



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

DO JUSTICE. LOVE KINDNESS. WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD.
-MICAH 6:8

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

A Special Retirement Announcement From Pastor Paul

Dear friends - [Paul's retirement announcement](#) this past Sunday and his words here remind us that nothing lasts forever and that change is a fact of life! I know we all wish Paul the very best in his well-deserved retirement AND we are perhaps a tiny bit anxious about what is next here at FBCA2. In the short-term, we have established an Interim Transition Team composed of Sue Ellen Glover, David Suell, Paula Burton (Chair), Kat Becker, Xan Morgan, Bill Foster, and me. We envision a period of Interim Ministry in which a trained and experienced pastor helps us imagine and re-imagine who we are and want to be in a post-Simpson-Duke pastorate. In the longer term we then elect a Committee of seven congregants who then conduct a thorough search, after which the congregation votes on the recommendations brought forth.

We have already been in conversation with a person who has led four churches through this process and comes highly recommended by Heather Entrekin. We are also networking with folks within the American Baptist world who are involved in Interim work.

We will update you at every step in this process and welcome and solicit your good wisdom. In fact we will have an open meeting to discuss and address questions and take advice after Easter. In the meantime always feel free to contact any member of the Transition Team.

Friends, we can do hard things. Paul's retirement is a happy and joyous thing. Let's embrace this opportunity to re-think, re-envision and re-dedicate ourselves as God's church here at First Baptist.

~Robbie Stapleton, Moderator

Join us for AMOS Sunday and Cock-a-doodle-Poo Bingo!



The Chickens are Waiting for You!

**Grab your tickets for
Cock-A-Doodle-Poo Bingo!**

Sunday at 11:15a in the Fellowship Hall

This Sunday, the team traveling to Nicaragua will lead worship as we celebrate the good work of AMOS Health and Hope and the upcoming summer trip. We have been partners with AMOS for over a decade and we look forward to sharing about their work and how we will come alongside this year.

Following worship we'll gather downstairs for **Fellowship Time and Cock-a-doodle-Poo Bingo**. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a raffle ticket for this fun fundraiser, our second of four. We look forward to seeing who will be the lucky winner! While we wait for the first chicken poo, we'll have some fun activities throughout the Fellowship Hall. Get your face painted! Participate in the guessing game! Take a photo at the photo booth! Give it your best during the Rooster Crowing contest!

Make sure to stop by the Benefit Show table which will have information about our next fundraiser, a variety show put on by our FBCA2 youth! You can mark your calendars now for the **Benefit Show on Friday, April 12th at 7:00p**. We'll be hosting a raffle and silent auction during the show to raise funds for the trip. **Buy your Benefit Show tickets at Cock-a-doodle-Poo Bingo for a discount on raffle tickets!**



Faith and Family Small Group Goes Fowling!

Friday, March 15 6–8:30p
Childcare provided at church

Please join us for our next Faith + Family small group outing at Ypsi-A2 Fowling Warehouse on Friday, March 15 from 6-8:30pm! Childcare with pizza dinner will be provided at church starting at 6pm. Parents will head over to the Fowling Warehouse (3050 Washtenaw Ave, Ypsi) to try our hand at this bowling/football hybrid. BYOB; pizza will be provided. Please [RSVP to Jillian Mast](#).

HOLY WEEK AT FBCA2



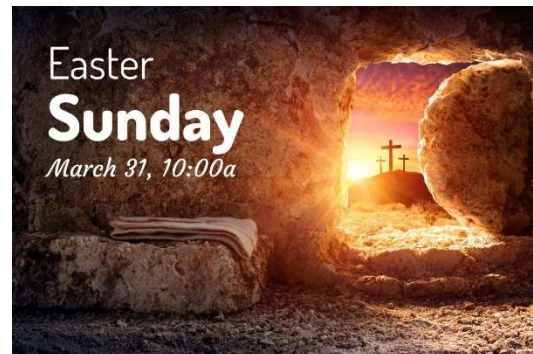
Palm/Passion Sunday. We begin worship with the joy of Palm Sunday before making the turn towards the somber call of Holy Week. Join us for this special service of Lessons & Hymns as we reflect on the stories and meaning of both Palm Sunday and the Passion.

Community Good Friday Service. We have a longstanding tradition of joining with sister churches First United Methodist and First Congregational to offer the community a midday Good Friday service. We have one service with leadership from all three congregations beginning at noon. The service is held at FBCA2 this year.



Good Friday Tenebrae Service. Join us for our Good Friday service of shadows, as we sit together in the growing darkness to hear again the story of Jesus' Passion in word, song, and silence, and ponder its meaning for our lives.

Easter Sunday. Join us for Easter Sunday worship and an Easter Egg Hunt as we celebrate the good news of the resurrection!





fbca2 goes bowling

SUNDAY, APRIL 7
NOON - 2:00P

FBCA2 goes BOWLING! Join the FBCA2 church family as we go bowling on Sunday, April 28th at Station 300 from 5-7p! We hope many of you will be able to join in on this fun, inter-generational outing. The cost for this event is \$15/person or \$40/family which will include 2 hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and pop. Church is able to cover the cost of bowling as needed. [Please RSVP](#) by Sunday, April 21.



Church Camp!

Church Camp. We had a blast at [Camp Christian](#) last summer and we can't wait to go back!

- **Rabbit Camp** for kids who have completed 2nd-5th grade, will be **Sunday, June 30 through Wednesday, July 3rd**. Camp is filled with fun outdoor activities, small group time to explore Bible stories, worship in the woods, funny camp songs, and new friendships. Xan Morgan will be co-directing this camp and encourages all our **high schoolers to serve as CITS this week!**
- **Chi Rho Camp** for middle schoolers and **CYF Camp** for high schoolers runs concurrently **Sunday, June 16th-June 22nd**. Join church friends at Camp Christian to sing around the campfire, worship, study the stories of God and God's people, play camp games, fish, and laugh a lot!

Overnight church camp has been a formative faith experience in the lives of many! We know that 2 or 3 kids/teens are planning to go for each of these weeks. We hope your kids and teens are able to join in the fun, too! Scholarships for camp are available through Camp Christian and through our church. We will share the registration link when we have it - for now, mark your calendars!

AD LIBITUM Concert Series



AD LIBITUM CONCERT SERIES

Celebrating its 11th year, 2023-2024 / IV
Free Concerts and Open to the Public

Violin and Piano Concert



Maria Bessmeltseva, violin
Ekaterina Bessmeltseva, piano

Congratulatory Rondo
for violin and piano
by Alfred Schnittke

Sonata in G major
for violin and piano
by Guillaume Lekeu

March 15, 2024
Friday at Noon



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR
734-663-9376 / www.fbca2.org

Our **AD LIBITUM Concert Series** will resume on Friday, March 15 at noon with Violin and Piano Concert. A sister-duo Maria and Ekaterina Bessmeltseva will play a delightful program featuring *Congratulatory Rondo for Violin and Piano* by Alfred Schnittke and *Sonata in G Major for Violin and*

Piano by Guillaume Lekeu. Schnittke was a Russian composer who gave new life to traditional genres; in this concert Rondo. Although his life was cut short at age 24, Lekeu was a highly talented composer from Belgium and studied with César Franck. To learn more about our gifted performers, please click their names here ([Maria](#) and [Ekaterina](#)). This concert is free and open to the public. Mark your calendar. Invite your friends and neighbors to this refreshing and inspiring concert.

 **AD LIBITUM
CONCERT SERIES**

Celebrating its 11th year, 2023-2024 / V
Free Concerts and Open to the Public

 **Arias and Songs**

**Sonja Srinivasan, lyric soprano
Mariah Boucher, piano**

**Music by
Mozart, Dvorak,
Grieg, Strauss,
Puccini and Gershwin**

**April 12, 2024
Friday at Noon**

 **FIRST BAPTIST
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734-663-9376 / www.fbca2.org

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series will present "Arias and Songs Concert" on Friday, April 12 at noon. Lyric soprano Sonja Srinivasan and our own Mariah Boucher on the piano will collaborate to perform a delight program which will

include arias (from *Gianni Schicchi*, *La Bohème* and *Porgy and Bess*) and songs by Mozart, Dvořák, Grieg, Puccini and Gershwin. This is a free concert and open to all. Mark your calendar. Invite your friends and neighbors.



Would you like
to purchase an
Easter lily
in honor or
memory of
someone?

PRAYER REQUESTS. Praying together is a core element of our life together. Each Sunday during worship (10:00a on our [Facebook page](#), [YouTube channel](#), and in person), we pray for those we know to pray for by name during the Prayers of the People. You are invited to share prayer requests/praises using [this form](#).

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE AND DEADLINE. The next newsletter will be Thursday, March 21. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, March 19.

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