



As We Move On...

REV. TIM SCHAEFER (HE/HIM)

As I prepare to begin a new season in my life, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor. These past years have been filled with moments of great joy, faithful challenge, and deep hope. Together, we have worked to embody our mission to follow Jesus by doing justice, loving people, and advocating for equity. I have witnessed your generosity, your compassion, and your courage time and again, and I leave with profound gratitude for all we have shared.

While I will miss you dearly, I trust that God is already preparing the next season for First Baptist Church. May you continue to be a community of welcome, justice, and belonging. Thank you for allowing me to walk this part of the journey with you.



CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

BLANCA SALAZAR JAMES (SHE/HER)

Thank You, First Baptist

Changes can be good. There is “a purpose for every season” of our lives. As I leave you as Administrative Assistant, I remain as a friend to so many. Thank you for your love and support.

During my time as a retiree, I hope to work on my faith, my family, but most of all myself. So many of you have taught me what being a true christian means. I'll do my best to follow your example.

See you at worship, at church, around town.
Hugs, Blessings, and Peace



CHRIS FIOL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (THEY/THEM)

Welcome to FBC's New Administrative Assistant



The Board of Trustees Personnel Committee is delighted to announce the hiring of Chris Fiol in the role of Church Administrative Assistant. Chris will begin work at FBC on Monday, August 17. Their office hours will be Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 1 pm.

Prior to coming to FBC, Chris has worked for Target, Madison Symphony Orchestra, Escapology, and UW Madison. They are also self employed as a Freelance Digital Marketer. Chris graduated with a Master of Music from UW Madison in 2023. Their undergraduate degree is from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. Chris is an expert tuba player and conducts the Madison Brass Band.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

ZACH BUSCH, MUSIC DIRECT (HE/HIM)



A collaborative effort has been underway to shape a worship rhythm that will carry us through this season of transition following Pastor Tim Schaefer's departure. Zach stepped into an expanded role in July to provide support, strategy, and coverage around worship planning and worship administration during the transition season.

In addition, Zach will continue our music ministry with insight, faith, and song.

OLIVIA MATTINGLY, RENTAL MANAGER

Welcome to FBC's Rental Manager



Olivia started as Rental Manager for FBC at the end of June. Olivia brings knowledge, experience, and flexibility to this role. Olivia's main responsibilities include building rentals and parking rentals. Olivia attends the UW-Madison's School of Pharmacy, Doctor of Pharmacy, with an expected graduation in 2028.

Olivia's work schedule is flexible within 16 hours a week and can be reached at rentals@firstbaptistmadison.org.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Transitional Committee

SARA KELM FOR THE TRANSITIONAL TEAM

Sara Kelm and Linda McCarroll Stamm, as part of the Transition Team, were tasked with securing and coordinating guest speakers to provide sermons for worship during this time without a pastor. Zach stepped into an expanded role in July to provide support, strategy, and coverage around worship planning and worship administration during the transition season.

As they gathered to plan, they wanted to find a thread that could weave through and bind together a season that might otherwise feel very off-kilter and disjointed. Selecting the eternal “To everything there is a season...” verses from Ecclesiastes from which to build a framework, they were delighted to discover that Pastor Tim had separately selected these verses as the basis for his final sermon. The Spirit is at work!

The team also opted to draw from Psalms, a book so apt to offer comfort and voice grief. They compiled a list of excerpts that connected with themes of changing and becoming, distributing the list to guest speakers and asking speakers to consider all these elements – theme, Psalms, Ecclesiastes – to bring messages that would be authentic to them but would connect to a common thread.

Additionally, they mused that having certain elements of our usual worship liturgy recur verbatim week-to-week could be a simple and practical way to find some cohesion in this time. Think of it like comfort food: our Call to Worship, Invocation, Prayer Refrain, and Benediction will remain the same through this whole season.

This Sunday, as we kick off this theme, there will be a special opportunity after worship to participate in a group art project – tie dye banners. For anyone who has done a tie dye project, you know that the process begins with a plan – folding, crumpling, twisting, rubber banding – and then flows into the messy and often completely unpredictable activity of dying the fabric. It’s not until the dye has set, the fabric rinsed and cleaned, that the result is revealed, and most often it is a delightful surprise of blended colors and incredible vibrance. The group thought this process could stand as a lovely metaphor for our season of change and transition, where we hope, pray, and work toward a future we cannot yet see.

It is the group’s hope that, through all that is to come in worship, we might praise God well and build each other up in hope for the future of First Baptist.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Financial Update

By Nancy Moore, Bookkeeper

June 2026 Budget Financials - YTD Actual

Revenues --- \$190,644.37
Expenses --- \$146,361.64
Surplus (Deficit) -- \$44,282.73

July 2026 Budget Financials - YTD Actual

Revenues --- \$221,997.64
Expenses --- \$177,544.81
Surplus (Deficit) -- \$44,452.83

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



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026, FROM 1:00 PM TO 6:00 PM
AT WARNER PARK (2930 N. SHERMAN AVE) IN MADISON, WI**

The message of God's love is for everyone heading back to the Magic Pride Festival on Sunday. FBC will be having a tent in this 5th year of participation in this annual Pride event to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community.

Once again, with the help of our congregation, we will be sharing written affirmations, stickers, and other small giveaways.

Like other congregations, we are joining the Festival to share the message of Love for All, we are trying to reverse the tide of rejection and hate; and instead build community, foster connections, and plant seeds of acceptance and love.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

August Outreach Church Dinner & Discussion

BY QUINN GARCIA



Interested in the organizations FBC support and where its money is currently being used in the community?

Join us on **Tuesday, August 25th at 6:00 pm for dinner and discussion in Fellowship Hall.** The Board of Outreach will be presenting the organizations that we currently support and will outline our local and global giving practices. Most importantly, we will be welcoming everyone's feedback and ideas as we look forward to 2027. If you think there is an organization we should know about or if you are just curious about where we currently place our financial support, this is a great opportunity to learn more!

We hope to see you and look forward to an evening of good food, fellowship time, and learning, and visioning together. The meal is free. All are welcome. (Voluntary donations are allowed, but not required.)

Pastoral Care as FBC Searches for an Interim Pastor

BY JENNIFER ANGELO FOR THE BOARD OF DEACONS

At the present time, the Transition Team is doing its best to hire an Interim Pastor and make arrangements for pastoral care. Until then, please know that the Church Board of Deacons can be a helpful resource. Each of our church deacons has been assigned a list of people in the church. Our deacons are in the process of contacting "their people" to let them know that we are here for them.

If you don't know the name of your church deacon and would like to hear from them, contact the church office. Our office staff will get the message to your deacon that you'd like a phone call or visit.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & UPDATES

Board of Outreach Update – June & July

BY DENNIS RAY FOR THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

- Guest sermon: Kyle Williams, International Ministries Global Servant in Southeast Asia, will preach Sunday, September 13. During September, donations will be received for the World Mission Offering and Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.
- The Board welcomed new members Doug Haynes and Quinn Garcia and expressed deep appreciation to Cheryl Castillo and Barb Henning for their service. Dennis Ray will serve as Chair and Wynn Davies as Vice-Chair.
- On July 9, the Board and Racial Justice Team hosted a screening of Jesus Was a Migrant, presentations by our Haitian family and Jason Mack of Open Doors for Refugees, followed by a discussion. Thirty-eight people attended, including eight visitors, and many expressed interest in volunteering with Open Doors.
- The Board is beginning work on the 2027 Outreach Budget and welcomes congregational input. A \$2,000 donation from the Fuguitt Social Justice Fund was authorized for Own It: Building Black Wealth.

Questions or suggestions? Contact any Board member or email outreach@firstbaptistmadison.org.

Why Does First Baptist Support ...

BY WYNN DAVIES FOR THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

The Community Immigration Law Center

This month we are highlighting the Community Immigration Law Center, which will receive \$350 from the 2026 Outreach Budget. We received the following information from Grant Sovern, their Administrative Director, about what they accomplished during 2025:

“In recent months, members of our immigrant community—whether or not documented—have been facing a drastically greater risk of detention and/or deportation. An Immigrant represented by an attorney has a dramatically greater chance of success in Immigration Court. To meet the growing need for legal representation CILC has expanded its legal staff to 12 to fight for due process in Immigration Court proceedings—for free. In 2026 we have already consulted with or represented more than 200 people who have been apprehended by ICE.”

“CILC also works to win permanent resident status for refugees and unaccompanied children. In the past three years our asylum clinic has helped more than 380 people apply for asylum.”

“CILC conducts twice monthly free clinics where volunteer lawyers advise people about the immigration options available to them and their families. Last year 371 people from 67 countries receive free consultations and, where appropriate, a referral to a low or no charge attorney.”

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS AND UPDATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

BY EMMA HUFF FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

These are the highlights of the June Meeting.

- Olivia Mattingly has been hired as our new Rental Manager!
- Chris Fiol has been hired as our new Administrative Assistant!
- We are continuing work on finalizing the work for the new sound system.
- The new AC system is slated to be installed in September.
- A decision was made to reduce our exposure to the equity market within our endowment fund in light of current market conditions. The endowment is seeing a positive return YTD but there is growing uncertainty within the financial market given current domestic and international conditions.

HOURLASS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

BY MARY AND DENNIS RAY

Starting Sunday evening, August 15, the Hourglass Bible Study will begin an intersession reading of the deuterocanonical or Apocrypha book of Judith, appreciating the detail it adds to our understanding of what Judith's heroism meant to people in the past and her significance to us today. **Then, starting September 6**, the Hourglass Bible Study will begin a semester-long reading of the gospel of Luke, appreciating its narrative style and the detail it adds to our understanding of what Jesus did in his lifetime and his significance to us today. **The class meets on Zoom from 4:30 to 5:30 every Sunday.** For questions and contact details, email Mary Ray at mbray5@sbcglobal.net.



UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUNG ADULTS GAME NIGHT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 | 6:00 – 10:00 PM

You're invited to a Young Adults game night! Bring your favorite board/card game and snack or drink to share.

Meet in Room 104 at the church.



TIE-DYE BANNERS AFTER WORSHIP

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 | 11:30 AM



After worship, participate in a group art project – tie dye banners. It's not until the dye has set, the fabric rinsed and cleaned, that the result is revealed.

The group thought process could stand as a lovely metaphor for our season of change and transition, where we hope, pray, and work toward a future we cannot yet see.

JOIN US

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAGIC PRIDE FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 | 1:00 – 6:00 PM

Join us in a joyful celebration of love, inclusion, and faith.

Like other congregations, we are joining the Festival to share the message of Love for All.

↓
Warner Park, Madison, WI



AUGUST CHURCH DINNER & DISCUSSION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 | 6:00 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL



The Board of Outreach will be presenting the organizations that we currently support and will outline our local and global giving practices.

Voluntary donations are allowed, but not required.

BIRTHDAYS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AUGUST 2026

2 PAUL B
3 ART H
6 BLANCA J
10 WILLIAM H
12 THOMAS G
15 LUIS C
17 CAROL F
17 RACHEL H
18 GWEN A
22 PHIL D
NANCY E
25 CHAD V
28 MADDIE F
31 CARYS A



SEPTETMBER 2026

3 BRETT T
5 ALAN F
6 CHRISTOPHER E
8 HEATHER Z
8 PIHRA P
9 CHERYL C
9 JEFF K
12 CHARLOTTE E
14 JUDY C
14 TYLER M
16 CLAIRE R
20 ASHLEY B
20 RACHEL E
24 JEANETTE K
25 BOB M
25 RHIANNON T
27 MOIRA K
29 LINDA M

Prayer Wall

Our Church Family & Community Members:

Gil & Nancy E; Jim & Susan Pike; John D & Rev. Tim; Blanca S

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.