



So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

FBC News

OCTOBER 2021



Harvest Time



As the season begins to turn from the sultry heat of summer to the gentle breezes of fall, let's take a bit of time to note some of the fruits of our labors.

### New School Year

FBC collected a wonderful array of school supplies for the YW3CA and CCLU. We hope the students have fun learning. We were able to provide the Y with:

- 7 Book bags
- 11 Notebooks
- 4 Composition Books
- 10 Folders
- A lot of glue sticks
- 20 packs of Crayons
- 4 packs of colored pencils

- 7 packs of markers
- 5 pencil boxes
- 8 packs of pencils
- 1 pack of pens
- 5 packs of Post-its
- 3 bottles of glue
- 2 packs of highlighters

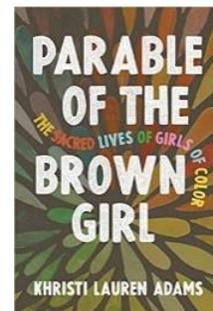


### New Floors

Since the storms in April and May of 2020, Nancy and Rick Unruh have worked tirelessly to complete the repairs to the roof, classrooms, and stairway in the Education Building. This month will see the last of the repairs completed!! The new floors are beautiful, and it's gratifying to see the students in the classrooms.

### New Parables & New Connections

The grant FBC received from the American Baptist Home Mission Society (ABHMS) provided opportunities to grow our connections with our online community. FBC's Book Study Group recently chose *Parables of the Brown Girl* and reached out to encourage people from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Australia to join us.



The funds allowed us to provide copies of the book to participants near and far! At the first meeting, 21 people (including the author Rev. Khristi Adams) gathered on Zoom to begin our discussions about the sacred lives of girls of color. How wonderful to connect with people across the state, across the country, and across the ocean!

**It's time to start planning for next year. What will the next harvest bring?**



## Sowing Seeds for Next Year

Each fall we begin to reflect on the current year and plan for the next. What will we plan? What will we do? How will we grow?

It's time for a 2022 budget! Each Board will submit a budget to the Budget Committee by Oct 8<sup>th</sup> with plans and dreams for next year. Our Budget Committee is made up of the Financial Secretary, the Treasurer, a Moderator, and a member of the Board of Building & Finance. This committee will craft the 2022 Budget from an analysis of our budget from 2021 as well as from the budgets of the various boards.

On Nov 7<sup>th</sup> we'll celebrate our vision for the future together during worship, and then the proposed 2022 Budget will be presented to the congregation. Mark your calendar to join us as we envision 2022 at FBC.

## Meet Natalie Massaglia



My name is Natalie Massaglia. I am currently in my last year at Palmer Theological Seminary and will receive my Masters of Divinity degree in May. I have chosen classes throughout seminary that focus on Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Care. I received my undergraduate Bachelor of Arts degree from Shippensburg University in 2005. My focus there was Communications: Journalism. During college I did a summer internship with Montgomery Newspapers, a local newspaper company, who I was fortunate enough to continue working with full time after graduation. I loved taking pictures and writing articles for the newspaper. It allowed me to get a unique perspective of local community life and really experience what goes on behind the scenes of churches, schools, businesses and so much more. I also worked part time in the restaurant business for over 15 years in places from TGI Fridays to high end restaurants like Seasons 52. This gave me so much great experience working and interacting with the public. One thing I am focusing on right now is recovery work/12 step programs. I have been blessed to see firsthand the true spiritual and life transformation that occurs when someone affected by addiction works through their trauma and hands their life over to a higher power. I truly believe every single person could benefit from such a program.

Although I was born in Kansas, I grew up in Royersford. I was born into the family of an American Baptist minister, who pastored Royersford Baptist Church for over 20 years. Along with my parents, the congregation I grew up in was supportive, loving and helped shape who I am today. They nurtured in me a strong faith and a deep love for church. I now live in Bridgeport with my husband Bobby Jones and three kids Julian (12), Adrian (11) and Noel (2). Through the pandemic I have attended two churches online, Christ Church of the Valley and First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, where my father last served. I currently do not have specific plans after graduation. My goal, in whatever field I end up in, is to help lead those around me to live Christ-like lives, showing them what it means to be in true community with one another and love unconditionally. I know that God will guide me where I am meant to serve. I am so grateful for the opportunity to work with the congregation of FBC Pottstown.

## What's going on at FBC?

Check out these upcoming events! Visit us online to find links at [www.FBCPottstown.org](http://www.FBCPottstown.org).

- Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm Board of Community Care & Connection Meeting
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm Ministry Coordination Team Meeting
- Sept 18<sup>th</sup> at 2-6pm CCLU hosts Pottstown Latin Festival
- Sept 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm Guided Mediation Group
- Sept 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm Book Study Group: *Parable of the Brown Girl*
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at 12pm Budgets for all Boards due in FBC office
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> YW3CA sponsors Week Without Violence
- Oct 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm Guided Mediation Group
- Oct 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm Ministry Coordination Team Meeting
- Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11am-3pm YW3CA hosts Block Event for Week Without Violence
- Nov 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am Vision Sunday!
- Nov 7<sup>th</sup> at 12pm Congregational Meeting to present 2022 Budget
- Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Pledges due in FBC office
- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12pm Congregational Meeting to approve 2022 Budget

## Financial Info

Our thanks to all who support the life and ministry of FBC. We continue to come together to do the work of ministry in our neighborhood and in the world. Your gifts make this happen!

Offering Income in August	\$ 4,511.99
Rental Income in August	\$ 5,380.00
Other Income in August	\$ 0.00
<hr/> Total income in August	<hr/> \$ 9,891.99
 Expenses in August	 \$ 7,226.85
 Net Surplus for August	 \$ 2,665.14



**Do you have anything you'd like to add to the next edition of FBC News?**

Email details to the office at [office@FBCPottstown.org](mailto:office@FBCPottstown.org) by Oct 13<sup>th</sup>!