



**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
OF MADISON

THE VISITOR

OCTOBER 2024



A Note From the Pastor

BY REV. TIM SCHAEFER

Please join me in welcoming our new Student Minister, Amanda Huff! Amanda has just begun her second year of theological studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. As part of her preparation for ministry, she will be serving as our ministry intern for the next three quarters. You'll see more of Amanda as she takes on extra responsibilities in our worship and church life.



Amanda and her spouse, Emma, moved to Madison from Iowa about a year ago and recently joined the church. Both have taken on volunteer roles in the congregation. Amanda serves on the DEIB Taskforce and co-leads the Young Adult group, and Emma serves as one of our livestream technicians on Sunday mornings.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

DEIB Taskforce Update

BY BETH GUNSHOR FOR THE DEIB TASKFORCE

We have selected a consultant, Melvin Bray of Collabyrith! We've had our first meeting with him, and we're starting to determine what questions we will look to have answered as we complete our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) audit.

Please talk to a DEIB task force member if you're curious to hear more!

Sara Kelm, Amanda Huff, Jill Thomas, Barry Kita,
Bryn Abramson, Barry Trepczyk, and Beth Gunshor

FBC Justice Little Free Library

BY BETH GUNSHOR



We continue to purchase books that are justice-oriented for our Little Free Library. Please consider donating towards these purchases. Contact Beth for information on how to donate.

Recent additions to the library include:

- Jemar Tisby: *The Spirit of Justice: True Stories of Faith, Race, and Resistance* (just published!)
- Ruth King: *Mindful of Race: Transforming Racism from the Inside Out*
- Mark Elsdon (local): *Gone for Good? Negotiating the Coming Wave of Church Property Transition*

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Winter Collection – Triangle Community

BY KATY MARTY

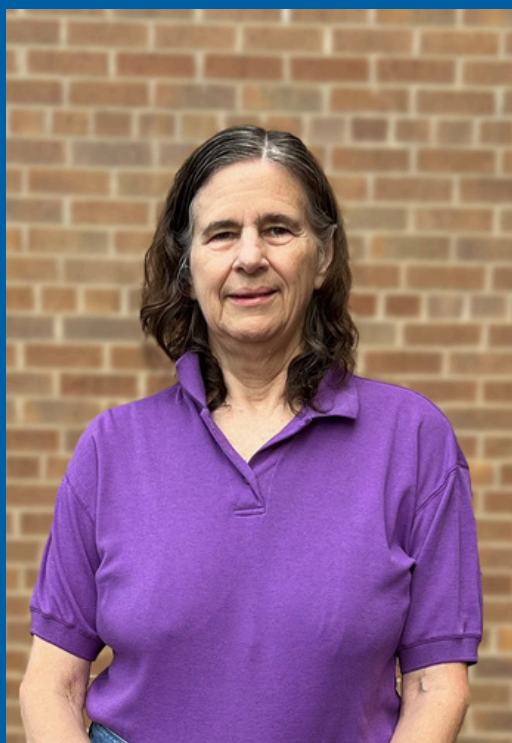
Hats & Mittens – By November 3

As the Cold visits us again soon, please help spread the warmth of Christian love. I am collecting Hats and mittens for the men and woman of the residents of the Triangle. Your help in ages past is remembered and appreciated.

2025 Calanders and Christmas Cards – By December 1

I am collecting new 2025 calenders and new Christmas Cards for the residents of The Triangle. Each year the residence look forward to choosing a Calander and writing Christmas Cards.

Collection boxes for all items are located across the hall from the church office.



Financial Update

BY NANCY MOORE

August 2024 Budget Financials: Year-To-Date Actual

Revenues* –\$219,055.39

Expenses – \$205,489.44

Surplus (Deficit)* – \$13,565.95

**Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.*

The bookkeeper's full report is available upon request. Please email Nancy Moore at bookkeeping@firstbaptistmadison.org

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Seeking Suggestions for Christmas Offering Recipients

BY DENNIS RAY FOR THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Every year we collect a Christmas offering in thanks for Jesus' birth. These offerings have typically gone to local organizations that are engaged in a ministry that is consistent with our congregation's mission and values, and for which our offering could have an impact.

In recent years we have selected recipients that address such issues as food insecurity, black-owned business development, affordable housing, and refugee/immigrant resettlement. The Outreach Board looks forward to hearing your suggestions for this year's Christmas offering. Please contact any of us by October 16.

Cheryl Castillo, Wynn Davies, Barb Hennings, Russell Novkov, and Dennis Ray

Chinese Orphans Update

BY LINDA MINTENER

Judy Sutterlin came from FBC, went to seminary, and was an ABC missionary in China for 30+ years and is now retired, but returns to China each summer to visit our orphans. She, in 2005, told us about the impoverished orphans in rural China. One of Judy's visits this summer was with a family of 3 orphaned children, all of whom we have sponsored for the last ten years. The oldest, Jingsai, has just graduated from college with a bachelor's degree in English and plans to go onto graduate school.

Click below to read Jingsai's story and to donate.



[READ MORE](#)

[DONATE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Fun on the Farm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 5:00PM

Join us for an evening of outdoor fellowship at **Treinen Farms** in Lodi. Gather at the bonfire area at 5PM for a potluck meal. The main dish, drinks, and S'more fixings will be provided. Please bring a side dish if you are able.

Following our meal, you will have plenty of time to enjoy the fall colors, hike the trails, walk the corn maze, play in the kid areas, or just warm up by the bonfire.

Cost is \$10.00 per person payable to First Baptist Church. Children under 2 are free.

RSVP by Friday, October 4. Contact Deb Chotlos with questions.

[RSVP](#)



Trunk or Treat

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 | 2:00 - 4:00 PM

BEWARE! First Baptist Church will be holding its first TRUNK or TREAT in the church parking lot this fall. Come one, come all, join the free family-friendly fun as we welcome friends in the neighborhood.

Come in costume for "trick or treating" from decorated car trunks, parade in your costume in the CAKE WALK, and enjoy other games. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact Brenda L. with question and/or to participate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spiritual Renewal Group 1

EVERY 1st & 3rd MONDAY | 7:00PM VIA ZOOM

This fall we will be reading and discussing a book on mindfulness by Thich Nhat Hanh entitled "Peace Is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life" Our tentative meeting schedule with readings follow:

If this sounds interesting to you and you would like to join our small group – please do! If you have questions, please contact Bill Hausler.

Click the button below to see the schedule, ZOOM information, or to contact Bill.

[**LEARN MORE**](#)

Affordable Housing Taskforce Update

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 | 11:30AM

Members of the Affordable Housing Taskforce have been meeting steadily since March. Although we don't have all the answers yet, our group has learned much.

SAVE THE DATE: We plan to present an update to the congregation on Sunday, November 10th following worship in Fellowship Hall. *More details forthcoming.*

We feel it is important for the congregation to be aware of our work and have an opportunity to engage in the process.

For more information, contact Doug Haynes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nature Walk at Pheasant Branch Conservancy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 | 2:00PM

The Green Team will host a nature walk through the Pheasant Branch Conservancy. Meet the group at the Marina Drive entrance for an introduction to the conservancy and watershed.

The Pheasant Branch Watershed covers a 24-square-mile area within the northwest portion of the Yahara River Watershed.

Contact Barb Henning for more information.



Remembrance Sunday

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 | 10:30AM

PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR ROSES NOW

The cost of each rose is \$3.00. Your order must be *received* by Thursday, October 24.

**Place your online order at the link below,
or return a paper form to the church office.**

Contact Linda Stamm for more information.

ORDER NOW

BIRTHDAYS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OCTOBER

3 STUART B	16 GREG D
4 JIM T	17 BENITO L
5 OLIVIA H	18 CAROLYN C
5 LEONA M	19 JANET R
7 JULIA B	20 CHERYL J
7 JANET C	21 DAVID E
7 ANGELA T	21 JASON M
9 JOHN P	22 JODY L
11 BILL H	25 RICHARD B
14 SCOTT H	29 TED R



NOVEMBER

1 JIM L	17 BRUCE M
3 SARAH B	17 BARBARA M
3 ANNA K	20 MARK C
5 TIM T	20 JILL T
8 CARLA E	21 JEAN J
9 JOY M	21 MARGARET P
10 MARY F	23 MANJARI M
10 TONYA T	24 JAMIE S
13 UNA T	25 BROOKE S
13 LAURA C-T	28 CRAIG T
14 DEB C	

Prayer Wall

Our Church Family

Susan H's sister, Barbara; Beth G; Nancy E; Austin H's grandmother; Elizabeth H; Mark C; Crystal V;; Pam M; Jill T's daughter-in-law's father, Ron;

OUR HOMEBOUND: Ann P; Linda O; Sheila D; Harley Y; Susan H



Please visit our Prayer Wall, where you will see prayer requests from and for our members, friends, and families.

Share your joys & concerns with us!

To submit a prayer request or view prayer requests submitted by others, scan the QR code or visit firstbaptistmadison.org/prayer.

[GO TO WALL](#)