



The Tidings

NOVEMBER 2026

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



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



FBC friends journeyed to Welches in October for a weekend to enjoy the forest, the river, and time to rest, play, climb, sing, pray, learn, move, feast, and create. We give thanks for a grant from the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship that made the experience possible.

A Feast of Gratitude

Join us Thanksgiving Day for a warm, welcoming community Thanksgiving meal at First Baptist Church! Chris & Jack Mandeville will host this simple gathering, and invite everyone to bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share.

The church is providing the space and tables, and together we'll provide the food, fellowship, and gratitude. Whether you're bringing family, coming on your own, or simply looking for good company on Thanksgiving Day, there's a place for you at our table.

When: Thanksgiving Day, 12 Noon

Where: First Baptist Church

What to Bring: A Thanksgiving dish to share, if you can!

Please RSVP no later than Nov. 18 to jackharrismandeville@gmail.com so we can plan. Let's make this Thanksgiving a celebration of community, generosity, and good food. We look forward to sharing the day with you!





Sunday Worship Highlights

NOVEMBER 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."

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 & old friends in Walker Hall.

Sunday, November 1

Communion Sunday, All Saints Sunday

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching, Music by Marilyn Dresser & the FBC Choir

This day we will remember those in our congregation who have died since last All Saints Sunday. You are invited to bring a photo, object, or name to add to the altar table for this special service.

Sunday, November 8

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching, Music by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

After the service, the Sew 'n' So's Quilters will host Fellowship Time in Walker Hall. Come for snacks and to see their beautiful quilts on display. Maybe one would make a nice gift to wrap around someone you love.

Sunday, November 15

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching, Music by Marilyn Dresser

Sunday, November 22

Sharing from Congregants, Music led by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

This day we will dedicate our dreams, hopes, and gifts to the church for 2027. Come with the last page of your Stewardship mailing and your Estimate of Giving card, and we'll celebrate the generosity of our faith community.

After the service, the FBC staff will host a Volunteer Appreciation Reception in Walker Hall following the service. Come let us say thank you for all you offer!

Sunday, November 29

The First Sunday of Advent: The Sunday of Hope

Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching, Music by Tegan Johnson & the Worship Team

Chew on This:

Potluck Book Group

Anyone wanting to explore questions about humanity and technology more deeply is invited to our third and final evening of the fall series...

November 15, 6pm, in the Fireplace Room, discussing ***A World Appears: A Journey into Consciousness***. From the author's website: "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."



Tell About It! Story Night

Friday, November 6
7pm in the Fireplace Room
Prepare a true, 5-minute story centered on the theme ***things that go 'boo!' in the night***.
Storytellers, listeners, and friends welcome!

For those carrying loss or grief
this holiday season,
First Baptist Church invites you to a

service of remembrance

a time to name our sorrows,
honor our struggles,
and remember the God who is with us
in and through it all.

Tuesday, November 24th
7pm in the FBC Fireplace Room
Enter at Cows Street



join our Christmas choir

Kick-Off Rehearsal and
Introduction to all Christmas Music
Saturday, October 31
9:30-10am - Donuts and Coffee
10am-1pm - Rehearsal

Questions?
marilyn@fbcmac.org

YTD:	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$ 255.113	103.6%
Total Income:	\$ 303.489	98.7%
Total Expenses:	\$ 301,483	98.1%
Net Income:	+ \$ <u>2,006</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 (donjw1@me.com) or Realm administrator, Barbara Burr (barbaracoleburr@gmail.com).

Important Financial Update: Income from contributions has slowed yet we rejoice to have covered all of our expenses to date. It has been five months since needing a transfer from our non-designated memorial funds. We look forward to generous contributions as we close out 2026. Thank you for every gift in support of our mission.

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

From your Church Board Moderator, Lara's thoughts ~

Hi everyone. It has been a busy month since we checked in. I would like to first update you on the FBC Board Retreat.

On Saturday, September 26, 2026, all FBC Board Members (who were able to attend) and Erika met for our Board Retreat. We each had some homework where we took the CliftonStrengths (StrengthsFinder) quiz and the Myers-Briggs quiz. I have attached the links we used and a QR code for each test if you are interested in taking these yourself.

<https://high5test.com/cliftonstrengths-free/> and <https://www.16personalities.com/free-personality-test>



CliftonStrengths
(StrengthsFinder)



Myers-
Briggs

We talked about self-care and how important it is for all of us. Do you have ways that you care for yourself? I am always inspired and heartened when I see other people taking care of themselves in healthy ways.

We did some Tai Chi with Nadya. It is such a gift each time we are led by her in Tai Chi.

We set Intentions and Goals for FBC. One of the outcomes is we would like to have more connection with the congregation. We currently have two semi-annual meetings. In the "other" quarters, we (the FBC Board) will have two additional semi-annual meetings to improve communication, understanding, and engagement. Please keep your eyes open for these

meetings. We would love to have you come and ask questions. Just FYI, anyone is welcome to attend the OPEN portion of our board meetings if you are curious. We meet the second Wednesday every month at 6:30pm. Let me know if you would like to attend.

We talked about fiscal responsibility and what that looks like. We are in relatively good shape AND our aging church needs some Tender Loving Care (TLC). Let's think about the best possible future for FBC (including our physical location) and put that in our intention and prayers.

Finally, we explored some ways in which we can support our church. Time and money are two ways but there are others. For example, we have supported church members during moves, during illness, during injury, and during other transitions. We celebrate the good times with church members too. Let's remember we have a lot to celebrate together.

The Church Board meeting was also very productive. I won't go into details but would like to highlight that Charlie Walker came and talked about the Saving Grace Fund. More to follow at a later date.

Finally, the Visioning/Planning Group has started meeting. Our first meeting is November 1, 2026. The members are: Erika Marksbury, Susan Chambers, Tim Duerfeldt, David Ferry, Janea Garner, Stewart Stout, Charlie Walker, and Lara O'Brady. Please come and talk to one of us if you have ideas about how we should Vision/Plan for FBC's future.

Lara O'Brady, Church Moderator



Spotlight: Sister Circle

Sister Circle is a feminine-focused spirituality group at FBC that Sherill Roberts started 23 years ago.

A group has been meeting every week since.

Sherill got the idea for the group when she was temporarily living in Wisconsin while her husband was on sabbatical. During that time, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and went through all the treatment. Feeling somewhat lost and missing a supportive group of friends in McMinnville, she located a women's group at the local Methodist church. The women welcomed her to their group. Sherill appreciated their care and concern, but but felt uncomfortable about the theology. They were reading a book called something like *Men Who Know God*, with a big bearded man on the cover.

The final straw was when one of the women in the group said she felt like her life had no meaning because she just stayed home raising her children while others went out and did the really important work of starting churches. That made Sherill angry, because raising children is one of the most important jobs there is, and she was measuring her worth by comparing her life to men's lives. This got Sherill wondering if women perhaps might experience spirituality differently from men.

As soon as they returned to McMinnville, Sherill went to see FBC's then-pastor, Kent Harrop. She told him she wanted to start a women's group that would explore the question of gender differences in experiencing spirituality. Kent was immediately on board. He pulled out the church roster and went down the list pointing out all the women he thought might be interested in such a group. Sherill sent out letters to all those women, inviting them to come to a meeting to discuss how women might experience spirituality differently from men.

The very first Sister Circle meeting at FBC was in July of 2023 and has been growing strong ever since. Sister Circle has two different purposes: (1) To provide a mutual support system within which to explore our spiritual lives as women, developing a level of trust that allows us to share deeply. (2) To recognize Christianity not as an end, but as a means to relate to the intimate gender-less Mystery. Every week - currently Fridays 11:00am-1:00pm - the women spend an hour checking in with each other, and a second hour discussing a book.

Over the years we have read 83 books, starting with *Dance of the Dissident Daughter* by Sue Monk Kidd, and including *When God Was a Woman* by Merlin Stone, *Why Christianity Must Change or Die* by Bishop John Shelby Spong, *Living Buddha, Living Christ* by Thich Nhat Hahn, *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama & Desmond Tutu, and most recently *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Sister Circle has grown in size to the point where we started to lose the feeling of intimacy that we so valued. So, in September of this year, we divided into two groups. Sherill continues to lead one in the Fireplace Room, and Barbara Burr and Virginia Holmstrom lead the other upstairs in the Meditation Room. If you are interested in joining us, contact Sherill (971.237.3630) or Barbara (971.241.6112).

Library Book Sale

Friends of the McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St, McMinnville, will hold its bimonthly book sale from 9 am - 1 pm, Saturday, November 14 in the Carnegie Room (historic library).

Adult books are sold for \$1, children's books for 25 cents, CDs and DVDs for \$1 and jigsaw puzzles for \$2. Some specialty books will be priced individually.

A brown-bag sale will be conducted from noon - 1 pm. The cost is \$5 per bag.

Funds raised go towards library programs and opportunities.

Sales are conducted odd months, the second Saturday from 9 am - 1 pm. All are welcome.

Find more info at <https://www.friendsmaclibrary.org/>

or contact Janis Stoven, church attendee and board member of the Friends of the Library. Call or text: 651-724-0502.



KeyNote Concert at FBC

Wednesday, Nov. 18th, 7pm

Featuring two of Oregon's premiere adult choirs, **the Cántico Singers from Tigard** and **the Oregon SenateAires from Salem**.

The opening act for this concert is the McMinnville High School Symphonic Choir.

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



Four from FBC attend Evergreen Regional Meeting

In October, four FBC folks - Don Watson, Doug Wheeler, Children's & Youth Minister Sean, and Pastor Erika - traveled to Napa, California, for the biennial meeting of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches. It was our first gathering as members of our new region. We were enthusiastically welcomed, both informally and during a ceremony in Friday evening's program.

We learned from our hosts, Crosswalk Community Church, about their reinvention process. We enjoyed music from Michael Gungor, pictured top left, who is working on a Mystic Hymnal project, creating congregational music that is "beautiful, singable, and kind." We hope to incorporate some of those songs into our services here. We heard from guest preacher Rev. Dr. Jamie Washam, pastor of the First Baptist Church in America, about what it could mean to "Reimagine Church." We tended to the business of the region, voted on a budget, and exchanged stories, ideas, and encouragement with people engaged in meaningful ministry all over the country.

Doug said, "The conference offered a gracious and loving challenge to rethink how we at FBC worship and engage with our community. I was especially struck by the importance of listening to how our local community experiences and sees us, rather than simply deciding for ourselves what ministries they need."

Don agreed, "My Evergreen Biennial experience was joy-giving. We were warmly welcomed as one of three church joining this year. Hearing from others about their 'reimagining church' was inspiring. Experiencing decision-making by consensus in the Caucus format was encouraging."

Erika and Sean are grateful to FBC for the continuing education funds that made their travel and attendance possible. Please ask any of the four about their experience; they'll be happy to share!



Small Ways to Make a Difference

We're all busy, and many of us already volunteer plenty. But helping can be as simple as giving a small amount of time when your schedule allows.

Ways You Can Help

- **Provide a ride:** One Sunday a month, pick up a church friend who needs transportation and bring them to and from church.
- **Prepare a meal:** Provide one meal when the need arises.
- **Support local families:** Spend one morning a month setting up food for families picking up diapers at A Family Place.
- **Organize the food closet:** Use your organizational skills to help keep the food closet orderly and accessible.

Interested? No pressure, no guilt, no judgment, just an open invitation. If you are interested, please see me.

Thank you for your time,
Vicki Cartwright, cartwright3909@gmail.com



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

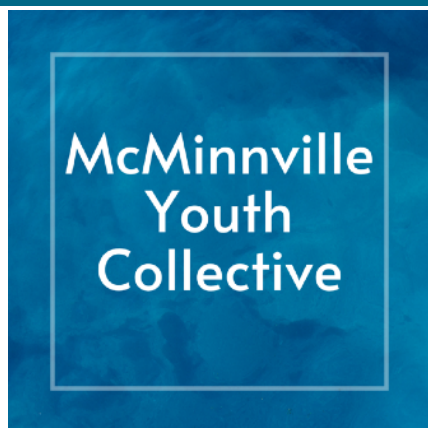
• Praying for Our Partners •

Our ministry partners appreciate the donations we send from our missions budget, the materials we share about their work, and the ways we engage with their projects.

They've also asked if we will pray for them. Each month, we'll use this corner to highlight a partner ministry and how you can remember them in your prayers. This month, please pray for

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

as they search for a new leader; anxiously watch the elections to see how their work for immigrants and refugees will be affected; and faithfully continue providing food, shelter, health care, and community supports for vulnerable people throughout our state.



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 November:

November 2 - Jesus Calls the Twelve Disciples
November 9 - Sermon on the Mount
November 16 - Parable of the House on Rocks
November 23 - Jesus and the Children
November 30 - Jesus and the Storm

The McMinnville Youth Collective Lock Out is BACK!

6th-12th grade youth and friends

Friday, November 6 @ 5pm
TO

Friday, November 6 @ midnight

We'll be playing at Retro Pizza Co. in Amity,
swimming at the Dallas Aquatic Center, and
trying to get out of escape rooms in Salem!
It's gonna be great & is just \$65!

Registration is now open and
the deadline is Sunday, November 1!

mcminnvilleyouth.com/lock-out-2026

McMinnville Youth Collective Mend+Fix 2026

The McMinnville Youth Collective invites MYC youth and families,
and members of our churches and community
to join us for our third annual Mend+Fix!

**Join us at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 29
from 5-6:30pm, with our mending/fixing work from 5-6pm, and dinner from 6-6:30pm.**

Do you have clothes in your closet or dresser that need to be mended or fixed in some way?
Or do you have something that's broken, like an old picture frame that needs to be glued back together
or a watch that's stopped ticking?

Before you throw out any of these items and buy another one, bring it to Mend+Fix
and we'll work on giving it a new life!

Plus we'll have a new tech support station this year so bring any devices you need help with!

We'll have some experienced menders/fixers available to help -
please let us know if you want to help mend and/or fix! -
and we'll check out YouTube videos for repair tutorials if needed.

Please RSVP to sean@fbcmac.org by Sunday, November 22
to let us know who is coming and what you might be bringing to mend/fix.

We are looking forward to spending the time together
figuring out ways to reuse some of the items from our everyday lives!

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, 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 or (206) 992-7217

Community Singalong! - Friday, November 20, 7pm

All are invited to this evening of gratitude, justice, and joy, led by Bethany Lee and friends, in the FBC Sanctuary, part of our grant year exploration of community-making through music.

Senior Breakfast - Wednesday, November 4 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 - November 9 & 23 at 7 pm, in-person

2nd & 4th Mondays, Fireplace Room

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

Game Day - Monday, November 9, 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)

November 3 & 17 at Gina's / Contact: Gina Foster, 971-237-2789

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

November 12 at Linda's / Contact: Linda Watson, 971-237-2793

FBC Singles - Meets November 10 at 1pm (2nd Tuesday)

at Good Food Mac, 619 NE 3rd St. (4th Wednesday returns January 2027) 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 Burr, barbaracoleburr@gmail.com

Moms Group - Saturday, November 7, 6pm

Meeting for dinner at Grain Station.

Contact: Heidi Toth, tothfive@gmail.com

Native Voices Book Group - November 18 at 6:15pm

Continuing to discuss "Becoming Rooted" by Randy Woodley

Contact: Nadya King, ladyharp1@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, November 28 at 9am

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

Join us for breakfast with friends for table talk around the Art of Gratitude. Contact: Don Watson, donjw1@me.com or Neil Kunze, kunze@sou.edu

Hiking Group - on hiatus until March 2027

Contact: Gloria LaFata, glowml1@gmail.com



NOVEMBER at FBC

NOVEMBER 2026

Remember - set your clocks back ONE hour before going to bed Saturday, Oct. 31st!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 OOPS if you didn't change your clocks, you're an hour early! Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & livestream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	2 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Matthew 25 12p - Personnel 4p - Missions Team 4p - Grief & Transition 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC	3 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	4 8:30a - Senior Breakfast at VFW Post, Atlantic Ave 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering	5 Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	6 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7p - Tell About It! Story Night	7 6p - Moms Group Dinner
8 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & livestream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC	9 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 3p - Game Day 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC 7p - Together Works	10 9a - Building & Grounds 1p - FBC Singles Lunch	11 No Bible Study today 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Church Board	12 10:30a - KnitWits at Linda's Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	13 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	14
15 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & livestream 5-7:30p - MYC at FPC 6p - Chew on This Book Group	16 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 4p - Grief & Transition 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC 6:30pm - Care & Concern	17 7p - KnitWits at Gina's	18 11a - Bible Study 5p - Sacred Centering 6:30p - Church Board 6:15pm - Native Voices Book Group	19 Rehearsals: 5:20p - Bells 6:30p - Choir	20 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle 7p - Community Singalong at FBC	21 9a - Hiking Group
22 Sunday Adult Classes 10 am - WORSHIP in person & livestream 5-6:30p - All Youth Friendsgiving at FPC	23 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC 7p - Together Works	24 7p - Service of Remembrance	25 11a - Bible Study 1p - Congregational Engagement Team 5pm - Sacred Centering	26 FBC Office Closed  Feast of Gratitude 12n - Potluck at FBC	27 FBC Office Closed 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 11a - Sister Circle	28 9a - Men's Breakfast
29 Sunday Adult Classes 1st Sunday of ADVENT 10 am - WORSHIP in person & livestream 5-6:30p - Mend+Fix at FPC	30 9-10a - STARS Breakfast 5:15p - KidVenture at FPC	Connect with FBC! Call: 503.472.7941 Visit: 125 SE Cows Street, McMinnville (Office Hours: M-Th, 9:30am-Noon) Call: 503.472.7941 Learn more: Website: www.fbcmac.org Facebook: FBC McMinnville, Oregon / Instagram: @fbcmac Our current newsletter is online at www.fbcmac.org/tidings				

NOVEMBER Birthdays

Colton Anderson 01
 Randy Dull 02
 Matt Dressel 02
 Anne Engen 03
 Aliyah Ferry 06
 Linda Gilbert 06
 Brian Gilbert 11
 Martha VanCleave 11

Pattie Waltz 14
 Nancy McCann 16
 Corine Manroe 16
 Tai James 16
 Pam Howard 16
 Susie Alin 23
 Lara O'Brady 23
 Les Toth 23
 Nancy Vasquez 24

Tayah Curry 28
 Megan McCrossin 29
 Shirley Baldwin 30
 Sharon Law 30

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

NOVEMBER Anniversaries

Barry & Jeanette House 13
 Nancy Carlson &
 John Sullivan 27