



Our Baptist Freedoms

BY REV. TIM SCHAEFER

White Christian nationalism is not Christianity — it is an extremist political ideology that weaponizes religion to protect power. At First Baptist Church of Madison, we have and will continue to reject it openly and without apology. This July, we are reclaiming what has always been ours.



Each Sunday, we'll unearth one of the four fragile freedoms of our Baptist heritage — Religious Freedom, Church Freedom, Bible Freedom, and Soul Freedom — which stand in direct opposition to every attempt to coerce faith or co-opt the gospel for empire.

Joining us are three remarkable voices: Rev. Dr. Quintin L. Robertson, Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, and Rev. Michael Burch. Together, we will preach, proclaim, and embody a liberated faith. Join us every Sunday in July for worship at 10:30 AM.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

MG&E Tyco Solar Tour

KK HUA FOR THE GREEN TEAM

MG&E Tyco Solar Tour

The Tyco Solar Tour was cancelled due to inclement weather. It will be rescheduled for August. This tour will include an up-close look at the solar panels, descriptions of how the project developed, an introduction to how solar energy is produced, and a discussion on how MGE is incorporating pollinator-friendly plants and agri voltaics into our solar generation sites.

If you wish to receive additional information about the tour, please call KK or the office.

SIGN UP REQUIRED – At the Green Table at Church or CALL the OFFICE

Board of Outreach Update – May Meeting

BY DENNIS RAY FOR THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

The Board of Outreach reports the following:

- The Board has authorized sending \$500 from the Outreach Dedicated Account to the Global Servants in Tijuana who Mary Fiore and others from Wisconsin visited on a mission trip in November and reported on in an ABC-WI Zoom webinar. Contact outreach@firstbaptistmadison.org if you would like to watch the recording. Those Global Servants will be speaking at the ABC-WI Annual Meeting in October.
- FBC will be assisting other churches in providing an end-of-year staff appreciation luncheon at West High School. If you have any interest in learning about future activities supporting the social workers at West High School as they help students in various ways, please contact us at outreach@firstbaptistmadison.org.
- The Board is in need of someone to help plan and manage drives at FBC for clothing, supplies, blankets, etc. Again, contact us at outreach@firstbaptistmadison.org if you would like to learn more.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Why First Baptist Supports The Playing Field

BY WYNN DAVIES

This month we highlight The Playing Field, a nonprofit supported through First Baptist's Outreach budget. The Playing Field provides high-quality early childhood care and education for children from infancy through age four, with a commitment to breaking barriers for low-income families. Scholarships, including gifts from First Baptist, help ensure children are not turned away because of cost.



Through a partnership with Early Head Start, eligible Madison families can also receive transportation to the center. In 2025, The Playing Field served approximately 125 children, with about half receiving financial assistance. Recent reductions in state and federal funding threaten staffing and services. You can help through financial gifts, wish-list donations, or advocacy for programs that support early childhood education.

Board of Trustees Update – May Meeting

BY BILL HAUSLER FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Here are some key items from our last meeting:

- While awaiting a decision on the use of the Novkov bequest, the funds have been placed in a short-term CD.
- Rental Manager applications are being received with a hiring decision by the beginning of June.
- The parking lot will be resealed the week before July 4th
- We are still trying to get information from Focus on Energy related to our sanctuary air conditioning system.
- A final contribution has been received from the Fuguitt Family, and per their wishes, will be placed in the Fuguitt Social Justice Fund.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Financial Update

BY NANCY MOORE, BOOKKEEPER

May 2026 Budget Financials – YTD Actual

Revenues --- \$179,696.43

Expenses --- \$125,260.81

Surplus (Deficit) -- \$54,435.62

April 2026 Budget Financials

Revenues --- \$163,744.89

Expenses --- \$102,631.63

Surplus (Deficit) -- \$61,113.26

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



June Monthly Church Dinner & Discussion

BY PAUL CHOTLOS, MODERATOR



Church Dinner & Discussion will continue on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Our next discussion is on **June 30th, 6:00 pm**. The topic and menu for our June session will be announced soon.

We hope you will join us.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Spiritual Renewal Group Summer Update

BY JANET REINKE

This summer we will read the novel Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold and get together on Zoom to discuss it. C.S. Lewis is said to have regarded his retelling of Cupid and Psyche as his finest work of fiction.

Zoom gatherings are scheduled for the third Monday of each month at 7 PM; and readings are as follows:

- June 15 Part One, Chapters I – X
- July 23 Part One, Chapters XI – XVIII
- August 17 Part One, Chapters XIX – XXI and Part Two, All

We will resume our usual meeting format starting September 21 when we meet twice a month to read a book together and explore how God is working in our lives.

If you would like to join us over the summer – you are invited! Please contact Janet Reinke or the church office if you have questions.

Michael Johnson, Boys & Girls Club CEO

BY BLANCA JAMES

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Michael Johnson, CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dane County and a respected leader in Madison's Black community and throughout our region. He died at the age of 50. Mr. Johnson devoted his life to expanding opportunities for young people and strengthening the community through his leadership and advocacy.

First Baptist Church mourns this loss and extends our heartfelt condolences to Michael Johnson's family, friends, colleagues, and all whose lives he touched.

You can read Mr. Chappell's full article at:
<https://madison365.com/michael-johnson-community-leader-and-boys-girls-club-ceo-dies-at-50/>



"In 2026, the Madison Black Chamber of Commerce awarded him its Presidential Eagle Award, the chamber's highest distinction, given to leaders who challenge assumptions, transform industries, and expand what is considered possible." writes Robert Chappell, executive editor of 365 Media Foundation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOURLASS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

SUNDAYS VIA ZOOM | 4:30PM - 5:30PM



Summer Schedule of Deuteronomy Reading

- June 14 Chapters 13-15
- June 21 Chapters 16-17
- June 28 Chapters 18-20
- July 5 Chapters 21-23

Please go to the church's website for additional information.

HOURLASS BIBLE STUDY GROUP POTLUCK

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 | 11:30 AM

JOIN US

The study group will be having a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall.

Contact office or Mary Ray with questions.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNETEENTH SERVICE

SUNDAY, JUNE 21 10:30 AM

Join us for a powerful Juneteenth Sunday Worship Service as we honor freedom, celebrate Black heritage, and seek justice through faith and unity.



IMAGO DEI SERVICE

SUNDAY, JUNE 28 | 10:30 AM



Join us in a joyful celebration of love, inclusion, and faith at our Imago Dei Worship Service, where we celebrate that all people are made in the image of God.

A CELEBRATION OF PRIDE MONTH

BIRTHDAYS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

JUNE 2026

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 TE	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



JULY 2026

1 AMY B	14 LINDA O
1 WILLIAM V	16 TOM K
3 GLORIA H	17 ERICA K
3 LAURA R	20 CARSEN C
5 ADYSEN Z	22 JANE E
6 SUSAN D	23 MAT G
7 TANYA M	25 MEGUMI (MEG) K
7 SARAH M	26 REBECCA H
10 JONI M	
11 EMELINA L	

Prayer Wall

Our Church Family & Community Members:

Gil & Nancy E; Edzard van Santen; Richard B; Joni M; Jim & Susan Pike

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 community members.

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.