

First Baptist Church

Madison, WI



First Baptist Madison was formed in 1847, and was located near Capitol Square in Madison for the first 103 years of its existence. In the late 1940s, the First Baptist property was acquired by Madison Area Technical College for its downtown campus. First Baptist built anew at its current location on North Franklin Ave., which at that time was the edge of the city. An extensive renovation of the church building was done in 2011 to make the building more compatible with current styles for churches and to improve disability access.

During its history, First Baptist has been known for its free pulpit, in which the pastor is free to preach his or her conscience, regardless of the prevailing politics of the day. First Baptist was also instrumental in the formation of the Wayland Campus Ministry, which was one of the earliest campus ministries in the country. First Baptist continues to be a strong supporter of campus ministry on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. Historically, and continuing to this day, First Baptist Madison has had a strong emphasis on social justice issues from a progressive viewpoint.

Our Core Values are Inclusive Community, Soul Freedom, Spiritual Growth, and Mission.

In 2018, Rev. Mark Clinger retired after serving as our senior pastor for 28 years. After such a long pastorate, the denomination recommended that, before seeking a new senior pastor, we engage in an extensive discernment process to answer the following questions: Who are we? Who is our neighbor? What is God calling us to be/do? We are currently in the midst of that

The Purpose of First Baptist Church of Madison is to

Invite all people, regardless of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, or marital status, to unite as full participants in this Christian Fellowship in which we:

Enjoy the Saving Grace made known through Jesus Christ;

Allow Christ to shape our lives as we grow in faith, service and discipleship; and

Join together in the work of God in the world, striving to live as witnesses to God's love.

We call ourselves *“A Community for All People”*