



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

December 28, 2016



Merry Christmas!

Children and Youth Christian Education

NURSERY care for infants and toddlers is available on the 3rd floor from 9:30 - 11:15 on January 1 and until 12:30 on January 8.

On January 1 there are no classes for children, youth or adults. Infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and kindergarteners are invited to stay with parents in the worship service or join childcare in the nursery until after worship (11:15).

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

This schedule resumes on January 8:

Preschool - 1st grade

10:00 - 10:30	Worship with families
10:30 - 11:30	Church School (Rm. 202A & B)
11:30 - 11:45	Grace Notes music
11:30 - 12:30	Activities

Youth (6th - High School)

10:00 - 11:00	Worship
11:30 - 12:30	Church School (Rm. 107)

2nd - 5th grade:

10:00 - 10:30	Worship with families
10:30 - 11:30	Church School (Rm. 201B)
11:30 - 12:00	Children's Choir (Rm. 306)
12:00 - 12:30	Children's Worship (Rm. 201B)

CHILDREN'S MUSIC MINISTRY will resume on January 8

Grace Notes (Preschool - 1st Grade)	11:30 - 11:45	Rm. 202, directed by Marissa Alaniz
Children's Choir (2nd - 5th Grade)	11:30 - 12:00	Rm. 306, directed by Shin-Ae Chun

Adult Christian Education

(11:30-12:30)

No second hour classes on January 1.
Adult classes will resume on January 8.

Other Adult Education Opportunities:

Wednesday Bible Study: Pastor Paul is leading *Studies in the Prophets*. We will discuss the work of the prophets in their historical context and will examine selected texts for closer understanding. Please join us! No classes on December 28 and January 4. Class will resume on January 11.

Adult Small Groups: We have continuing small groups centered on study, sharing, prayer, worship and mission meeting at various times. See Stacey, Paul, or Sue Ellen for information on how to join an existing group or form a new group.

College/University Students: **The Gathering** is for undergraduates and graduate students. We gather every Wednesday during the school year, 5:30-7:30p in the Campus Center, for a free, home-cooked meal and study. If you would like to be added to the email list for regular updates, please email Stacey at staceyduke@gmail.com.

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. The Board of Christian Education invites you to use *The Secret Place* or *Disciplines*. *The Secret Place* is available at the Information Counter (free). It is published quarterly and is offered in regular and large print editions. The Upper Room publishes *Disciplines* which has one-page daily devotions for the entire year and the scriptures are based on the lectionary. Each week you can read and meditate on the scriptures that will be usually be included in the upcoming Sunday's worship service. *Disciplines* books are available from Sue Ellen for \$5. If you would like information on other resources (including online resources), please contact Sue Ellen.

FBC News & Happenings

New Season of Adult Christian Education

With the beginning of the new year, First Baptist Church is offering two new learning opportunities for adults during our Christian Education hour each Sunday from 11:30-12:30. The two course offerings reflect a larger design for Sunday adult education in 2017 and perhaps beyond. The plan is to offer two class options throughout the year: one of them a study of scripture, the other a study on other topics related to spirituality, ethics, history, theology, social concerns, etc. The two courses will be scheduled for the same number of weeks, so that the beginning and ending will correspond and people can choose either new course when the previous courses conclude.

Scheduled for January 8 - February 26, the two classes will be:

1. *Simply Jesus*

This class will re-examine Gospel texts and the historical setting of Judaism in Jesus time in order to gain better understanding of his proclamation, ministry, and identity. This study will draw from the insights of N. T. Wright's book, *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did, and Why He Matters*. Leader: Joe Mortensen

2. *How to Pray: A (Re-)Introduction to the Ongoing Practice of Prayer*

This class will include pragmatic discussions of the basics of daily prayer. Guidance and rationale will be offered on the foundational elements of prayer and on different approaches and models for how it is done. This course is for beginners and for those who wish to renew and strengthen their practice of prayer. Leader: Paul Simpson Duke

Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 29

Our annual financial meeting will be held after fellowship time (11:30) on January 29. After the business meeting we will enjoy a potluck lunch. Please plan to attend.

Undergraduate Concerto Competition Finals.

Sam Kidd has been selected as an Undergraduate Concerto Finalist at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance. The Finals are held at Hill Auditorium next Wednesday, January 4, 4:00p-7:00p. Sam will sing at about 5:57pm. This event is free and open to the public - everyone is invited!

Volunteers Needed! No Experience Needed!

- **Sunday Morning Greeters:** This is a great time to see friends and meet new people.
- **Communion Servers:** Six volunteers are needed on the first Sunday of each month. This is a special way to become a part of the Sunday communion service. If you can help, please sign up at the Information Counter. ***January communion will be served on January 8, and any help that day is also greatly appreciated.***
- **Information Counter:** Volunteers are needed for the second, third, and fifth (when it appears) Sundays, before and after the church service. Check with Bev Inbody at the Information Counter or call her at the church office during the week.
- **Sound System:** Help with recording the Sunday worship service and other services. See Clay Scott for more information.

All of the above positions are a great opportunity to meet people, help your church and become more involved. Sign up sheets can be found at the Information Counter.

Director of Children's Ministries

The First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor seeks an enthusiastic and creative individual for a part-time Director of Children's Ministries position. This 15- to 20-hour position will oversee many facets of Christian education and focus on children from infancy through 6th grade.

Responsibilities:

- leading and nurturing children toward Christian faith and discipleship by providing opportunities to study, worship, serve, build community, and grow spiritually;
- developing and implementing sound and innovative educational programs that foster spiritual development and promote Bible fluency;
- teaching children on Sunday mornings and at other times as scheduled;
- training and scheduling teachers and nursery caregivers;
- coordinating children's events and selected outreach programs;
- developing a strong relationship and communicating with families with children both within the congregation and in the wider community.
- working with the Board of Christian Education and Church staff.

Qualifications:

A Bachelor's degree in a related field and teaching experience are required. The successful candidate will possess strong oral and written communication skills and be a self-motivated leader able to work well with a variety of groups, including children and their families, volunteers, and church staff. A healthy personal spiritual life and a theology consistent with the pastoral ministries of First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor and supportive of American Baptist Churches USA tradition are essential.

Anticipated hours are 15-20 hours weekly, including Sunday mornings. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Candidates should submit a letter that describes their interest in this position in Children's Ministries as well as a resume of relevant experience to Janice Stumpf at jlstumpf@umich.edu. Questions may also be directed to Janice by email or to Rev. Stacey Simpson Duke at (734) 663-9376 or staceyduke@gmail.com.

Thank you from CAN Ann Arbor/Hikone

Dear Sue Ellen:

First: I happened to come to Hikone during the tail end of the Hikone food distribution and all I can say is: WOW. Amazing!

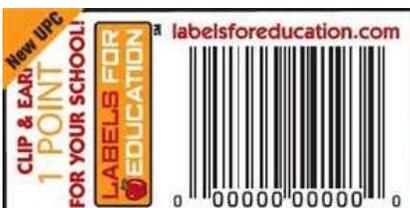
Second, thank you First Baptist very much for the \$400 in Meijer Cards...we truly appreciate the ability to supplement families' household budgets in emergency situations. Often when we receive such gifts, we hold on to them until a dire need emerges, even if it's after Christmas or in the New Year. This time, we had cause to use them immediately and I want to share, in a general way, how your gift is alleviating stress for two families right now - and is ensuring they will not experience any food shortages over the long holiday break.

There are definitely days that the needs and crises of the families CAN serves feel overwhelming to Louey, me and the rest of the CAN staff. Thanks to partnerships and generous gifts like the ones First Baptist Church provides, we can almost always find a way to alleviate some stress and help fill gaps. We are so grateful for your kindness and sense of community. We feel your love.

Merry Christmas to all First Baptist Church members and their families,

Joan M. Doughty, PhD

Executive Director, Community Action Network



The American Baptist Women's Ministries continue to collect labels for the "Labels for Education" program. The labels look like the one shown right and the bar code needs to be included. There is a collection box at the Information Counter and the labels help benefit one of the school charities supported by the ABWM. Thank you for your help!

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 Worship	2	3 5:30 Vespers	4	5 7:30 Choir	6	7
8 *Communion* 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour	9 6:00 Mission Action	10 5:30 Vespers	11 * Newsletter* 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 Gathering 7:30 Executive Council	12 5:30 Christian Education 7:30 Choir	13	14
15 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour	16	17 5:30 Vespers	18 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 Gathering	19 7:30 Choir	20	21
22 10:00 Worship 11:30 Second Hour	23	24 5:30 Vespers	25 *Newsletter* 1:30 Bible Study 5:30 Gathering	26 7:30 Choir	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 11:30 Annual Financial Meeting	30	31 5:30 Vespers				



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The Reverends Paul & Stacey Simpson Duke, Co-Pastors

Next
Newsletter
Deadline:
Sunday, January 8



Unhanging of the Greens
The Board of Worship invites you to join in the "unhanging of the greens" as we take down the Advent/Christmas decorations in the sanctuary, after worship on January 1. Lots of hands will make this a quick job and should take about 45 minutes.