



## BEARING WITNESS, LIVING JOY, MOVING WITH THE SPIRIT

Bearing Witness, Living Joy is our theme for this year's Stewardship campaign and our ministries for 2026. The idea of moving with the Spirit comes from our dynamic new logo which shows our foundation in Christ and our calling from the Holy Spirit. These three ideas of paying attention, resting in God, and putting our faith into action beautifully express what it means to be the First Baptist Church community of faith.

So much has changed in our world and we have responded by paying attention to the needs of those around us and by standing up for the historic Baptist principles of soul freedom and the separation of church and state.

As we gather for worship, fellowship, and service, we rest in God's love, supporting each other and giving thanks for our many blessings. By being fully present and open to God we can live lives of Joy.

We are putting our faith into action this month by expanding our traditional Thanksgiving food procession to include a food drive for Feeding Chittenden and ANEW Place. We are hiring a Director of Family Ministries and Outreach who will support our Church School and strengthen our Mission partnerships.

As we consider our financial pledges for next year, may we bear witness, live with Joy, and move with the Spirit. It is a great blessing to be in ministry together.

IN CHRIST,  
Rev. Karen A. Mendes

# Happy Birthday

- 01** Karen Shastany
- 10** William McCormick & Luana McCormick
- 16** Lauren Harrington
- 17** Marty French & David Hall
- 19** Lois Lynch
- 22** David Little
- 25** Ginger Calder
- 29** Beth Vuley
- 30** Brian Hayes & Gail Holmes



## HAPPY Anniversary

- 24** Brian & Linda Hayes - 18 Years

## WORSHIP SERVICES

- 9** Luke 20:27-38  
God of the Living
- 16** Pledge Sunday  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
Bearing Witness, Living Joy
- 23** Thanksgiving Sunday  
John 6:25-35  
The Bread of Life
- 30** Advent 1  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
Walking in the Light

## SECOND HOURS SERVICES

**Check the  
Green Steeple  
Weekly for  
more updates!**



## Gift of Caring, Time & Visitation



All of us are part of the First Baptist Visitation Team and can call or email our church friends or send a note or card. Please take some time to reach out to the church members and friends who live in your town. You can access the church directory through [Instantchurchdirectory.com](https://Instantchurchdirectory.com) or through the Instant Church Directory App. Try phoning someone you might not otherwise call, but miss seeing in church.

## Make Your Financial Donation

If you are unable to attend worship in person, you may mail a check to the church office or give electronically through the donate button on our church website: <http://www.fbcburlingtonvt.com> or through the smartphone app called Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Our ministries depend on the generous gifts of our members and friends. You can also give using this QR code. Thank you for your participation in sharing the love of God in our community and our world.



# Opportunities for Fellowship & Learning

There is more to Church than Sunday mornings!

**Weekday Bible Study - Mondays at 11:30am** - We are continuing our study of the Gospel of Luke. Please join us in person or remotely and feel free to bring your lunch. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86024135383?pwd=b1pWcXRqZVo1Yjl2Zmh3Q2x5MXliZz09>

**THE BOOK GROUP is reading The Galapagos Islands** - A Spiritual Journey by Brian McLaren. Our next meeting will be Monday, Nov. 24 at 7pm via Zoom. We will discuss chapters 8-11.

**FIRST BAPTIST HIKES!** This time to Mount Philo in Charlotte! Join us at 9:45am on Saturday Nov 15 at the Mount Philo parking lot. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water and snacks. Contact Rev. Mendes for more information. Sign up in the Narthex.

**PLEDGE SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 16.** Our theme for this coming year is Bearing Witness, Living Joy. Thank you for your participation in our many ministries.

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PLANS!** Calling all angels, shepherds, magi, Holy Families, directors, and crew! The main cast will begin rehearsals on Saturday, Nov. 9. Full cast rehearsals will happen on Sunday, November 23 after worship and on Saturday, Dec. 20, time to be announced. Please speak with Rev. Mendes or Lois Lynch, if you are interested in participating in any capacity.

**CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL** on Thursdays at 7pm. Come sing with this melodious community! Contact Anna Roy at [aroy@fbc Burlingtonvt.com](mailto:aroy@fbc Burlingtonvt.com) for more information.

**FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP:** All are invited to provide flowers for a worship service. This can be a meaningful way to memorialize a loved one or commemorate an important event and bring God's beautiful creations into the sanctuary to enhance our spirit of praise and joy in worship. Please call the church office to sign up for a particular Sunday.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Beginning on November 3, the church office hours will be Monday: 9am -2  
Tuesday: 8am-12pm  
Wednesday: Office Closed  
Thursday 8am-12pm  
Friday 9am-2pm.



**PAST WORSHIP SERVICES...** are available on our website and our YouTube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0vIptkSAyIRbAilfDbGFIw>

# Church School News

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PLANS!** Calling all angels, shepherds, magi, Holy Families, directors, and crew! The main cast will begin rehearsals on Saturday, Nov. 9. Full cast rehearsals will happen on Sunday, November 23 after worship and on Saturday, Dec. 20, time to be announced. Please speak with Rev. Mendes or Lois Lynch, if you are interested in participating in any capacity.



## Missions

### Thanksgiving Sunday

#### November 23

This year we will be expanding our Thanksgiving Food offering to include items for the Feeding Chittenden Food Shelf and Anew Place. In addition to traditional Thanksgiving food items, please consider items from the grocery list below. Your contribution of non-perishable food items or money to buy turkeys can be dropped off in the Narthex on Sunday, November 23.

#### List from Feeding Chittenden

- Canned proteins (Chicken, Beef, etc.),
- Peanut Butter,
- Cereals and Oatmeal,
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables,
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce,
- Rice,
- Shelf-Stable Juice & Milk,
- Toiletry Items (Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Body Wash, etc.),
- Diapers,
- Baby Food & Formula,
- Menstrual Hygiene Products,
- Cooking Oils & Spices



# Mission News

**I-89 Fundraiser:**

**We earned**

**\$338.97!!!!**

**THANK  
YOU**

We thank all goodie providers/shift workers who made it possible to have another successful I-89 Fundraiser on October 4. A big thank you to Lynn Blodgett, Ginger and Jim Calder, Lois D'Arcangelo, Deb Holonitch, Cindy and Dave Little, Lois Lynch, Bill McCormick, Marie Morton, Bev Nichols, Brenda Perkins, Karen Pope, Iris Roy, Pat Reasoner, Peni Saulnier, Fern Sparks and Jessica Wright.

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We also thank our many soup, treat makers and volunteers for The Share our interfaith dinner with First United Methodist Church every Sunday at 430. We serve about 25-45 persons who are homeless or have food insecurity. We now need 3 soups every Sunday. Recent soup, treat makers and volunteers include Cindy and Dave Little, Deb Holonitch, Ginger Calder, Lois D'Arcangelo, Karen Pope, Jamie Burke, Debby Tate, Fern Sparks and Beth Gamache. We thank Fern for having a presence also in the dining room conversing with our guests. If you would like to make a soup or volunteer feel free to speak to Lois or Beth.

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**WARM CLOTHES FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED** If you have an old coat in your closet that could benefit a visitor in our church yard or at ANEW Place, please bring it to church and it will be given as needed. More info in Green Steeple Weekly.





# UGB Meeting



## UGB Minutes October

### FBC UGB Meeting Minutes October 20,2025

Stu and Jeneva Burroughs volunteered to attend the ABC RGR Delegates Meeting on Zoom, November 1st. Karen will also attend. She has been nominated to join the ABCRGR Executive Board.

Reports were submitted in written format prior to the meeting.

1. **Outreach Team** - Discussion if we should reconsider the I-89 fundraiser Fall of 2026. Will discuss closer to date.
2. **Fellowship** - We have had several new visitors recently. We have a volunteer to organize the Children's library.
3. **Music** - Steve shared that they are planning for the upcoming holiday season.
4. **CE** - CE Committee has met regarding the part time position for the combined CE/Mission position. Up to 20 hours weekly/ \$25.00 /hr. Position will need to be voted on by UGB. Missions may fund their share of position (\$8,000.00) from the Dinwiddie fund. CE will need to access the Dinwiddie fund and Shaub/Whitney fund. A motion was made to advertise for the position. All were in favor. CE had \$533.43 remaining in backpack money. 19 backpacks were purchased for next year.
5. **Property team** - Security Camera system approved on 10/12/25 by congregational vote. The right sided refrigerator failed. Gary Marcotte of Marcotte Appliances donated a gently used refrigerator on 10/21. A thank you note was sent. Front railing has supports in place until concrete work can be completed in the spring.
6. **139 Bank St Team** - See report - no questions/comments.
7. **Church Historian** - Pat shared that the committee has not met in the last month.

# UGB Meeting

UGB October Minutes Continued

FBC UGB Meeting Minutes October 20, 2025

**Financial Reports:** We received money from the Ann Hall estate.

**TPF:** Sarah Wright will offer a Stewardship moment 11/2 or 11/9.

**Pastor's Report** - Justice has resigned, last day 11/6/25. Position posted on Indeed and we have received 12 applicants; now thinned down to 6 applicants. The Dopp Recital was attended by 25 persons. Plan to request help with publicity for the Fall 2026 concert. Karen shared that Christmas Eve services last year were at 5 PM and 10 PM. She will speak with the Karen community and the choir to consider the possibility of one early service.

On 11/23, we will have the Thanksgiving processional and donations for those in need.

**The next meeting is Monday November 17th at 7 PM via Zoom.**

**Next Meeting: November 20, 2025 at 7pm**

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## Admin's Corner

First Baptist Church,

Thank you for welcoming me with open arms and warm hearts. I have to admit when I first started this job, I had no idea what to expect. I am grateful that the staffing team said yes to me because I feel like I gain more members in my Vermont Family. I have truly enjoyed all the talks, laughs and waving at you all through the church office window. Although, I am stepping down as administrator - I am not leaving the community. You'll see me around 😊. On my last day, I walked Pierre through FBC happenings & I am confident - you all are in good hands. **Keep God first, Love each other well, & Laugh A LOT!**

With Love,

Justice ☒







# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

*Celebrate the Season with your Family of Faith*

## EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

Sunday, Nov. 23

### **"Greening of the Church"**

Decorate the Sanctuary for  
Advent & Christmas

Sunday, Dec. 7

### **"Christmas Tree Sunday"**

Bring an ornament from home  
to decorate our Sanctuary tree.

Sunday, Dec. 14

### **"Advent Stories and Songs following worship"**

Our Second Hour will be filled  
with music and story.

Sunday, Dec. 21

### **"Christmas Sunday Worship"**

Wonderful music and the  
Christmas Pageant to celebrate  
the 4th Sunday of Advent.

Sunday, Dec. 21, 4:00pm

### **"The Longest Night Service"**

A Christmas service for those  
who mourn.

Wednesday Dec. 24

### **"Christmas Eve Service"**

Candlelight Service - 10:00pm

Thursday, Dec 25

### **"Christmas Day Worship"**

Celebrate Christmas Day with  
our Karen Speaking Church  
Family

Afternoon of Dec. 28

### **"Christmas Caroling"**

Bringing Christmas cheer to  
our homebound members and  
friends.

Sunday, Jan. 4

### **"Epiphany Party"**

Join us for Three Kings Cake and  
other treats as we celebrate the  
Magi's visit to the Christ Child.

For more information, contact the church office. 802-864-6515,  
[welcome@fbc Burlingtonvt.com](mailto:welcome@fbc Burlingtonvt.com)

# CONTACT US

## Church Staff Directory

Rev. Karen A. Mendes - Pastor  
Pastor Thee Say - Karen Baptist  
Pastor

Pierre Compere - Church  
Administrator

Evan Allen - Organist

Anna Roy - Chancel Choir Director

Brenda Perkins - Youth Choir  
Director

The Karen Baptist Community -  
Sexton Team

Dazzling Diadem - Tech Support

## Church Contact

Office: 802-864-6515

Conference: 802-864-4721

Email:

[welcome@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:welcome@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Website: [www.fbcburlingtonvt.com](http://www.fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Visit Us On Facebook:

First Baptist Church, Burlington, VT.

## Officers of First Baptist

Cindy Little - Moderator

Mark Paulsen - Assistant Moderator

Beth Gamache - Assistant Clerk

Frank Swasey - Treasurer

Daz Diadem - Assistant Treasurer

Marilyn Siple - Financial Secretary

Marie Morton - Assistant Financial  
Secretary

Pat Reasoner - Historian

Mark Paulsen - Parliamentarian

## Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM - 2 PM

Tuesday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 2 PM

## CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

The church office - [welcome@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:welcome@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Karen Mendes - [revkamendes@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:revkamendes@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Evan Allen - [eallen@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:eallen@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Anna Roy - [aroy@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:aroy@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Financial Secretary - [financialsecretary@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:financialsecretary@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Karen Baptist Community - [KBC@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:KBC@fbcburlingtonvt.com)

Treasurer - [treasurer@fbcburlingtonvt.com](mailto:treasurer@fbcburlingtonvt.com)