



# The Tidings

FBC's monthly newsletter

APRIL 2024

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## Visioning the Future of FBC: Strategic Planning Update

### *First Sunday Speaker Series* **Cathedrals of Space and Cathedrals of Time**

**with Bill Millar**

**April 7, after worship  
in Walker Hall**

Retired Linfield religion professor and beloved long-time Bereans teacher Bill Millar will share about his latest research: apocalyptic visions that acknowledge grief-loss and ultimately give way to peace, hope, and beauty.

Listen as he makes connections between ancient texts and modern contexts, between spiritual imagination and political navigation, and join the discussion about what these glimpses of resurrection might mean for us.



Dear Friends,

We began our March Congregational Conversations by asking participants to name FBC's resources. As notetaker, I filled up two giant sheets of paper - and could have recorded more, but we had to move on to the next question! Here's *just a bit* of what was named:

Dedicated Volunteers · History and Tradition · Flexibility  
Reputation in Community · Ecumenical/Interfaith Openness  
Close-to-Downtown Location & Parking · Neighbors · Readerboard  
Large Sanctuary with Balcony · Financial Generosity · Education  
Youth Programs · Strong Community of Elders · Relationships

With all of that in mind, we turned to questions of what it means to steward those resources - *how do we meaningfully sustain and nurture all of that?* - and then, specifically, what we might do in/with our building. Ideas for the latter ranged from strengthening our current non-profit partnerships and forging new relationships, to sharing space with other faith communities, to renovating spaces so they might be more attractive to new users. Folks asked how our building can help us better serve our community, and how it might limit us. We recorded all that was shared so that it can inform our future planning. Thanks very much to all who took part!

We have one more Congregational Conversation scheduled:

***Telling Our Story & Engaging Our Community***  
**Sunday, April 28, 11:30am & Monday, April 29, 6:30pm**

Please save those dates, and come to add your voice and vision to the conversation. Then in May, we'll welcome some of the consultants our task force has been working with, and - equipped with the data from all of our Congregational Conversations - they'll guide us through a process of deciding on goals and drafting action steps. **That visioning and discernment process will happen the morning of Saturday, May 11.** It'll be our 157th birthday, a perfect time to give thanks for all that has been and to plan for our faithful future.

Take care, Erika

## Welcome Class

**April 14, 21, & 28**

**11:30am in the Fireplace Room**

New to FBC? Been around a while, and have some questions? Considering church membership? This class is for anyone who wants to learn more about our congregation: its history, commitments, governance, and ways to get involved. Here's the schedule:

**April 14**

***Introductions, Sharing Our Stories***

**April 21**

***History & Commitments of FBC Mac  
and of American Baptist Churches***

**April 28**

***Ministries, Small Groups, & Structure***

Interested? Questions? Let Erika know  
([erika@fbcmac.org](mailto:erika@fbcmac.org)).



## April WELCOME INCARNATION



The fourth invitation in Bonnie Smith Whitehouse's *Seasons of Wonder* is Welcome Incarnation. She describes two incarnations: the first, the beginning of creation, when God "emptied in to the universe" and "the spirit of God was infused through the flora and fauna"; and the second, "when God, who is Love, empties into the Son, who is Jesus." Christians often think only of the second incarnation, Whitehouse notes, but remembering the first can tune us to hear the sacredness of the world, to remember all the ways "God is merging with the visible, physical world." This month, she suggests we can Welcome Incarnation by:

- Imagining how tending to one another is tending to the body of Christ.
- Writing a prayer that illustrates love for our non-human neighbors.
- Pondering what it means to embody - not simply attend or belong to - something called "church."

A couple of ways the author suggests connecting to the weekly themes of this month:

- ✦ Listen - *Life Is a Church* by Marcus Hummon; *Lord of the Dance* by Sydney Carter
- ✦ Read - *Wild Geese* by Mary Oliver; *Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front* by Wendell Berry

-Seasons, pgs. 95-97

### April Seasons of Wonder Gatherings

#### Small Group Meetings

Small groups will continue to meet monthly throughout 2024. If you're connected to a group but unsure of its next meeting time, contact the church office. If you're not yet connected to a group but would like to be, let Erika know.

#### Field Trip: Eloheh Farm, Saturday, April 27, leave from FBC 9am

We'll immerse ourselves in the wonder of creation at Eloheh Indigenous Center for Earth Justice, where the focus is on developing, implementing, and teaching sustainable and regenerative earth practices. Their nearly ten-acre farm in Yamhill seeks to be a model of regenerative agricultural, animal husbandry, and wild-tending systems that support human needs, while improving the earth and all creation inhabiting the web of life. We'll join the Climate Action Group in learning from and offering service to the farm. Meet in the FBC parking lot at 9am and plan to return about 2pm. Bring a lunch and water bottle.

#### Makers Meeting: Flowering Cross - Sunday, March 31, 9:30am

A long-standing tradition of FBC is mentioned in *Seasons of Wonder*: the Flowering Cross. Come early on Easter morning, with cut blooms from your garden or a flower shop, and help fill the holes in a wooden cross with fresh blossoms. This activity transforms a symbol of hate, torture, and death into a witness for life, beauty, and joy.

### April's Creation Care Challenge: *Plant a bare-root tree!*

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22 by planting a bare-root tree (or plant any sort of flora if a bare-root tree is not possible for your living situation). If you can't plant the tree within a day or so of its arrival, put wet newspaper around the roots. If you can, place it in a bucket of water for 12-24 hours. Dig a hole at least one and a half to two times as wide as the tree's root ball, but just one time as deep, so you don't bury the trunk and crown of roots. Place the tree in the hole, backfill the hole, and then stake the tree. Add mulch and water well as the tree gets established.

-Seasons, pgs. 98-99

FBC received a grant from the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship to do work with *Seasons of Wonder* throughout 2024. The grant funding will pay for books; supplies for the "makers meeting" crafts/projects; field trips; food for sharing feasts; special worship elements; and this fall's All-Church Retreat at Camp Arrah Wanna. We are grateful to have been awarded this funding and hope it makes it possible for everyone to be able to participate in these activities by removing the barrier of expense.



# Sunday Worship Highlights

APRIL 2024

*FBC is inspired by the words of Jesus in Matthew 25,  
"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/)

**April 7**

**Communion Sunday**

**Safe Families Sunday**

"Wash Feet," Sermon from John 20:24-28

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson and the Worship Team

*First Sunday Speaker Series - Professor Bill Millar shares his latest research - see details on page 1.*

**April 14**

"Embody," Sermon from Luke 24:13-31

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Marilyn Dresser and the FBC Choir

*If your class/group would like to host the Fellowship time, this date is open! To claim it, tell [sean@fbcmac.org](mailto:sean@fbcmac.org).*

**April 21**

"Walk Barefoot," Sermon from Psalm 104:1-30

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson and the Worship Team

*After worship, join the Climate Action Group in Walker Hall for an Earth Day reception.*

**April 28**

"Dance," Sermon from John 2:1-10

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson and the Worship Team

*Stay after the service this day to participate in the second Congregational Conversation of our strategic planning process. The topic is "Telling Our Story & Engaging Our Community."*

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE HONORING THE PASTOR'S DAYS OF REST

The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) assists in maintaining good, open, and healthy relationships between the pastor and the people of the congregation. The committee serves in two primary ways: as an advisory group to the pastor and as support of the pastor's leadership. As an advisory group, the committee shares ideas, dreams, hopes, expectations, and concerns of the congregation with the pastor. As a support for the pastor, the committee interprets roles, functions, and needs of the pastor to the congregation.

One need of Pastor Erika is to honor her days of rest. She does not work on Fridays and Saturdays. For her well-being, the PRC encourages her not to respond to emails, or phone calls, or have appointments on Friday and Saturday. We ask the congregation also to respect her needs to not work on those days. Please do not contact her and expect a response on Friday or Saturday.

If the congregation has concerns or ideas you would like us to share with Pastor Erika please contact someone on the PRC. We are blessed to have Erika as our Pastor as we support her in her ministry.

Georgine Benner (Chair of PRC), Mike Burr, Linda Watson and Dave Ferry



YTD	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$56,602	96.9%
Total Income:	\$64,558	91.92
Total Expenses:	\$72,961	103.1%
Net Income:	- \$ 8,403	(deficit)

Everyone is invited to attend the third in the series of **Congregational Conversations**, scheduled for Sunday, April 28 at 11:30 am in person, and Monday, April 29 at 6:30 pm, via Zoom.

Our topic for April is **Telling Our Story and Engaging Our Community**

These conversations are part of our Strategic Planning process. Come share your voice!

**Financial Update** - Our 2-month deficit is a combination of higher than normal utilities, two extra payments carried over from December and lower than budgeted income. In January the congregation approved a deficit of \$19,000 for 2024 and that we would cover that, if needed, with memorial funds. We have lowered that amount to \$17,000 and have not drawn any from those funds. The Church Board plans to create a plan at our March 13th meeting.

You may check on your financial contributions to First Baptist Church through our secure church software database, Realm. If you need assistance creating a Realm profile or have questions, contact Treasurer, Don Watson (donjw@comcast.net) or Realm administrator Barbara Burr (barbaracoleburr@gmail.com).

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

## Church Board Notes, March 13<sup>th</sup>

The Church Board met as scheduled in person. All attendees were present with Virginia joining by computer, and Steve, Mary, Heidi, and Kerry unable to attend.

Dave shared a devotion from the website [momsoffaith.com](http://momsoffaith.com) about sailing on stormy seas. The quote for reflection was "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor." The point is that we need to go through the tough times so we are better prepared for the next challenge. God is with us, even during these difficult times. This makes me think about the difficulties we encounter leading FBC through our current financial challenges while we try to serve the needs of all those who rely on us. The devotion ended with a quote from James 1:12 ESV (revised to reflect our diversity): "Blessed is the person who remains steadfast under trial, for when they have stood the test they will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him."

During Team Reports, Nadya shared that she and Mary have been helping Marilyn organize the music library, which will allow for sorting by different criteria, such as difficulty and which instruments are included. Don reported that two heaters were in need of attention in spaces used by A Family Place. One needs to be replaced, and the other was repaired. There are several of these heaters in the building, and as they are all over 23 years old, it is difficult to get parts to repair them. The Building & Grounds team is also looking into options for the glass doors on First Street. Don shared the treasurer's report. We are in the hole, year to date, primarily due to unexpected Building and Grounds expenses. Don also noted that we are still in search of new reps for the Stewardship Committee. If you have any suggestions, please reach out to Don for details. This committee plays a vital role in determining how we can best tell our story of service to our supporters.

The Board discussed next steps for our Congregational Conversations surrounding different aspects of our Strategic Plan process. The February meeting was well-attended, and

we hope you can join us of our next session on March 24th. The focus will be on *stewardship of our resources and sharing our space* - all the different groups that call FBC home (Sunday School classes, small groups, A Family Place, Scouts, concerts, and recovery groups).

In other news, Erika reported that Geoff Clayton was successful in applying to Yamhill County for a grant to help cover some of the shelter expenses not covered by the YCAP grant. Erika also shared that Doug Verigin successfully administered a dose of Narcan to someone in the courtyard. A good reminder that we have this life-saving medicine available at the STAR breakfasts, in the office, and at the shelter. We discussed the Auto Raffle idea, and it came up that Juliette's House is doing one, so we may want to see how theirs does before we do our own. Kathleen reported that the FBC Fundraiser Dance will be held at the McMinnville Grange Hall on Saturday, June 8th. We will work to incorporate the June theme of "Come Alive" from our Seasons of Wonder project. Virginia also presented information about the Red Chair Project, which is an awareness campaign for domestic violence. The Board agreed to host a display in Walker Hall later this year, probably during October.

Now it is getting to be the time of year when we start looking for new Board members. Some of our current roster will be moving on, which creates some openings. If you are interested, please reach out to Erika. We would love to have you serve with us! Speaking of new members, we are still in search of a special person to fill a vacant position on the Board representing the membership team, so if you are interested, please contact me or Erika for more information. Finally, our next Board meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Wed., April 10 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, or would like a meeting invite to attend via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Larmouth, FBC Moderator

## Climate Action @ First Baptist is excited to provide the following Opportunities During Faith CLIMATE ACTION WEEK at First Baptist Church



### Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, The Theme: Planet VS. Plastics

Starting at 2 pm there will be interactive displays in Walker Hall before and after the 3pm program, along with plant-based snacks. At 3 pm there'll be a program in the sanctuary, then back to the displays.

Sponsors: Zero Waste McMinnville, First Baptist Church, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, McMinnville Cooperative Ministries & Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship

### Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, Worship at 10am

Pastor Erika will bring a message about Climate Stewardship  
Your Climate Action Team will host an After Worship Fellowship reception in Walker Hall.

### Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> the Official Earth Day

11:30 a.m. – Prayer for the Earth/Climate Blessing With Readings and Music

Location: First Baptist Church Courtyard, weather permitting, Inside if necessary

**All over the world, people are being asked to say a blessing for the earth, at noon, local time, on EARTH DAY, Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you would like, you are invited to bring a poem, prayer, or favorite experience in nature to share that speaks to you about the sacredness of our world.**

**Then at noon we will share the climate blessing below.**

*We hold the Earth. We hold brothers and sisters who suffer from storms and droughts intensified by climate change. We hold all species that suffer. We hold world leaders delegated to make decisions for life. We pray that the web of life may be mended through courageous actions to limit carbon emissions. We pray for right actions for adaptation and mitigation to help our already suffering earth community. We pray that love and wisdom might inspire my actions and our actions as communities. . . so that we may, with integrity, look into the eyes of brothers and sisters and all beings and truthfully say, we are doing our part to care for them and the future of the children. May love transform us and our world with new steps toward life.*

### Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. In the Sanctuary **"Common Ground" The Movie**

Is a new film about how regenerating the world's soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth's Climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies.

This film explains why transitioning to regenerative agriculture could be the key in rehabilitating the planet, while simultaneously invigorating a new sense of hope and inspiration for those viewing the film. The film is 87 minutes long and has been made available through Interfaith Power & Light and Roco Films without cost for Faith Climate Action Week.

It is the winner of the 2023 Tribeca Film Festival Human/Nature Award and 6 other awards, including a nomination for best documentary of 2023.

We will receive a freewill offering to support the work of Interfaith Power and Light and Eloheh, an indigenous, regenerative farm in Yamhill.

There'll be a brief discussion following the film, as we consider next steps we might take.

The following Faith Statement is adapted from The American Baptist Churches Website:

Climate change is a moral and spiritual issue that is causing unprecedented harm to God's creation and people. Climate change is having, and will continue to have profound effects—from injury and illness to displacement and destruction—on people across the globe. Whether your religious experience is connected to the sanctity of God's creation, peacemaking, alleviating poverty, or overcoming racism, you need not look far to witness climate injustice, such as disparities in childhood asthma and inequitable response to disaster in communities of color. If your passion is driven by a passion to care for the next generation, nothing threatens our children's wellbeing more than an unstable climate.

## Getting To Know the Classes & Small Groups at FBC



**KnitWits** (by the numbers) was formed in October of 2012 for the purpose of knitting and crocheting items to give to charity, as well as being a place for fellowship.

Presently, 2 groups convene (every 2nd and 4th Thursday morning and on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings) to produce knitted and crocheted hats, baby sweaters, blankets, prayer squares, scarves, hand warmers, prayer shawls, and lap robes for adults, kids and babies. Generally 9 - 12 people with a combined age of more than 920 years participate in the 2 groups. We sometimes talk as much as (or more than) we knit or crochet!

Over 342 items were donated in 2023 to 11 different places, including FBC, STARS, Winter Shelter, Cancer Center, Veterans, Family Place, Parkland Assisted Living, and various individuals. Included in this were 160+ hats and 100 hand warmers (fingerless gloves) mostly for the STARS program.

More volunteers are always appreciated to knit or crochet regardless of whether or not you can attend a group meeting. Ministry Leaders are Linda Watson and Gina Foster and we'd love to have you join us!



### Native Voices Book Group

The next monthly meeting will be  
**Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>,**  
6:30 - 8:00 pm,  
in the FBC Fireplace Room  
Zoom option offered.

We'll be discussing a book of poetry, "An American Sunrise" by Joy Harjo, 23rd Poet Laureate of the U.S. Discussion led by Kristen.

### World Class Music in McMinnville! JAZZ is coming Wed., April 17

~ **Keynote CONCERT Series** ~  
in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary  
7 pm - Doors open / 7:30 pm - Concert begins

**Concert Rock Violinist Aaron Meyer**  
Come hear this extraordinary violinist perform contemporary music as he is joined by many of his talented students.



KeyNote is a once a month, 3rd Wednesday Concert Series thru May, 2024, featuring music ranging from classical to jazz to pop and more.

The opening acts each month will be local school ensembles and/or local musicians.

[www.keynoteconcertseries.com](http://www.keynoteconcertseries.com) for Tickets

Sponsored by The McMinnville Lions Club and McMinnville Performing Arts Association

SAVE-the-DATE . . .

**Saturday, June 8, 2024**



Celebrate June's "Come Alive" theme with an  
**Alive at Five Dance Party**  
& Fundraiser for FBC Programs  
5-8pm at the McMinnville Grange  
Live music! Dance lessons!

If you have ideas for community fun as we celebrate our Aliveness, contact Kathleen Verigin, [kathleenverigin333@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenverigin333@gmail.com). And if you'd like to donate something (there will be gift baskets for bidding and silent auction items), contact Vicki Cartwright, [cartwright3909@gmail.com](mailto:cartwright3909@gmail.com).



## Getting To Know Your First Baptist Church Family

**Karen and John Olson** are relatively new to our fellowship here at First Baptist Church, but they came to McMinnville four years ago, in 2020.

Karen's father was a pastor, and she spent her early years in upstate New York in a rural area of that state. She had three younger siblings. Her Junior High and High School years were spent in Flint, Michigan, until her Senior year, when the family moved to Gresham, Oregon, where she graduated from High School. She moved to Chicago, Illinois to attend Moody Bible Institute, which is where she met her future husband, John Olson.



John's father was also a pastor, so he and Karen were both "Preacher's Kids". John was born and raised in Burlington, Iowa. He was the youngest of three children and the only son. When he was 12 years old, the family moved to Texas, where he completed Junior High and High School. After that, it was on to Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

The first time John visited Karen's family in Oregon, he fell in love with the beauty of the Pacific Northwest. It was such a change from the corn fields of Iowa, where he spent his early years. After he and Karen were married, they knew they wanted to move to Oregon and make a life for themselves there.

When an opportunity to pastor a church in Manzanita, Oregon presented itself, they accepted the offer. They lived in Manzanita for 12 years and all four of their children were born during that time.

They moved to McMinnville to serve as co-associate pastors for youth at McMinnville Covenant Church. In 2023, they changed careers, with Karen working as Communications Director for the Oregon Coast Visitors Association and John as Assistant Director of Career Development at Linfield University. In April, John will take on a new opportunity as CEO of the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce.

John and Karen love their new church home at First Baptist. They say it's a good fit for them in all the ways that matter to them. They are both active in the Music Ministry, singing in the Choir. Their four children are involved in children's ministry and the McMinnville Youth Collective.

They and their children love to explore the outdoors, through hiking and camping together. They also love museums and theatre. In fact, the whole family has acted in two plays together at Gallery Theatre, the latest being *Anne of Green Gables*.

We are grateful to have this talented and loving family as part of our fellowship at FBC. They all add so much to the life of our church and we are glad they found us.

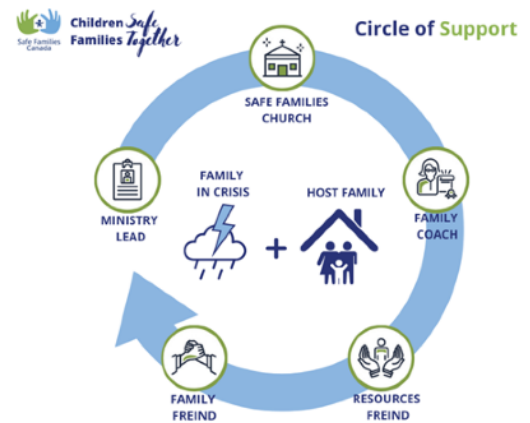
## Safe Families for Children



**Churches all over the country are celebrating Safe Families Sunday on April 7. Come to FBC that morning to learn more about this movement of radical hospitality.**

Hi! I'm Mike Barry. A little bit about me: I'm the Program Manager for the Safe Families movement. I've been in this role since October of 2023. Prior to this role I worked as a DHS Case Worker. I worked in that role with many different agencies in many different parts of the country over the years. Total time in that role was 25 years.

My working journey with DHS has never dictated where my heart has been for the families I've served. I recognize that there are reasons that children come into foster care. However, moving into foster care in many instances just causes more trauma and drama in a family. My goal has been to help children stay with their own family as long as the situation and environment is safe for the child or children to remain in their own home. So many times throughout my career, I saw cases where, if the family was given the right resources and tools to keep their children and home safe, many of those children didn't have to come into foster care. We know from the research that has been done that keeping children with their own families only increases the chances of children doing better in school, staying stable in a career, and just living life to the fullest.



**The mission of Safe Families is keep children safe and families together.**

**We do that by recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers in churches to host, mentor, serve as family coach, family friend, or resource friend to families in crisis, before the crisis gets out of hand and DHS has to step in and remove the children.**

We are always actively recruiting volunteers, because the need is great. Also because we work in a non-profit ministry, we have to rely on grants and donations to keep the movement going. Therefore, another way people can get involved is to financially donate toward the movement.

The needs are great and increasing daily. I can't think of a better way to give back to people than to actively do what the Bible commands us as Christians to do. 1 Peter 4: 8-9 says that we are all to offer hospitality to one another without grumbling and share with the Lord's people who are in need.



I recognize that there are many ministries that specialize in many aspects of life and some that specialize in individual needs. The ministry of Safe Families has life-long implications for some families because when there can be a mentor or family friend to another person that is in crisis that has never had anyone like that in their life, it can make all the difference in the world for them and impact them through that relationship that they will have with that volunteer for many years and in some cases a lifetime.

We would love for your church to get more involved with Safe Families as a volunteer at any level or donate financially so that the movement can continue making positive impacts for the people we serve in Yamhill County.

Reach out to me directly and I can answer any questions people have. 971-901-2837

God Bless You, Mike Barry

**Program Supervisor/Safe Families**



AFP operates its RELIEF NURSERY at FBC, Monday thru Friday in the main level Nursery rooms, adjacent to the Chapel.



AFP's Staff & Counseling offices are located on FBC's lower level. They also offer many activities & events for families at FBC.

It takes a village to raise children and support families and for many families in Yamhill County, A Family Place is that village. A Family Place programs are a few of the many programs of Lutheran Community Services supporting children and families. **The mission of A Family Place is to nurture children and empower families to strengthen our local community. We believe all families want what is best for their children and we partner with families facing multiple stressors in our community to provide the tools, resources, and support needed to be the best parents they can be.**

A Family Place is here for all families and we have something for everyone, from supporting them with very basic needs like diapers and clothing at the Diaper Bank to universal family support through parenting education groups. We meet families where they are without judgment.

For families with children 5 and younger who need a little more support in their journey, Healthy Families and the Relief Nursery offer one on one family support services through home visiting. An added bonus of the Relief Nursery are the therapeutic classrooms which offer specialized early childhood classroom experiences to support children in developing their social-emotional skills and gives parents the needed respite.



We are proud to share with you our accomplishments from 2023:

- Across our 3 diaper bank locations (Newberg, McMinnville, and Willamina) we welcomed 1,828 visitors, 252 of them indicated it was their first-time accessing the diaper bank.
- On average we distributed 10,000 diapers a month via the diaper banks, during home visits, and in the classrooms.
- 163 parents and caregivers completed one of our parenting education group series.
- Our Healthy Families home visiting program served 52 families and completed 628 home visits with them.
- The Relief Nursery program served 83 families and supported parents in reducing their stressors by 27%.

Our webpage with information for parents/caregivers to learn about and access our services:  
[www.familyplacerelief.org/parent](http://www.familyplacerelief.org/parent)



## Youth Group

April 7, 14, 21, 28

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

## Langers!

Friday, April 12 from 1-4pm

drop off & pick up at First Baptist Church

bring \$20 for games/activities

plus extra money for snacks

(and more games/activities) AND friends!

## Youth Dinner

Wednesday, April 24 at 6 pm

at Nancy Jo's Burgers & Fries

Drop off & pick up there,

bring money for dinner, and friends!



## Children's Chapel!

Our special worship time just for children continues in April!

Following the Children's Time during worship on Sunday mornings (except the first Sunday of every month), children are invited to join us for Children's Chapel.

We'll meet in the chapel to sing songs, hear a story, reflect on & respond to the story with art materials, and have a snack, all together.

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



## KidVenture

KidVenture continues in April! And, as always, it's just for kids!

Join us every Monday night from 5:15-6:30pm at First Pres for children Pre-K thru 5th Grade.

We meet for dinner, games, music, a story and activities. We're partnering with First Presbyterian Church for Kidventure and our focus for this year is on stories of the Gospels.

And there are lots of ways for youth and adults to be involved if you're interested in helping!

## SUMMER 2024!

Save the dates for these exciting plans for the summer, and stayed tuned for more details and even more fun coming soon!



**Vacation Bible School 2024!**

VBS is back June 24-28

and we're partnering with First Pres for Seekers in Sneakers,

an interactive VBS where children learn that everyone can make a difference in the world!

VBS is for children K through 6th grade (youth & adult volunteers needed!).

Registration is now open at:

[fbcmac.org/vbs-2024](http://fbcmac.org/vbs-2024)

**JOIN US!**



**Summer Camp at Camp Arrah Wanna is back in July 2024!**

**There will be ONE WEEK of camp for ALL children and youth, 1st through 12th grade**

Monday, July 15 through Friday, July 19 for ALL campers

cost for ALL campers = \$300

Registration now open!

[www.camparrahwanna.org/programs](http://www.camparrahwanna.org/programs)



## MYC Service Learning Trip 2024

This summer we are excited to be partnering AGAIN with S.L.A.M. (Students Learning About Missions) Trips for a cross-cultural service & learning trip in an indigenous paradigm.

The trip is July 28-August 2 for current 5th-12th grade youth. And registration is now open!

You can find our more details, register here:

[fbcmac.org/myc-service-learning-trip-2024](http://fbcmac.org/myc-service-learning-trip-2024)

## A Month Full of Opportunities!

Gather with a small group or class of FBC friends to make the ordinary sacred.

### FBC Adult 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. The format provides 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

This class continues its exploration of the evolving church in modern times, using contemporary videos and theological texts and articles. They examine how religion and spirituality are manifest in everyday life.

Contact: Doug Verigin, (503) 913 3401

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

This class is reading/discussing "How to Know a Person" by David Brooks, which explores the art of seeing others deeply and being deeply seen. (The class rotates book choices between a Bible-orientated book and a current issue-related book.) Class members can volunteer to lead a class discussion on any specific chapter they choose. The open discussion is insightful and fun!

Contact: Gary Langenwalter, 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. The class is led by Rob Schulman who presents a new topic each time, followed by interesting discussion.

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

#### Sunday Rainbow Class - for adults with special needs

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

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

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

#### Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, April 3 at 8 am

1st Wednesday each month at American Legion Post 21  
126 NE Atlantic, McMinnville (near Highway 18)

RSVP: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

#### Together Works - April 8 & 22 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 - April 8 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)

#### Sew & Sos - in-person

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

Currently sewing prayer bags & making quilt kits to take home.

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

#### Knit Wits - Knitting scarves, hats, and hand warmers!

PM Group - 7 pm, in-person (meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

April 2 & 16 at Gina's

Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

AM Group - 9:45 am, in-person (meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays)

April 11 & 25, at Linda's

Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

#### FBC Singles - Saturday, April 6 at 4 pm, Fireplace Room

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - GAME NIGHT!

Bring a favorite game and we'll pick one or two to play.

Bring finger food snacks and/or drinks too. See you there!

3rd Tuesday Lunch - April 16 at Mezcal, 1pm, Food & Conversation

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

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

Reading "Why Religion?" by Elaine Pagels.

Interested in joining? Contact: Sherill Roberts,

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

#### Mom's Group - Gathering TBD

Contact Heidi Toth for details, [tothfive@gmail.com](mailto:tothfive@gmail.com)

#### Hiking Group - Saturday, April 20

meet at FBC at 9am to carpool - hiking at Miller Woods

Contact: Gloria LaFata, [glowm11@gmail.com](mailto:glowm11@gmail.com)

#### Men's Breakfast - April 27 at 9:00 am

Les Toth's Toy Barn, 2700 NW Pinehurst Drive

Gary Langenwalter, member of the McMinnville Planning

Commission, will speak about "Why Does the MPC Matter?"

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

**Mark Your Calendar!** FBC's Annual All-Church Campout, this year at Beverly Beach State Park on the Oregon Coast! July 19 - July 21, 2024, Contact Dave King for more information - [kaveding@earthlink.net](mailto:kaveding@earthlink.net).



# APRIL at FBC

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Matthew 25 12n - Personnel 4p - Mission Team 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Worship Planning	<b>2</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	<b>3</b> 8a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave	<b>4</b> Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>5</b> <b>FBC Office Closed &amp; Pastor's Day Off</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>6</b> 4p - Singles Game Night
<b>7</b> 8:45 - Faith & Java, in person <a href="#">Adult Classes (see pg 11)</a> 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 11a - Speaker Series by Bill Millar 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>8</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Together Works 8p - Dad's Group	<b>9</b> 9a - Building & Grounds - Bible Study in person & via Zoom	<b>10</b> 6:30p - Church Board	<b>11</b> 9:45a - KnitWits at Linda's Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>12</b> <b>FBC Office Closed &amp; Pastor's Day Off</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 1-4p - MYC to Langers 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <a href="#">Adult Classes (see page 11)</a> 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 11:30a - Welcome Class 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>15</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Care & Concern	<b>16</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom 1p - Singles Lunch 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	<b>17</b> 1p Membership Team 2:15p Faith Formation 7:30p - KeyNote CONCERT at FBC	<b>18</b> Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>19</b> <b>FBC Office Closed &amp; Pastor's Day Off</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>20</b> 9a - Hiking Group 2p - Earth Day Event at FBC Displays, program, music, speakers
<b>21</b> <a href="#">Adult Classes (see page 11)</a> 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 11:30a - Welcome Class 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>22 - Earth Day</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11:30a - Courtyard PRAY for the Earth 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Earth Day Movie night, 'Common Ground' 7p - Together Works	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6p - Youth Dinner 6:30p - Native Voices Book Group	<b>25</b> 9:45a - KnitWits at Linda's Music Rehearsals: 5:20p Bells / 6:30p Choir 8p Worship Team	<b>26</b> <b>FBC Office Closed</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7:30p - Friday Shelter	<b>27</b> 9a - Men's Breakfast 9a - Field Trip Eloheh Farm Volunteer Day
Pastor Erika away for continuing education: ABC/MMBB Women Pastor's Colloquium in Atlanta						
<b>28</b> <a href="#">Adult Classes (see page 11)</a> 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 11:30a - Congregational Conversation, in person 11:30a - Welcome Class 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	<b>29</b> 9:15a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 6:30p - Congregational Conversation, via Zoom	<b>30</b> 12n - Bible Study in person & via Zoom				

## APRIL Birthday

Jim James 1  
 Don Christensen 5  
 Joel Kiff 5  
 BJ Larmouth 6  
 Steven Smith 7  
 Sam Ross 10  
 Jennifer Scott 11  
 Cheryl Hockaday 11  
 Jack Mandeville 11  
 Gordon Dromgoole 12

Wayne Beckwith 15

Erica Jensen 16  
 Jennifer Cleveland 19  
 Dayna Gilbert 19  
 Holden Leach 20  
 Shelly Sanderlin 20  
 Laurie Kiff 20  
 Matt Young 20  
 David Jacob 20

## Global Servant Birthday

Elijah Williams 23

Wesley Lundberg 24  
 Lisa Ovando-Arreola 25  
 Naomi Rosen 25  
 Cameryn Rowe 25  
 Felix Bierly 27  
 Jack Linder 27  
 Kelton Curry 27  
 Alyssa Dressel 27

## APRIL Anniversary

Holly & Lloyd Galer 12  
 John & Jen Linder 12  
 Cherie & Matt Young 18  
 Sunshine & Teresa Fugit 20  
 Michael & Lynne Vincent 24

