



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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

## Mission Sunday

MAY 24

## GROUNDCOVER



**Mission Sunday.** This Sunday we'll be welcoming Lindsay Calka, the director and publisher of Groundcover. Joining Lindsay Calka is Pony Bush, a beloved part of our church family and a committed vendor for Groundcover for many years. *Groundcover News* is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in April 2010 as a means to empower low-income persons to make the transitions from homeless to housed, and from jobless to employed. Groundcover News exists to provide economic opportunities for self-determined individuals impacted by poverty, produce a street newspaper that gives a platform to underrepresented voices in Washtenaw County, and promote an action to build a just, caring and inclusive society. For more information, visit <https://insp.ngo/>.

Please join us in the Memorial Lounge during our Adult Formation Hour where Lindsay will be informing us about their work with children and families experiencing homelessness. Also, please see the information table in the Fellowship Hall for information about Groundcover and their work in the community.

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**Online Photo Directory.** As a way to welcome our new pastor, Rev. Laura Harris-Adam, and to allow us all to put faces with names and feel more at home in our congregation, we are encouraging everyone to update our online photo directory! We use Servant Keeper for our online directory, as we use this software already for our giving statements. [Register/login](#) to your account to update your information and add a photo to your profile. Reach out to [Christina Alaniz](#) if you need any help!

[Update your profile here!](#)

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**Upcoming Preachers**



**May 24: Gretchen Sanewsky**

Rev. Gretchen Sanewsky, and her daughter Kylan, have been members of First Baptist for ten years. She is a graduate of Cornell University, Palmer Theological Seminary, and she holds a graduate certificate in Health Administration from Eastern Michigan University. Gretchen spent 23 years of her career as a Pastor, serving churches in New York State and First Baptist Church of Jackson, Michigan. Immediately following her ministry in Jackson, she was the Director of Outreach for Huron Valley PACE serving older adults with chronic health conditions. Gretchen currently serves as the Executive Director of The Arc of Northwest Wayne County, a nonprofit providing advocacy and support to people with disabilities. She is a native of Canada but has spent many years in New York State and Michigan. She has three adult children and a brand new daughter-in-law.

**May 31: Rolf Bouma**

Rolf Bouma is a retired pastor, serving as our Interim Worship Coordinator, who has served churches in Grand Rapids (MI), Framingham (MA), and Ann Arbor (the Campus Chapel). He has a J.D. from UofM, an M.Div and Th.M from Calvin Theological Seminary, and a PhD. from Boston University, focusing on eco-theology. Since 2004, he has taught in UofM's Program in the Environment. He continues to teach half-time, lecturing in environmental ethics as well as in ecology and religion. Rolf and Sandy have appreciated being a part of the First Baptist community since 2017. They have three children (all married), and four grandchildren.



**Sexton Update for the Summer!** Current sextons, Emily Beriman and Kyle Schlaff will continue in this capacity for the summer. Charlie Duke will be joining us for June-August. In the fall, we'll have two returning and three new sextons. Kevin Morgan, our new Sexton Program Manager has been working with staff and the Board of Trustees to update processes and policies.



**For the summer months, Fellowship Time will be Lemonade on the Lawn!** Hosts will simply wheel an already stocked cart to the portico on the Washington Street side of the building. We'll serve lemonade, water, and cookies. When we're done, the host will wheel the cart back to the kitchen and ta-da, you're done! Please [sign up](#) as you are able.

# ADULT FORMATION

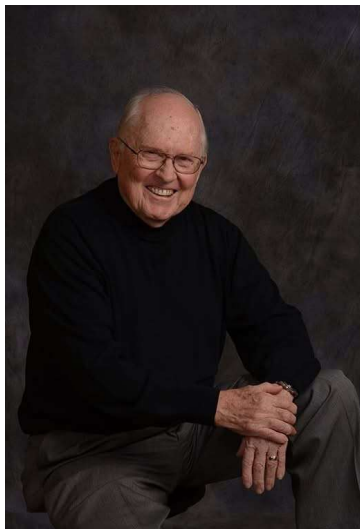
**Adult Formation class wraps up on May 31st.** Elizabeth Oldfield's book Fully Alive: Tending to the Soul in Turbulent Times is, as the title implies, a gentle meditation on rectitude and flourishing in a world that tries to knock us off balance. Using the framework of the Seven Deadly Sins, recontextualized for the 21st century, Oldfield offers a playful yet substantive guide for turning toward what matters. Join Phil Christman and Sorbie Richner for a discussion of this book.

**Sunday Young-Ish Adult Gathering.** If you consider yourself to be a young-ish adult (roughly 20s - 40s), there's a small group for you! While the group is not officially meeting regularly over the summer, there will be occasional gatherings planned as folks are available. If you'd like to join our email list to get notified of our gatherings, contact [Meg Suell](#), [Valerie Francia](#), or [Jamie Mills](#).

**Wednesday Bible Study** meets at 1:00p in the campus center living room. The group will read and discuss the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday. Please join us.

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# CONGREGATIONAL NOTES



## **Celebration of Life for H. Robert Reynolds**

Saturday, June 6th, 2026 - 4:00pm

*All Are Welcome!*

Rackham Auditorium

915 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor, MI

Reception to follow at First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor

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**FBC Men's Book Club.** The men's book club will next meet on June 22nd to discuss *The Prophetic Imagination* by Walter Brueggeman. We will meet at 7 PM at the home of Clay Scott, 436 3rd St. Reach out to [Clay Scott](#) if you have any questions.

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We're looking for golfers who enjoy casual, friendly nine-hole rounds at affordable local courses. Groups are mixed each week, so you'll play with different golfers. Scheduling is flexible, based on what works for most of the group. After golf, we gather at a local restaurant for fellowship and conversation. The group is open to both church attenders and friends, and we currently play best ball, shooting in the low 40s, so you don't have to be that good to join us. If interested, please [email Paul Larson](#) with your contact information.

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**American Baptist Women's Ministries of Michigan Retreat.** Please think about attending our annual conference June 5-7, 2026 at St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt Michigan! A wonderful place to rest and rejuvenate your spiritual health. For more information, see Carolyn Grapentine for details!

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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, June 4. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, June 2.

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