

# THE SPIRE JANUARY 2023



## THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VOLUME 87, NO. 1

Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year! In 2023, I pray for health, safety and wellbeing for all of you and your loved ones. And, for our church family, I pray that we will draw closer to each other, as it is through one another that we experience God's presence.

As we greet the new year, there are lots of messages all around us about resolutions. People often take the new year as a time to reset their lives, try to banish bad habits or take up a new healthy habit. And none of that is wrong, and if it works for you—great! But please remember, in the midst of all the commercials about resolutions and the hype over new fads in diets and gym memberships, that you are beloved and worthy just the way you are.

I wonder what your resolutions are, that affirm you and your body and your relationships? Will you learn a new skill? Spend time in meditation? Read for pleasure? Set up Zoom dates with loved ones? Explore the natural area around you? There are so many opportunities ahead of us, each in our own small corner of the world, and I look forward to hearing what you say “yes” to!

Of course, in the new year there are new opportunities ahead of us as a congregation. We are still in our search for a co-pastor, and our Search Committee is working on finding and vetting candidates that may be a good fit for our community. I look forward to ministering as co-pastors with whoever we call to this community.

I also want to invite you to our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 22 immediately after the service both online and in-person. This meeting is for all members and regular attendees to come and learn about the

“state of SFBC,” as well as vote to approve our annual budget and the lay leadership who will serve on the Council of Ministries for the next year. Though to some this kind of church business meeting may sound a little boring, let me assure you that it is one of the most important aspects of our being Baptist! In a Baptist church, lay leaders are those who are ministering through congregational affirmation. And our annual budget is one way that we demonstrate who we are and what we care about—this is where we plan for fellowship events and opportunities, are proud to provide a living wage for our staff, and name our commitment to supporting organizations we care about, such as the Evergreen Association, the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, the Church Council of Greater Seattle, and many others. So we need YOU to read the annual report that will come out in early January, and attend the annual meeting. YOUR VOICE MATTERS.

Beloved ones, in 2022 I witnessed the Holy One at work in and among our congregation in beautiful ways. We spent time together, supported each other through joys and grief, found ways to have hard conversations and ways to play together, and worshipped through music, song, prayer and spoken word. We watched kids in our church grow more into who they are meant to be, and we kept them in prayer as they attended a full year of in-person school. We checked in on our elders, visited them and listened to them. We asked big questions and listened to each other with concern and care. We were church together.

I look forward to what the Holy One does with and through us, in our church and in our community, in 2023.

I love you and I love being your pastor.

—Rev. Anita

**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
**SUNDAY MORNING SERIES ON IMMIGRANTS & REFUGEES**



*La Sagrada Familia* by Kelly Latimore

A number of years ago, Seattle First Baptist Church adopted a set of values. There are six of them. Number Four reads:

*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.*

We often think of refugees and immigrants in these times only as those seeking refuge at our Southern border. Of course, we DO want to think about the plight of those particular people—especially the refugees from violence, political persecution, hunger and extreme poverty in Latin America, the families separated, the ones who are ill, those who have died or lost loved ones on this dangerous journey.

But there are others to consider as well. Those who have fled Afghanistan or Ukraine or Syria or other places of danger around the world. Those who have come here for an education they we're unable to get in their home country. Those who have fled oppressive

regimes or whose lives are expressly threatened. Those who could not live freely as LGBTQIA+ persons in their home countries or as women's and girls' rights activists. Those fleeing religious persecution. Those who fill the ever-present need in local tech industries. Those who fought in or supported US conflicts abroad. Those who seek to improve the economic lives of their children or grandchildren. Those who do the work most US citizens will not do in order to support family back home.

Imagine leaving the only home you've ever known and going somewhere where you do not speak the language or know the customs or the music. Imagine only being able to obtain food that is unfamiliar—maybe even distasteful to your palate. Imagine feeling out of place and perhaps unwelcome at every turn. Imagine having no family or friends nearby. Imagine wondering, always, what "home" means. Each immigrant or refugee's story is unique. All are important.

When deciding how exactly to offer a group focusing on justice for immigrants and refugees (a HUGE topic!), Small Groups Ministry decided to start close to home. We have many in our congregation who came to this country as immigrants or as refugees—some long ago, some more recently. Their stories are powerful, and most of us have not heard them. As a congregation we are poorer for lacking that knowledge! During the seven weeks of ALL ARE WELCOME, we will be witnessing a few of those stories.

We will also be discerning, individually and collectively, what it truly means to be a welcoming church. What does it mean in terms of how we interact with new people who show up at coffee hour—maybe with limited English skills, maybe looking a bit "lost?" What does it mean in terms of how we worship, what music we sing, how we nurture the children of our congregation? How can we grow in our ability to ensure that ALL ARE WELCOME.

Do not miss out. These stories will change us—if we are willing to collaborate with the storytellers, with Spirit, and with one another, in love. A huge thank-you to Muriel Jones-Cashdollar and Steve Smith for stepping up to lead this series!

**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
**JANUARY 8th – FEBRUARY 19th, 9:30-10:30am**  
*In the Parlor*

**Kelly Latimore** is an artist, who as a member of a social justice community called The Common Friars, started creating unique modern icons in 2011. He says of his work “My hope is that these icons do what all art can potentially do, which is, to create more dialogue. By transcending our biases, listening and having inner silence about our convictions, our inherited traditions, or our favorite ideas we can become open to the patterns of work, knowledge and experience we may not have seen in the other or buried in ourselves. The other may have something to teach us about what we know, about who God is, the world we live in and who are our neighbors. This is the real work of being human and of art. Being more present.” This particular icon depicts the Holy Family (in Spanish, La Sagrada Familia—the title of the work), fleeing as refugees to Egypt.

**HALLELUJAH! IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN  
PLACE AT THE TABLE DINNERS  
JANUARY 28th**



Back by popular demand! These dinners are held three times a year and are, without a doubt, one of the most well-loved events held by SFBC. Started by Joan Benner just before the pandemic forced us all into isolation, Place at the Table offers members of the congregation the opportunity to host or attend dinners in private homes. Here's how it works:

1. For a couple of Sundays, there are sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall down near the Welcome Table after Worship, where people who would like to host a small number of fellow church folks in their home for a potluck meal can sign up to do so. You get to say how many people you are able to host, what timeframe works best for you, and what is needed in terms of what others bring to the feast.

2. Then for a couple of weeks after that, anyone in the congregation can reserve a spot at one of the dinners—by going to Coffee Hour after the morning service and signing up for the venue of their choice. Tables are set up in Fellowship Hall near the Welcome Table—with sign-up sheets showing who's hosting and their addresses. You just print your name in an open spot. (After this part, hosts contact participants with all the details.)

3. For those who cannot attend an in-person event, there is a Virtual Place at the Table Dinner on Zoom. The link is in the church calendar. No reservation is necessary.

Those who have attended these events in the past have glowed with stories of finding out they were not the only one with certain beliefs, or about how they met someone who grew up in the next town over from them in another state, or about discovering what a wicked sense of humor some fellow church member has, or about how they got to know someone new to the congregation. This is how community is built. This is how the early Jesus-followers did things. Don't miss out!

**PLACE AT THE TABLE DINNER  
January 28th**

Sign up TO HOST: January 1st & 8th  
in Fellowship Hall

(or call the church office & leave a message for Joan Benner, or email [smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org))

Sign up TO ATTEND a dinner:  
January 15th and 22nd

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**Godly Play** for kids in kindergarten-6th grade resumes on Sunday, January 8 in the Godly Play room. It will be 9:30-10:30.

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**Youth Group** will be held on Wednesdays in the Youth Room in January: January 4 and 18 from 6:30-8pm.

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**MOVIE NIGHT FOR ALL  
Friday, January 27 from 6:30-9:00**

We will view Disney Pixar's film Inside Out. Popcorn and snacks provided.

Contact Pastor Anita if you wish to volunteer.

## UPDATE FROM THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Seattle First Baptist Church is actively searching for a second pastor to join Pastor Anita in ministering to our beloved community. Have you had questions about the search? Below are answers to some commonly asked questions.

### **Are we looking for a new lead pastor or a “co-pastor”?**

The new pastor will not be a lead pastor. The new pastor will be a “co-pastor” along with our current pastor, Rev. Anita Peebles. The two of them will serve as co-equal members of a two-person pastoral team, and will jointly share responsibility for all pastoral duties.

### **Are the guest preachers who we’ve recently hosted auditioning for the role as co-pastor?**

No. The schedule for guest preachers is unrelated to the search activities.

### **When will SFBC have a second permanent pastor?**

Searches for permanent full-time pastors usually take about 12 to 18 months. The search team began its search in May 2022, and we are hopeful that the search won’t take longer than normal.

### **Who is on the search team?**

The search team members are Bruce Chittick (co-chair), Bob Sittig (co-chair), Jim Thompson (vice chair), Carole Cornell, Aaron Burkhalter, Janet Hasselblad, Darla O’Brian, and Lucy Robinson.

### **How do I share the job listing with people who might be interested in applying?**

The job listing is available at <https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/employment>. Interested applicants should send their resume and cover letter to [jobs@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:jobs@seattlefirstbaptist.org).

### **How can I support the pastors and staff until we have a second pastor?**

There are lots of ways to express your appreciation and support. You can volunteer to participate during worship (email Pastor Anita at [anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org) to get on the list of volunteers). You can participate in one of the many Small Group offerings (listed in the church calendar and the THIS WEEK e-newsletter) or offer to lead a new small group by emailing [smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org). You can also let Metta Williams ([williamsmetta@gmail.com](mailto:williamsmetta@gmail.com)) know if you’d like to serve on a committee—she is actively recruiting now. Or you can simply send an email or card expressing your gratitude. All support is welcome.

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## PLEDGE UPDATE

Pledge Sunday, the day we make a financial commitment to supporting our church, was October 30th. We had good participation but expect slightly lower numbers this year both in the number of pledges and the amount pledged.

For 2022 we had 139 people who pledged and gave or are in electronic giving.

For 2023 we have 127 pledges so far.

Total pledge amount for 2022 was \$408,000

Total pledge amount to date for 2023 is \$376,100. With the addition of anticipated pledges, this number should rise to about \$396,100

Although Pledge Sunday has come and gone, it’s never too late to pledge! Thank you, everyone, for your generosity in support of our church.

—Finance Committee

## THEATER-LOVERS!



**The Play Reading Circle** meets on the first Saturday of each month from 3-5pm on Zoom. We read one play a month. Below is the list of plays scheduled for January through May. If you are interested in joining your fellow SFBC thespians, email [smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org) or call the church office (206-325-6051). Leave us your email address and phone number. We will contact you and ensure that you get copies of the scripts.

January	<i>Once in a Lifetime</i>
February	Read <i>Raisin in the Sun</i> in advance of the group; during group read <i>Clyborne Park</i>
March	<i>The Mousetrap</i>
April	<i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>
May	<i>Radium Girls</i>

**PLAY READING CIRCLE**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7 3-5pm on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85424372570>

**MAYBE THE NEW YEAR IS A GOOD TIME FOR PERSONAL GROWTH  
CONSIDER COMING TO BRAVE SPACE!**



Our church chose a couple of years ago to make a commitment to becoming antiracist. Antiracist does not mean perfect. Antiracist means being willing to examine the systems which keep racism alive and to work to change what needs changing. It means being willing to look at myself and the ways in which I have (unknowingly) contributed to a system which favors white folks over black, indigenous, and other people of color. It means being willing to look at our church in those same ways.

When most white folks first hear “antiracist,” we are confused. We think “I’m not racist. Why are we talking about this? I’m a good person. This is a good church. Antiracist sounds so negative.” We think that “racist” refers to cross-burning KKK members or flat-out bigots only—certainly not members of progressive Christian churches like ours. But the language we use to talk about racism has changed significantly in recent years. There’s a difference between “not racist” and “antiracist.”

Jason Reynolds, who co-authored *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You* with Ibram X. Kendi used a baseball analogy to explain this. “If you think about

baseball, to be not racist is going for a bunt. You hold the bat out. You hope the ball hits the bat so that you can attempt to make a play,” he said. “To be antiracist is to swing the bat as hard as you can and go for the home run; to put in the extra effort to shoot for the stars. You risk the strike, but you swing that bat as hard as you can every single time because you understand that that’s the way you change things.”

Taking such risks takes courage. The SFBC Brave Space group, which arose following a study group on the book *White Fragility* after the murder of George Floyd, is for white-identified members and friends of our congregation who wish to keep moving along the spectrum from “not racist” to “antiracist” and in doing so, to help our church do the same. This Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings of the month from 6-7pm on Zoom to support one another in this process. We focus on Learning (educating ourselves because there’s always more to learn), Healing (because we’ve all caused harm without even realizing it and need to heal, rather than sit frozen in shame), and Practicing (becoming better and braver in speaking out and taking action about racism). Note that action does not only mean going to a demonstration. There are myriad little ways to stand up to racism in our daily lives, and it is our goal to recognize and tend to those. Consider joining us. New folks are welcome any time. Batter up!

**BRAVE SPACE**

Usually 1st & 3rd Mondays (though in January we will meet on the 1st & 4th Mondays due to the due to the Martin Luther King, Jr Day event on the 16th)

6-7pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81180960514>

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE  
NANCY CLAIRE CALLAGHAN**

A Celebration of Life will be held for our dear Nancy Claire Callaghan on Sunday, January 8, 2023, 1:00pm, in the sanctuary. All are invited to come. A reception will be held at her niece’s house in Madison Park, address will be shared at the gathering. She loved her Seattle First Baptist family and enjoyed so much singing in the choir.

*“The bird of time has but a little way to fly and lo, the bird is on the wing.” —The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*

## SACREDLY SPEAKING: GOD-TALK ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC), in partnership with Seattle First Baptist Church and the Evergreen Region of American Baptists present, “Sacredly Speaking: God-Talk About Reproductive Freedom,” a Zoom event January 26, 2023, 5:00-6:30 pm PT.

After the Supreme Court's ruling on June 24th that overturned a half-century precedent on reproductive rights, many of us are left wondering, “What now?” Many of us (both pastors and laity) are wondering how to speak about abortion with our congregations. Many of us are wondering how to speak about this with friends, family, and neighbors who might not agree with us. As people of faith who have taken up Jesus's calling to work for justice, how do we be the voice that advocates for abortion rights from the perspective of progressive Christianity?

If you have been asking these questions, please join us. The topics for the program will include:

- Understanding Reproductive Oppression. Historical overview setting the stage for reproductive oppression and Intersectionality today.
- Liberation Gospel. “What kind of society are we called to be?”
- Sacredly Speaking. How to talk about abortion and reproductive dignity with family, neighbors, and coworkers.
- Ways to Be Involved. Practical ways to make a difference now.

Register in advance here:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjcuO6spj4rH9Xag-rUd96DPZo1UXwpJSBC>

You will be asked for contact information; RCRC wants to be able to share slides with you afterwards and converse with you about resources and future events. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### Presenters

**Rev. Brandee Jasmine Mimitzraiem** is the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice's (RCRC) Director of Institutional Engagement and Public Theology. Rev. Brandee Jasmine leads efforts to move outside of strictly-Christian spaces and into reproductive justice (RJ) spaces, incorporating a diverse and

multi-faith strategy into RCRC's work. Rev. Brandee Jasmine was ordained an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 2003 and has pastored congregations in Utah, Kansas, and Nebraska.



She prioritizes the well-being within the real-lived experiences of Black Queer women and children, and works to create and sustain safe places across the intersectional realities of race, sexuality, gender expression, and class within the Church and in communities. She has two donor-conceived sons and two dogs (she calls them “models of pastoral leadership”), all of whom keep life full of laughter. Rev. Brandee Jasmine is a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.



Professor, author, thought coach, and multi-media personality, **Rt. Rev. Edward Donalson III**, DMin is a visionary with a dynamic message of empowerment. Born in Philadelphia, PA and cultivated in Seattle, WA as a bi-coastal youth, he developed a heart for diversity and an ability to navigate all socioeconomic, educational, and ethnic spheres. Traveling nationally as a guest lecturer, workshop clinician, and preacher since 1996, he is a constructive theologian with a liberative lens. His scholarship centers intersectional theology as an emerging discipline.

With a Bachelor of Theology, a Masters of Art in Global Leadership and a Doctorate of Ministry. Dr. Donalson speaks a life affirming message to all people. The hallmarks of his work include an emphasis on combating imperialist, anti-Black, capitalists, cishet-eropatriarchy.

Dr. Donalson has authored several books: *Moments of Worship*; *More Moments of Worship*; *THINK! Retooling Your Mind for Kingdom Success*; *THINK Again! The*

*Roadmap to Kingdom Greatness; Unlocking the Genius Within: Essays on Greatness; Get Your Life: Affirmations, Inspirations, and Intentions; and In My Own Words; the Contemplative Life of a 21st Century Bishop*, and is also the compiler of two anthologies: *On Becoming* and *Yes I'm a Christian; a Practical Theology for an Emerging Generation*. Dr. Donalson's release on Cascade Books: *#BlackLivesMatter: Toward an Intersectional Theology* is foundational in the discipline of Intersectional Theology.

Dr. Edward Donalson, III is the Director of Doctor of Ministry for the School of Theology and Ministry of Seattle University where he serves as core faculty, teaching in multiple degree programs. Currently serving as Senior Pastor of Kingdom Family Worship Center Int'l he is the Presiding Prelate of Freedom Assemblies Worldwide. He is the current Dean of The College of Affirming Bishops while concurrently serving as a Senior Bishop in the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. Dr. Donalson is also the Bishop of Operations for the P.U.R.E. Ministries International Fellowship Churches and serves both on the Boards of The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice and Faith Action Network. In his spare time Dr. Donalson is also a board member of Interconnected Justice: A Pan African world movement.



**Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson** is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, who has served as pastor of congregations in UCC, United Methodist Church and Presbyterian Church-USA. She formerly served as director of spiritual care and activism for the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice. She is president of Excellent Way which integrates interspiritual wisdom for individual and organizational transformation. She has served as adjunct faculty at Union Theological Seminary and One Spirit Interfaith Seminary. Dr. Cari holds a Ph.D. in Christian Social Ethics, Master of Divinity, Juris Doctor, and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Sociology. She is the author of five books including *The Gift to Listen*, *The Courage to Hear*, *Love Like You've Never Been Hurt*, and *For the Souls of Black Folks*; and contributing author to *Sisters in Mourning*.



## CONCERT SPOTLIGHT

**Darius Willrich Quartet**

**January 8, 2022 at 6:00pm**

*\*Note Date Change\**

An internationally acclaimed soul singer, trained jazz pianist and intelligent songwriter, Darius Willrich delivers

feel good music drawn from a wide skill spectrum. His uplifting messages encouraging love of life and his sweetly lyrical, harmonically rich sound have made him a much sought after performer.

Initially influenced by the genius of Stevie Wonder and Prince, Darius has crafted an original style all his own, capitalizing on his innate musical ability to combine diverse genres of music, from jazz to hip hop, to electronica, soul and R&B.

A cornerstone of Seattle's live music scene, Willrich collaborates regularly with a number of Seattle Artists, and to date, has composed scores for four feature films.

Devoting his life to music since the age of twelve, Darius taught himself to play by ear, and later went on to graduate Summa Cum Laude from Cornish College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Piano.

Seattle Jazz Vespers presents a secular concert of professional jazz music, for those who love jazz, with an inspirational message. The first Sunday of every month, October through June at 6pm.



## SMALL GROUPS SCHEDULE for JANUARY



REMEMBER: New participants are welcome in all of these groups at any time! There are three places where you can find the zoom links, descriptions and time schedules for small groups: on the church calendar (found on our website [seattlefirstbaptist.org](http://seattlefirstbaptist.org)), in the electronic publication THIS WEEK, and here in THE SPIRE. If you have questions or thoughts about the Small Groups Ministry or would like to start/lead a new group, email [smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org) or call the church office (206-325-6051).

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### SUNDAYS

**All Are Welcome** Weekly, 9:30-10:30am in the Church Parlor (starts January 8th—*see separate article*)

**Virtual Coffee Hour** Weekly, immediately following the Postlude, on Zoom  
<http://zoom.us/j/866012575>

**Friendship Circle** 2nd Sunday of the month (January 8) 2-3pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87396272439>

**Reproductive Justice & Faith** 3rd Sunday of the month (January 15) 12:30-2pm at the church in Fridell, and on Zoom  
<https://washington.zoom.us/j/98270878634>

**BIPOC Group** 3rd Sunday of the month (January 15), 4-5pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85036603078>

**Interfaith Climate Action** 4th Sunday of the month (January 22) 6:30-8pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9831359120>

### MONDAYS

**Brave Space** This month only—1st and 4th Mondays (January 2 and 23) 6-7pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81180960514>

### TUESDAYS

**Prayer Group** Weekly 12-12:30pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86776242649>

**Legacies** (where we share the many stories of our lives) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (January 3 & 17) 1:30-3pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86065659153>

### THURSDAYS

**Bible Study** Weekly, 12-1pm on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86761779225>

### SATURDAYS

**Men's Group** Weekly 10am on Zoom.  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81095038488?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81095038488?pwd=RlpydDZ0cERLVFhtcEFPSWMzSIQzUT09)  
`pwd=RlpydDZ0cERLVFhtcEFPSWMzSIQzUT09`

**Women's Conversations** 2nd & 4th Saturdays (January 14 & 28) 11:30am-12:30pm on Zoom (Come deepen relationships with other women from the church)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82388737061>

**Play Reading Circle** 1st Saturday of each month (January 7) 3-5pm on Zoom (*See separate article*)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85424372570>

**Place at the Table Dinners** Held three times a year on a Saturday evening; Next one is January 28th (*See separate article*) Most dinners are in-person in members' homes. There is a Virtual dinner for those who desire it. Zoom link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84247524472>

*Sometimes things change—Group cancellations or different times or new links. For up-to-date information, read the This Week electronic newsletter which comes out on Thursdays. If you are not subscribed to this and wish to be, call the church office or*



## SFBC Annual Meeting

The SFBC annual meeting will be held on January 22 immediately following the service. The meeting will be in person and livestreamed. It is anticipated that there will be 3 items requiring a vote:

1. SFBC Council of Ministries Candidates and Terms for 2023
2. 2023 Proposed Romney Legacy Fund Disbursements
3. 2023 General Fund Budget

The information about those votes follows. There will be an opportunity for members not joining in person to vote **PRIOR TO** the Annual Meeting by filling in a ballot online. Watch the This Week e-mail in upcoming weeks for the link to participate in online voting.

### **SFBC Council of Ministries Candidates and Terms for 2023**

The following slate of officers and members at large are nominated by the Council of Ministries to serve on the 2023 Council of Ministries.

<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Officer/ At-large</b>	<b>Term</b>
Mike Zaugg	President	1 yr.
Megan Walker	Vice President	2 yrs.
Eric Watness	Secretary	1 yr.
Inola de la Cruz	Treasurer	2 yrs.
David Delgado	At-large	1 yr.
Cory Clemons	At-large	2 yrs.
Bob Sittig	At-large	1 yr.
David Young	At-large	1 yr.
Nirmala Jeldi	At-large	1 yr.
Roem de la Cruz	At-large	2 yrs.
Sue Ross	At-Large	2 yrs.

## **2023 Proposed Romney Legacy Fund Disbursements**

The committee is made up of Margaret Norton-Arnold, Diana James, Steve Smith, Reverend Anita Peebles, and me. We have \$25,000 to spend in 2023.

For 2023, the Romney Legacy Committee recommends the following:

### **\$13,000 for Three Organizations**

**\$5,000 to Operation Nightwatch.** Operation Nightwatch is dedicated to reducing the impact of poverty and homelessness. In addition to operating twenty-four units for low-income seniors, Operation Nightwatch dispatches volunteers throughout Seattle each night to deliver hot meals to unhoused individuals.

**\$5,000 to Helping Link.** Helping Link is dedicated to empowering Vietnamese-Americans' social adjustment, family stability and self-sufficiency while nurturing community service and youth leaders. The organization provides educational programs and resources in language, technology, and citizenship.

**\$3,000 to Women United.** This organization works to strengthen kinship families and meet the needs of grandmothers who are raising grandchildren. Women United achieves this mission by offering unity, family reconciliation, the teaching of socio-emotions skills, and positive self-determination.

### **\$10,000 for the Romney Lecture Series**

**\$2,000 for Genjo Marinello.** Genjo Marinello was with us in 2022 and will join us again in 2023 for a weekend of Buddhist meditation and discussion. He will be with us in April 2023.

**\$8,000 for Cole Arthur Riley.** Cole Arthur Riley is a writer and poet. She is the author of *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make us*. She currently serves as the spiritual teacher in residence at Cornell University. She is also the creator of Black Liturgies, a space that integrates spiritual practice with Black emotion, Black literature, and the Black Body. Cole will be with us in June 2023.

### **\$2,000 to be used as needed**

The committee is setting aside \$2,000 to meet any emerging needs during 2023.

### **Changes in 2022 Expenditures**

Due primarily to Covid and scheduling issues, we needed to reschedule one of our intended speakers for 2022. And we weren't able to schedule two of the speakers we were hoping to bring to the church. This left us with \$20,000 in unspent funds for 2022. These funds will be re-allocated for use in 2023.

# SFBC 2023 Proposed Budget

	2022 Approved Budget	2023 Proposed Budget	Final Version 1/3/23
400 · Offering Income	\$478,000.00	\$420,000.00	
420 · Interest Income	\$150,000.00	\$125,000.00	
430 · Loose Offerings Income	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	
440 · Special Offerings Income	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00	
390 · Foundation Support General Fund	\$200,000.00	\$250,000.00	
460 · Building Use Income	\$270,000.00	\$270,000.00	
Transfer from 880 LRPT	\$5,000.00	\$750.00	
Transfer from 880 Forward in Faith	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	
	<u>\$1,124,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,088,750.00</u>	
<b>Personnel</b>			
501 · Pastor/Staff Salary			
503 · Pastor/Staff Retirement			
504 · Pastor/Staff Health Insurance			
510 · Minister/Staff Prof. Expenses			
511 · Pulpit Supply			
521 · Choir/Organist Supply			
568 · Labor and Industry All Staff			
569 · FICA Expense			
573 · Staff Gifts			
			Includes 5% raise for all staff and plans for Perm. Pastor Starting in May
<b>Total Worship</b>	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00	
595 · Worship Supplies	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	
<b>Total Music</b>	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	
600 · Copyright	\$900.00	\$1,000.00	
601 · Music Supplies	\$3,500.00	\$4,800.00	
602 · Youth/Children Music	\$300.00	\$0.00	Moved to 601
603 · Guest Musicians	\$5,300.00	\$5,200.00	
604 · Organist Music/Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	Moved to 601
606 · Choir Interns	\$3,700.00	\$5,000.00	
607 · Choir Retreat	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	
610 · Advertising	\$300.00	\$0.00	Moved to 601
<b>Total Membership</b>	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	
611 · Picnic	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
614 · Programming	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	includes picnic
<b>Total Operations</b>	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	
620 · Office Supplies	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	
621 · Postage	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00	Less physical mailing
622 · Office Equip. Lease & M/A	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	Negotiated New Contract
623 · Telecommunications	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	New needs for Livestreaming
624 · Parking	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
625 · Hospitality	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
628 · Technical Support	\$20,500.00	\$20,500.00	
630 · Church Maint.	\$41,000.00	\$41,000.00	
631 · Utilities	\$70,000.00	\$59,400.00	Improved Efficiency
632 · Property Assessments	\$5,000.00	\$5,500.00	

	633 · Instrument Maintenance	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00
	634 · Insurance	\$16,500.00	\$17,000.00
	637 · Web Presence Lisc. Fees	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	701 · Heritage Room Archives	\$250.00	\$0.00 Moved to 620
	689 · Advertising	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
	638 · A/V Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	657 · Property Taxes	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00
	690 · Stewardship	\$600.00	\$2,000.00 Includes Financial Review
	696 · Board Retreat	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	629 · Food Services	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
	639 · Custodial Services/Contractor Support	\$70,000.00	\$75,000.00 Includes Landscaping
<b>Total</b>		<u>\$382,350.00</u>	<u>\$350,900.00</u>
<b>Adult Ministry</b>			
	642 · Small Groups Programming	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
	643 · Senior Adult Ministry	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00
	648 · Retreats	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	693 · American Baptist Women	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	703 · Anti-Racism Consultant	\$10,000.00	\$0.00 880-Antiracism
	649 · Faith Community Nurse	\$250.00	\$0.00 Not Needed
<b>Total</b>		<u>\$19,550.00</u>	<u>\$12,300.00</u>
<b>Next Gen.</b>			
	654 · Programs	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<u>\$7,000.00</u>	<u>\$7,000.00</u>
<b>Outreach</b>			
	681 · Outreach Discretionary	\$12,250.00	\$12,250.00
<b>Total</b>		\$12,250.00	\$12,250.00
<b>Benevolence</b>			
	670 · ABC/USA-UMB	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	672 · Camp Burton	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	674 · Assn. Welcoming and Affirming Baptists	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	677 · Church Council - Seattle	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	666 · Companis Mission Workers	\$37,000.00	\$37,000.00
	699 · Biennial Mission Summit	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
	679 · Baptist Peace Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<u>\$81,500.00</u>	<u>\$85,500.00</u>
		<u>\$1,123,900.00</u>	<u>\$1,088,700.00</u>
<b>Net Income</b>		<u><b>\$100.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$50.00</b></u>

**NOTES:**

2022 Foundation Support: \$250,000 - Gen Fund, \$100,000 Capitol Development (including Parking Lot Development \$45,000; Facilities Task Force \$5,000; and Boiler \$50,000)

2022 Endowment Interest Allocations: \$125,000 - General Operating, \$25,000 - Romney Fund, \$15,000 - Music Fund, \$10,000 - Building Fund

## STAFF DIRECTORY

**Rev. Anita Peebles** (x106)

*Pastor*

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*Communications & Digital Services*

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**Kellie Whitlock**

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## Our Mission Statement

*We are a community of faith united in exploring what it means to follow the way of Jesus Christ, to be a people of God, and to love and care for our neighbors. As a church we will know no circles of exclusion, no bridges we will not cross, and no loyalties above those that we owe to God.*

## 2022 OFFICERS AND CHURCH LEADERS

### OFFICERS

**President:** Megan Walker

**Vice President:** Dick Miller

**Treasurer:** Metta Williams

**Secretary:** Eric Watness

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Inola de la Cruz

David Delgado

Martha Hopley

Nirmala Jeldi

Bob Sittig

Christine Warren

David Young

For more information please contact the church at  
contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Service at 11 a.m. in-person and online

### Seattle First Baptist Church

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editor@seattlefirstbaptist.org.

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SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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SEATTLE, WA 98122-4261



**Special Guest Preacher**  
**Rev. Dr. Robert Michael Franklin, Jr.**

*Emory University  
James T. and Berta R. Laney Professor  
Moral Leadership, Candler School of Theology  
& Former President Morehouse College*

**Evergreen Association of American  
Baptist Churches**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
**Annual Celebration**

**Monday, January 16, 2022  
6:00 PM**

**New Beginnings Christian Fellowship  
Worship & Family Life Center**

