



Tea with Pastor Laura. One of my main goals during my first year as your pastor is to get to know each of you on a deeper level than is possible shaking hands after worship. So, I would like to invite you to Tea with Pastor Laura! I'm not a coffee person, but you're welcome to have coffee if that's your preference. We can meet at a local coffee shop, at the church office, or in your home, whichever you prefer. If you are a couple or a family, it's up to you whether we meet all together or one-on-one.

To sign up, follow the link on fbca2.org/connect. On the linked calendar, simply

find a time that works for you and let me know where you'd like to meet. If you have any issues signing up, please don't hesitate to email, text, or call me. Let's share our stories of life and faith over a cup of tea!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura
laura@fbca2.org
cell: 773-562-5891

Sign up here!



Save the Date for Pride! As a Welcoming and Affirming church, we have a commitment to offering a counter-witness to the messages of condemnation, exclusion, rejection, and even hatred the LGBTQ+ community has historically received from churches and from Christians. We'll be hosting a table at Ann Arbor Pride on Saturday, August 1 to help offer a public witness to love and welcome for all, especially for those who have not felt welcomed elsewhere. [Sign up here](#) to help host! The youth group will be volunteering during the 4:30p slot. All are invited to stop by our FBCA2 tent!

FLAMY & GRANT



**August 8th
7pm**

Zion Lutheran Church



 Tickets

Tickets on sale now!



Join Pastor Laura and Xan for dinner and the Flamy Grant concert! On Saturday, August 8th, artist [Flamy Grant](#) will be in town and signing at Zion Lutheran Church. We hope you'll join us for the concert ([buy tickets here](#)) and if you're able, dinner beforehand too! We'll gather at [HOMES Campus](#) at 5:00

and then head over to the concert at 6:30p. Please note that there are two HOMES locations; *we'll be at the 112 Jackson Road location*. See you there!



Serve Alongside AMOS Health & Hope in Nicaragua! For many years, our church has been blessed to partner with AMOS Health & Hope in Nicaragua, walking alongside rural communities as they work toward improved health and well-being. We are actively recruiting for two upcoming opportunities to serve with AMOS in Nicaragua—from **October 9–18, 2026**, in partnership with the First Baptist Church of McMinnville (five spots available for adults of all ages)—and **May 21–30, 2027**, designed especially for young adults at FBCA2 (up to 15 spots available). As we have done in the past, the church will help offset a portion of the trip costs for individuals, and we will organize fundraising opportunities to help raise project costs. To express interest and/or receive more information, please contact Marissa Alaniz at marissacalaniz@gmail.com.



Each year our congregation helps equip the students in the seven locations served by Community Action Network (CAN) for the new school year. This year 300 backpacks are needing to be filled! Please give generously to this special ministry. [Here is the link](#) to the Amazon wishlist or if you'd prefer to give a financial donation, please send a check made out to Sue Ellen Glover c/o First Baptist Church, 517 E Washington, 48104. All donations are needed by August 5 in order to be sorted and distributed to the seven communities.



Habitat for Humanity FBC Workdays. As in past years, our congregation has committed financial support to the Good News House projects. We are asking you to contribute as you have in the past to aid this effort to provide affordable housing in our community. We have committed to raising \$2500 in 2026 and are still needing about \$450 to reach our goal! Checks can be written to FBC, with H4H in the memo line. Reach out to [Scott Diels](#) if you have any questions about Habitat or about volunteering for our second work day on Friday, August 21.



FBCA2 BOARD AND STAFF *Retreat*

Wednesday, August 26th
from 5:00-8:00p

Board and Staff Retreat. We look forward to gathering on Wednesday, August 26th from 5:00-8:00p to connect, reflect, and plan with all FBCA2 board members and staff! We've got a fun and meaningful evening planned; we hope you're able to join us. We'll enjoy dinner from Jerusalem Garden and childcare will be provided. Please [RSVP \(click here\)](#) by Sunday, August 16th. Questions? Connect with [Pastor Laura](#), [Mary Davis](#), or [Xan Morgan](#).



Save the Date for Coming Home Sunday! Sunday, September 13

ADULT FORMATION

Adult Formation and Wednesday Bible Study will resume in the fall!

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](#).

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Parking Lot Program Update. We will be switching our parking management program from AirGarage to Premium Parking on August 1. Please [see the attached file](#) for any FAQs you might have.

RESOURCES and LINKS from July 19 sermon given by Grace VanderVliet
[John August Swanson Website](#)

[Artist's Statement](#)

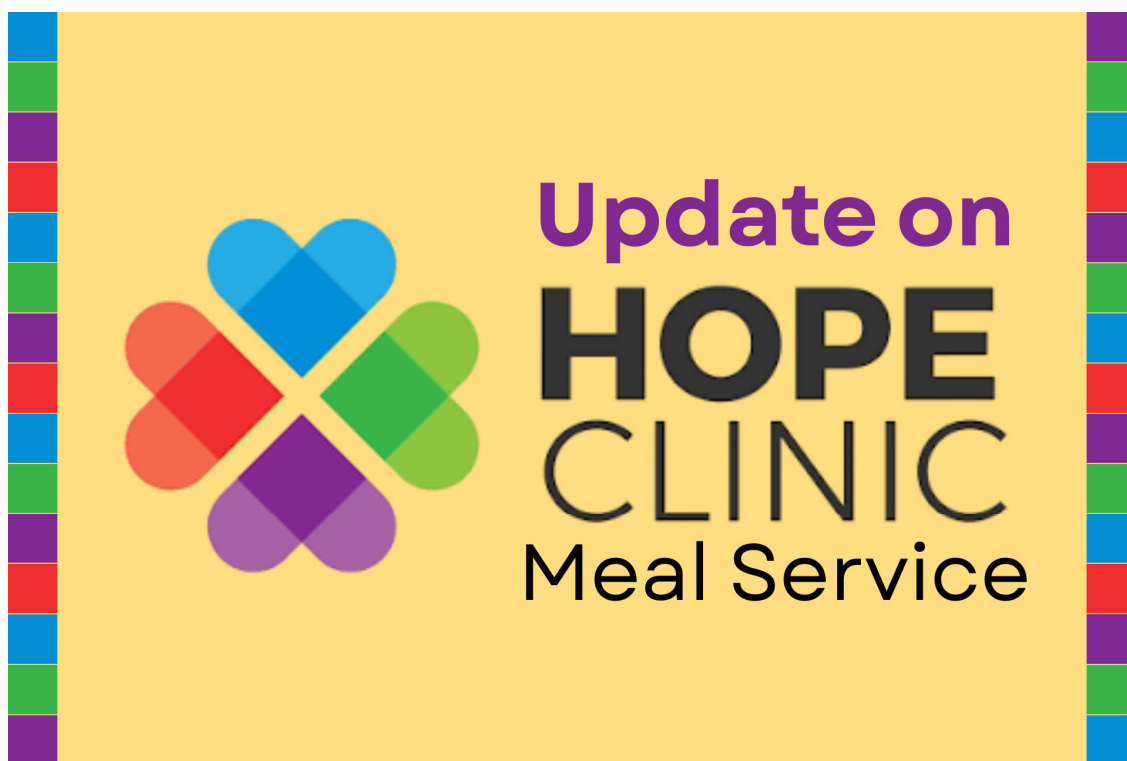
[Serigraph Printing Process Video](#) (1:27)

[About Sister Corita Kent](#) (Swanson's teacher)

What people said they envisioned as progress:

- A baby → a child
 - A corkscrew
 - A roller coaster of up and down curves
 - A circle
-

FBCA2 Ladies' Book Club. Like to read? Like to talk about books... and lots of other tangential topics? Then consider joining us at the next FBCA2 Ladies' Book Club meeting. We will meet on Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30pm to discuss Born a Crime by Trevor Noah, gathering at Mary Gregg's home. Other upcoming titles are The Gales of November: The Untold Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald by John U. Bacon (October 27th meeting) and Absolution by Alice McDermott. Questions? Feel free to reach out to [Mary Gregg](#) or [Janice Stumpf](#).



Dear FBCA2 Community,

Our Hope Clinic Meal Service is moving! We will now be cooking and serving dinner at the Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti on the 1st Tuesday of each month. August 4th will be our next meal service. Please sign up [HERE](#) or contact Karen Brummett Rayner, rayner.kar@gmail.com, if you are able to help out!

Did you know that FBCA2 has been in partnership with the Hope clinic since 2019. We have served over 13,000 meals or 83 months--amazing and we have FUN doing it! We couldn't do it without our amazing volunteers--join us!

-Karen

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, August 20. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, August 18.

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