



A Note From the Pastor

BY REV. TIM SCHAEFER

Easter isn't just a moment to celebrate—it's a movement of hope that keeps going. The resurrection of Jesus speaks to the human capacity to conquer fear, injustice, and the death-dealing systems of empire. That same hope still rises today in our acts of compassion, courage, and justice.

We live in a world that's still aching for resurrection—where people are hurting and systems are broken. But Easter reminds us that God is always bringing new life.

As followers of the risen Christ, we are called to be part of that work: lifting each other up, fighting for equity, and loving boldly. Let this season re-ignite your hope—not just in what God can do *for* us, but in what God can do *through* us. We are Easter people, and that is what the world needs now.



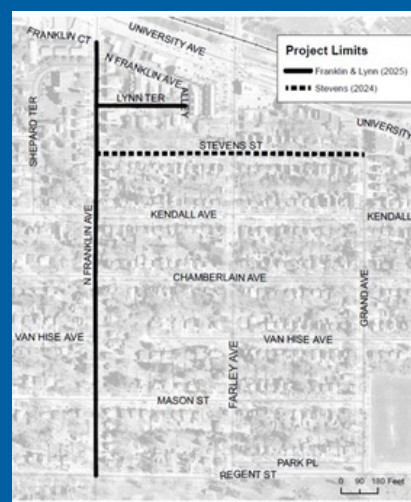
CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

N. Franklin Ave. Road Closure

FROM THE BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Starting on Monday, April 28th, North Franklin Avenue and Lynn Terrace will be closed to non-local traffic for some necessary improvements along the roadway. Work is anticipated to conclude in mid-September.

These upcoming road closures will impact access to the church building and street parking along North Franklin Avenue. Our parking lot will continue to be accessible via Shepard Terrace.



2025 Visioning Sessions

BY PAUL CHOTLOS, CHURCH MODERATOR

Pastor Tim and Moderator Paul will facilitate small-group Visioning Conversations in May and June to reflect on our church's strengths, challenges, and future possibilities. These guided, structured discussions are designed to deepen connections, explore new ideas, and gather a wide range of perspectives from our congregation.

Each session will be limited to ten participants and last no more than two hours. Members of the Church Council will help document thoughts in three categories: strengths/celebrations, challenges/opportunities, and hopes/aspirations. Conversations will be held in various settings. We hope everyone in our faith community will participate. Five sessions are currently scheduled, with more possible based on interest.

Sign up in the Gathering Space on Sundays or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).
Questions? Please contact Paul Chotlos.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Get Involved: Serve the Church

FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Looking to feel more connected and serve the church in a meaningful way? Consider joining one of our four main boards! Each board meets monthly—mostly on Zoom. Members also work in smaller groups on projects throughout the year.

- Education: Supports faith formation for all ages. *Contact Deb Chotlos.*
- Outreach: Leads mission and justice work in the community and beyond.
Contact Barb Henning.
- Trustees: Manages church finances, building, and staffing. *Contact Bill Fiore.*
- Deacons: Supports worship, spiritual life, and care. *Contact Jennifer Angelo.*

Additionally, you can get involved in short-term projects based on your interests and availability. *Reach out to any board contact to learn more and get involved!*



Financial Update

BY NANCY MOORE

March 2025 Budget Financials: *Year-To-Date Actual*

Revenues --- \$106,148.38
Expenses --- \$79,615.74
Surplus (Deficit) --- \$26,532.64

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

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Board of Trustees Update

BY BILL HAUSLER

Key Items from the April Trustees meeting:

- At Wynn Davies' request, transfer of funds from the Fuguitt bequest to a dedicated fund under Outreach Ministries titled "Fuguitt Social Justice Fund" was approved.
- The Trustees approved an additional transfer of funds from the Fuguitt bequest, allocating portions to both the Uncommitted Capital Reserve and the Trustee Fund, with the latter specifically earmarked for upgrading the sanctuary sound system.
- The rental manager position has reached the interview stage.
- The ADA (automatic swing) door has been installed.
- The lateral pipelines running from the church to the summer road work site were inspected and found to be in good condition—no replacement needed (phew!).

Sharing Good News

BY BILL HAUSLER FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Investment and Planned Giving Subcommittee of the Trustees shares good news with grateful hearts.

Two generous bequests have recently blessed First Baptist Church:

- Beverly Davison, a devoted longtime member, included FBC in her estate plans, benefiting both the Endowment Fund and Amanda Huff's pastoral internship.
- Similarly, Glenn and Martha Fuguitt remembered FBC in Glenn's estate, with funds directed to programs chosen by Wynn Davies, Pastor Tim, and for General Operating Expenses.

These gifts honor their lasting legacy and remind us that estate planning can extend our stewardship beyond a lifetime. We are deeply thankful for their faithful generosity.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Thank You Volunteers

BY BRENDA LEMPP

The Easter Egg Hunt, held in April, was a great success thanks to our enthusiastic volunteers. Thank you for making this event fun and special!



Spring Nature Walk

BY WYNN DAVIES

Join Wynn Davies for a Spring Nature Walk!

- **When:** Sunday, May 11 at 2:00 PM
- **Where:** Oakwood Nature Preserve
- **Meeting Spot:** Parking area near The Oaks Apartment Building (6225 Mineral Point Rd)

Come enjoy an easy, one-hour walk on bark and asphalt paths through the beautiful Oakwood Nature Preserve. We'll explore the "Vernal Kettle Pond" and enjoy spring woodland flowers like Bloodroot, Trout Lilies, and Trilliums. Expect to see baby geese, owls, Sandhill Cranes, and other spring wildlife. Benches along the way offer a chance to pause and take in nature's quiet wonders.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mid-Year Business Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 8 | 12:00PM

Mark your calendars for our Mid-Year Business Meeting. We'll gather in Fellowship Hall for a light lunch immediately following worship, followed by the meeting. As always, the meeting will be hybrid—you can join us in person or online via ZOOM.

We'll hear updates from boards and teams, receive the Membership Clerk's report, vote on new board members, and conduct other necessary business. An important financial matter will also be discussed: a proposal to significantly change how we manage the church's endowment.

Meeting materials will be emailed and made available in print form by June 1. Please submit meeting materials to be included to the church office by May 20.

Questions? Contact our Moderator, Paul Chotlos.

LGBTQ+ Pride Sunday

SUNDAY, JUNE 1 | 10:30 AM



You're invited to celebrate Pride Sunday with us as we honor and uplift the LGBTQ+ community in our church and beyond. We'll celebrate God's love for all people—boldly, joyfully, and without exception.

Through music, prayer, and a message of inclusion, we'll affirm that queer lives are sacred and that our church is a place of belonging.

Whether you're LGBTQ+, an ally, or simply curious, come as you are and join in the celebration. All are welcome, all are loved—just as God made you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Graduate Recognition Sunday

SUNDAY, MAY 18 | 10:30 AM

Join us for a special moment in our Sunday worship service as we recognize and bless our 2025 high school and college graduates.

We will continue the celebration of our graduates during our Fellowship Time in the Gathering Space immediately following the service.



Memorial Day Breakfast

MONDAY, MAY 26 | 9:00 AM

Join this informal picnic-style breakfast at the Hoyt Park upper shelter. Bring your own breakfast.

This is an all-church, intergenerational event. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Questions? Contact Bill Hausler

BIRTHDAYS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MAY 2025

4 SAM G	20 DEL D
1 HYUNJI H	24 DOUG H
2 RUSSELL N	27 STEVE D
2 MORGAN T	29 BROCK D
13 JAMES W. E	30 JIM D
18 NANCY M	30 CHARLOTTE K



JUNE 2025

1 KAREN E	13 SEAN B
2 GIL E	16 ALEX E
2 LISA A	20 GERALD E
5 MATTHEW C	21 AVA K
6 JAMES T. E	24 KAREN F
8 LAURA S	25 LES F
10 JOHN D	28 SUSAN H
11 STEFFEN L	28 BARRY K
12 BRUCE C	28 SYLVIA L
12 COLE D	30 VERN L

Prayer Wall

Our Church Family & Community Members:

Mark Clinger; Russell Novkov; Amber; Family of Joy Miller; Andrew Pick; Karla; Jerry; Jeff; Peter Valentine; Curt Grinde; Melanie; Nancy E

Our Homebound:

Linda O; Sheila D; 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](#)