



Contact Newsletter

October 2020

1st First Baptist Church of Metuchen

225 Middlesex Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840
FBCMonline.org 732.548.4279

Pastor's Pennings



Dear Church Family,

We had a very good attendance at the Fall Business meeting on Zoom on September 27. Many good things were reported about the ways the Lord has blessed our church even through the pandemic. We continue to conduct worship both in person and by live stream, while always striving to improve the quality of what we broadcast.

In addition to gathering people to worship the Lord, another stated purpose of the church is "to mobilize the next generation for Christ's mission." Paul told Timothy, his young under-study, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15. Our goal is to help the next generation discover and deploy their gifts, talents and abilities in service of Jesus.

At the Business Meeting, we voted to extend a License to Preach to Michael Spatz, our Director of Student Ministries. Licensure is the recognition within our own church that the person is in preparation for future ministry. In addition to preaching, when we license someone who is part of the paid ministry staff, we have usually granted the person authority to do pastoral responsibilities, such as baptisms, the Lord's Supper and weddings. It is also a form of introduction. It basically tells other churches that we recognize calling and gift-

edness in a person and that they can be confident in having the person minister to their church.

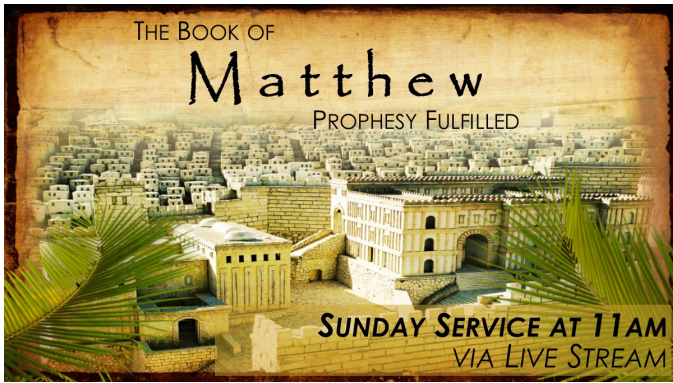
The process is not the same as ordination and is often a first step, but it is not as involved. For ordination, a council consisting of pastors of several churches in our fellowship, is convened for an extensive examination of the candidate's defense of his doctrinal beliefs. For licensure, there is no extended doctrinal examination, but rather an interview by just our own elders covering the candidate's statement of conversion, call to ministry, education, ministry experience, aspirations and preparation for future ministry, reaffirmation of his belief in the church statement of faith and the articulation of any other doctrinal positions he strongly holds that would be dominantly expressed in his ministry.

Such an interview was conducted by the Elders with Michael Spatz on July 13, 2020. All the above matters were considered to be satisfactory to the elders. The elders therefore moved that we put the question to a congregational vote at the Fall Business meeting September 27, 2020. Congratulations, Michael.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Jim Miller

GENERAL FUND - SEP 24, 2020

2020 Budget Need	\$590,000
YTD Budget Need	\$431,154
YTD Giving Taken In	\$429,618
YTD Expenses Paid Out	\$407,491

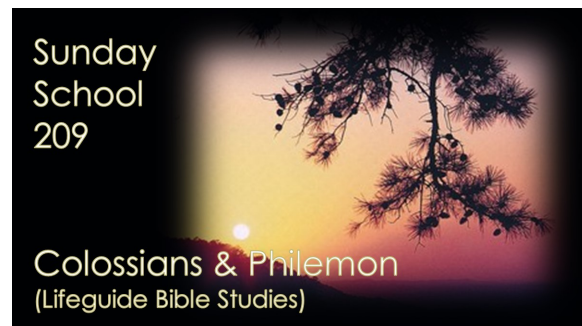


Sunday Service at 6pm
via Zoom Video Conference



Adult Sunday School starting October 11th

via Zoom Video Conference at 9am



Teen Sunday School

Video on Church Website

Children's Sunday School


via Zoom Video Conference at 4pm

Re-Gathering Reminders for Sunday 11AM Worship Service:

- Please arrive at 10:30am as it will take some time to be seated
- Be prepared for weather as you wait to enter the church building (while keeping socially-distant, of course)
- Please wear masks over your nose and mouth the entire time you are in the church building AND keep at least 6-feet social distance.
- There is NO Nursery nor Children's Ministry at this time. Your children will be seated with you.
- If you have traveled to or returned to NJ from one of states on the mandatory self-quarantine list, we invite you to view the Live Stream service that is available at www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistofMetuchen/



Re-Gathering
at FBCM



MOPS
Mothers of Infants to Kindergarteners
2nd Wednesday at 8pm (Zoom Conference)
4th Wednesday at 7:30pm (In-Person)



Ladies Bible Study
Morning:
Thursdays at 10am
Evening:
Mondays at 7pm
In Person & Zoom
Contact Anne Lai
call 732-548-4279 or
email office@fbcmonline.org or
visit the church website fbcmonline.org.



Real Marriage
moving beyond
Happily Ever-After
Marriage Retreat
Oct 9-11
Spruce Lake Lodge
\$450 / couple



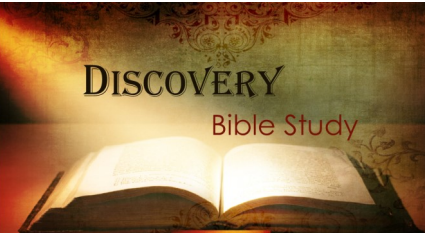
**COMPASS
PARENTS
BIBLE
STUDY**
Wednesdays
at 7:00pm



CM
Be The Light
College Ministry



Renova
Young Adults
(~21 - 35)
Tuesdays at 7:30pm



DISCOVERY
Bible Study



Church Family Cookout
Save the
NEW Date!
Sun, Oct 4th
drop in 1pm-5pm
Pastor Ian & Sara's
Backyard



A FOCUS ON
Discipleship
Morning Message Series
starting Oct 18th

Visit FBCMonline.org for more information.

Small Groups

	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Day / Time / Frequency</i>	<i>For Whom</i>
	Andy & Patricia Kobayashi	Alternating Sundays 5:00pm	Co-Ed
	Ian & Sara Dancer	Alternating Sundays 7:30p	Co-Ed
	Anne Lai	Mondays (Sep - May) 7:00pm	Ladies Bible Study
	Suzanne Kalish	1 st & 3 rd Mondays 7:30pm	Co-Ed
	Joe & Anne Lai	Tuesdays (except 1 st Tuesday) 7:30pm	Young Adults (~21-35)
	Jennifer Spatz	Wednesdays (Sep - Jun) 7:00pm	Parents
	Anne Lai	Thursdays (Sep - May) 10:00am	Ladies Bible Study
	Pastor Miller	Thursdays 8:00pm	Co-Ed
	Joe & Anne Lai	2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Fridays 7:30pm	Co-Ed
	Ian & Sara Dancer	<i>watch for events</i>	College

Contact:



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Joe Lai
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