



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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



You're Invited to a
**RETIREMENT
PARTY FOR
PASTOR PAUL**

Saturday, May 18, 4-6p
3435 Cottontail Lane



Join us on Saturday, May 18 (4–6p), for a church-wide, intergenerational gathering to celebrate Paul's next season of life and thank him for his 23 years of faithful service to our church community!

The party will be hosted at the home of Susan Schilperoort and Christopher Kendall (3435 Cottontail Lane) and will include a catered meal. Gluten free and vegetarian options will be provided.

Please RSVP by Sunday, May 12.

[RSVP here](#)



Celebrating The Gathering and 23 Years of Campus Ministry with Financial Support! Thank you to all the current Gathering students who led us in worship this past Sunday. It was a treat to have alumni with us, too! Our time together was holy and celebratory as we gave thanks for Paul and Stacey and the role they have and have had in so many students' lives.

Marissa Alaniz shared during Fellowship Time:

Stacey once said to our group: "Sitting around a dinner table with other people is a way of not only feeding our bodies but healing our hearts - and even mending the world. It's a form of self-care, and it's a way of offering care to others, as we listen to the perspectives and experiences of the people around the table."

This ministry is important to the future, it will continue, and it will continue to impact the lives of many students to come. So, I invite you to continue to support it - and all the brilliant students you heard from today - with a gift to the Campus Ministry Foundation. And please also join me in continuing to support it with your prayers and your home cooked meals."

As you know, this ministry requires financial support to survive. While First Baptist Church Ann Arbor provides a home for The Gathering, most of the support for the salary of the Campus Minister, and many of the meals, that amount does not cover all the Minister's salary, meals that aren't provided, and other expenses such as our table at Festifall.

In other words, the students need your support; your financial gift to The Gathering makes the ministry possible. You can write a check to American Baptist Campus Foundation or make a donation online through our website (fbca2.org/give) or [PayPal \(@fbca2\)](https://www.paypal.com/@fbca2). Please make sure to note that your gift by credit card is for The Gathering. If you have questions, please connect with Mary Davis, the ABCF board president.



On Sunday, April 28th after worship, we look forward to celebrating our ministry together as we honor the past 23 years with Pastors Paul and Stacey as our leaders. Our moderator, Robbie Stapleton shares more information below about this meeting and our constitution. Everyone is invited to stay after the meeting for a potluck lunch. The Board of Care and Community will provide chicken, rolls, and beverages. If your last name begins with A-D, please bring fruit or a dessert. If your last name begins with E-M, please bring a salad or vegetables. If your name begins with N - Z, please bring potato, rice, or pasta dish. We look forward to this time together!

Proposal for Constitution Updates. The FBC Constitution wisely requires that the congregation be notified of any proposed changes to it a month before bringing it to a vote so that folks can familiarize themselves with the proposed revisions. A Revision Committee composed of Greg Cartee, Sue Ellen Glover, LJ Brazier and Robbie Stapleton spent a good part of the fall looking over the Constitution, which was last revised in 2007, in an effort to

make it reflect more accurately our current practices. This Committee proposes a few revisions, mostly minor, for your consideration with a plan to vote on the Revised Constitution at our Annual Program Meeting April 28.

Most of the revisions are formatting changes, or language changes (Board of Evangelism to Board of Outreach, for example), or in one case, additional content (a Personnel Committee was added to the Board of Trustees' duties).

Included here is the [Constitution](#) as last revised in 2007 for you to refer to, the [Revised Constitution](#) with changes highlighted for you to consider, the [proposed slate of officers and boards](#), and the minutes from the [Annual Financial Meeting](#) on February 4. So you can read them ahead of time, hard copies of these documents will be available for pick up this Sunday, April 21. We are a church that functions through the work of committees and boards, and the Revised Constitution has been approved by the Board of Trustees and by the Executive Council; a big thanks goes out to our hard-working Committee!

Be sure to attend our Annual Meeting on April 28 to celebrate our Programming year, elect new officers, vote on the revision mentioned above, AND celebrate the ministry of Paul and Stacey Duke! See you there.



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, intergenerational 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 this Sunday, April 21.



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! Campers can register here and CITS register here.
- **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; reach out to Xan for more information. You can [find camper registration forms here](#). Email Xan to get the CIT form.



Thank you to all who came out and supported our Youth at the Benefit Show last week! Weren't the teens incredible? It was the first time the stage in the Fellowship Hall had been used in close to a decade and we hope this is the

first of many performances there. Many thanks to the Suits family and the Joe Suits Memorial Fund for the upgraded portable sound system that the church will be able to use in other venues as well. Also thank you to the many who donated raffle and auction items and supported us through online bidding. We have raised over \$12,000 total (\$4,000 from the show!) thanks to your generous support! Also thank you to the many who donated raffle and auction items and supported us through online bidding - the fundraiser was a huge success! Our youth are so grateful!

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

American Baptist Women's Ministries Breakfast. On Saturday, May 4, at 9:30a, we will be having a breakfast for our women to have a discussion and decision on our involvement with our state and national American Baptist Women Ministries organization. We hope to see you for fellowship and input on what our involvement will look like in the future. I will also talk a bit about our annual weekend conference at the DeWitt retreat center in June. Please RSVP to Carolyn Grapentine by phone, text or [email](#).

Church Telephone Directory Update. We have an online version of the phone directory that can be found [here](#). Around the time of the annual program meeting, we make hard copies available for those that prefer that format. Please take a look at your information and let the [office](#) know if any changes are needed. Thank you.

AD LIBITUM Concert Series



**AD LIBITUM
CONCERT SERIES**

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



J.S. Bach

**Well-Tempered
Clavier, Book 1**

Fugues No.1-15

On Harpsichord, Piano and Organ

Alice Van Wambeke

Gail Jennings

Shin-Ae Chun

**May 17, 2024
Friday at Noon**

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series will present the season's final concert "Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1 (Fugues Nos.1-15)" on Friday, May 17 at noon. J.S. Bach composed 48 pairs of prelude and fugues in 12 major and 12 minor keys which were assembled in two books. These books were hand-copied and widely circulated during Bach's time. Alice Van Wambeke, Gail Jennings and Shin-Ae Chun will perform these beautifully composed fugues

on harpsichord, organ and piano. Although Bach didn't specify which keyboard instrument to be used to play these pieces, it will be a unique experience to hear these fugues on three different keyboard instruments. This concert is free and is open to the public. Refreshments will follow. Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors!

- Shin-Ae

Join Central Area Churches for a Special Night of Worship on May 3rd.

Join us on May 3 at 6 pm for a dinner and a night of worship with other churches from the Central Area of the American Baptist Churches of Michigan in conjunction with the Central Area of the American Baptist Women of Michigan.

The night of worship is being hosted by Olivet Baptist Church. The dinner starts at 6 pm and worship follows at 7 pm. Donations for the meal are welcomed at the event. Registering for the dinner helps us plan for the amount of food ordered.

Worship is being led by John Harris with musical guests from Karen Baptist Church. Rev. Brian Johnson, the Region Executive for ABC-MI, will be preaching. The service will include communion - to visualize our churches' unity in Christ.

All are welcome. Childcare is provided during worship. Please **RSVP by April 26** to assist with planning the food for the night. Click on the link below to register.

Join the Central Area's Annual Meeting on Zoom on May 1st.

Join us on Zoom at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, May 1 to hear updates about Central Area churches and vote on the Central Area's budget and leadership team. We'd love to celebrate with you about the work being done in our churches and hear from you about how the Central Area Leadership Team can better support our Central Area churches.

The Zoom meeting link can be found [here](#).

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, May 2. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, April 30.

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