



The Tidings

AUGUST 2026

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

Service Learning Trip 2026 Celebration Sunday, August 9th at 2pm in the FBC Social Hall



Join participants and leaders of the McMinnville Youth Collective's Service Learning Trip in the Social Hall at 2pm August 9th to hear stories, see pictures, and sing songs from their Civil Rights Immersion experience in Alabama. Enjoy a dessert bar prepared by the youth as a "thank you" for all the support of their trip. And consider how our community might be shaped, going forward, by what arises from their learning.

Scenes from Beachside State Recreation Area & the 2026 FBC Campout, July 10-12



FBC friends headed to Beachside for the annual church campout in July, and enjoyed sharing food, games, s'mores, reconnecting, resting, and this gorgeous sunset. Join in next year; stay tuned for dates & destination!



Worship in the Park Sunday, August 23, 10am Ed Grenfell Park

Our annual summer tradition, this year at a new location!

Join FBC at Ed Grenfell Park, 15837 NW Baker Creek Rd, McMinnville, at 10am August 23rd for singing, praying, sharing, listening, exploring, creating, playing, and feasting. There will be no service in the building or online this day.

We'll explore the spiritual practice of curiosity, helped along by the park setting and our special guest, global servant Mylinda Baits. Bring a potluck dish (covered, to protect it from bugs) to share and after the service, we'll feast! Drinks, plates, and utensils will be provided. Wear shoes you can slip off if you want to wade in the creek, and bring lawn games or camp chairs if you want to extend the afternoon together. You might consider carpooling to the park!

Building & Grounds Work Party

Saturday, August 22, 9 - 11am

We will be hosting a work party for watering, weeding our Atrium and Washington Street parking strip, window washing, and general clean up outdoors.

This is a great way to support our church property as we seek to serve our community. JOIN US!! For more information, contact Don Watson at 503.510.2816.



Sunday Worship Highlights

AUGUST 2026

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."

Summer is a good time for practicing. In August, we'll continue exploring spiritual practices in our Sunday services - and draw mine Matthew's Sermon on the Mount for more riches. And each week, we'll practice a new kind of praying together. Remember that you can come early, at 9:30am, to engage with activities designed to get you connected to the week's practice in playful, creative ways.

9:30 am - Playing with the Practices, in the Social Hall

10:00 am - Worship in person in the Social Hall, or

streaming live: www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmac/

11:00 am - After Worship Fellowship in the Social Hall

Sunday, August 2 - Communion Sunday

"Practicing Connection"

Matthew 5:21-24, Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Sunday, August 9

"Practicing Gentleness"

Matthew 7:1-5, Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

After the service, stick around for a reception hosted by the Children, Youth, & Families volunteers, celebrating Sean's 10-year anniversary with FBC!

Sunday, August 16

"Practicing Simplicity"

Matthew 5:33-37, Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Sunday, August 23

We'll meet at 10am at Ed Grenfell Park for our annual Worship in the Park celebration, followed by a potluck feast! We'll welcome special guest Mylinda Baits, an ABC global servant and artist who focuses on communal healing. See details on page 1.

Sunday, August 30

"Practicing Generosity"

Matthew 5:43-48, Rev. Erika Marksburly preaching

Music led by Bethany Lee

We'll be back in the sanctuary for this service, marking 100 years of our congregation gathering in that sacred space.

Instructions
for living a life:

Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it.

-Mary Oliver

TELL ABOUT IT

Story Night

Friday, July 31

7pm in the Fireplace Room

Theme: TREAT YOURSELF

Prepare a five-minute story to share about making ice cream with your grandpa, or the first time you took yourself to the movies, or the reward your parents gave you for a good report card. Or consider: What's a ritual of care you prioritize? What simple thing feels luxurious to you? Tell a story of indulgence, abundance, or goodness. Or come to listen and cheer on friends!

KeyNote Concerts resume at FBC

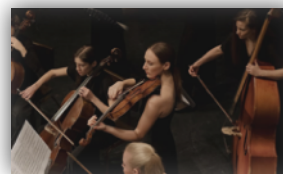
Season tickets are available for the
fourth season of the
McMinnville Keynote Concert Series



7pm - Sunday, August 30

Max Haymer

A Grammy-nominated & internationally renowned pianist. Known for his powerful approach to the piano, as well as his dynamic compositions and arrangements, Haymer's style has been often referred to as "Athletic Jazz."



7pm - Wednesday,

September 16

A Night of Classical Music

will feature concert music that spans the last 400 years. Eight local professional musicians will perform music by Chopin, Debussy, Vaughn Williams, Schubert, Boccherini, Mozart and many more.

Concerts are monthly, 3rd Wednesdays, thru June 2027

Proceeds help support local performing arts education through the McMinnville Performing Arts Association.

www.keynoteconcertseries.com

YTD:	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$ 189,575	110.8%
Total Income:	\$ 222,993	108.8%
Total Expenses:	\$ 206,163	100.6%
Net Income:	+ \$ 16,830	

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: Giving was up in June while we had a slight reduction in building maintenance expense. This will help cover another large expense related to our aging Hvac systems. For the second month, we did not need to draw funds from our undesignated memorial accounts. We appreciate each and every gift that supports our mission and outreach.

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

From your Church Board ~

Well, it happened. I stepped into my role as Church Moderator and our first meeting went well. It is a big responsibility and I am grateful for the Board and this Church welcoming me in. Let me give you a few highlights in no particular order.

- We are moving forward with refinishing the sanctuary floor. It looks beautiful and we are so lucky to be refurbishing the beautiful old (and probably old growth) wood. This is Phase 1 of our Step Up for Carpet campaign.
- We are \$8,000 short for Phase 2 of our Step Up for Carpet campaign.
- Plans are underway for a delegation from the USA to visit the World Friendship Center in Japan. There are funds for the airline tickets and the delegation will be staying with host families. Talk to JoAnn Sims if you are interested.
- The Board will be planning for a Board Retreat to be held in the Fall. Date TBD
- McMinnville Playschool is excited to be renting space in FBC. They will start using our facilities more in the fall. Right now, they offer activities for children in the courtyard from 12-5 pm on Thursdays during the Farmers Market.

*All that is gold does not glitter, Not all those
who wander are lost;*

*The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by frost.*

--J.R.R. Tolkien from The Fellowship of the Rings

First Baptist Church of McMinnville has been through a lot in the 150+ year life. Is our church strong? In many ways, yes. We have a strong mission that allows

us to serve our congregation, our community and our Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches. In other ways maybe we are less strong. We want FBC to have deep roots that are not reached by frost.

With no goal, no direction. --Lara O'Brady

Charlie Walker met with Erika, Don Watson, and Kathleen Verigin to discuss a plan Charlie had been considering. This idea then went to the Church Board in June. We are asked to create a Work Group to consider multi-year planning. The Church Board agrees that this is a good and important plan.

We want to learn more about possibilities, planning steps, finances, church and community needs, risks, etc. We seek no authority to take action for the church, but comprehensive authority to examine, learn and raise thoughts for the Church Board and maybe membership to discuss.

All this could be a lengthy process--there is no time frame. And we would intend to report to the Church Board as time passes. Again, the goal addresses the how of FBC survival and caring for each other and the community in years ahead. We will read, discuss, listen, explore, learn and share. -- Charlie Walker

Erika and I are participating in this group. We would like YOU to join us. We want a diverse group so we have many ideas and different perspectives. I respectfully ask that you consider joining us if this intrigues you. One of us might tap you on the shoulder and ask you to join.

Think about it. How important is FBC in your life? What role do we want to play? How will we move into our future?

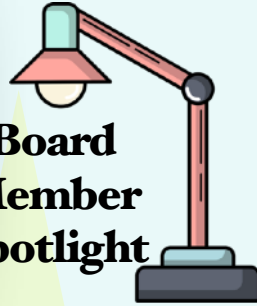
Respectfully, Lara O'Brady, Moderator

Cynthia Parker

Assistant Moderator



Board Member Spotlight



If you think you know Cynthia, think again. Her nickname as a kid was Cin, but everyone knew it was really "Sin." Her little brother couldn't pronounce her name so the family called her CC or C-Bell.

She was a Brownie and attended six different schools because her dad was in the Air Force. Cynthia played varsity basketball in high school back when girls could only play half court. She was a point guard, known for stealing the ball. They called her "Shorty." Cynthia also worked as a vet technician.

She took a leap of faith and joined AA. Practicing her new found sobriety, she became a volunteer and it helped her overcome a fear of homeless people. She then began serving meals in San Antonio. She also worked at a women's shelter for two years. And, for a short time, she was a flight attendant for American Airlines. The tragedy of 9/11 cut that career short.

Today Cynthia is employed as an Engagement Coordinator at Brookdale Senior Living in Newberg. There she's learned a level of compassion that cannot be trained or found in a book.

Cynthia served three years on the Church Board as clerk, another year as assistant moderator, and, as luck would have it, we get her wisdom, joy, and compassion for another year.

New Church Directory in the Works

Friends, we are working on putting together an up-to-date, in-house Church Directory, complete with photos. Cherie Young has offered to take photos for whoever wants something new to submit (you are also welcome to submit your own favorite photo of you/your household, just send it to erika@fbcmac.org). Cherie will meet you after church and use the gorgeous plants in Walker Hall as the backdrop, or she'll come to the location you choose to snap some pics. Contact her if you'd like to take her up on this offer and schedule a time: 503-437-3324 or cherie4evryyoung@yahoo.com.

Our sanctuary--100 years old!--is undergoing some significant updates. Here the wood floors are being stripped, sanded, and refinished. Soon new carpet will be laid in the walkways. You can support this project, making our spaces safer and more hospitable, by making a pledge on Realm or talking with georgine.benner@gmail.com.



Did You Know?

American Baptist Women's Ministry

ABWM is a vibrant community dedicated to empowering women and girls within the American Baptist tradition. This organization focuses on fostering spiritual growth, leadership, and service among its members, encouraging them to engage in worship, mission work, and community service.

Key Aspects of ABWM:

1. Mission and Vision: ABWM aims to create a supportive environment for women to lead and serve, impacting their communities through faith and purpose.

2. Community Engagement: The organization emphasizes the importance of friendship and collaboration among women, promoting various ministries and outreach programs.

3. Empowerment: ABWM is committed to equipping women for leadership roles in ministry, recognizing their gifts and calling. A mission to empower women and girls to live into the fullness of who they are created by God to be.

4. Historical Context: For over a century, American Baptist churches have recognized and ordained women, affirming their roles in ministry.

FBC member Virginia Holmstrom served as Executive Director for American Baptist Women's Ministries from 2001 to 2018. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Berkeley School of Theology.

Want to know more? <https://bst.edu/>

FBC Trip to Nicaragua, October 9 – 17

Here is an update: If you have interest in traveling with us, please contact Jennifer Scott: call/text 971-237-5786 or email jgscottweaver@gmail.com.

If traveling is not an option for you, we would really appreciate financial support for this special project.

Our hope and prayer is that we will work with AMOS and the people of El Calderón to help build a new health clinic in this community. AMOS has made the request through the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health (MINSA) and we are waiting on next steps to see if this dream can be fulfilled this year! They hope to hear from MINSA in the first half of August. If this project is approved, then the construction of this new clinic will be the main project the team will be working on.

If we are not able to move forward with the construction of the new clinic in El Calderón, we are considering the possibility of visiting a rural community in another region like Matagalpa. The types of projects we would most likely engage in if we visit another region would be minor repairs to a remote, rural health clinic, installation of water filters, and activities with children in the community.

Depending on which project is approved, team members would need to cover their per day, in country costs of about \$900 plus airfare. There will be some fundraising for equipment and supplies.

It is possible that folks from these two churches may be joining us: Christ the King, Anacortes, WA and/or FBC Ann Arbor, MI. We will have more information in a few weeks. Thanks for your support!



Join a peacemaking pilgrimage to Hiroshima this fall

Apply now for an opportunity to participate in a one week visit to Japan, exchanging peace ideas and activities.

Participants will share their own and their community's Peacemaking activities with several audiences at World Friendship Center, a peace organization located in Hiroshima that FBC has deep connections to. Delegates in the 2026 USA PAX (Peace) will also learn about Hiroshima and World Friendship Center's on-going peace work. Participants will be asked to share their experiences to their home community upon returning to the USA.

Every other year a USA PAX trip is sponsored by the American Committee World Friendship Center (AC). Applicants need to be 18 years and above. The lodging, meals, transportation in Hiroshima, and programing is provided by World Friendship Center. Assistance with the cost of round trip airflight tickets is available from AC if needed.

This year's trip is October 6-October 14, 2026. The history and dedication of The World Friendship Center and the City of Hiroshima to Peace is very impressive.

The application for participation is due July 31, 2026. Carol Stern or Roger Edmark can answer questions and provide the application forms.

Please contact:

Roger Edmark <kedmark@msn.com>

Carol Stern carolzstern@gmail.com



We're collecting chapter books - and sturdy plastic grocery bags to transport them in - for Wascher Elementary School students. You can leave your donations in the blue bin outside the church library. Thank you very much!



Youth Dinner

Wednesday, August 19 from 6-7pm
at Nancy Jo's Burgers & Fries
drop off & pick up there
just bring money for dinner & friends

Pool Party

NEW DATE! Friday, August 28
from 6-8pm
at the Carlton Pool
(225 W Grant St, Carlton, OR)
swimming & dinner - friends welcome
drop off & pick up there

Youth Group - FALL KICKOFF

Sunday, September 13
Join us as Youth Group resumes &
we kick off a new school year together!



Children, Youth, and Families!

Join us on Sunday, September 13
as we kickoff a new school year!

Blessing of the Backpacks

during the children's time
at the 10am worship service

Youth Group (returns!)

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

KidVenture (returns!)

on Monday, September 14
from 5:15-6:30pm
at First Presbyterian Church
for children Pre-K thru 5th Grade



The McMinnville Youth Collective Fall
Beach Retreat is back!

HIGH SCHOOL

9th-12th grade youth ~ \$185
Friday, September 18
through Sunday, September 20

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th-8th grade youth ~ \$155
Friday, September 25
through Sunday, September 27

More details and registration form
available at
mcminnvilleyouth.com/myc-fall-beach-retreats-2026/

We hope you will join us!

Vacation Bible School 2026!

We had an amazing time at VBS in June! It was a week full of
music, games, crafts, yoga, poetry, snacks, and friends,
as we remembered and celebrated all the wonderful things God
does! Thanks to all the children and families who were part and
to the youth & adult volunteers who helped make it happen!



Summer Camp at Arrah Wanna

The McMinnville contingent of high school
camp pose on the steps of the Lodge at Arrah
Wanna. FBC sent campers, counselors, and
adult volunteers for this week of exploring the
theme "into the wilderness" from multiple
perspectives. They also enjoyed a lake day, a
ropes course, evening campfires, reconnecting
with old friends, and making
new ones!

A month full of opportunities!

- Sunday Adult Classes on summer break -

1st Sunday Faith & Java Class

Contact Rob at schulmanrob@yahoo.com

Sunday Chapel Class

Contact Don Watson at donjw1@me.com or 503-510-2816.

Sunday Bereans Class

Contact Doug Verigin at 503-913-3401

Adult Sunday Connections - 8:25am via Zoom

Contact Barbara at barbaracoleburr@gmail.com

Sacred Centering - Wednesdays, 5:00pm

In the Fireplace Room (enter at Cows St.)

Gather with friends to spend a quiet hour connecting with each other and tending to our souls. We rotate through various ways of praying: the Ignatian examen (a meditative review of our days); lectio divina (a way of repetitive reading with close attention); body prayers (gentle, slow movement); and other creative practices. Contact erika@fbcmac.org.

Grief & Transition Gatherings

- 1st & 3rd Mondays, 4pm - Aug. 3 & 17

*A space for honest conversation, reflection,
and shared humanity.*

in the Fireplace room, facilitated by Doug Wheeler

This small, facilitated gathering is a respectful and supportive space where people can reflect honestly, listen deeply, and discover they are not alone in what they are carrying. Each gathering includes a small circle of participants, a simple opening reflection, and space for honest sharing and attentive listening.

Many people carry grief quietly – grief connected to loss, aging, caregiving, loneliness, health struggles, uncertainty, or life changing in ways that are difficult to name. Yet there are very few places where people can speak honestly about these experiences in the company of others.

If you are interested in participating or would like to learn more, please speak with Doug Wheeler.

"Grief & love are sisters, woven together from the beginning. Their kinship reminds us that there is no love that does not contain loss, and no loss that is not a reminder of the love once held close."

- Francis Weller

Bible Study - Wednesdays, 11:00 am, in the Fireplace Room

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!

Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, August 5 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 - August 10 & 24 at 7 pm, in-person

2nd & 4th Mondays, Fireplace Room

Contact: Dee Moore, 971-241-8256, togetherworksinfo@gmail.com

Sew & Soss - 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, neck warmers & prayer shawls!

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

August 4 & 18 at Gina's / Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

AM Group - 9:30 am, in-person (meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays)

August 13 & 27 at Linda's / Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

FBC Singles - Meets twice at 1pm for Lunch:

August 11 (2nd Tuesdays) and August 26 (4th Wednesdays)
at Good Food Mac, 619 NE 3rd St.

Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

Sister Circle - Every Friday at 11 am, Fireplace Room

Reading *Tending the Wild Garden* by Eugenia Anne Gamble.

Interested in joining? Contact: Sherill Roberts

shrobert@linfield.edu or 971-237-3630

Moms Group - August Plans TBD

Contact Heidi: tothfive@gmail.com

Hiking Group - Saturday, August 15 Hike TBD

We will carpool from the FBC parking lot at 9am.

Bring water & lunch, ready for a good time with hiking friends.

Contact: Gloria, glowml1@gmail.com

These groups are taking the summer off and will be back in September:

1st Friday Game Night - Contact: Emily Kerrigan,

emily2.kerrigan@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast - Contact: Don Watson, donjw1@me.com or

Neil Kunze, kunze@sou.edu (share speaker ideas with them)

Native Voices Book Group - Contact: Nadya King,

ladyharp1@gmail.com (share book ideas with her)

AUGUST at FBC

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					31 7pm - "Treat Yourself" is the theme for Story Night at FBC	1
2 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream	3 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Matthew 25 12p - Personnel 4p - Missions Team 4p - Grief & Transition	4 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	5 8:30a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering	6	7 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	8
9 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream SLT2026 Celebration 2pm - Social Hall	10 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 7p - Together Works	11 9a - Building & Grounds 1p - FBC Singles Lunch	12 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30pm - Church Board	13 10:30a - KnitWits at Linda's	14 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	15 9a - Hiking Group
16 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream	17 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 4p - Grief & Transition 6:30pm - Care & Concern	18 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	19 11a - Bible Study 1p - Congregational Engagement Team 2p - Faith Formation 5pm - Sacred Centering	20	21 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	22
23 10 am - WORSHIP in the Park at Ed Grenfell Park	24 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 7p - Together Works	25	26 11a - Bible Study 1p - FBC Singles Lunch 5p - Sacred Centering	27 10:30a - KnitWits at Linda's	28 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	29
30 10 am - WORSHIP in the Sanctuary!! in person & Live Stream 7pm - KeyNote Concert	31 9-10a - STARS Breakfast					

AUGUST Birthdays

Susan Allen 2
 Pam Watts 2
 Peter Conner 3
 Teresa Fugit 6
 Kristy Blaha 6
 Michael Roberts 8
 Karen Olson 9
 Tim Duerfeldt 11
 Kim Riggs 13
 Frosty Lay 13
 Eli Zimmerman 13



Rowan Clayton 15
 Scott Millar 16
 Jennifer Williams 17
 Patti Williamson 19
 Rainbow Acres Rancher
 Kathleen Toth 21
 Cindy Miller 22
 Lauren Anderson 23
 Diane Chladek 25
 Richard Belgard 27
 CJ Hanks 29
 Chris Mandeville 29

AUGUST Anniversaries

Mike & Barbara Burr 1
 Gary & Janet Langenwalter 5
 Jennifer Scott & Russell Weaver 5
 Michael & Margaret Sayler 6
 Charlie & Cherie Walker 7
 Neil & Judee Kunze 8
 Dave & BJ Larmouth 10
 Jim & Marlene Pryts 13
 Tim & Pat Fasana-Lynn 13
 Pete & Karen VanPatten 15

Tim & Emily Duerfeldt 20
 Donovan Douglas & Holly Darling 20
 Mylinda & Gary Baits 22
 Global Servant Anniversary
 Lisa & Heilos Ovando 26
 Sheila & Ron Lenker 27
 Richard & Diane Belgard 29

