



MIXON'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

We are nearing the end of that “church year” that aligns with the school year. This Sunday we will experience a fine service planned and carried out by our youth. In the service we will recognize those graduating from high school and college. Please make a point of showing up to support our youth. “Unofficial summer” began with the Memorial Day weekend, though it has not warmed up enough to justify the label. Still, it is a lovely time to be in Ann Arbor and to be engaged with First Baptist Church.

Coming up in the next couple of weeks, we will hold the last of our Transformed by Tradition events this Sunday focused on Dreaming our Future. Kat Becker, David Suell and I have worked on this gathering. We hope it will be a joyful, even playful time of imagining what First Baptist might look like moving forward. We’re inviting everyone of all ages to come to Fellowship Hall after worship for a time of imagining, dreaming, envisioning. All you need to bring is your love for First Baptist and an openness to adventure.

On June 8 we celebrate Pentecost – “the Birthday of the Church.” If you want, you are invited to wear red (or orange or yellow – something to symbolize the “tongues of flame.”) Then on June 15 we come to the end of the choir season with a celebration of music. Personally, I am grateful for all the wonderful music provided by our staff musicians, choir and others. It is a rich mix.

By request, on June 8 and June 15 we will have two Adult Formation sessions on worship. In the first we consider what worship is both traditionally and in the practice of First Baptist. Why do we do what we do in the service? What is the significance of each of the elements? In the second session we will look at music in worship, particularly the hymns and songs we sing.

After that I am looking forward to seeing what summer holds for residents of Ann Arbor. Blessings on us all in this time of transition,

Pastor Rick



Transformed by Transition: Dreaming Our Future. Throughout this transition process we have looked at our past and present through the lens of the River of Life. This river has carried us to a new and fertile land. At 11:30a on Sunday, June 1, come help us plant our hopes and dreams for the future of First Baptist Church! This is an intergenerational event where we decorate the riverbank with flowers, leaves, clouds, and any art that helps visualize where we want the river to take us next. It will be the last part of the series that has helped the Interim Transition Team create a church profile that the Pastoral Search Committee will use to find the right person or people to help achieve those dreams. Please join us and add your voice!



Congrats Graduates!

Isaac Thompson, Bachelor of Science in Physics (Summa cum laude) from
Eastern Michigan University

Andrew Redinger, Greenhills High School

Emmanuel Morgan, Pioneer High School

2025 Scholarships Available. Scholarships are available to members of the First Baptist family from the Chester and Violet Loucks and Fullerton funds for post-secondary education. Applications are available [here](#) or from [Robbie Stapleton](#), chair of Board of Christian Education. The deadline for receipt of applications is June 15, 2025.

2025 Chadsey Keivit Scholarships Available. Scholarships for post-secondary education are available to members of the First Baptist family from the Diane Chadsey Keivit Scholarship Fund. Preference is given to applicants who plan to study music, and/or have participated in FBC's music programs, but others may apply. Applications are available [here](#) or from Bonnie Kidd (bikmi62@gmail.com), Director of the FBC Sanctuary Choir. The deadline for receipt of applications is June 30, 2025.

Church Camp Scholarships. We hope your kids and teens are able to enjoy some church camp fun! Scholarships for camp are available through the [Board of Christian Education](#); reach out to Xan Morgan, Jillian Mast, or Robbie Stapleton if you have any questions.

Sunday Morning Street Closures. The City Council authorize the following for the 2025 Dexter Ann-Arbor Run the following street closures on June 1st (more detail can be found [here](#))

- N. Main Street from Miller/Catherine to Huron Street from 6:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
- N. Main Street from Kingsley Street to Miller from 7:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
- M-14 off ramp to Southbound Main Street from 7:30 AM to 12:30 P.M.
- Southbound lanes of N. Main Street from Kingsley to Huron River Drive from 7:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (one northbound lane will be converted to southbound travel, vehicles will be permitted to exit driveways when clear)
- The surface parking lot at Ann Street and N. Main Street from 4:00 P.M. on Friday, May 30 until 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 31, 2025
- Ann Street from N. Ashley Street to N. Fourth Ave. from 6:00 A.M. to 2:00P.M.
- Huron River Dr. from 7:45 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
- Newport Road from Sunset to Bird Road from 8:45 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.
- Bird Road from 9:00 A.M. to 9:25 A.M.

From 7:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. on June 1, 2025:

- Catherine Street from N. Main Street to N. Fourth Avenue
 - Miller Avenue from N. Ashley Street to N. Main Street
 - Beakes Street from N. Main Street to N. Fourth Avenue
 - Felch Street from N. Ashley Street to N. Main Street
 - Summit Street from Wildt Street to N. Fourth Avenue
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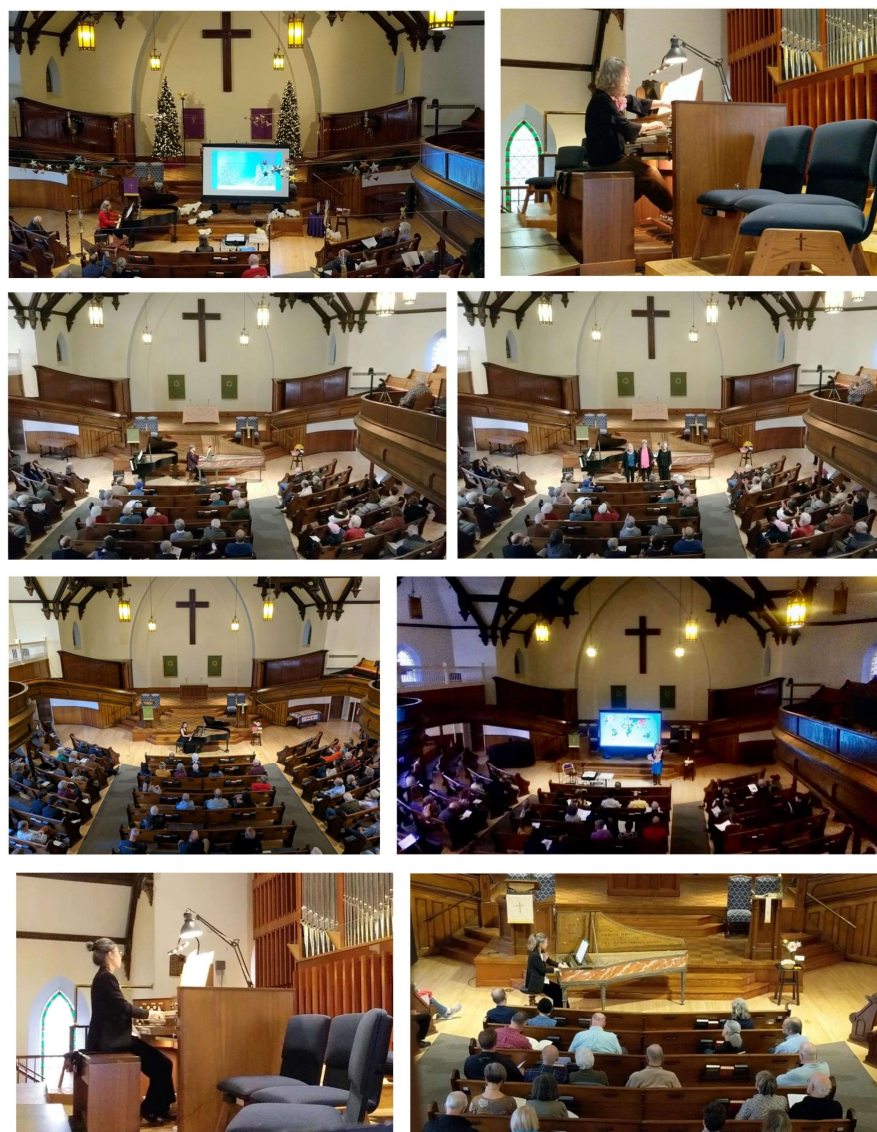
Board and Staff Retreat. We look forward to gathering on Wednesday, June 18th from 5:00-8:00p to connect, reflect, and plan with all FBCA2 board members and staff! Dinner and childcare will be provided. [Please RSVP](#) by Wednesday, June 11.



Let's have have some fun and spread some love while we volunteer together at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival! On Sunday, June 22 from 5-7:00p, you're invited to join folks from FBCA2 to greet attendees at Top of the Park and offer guidance regarding compost, recycling, and landfill items to help reach the Festival Footprint goals! There will be a fun performance, Squonk: Brouhaha just before and at the end of our shift. All ages are welcome! [Sign up here!](#) Volunteers under the age of 10 yrs do not need to officially sign up but are invited to come with their families! We encourage all volunteers to wear one of our "Love over..." t-shirts. Let's spread the love! If you'd like to purchase a t-shirt, long-sleeve shirt, or sweatshirt you can do so [here](#). Youth and adult sizes are available. Church is happy to subsidize the cost when needed.



CONGREGATIONAL NOTES



Click on image to enlarge.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series ended its 12th season on May 9 with the Goldberg Variations Concert which was well attended by people who appreciated Bach's beautiful work for the harpsichord played in our beautiful space. People also enjoyed many conversations over the delicious refreshments kindly provided by our ABWM members (Thank you, ladies!). During the season (September-May) many music lovers from our Ann Arbor community came and sat in our sanctuary to listen to seven concerts. Many of them have become regulars now. As those of you who were able to attend one or more concerts experienced, there were also many new faces in the audience at each concert. I am grateful that we at First Baptist can offer people in the community a sanctuary where they can just come freely, sit, listen to beautiful

music, and get refreshed and re-energized. I hope this outreach opportunity can continue. The next season's schedule is being shaped up. If you would like to support our AD LIBITUM Concert Series, please send your contributions to the church office with a note "Concert Series." Thank you, all!

Thank you all for praying for my son, Grange Burnside, especially last week when he had brain surgery. Prayer is indeed powerful and I cannot thank you enough for lifting him before God in such a loving way. He is home and recovering! We are all so grateful for your concern, support and of course, prayers.

- Mary Fay

The Pastor Search Committee (PSC) is hard at work! We hope to meet soon with our American Baptist Churches MI Regional Representative to gain resources for the process. Meanwhile we are working on the job description for the next pastor(s). The PSC seeks to keep open communication with the congregation. We have a designated church email that we will check and respond to consistently. You can reach us at psc@fbca2.org. Thank you for your support and prayers as we work together on this important endeavor!

In partnership,
FBCA2's PSC

Thanks to our amazing crew at the Hope clinic this month! We cooked up a delicious stuffed cabbage meal for the Hope clients. Thanks to this crew and all those who volunteer for their support in this important work. If you'd like to join us, please reach out to Karen Brummett Rayner, rayner.kar@gmail.com 734-773-5104.



Pictured from left to right:
Carolyn Grapentine, Dana Larson, Carolyn Hillebrand, Paul Larson, Joe
Brummett, Susan Schilperoort , Rolf Bouma

Thanks, Karen

ADULT FORMATION

Adult Formation. No Adult formation class on June 1 so that everyone can attend the Dreaming Our Future gathering. On June 8 and 15, we will have two Adult Formation sessions on worship. In the first we consider what worship is both traditionally and in the practice of First Baptist. Why do we do what we do in the service? What is the significance of each of the elements? In the second session we will look at music in worship, particularly the hymns and songs we sing.

Wednesday Bible Study from 1:00 - 2:00p. Pastor Rick leads the study which often includes good snacks, and always coffee and fellowship as we receive the gift of God's living word.



One Great Hour of Sharing 2025. This coming Sunday and during the month of June, we will be receiving contributions for the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). OGHS supports disaster relief, ministries to displaced persons, and development projects of the American Baptist Churches and its partners. A check can be written to FBC with OGHS in the memo line or cash can be put in one of the OGHS envelopes found in the pews. Please give generously.



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, June 12. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, June 10.



Neighborhood Clothing Swap at the [A²ZERO Week Ward Parties](#) June 3-7! Meet your neighbors, check out our fast fashion clothing exhibit, and give your gently used clothing a new home instead of sending it to the landfill. You might just find an item of clothing you've been looking for without having to buy it new! Bring up to 5 articles of clothing in good condition and choose up to 5 items to take home. Accessories also welcome. You can take clothing without bringing anything, or bring clothing without taking anything. [RSVP here.](#)

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