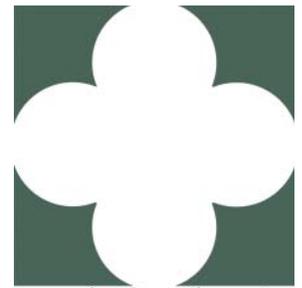


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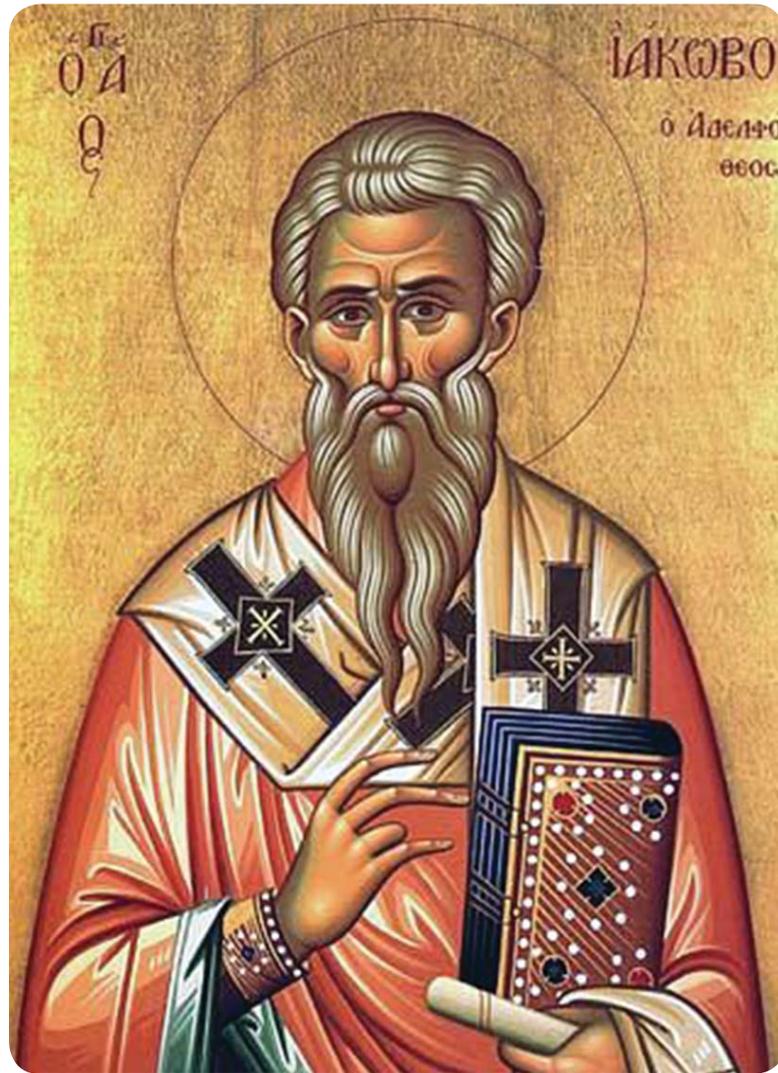
Volume 82 / Number 9

September 2018

Exploring what it means to follow the way of Jesus Christ



seattle first baptist



Icon of James the Just - photo from Wikipedia

## James Finds His Way Home

By Pastor Tim Phillips

There are those, including Martin Luther, who thought the Letter of James had very little place in the New Testament. It was “too Jewish,” some thought. It was too focused on action and not enough on faith. It lacked some of the usual language of other New Testament books. Reza Aslan demonstrates that this little book gives us a peek at the open conflict going on between James in Jerusalem and Paul traveling around Asia Minor and eventually ending up in Rome. For all these reasons, James is hardly ever at home in Christian worship. Other than a few verses here or there, James has been pretty much displaced.

But this September, James is coming home to Seattle First Baptist. We will celebrate

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the Jewish character of his letter just as we celebrate our relationship with the Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue. Commentator Sophie Laws writes that: "James's environment would seem to be the meeting of Christian, Jewish, and Hellenistic thought." If that's true, I'm guessing James would feel right at home among us. We will remind ourselves, as James does, that living our values is the point of faith. He is famous for saying: "Pure, unspoiled religion is this: coming to the aid of widows and orphans." And when we sing, "bring your scattered people home," we will remember that James wrote his letter to the "twelve tribes in the diaspora." James was writing his letter to people who know what it is to be scattered.

In fact, I think we could read James right alongside that Living Our Values document we agreed to last year. The focus on justice, mercy, humility, and peace are central to those values and to the message of James. To "welcome the stranger" is, in James, "you must not allow favoritism" when people show up in your assemblies. That whole line of thought in James connects with his encouragement not to "discriminate in your hearts." And, maybe it's a stretch to connect our value for protecting and preserving the environment with James's "every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above, descending from the Creator," but perhaps treating creation as a gift of heaven might change our disrespectful and dangerous ways of dealing with the Earth.

So, James is coming home to us in September. And, like James, I want to remind you of the values we claim to try to be living. I have included the prologue to those values because, as you will see in the following pages, David Bloom will be leading a conversation on what it means to be a place "where the separation of church and state is vigorously defended." He does so just as we head into mid-term elections. As you read through these six values, I invite you to think about the ways in this past year we have been living them. As James would say, "faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." At long last, welcome home, James. And welcome home to all of you as, together, we remind ourselves that "home" is a reference point for what really matters.

### **Seattle First Baptist Church: *Living Our Values***

Faithful to our Baptist heritage, we strive for a world where people are welcomed regardless of, and with respect for, their religious beliefs; where the separation of church and state is vigorously defended; where freedom is a fundamental right that values the dignity of all persons without regard to their race, country of birth, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, or disabilities; and where compassion is the measure of our actions.

1. **We will go deeper in faith** as we do justice, love mercy, work for peace and walk humbly with God.
2. **We will be present** to one another and our neighbors in our personal relationships and by creating venues for engagement where we can learn about viewpoints different from our own.
3. **We will respect all religions** by learning about the beliefs, values and struggles of our neighbors and by demonstrating support for them.
4. **We will welcome the stranger**, including immigrants and refugees, as our Scriptures instruct. We will explore how to support their causes and advocate for justice, remembering that many of us are the children of immigrants and refugees.
5. **We will actively work to recognize and change our own biases** and to fight racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, ageism and other systemic prejudices.
6. **We will protect our environment** and support preservation programs that are based on scientific data designed to improve our resources, enhance biodiversity, and reverse human-caused climate change.

**We affirm these commitments as we continue to follow the way of Jesus Christ.**

## **Blessing of Backpacks**

*By Pastor Anita Peebles*

Have you ever considered what it means to be "blessed"? Often I find myself saying, "Have a blessed day" or "I'm so blessed by..." but I don't pause and think of what it actually means to declare something "blessed." Dictionary.com defines "blessed" as "made holy or consecrated" and "endowed with divine favor and protection." And, in my thinking, no one needs divine favor and protection as much as children.

This isn't just because I am a children's minister. I love children and have learned SO much in my life from children (namely, how to share, how to see people's best intentions, how to apologize) ...but there's more. It can be really scary to grow up in this world right now for lots of reasons that I don't have to rehearse here. And so, as a community paying attention to the children and youth among us, as well as paying attention to the needs of children in our larger city, state and country contexts, it is our job to nurture our youngest churchgoers. As they head off into the new school year, let them know that they go with the blessings of this community of faith. On Wednesday, September 5, SFBC will resume our Wednesday night dinners. At 6:30 p.m. we will gather in the fellowship hall for the Blessing of the Backpacks. We will bless the backpacks and school supplies that the ABW, Outreach Commission and CFYA have collected throughout the month of August, and we will also bless the backpacks of the children and youth among us.

We will read Scripture, read some poems, share about our summer vacations, check-in about what is new and coming up on our calendars this school year, and sing a favorite song of mine. You may have heard it in worship on August 12, when Belle and I shared it with the church during the Time with Children. It's called "beloved" and it is a blessing. The lyrics are "be welcomed, enfolded, encircled, embraced, be cradled, included and held." How beautiful a wish this is. And during the Blessing of the Backpacks, we will send the children, youth, teachers, administrators, school nurses and anyone else associated with education back to school with these hopes for how they will be treated and treat each other.

And, lest you think a "Blessing of the Backpacks" is only for children, it's not! It's for you, too! Most people's lives are shaped in some way by the school calendar. Generally, every fall sees an uptick in traffic at certain times of the day as people drop their kids off at school and pick them up. Sports events and plays and concerts and art exhibitions have a rhythm to them, as do exams and school vacations. Even people who no longer attend school and who do not have children in school find our lives marked by the school season. At SFBC, we observe the school calendar by taking breaks from Sunday school, Adult Learning, youth group and many meetings over the summer. Right now, we are looking forward to starting these activities again as we move into the season of autumn. So, as you consider how your life is marked by the school year, know that your backpack, your briefcase, your car keys, your bus pass, your computer, your bicycle, is eligible for a blessing too. If it gets you where you need to go, if it helps you do your job or your schoolwork, if it helps you do anything new, bring it to SFBC on Wednesday, September 5 and get it blessed.



As we go into a new school year, embracing a new season of learning and loving in community, let us gather in holy fellowship and send each other off into the New with blessings for love and peace. See you on September 5!

## Pastor Anita's Installation is on September 30



*Rev. Dr. Amy Mears, Rev. Anita Peebles, and Rev. April Baker at Anita's ordination this spring.*

SFBC has been in the process of searching for a new Associate Pastor for Next Generation Ministries for over a year and a half. As of this summer, we are glad to welcome Rev. Anita Peebles to the pastoral staff and to Seattle. Pastor Anita's installation will be held Sunday, September 30 at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. Rev. Dr. Amy Mears, Anita's pastor and mentor from Glendale Baptist Church in Nashville, TN will be preaching. All local Evergreen clergy are welcome to join SFBC in recognizing and commissioning Anita's ministry among us. Children, youth, young adults and their families are especially invited to attend and sit up front for this special occasion.

## Making Music at SFBC

*By Pastor Tim Phillips*

Music ministry is an important part of our life together at SFBC and we have been blessed with truly incredible musicians to lead us. Organist April Kuhr has been part of that blessing and we were sorry to lose her at the beginning of the summer to another congregation closer to her home. As I talked with representatives from the music program and from church leadership, it became clear that this latest transition in our music program offered an opportunity for a

wider conversation about music. In order to allow time for that conversation, it did not seem fair to rush into yet another search for an organist/accompanist without the wisdom of that wider conversation. So, over the summer, the Summer Choir has been led by interim choral directors, Amy Boers and Scott Kovacs, and we have been blessed by the music of Associate Organist, Jim Ginn and pianist Margaret Norton-Arnold along with guest organists David Barela and Martha Freitag. We knew that we needed to have a long-term interim ready to go for the fall and we were grateful that Margie Paynton, former organist of University Baptist Church, answered the call through December. Margie was the organist at UBC for 42 years and during that time she worked with a wide variety of directors. I can attest that Margie is a great member of a team and that her understanding of music in the church is first and foremost about ministry. Margie taught elementary general music for 32 years in private and public elementary schools. She says that it was a great opportunity to instill values and teamwork in the lives of children. Margie has a BA in organ performance and a BMUS in music education from the University of Washington. UBC, in recognition of her music ministry, ordained Margie in 2010. She is married with two grown children and one grandchild.



Margie Paynton

It is good to have Choral Director Ben Luedcke back with us from his leave in the Midwest. He is at work now to prepare music for the upcoming program year and will participate in the music conversations as they develop. Margaret Norton-Arnold will facilitate those conversations and she is working now on a structure and timeline for those. Both in her professional life and in her service to SFBC as chair of the last several music personnel searches, Margaret is especially well-suited for this process. In addition, Dennis Coleman, longtime director of the Seattle Men's Chorus, will be consulting with us. Dennis retired from the Men's Chorus but his work to make it a premier volunteer chorus and a vibrant community will be invaluable to us. Dennis continues as the choral director at First Congregational UCC in Bellevue and that gives him a sense of other church music programs like ours. Watch for more details as the conversation continues.

My thanks to all those who worked so hard this summer to make music a meaningful and inspiring part of worship. Welcome home to Ben and to Margie. As we know, there is nothing like music to "bring us home."

## Adult Education Resumes on September 9

By Cherry Johnson

Recently a friend of mine whose son just started first grade in Denver, told me that he came home from his first day of school saying "I didn't know it was going to be so much fun!" That's how I hope you'll feel when you come "back to school" as Adult Education resumes on Homecoming Sunday, September 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

If this is your 60th year in Adult Ed, or your first, you are SO WELCOME! While we typically spend this Sunday morning hour addressing a topic of interest and importance - anything from social justice issues to theology to politics to Bible study to the environment - we are going to launch this season with some fun. Please join us for HOMECOMING JEOPARDY - a time of laughs and comradery for all. Because there's no reason "Sunday School" can't be FUN!

## Adult Learning Explores the Intersection of Religion and Politics



The Rev. David Bloom, Seattle First Baptist member, will offer a course on "Religion and Politics: Unholy Alliance?" at 9:30 on four Sunday mornings in the parlor, beginning September 16. Mr. Bloom will present and discuss the history of religious freedom in America, the Baptist legacy of separation of church and state, and the ways in which religion and politics have interacted historically and currently.

"Religion and Politics: Unholy Alliance?" will address the main question:  
*What is the appropriate relationship between church and state in America today?*

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states:

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."*

And Article 6 of the Constitution states:

*"No religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States."*

Yet, many candidates promote their religious beliefs when they run for office and some religious groups want exemption from some civil rights laws or subsidies for their private schools. How did we get here?

This four-part Sunday morning course will offer the following:

1. The roots of religious freedom in American history
2. The early expressions of religious belief, including our Baptist heritage
3. Some of the great religious leaders and movements in U.S. History, including civil and human rights
4. The current debate over the appropriate relationship between religion and politics in America today

The course will include video presentations, informative hand-outs, brief lectures, and discussion.

Mr. Bloom has spent his professional career working at the intersection of religion and politics in Seattle. This course is based on a 10-week course that he taught at Antioch University-Seattle where he has been on Adjunct Faculty since 2004. He is a long-time social activist, the former Urban Ministry Director for the Church Council of Greater Seattle, and a former City Council candidate. He holds a Master of Theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary.

## We Welcome the Stranger

By Dennis Raymond

The Companion Ministry of SFBC is a group of dedicated volunteers who take turns on Sundays during worship service to welcome strangers into our midst.

Our program is patterned after Rev. Craig Rennebohm's street ministry in Seattle of over 20 years. We provide acceptance, conversation, light food, and referrals to community services available on Sundays, and the other days of the week.

Two of our Companion Ministry members are moving out of Seattle, and we seek volunteers to replace them. This requires at least a one-hour commitment on rotating Sundays during the year.

Make inquiries/application on the program to Dennis Raymond. His contact information is in the online directory, or see him in person at the church on Sundays.

## A Note from Pastor Tim ...

I am honored to pass along this invitation from Rabbi Olivier and the Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue. There is a spiritual richness in sharing this life together and it is especially fitting that we should be celebrating Homecoming on the same day that the celebration of Rosh Hashanah begins. Together, our two congregations will be focused on gathering, returning, and renewal. Along with Rabbi Olivier, I invite your reflection on this opportunity. Please note that tickets are available through the Bet Alef office.

## ... and An Invitation from Rabbi Olivier,

While summer winds down, we, at Bet Alef, are in the process of gearing up for our annual High Holy Days. The worship services that mark the rhythm of the holidays are unique in the Jewish year. Moreover, during these very special services, there are a number of key elements in the Jewish tradition that we observe. There is the Jewish New Year, called *Rosh HaShanah*, which is about new beginnings and setting intentions for our year or for our life. This is followed by *Yom Kippur* - the Day of Atonement, or as I like to call it: the Day of At-One-ment. This is a full day of contemplation and inner reflections, of 'teshuvah' - or 'returning' when the turning is toward Source, toward God and God's purpose. We will be observing both of these holidays as a community. As the Jewish day begins with sunset, there will be evening services and daylight services for both holidays. *Rosh Hashanah* will be observed on Sunday, September 9th beginning at 7 PM, and again on Monday morning, September 10th, from 10:30 a.m. The evening of *Yom Kippur* is known as *Kol Nidrei*, and services will be on Tuesday, September 18th at 7 p.m. Then, *Yom Kippur* will be observed all day on Wednesday, September 19th from 10:30 a.m. onward.

I would like to personally invite you, members and friends of Seattle First Baptist Church, to join us as part of our community for these services - to learn more about us, as we have been sharing your space for a few years now, as well as to share a sacred and meaningful experience that has been a part of Jewish culture and faith for millennia.

Jewish communities traditionally require admittance tickets during High Holy Days due to higher turnout and for security purposes and, as is our tradition and custom, a fee for admittance is customary. This also ensures that the greater administrative and facility needs are covered, as well as providing means for services throughout the year.

## Justices to Visit Seattle First Baptist

As we think together about religion and politics, we remember the legacy of Justice Charles Z. Smith whose lifelong work for justice was formed by his deep and abiding faith. Part of that legacy is embodied in the lives of those who have been mentored and inspired by Justice Smith. Two of those current members of the state's judicial system will be with us on Sunday, September 30: Judge LeRoy McCullough of the King County Superior Court and Justice Steven C. Gonzalez of the Washington Supreme Court. They will be with us in worship and, following worship, they will join us for an informal time in coffee hour and a more formal conversation in the Parlor beginning at 12:20 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided. Please join us as we continue the legacy of our beloved Charles Z. Smith.

With that, I would like to offer Seattle First Baptist congregants our membership price as a way to share my gratitude for our partnership throughout the year and the blessing of the sharing of sacred space for Bet Alef to create a spiritual home in your midst. This offers a significant discount from the non-member admittance price. If you want to learn more, please contact [info@betalef.org](mailto:info@betalef.org) or call us at 206-527-9399 for more information.

We will also be holding a service for *S'lichot*, which focuses on ideas of mercy and forgiveness on Saturday, September 1st at 8 p.m. This service is free and open to everyone, as are all Shabbat services during the year. You are cordially invited to any of these services.

With blessings,  
Rabbi Olivier BenHaim

## Administrator's Corner

By Darren Hochstedler

When I sit in the sanctuary, I am in awe of the Saints who have gone before us. The legacy that their hard work, foresight and money have left to this congregation is priceless. Three buildings full of vibrant ministry. Sharing God's word and love, feeding the hungry, providing a safe space for people in recovery, people who have been marginalized and all of us who call this our church home.

To honor and protect that legacy AND keep it alive for future generations requires a great deal of thoughtful planning and care. We have a very small facility/janitorial staff to maintain the buildings and while they do a wonderful job, there are many more things to do than hours in the day. That is where YOU come in.

On Saturday, Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. we are going to have an "All Church" work party. Anyone of any age and ability is welcome to come. Music areas and instruments will be dusted and organized, kitchens will be cleaned, the beautiful brass throughout the building will be polished, walls will be painted, closets organized and a huge dumpster will be filled to the brim. Plans are still being worked out. Ten leaders are being recruited and we hope to have 100 people swarming throughout the building on that Saturday. Lunch will be provided. Please plan on attending and help us pass the legacy on.



*The gang from 2017's All Church Work Party*

## A Note from Judy Scott



Dear SFBC Family & Friends,

Wow! Ten years! Really?! Omg!

I don't think I have the words to adequately express what I feel, but, I'll try. I was so touched by your lovely honor of me at the Sunday worship service and the incredible luncheon with your outpouring of love, cards, gifts, and kind words! It just all took my breath away! I am deeply grateful to you for celebrating me and my tenure with you. It has been my honor to serve with you. Thank you!

A very special thank you to Tim and Darren!

May the Lord bless and keep you all in His tender loving care,

Blessings on Our new Beautiful fall season!

## A Time Apart - 2018 Women's Retreat

By Joan Benner

Have you been longing for a time-out? Has the wish for a quiet space in a wooded area where delicious food was prepared for you been flitting through your mind? In such a place, of course, you would be free to choose from both fun/communal or solitary/introspective ways to spend your time.

Well, dream no more. The Women's Retreat this year is designed to meet these important needs. Please consider joining us in the late afternoon on Friday, October 26 through mid-day, Sunday, October 28 at beautiful Rainbow Lodge in North Bend for "A Time Apart".

### A TIME APART



2018  
SFBC  
WOMEN'S  
RETREAT

OCT 26-28  
RAINBOW  
LODGE

This year's retreat is created to span the many interests of women of any age. Whether you've been to retreats before or this would be your first time, you are welcome to come and bring your own unique way of spending time apart from the normal worries and cares of life.

There will be quiet times for meditation and fun times for learning, singing, storytelling and connection. There are hikes to hike, and nooks for diving into that book you've been meaning to read. Artists and artists wannabes can take advantage of the verdant grounds, while others may decide a nap is just the thing.

Please consider joining us. Some scholarships and rides are available. Stop by the Welcome Table after Sunday service if you have questions. Retreat Registrations Forms will be available in September.

Note to Kellie: Please format these as one main article, with obvious sidebars for the 3 Further Thoughts. Thanks.

## Reflections on the Senior Adult Retreat

By Don Phillips



Photo by Ed C. Epp

Wonder of wonders, 37 of us made new friends, laughed a lot, ate too much and were inspired during the Senior Adult Retreat July 11-13 at Rainbow Lodge in North Bend. In this beautiful spot with great weather, we folks who ranged in age from 57 to 88 had the benefit of the planning, teaching, caring and humor of our leader Cherry Johnson. The retreat theme was "Legacies", both those we received from our forebears and those we will leave for others. The five workshops on this theme yielded fascinating and sometimes unexpected results.

Before the retreat began, each of us provided our favorite song title to Cherry and she prepared a playlist. It was fun listening and singing along to these, and guessing the song title, the singer and who among us listed it as their favorite. Some of us confessed to being a "hopeless romantic" when our song was played.

Several volunteers preached a short sermon based on a scriptural passage chosen by Cherry that related to age. Other brave participants sang "Row Row Row Your Boat" in country/western, rap, rock and roll and operatic styles. In other words, we had a lot of fun. We also had time for light exercise and other recreational activities appropriate to our advanced years.

It was for all of us a fantastic retreat. We thank our leader Cherry for her hard work in putting it all together and, with luck, we just might persuade her to lead programs for all the church to follow up on what we found so beneficial.

### Further thoughts from...

**Linda McCoy** - I really loved the retreat! I'm new to First Baptist, and this was a great way to get connected to people.

Thank you to everyone (and especially Sandra Jones) for being so welcoming to me!

Cherry Johnson's leadership, and the loving spirit she and her sister showed, was so great! There were several kinds of "set ups" that encouraged cross-fertilization of our group (of folks born anywhere from 1936 to 1959!) as we explored "Legacies." I loved the communion Friday morning, where "legacies" became "blessings." I enjoyed the mix of music, fun, and serious, thoughtful interplay, and I feel enriched. The food was great, and the lodge was wonderful.

**John Benner** - The Senior Retreat was a chance for me to have fun acting as the "DJ" for the participants' favorite songs that Cherry assembled. It challenged me to consider how my ancestors' legacies affected me as well as the legacy I will leave behind. And it was a great venue get to know my peers.

**Carole Cornell** - Rainbow Lodge is a beautiful, and very peaceful setting. The retreat was very well planned and fun for all of us to be together. The theme, "Legacies", was challenging to think about and prompted lots of great discussion, and sharing of ideas, with the different age groups, especially, "creating blessings" as our legacy. Breaks with, "Music Favorites from Our Teenage Years" was greatly enjoyed by everyone. Lots of smiles and laughter.

# Money Talk

By Phil Mortenson, Investment Committee Chair, and Darren Hochstedler, Church Administrator

## Financial Update

The Church's financial condition is in good order as we have entered the second half of 2018. As of July 31, 2018, our total revenue is \$552,932 and our expenses are \$594,359, with a difference of \$41,427. A large amount of our pledge revenue is ordinarily realized in the last couple of months of the year, so our present deficit on paper is expected and our financial situation is better than it was last year at this time.

Our spending prudence over the last two years has shown steady results. Approximately 85% of our expenses fit into two categories: 1) salaries and benefits, and 2) building operations. We are doing well at holding expenses down in both those categories. We anticipate ending 2018 on budget, meaning that our expenses should come close to equaling our revenues. Receipts are projected to come in this year at about \$1,133,150 and expenses at \$1,138,500.

## Investments

Below is a snapshot of the Church's investment picture on July 31, 2018. The headings refer to the following: *Security* identifies the type of investment we hold with our investment broker at UBS Financial Services, or, in the case of notes, the real estate notes that we hold with the party who has received a loan from us. *Amount* means the market value of that security on August 1, 2018. *Percentage of Assets* means the portion of our total investment portfolio that the named security comprises.

<b>SECURITY AMOUNT ASSETS</b>	<b>ROUNDED AMOUNT</b>	<b>% OF</b>
<b>Cash and Money Funds</b>	107,000	4
<b>Equities</b> —Stocks, Mutual Funds, ETFs	1,160,000	48
<b>Fixed Income</b> —Bonds, Notes and Munis	652,000	27
<b>Other</b> —Mixed Equity and Income	493,000	20
<b>Real Estate Notes</b> —Secured by trust deeds	3,000	1

The total market value of all the investments in the Church's portfolio as of July 31, 2018 was \$2,315,586.46 In addition to growing its investments through increased market value, SFBC is also enjoying revenue increases from dividends and interest, which have accumulated \$40,000 year-to-date, and from a positive change in market value, which has increased \$20,000 year-to-date.

As can be seen from the above mixture of securities, SFBC's investment philosophy is moderately conservative. Consequently, the Church has done well during past downturns in the market and is doing well in this aging bull market. The committee is staying its course. Three years ago, SFBC completed a renovation of its "Hospital" building, converting unoccupied space into income-generating real estate that is now leased to nonprofits and is earning more revenue to support the Church. Although our investment portfolio financed the remodel construction, the resulting additional rent serves as a good hedge against market corrections.

Finally, the Investment Committee continues to increase its holdings in socially responsible funds. Two of our largest holdings are Calvert Equity Portfolio and iShares MSCI Select Social Index ETF with current values of \$278,000 and \$506,500 respectively. That's a little under one-third of our total investment assets that are associated with companies that emphasize environmental (especially relating to fossil fuels), social, and governance characteristics. These funds are doing better than merely holding their own against the overall U.S. stock market. Calvert has increased by 14.91% in the past 12 months so far this year by 14.97% and iShares has increased 8.79% over the past 12 months.

## Bottom line

Church finances are doing well so far this year. We anticipate ending the year having achieved our budget goals.

## "Amazing, and Far Better Attended Than I Expected"

By Dick Johnson

This was a comment made after the first meeting of the new Men's Group at the church. Something similar was said at the August meeting (we meet once a month) where we discussed the topic "What brings us joy?"

So far twelve men have participated in at least one meeting, and we recognize attendance may vary some. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, Sept.16 at 12:30 p.m. in the Peacemakers room.

We would welcome your participation!

## New Youth Group Schedule

Starting this program year, Youth Group (6th-12th grade) is now invited to stay in the worship service! Pastor Anita and Susan will take any available youth out to lunch after the service to process the worship experience together. On Wednesdays, come by Anita's office for homework time, starting at 5:15 p.m.! We can sit together at dinner, and we'll have programmed time after dinner at 6:30 p.m. All youth are welcome. Contact Pastor Anita or Susan Blythe-Goodman with any questions.

## Getting to Know Pastor Anita

Dear SFBC,

Thank you for making my "Get to Know Me" events a success. I had a GREAT time learning about different areas of Seattle and meeting members in their neighborhoods. In fact, I think I will continue this trend of meeting in casual locations with monthly "Where in Seattle is Pastor Anita?" events around the city at various establishments. Stay tuned for the list of where I'll be hanging out! ALL generations are always welcome!

Thank you!

Pastor Anita Peebles



## Support for Sanctuary at Gethsemane Church

By Joanne Wright

On Wednesday, August 15, I attended a dinner and meeting at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, where Jose Robles has taken sanctuary while he seeks a just remedy from deportation and to avoid separation from his family.

The evening started with fellowship at dinner, which was prepared by the Robles family. We had enchiladas prepared in the style of Michoacan, Mexico, baked chicken, guacamole and several types of sauce. The food was wonderful. I was fortunate to sit next to Jose so I could get to know him better. Spending time with him and his family made the human cost of deportation and family separation very real to me.

Jose has a successful painting business, but cannot work since he has taken sanctuary. After dinner we met to hear how we could help support Jose's family. There are a number of actions that will be needed including giving money, providing specific services and items, and grocery shopping.

The Outreach Commission will be considering the various ways our church can provide support to the Robles family. In addition to material support, the Outreach Commission is interested in knowing who, in our congregation, is fluent in Spanish.

Our church is working with Church Council of Greater Seattle as a partner congregation in the Church Council's sanctuary initiative, and is also working directly with Northwest Immigrant's Rights Project to resist efforts to deport immigrants. To learn more, please see the Church Council's website.

## ABWM News

By Shirley Wilkinson

The American Baptist Women's Ministries at SFBC has a new president! Catherine Fales is stepping up to this position and will be supported by Janet Newell, secretary; Shirley Wilkinson, treasurer; and Wendy Winston, coordinator of White Cross.

All women are invited to the Fall Rally of North Puget Sound Area of ABWM which will be held at First Baptist Church of Kent. Mylinda Baits will be the speaker, sharing her experiences of healing through the arts on the mission field. The time is 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. and lunch will be provided by the women of the Washington Chin Baptist Church and the Karin Community Church. Cost is \$10 before September 15 and \$15 after that time. A special offering will be taken to help fight human trafficking. Childcare is available with pre-registration. This is always a fun and inspirational time! Registration forms are available at Friendship Circle or from Catherine Fales or Shirley Wilkinson.

## Save the Date for Evergreen Annual Meeting

The Evergreen Association Annual Meeting will be October 12-13 at Grace Baptist Church in San Jose, CA. The theme of the conference is "Yes We Will Embrace Diversity." Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque, who preached at SFBC in July, will be the guest speaker. More information is available on the Evergreen website: [www.ea-abc.org/annual-meeting](http://www.ea-abc.org/annual-meeting).

## Burrito Roll Restarting

By Ruthie Fossett

Ole!! Heads Up for the New SFBC Burrito Roll which is tentatively set to begin Saturday, October 6, 2018. The Congregation chose a delicious burrito recipe at the Tasting Event in June and we are moving forward to mass production. Holy Rollers will come together to assemble 300 burritos for distribution to Seattle's homeless and hungry. Watch the weekly announcements for further details.

## Project Access Seeks Volunteers

By Gary Renville, executive director

Join Project Access Northwest as a volunteer at the Seattle King County (SKCC) Clinic! Project Access Northwest is seeking volunteers age 18+ to assist in 2-hour shifts on any day from September 20-September 23 at the Seattle King County Clinic.

Volunteers, supported by Project Access Northwest staff will assist clients who need to be enrolled in our program for ophthalmology services after being seen by a medical provider. Volunteers will enable more patients to access needed care and make a marked difference in the health of the community and our patients served. No prior experience required.

For more information email [info@projectaccessnw.org](mailto:info@projectaccessnw.org), or register at: <https://goo.gl/we2gQ2>

For more information on Project Access Northwest, visit their website at: [www.projectaccessnw.org](http://www.projectaccessnw.org)

## SFBC Endorses Initiative 1631

On behalf of the congregation, our pastors and the Executive Committee have agreed to endorse Initiative 1631, which will be on the November ballot in Washington State. Initiative 1631 has support from people of faith because it puts a price on pollution, invests in a clean energy economy, and tailors funding to projects in areas that have suffered the most from dirty air and contaminated water.

God's creation and Earth's ecosystems are crying out for long-term solutions for a changing climate. Initiative 1631 is an excellent first step towards creating a healthy and homegrown energy future. Pastor Tim Phillips points out that the initiative aligns very well with our Statement of Values: *We will protect our environment and support preservation programs that are based on scientific data designed to improve our resources, enhance biodiversity, and reverse human-caused climate change.*

More information about the initiative is available on our website: <http://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/initiative-1631.html>

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## September Calendar of Events

**During September we will have a series of sermons based on the book of James**

*Religion that is pure and undefiled before God is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. —James 1.27 (NRSV)*

Wednesday, Aug. 29

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, Sep. 2 Labor Sunday**

11 a.m. Worship and Communion with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on James 1.17-27

Monday, Sep. 3 Labor Day

Office Closed

Wednesday, Sep. 5

6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall

6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Sep. 8

10 a.m. Tending the Habitat of the Heart: A Contemplative Practice Series led by Rev. Harriet Platts - Parlor

**Sunday, Sep. 9 Homecoming Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Parlor - Homecoming Jeopardy with Cherry Johnson

10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor

11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on James 2.1-10

Note: Godly Play Sunday school and Youth Group resume for the year

Wednesday, Sep. 12

4 p.m. Tending the Habitat of the Heart: A Contemplative Practice Series led by Rev. Harriet Platts.  
Closed group.

6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall

6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, Sep. 16**

9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Parlor - Religion and Politics with David Bloom

10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor

11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Anita Peebles preaching on James 3.1-18

Wednesday, Sep. 19 Yom Kippur

4 p.m. Tending the Habitat of the Heart: A Contemplative Practice Series led by Rev. Harriet Platts.  
Closed group.

6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fridell Hall - note change for this week only

6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Sep. 20

7 p.m. Diaconate - Parlor

**Sunday, Sep. 23 Companis Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Parlor - Religion and Politics with David Bloom

10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor

11 a.m. Worship led by people from Companis

Following Worship - Luncheon sponsored by Companis. Presentation of the Janet Newell Award

Wednesday, Sep. 26

6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall

6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, Sep. 29

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All Church Work Party. Everyone is invited to help. Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday, Sep. 30**

9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Parlor - Religion and Politics with David Bloom

10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor

11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on James 5.13-20

12:30 p.m. Discussion with Judge LeRoy McCullough of the King County Superior Court and  
Justice Steven C. Gonzalez of the Washington Supreme Court - Parlor

3 p.m. Installation service for Pastor Anita Peebles. Rev. Dr. Amy Mears preaching. Reception to follow.

Sunday, Oct. 7

6 p.m. Seattle Jazz Vespers Kicks-Off their Seventeenth Season with the Stephanie Porter Band.

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Seattle First Baptist  
1111 Harvard Ave  
Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: 206.325.6051

## Seattle Jazz Vespers 2018-2019 Season

We kick-off our seventeenth season on October 7 at 6 p.m., in the sanctuary with the **Stephanie Porter Band**. Stephanie Porter is a premier jazz vocalist who lives to sing. Her recordings have charted on the top 10 nationally and internationally.



October 7, 2018

### Stephanie Porter Band

Stephanie Porter – Vocals; Steve Yusen – Drums;  
Michael Barnett – Bass; Bill Anschell- Piano

November 4, 2018

### Jovino Santos Neto Quinteto

Jovino Santos Neto - Piano, Flute, melodica; Ben  
Thomas – Vibraphone; Chuck Deardorf – Bass;  
Mark Ivester – Drums; Jeff Busch – Percussion

December 2, 2018

### Sarah B. Rose Quartet (a.k.a. Burkhart)

Sarah Rose – Vocals; Chris Symer – Bass; Dylan  
Hayes – Piano; Xavier Leicotier – Guitar

January 6, 2019

### Brent Jensen Quartet, Paul Desmond Tribute

Brent Jensen – Alto Sax; Jamie Findlay – Guitar;  
Chris Symer – Bass; Stefan Schatz – Drums

February 10, 2019 (note date change)

### Jake Bergevin Quartet

Jake Bergevin - Trumpet, Vocals, Flugelhorn;  
Michael Glynn – Bass; Milo Petersen – Guitar;  
Steve Korn – Drums

March 3, 2019

### Jeff Kashiwa – The Coastal Access Band

Jeff Kashiwa – Soprano, Alto and Tenor Sax,  
Flute; Allen Hinds – Guitar; Dave Hooper –  
Drums; Dave Kochanski – Piano

April 7, 2019

### Dmitri Matheny Quartet

Dmitri Matheny – Flugelhorn; Milo Petersen –  
Guitar; Phil Sparks – Bass; Mark Ivester- Drums

May 5, 2019

### Bill Anschell Trio

Bill Anschell – Piano; Jeff Johnson – Bass;  
D'Vonne Lewis – Drums

June 2, 2019

### Darelle Holden Quartet

Darelle Holden – Vocals; Brian Monroney –  
Guitar; Dean Schmidt – Bass; Brian Kirk – Drums

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## Online Extras

Each week we publish photos from current events at Seattle First Baptist on our website. We now have a photo record online going back more than four years.

In recent weeks we've included photos of the All Church Street Fair, the Choir Retreat, and lots of other events over the summer. Take a look on our website:

<http://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/recent-happenings.html>