



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

December 28, 2011



*Merry
Christmas!*

Children and Youth Christian Education

On January 1, there will be no nursery or classes for children and youth so that families may worship together and so our caregivers and teachers may celebrate the holiday. Our regular schedule resumes on January 8.

Preschool - 1st Grade:

10:30 - 11:30 Church School (Rm. 202A&B)
11:30 - 12:30 Second Hour Church School
And Childcare (Rm. 202A&B)

Youth (6th - High School)

10:00 - 11:00 Worship
11:15 - 11:45 Youth Choir (Rm. 306)
11:45 - 12:30 Church School (Room 107)

2nd - 5th grade:

10:00 - 11:00 Worship (2nd and 3rd graders are invited to Children's Worship)
11:15 - 12:00 Church School (Rm. 202B)
12:00 - 12:30 Children's Choir (Rm. 306)

Children and Youth Music & Arts Ministry

11:15 - 11:45 Youth Choir (rm. 306) 12:00 - 12:30 Children's Choir (Rm. 306)

Adult Christian Education 11:30 - 12:30

Adult classes resume on January 8th.

Finding Personal Meaning in the Scriptures (Ron Tipton, leader)

Lounge

Why do Christians need the Scriptures in our heads and in our hearts? Can the Scriptures make a difference in daily life? Can the Word of God speak to us through the words of the Bible? What does imagination have to do with reading the Bible? Does one have to be a monk to practice *lectio divina*? And what does prayer have to do with reading the Scriptures?... Well, these are the questions we'll be dealing with on Jan. 8, 15, and 22. Each week we will relate the discussion to some of our favorite Bible passages. For Jan. 8 we will focus on Psalm 100. Try reading it slowly, prayerfully, and with imagination! More than once.

Young Adult Class (Rev . Paul Simpson Duke, leader)

Room 108

This class consists of conversational Bible study, discussing texts from the Prophets. "Young Adult" is defined as mid-twenties to 40(ish!).

Other Adult Education Opportunities:

Wednesday Bible Study Bible Study meets at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge, with Paul Simpson Duke leading a study of the Stories of David. Please join us for study, fellowship and snacks! **Bible Study will resume on January 11.**

Adult Small Groups (ChristCare): Centered on Bible study, fellowship, mission, prayer and worship, we currently have two groups: one which meets monthly and the other which meets every other week. See Stacey, Paul or Sue Ellen for more information about joining a group.

College/University Students: **The Gathering** is for undergraduates and graduate students. We gather every Wednesday night at 5:30pm in the Campus Center for a free home-cooked meal, friendship, and study. This year our topic is "Images for the Struggles and the Joy: Help from the Psalms," led by Paul Simpson Duke. In addition to Wednesday night gatherings, we also get together for films, service projects, and social events. If you would like to be added to our email list for announcements, please see Stacey Simpson Duke. **The Gathering will resume on Wednesday, January 4.**



FBC News & Happenings

Love, Share, Give, 2012!

Divinity

"As Christ increases within us, we come to see ourselves and one another in the fullness of our humanity. And, we might even say, the fullness of our divinity. If we are made in the image and likeness of God, we are a better text than anything written. We ourselves are truer icons than anything we could paint." -Br. Mark Brown 2012

Children's Choir (2nd-5th) and Youth Choir (6th-12th)

Come and join us on Sunday in room 306 to praise God with music! The Youth Choir sings anthems in various styles and rings chimes from time to time, and the Children's Choir sings fun Bible songs and plays instruments. Youth Choir: 11:15-11:45AM Children's Choir : Noon -12:30PM

Resources for Personal Devotions

We hope that one of your New Year's resolutions is to spend a quiet time each day with prayer and scripture. There are many resources available, including *The Secret Place and Disciplines*. *The Secret Place* is available at the Information Counter (free as a gift from one of our members). It is published quarterly and is offered in regular and large print editions. The Upper Room publishes a book, *Disciplines*, that has one-page daily devotions which follow the lectionary so that each week you can read and meditate on the scriptures that will be included in the upcoming Sunday's worship service. Each week has a different author, drawn from ecumenical ministries throughout the world. These are available from Sue Ellen for \$10. If you would like information on other resources (including online), please contact Sue Ellen

Come and Enjoy Two Concert Series at First Baptist

Happy New Year to you all! After the short, but intense time of preparation, our two exciting concert series begin in January. **Ad Libitum (At One's Pleasure)**, our formal concert Series, will be presented for the first time on January 20 (Friday) at 7:30PM. Our beautiful sanctuary will be filled with beautiful music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, performed by the ensemble Sfogati. Mark your calendars and bring your family and friends!

Do you want to take a break during a long week, listening to fun music and drinking a nice cup of coffee with home-made cookies? Come to our **Coffee Break Concert Series** on Thursdays at 1:30PM. The first concert is on January 12 (Thursday) at 1:30PM. Everyone is welcome! Our guest musicians will entertain you with their musical talents.

The brochures and postcards for these two concert series are available for you to pick up! More information will be available on the church website in January.

Flower Calendar 2012

The flower calendar for 2012 is hanging in the hallway downstairs and is filling up nicely. There are two Sundays in January (the 2nd and 3rd Sundays) that are still open. Flowers are from Tom Thompson and cost \$30. Thank you.

The FBC Ladies' Book Club will next meet on Tuesday, January 10th, at 7 pm. Mary Davis has agreed to host us that evening for discussion of "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay. This book details the experiences of an American journalist who 60 years after the arrest of Jewish families in France seeks to find out what happened to Sarah, a 10-year-old who lived in the apartment she (the American) now occupies. The plan is to borrow a Book-Club-to-Go set from the A2 library. If you are interested in receiving a book or have other questions, please feel free to contact Janice Stumpf, jlstumpf@umich.edu or 663-4871.

Family and Personal Profiles

It's been many years since we updated the church family and individual data base, and collected interest surveys, so for the next few Sundays, members of the Recruitment Committee and others will be stationed at a table near the Fellowship Hall to gather this data.

Faces of Faith

You and your family are invited to participate in the second *FACES OF FAITH EVENT* sponsored by The Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. Formerly "The Living Library", FOF allows you to meet people from your community who pose as "books" telling you the story of their personal spiritual journey. Each time you "borrow" a "book", you'll learn (one on one) about a different spiritual practice, religious belief, or turning point of faith. Between the three "reading periods" (20 minutes each), you'll be able to purchase snacks at the coffee/tea/cocoa bar and help support the non-profit work of the Round Table - to build bridges of understanding between different faith traditions in our community and beyond.

WHEN: Sunday, January 15, 2-4 pm

WHERE: The Social Hall of Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's on Packard Rd, Ann Arbor

WHY: In honor of Religious Freedom Day

For more information, call 734-424-1535 or email gbrides@umich.edu

Faces of Faith 2012 Collection

I Come with a Hyphen John Kotre (Anabaptist-Catholic)

"No Hell Below Us, Above Us Only Sky": How John Lennon Taught Me to Be an Atheist
Dan Thiel (Atheism/Humanism)

Baha'i Teachings on Race and The Spiritual Journey of an African American Baha'i
Richard Thomas (Baha'i, Race Relations)

Once a Southern Baptist: An Evolving Journey of Faith Peggy Cave (Baptist-Universalist)

The Cross, the Backpack, and the Lotus Jennifer Ratliff-Moss (Buddhism)

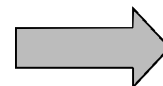
The F.R.O.G. Prince Doug Jackson (Christian Science)

Gaining a New Perspective On Creation's Reality Dave Sebolt (Christian Science)

Through Christ to Eclecticism: Personal Salvation to Freedom Alison Rene (Eclectic)

Journey to the Promised Land Barbara Scoville (Episcopal)

From Evangelical to Post-Evangelical: Rejecting Fundamentalist Roots
Emily Swan (Evangelical-Christian)



Searching for the One Among the Many Brent Coy (Hinduism)

From My First Communion Veil to My Hajjah Veil Zakiyyah Ali (Islam)

A Journey from New Age to Islam Loretta Poisson (Islam)

A Window into the World of One of the Abrahamic Faiths: One Woman's Journey into Self-Discovery through Hopes, Trials and Tribulations Lamia Sharmeen (Islam)

Waking Up in the Desert: A Westerner's Journey to Sufism Jason Osstifin (Islam-Sufi)

What's a Nice Jewish Boy Like You Doing in a Shul Like This? Allen Singer (Messianic Judaism)

Finding Homes in the Unexpected Places Susan Sprowls (Lutheran Christian)

My Life on the Train Janet Reedy (Mennonite-Christian)

My Journey from the Mountain Top, to Mexico, to United Methodist Missionary Sonya Luna (Methodist)

Breaking Free: How Forgiveness and A Course in Miracles Set Me Free
Lorri Coburn (Course in Miracles)

The Intergenerational Effects of a Grandmother's Faith Jeff Bednar (Mormonism)

Walking My Truth, Walking in Honor: Lessons of Coming Home to My Self
Yako Myers/Tahnahga, (Native American Indian)

Returning to One of My Ancestral Roots
Dwight Wilson (Quaker)

Growing Up with Quakers and What Drew Me Back
Anne Ogren (Quaker)

Seasons of Faith
Sister Catherine Morgan (Roman Catholic Christian)

A Way To Be Helpful and To Make a Difference
Monika Biddle (Scientology)

Spiritual Quest for Understanding and Clarity
Ernestine Griffin (Unity)

Kabbalah Miracles
Karen Greenberg (Universal Kabbalah)

Building My Own Theology: My Search for Truth in Love
Tim Richards (Unitarian Universalism, Existentialism, Zen)

Integrating Intricacy: The Paradox of Complex "Basics"
Diane Lehman Wilson (Judaism-Conservative)

JANUARY 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Happy New Year! 10:00 Worship	2 <i>Church Office & Buildings Closed</i>	3 5:30 Vespers	4 5:30 The Gathering 7:30 Executive Council	5 7:30 Choir	6	7 11:00 Fullerton Memorial Service
8 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour 5:00 FBC Youth	9	10 5:30 Vespers	11 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 The Gathering 7:30 Davis-Diels ChristCare	12 7:30 Choir	13	14
15 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour 5:00 FBC Youth	16 7:30 Mission Action	17 1:00 Beecher- Brewer Cir. 5:30 Vespers 7:00 Trustees	18 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 The Gathering	19 7:30 Choir	20 7:30 O Jesu Dulcis Concert	21
22 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour 12:30 Annual Financial Meeting 5:00 Youth Group	23	24 9:30 ABWM Board Mtg. 5:30 Vespers	25 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 The Gathering 7:30 Davis-Diels ChristCare	26 12:30 Coffee Break Concert 7:30 Choir	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour 5:00 FBC Youth	30	31 5:30 Vespers				

First Baptist Church
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The Reverends Paul & Stacey Simpson Duke, Co-Pastors



Next
newsletter
deadline:
Sunday, January 8

Follow us on Facebook!

If you aren't already a fan of FBCA2 on Facebook, come on over and "Like" our page: facebook.com/fbca2. We post regular updates there about what's going on around here, along with the occasional devotional thought. You can post on our wall as well. If you are already a fan, did you know that you can easily share certain FBCA2 posts with your own Facebook friends? Events and links that can be shared will have a "Share" button (in addition to the usual "Like" and "Comment" buttons). Click "share" and the event or link will show up on your own Facebook page for all your friends to see. It's a great way to get the word out about special happenings at our church.