

Stained Glass Windows: An Architectural Tour

First Baptist Church’s lovely stained glass windows were featured in the August 25 Stained Glass Windows Architectural Tour in downtown Jackson.

Sponsored by the Jackson Anchor Initiative, the walking tour included several downtown churches, the County Building, and the new mural at CP Federal City Square. About 50-60 people came through First Baptist Church throughout the day, admiring the windows and our church building. Thank you to Sue Anderson for findings the history of our church windows, and to Mary White for putting together the symbolism behind each window. Participants were very interested in the windows, as well the woodworking and interior of our church.

Thank you to Dan Cabage for coordinating the event and serving as a docent, and Al and Nancy Wagner for serving as docents.

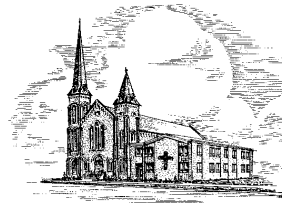
Submitted by Marilyn Fryer

Update on Woodruff Boys

Justin and Alyssa have moved to a bigger apartment and are expecting a baby boy in early October.

Ben is starting his new adventure in Beijing China. He is teaching English to kindergartners as they help him get better at Mandarin.

Noah is settled in to U of M. He has made the Michigan Marching Band and is the 13th trumpet out of 75. Look for him on Football Saturdays!



Steeple Breezes

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JACKSON
201 S. Jackson Street
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: (517) 784-3151
fbcofjackson.org

Non-Profit
Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
JACKSON,
MICH.
Permit No. 596

VOLUME 225 SEPTEMBER 2018 NO. 9

Greetings from the pastor:

On September 2, I am finishing my series of sermons from John 1:19-51, which introduces the ministries of Jesus and John the Baptist. I’d like to emphasize my purpose in this series of messages and the mindset I hope we as a church will continue to cultivate.

First, First Baptist Church should be a place that fosters a growth mindset, a mindset that recognizes that we can learn new skills and sees obstacles along the way as opportunities to improve. Moving beyond our walls to participate in God’s transforming work in Jackson will require us to grow at considering and ministering to the needs of our neighbors. We will make mistakes along the way, but trying, and potentially failing, is better than not trying to fulfill our mission.

Second, First Baptist Church should be a place that empowers people to use their gifts and skills to contribute to our mission. Let’s focus on identifying how God is moving in someone’s life so we can offer opportunities for those individuals to use their gifts in our community. Some of those gifted people who God may be calling to serve here may be your neighbors, friends or acquaintances you meet in everyday life. Let’s keep our eyes open for God at work in the lives of those around us.

Third, First Baptist Church should be a place of communal experiences. My challenge to the community is to invest in mentoring at least one person. Bring someone along with you to serve, for fellowships, and for worship. When you go to serve somewhere

invite that person along. Share meals with him or her. Share how your faith motivates you to live for God. In our digital age, people are growing more alone. People can consume religious content online 24/7, including worship services, sermons, bible studies, and more. We have to offer something for people that they can't get elsewhere. We can offer our time and presence.

My final sermon of this series will speak to our hope that God can bring renewal and growth to Jackson. I'm excited about our future. I hope you are too.

Blessings,
Pastor Dallas

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can listen to Pastor Dallas' sermons and follow First Baptist Church online?

You can go to our church's website: fbcofjackson.org to hear the sermons and learn what is going on in our church.

We also can be followed on Facebook at [facebook.com/firstbaptistjxn](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistjxn).

If anyone has any questions, comments, concerns or further information, please contact the church office.

ABC OF MI ANNUAL GATHERING

Save the date! On Saturday, October 27, 2018, Falam Baptist Church in Battle Creek will be hosting the Annual Gathering of the American Baptist Churches of Michigan. This year's theme is "Who is my Neighbor: Searching for my neighbor through the eyes of Jesus." The event is open to all who wish to attend. Pre-registration is highly encouraged. You may register online at www.abc-mi.org.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Sunday, September 16 at 12:15.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday school will start on Sunday, September 16.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY: We are in need of volunteers to help at the food pantry on Saturday, September 29 starting at 8:45 am. Please sign up on the bulletin board by the kitchen or call Sue in the office and let her know if you are able to help in this community wide project.

ALTAR FLOWERS: An agreement has been made with Brown Floral Company to provide altar flowers for FBC when desired. The cost will be \$38 which includes a delivery fee. If you wish to order altar flowers, please contact Sue who will make arrangements with Brown's and will take note of any message you may want to have placed in the Sunday Bulletin.

Checks for the flowers should be written to FBC. Of course, you may also purchase flowers from any other florist of your choice being certain that your provider is aware that deliveries must be made when the church office is open (Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm). As always, if you prefer to design your own floral arrangement or bring in a bouquet from your garden, those are also options.

There are still some openings for Sunday during the rest of 2018 and Sue can help you with any Sundays in 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact either Sherry Dodge or Sue.

BLESSING BOX: Please remember our community Blessing Box the next time you are going to the grocery store. Anyone able to contribute non-perishable items are encouraged to bring them in so they can be shared with the less fortunate of the Jackson Community.

"Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "we have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. "Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children. Matthew 14:13-21



September is a busy month with events and activities beginning for another year. Please mark your calendars so you won't miss out on anything!!

CHOIR PRACTICE: Choir practice will begin on **Wednesday, September 5** at 5:15 pm in the Sanctuary.

FRIDAY BOOK GROUP: Join the Friday Book Group for sharing various books and lots of good fellowship, caring and support of each other.

Our current book, "An Extra Mile" is a story of embracing God's Call. Author, Sharon G. Brown, powerfully weaves the stories of four very different women who are struggling yet desiring to grow their faith in everyday life with its ups and downs. Through realistic stories of these four women, we experience what it feels like to enter the darkest places of loss, resistance, and frustration, and find there the abundant grace of God. We read a chapter each week, then discuss the story, how God is working through our characters and the application to our own busy, chaotic lives.

We meet every **Friday**, beginning **September 7** at 10 am. If you would like to join us, please let Mary White or Sue in the church office know so we can make sure we have plenty of books on hand. Give it a try! What have you got to lose?

PRAYER QUILTS: Attention all church ladies. The Quilting Ladies will begin meeting on **Friday, September 7** at 11 am. Due to donating two large bags of quilts to the Veteran's hospital in Ann Arbor, we are in need of replenishing our supply. Please plan on joining us for this rewarding fellowship with other ladies of our church in making these beautiful quilts.

RALLY DAY: Rally day will be **Sunday, September 9**, following church service. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Anyone able, please bring a passing dish.

Upcoming events continued on page 7.



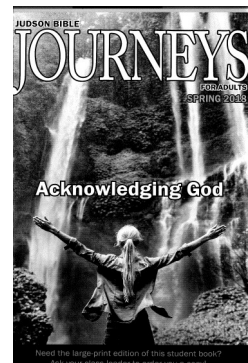
It goes without question that the greatest strength of our congregation is the manner in which they care about one another. This was recently brought to light in my own experience of knee replacement surgery when this congregation expressed their concern regarding my progress. Words cannot adequately tell of my appreciation for the get-well cards, phone calls, visits, and your prayers. Pat and I have been overwhelmed by your Christian love. Thank you!

Richard and Pat Raby

Journeys Adult Bible Study Class

When Sunday School/Bible study starts back on this September, Marilynn Fryer's class will continue the Journeys curriculum with a unit focusing on "Acknowledging God." This quarter will look at ways God's people have acknowledged the greatness of God. Unites will include "Follow in My Ways," then "All Glory and Honor," and finally "Give Praise to God."

Each Journeys class consists of reading the weekly lessons together and having active discussions about how that week's message impacts our lives. The Journeys Curriculum offers background and insight about the Bible texts, as well as challenging and thought-provoking discussion questions so we can share from our own experience. We also have a time of prayer each week. Class meets in the Chapel after the fellowship time. I invite everyone to come, learn and share!



Submitted by Marilynn Fryer

