

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OLYMPIA

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## Church Staff

Pastor Dave Roberts, Interim Pastor  
Mark Rambo, Associate Pastor  
Caroline Lehman, Visitation Pastor  
Nick Carlson, Organist  
Darrell Born, Choir Director  
Lela DePaolo, Secretary  
Gary Rogers, Caretaker

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Organization  
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## First Baptist Church Oct. 2019 Tentative Preaching Schedule

### October 6th

Psalm 37:1-9  
*Deep Breath*  
Pastor Mark Rambo

### October 13th

Luke 17 :11-19  
*Living in Borderlands*  
Pastor Dave Roberts

### October 20th

Luke 18:1-8  
*We're in it for the Long Haul*  
Pastor Mark Rambo

### October 27th

Luke 18:9-14  
*Evaluation Work*  
Pastor Dave Roberts



*"If you knew the gift  
of God and who it is  
that asks you for a  
drink, you would  
have asked him and  
he would have given  
you living water"*

*John 4:10*

October  
2019

# WINDOWS

*I will open up the windows of heaven  
and pour out a blessing upon you.*

## First Baptist Church

### Inside this issue:

Front Page:  
**EVENTS &  
DATES**

**PASTOR  
MARK'S  
MEANDERINGS** 2

**PASTOR  
DAVE'S  
PONDERINGS** 3

**MODERATOR  
REPORT  
JEAN HEIDAL  
&  
BIRTHDAYS** 4

**OCTOBER  
CALENDAR** 5

**MISSION  
BOARD  
GARY BAITS** 6

**WOMEN'S  
MINISTRIES  
JEAN HEIDAL** 7

### BREAKFAST WITH REV. CHARLES REVIS, EXECUTIVE MINISTER OF MISSION NORTHWEST

As we continue our discussion regarding region affiliation the Council has invited Rev. Charles Revis, Executive Minister of Mission Northwest, to come and meet with the congregation. We have scheduled a breakfast meeting with him on **Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am.** He will share information about the organization of the region and missions in which they are involved. This will (probably) be the final meeting before we make a region determination at the upcoming annual meeting in November.

For those of you who have attended previous meetings, we hope that this will be helpful in assessing the benefits of Mission Northwest. If you have questions, please feel free to talk with me or any member of the pastoral staff or council. Mark your calendar for this important date!

Jean Heidal

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- The Deadline to submit articles for the Annual Report is **October 24th!**
- The Annual Meeting / Dessert Potluck is in the Fellowship Hall **November 6th at 6:30 pm**



## Mark's Meanderings: GENUINE Giving

selfless

action

purposeful

sharing

dependable

Responsive

available

Throughout the month of September, the theme of Stewardship was highlighted during the Worship services. As we move forward into October, with its emphasis on World Missions, and then the last two months of 2019 centering on thankfulness and the coming Christ child, it would be easy and reasonable to put the idea of stewardship firmly in our rearview mirror. However, stewardship is both an ongoing action and attitude that is part of our spiritual DNA as followers of Christ. Stewardship is about giving back because of what God has given to each of us freely and unconditionally. Our giving of time, talent and financial resources, is an acknowledgement that God has been faithful, generous and patient with each and every one of us.

Within this edition of the Windows, you will find a grouping of words that reflect all that goes into our attitudes and actions when it comes to stewardship and our financial commitments. We were challenged during the September 22<sup>nd</sup> worship service to spend some time in prayer and contemplation at the words that make up this idea of biblical stewardship. See which word jumps out at you. Then see if you can attach a story to that particular word. Is there a biblical story that speaks to that word? Is there a story within your own faith journey that brings texture and life to that word? I think you will be surprised by what you discover with the help of the Holy Spirit. I know some of you might be overachievers and think that there are too many words, how can we choose just one? Fine. Find two then, three max, but discover and discern what God's Spirit reveals and connects for you when it comes to stewardship.

Stewardship is not just about money and how much we give. That's part of it because there is a practical side to our giving. We have a budget, we have salaries to pay, we have bills, etc. We have ministry to do. But again, stewardship is an attitude and action about WHOSE we are and how that Holy Presence has loved us, forgiven us, changed us, lifted us, encourages us, inspires us and yes, challenges us to reflect all that God stands for through the life, death and resurrection of God's child, Jesus Christ. That takes courage. That takes commitment. That takes faith. Faith, we are told, that can move mountains and make the path straight.

As we move forward as a congregation this last quarter of 2019, may we make a commitment to the future of Olympia First Baptist. A commitment that says, we trust God's faithfulness even though our future is hard to discern at the moment. A commitment to one another that we will look for ways to encourage one another, build up one another, pray for one another, work with each other and not give into a spirit of "Woe is us!" attitude! Stewardship, you see, is a lifestyle with a spiritual component that runs deep and touches every aspect of our lives. As Pastor Bob reminded us over and over again during his time with us, it really does come down to our "outlooks and attitudes."

Joyfully and with Thanksgiving!

Pastor Mark

## Women's Ministries by Jean Heidal

**Win- Win-Win!!!** The recent Garage Sale was a "win" for several reasons. First, many in the congregation, moving or downsizing, were able to donate unneeded items to our sale! We had a bounty of things to sell and we are grateful to all who took the time to contribute. Secondly, we were able to help many in our community with items they needed. A number of puzzles and games went to the Senior Center and also some decorating items. We gave several boxes of dishes, glasses and mugs to City Gates Ministry, which helps people transition into permanent housing. Other donations went to Garfield School in the form of school supplies and books for the children whose parents do not have funds to provide these items. A number of school teachers, or families of school teachers, came to purchase books and games for their classrooms! The women made about \$1300, but there is more money to come in!

***It was a great time and I personally want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the sale a success. Thank you!***

**October Meeting** We will gather on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 12 noon for our next meeting. Members of the Puerto Rico mission team will be presenting some of their stories about the trip. Come for the fellowship, to hear what our group is doing and more experiences from our mission team.

**Christmas Brunch** - Someone asked me recently when tickets would go on sale for the Christmas Brunch! Wow!! So, the Brunch will be held this year on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Sandi Swarthout, an outstanding soloist and member of our church choir, will present a program of Christmas music. Other details of the program are still being worked out. Tickets will go on sale in early November, so watch your bulletin/insert for more details. After our garage sale in September we have decided **not to have the Treasure Room** this year. We will concentrate on the Cookie Room and Brunch.

**Change in Mission Emphasis** - For years we have asked for your sheets to make roller bandages as they are used in place of medical tape in underdeveloped countries. At conference this year we were told that roller bandages would no longer be accepted, but without the explanation. I have recently learned that the countries, which use roller bandages, have a 5 year supply and just can't store anymore! So, our group is going to focus on local missions, and from time to time invite the congregation to be a part of what we are doing. Our first local mission outreach will be the collect diapers for a local group which supports adoptive and foster parents. We may add other local missions as well. More details will be in upcoming bulletins.

***As always, thank you for your support of Women's Ministries!***

## WORLD MISSION OFFERING

“Let Living Water Flow” is the theme for this year’s World Mission Offering. Based on Jesus’ encounter with the woman at the well from John’s Gospel, and his words of promise: “the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:14, NIV) It is the human condition to long for a sense of purpose, and to search for meaningful ways in which we can leave a positive mark on history. One of the ways we can make a difference, and share that living water, is to support the World Mission Offering during the month of October. This offering is just one of the ways that we, as a mission giving church, invest in ministry beyond our walls and beyond our borders. Since this offering is above and beyond our ongoing support for our Global Servants (Sarah Jean Nash and Mylinda Baits), some have asked what the purpose of this offering is. What follows is information from International Ministries in response to that question, and others. Thank you for your giving to all the ministries of Oly FBC, and to this offering.

Thanks, Gary Baits/Chair-Mission Department

### Answers to your most frequently asked questions about the World Mission Offering

**HOW ARE MY GIFTS FOR THE WMO USED?** WMO gifts, like all gifts to the IM General Fund, are used 84% for mission program (global servant, partner and other ministry support), 10% for administrative support and 6% for development costs.

#### MILLION PERCENTAGE

**A. Ministry of Global Servants and Partners 10.7 65%**

**B. Ministry Support and Education 3.1 19%**

**C. Administrative Support and Fees 1.6 10%**

**D. Development and Fundraising 0.9 6%**

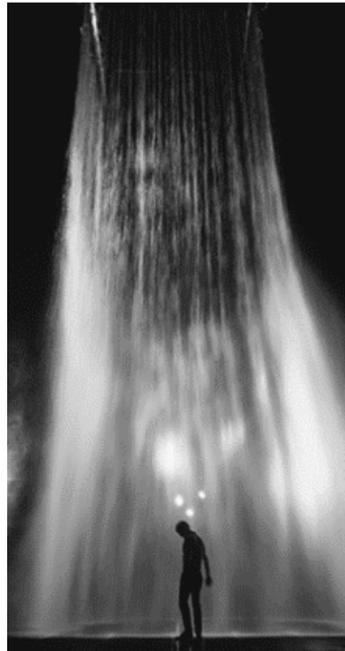
**TOTAL ~16.3m 100%**

**WHAT ABOUT MY GIFTS TO GLOBAL SERVANTS?** All global servant personalized support is targeted for global servants (item A in the chart above). Each year, IM global servants seek to raise approximately \$10.7 million of the \$13.8 million needed for their ministry programs.

**WHY DO GLOBAL SERVANTS AND IM BOTH RAISE FUNDS?** As the body of Christ, we are in partnership with those in the field, those in the home office, those in the local churches and individual donors. When each area contributes, no one group carries the full burden of expense. IM does not ask global servants to raise all of the funding that they need, but comes alongside them in financial support as well as in ministry.

**WHAT ELSE DO MY WMO GIFTS DO?** Whenever personalized funding falls short, the WMO gifts fill the gap so that global servants can stay in the field; continue in ministry; receive income and benefits; and cover ministry expenses such as education, visas and passports. WMO gifts also fill the gaps in funding for other IM expenses (items B, C and D in the chart above) so that IM can continue to support global servants with services such as training, networking, promotion and pastoral care; address crises whenever they arise; and so much more.

## GARY BAITS



## Pastor Dave's Ponderings

### The Interim Pastor's Thoughts Along the WAY...

What a world we live in! The air turns blue with the rhetoric that disparages those who don't think like the speaker. But I've probably already offended some people by saying the "air turned blue" rather than "red".

Schools recognize red and blue as gang colors and discourage patterns that might invite reprisal. In some ways political parties, at the extremes, may resemble gangs.

But all of us, from a very early age tend to exclude those who are different from us. "Different" may threaten our sense of stability and safety. Even though God has created a world full of diversity we seem to shy away from it.

I was recently a part of a gathering of American Baptists who came from a wide geographical area. When asked to sit down, either for a meeting or a meal, people sat with those they already knew, rather than expanding their circle of acquaintances by bringing in someone "new". And these were all a part of the same larger group, American Baptists! I assume you've observed similar behavior.

It's easy to exclude someone. You just avoid them, turn your back when they come 'round, pretend not to see them, don't respond to their contributions to a conversation,

Including someone within the circle involves much more thinking and listening. Including means listening to the other's stories, history, feelings, perspectives.

If excluding is our first response to a perceived threat, and anything "new" fits that definition initially, how can we form a community of faith, a fellowship following the ways of Jesus?

We, the people of OFBC, have covenanted together to stand with one another, be there for one another, join with one another as a witness for Christ that shows the world that people can love and work with others who are different from themselves.

We have males and females, with their different perspectives. We have old folks and young folks and their differing perspectives. We have people who love the old hymns and others who wish we'd at least try to be current in the music we use. We have people of different races, people who come from different cultures, including different cultures within

the USA. We have Republicans and Democrats and those who don't want to be pinned down. We have people who are well off financially and materially and others who are just barely scraping by. We have people who want to affiliate with MissionNW and others who would prefer Evergreen Baptist Association, both American Baptist regions who express faith in different ways.

What other "divisions" are you aware of in our midst?

But as people of faith, the process of deciding who is in and who is out of the community of God has changed from a rule-based, right-or-wrong, exclusive approach to one that is Christ-centered. See Galatians 3:23-27.

Jesus shared conversation and meals with people who were generally excluded by the people who set the standards for community. Tax collectors and sinners were excluded from the temple, but not from Jesus' table.

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... the meeting place where we recognize our differences and extend grace to one another.

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One of our members told me the story of youth growing up in our congregation who are not with us any more. They have chosen to

worship in other places. I wonder if they were the "tax collectors" and "sinners" of the time and were excluded because they wanted to express their faith in different ways, different words, different music? They didn't want to live by the standards the leaders of the established community had set.

We currently have tensions when we think about what is important for a new pastor to have in terms of gifts, talents and interests.

How do we build in a margin of grace that allows us to lay aside preconceived ideas of the way things should be, maybe even the way things have to be, and instead focus on the needs, interests and experiences of one another?

For that to happen we need to know who we are, as individuals and as a congregation. We need to trust that we all take the covenant of being a part of OFBC seriously and that we will hang in there with one another when the road gets rocky, believing that the Spirit will see us through to the other side. We are indeed called to walk in faith.

See you in the meeting place where we recognize our differences and extend grace to one another.



## Moderator's Report by Jean Heidal



A recent Sunday service found Pastor Mark wearing Goofy head slippers – a find at the recent garage sale, Pat DeNeui climbing a ladder to add a demonstration of the recent mission trip, the Christian Education team presenting a rendition of “Church-y Jeopardy” for their part in our stewardship emphasis, a meaningful prayer time led by Pastor Dave, a “welcome back” and powerful anthem by the choir, and the Moderator (me) in a flamingo hat! All of this and Pastor Mark’s compelling sermon on stewardship! It was an exciting day in worship. These are experiences you don’t want to miss.

We have a number of important dates coming up in our church family, so please mark them down and plan to attend:

**Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am** Charles Revis, Executive Minister from Mission NW, will be here to describe the work of the region and its organization. This will be a time for you to ask questions as we continue to explore which region affiliation would be best suited for Olympia First Baptist. We will have a continental-style breakfast.

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am** Is our Budget Hearing so you may ask questions about the proposed Spending Plan for 2020. The Spending Plan will be available for your review ahead of the meeting. Please come prepared with your questions – this will be a time to address concerns or propose changes.

**Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm Annual Meeting** this will be a dessert potluck at 6:30 and then the meeting will start about 7 pm. All members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend. In addition to passage of the 2020 Spending Plan there will be a presentation of the Annual Reports by the boards and committees and election of officers for the coming year.

I know this is a lot of meetings in a short time, but these meetings are important to the life of our church family! Thank you for your faithfulness.

## Picnic & Garage sale Attire



### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Ruby Mitchell	4	Dee Stevens	18
Charlie Anderson	5	Michael Bradburn	21
Dave Silke	8	Christian Bowman	23
George Gauntlett	8	Sue Shannon	23
Cal Lampers	9	Bonnie Lampers	23
Russ Harpel	13	Robin Moorhead	24
Darrell Born	15	Mark Rambo	27
Pat De Neui	15	Frank Wilson	27
		Loralynn Born	29



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 8:30 am Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, Child Care & Nursery, 4 p.m. Table Grace

## October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 8:30 am Sunday School Communion Sunday	7 8:30 am Sunday School	8 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting Fireside Room	9 12 Noon ABW Meeting Fireside Room	10 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	11 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	12 10:00 am Breakfast with Charles Revis Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Emmaus
13 8:30 am Sunday School	14 8:30 am Sunday School	15 6:00 pm Mission Board Meeting Fireside Room 6:30 pm Trustees Mtg Room 102	16 6:30 pm Executive Council Mtg Room 102	17 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	18 8:00 am Men's Breakfast Fireside Room 10:00 am Budget Hearing Meeting Fireside Room 10:00 am God's Little Blessings Library 6:00 pm Emmaus	19 8:00 am Men's Breakfast Fireside Room 10:00 am Budget Hearing Meeting Fireside Room 10:00 am God's Little Blessings Library 6:00 pm Emmaus
20 8:30 am Sunday School ***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 8:30 am Sunday School	22 6:30 pm Executive Council Mtg Room 102	23 6:30 pm Executive Council Mtg Room 102	24 DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	25 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	26 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir
27 8:30 am Sunday School	28 8:30 am Sunday School	29 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting Fireside Room	30 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting Fireside Room	31 9:00 am Bible Study Fireside Room 7:00 pm Choir	4th-6th Camp Bethel Family Fishing Weekend	5 6:00 pm Emmaus

