



# FIRST BAPTIST

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## CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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

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## CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

AN UPDATE FROM OUR MODERATOR, ROBBIE STAPLETON  
on behalf of our Interim Transition Team

Couldn't you just hear the voice of Pastor Stacey last Sunday, "He is risen, y'all!"

He is risen indeed, and is at work here at First Baptist. I am thrilled to fill you in on our Interim Ministry plans as they have fortuitously unfolded in the last month.

Since Pastor Paul announced his retirement, an Interim Transition Team (ITT) formed and, with the input and approval of the Personnel Committee and the Executive Council (composed of Board chairs or representatives) have done three things:

1. Created a plan for Summer Sundays. The ITT directed Xan to recruit preachers and organize the preaching schedule for the summer. These guest ministers include but are not limited to some of our own members. We are so fortunate to worship and live in a community of gifted thinkers and speakers to take us from mid June through August.

2. Connected with Rev. Heather Entrekin who has agreed to be with us the month of September as a full-time pastor and to help us prepare for our interim period.
3. Arranged for our Interim Minister who will start at FBCA2 in October. This person is currently finishing an interim ministry position and has Heather's highest recommendation. As we honor the process with his current church, we will share his name and more information as soon as we are able. He will lead our congregation through an interim period and prepare us to conduct the formal Search process for our next pastor. We look forward to bringing him to Ann Arbor to meet everyone in June.

In my mind, I can hear Stacey saying, "Look at God, y'all!" Surely we see God's handiwork in the way things are falling into place and allowing us to focus on celebrating Paul's and Stacey's ministry at FBC! I am so looking forward to a sacred time of assessment, re-visioning, and yes, hard work for all of us, as we enter this interim time. Based on the work we do together throughout this time, the congregation will begin the actual Search process for a new pastor at some point next year as we form and give direction to the seven-member search committee, mandated by our Constitution.

Truly, this is a holy time. And as Paul the Apostle said in his letter to the early Christian church at Philippi, let us be like-minded, share our love, and be one in spirit and purpose as we proceed.

~Robbie Stapleton on behalf of the FBCA2 Interim Transition Team (Sue Ellen Glover, Bill Foster, Kat Becker, Paula Burton, David Suell, and Xan Morgan)

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# TIME TO CONNECT

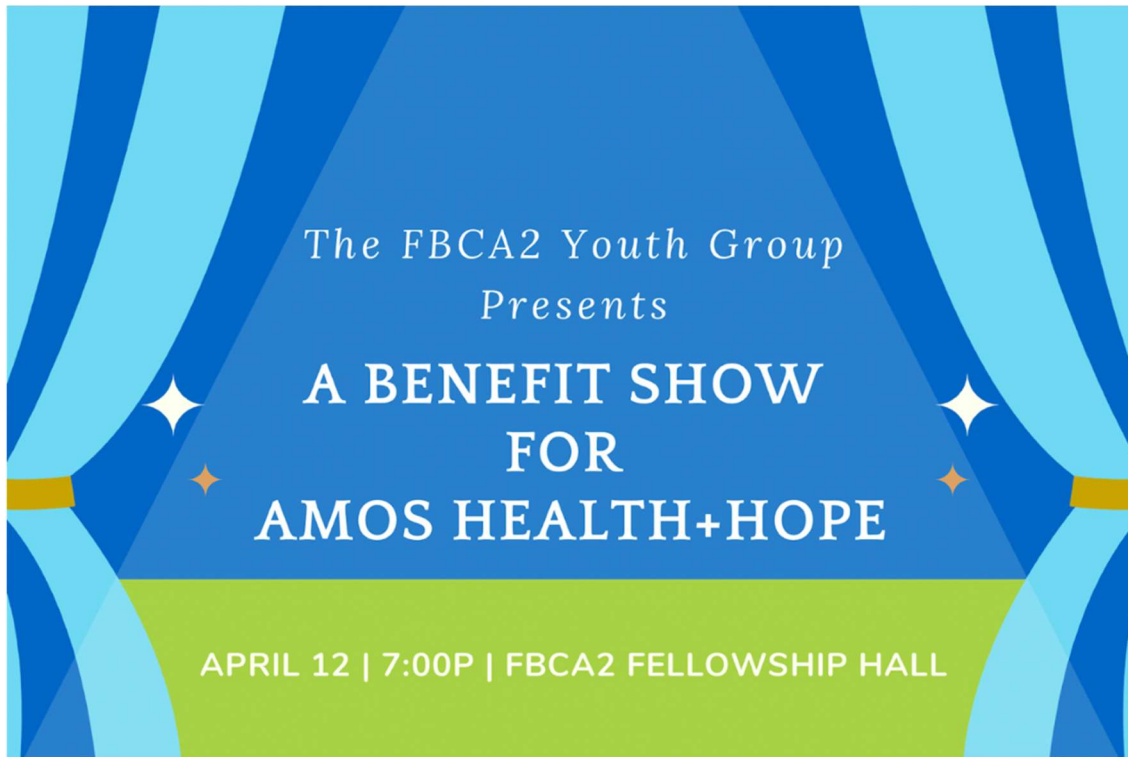


**Answering Your  
Questions About Our  
Time of Transition**

Thursday, April 4th  
12:00-1:00p on Zoom

As we prepare for a season of transition with Pastor Paul's retirement ahead, we want to stay connected. As our moderator, Robbie Stapleton mentioned in her letter to the congregation last week, "We will update you at every step in this process and welcome and solicit your good wisdom." We are committed to sharing updates as we have them. Join Robbie, Paula (Chair of Personnel and our Interim Transition Team), and Xan Morgan (Director of Community Life and Co-Chair of our Retirement Celebration Planning Committee) at noon today to hear more about the updates shared above and to ask questions and share thoughts you may have. We'll gather on Zoom at 12 noon. [Click here for the Zoom link.](#)

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Come enjoy the fun as our Youth Group performs a mix of classical and pop music + fun stories and skits! The money raised from this event will go towards water filters, kids' programming, and travel costs as the team heads to a rural community in Nicaragua. Suggested donation for tickets is \$10/person or \$30/family. With your concert ticket you'll get a raffle ticket with a chance to win prizes. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the Benefit Show. We'll also have a silent auction that will go live online on Sunday (we'll send you an email with all the info!) and will wrap up the night of the event. Thank you to everyone who has donated items! You can purchase your ticket for the show at the Ministry Station each Sunday or online at [fbc2.org/connect](https://fbc2.org/connect).

## SAMPLING OF RAFFLE ITEMS



BOOK BASKET



SODA POP FROM ROCKET FIZZ



100 DOLLAR BILL



HAND TATTED EARRINGS



AMOS SWAG



DOGGIE BASKET



TEEN SKIN CARE BASKET



CANDY BOUQUET

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE \$5/TICKET AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE BENEFIT SHOW.

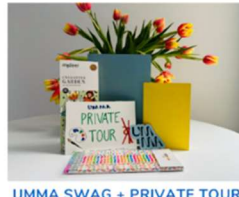
## SAMPLING OF AUCTION ITEMS



HAT KNIT BY STACEY



ANN ARBOR VINTAGE PRINT



UMMA SWAG + PRIVATE TOUR



HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE



TWO PAIRS OF UM FOOTBALL TICKETS



TABLE RUNNER QUILTED BY ASHER



MICHIGAN CRAFT BREWS



3 NIGHT STAY IN TRAVERSE CITY

OUR SILENT AUCTION WILL GO LIVE ON SUNDAY AT 8:00A. MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM WILL BE READY TO HELP YOU SET UP YOUR ONLINE BIDDING.



**We're looking forward to Children's Ministry Sunday on April 21st!** The kids will lead the prayers, share the Scripture readings, play music, and greet. We will have a rehearsal on Saturday, April 20 from 10:00-11:30 for children Young 5s and older. To help us plan, could you please take a moment to fill out this [Children's Ministry Sunday form](#). You'll be asked to share about your availability and whether your child(ren) would like to play an instrument and/or have a speaking part during worship. Looking forward to the time planning and leading worship with your kids! ~Xan

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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, and the [Revised Constitution](#) with changes highlighted for you to consider. Hard copies of both are available in the church office. 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.

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## *Retirement Celebrations*

### SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, April 14: Campus Ministry Celebration

Sunday, April 28: Celebrating 23 Years of Ministry @ the Annual Meeting

May 18, 4-6p: Retirement Party at the Schilperoort Kendall Home

June 16: Fellowship Time Reception on Paul's Final Sunday

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## CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

**2024 Scholarships Available.** Scholarships are available from the Chester and Violet Loucks and Fullerton funds for post-secondary education and for church camp attendance. For an application, please contact Mary Davis ([madrad@umich.edu](mailto:madrad@umich.edu)). The deadline for receipt of applications is May 15.



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**Thank you!** Bob Shannon wrote, " To the young people of FBCA2: Thank you so much for your wonderful card! It means much to me at this time of life.

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**Hope Clinic Meal Team.** Thanks to our FBCA2 Hope clinic meal crew for another excellent night of service! We serve a hot meal on the third Thursday of every month (and we have a bit of fun while we do it!).



# AD LIBITUM Concert Series



## AD LIBITUM CONCERT SERIES

Celebrating its 11<sup>th</sup> 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**  
CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR  
734-663-9376 / [www.fbca2.org](http://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.

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**Hold the date and plan to attend!!!!** There will be a wonderful and free concert here at FBC in our Sanctuary on Saturday, April 13th starting at 4:00pm. The University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance, Friends of Opera scholarship endowment offers scholarships each year to promising young opera singers. In addition to these monetary scholarships, there is an annual competition held each Fall in which singers compete for additional scholarship money. There are undergraduate and graduate prizes. Sam Kidd won the undergraduate competition when he was a student here! We are happy to offer our space for this recital of all the winners from this year. I invite all of you to come out and support these young and emerging opera singers. It would be wonderful to pack our sanctuary with grateful listeners. I am on the Board of Friends of Opera and can't wait to once again hear them.

- Bonnie Kidd

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**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](#).

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**NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE AND DEADLINE.** The next newsletter will be Thursday, April 18. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, April 16.

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# BECOME A FOSTER PARENT



Call  
1-855-MICKIDS

Visit  
MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME



**Foster Care Navigators** is calling out the need for foster care. You can find out more in their [flyer](#) or their website <https://www.fcnp.org/>

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