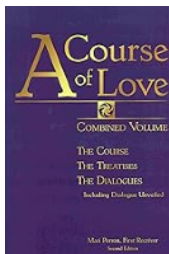
**1st Sunday ONLY - in-person in the FBC Fireplace Room**

This class is dedicated to exploring questions, issues, and experiences in finding spirituality and bliss in everyday living.

Contact: Rob Schulman, [schulmanrob@yahoo.com](mailto:schulmanrob@yahoo.com)

#### Sunday Rainbow Class - for Special Needs Adults

Contact: Cynthia Parker, [cynp007@gmail.com](mailto:cynp007@gmail.com)



Join the BOOK GROUP  
**"A Course of Love" by Mari Perron**  
*"Love is not something you do.  
It is what you are."*

There's a way of knowing that can take you beyond where all your learning has taken you. It can take you to the truth of who you are.

Meeting place - FBC Library each Tuesday, 1:30 pm  
Books available at the church office.

### FBC Small Groups

#### Climate Action Group - Meeting times/locations vary

Contact: Lara O'Brady, [lara\\_obrady@yahoo.com](mailto:lara_obrady@yahoo.com)

#### Together Works - Nov. 13 & 27 at 7 pm, in-person

Fireplace Room at FBC - 2nd & 4th Mondays

Contact: Dee Moore, 971-241-8256, [togetherworksinfo@gmail.com](mailto:togetherworksinfo@gmail.com)

#### Dad's Group - Nov. 13 at 8 pm, in-person (please RSVP)

2nd Mondays each month, location varies

Contact: John Linder, [john.linder93@gmail.com](mailto:john.linder93@gmail.com)

#### Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, Nov. 1st at 8 am, in-person

1st Wednesday each month at American Legion Post 21

126 NE Atlantic, McMinnville (near Highway 18)

RSVP: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

#### Sew & Sos - in-person

Weekly opportunities for individuals and/or small groups to sew together at FBC (2nd floor sewing room).

*Currently making quilts for parents and children through an addiction recovery house run by YCHHS; will soon start making quilts for volunteers of local non-profits.*

Contact: Susan Chambers, [susanlanechambers@gmail.com](mailto:susanlanechambers@gmail.com)

#### Knit Wits - Knitting hats, hand/neck warmers & prayer shawls!

**PM Group - 7 pm, in-person** - Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Nov. 7 & 21 at Gina's

Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

**AM Group - 9:45 am, in-person** - Meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays

Nov. 9 at Linda's (not meeting Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Day)

Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

#### FBC Singles - Tuesday, November 14

1:00 pm Lunch at Mezcal.

Contact: Lynn Crowell, [herbalynn@comcast.net](mailto:herbalynn@comcast.net)

#### Hiking Group - On Hiatus until Spring

Contact: Gloria LaFata, [glowml1@gmail.com](mailto:glowml1@gmail.com)

#### Sister Circle - Every Friday at 11 am, Fireplace Room

Reading "Reimagining the Divine" by Dara Malloy

Interested in joining? Contact: Sherill Roberts,

[shrobert@linfield.edu](mailto:shrobert@linfield.edu) or 971-237-3630

#### Men's Breakfast - November 18 at 9:00 am

Les Toth's Toy Barn, 2700 NW Pinehurst Drive

The speaker will be Dr. Jeff Israeli, retired surgeon, who will discuss "Thirty plus years of Helping Children in Third World Countries"

Contact: Neil Kunze, [kunze@sou.edu](mailto:kunze@sou.edu)

# NOVEMBER at FBC

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 8a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave.	<b>2</b> Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>3</b> <b>FBC Office Closed</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter 5p-12m Youth LOCK-OUT	<b>4</b> Set your <b>CLOCKS</b> <b>BACK 1 Hour</b> 
<b>5</b> 8:45 - Faith & Java, in person <i>Adult Classes (see pg 11)</i> 10 am - <b>WORSHIP</b> in person & Live Stream	<b>6</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 10:30a - Matthew 25 12n - Personnel Committee 4p - Mission Team 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Worship Planning	<b>7</b> 9a - Building & Grounds 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	<b>8</b> 6:30p - Church Board	<b>9</b> 9:45a - KnitWits at Linda's Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>10</b> <b>FBC Office Closed</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Adult Classes (see pg 11)</i> 10 am - <b>WORSHIP</b> in person & Live Stream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>13</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Together Works 8p - Dad's Group	<b>14</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom 1p - Singles dine at Mexcal	<b>15</b> 1p - Membership Team 2:15p - Faith Formation in person, conference room 7:30p - KeyNote <b>CONCERT at FBC</b>	<b>16</b> Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>17</b> <b>FBC Office Closed</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>18</b> 9a - Men's Breakfast
<b>19</b> <i>Adult Classes (see pg 11)</i> 10 am - <b>WORSHIP</b> in person & Live Stream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>20</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Care & Concern group	<b>21</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	<b>22</b> 9a-3p - American Red Cross Blood Drive at FBC	<b>23</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>24</b> <b>FBC Office Closed</b> STARS Closed 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <i>Adult Classes (see pg 11)</i> 10 am - <b>WORSHIP</b> in person & Live Stream 11a-12n - Volunteer Appreciation event 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>27</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Together Works	<b>28</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom	<b>29</b> 6 pm - Youth Dinner	<b>30</b>	<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Dec. 2</b> After worship Hanging of the Greens

## NOVEMBER Birthdays

Colton Anderson 01  
 Randy Dull 02  
 Matt Dressel 02  
 Anne Engen 03  
 Coralyn Reinker 03  
 Aliyah Ferry 06  
 Linda Gilbert 06  
 Alisha Payne 10  
 Brian Gilbert 11  
 Martha VanCleave 11  
 Pattie Waltz 14  
 Nancy McCann 16

Tai James 16  
 Susie Alin 23  
 Lara O'Brady 23  
 Les Toth 23  
 Nancy Vasquez 24  
 Tayah Curry 28  
 Patrick Green 29  
 Megan McCrossin 29  
 Shirley Baldwin 30  
 Sharon Law 30

**AMOS Global Servants**  
 Christine Lafferty 01  
 AJ Zamora 15  
 Abel Zamora 30

## NOVEMBER Anniversaries

Asherlee LaPlante &  
 Steven Smith 10  
 Barry & Jeanette House 13  
 Nancy Carlson &  
 John Sullivan 27

Senior Pastor Erika Marksbury  
[erika@fbcmac.org](mailto:erika@fbcmac.org)  
 Sean P. Williams, Children & Youth Minister  
[sean@fbcmac.org](mailto:sean@fbcmac.org)  
 Marilyn Dresser, Music Director, Bells & Choir  
[marilyn@fbcmac.org](mailto:marilyn@fbcmac.org)  
 Tegan Johnson, Music Director, Worship Team  
[tegan@fbcmac.org](mailto:tegan@fbcmac.org)  
 Ron Richter, Building Superintendent  
[ron@fbcmac.org](mailto:ron@fbcmac.org)  
 Donna Weed, Office Administrator  
[office@fbcmac.org](mailto:office@fbcmac.org)  
 Tom Simpson, Building Security  
[toms@viclink.com](mailto:toms@viclink.com)  
 Geoff Clayton, Shelter Manager  
[grclayton@hotmail.com](mailto:grclayton@hotmail.com)