



The Tidings

OCTOBER 2026

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

Church Directory Update

Hi, Friends! We're updating our church directory, and making this one with pictures, to help us all recognize and remember each other! For each individual/household, we'll include name(s), mailing address(es), email address(es), phone number(s), and a photo if we've got one. You'll be included in both the printed and online versions of our directory, unless we hear from you that you want to opt out. Please fill out the recently-emailed form (or find it in the upcoming Happenings email) to let us know your preference by October 16.

FBC Movie Night!



Join us on **Friday, October 2 at 6pm** for a movie! We'll be watching **Project Hail Mary** - *A lone science teacher wakes up on a spaceship with amnesia, only to piece together that he is humanity's last hope to stop a mysterious substance from killing Earth's sun—with an unexpected alien friendship as his key to survival.* We'll meet in the Social Hall for the movie and dinner; we'll provide drinks and desserts, please bring a potluck item to share for our meal. Everyone is welcome!

Last chance to sign up for the All-Church Retreat!!

Friday through Sunday, October 23 through 25
at Camp Arrah Wanna in Welches, Oregon

Our fifth annual all-church retreat is a chance to get away, rest, enjoy the beauty of the river and the forest, and let music connect us to one another and to all that is. And this year, thanks to a grant from the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship, it's free for everybody! Learn more and register at fbcmac.org. Registration closes October 3.

FBC donates piano to community celebration

In September, locally-owned toy shop Hopscotch celebrated its 25th birthday. Owner Linda Hays had a vision for a party that was also a community fair, with the aim of inviting people to celebrate all the gifts of this place and encourage them to continue to invest time, energy, and compassion to making McMinnville a wonderful place to live. FBC folks participated in many ways - Karen Olson as a face-painter, Emily Diesburg as a get-to-know-your-neighbor guru, Geoff Clayton and Erika Marksbury as behind-the-scenes organizers. But our most colorful contribution was the old piano pictured below. It had been in storage at the church for many years, unseen and unplayed. Luke Zimmerman's art students from Patton Middle School created and painted these wonderful designs, and the piano was transported to Lower City Park for the party, where lots of folks made joyful noise with it!





Sunday Worship Highlights

OCTOBER 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."

This fall, we will shape our time together around questions that come from both the old scriptures and the current headlines: questions about community, creativity, authority, agency, and vulnerability; about our relationships to ourselves, to each other, to the environment, to technology, and to the divine; about our role in shaping the world—participating, challenging, encouraging, resisting, and co-creating. In October, we'll make our way slowly through the twelfth chapter of Romans, where Paul describes the interconnectedness of the community as a body: all the members have different gifts, and all are called to work together toward the aim of participating in the world in ways that are "good, and bring gladness to the heart." (First Nations Version)

10:00 am - Worship in person in the Social Hall, or streaming live: www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmac/ After, enjoy snacks, coffee, and conversation with new and old friends in Walker Hall.

Sunday, October 4 - Communion Sunday

"The Gifts of Our Humanity," Romans 12:3-8

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Sunday, October 11

"The Call of Our Humanity," Romans 12:9-13

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

After the service, the Missions Ministry Team will host Fellowship Time in Walker Hall. Come for yummy snacks and to learn more about the healing, community-building, peace-making work of Global Servants.

Sunday, October 18

"The Challenge of Our Humanity," Romans 12:14-21

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

Music led by Marilyn Dresser & the FBC Choir



Sunday, October 25

Dr. Jennifer Williams Eblen will be our guest preacher, drawing on insights from the Genesis creation stories. Jenn is a member of FBC, mom to Parker and Sybil Williams, and an Associate Professor at Linfield University whose research interests include women and gender studies, feminist interpretations of the

Bible, and narrative and literary approaches to the Hebrew Bible and Wisdom Literature. Her recent work has focused on narrative ambiguity, liminality and identity-formation in the book of Judges.

Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Chew on This:

Potluck Book Groups

Anyone interested in exploring this fall's questions about humanity and technology more deeply is invited to two more evenings (on the heels of our September group discussing *A Psalm for the Wild-Built*) where we'll consider a variety of readings, and feast together!

October 18 - discussing *The Reverse Centaur's Guide to Life After AI: How to Think About Artificial Intelligence--Before It's Too Late*. We'll pair this book by Cory Doctorow—that critics are calling "eye-opening" and "a lucid and generous guide" to the discourse around AI—with a few short articles that we'll make available via email. Read any/some/all of the pieces for this group.

November 15 - discussing *A World Appears: A Journey into Consciousness*. The author's website tells us that in this book, "Michael Pollan traces the unmapped continent that is consciousness, bringing radically different perspectives—scientific, philosophical, literary, spiritual and psychedelic—to see what each can teach us about this central fact of life."



YTD:	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$ 236,490	103.6%
Total Income:	\$ 279,599	102.3%
Total Expenses:	\$ 272,012	99.6%
Net Income:	+ \$ <u>7,587</u>	

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: Compared to last year, our Building & Grounds expenses are up 16+% from last year. After eight months, our income has met our expenses. We are very appreciative. Our financial secretaries report that several scheduled donors have completed their giving for the year. We will continue to live within our approved budget to the best of our ability. Thank you all.

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

From your Church Board ~

Hello, all, and welcome to cooler weather and the beginning of Fall. Here is the Board Summary:

- We are working on a Land Acknowledgement to show respect to the Indigenous People who lived on the land that First Baptist Church now occupies.
 - o Scott Sutherland is heading up this effort.
 - o We want to back this statement with meaningful connections to the Confederated Tribe of Grand Ronde.
- Erika, Lara, and others are still working on bringing together a Visioning Committee. Erika and Lara both talked to Rev. Dr. Samuel Kim and his job is to help churches move through processes just like this.
- We are very close to our financial goals for the Step Up for Carpet Phase 1 and 2. Thank you for all your financial contributions and your prayers. I'm sure we all agree that the upgraded carpeting and finished floors look beautiful.
- We are exploring how we can better support FBC members. We want to walk more closely with our friends & church family.

Lara's Thoughts:

Many people go to the same hairstylist or barber. Others walk into a salon and wait for whomever is available. I would like to make a case for finding a good stylist and sticking with them.

I recently had one of the best haircuts I have ever had. (Thank you, Kelley!) This got me thinking about the importance of relationships and how these relationships impact every aspect of our life.

For each of us to have optimal mental health, we need to have close, loving relationships. We are wired that way as social beings. One of the reasons that I got such a good haircut is my relationship with Kelley. She took time to ask me questions about what I wanted.

I have gotten four haircuts from her and each time, she looks at my face. Does this cut flatter my face? What expression does my face have? Does my expression say, "I like it," or "I am unsure of this style." Kelley asks herself, "How can it be made better?" Finally, Kelley is getting to know my hair with its individual quirks. Even if her conscious mind doesn't know a specific detail, her subconscious mind knows my hair on my head.

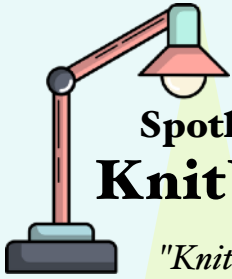
We do the same thing in our Church. As I have conversations with FBC Church members, I know things like: This person likes to joke around and always has a "Dad Joke." That person is empathetic and reads my moods like a book. A third person likes to have philosophical discussions. Another person has suffered from a specific type of trauma and I should tread carefully so I don't trigger them.

As we learn how to love each other more deeply, we internalize each person's essential characteristics. We help each other navigate the world. We do our best to help each person mentally, physically, and spiritually. We strive to grow together in God's love.

I know that I have made mistakes (and will make more). I know I have been forgiven, just as I forgive others. (Where have we heard that before?) People see me with all my strengths and weaknesses and I see them.

It is a beautiful thing being in a loving Church Community. We all help each other look more beautiful/handsome together with our love. We all contribute out how our Church looks in McMinnville. May we all see God's Face in Each Face. May we reflect God's love in our close community and in our wider communities.

Namaste and Blessed Be!
Lara O'Brady, Moderator



Spotlight: KnitWits

*"Knitting is a way to share your love
with friends, one stitch at a time."*

It's an old saying yet continues to ring true today at FBC. The KnitWits formed in 2012, inspired by Linda Watson's quest to be of service to others. She approached Gina Foster, then a member of Small Group Ministries and a devoted crocheter. Under their co-leadership, soon KnitWits became a popular and fun activity offered through FBC. They estimate that, over the years, about 15 to 18 women have been involved; the youngest probably in her 40's when it started and the oldest now over 90. Some men have expressed interest but, so far, haven't emerged. (Fellas, you are welcome to join!)

Over the past fourteen years, it's estimated that KnitWits have produced over 5,700 knitted and crocheted hats, baby sweaters, blankets, prayer squares, scarves, hand warmers, prayer shawls, and lap robes for adults, kids, and babies. Some recipients have been unhoused folks who come to STARS on Monday and Friday mornings. A new hat, scarf or mittens, among an array of colors and patterns, always brings a smile and words of gratitude. They love hearing that we'll tell the KnitWits.

Presently, two groups come together on separate days and times. Contact Linda or Gina for details:

Mornings: 2nd & 4th Thursdays at Linda's home llgw@me.com

Evenings: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at Gina Foster's home
farmorfooster@yahoo.com

When asked what they talk about when knitting, Linda says, "We discuss the news, health and prayer concerns, funny things from our past, and more." Fingers in motion, hearts open, sharing the love. Thank you, KnitWits!

Did You Know?

Deep in the basement of First Baptist Church, down long, dark hallways, an old storeroom has been converted into the Community Care Cubby, a resource room shared by FBC, A Family Place, and Unidos.



The room had long held tools, tents, and coolers used by participants in the YAHOO Mexico Mission Trip. Now that our youth are engaged in Service Learning Trips, we don't need to store those supplies. Habitat for Humanity and the McMinnville Tool Library were invited to come and take whatever they found useful. We are grateful that so many of those items have gone on to new homes. After that clearing, the space was cleaned, painted, and outfitted with shelving. It now holds clothing, diapers, and food ready to be distributed when neighbors have need.

Big thanks to Don Watson, who led the effort to transform this space!



KeyNote Concert at FBC

Wednesday, October 21st, 7pm - Shelly Rudolph

"Every so often an artist comes along that literally has it all... great songwriting, a beautiful seductive voice, and a passion for music: Shelly Rudolph is that special artist."

Concerts are 3rd Wednesdays, each month thru June 2027 (doors open 6:15pm)
Proceeds help support local performing arts education through the McMinnville Performing Arts Association. www.keynoteconcertseries.com



WMO 2026: Rebuild - Restore - Renew

"They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations."

Isaiah 6:1-4

This is the theme for the 2026 World Mission Offering

Every year in September and October, thousands of churches and individuals come together to support the International Ministries' World Mission Offering (WMO). These gifts support global servants, international partners, and essential administrative and development needs.

By sharing the fundraising responsibility among churches and individuals worldwide, the WMO avoids placing the burden on any one church. It not only provides global servants with training and pastoral care but also enables International Ministries to respond to crises as they arise.

FBC currently supports global servants Christine Lafferty, Ray Schellinger, Mylinda Baits, and Kyle & Katrina Williams, all of whom also benefit from the WMO. When their ministries face funding shortfalls, the offering helps fill the gaps so their vital work can continue.

This month during church service, you will be provided with an opportunity to support the World Mission Offering. Special envelopes will be provided in the pew pockets for your convenience.



There are 3 schools operating from & being supported by FBC!

A Family Place Relief Nursery (main floor Nursery & Preschool classrooms)

Preschool: Monday thru Friday, 9am-12n

This is a program for families with children ages 0-5. They receive support through therapeutic classrooms designed to meet the social-emotional needs of toddlers and preschoolers. AFP also provides tangible resources--clothing, diapers--and free, voluntary in-home support for these families focused on their immediate needs and on building nurturing parent-child relationships.

McMinnville Play School Cooperative (2nd floor former Bereans' class room)

Preschool: Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 8a-12n

MPS invites learning through playful, self-chosen exploration. Different learning styles are supported by many kinds of activities which promote social, emotional, creative, physical and intellectual development. Each child's family shares in the planning and operation of MPS with a family job and in the classroom a few times a month as a parent teacher.

McMinnville Homeschool House (2nd floor former Youth class room)

Middle School: Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday, 9a-3p

Montessori style education provides a learning environment that meets the developmental needs of the whole child, nurturing social and emotional needs as well as academic growth. The McMinnville Homeschool House has extended this learning model for 6th to 8th graders (11-14 years of age).



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



**MCMINNVILLE
YOUTH
COLLECTIVE**

Youth Group

Sundays, October 4, 11, 18, 25
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 7

Pizza in Mrs. Martin's room (#D122)

Youth Dinner

Wednesday, October 21 at 6 pm

at Sandwich Express
Drop off & pick up there,
bring money for dinner, and friends!



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
a game/craft/activity.
Our focus for this year is on stories of
Jesus and the Gospels.

Here's the plan for October.

October 5 - Epiphany & the Magi

October 12 - Jesus at the Temple

October 19 - Baptism of Jesus

October 26 - Jesus in the Wilderness



The McMinnville Youth Collective Lock Out is BACK!

6th-12th grade youth and friends

Friday, November 6 @ 5pm

TO

Friday, November 6 @ midnight

We think we're headed to Salem
and hoping to do some escape rooms,
will have plans finalized soon.
It's gonna be great & is just \$65!

**Registration opens soon
and the deadline to register
is Sunday, November 1!**

Children, Youth, and Families Sundays at FBC!

CYF Sundays are BACK!

**This will happen on most 2nd Sundays of each month during 10am worship through June.
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 11, November 15, December 13, January 10, February 21, March 14, April 11, and May 16, and June 13.
- **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 year. 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 Adult Classes -

1st Sunday Faith & Java Class - First Sundays

9:00am - Fireplace Room, in person

This is an informal class that meets to discuss topics related to real life, and how faith and living come together & inspire us. Contact Rob at schulmanrob@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday Connections - Every Sunday

8:25am via Zoom

Each week we choose a different topic to discuss that is spiritual and not religious.

Contact Barbara at barbaracoleburr@gmail.com

Sunday Chapel Class - Every Sunday

8:45am - 1st Street Chapel, in person

We are a book study based class and share the leadership for conversation. Our fall book will be *Wilderness Spirituality: Finding Your Way in an Unsettled World* by the late Rod Romney (served FBC as a short-term Interim in 2001-2002). For more information, contact Lara O'Brady, 971-241-9545 or Don Watson, 503-510-2816.

Sunday Bereans Class - Every Sunday

9:00am - 2nd Floor Conference Room, in person

Modern life can be quite challenging. Western culture often minimizes, or dismisses altogether, the value of religion and meaning of God in society. Talking about God is important. Bereans' goal is to create the possibility of having great conversations about the nature and meaning of God and reality. We watch short interviews and lectures featuring some of today's most inspiring, (sometimes controversial) theologians, philosophers, historians, psychologists, artists and thinkers. We always save most of our time for discussion and sharing. Contact Doug Verigin at 503-913-3401

Bible Study - Wednesdays, 11am, 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!

Sacred Centering - Wednesdays, 5pm, Fireplace Room

(enter Cows St.) Gather with friends to spend a quiet hour connecting with each other and tending to our souls. Over the course of a month, we rotate through a variety of gentle, meditative prayer practices. Contact erika@fbcmac.org.

Grief & Transition Gatherings

1st & 3rd Mondays, 4pm - October 5 & 19

A space for honest conversation, reflection, and shared humanity. Fireplace Room, facilitated by Doug Wheeler info@douglasguide.com (206) 992-7217

Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, October 7 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 12 & 26 at 7 pm, in-person

2nd & 4th Mondays, Fireplace Room

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

Game Day - Monday, October 12 - 3pm, Fireplace Room

2nd Mondays - Bring your favorite game to share & play.

Contact: Janis Stoven, stovenjm@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, neck warmers & prayer shawls!

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

October 6 & 20 at Gina's / Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

AM Group - 10:30 am, in-person (meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays)

October 8 & 22 at Linda's / Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

FBC Singles - Meets twice at 1pm for Lunch:

October 13 (2nd Tuesdays) & October 28 (4th Wednesdays)
at Good Food Mac, 619 NE 3rd St.

Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

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

Reading *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor

Contact Sherill Roberts: shrobert@linfield.edu / 971-237-3630

Sister Circle II - Every Friday at 11 am, Meditation Room

Reading *Whole-Hearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans

Contact Barbara: barbaracoleburr2@gmail.com

Moms Group - October Plans TBD

Contact Heidi: tothfive@gmail.com

Hiking Group - Saturday, October 17

Hiking the Banks/Vernonia Rail Trail

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

Bring water & lunch; come ready for a good time with friends.

Contact: Gloria, glowml1@gmail.com

Native Voices Book Group - Wednesday, October 28

6:15pm in the Fireplace Room - book TBD

Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, October 31 26 at 9am

Last Saturday each month - Fireplace Room (enter Cows St.)

Join us for breakfast with friends, plus speaker, Dr. Pete Van Patten

Contact: Don Watson, donjw1@me.com

or Neil Kunze, kunze@sou.edu

OCTOBER at FBC

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	2 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 6p - Movie Night	3
4 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	5 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Matthew 25 12p - Personnel 4p - Missions Team 4p - Grief & Transition 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC	6 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	7 8:30a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave 11a - Bible Study Youth Lunch at MHS 5p - Sacred Centering	8 10:30a - KnitWits at Linda's Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	9 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	10
11 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Stream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	12 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 3p - Game Day 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC 7p - Together Works	13 9a - Building & Grounds 1p - FBC Singles Lunch	14 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Church Board	15 Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	16 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	17 9a - Hiking Group
18 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Strea 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC 6p - Chew on This Book Group	19 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 4p - Grief & Transition 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC 6:30pm - Care & Concern	20 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	21 11a - Bible Study 2p - Memorial Service for Jim Kilinsky 5pm - Sacred Centering 6p - Youth dine out	22 10:30a - KnitWits at Linda's 1p - FBC Singles Lunch Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	23 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle Arrah Wanna All-Church RETREAT	24
25 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & Live Strea 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC All-Church RETREAT	26 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture at FP 7p - Together Works	27	28 11a - Bible Study 1p - FBC Singles Lunch 1p - Congregational Engagement Team 5p - Sacred Centering 6:15pm - Native Voices Groups	29 Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	30 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	31 9a - Men's Breakfast 

OCTOBER Birthdays

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
Cherie Walker 22
Art Engen 23
Carson Benner 28
Karl Severance 29
Jordan Robinson 31

OCTOBER Anniversaries

Kena Avila & Karl Severance 4
Cliff & Pam Watts 6
Christina & Justin Lundberg 11



Connect with FBC!

Call: 503.472.7941
Visit: 125 SE Cows Street
(Office Hours: M-Th,
9:30am-Noon)

Learn more:

Website: www.fbcmac.org
Facebook:
FBC McMinnville, Oregon
Instagram: @fbcmac
Our current newsletter
is online at
www.fbcmac.org/tidings.