



The Tidings

OCTOBER 2025

First Baptist Church's Newsletter
125 SE Cows Street, McMinnville, OR
97128 • 503.472.7941 • fbcmac.org • office@fbcmac.org

FBC to reconsider regional affiliation

For its 158-year history, FBC has belonged to the American Baptist Churches (USA). Our denomination's emphasis on the "four freedoms" - soul freedom, religious freedom, Bible freedom, and church freedom - means we can be in community without all agreeing to exactly the same set of beliefs; we can honor and respect the diversity of thought among us, and learn from one another, while uniting around some core purposes. Part of our denomination's mission statement reads:

Our commitment to Jesus propels us to nurture authentic relationships with one another; build healthy churches; transform our communities, our nations and our world; engage every member in hands-on ministry; and speak the prophetic word in love.

In our tradition, churches belong to the denomination through a region: a grouping sometimes, but not always, and not necessarily, geographically determined, typically consisting of 60-80 congregations that partner for education, collaboration, celebration, and support. Throughout our 158 years, we have belonged to the American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast (earlier called ABC of Oregon). The FBC Board has recently begun to explore the possibility of shifting our regional affiliation to the Evergreen Association. Evergreen's offices are in Kent, Washington, and they have member churches in Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Venezuela and Washington. Evergreen is ethnically and theologically diverse, and we believe our ministry would be welcomed and encouraged in that region.

We value the relationships we have made over the years with other congregations in the Central Pacific Coast, and we trust those can continue. Still, we know this is not a decision to make lightly. To that end, we invite you to these chances for congregational conversation, to learn more and to share your thoughts:

- Sunday, October 19, after church in the Fireplace Room
- Wednesday, October 29, 7pm on Zoom:

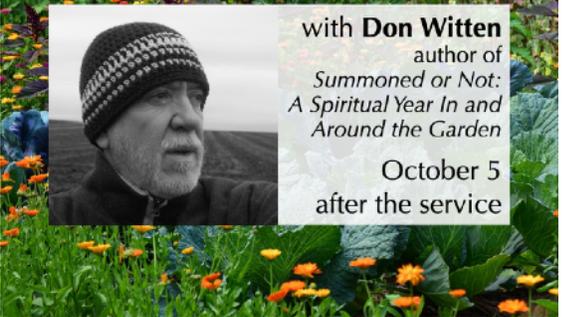
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83320084760>

And we hope you will be present in worship on November 2, when the executive minister of the Evergreen Association, Rev. Doug Avilesbernal, will preside at our communion table and, following worship, share and answer questions as our First Sunday Speaker.

Our first "Tell About It!" Story Night was funny, poignant, wise, heart-wrenching, and deeply connective. Thanks to all who participated as storytellers, listeners, and planners. The Worship & Community Engagement Committee looks forward to bringing you a winter edition in January - stay tuned for date and theme details!



FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES



Effective Non-Violent Communication Workshop

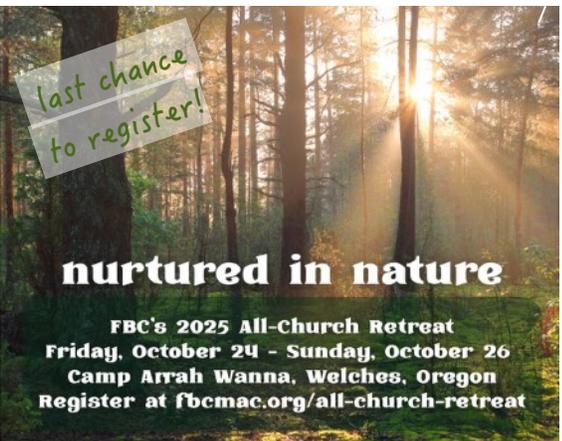
with Tad Beckwith and Sandra Amiry

clarify communication
deepen emotional intelligence
build cooperation and trust
increase empathy



Friday, October 10
5:30 - Potluck, 6:45 - NVC Training
+ optional ongoing practice group

Cost & more details at fbcmac.org.





Sunday Worship Highlights

OCTOBER 2025

FBC is inspired by the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:
"Whatever you do unto the most vulnerable of my siblings, you do unto me."

In October, we'll continue to get to know the minor characters in the Gospels, and look and listen for the ways they welcomed, supported, accompanied, loved, and challenged Jesus. We'll keep remembering and celebrating folks who have done the same for us, too.

10:00 am - WORSHIP in person in the sanctuary, or streaming live: www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmac/

October 5 - Communion Sunday

"Letting Ourselves Be Surprised," from Luke 13:29-33

Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

After church fellowship hosted by the Chapel Class in Walker Hall. AND the First Sunday Speaker Series welcomes Don Witten, author of Summoned or Not: A Spiritual Year In and Around the Garden, a collection of prose and poetry written from October 2023 to October 2024, capturing the cyclical nature of the garden as a metaphor for our own lives and utilizing the philosophies and teachings of Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity, Native American traditions, and the Celtic Year of the Wheel.

October 12



We are honored to welcome Christine Lafferty, a global servant with International Ministries who works at AMOS Health and Hope in Nicaragua, as our guest preacher this morning. Christine has guided FBC folks on several of our trips to work alongside AMOS.

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Anyone wanting to learn more about AMOS and a possible 2026 Nicaragua trip is invited to chat with Christine after church in Walker Hall, or at dinner at 5:30 in the Social Hall the night before!

October 19

"What Belongs Here?," from John 2:13-17

Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

Music led by Marilyn Dresser & the FBC Choir

October 26

"And Where Does the Healing Come From?"

from Mark 5:1-10, 15-20, Rev. Mike Burr preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team



Everywhere the Feast
Faithful conversations
on meeting the moment

October 19 at 5:30 pm

McMinville Cooperative Ministries
(544 NE 2nd Street, Mac)

Potluck dinner, bring a dish to share

a joint ministry of
First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church,
McMinville Cooperative Ministries
& St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

What does it mean to be a person of faith in our current climate? How does it matter that we are people committed to "good news"? As followers of Jesus' way of courage and compassion, how are we being called to respond to this moment in our collective life?

"Everywhere the Feast" is an invitation to join with old and new friends from other congregations, to nourish our bodies with good food and our spirits with thoughtful discussion around short readings. We'll rotate locations; in October, the CoOp is hosting. Hope you'll join in.



COME SING WITH THE FBC

CHRISTMAS CHOIR!

Kick-off:

Saturday, Oct. 18
CHRISTMAS CHOIR

8:30 AM

Coffee, donuts, fruit, & fellowship

9:00-11:30 AM

Begin working on Christmas music

Whether you're a returning singer or brand new, we'd love for you to be part of this joyful season of music!

YTD	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$235,827	100.8%
Total Income:	\$ 288,949	100.4%
Total Expenses:	\$289,886	100.8%
Net Income:	- \$ 937	<deficit>

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

Important Financial Update - Yay!! Year to date income is on schedule. Our expenditures have been a bit over budget yet all have been paid. So far this year we have had to draw \$13,000 out of Memorial gifts (savings). We are hoping that through increased giving we won't have to use all that the budget allows, \$22,776. We appreciate every gift in support of ministry at First Baptist Church.

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

Review August TIDINGS Insert page for ENDOWMENT FUND Update (copies at FBC or on website)

September Church Board Notes

Ever heard the phrase, "... doing the same thing over and over again, and expecting different results?" There are many variations, most often attributed to Al Anon, the 12-step program for family and friends of alcoholics. It's now in common vernacular, even heard in church board meetings. We strive to oversee church business with respect for the great traditions of FBC's 158 years, while also having our eyes focused on the present and visioning the future. These are not easy things to do, especially around finances.

Don Watson, our trusted treasurer, presented first to the executive board, an innovative vision for this fall's stewardship campaign. It's a three-part process. First, call together a visioning team to go through a SWOT process. It stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. A SWOT analysis is a framework to help assess and understand the internal and external forces that may create opportunities or risks for an organization. Next, this information will inform the budget committee for 2026. Finally, with budget and pledges in hand, we form a visioning team asking, "What now, God, what now?"

Throughout FBC's 158-year history, our regional affiliation has been with ABCCPC—American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast. In recent years, we've had our ups and downs, especially when FBC became a part of AWAB, the Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists.

We've started a conversation about the possibility of switching our regional affiliation from ABCCPC to the Evergreen Association. Prior to the September meeting, board members were invited to visit both websites and peruse with neutral eyes. Those who did so shared thoughts and suggestions. We, as a board, came to consensus that we would like to pursue affiliation with Evergreen. This will be a gentle and conscious process, where all voices will be heard. See page one for more info and dates for congregational conversations. In the meantime, you might want to peruse the websites yourself:

- <https://ea-abc.org/>
- www.abccpc.org

Sadly, safety has become a priority for houses of worship across the country, including FBC. Tim Duerfeldt is our insurance company's Safety Monitor. He submitted a request to the September board meeting: "I ask the board to discuss locking our building during service(s)." How do you feel about that? The discussion led to the desire for another community-wide safety meeting. When we have a date, please make it a priority to participate.

I'm thrilled to say that I will attend my first All-Church Retreat Oct. 24-26 at Camp Arrah Wanna. If you haven't signed up, visit fbcmac.org and do so asap. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by Kathleen Verigin, Church Moderator

The Church Board meets at 6:30pm on the second Wednesday of every month. Meetings are open to all. Detailed minutes are filed in the church office and available for reading by appointment with the office.

In September, FBC was honored to host guests from the World Friendship Center in Hiroshima, Japan, who came to share their stories of first-, second-, and third-generation impacts of the atomic bomb. They shared at church, retirement villages, Linfield University, and McMinnville High School. We are grateful for their witness for peace.



October Awareness Month:
"Hands & Words are not for Hurting"



Take the Pledge to End
ABUSE & VIOLENCE -

*"I will not use
 my hands or
 my words
 for hurting myself
 or others."*

KeyNote CONCERT SERIES presents . . .

**TWIST & SHOUT
 A Beatles Tribute Band**

Take a walk down memory lane with an evening of music from The Beatles. Opening for Twist and Shout is Mallory Mead (guitarist, singer & songwriter).



Wednesday, October 15, 2025 -7-8:30 pm
 at First Baptist Church sanctuary.



October is designated as World Mission Offering month at First Baptist Church. During this time, our congregation comes together to support significant global initiatives that focus on sharing hope and delivering practical aid to communities across the world.

Impact of Your Contributions -

World Mission Offering enables us to fund essential projects such as education, healthcare, and disaster relief. Your generosity empowers these projects, making a tangible difference in the lives of people around the globe.

Supporting IM Global Servants -

Through our gifts to the World Mission Offering, we help IM global servants serve in over 70 countries. These dedicated individuals share God's word and the love of Jesus Christ, reaching people far beyond the boundaries of our church.

Learn More About Global Servants -

Below is a list of global servants supported through the World Mission Offering. We invite you to learn more about them and their ministries by visiting: <https://internationalministries.org/world-mission-offering/>

Lanutemjen & Onenlemla Ao

Lauren Bethell

Mayra Giovanetti & Carlos Bonilla

Ann & Bill Clemmer

Hermelinda & Jorge Damasceno

Laura & Rich Freeman

Anita & Rick Gutierrez

Gordon & Lee Ann Hwang

Eliberto & Molly Juárez

Eric & Yuree Lembke

Lori & Matt Mann

Becky & Mike Mann

Christina & Lance Muteyo

Katherine & Wayne Niles

Rodney Ragwan

Stacy and Tim Reese

Paul Rollet

Corene & Philip Smith

Jae Stockton

Ruth Vindas

Debby Witmer

Melanie Baggao

Barbara & Dwight Bolick

Deliris & Moise Carrión-Joseph

Aphiwan & Scott Coats

Annie & Jeff Dieselberg

Mercy González-Barnes

Sue Hegarty

Carmella Jones

Nora & Pieter Kalkman

Katie & Taku Kihomi

Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga

Luis and Sarah Matos

Debbie & Keith Myers

David Parajón

David & Joyce Reed

Kathy & Tim Rice

David Sagar

Brian & Lynette Smith

Shigemi Tomita

Jeanine & Walt White

Faye Yarbrough

Mylinda Baits

Marci Carvalho

Dan & Sarah Chetti

Kristy Engel

Waleska Febres

Amanda & Jon Good

Joel & Trish Hoefle-Magal

Alise & Mark Juanes

Boaz Keibarak

Christy Lafferty

María Angélica Mainecul

Sarah McCloy

Jonathan & Thelma Nambu

Ketly & Vital Pierre

Rhonda Reed

Kit Ripley

Ray Schellinger

Larry & Rebecca Stanton

Aaron & Amy Estelle Trout

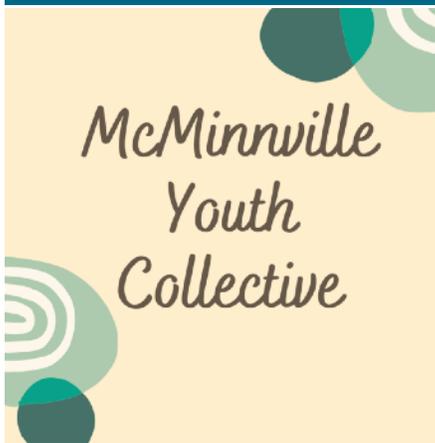
Katrina & Kyle Williams

Dilia Zelaya



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Bread for the World unites people of faith to end hunger everywhere. As SNAP benefits shrink and more families face food insecurity, this movement empowers churches, faith groups, and individuals to speak up for strong food assistance programs. Together, through advocacy and compassion, they're making a real difference—ensuring no one is forgotten in the fight against hunger. Interested in participating in a letter writing campaign? Contact Eric Holmstrom, veholmstrom@verizon.net



Youth Group

Sundays, October 5, 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

Lunch at McMinnville High School

Wednesday, October 1
Pizza in Mrs. Martin's room (#D122)

Youth Dinner

Wednesday, October 15 at 6 pm
at Alf's Ice Cream & Burgers
Drop off & pick up there,
bring money for dinner, and friends!

Children's Chapel!

Sunday mornings following
the Children's Time during worship
on 3rd/4th/5th Sundays of the month.
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.

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, music, a story
and activities. Our focus for this year is on
stories of the Old Testament.

The McMinnville Youth Collective Lock Out is BACK!

6th-12th grade youth and friends

Friday, November 7 @ 5pm

TO

Friday, November 7 @ midnight

Plans are in works for this night of fun,
but we know it's gonna be great!
And the cost is just \$60!

Registration opens soon
and the deadline to register
is Sunday, November 2!

And friends are welcome to join us!

Children, Youth, and Families Sundays at FBC!

This school year, we are doing something new at First Baptist Church:

Children, Youth, and Families Sundays!

This will happen every 2nd Sunday of the month during 10am worship through May.
And all FBC children, youth, and families are invited to be part!

Here is what we're hoping this will help us do:

- To have regular, intentional Sundays where all of our FBC children, youth, and families are together.
- To create time/space for us to get to know each other better and build community.
- To make FBC more intergenerational, where every age is present, and belongs and contributes.
- To invite children, youth, and families to not only participate in worship, but also to help lead our services.

And here's how we're asking you to consider participating:

- **Put these Sundays on your calendar and come join in** - October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, and May 10
- **Help lead worship, if you'd like** - reading scripture, leading prayers/litanies, sharing music, greeting/ushering, or offering your gifts in other ways. Optional, of course, for any/all family members. If interested, let Sean know, and we'll coordinate details in advance and meet around 9:30am on Sunday morning to go over the plan for the service.
- **Stay after worship to spend time together** - with the other children, youth, and families of the FBC community!

Our hope is that these Sundays become a joyful rhythm - times where we celebrate God together across generations and strengthen the bonds of our community and church. So please prayerfully consider joining in this exciting new thing. Let us know if you want to be part, and reach out if you have any questions and/or other ideas that might help our children, youth, and families better connect and know each other.

Sean P. Williams – Children's and Youth Minister & Mary Dressel – Children, Youth, and Families Church Board Representative
& Rev Dr Erika Marksburry – Senior Pastor

A month full of opportunities!

Sunday Connections - 8:30am via Zoom

Each week we listen to a podcast and discuss together. We meet on virtually which provides the ability to connect with on another and with others beyond our local area. Join us! All are Welcome.
Contact: Barbara at barbaracoleburr@gmail.com

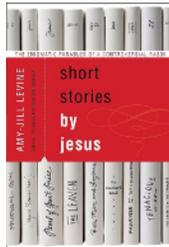
1st Sunday Faith & Java Class - 8:45am, in person

Exploring questions, issues, and experiences in finding spirituality and bliss in everyday living.
Contact Rob: schulmanrob@yahoo.com

Sunday Chapel Class - 8:45am, in person

Short Stories by Jesus: the Parables

Amy-Jill Levine invites her audience to read the parables of Jesus through a Jewish lens. With his parables, Jesus was requiring that his disciples do more than listen; he was asking them to think as well. As subversive as any parable, *Short Stories by Jesus* offers readers new ears for hearing stories we thought we knew by heart. It also shakes the faithful where we need to be shaken, showing us how close we have come to disarming some of Jesus' most potent teachings. Levine, a Jewish New Testament scholar of enormous depth, powerfully illuminates both Jesus and the Christian story. Join us to engage in vibrant discussions about this book. Contact Gary Langenwalter at 971-221-8155, gary@portlandconsultinggroup.com



Sunday Bereans Class - 9:00am, in person

Exploring the evolving church in modern times, using contemporary videos and theological texts & articles.
Contact: Doug Verigin at 503 913-3401

Bible Study - Wednesdays 11:00am

In person in the Fireplace Room

This group meets with Pastor Erika. All are welcome!
A discussion-based Bible study with opportunity to delve deeper into highlighted scripture for the week. We look at the text from multiple translations, discuss contexts, and ask questions about meaning for today. Come join in!

Sacred Centering - Wednesdays, 5:00pm

In-person in the Fireplace Room

Gather with friends mid-week to spend a quiet hour connecting with each other and tending to our souls. We rotate through various prayer practices: the Ignatian examen; lectio divina; body prayers; silent meditation; and other creative, gentle practices. All are welcome.
Contact erika@fbcmac.org if you have questions.

Climate Action Group - Meeting times/locations vary

Contact: Lara O'Brady, lara_obrady@yahoo.com

Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, October 1 at 8:30 am

1st Wednesday each month at American Legion Post 21
126 NE Atlantic, McMinnville / RSVP: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

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

Fireplace Room at FBC - 2nd & 4th Mondays
Contact: Dee Moore, 971-241-8256, togetherworksinfo@gmail.com

Dads' Group - October 13 at 8 pm, in-person (please RSVP)

2nd Monday, location varies - Contact: John Linder, john.linder93@gmail.com

Sew & Sos - in-person (2nd floor sewing room)

Weekly opportunities for individuals and/or small groups to sew together at FBC. Contact: Susan Chambers, susanlanechambers@gmail.com

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

PM Group - 7 pm, in-person (meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays)
October 7 & 21 at Gina's / Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

AM Group - 9:45 am, in-person (usually meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays)
October 9 ONLY at Linda's / Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

FBC Singles - Friday, October 3, Game Night!

6-8pm - FBC Fireplace Room

Contact: Emily Kerrigan, emily2.kerrigan@gmail.com

2nd Tuesday Lunch - October 14, 1pm @ Grain Station

Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

Sister Circle - Every Friday at 11 am, Fireplace Room

Interested in joining? Contact: Sherill Roberts, shrobert@linfield.edu or 971-237-3630

Moms' Group - October plans TBD

Contact Heidi Toth: tothfive@gmail.com

Hiking Group - Saturday, October 18 - final hike of the season

Hiking Willamette Mission State by way of the Wheatland Ferry
We will carpool from the FBC parking lot at 9 AM.

Bring water, lunch, and prepare for a good time with your hiking friends. Contact: Gloria, glowml1@gmail.com

Native Voices Group - Wednesday, October 22, 6pm

Fireplace Room - meeting to discuss books for the year
Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, October 25, 9am

last Saturday each month in the Fireplace Room (enter Cows)

"From Passer to Pastor and Drug Rep. to Hospice Chaplain"
with Sam Ross, plus breakfast with friends.

Contact: Don Watson, donjw@comcast.net or
Neil Kunze, kunze@sou.edu

OCTOBER at FBC

OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Worship Team	2	3 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 6-8p - FBC Singles Game Night	4
5 Adult classes (see listing pg. 7) 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5:7:30pm - MYC at FPC	6 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 12p - Personnel 4p - Mission Team 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Worship Planning	7 9a- Building & Grounds 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	8 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Church Board 6:30p - Worship Team	9 9:45a - KnitWits at Linda's 5:20p - Bells rehearse 6:30p - Choir rehearses	10 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 5:30 - NVC Potluck & 6:45 - NVC Training THUNDER MS Youth Retreat - Cascades	11 5:30 - Taco Dinner with AMOS Health & Hope's Christine Lafferty, in the Social Hall
12 Adult classes (see listing pg. 7) 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5:7:30pm - MYC at FPC	13 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Matthew 25 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Together Works 8p - Dads' Group	14 1p - Singles Lunch at the Grain Station	15 11a - Bible Study 2p - Faith Formation 5p - Sacred Centering 6p - Youth Dine at Alf's 6:30p - Worship Team	16 5:20p - Bells rehearse 6:30p - Choir rehearses	17 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle MUD HS Youth Retreat - Cascades Camp	18 9am - Hiking Group
19 Adult classes (see listing pg. 7) 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5:7:30pm - MYC at FPC 5:30pm - Everywhere the Feast at the CoOp	20 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 6:30p - Care & Concern	21 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	22 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6p - Native Voices Group 6:30p - Worship Team	23 5:20p - Bells rehearse 6:30p - Choir rehearses	24 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle Oct. 24-26 Arrah Wanna RETREAT	25 9a - Mens's Breakfast
26 Adult classes (see listing pg. 7) 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5:7:30pm - MYC at FPC	27 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture 7p - Together Works	28	29 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Worship Team	30 5:20p - Bells rehearse 6:30p - Choir rehearses	31 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 	

OCTOBER Birthday

Bob McCann 2
 Kay Calkins 2
 Eric Holmstrom 3
 Joan Kushner 6
 Michael Bone 6
 Sam Robinson 10
 William Millar 11
 Holly Darling 11
 Pete VanPatten 12
 Lynn Crowell 12



Karen VanPatten 14
 Ava Olson 15
 Barry House 15
 Nicole Curry 19
 John Sullivan 19
 Roger Dell 20
 Chloe Dixon 21
 Daniel Ford 21
 Cherie Walker 22
 Art Engen 23
 Carson Benner 28

OCTOBER Anniversary

Karl Severance 29
 Jordan Robinson 31
 Kena Avila &
 Karl Severance 4
 Cliff & Pam Watts 6
 Christina & Justin Lundberg 11

Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor
erika@fbcmac.org

Sean P. Williams, Children & Youth Minister
sean@fbcmac.org

Marilyn Dresser, Music Director, Bells & Choir
marilyn@fbcmac.org

Tegan Johnson, Music Director, Worship Team
tegan@fbcmac.org

Ron Richter, Building Superintendent
ron@fbcmac.org

Donna Weed, Office Administrator
office@fbcmac.org

Tom Simpson, Building Security
toms@viclink.com