

The Tidings

FBC's monthly newsletter

First Baptist Church, 125 S.E. Cows St., McMinnville, OR 97128
503-472-7941 • www.fbcmac.org • office@fbcmac.org



Events planned each month are designed to deepen our relationships with one another and our community.

All are welcome! Join in, bring family and friends as we reach out together to our neighbors near and far.

Helping our community set-up for Turkey Rama

(A shared Service Event with 1st Presbyterian & CoOp Ministries)

Friday, July 13 - 7:00 am

Take FBC Tables/Chairs to Turkey Rama, 3rd & Davis. Sts. and set'm up.

Saturday, July 14 - 9:00 pm

Return FBC Tables/Chairs to church.

FBC needs Volunteers to HELP!
Contact the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELP!

VBS 2018 is August 6-10 and we need your help! This year we're doing part two of Abundance Orchard, as we focus on God's abundant welcome in the New Testament, while supporting the work of the Society of St. Andrews, an organization that gleans & helps feed America.

And we want you to be a part of making it all happen! Please email sean@fbcmac.org or call the church and let us know how you would like to be involved. Below are some of the specific needs we have. Thanks!



VBS 2018 NEEDS

Volunteers

Class Shepherds:

Care for small group of children each day

Center Leaders:

Crafts - Recreation - Music

Admin - Snacks - MORE!

Donations

Snacks - Crafts - Props/Costumes

Decorations - MORE!

SOUTH BEACH STATE PARK July 20-22, 2018

All-Church Campout - Site SIGN-UP on Sunday June 24, July 1, 8, 15

Friday, July 20 - Head to the beautiful Oregon Coast - Welcome campfire.

Saturday - Group breakfast - Explore the area - Potluck dinner & campfire.

**Sunday, July 22 - Breakfast and an inspirational Worship service in the sand.
Take a leisurely drive home - remembering this special time together.**

Details: Dave King, kaveding@earthlink.net

FBC Staff: Senior Pastor Rev. Erika Marksburly - erika@fbcmac.org

Music & Small Groups Minister - jp@fbcmac.org / Children's & Youth Minister - sean@fbcmac.org

Financial Report: January 1 - May 31, 2018

July 2018

	Actual for Period	% of Amount Budgeted
Contributions Income:	\$134,387	102.4%
Total Income:	\$152,218	101.6%
Total Expenses:	\$145,146	96.9%
Net Income:	\$ 7,072	
Fellowship Fund	\$ 1,422 (needs a boost!)	
Matthew 25/STAR Fund	\$ 3,198 (monthly income \$800, monthly expenses \$1,160)	

If you have any questions, please contact Don Watson, Treasurer (503-510-2816, donjw@comcast.net)
-- Finance Team, Roger Dell, Judee Kunze, Jane Apel, & Don Watson, treasurer

Semi-Annual Meeting Summary Sunday, June 24, 2018

I want to use this space to report on the Semi-Annual meeting held on Sunday, June 24. The congregation approved the recommendation of the Church Board to adopt a structure of 6 Ministry Team Leaders and 2 At-large members. This change results in revisions to our Bylaws and Constitution. We are looking forward to the new positions of Membership/Member Engagement and Faith Relations as well as revisions to the existing positions. After we approved the change of structure, the new officers were elected to Church Board. We welcomed Steve Howard, Shelly Sanderlin and Les Toth as new members. We thanked Nicole Curry, Joyce Early and Charlie Walker for their leadership these last two years.

Before we called Erika as Senior Pastor, the congregation established a Pastoral Relations Committee to support our pastor and to ensure that the relationship between the pastor and the congregation is vital, healthy and mutually beneficial. As the Bylaws require, congregation affirmed the current members of the committee at our meeting. The Church Board wants to make sure

members of the congregation know that Mike Burr is the chair of the committee if you have items of encouragement or concern to share.

Based on the positive response to the Stewardship request last month, the Church Board asked the congregation to approve a budget adjustment for July 1-Dec 31, for funds to provide an additional 1% Cost of Living Allowance for 5 staff and to provide \$2,000 to Untied Missions. Stewardship asked, and you responded to make these funds available. Thank you!

Most importantly, we heard summaries of the reports from programs and ministries of the church. So much going on in the life of our congregation! If you were not able to attend the meeting, please stop by the office to pick up a copy of the report.

Those of you who attended the meeting know that JoAnn Sims was elected our moderator beginning July 1st. I will be stepping into the position of Missions Ministry Leader and staying on the Church Board. Thank you for your support these last two years.

Blessings, Susan Chambers

Sunday Worship Highlights

FBC is a Matthew 25 church, inspired by the words of Jesus, "Whatever you do unto the least of my sisters & brothers, you do unto me."

9:30 -11:30 am - Nursery care for Infants through Preschool

**July 1 Communion Sunday
"In Defense of God"**

Genesis 3:1-7;
Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

July 8 "On Knowing Where You Are"

Genesis 3:1-13;
Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

July 15 "Returning to Dust "

Genesis 3:1-19;
Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

July 22 "Sown Together"

Genesis 1:9-13; JP Bierly preaching at FBC
Pastor Erika leading worship at Campout

July 29 5th Sunday - "Knowing Good and Evil"

Genesis 3:1-24,
Rev. Erika Marksbury preaching

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Thoughts from Pastor Erika

In his *Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front*, poet Wendell Berry advises the reader:

"Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest."

I've been thinking about that in connection to our focus on gardening this summer, on how putting seeds in the ground is an act of hope - or an act of random chance, because some we do intentionally and some are scattered by the wind, by the birds - and how we inherit the hope that came before us, and we pass it on to those who will come after. My prayer for us as we move through this season is that we know ourselves to be lovingly placed in a garden of delight that was planted for us before we were even known, and that we might, in turn, in gratitude, tend this world so that generations to come might know themselves the same.

Brown Bag Lunch with Scholars Summer Series

Bring your lunch and stay after worship to dig deeper into the myriad layers of the Garden of Eden story, considering insights from Biblical studies, gender studies, Jungian theory, and our cultural imagination. We'll spend some time hearing from the experts and some time in conversation, so come ready to learn and to share your own ideas and questions!

**July 1 - Dr. Bill Millar,
"Reflections on the Garden Story"**

**July 15 - Dr. Jennifer Williams,
"Gender, Ambiguity, and
Etiologies in the Garden Story"**

**July 29 - Dr. Linda Olds,
"Symbolic Themes and
Consciousness in the Garden
of Eden"**

- A Memorial Gathering - to Celebrate the Life of Marilyn van Dyk

**Wednesday, July 11, at 2 pm
in the FBC Gathering Room**

All are welcome to this time of remembering Marilyn through shared song and story.

Get to Know FBC's Newest Members: Holly & Donovan Douglas

Holly Douglas grew up as a Coast Guard brat and lived in Alaska and Maine before moving to Carlton in 1996. She loves living in this community where she has roots. She's the fifth generation to own her family's property outside of Yamhill and she feels "a deep responsibility to steward the land that God has given us."

Holly grew up going to FBC Carlton and Camp Arrah Wanna. Her aunt attended FBC Mac when she was young and it had a larger youth group than Holly's church, so Holly came with her. And she went on three Y.A.H.O.O. mission trips in high school, so her roots run deep here, too.

Holly now works at Linfield and has many colleagues that attend FBC Mac. She enjoys getting to know them through work and church. She and her husband, Donovan, are part of the Faith and Java Sunday school group, and their daughter, Heidi, enjoys playing with the helpers in the nursery every Sunday.

When asked about what matters to her, Holly says, "Love is the greatest gift God has given us. I believe it's what connects us to everything. Nourishing relationships, protecting and enjoying the earth, and being connected to the universe are ways I see love manifest."



Donovan Douglas was born in Glendora, CA, grew up in sunny Daytona Beach, FL, and moved to McMinnville in 2000. Now he, his wife, Holly, and their daughter, Heidi, live on a tree farm outside of Yamhill.

"My family is most important to me, I would be lost without them. After that, my writing and the farm." On the farm, he enjoys seeing wildlife like elk, bobcat, and bald eagle; watching fog roll across the fields; learning about flora.

He spends his time hanging out with his family or reading, especially fiction, and especially comic books. He's also a writer, working on short fiction, creative non fiction, and poetry. Some of his hours are spent working and hiking around the

farm, some rewatching Star Wars or The Office. He's worked in three bookstores - you might recognize him from behind the counter at Third Street Books - and two libraries. He's finishing up his BA in Creative Writing at Linfield, and he loves discussing books, comic books, and writing. He has one tattoo, in Hebrew. He calls himself "a huge Batman nerd."

Donovan says, "I feel very welcome and at home in FBC Mac. I've only been involved in attending the Sunday school class Faith and Java so far, which is great... I was a little over-involved at my last church so it's nice to have a break."

Kids have important conversations with Our Whole Lives -

Fourteen students completed the nine-week Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) course for 4th-6th graders this Spring. O.W.L. is a sexuality education course developed by the Unitarian Universalist Church and the United Church of Christ in the late 1990's. The 4th-6th grade curriculum that First Baptist participated in is one of six programs offered by the Our Whole Lives lifespan sexuality education series. Other curricula in the series include K-1, grades 7-9, grades 10-12, young adults, and adults.

The 4th -6th grade course that our students participated in focused on giving students accurate information about puberty, reproduction, and sexual health. It also helped them to identify their attitudes and values about sexual identity, relationships, and intimacy. The course allowed students to express the messages they receive from their community, media, family and peers about sexuality, sexual health and gender identity. Students dove into difficult issues around bullying, developing healthy relationships, and understanding the differences in sexual orientations and gender identities. They entered the class with open hearts and open minds and actively participated in discussions. This first class was a success and gave our students a basic road map for having healthy, safe, and fulfilling intimate relationships. Many thanks to Megan McCrossin and Jim James for leading our students through this experience.

Rainbow Acres

Located in Camp Verde, Arizona, Rainbow Acres is a Christian community that empowers persons with developmental disabilities to live to their fullest potential with dignity and purpose.



First Baptist Church participates in the "Adopt-A-Rancher" fund at Rainbow Acres. **We help support rancher Patti Williamson.** Patti is an only child. She lived with her

parents until their deaths. She came to Rainbow Acres in 2014. Patti has cerebral palsy with a weakness on her left side. She walks with a limp and really works hard to maintain balance. Still, this never deters her from staying active and keeping up with her housemates. At Rainbow Acres, she loves participating in all kind of activities and especially enjoys music, dance, parties and Special Olympics. Patti loves to tease and laughs easily. She is proud of her fitness level since she has come to Rainbow Acres, her social skills and the many friends she has made. Patti loves working on math in the Leaning Center and using her artistic skill in crafts. It is easy to make Patti smile.

A friendly gesture, a compliment or a joke will make her day. Her birthday is August 19!

Celebrate the Feast Day of Mary Magdalene

A Ritual Theatre Experience...

Sunday, July 22 - 7:00 pm

FBC Social Hall

Called the Apostles' Apostle, Mary Magdalene has come into mass consciousness as the carrier of the Divine Feminine, the one who



walked with Jesus as he spread the gospel of love. Experience the ministry of Mary Magdalene through music, song, dance, readings and a special anointing ceremony with spikenard oil, "... in memory of her." (Matthew 26:13)

Facilitated by Rev. Kathleen McKern Verigin
kathleenverigin333@gmail.com
503.970-3615

Open to adults and mature children
Love Offering Appreciated

To stay up-to-date with efforts of our local community to stand in solidarity with the asylum seekers and immigrants detained in Sheridan, please visit www.unidosyambillcounty.org. Unidos Bridging Community is leading the local effort to support and advocate for the families affected by recent immigrant policy changes. FBC Mac counts Unidos as a mission partner and is thankful for their work on behalf of all people.



FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Wednesday, July 18

Osborn Aquatic Center - Corvallis
11:30 am - 5:30 pm

Wednesday, August 22

Times & Location TBD

**Drop off & Pick up at FBC
Transportation help available**

*bring lunch, plus a towel, sunscreen, and a
changes of clothes*



FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sunday, July 15

Beach Trip to Neskowin
11:30 am-4:30 pm

*bring lunch, plus a towel, sunscreen,
and a change of clothes*

Sunday, August 26

Water Games
Times & Location TBD



Where Faith Grows and Hungry People Are Fed!

For VBS this summer we are doing Year Two: New Testament of the Abundance Orchard curriculum from the Society of St. Andrew! It's all about God's abundant and often unexpected welcome.

**We hope you will join us,
for rising Kindergarten - 6th grade.
August 6-10 (including Friday!)
from 9 am to noon each day @ FBC.**

Online registration is now open,
and it's totally free!
Deadline is Sunday, July 29.

Sunday Mornings @ FBC
JULY 2018

NURSERY: Infants through Preschool, FBC Nursery, 9:30 am-11:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL: NO Sunday School for the Summer

WORSHIP @ 10 am:

Children

1st/3rd Sundays (July 1 & 15) - Full Worship Service

2nd/4th/5th Sunday (July 8, 22, 29) - Creative Play after the Children's Story

Youth

All Sundays - Full Worship Service

2nd/4th/5th Sunday (July 8, 22, 29) - Help with Children's Creative Play

COMMUNICATION

Email: Email sean@fbcmac.org to be added to our weekly enews list

Text: Via Remind, text @seanpw to the number 81010 for updates

Facebook: Join us at FBC McMinnville KIDS and FBC McMinnville Youth

Instagram: Follow us at @fbcmacyouth

Small Group Opportunities

July 2018

"For where two or more come together in my name, there am I with them." –Matthew 18:20

Meditation Practice

2nd Floor Meditation Room
Every Wednesday @ 12:00 noon
Using silent Christian Prayer & Buddhist Traditions
Contact: Lynn 503-472-8196

AM Knit Wits

Every Thursday
9:30 am

Contact: Linda,
971-237-6828



PM Knit Wits

Tuesdays,
July 3 & 17

7 pm - Contact: Gina,
971-237-2789



SEW'n SOs Quilting Group

During the
summer they
meet every
Wednesday,
9:30 am-12n

Together Works



LGBTQ monthly gatherings
2nd & 4th Mondays (Fireplace Room)
Mark your calendar for these fun summer events!
July 9, 7pm - **Movie Night**
July 23, 7pm - **Group Birthday Party**

Social & Educational time together, fun & food
Contact: deerocksmoore@gmail.com, 971-241-8256

Wednesday Evening Potluck Picnics

FBC is invited to join the Cooperative Ministries
congregation this summer at Parkview Center
(325 NE Burnett), **July 18 to Aug. 29 - 6:00 pm**

Time of fellowship for the whole family (all ages)
to gather for food & fun. Bring your own
table service, table cloth, and potluck dish to share.

Hiking Group

Saturday, July 21 - 8:30 am,
meet at the church to carpool.
Destination: Oak Island on Sauvie Island
Great FUN - Good Exercise - Exciting locations!
Contact: Gloria LaFata, 503-931-4846,
glowml1@gmail.com



The Hiking Group at Sitka Sedge State Natural
Area on June 16.

Men's Breakfast Back in September with these great speakers!

September 22 - Bill Apel
How Baseball and God Changed My Life

October 27 - Brian Gilbert
The Art and Science of Brewing

November 17 - Bob Crawford
A Sail from Los Angeles to Tahiti

December 22 - Dana Libonati
Title to be Announced

JULY at FBC

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 AM WORSHIP Brown Bag Lunch with Scholars	2 9-10:30a - STAR 7p - Boy Scouts	3 7p - Knit Wits		5 9:30a - Knit Wits 7:30p - Worship Team Pastor's Day Off	6	7 9a-1p - Free Medical Clinic
8 10:00 AM WORSHIP	9 9-10:30a - STAR 7p - Boy Scouts 7p - Together Works	10	11 9:30-12n - Sew'n Sos Quilters 12n - Meditation 2:00p - Marilyn van Dyk Memorial 7p - Church Board	12 9:30a - Knit Wits 7:30p - Worship Team Pastor's Day Off	13 7:00a - Building Community Project (see front cover) 9-10:30a - STAR	14 9:00p - Building Community Project (see front cover)
15 10:00 AM WORSHIP Brown Bag Lunch with Scholars 11:30a - Youth Beach Trip	16 9-10:30a - STAR 7p - Boy Scouts	17 7p - Knit Wits	18 9:30-12n - Sew'n Sos Quilters 12n - Meditation 6:00p - Potluck at Parkview	19 9:30a - Knit Wits 7:30p - Worship Team Pastor's Day Off	20 9-10:30a - STAR	21 9a-1p - Free Medical Clinic 8:30a - HIKING <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> Church Campout @ South Beach State Park thru Sunday morning </div>
22 10:00 AM WORSHIP Mary Magdalene Ritual Event	23 9-10:30a - STAR 7p - Boy Scouts 7p - Together Works	24	25 9:30-12n - Sew'n Sos Quilters 12n - Meditation 6:00p - Potluck at Parkview	26 9:30a - Knit Wits 7:30p - Worship Team Pastor's Day Off	27 9-10:30a - STAR	28
29 10:00 AM WORSHIP Brown Bag Lunch with Scholars	30 9-10:30a - STAR 7p - Boy Scouts	31				

JULY Birthdays:

Jane Apel 1
 Amelia Bierly 1
 Jacob Porter 1
 Harold Park 2
 Kaitlin Gilbert 3
 Kathy Beckwith 5
 Kyle Sims 6
 Wynton Skowrup 6
 Walter Wilkins 6
 David Hallett 9

Emily Kerrigan 11
 Beth Starner 11
 Mickey Kelley 12
 Ed Boggie 13
 Gina Foster 14
 Pat Lynn 14
 Michael Vincent 14
 Kerry Boenisch 15
 Ken Rogers 16
 Barbara Nelson 18
 Matt Reinker 19

Susan Chambers 20
 Ana Dominguez 20
 Lloyd Galer 20
 Dave King 22
 Dennis Robinson 23
 Wendell Martin 24
 Linette Studebaker 25
 Annie Clayton 27
 Sebas Larson 30
 Larry Sims 31

JULY Anniversaries:

Gerry & Jackie Painter
 July 22, 1951
 Don & Linda Watson
 July 11, 1970
 Robert & Nancy McCann
 July 27, 1983
 Laura & Steve Park
 July 12, 1986
 Brian & Dayna Gilbert
 July 6, 1991
 Carson & Georgine Benner
 July 9, 1994
 Joe & Liz Wilkins
 July 3, 2003

The Impact of Civil Unrest on AMOS Health & Hope



In April I attended a board meeting in Managua, Nicaragua at the headquarters of AMOS Health & Hope. Drs. David and Laura Párajón, founders of AMOS, warmly greeted board members from around the country as we gathered for an exciting opportunity to strategically plan for the continued, sustainable growth of this amazing organization. Two days into the meeting, President Daniel Ortega unveiled social security reforms that cut deeply into the financial and social psyche of this peace-loving country. A wave of civil unrest hit like a tsunami and four people were killed that first day. By the time I left, the death toll stood at 10. Now, months into the rebellion, more than 100 people have been killed and scores injured.

While most other humanitarian non-profit organizations have pulled out of Nicaragua, AMOS is determined to continue providing health and hope to the most vulnerable populations in Nicaragua. This includes our sister communities of La Pimienta & El Calderon. It probably comes as no surprise that AMOS will continue working through this turmoil. It's who they are at their core – a faith-based organization trusting in God in all that they do.

One stark reality, however is that AMOS is being severely impacted by the unrest. Understandably, many delegations from churches and universities have cancelled their service trips. The very successful Global Health Practicum program was also cancelled. These programs provide a vital source of revenue that directly supports the field work done in rural communities. Without this income stream, AMOS will likely lose up to 35% of its operations budget this year. Plans are already being made to scale back in some areas, which means that health services to vulnerable communities will become even more difficult to provide.

What can we as a church community do? Pray for the Nicaragua government and the protestors to find resolution through dialogue. Pray for AMOS staff as they deal with the uncertainty. Pray for the AMOS leadership team as they work to continue services for health programs.

And finally, consider additional ways you might be able to financially support AMOS during these difficult



times. Perhaps you can increase your donation to the Nicaragua fund that supports the health clinic in La Pimienta and El Calderon? Just write "AMOS Crisis" in the memo line of your check if you are giving for this effort. Stay tuned for more information in regards to how FBC will be committing energy to help fundraise for the good work at AMOS Health & Hope, including an opportunity in early fall.

-David Hallett

Discernment Committee, Church Board Respond to Questions from Regional Leadership

You may remember that after FBC chose to join the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, Rev. Steve Bills, executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast, sent us three questions he said were often posed to him from churches that don't identify as welcoming and affirming of LGBTQIA+ people. He asked us to respond, so that he might know our perspective, and be better equipped to respond when those questions came to him. The Discernment Committee (consisting of Bill Apel, Mike Burr, David Ferry, Joel Kiff, Robin Knauerhase, Gary Langenwalter, Erika Marksbury, Shelly Sanderlin, JoAnn Sims, Charlie Walker, and Don Watson) drafted answers to his questions, and with some very slight edits, the Church Board approved our answers and sent them on. We wanted to share them with you, so what follows is Steve's first question to us, in italics, and our response in plain type below. In the August issue of *The Tidings* we will print his second question and our response, and the third will appear in September's issue. Please contact Erika (erika@fbcmac.org) or any member of the Discernment Committee if you have questions.

1.) When you say you are welcoming and affirming, what is it exactly that you are affirming? Is there a point to which an LBGTO person might go in the expression of their gender or sexuality where you would have to say that you could no longer affirm that expression?

We affirm people. We believe sexuality and gender identity are gifts of God and expressions of the diversity of God's own self. We affirm the faith journeys of all of our congregants, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or other qualifiers, and we value and cherish the contributions each one brings to our church family. The introduction of our church's mission statement reads, "We seek to offer a deep sense of community to all those within and beyond the walls of our church." This sense of community is possible, we believe, when everyone who might come already knows that they are accepted, as they are, as one of God's beloved children.

We hear this unconditional welcome echoed in the mission statements of our region and our denomination, which state, respectively,

- "The heart of the gospel is God's redemptive love. In our life together, the world will see the power of forgiveness to overcome alienation, the strength of love to transform hate, the power of grace to break the bonds of guilt, the triumph of hope over despair, and the victory of faith over doubt. Through the cross of Christ we embrace the world as neighbor" (www.abccpc.org) and
- "We affirm that God through Jesus Christ calls us to be: ... an inclusive people: who, gifted by a variety of backgrounds, find unity in diversity and diversity in unity; who embrace a pluralism of race, ethnicity, and gender; and who acknowledge that there are individual differences of conviction and theology." (www.abc-usa.org)

We wonder if, with the second part of this question, you're asking us about behaviors. We affirm not behaviors but people, and their identity as God's own. Sexuality and gender identity are only a part of who people are; such characteristics do not determine the whole of anyone's identity. When any person among us acts out of accord with what we would hope for from someone who professes to share our faith, we do what we can to mend what has been broken, extend forgiveness, and restore relationships.