



THE BEACONLIGHT



Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

1400 John Fitch Highway - Fitchburg, MA 01420

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From the Pastor

"Oh that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar!" Malachi 1:10

All too often as I walk from customer to customer on the streets in Boston I hear that all too familiar "Have you any spare change?" from panhandler after panhandler. In some ways its amusing in that none of my change is ever "spare". Sparse might be a better word for it since its rare for me to carry any coins at all. Perhaps they should take credit!

I am being a bit facetious here to make a point. How often do we give of the "extras" we have in our life. I make a regular trip to the clothing bank here in our area to drop off shirts and pants that have apparently shrunk in the dryer (since I am sure I haven't gained any weight). We recently held a party where the leftover cake was delivered to a nearby firehouse and some of the leftover pork was delivered to others and we were quite proud of our good deeds.

Now I am not telling you to stop dropping off your used clothing or sharing leftovers or even handing a stranger some spare change that is jingling around in your pocket. But what I would ask you to consider is- do we do the same thing with God? Do we tithe as long as our bills are paid? Do we give to others in the church the best of what we have or love them "second hand". But more importantly we need to ask ourselves- are we giving God the first part of the first day of our week or are we giving him what time we have left over from the previous week.

In the "Word of the Lord to Israel through Malachi" God admonishes the priests for accepting blind, lame and diseased animals for the temple sacrifice. Malachi is most often associated with the phrase "Israel have I loved but Esau I have hated." While Israel (Jacob) had wrestled and struggled with God, the sin of Esau was indifference. He failed to consider the sacredness of both his birthright and his blessing. Much in the same way Israel had grown indifferent to their worship of God and even worse the priests had both allowed it and encouraged it. It isn't the kind of worshiper God longed for and so He begged that someone would shut the temple doors and end the false practices.

No one did. So God offered His own son to end the sacrificial system for all time by giving us His first and best- Jesus the Messiah. Let us then offer ourselves first and foremost to Him!

Blessings



As a church family we approach the summer months.....
Vacation and Family time.....

Please remember to keep your current and mission pledge up to date, the operation of the church continues through the summer.....

We are also accepting donations for the plowing and oil fund, along with donations for the roofing replacement fund.

Mailing Address: First Baptist Church

1400 John Fitch Highway

Fitchburg, MA 01420-2033



Local News

Quite often when we are invited to some ones home on a special occasion we are apt to ask "what can I do to help?" Did you ever think that thought when entering our church on Sunday and asking the same question?

There are a number of little tasks you may want to help with. Let me mention some of what needs to be done and only takes a few minutes.

1. Putting the number on the hymnal board.
2. Lighting the candles and putting them out after service.
3. Seeing that the sanctuary is left orderly for the next worship of our other congregation.
4. Folding the bulletins and putting in inserts if need be.
5. Wiping off tables in the West Room.
6. Grabbing a bag of rubbish after coffee hour and putting it in the trash bin outside.
7. Watering the plants.

These are a few little tasks that would only take a few moments of your time and help our hard working pastor.

Written with Love,
Marilyn Carter



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Local News



Fitchburg High School freshman Neville Yangsis looks over his chromebook that he uses in his classes.

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE

Bread God and Me

I take the flour
I stir the dough
Using my strength
kneading it to make it fine
Well rounded golden loaf
To fit my human need

You take my body
You stir my being
Using your strength
Kneading me to make a fine
Well rounded golden soul
To fit thy heavenly plan.

Careful Planning Makes a Difference

ANTHONY V. FEROCI, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW

114 Merriam Ave - Suite 204
Leominster, MA 01453
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Elder and Disability Law
Medicaid Planning
Estate Planning

"On the street I saw a small girl cold and shivering in a thin dress, with little hope of a decent meal. I became angry and said to God: 'Why did you permit this? Why don't you do something about it? For a while God said nothing. That night he replied, Quite suddenly: 'I certainly did something about it. I made you.'"

Please consider signing up for...

*Worship Leader
Usher
Door Greeter
or Coffee Hour
We all enjoy these services!*

Recipe of the Month

Red White and Blue Ice Cream Pie



Ingredients

Baking Spray
1-1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/2 cup granulated sugar, divided
1/3 cup butter, melted
1/4 cup water
2 teaspoons cornstarch
2 cups fresh blueberries
1 teaspoon lemon juice
2-1/2 cups vanilla ice cream, softened
1-1/4 cups thinly sliced fresh strawberries
Dairy Whipped Topping

Preparation:

Step one

Preheat oven to 375°F. Spray 9-inch glass pie plate with cooking spray; set aside. Stir together graham cracker crumbs and 1/4 cup sugar in medium bowl. Add melted butter; mix well. Press mixture firmly in bottom and up sides of pie plate. Bake 6 minutes or until golden brown and set. Cool completely, about 35 minutes.

Step two

Meanwhile, stir together water, remaining 1/4 cup sugar and cornstarch in small saucepan. Add blueberries and lemon juice. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring frequently. Cook 5 minutes or until thickened, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; let cool 5 minutes.

Step three

Spread blueberry mixture evenly over crust. Refrigerate 10 minutes. Spread softened ice cream over blueberry mixture. Freeze pie until firm, about 4 hours. Arrange strawberries over ice cream. Cut into 8 slices; top with Reddi-wip. Serve immediately.



Together in Ministry

August, 2017

ALL SERVICES AT 10:00 A.M.

August 06, 2017 at First Baptist Church (Handicap Accessible)

August 13, 2017 at Trinity Congregational Church (Not Handicap Accessible)

August 20, 2017 at Rollstone Congregational Church (Handicap Accessible)

August 27, 2017 at Faith United Church (Handicap Accessible)



Service at First Baptist Church every Sunday during August Also

Voicemail

Most of us have now learned to live with "voice mail" as a necessary part of our daily lives. But have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and instead of hearing God speaking to your heart you hear the following:

Thank you for calling Heaven.

For English, press 1.

For Spanish, press 2.

For all other languages, press 0.

Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for Requests.

Press 2 for Thanksgiving.

Press 3 for Complaints.

I am sorry. All of our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us, and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to:

God, press 1.

Jesus, press 2.

Holy spirit, press 3.

If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, press 4.

To find a loved one that has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, then enter his or her social security number, followed by the "pound" sign.

(If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial 666.)

For reservations at Heaven, please enter J-O-H-N, followed by the numbers 3-1-6 .

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, life on other planets, and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive.

Our computers show that you have already prayed today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow. The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again on Monday after 9:30 am .

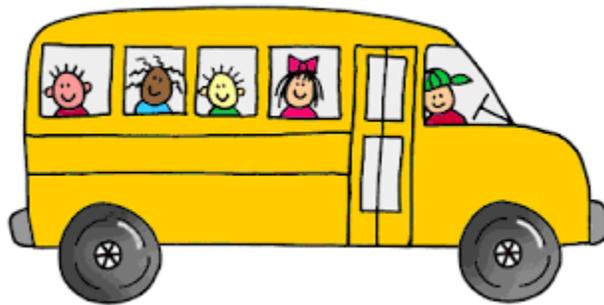
If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.

Thank you and have a heavenly day!



Summer Camp Trip
July 16 to 22

Fill the Bus.....



Fund Raising is still going on your help is needed....
Remaining Balance is approximately \$ 1599.00

*Please make checks payable to: First Baptist Church and in
memo line please write: "OW Bus"*



July Birthdays

- 5. Caitlin Blake (11)
- 13. Tom Adams, Jr.
- 16. Isabelle Luskin
- 18. Pastor Jean Wright
- 20. Jean Osgood
- 23. Christina Jaramillo
- 27. Courage Yangsi



Happy Anniversary



July Anniversaries

- 3. Humphrey & Anne Mutindwa
- 12. Jim & Lynne Ruschioni
- 19. Leo & Rhonda Becotte
- 29. Bob & Karen Simpson

August Birthdays

- 3. Holly Primeau
- 4. Mark Bigelow
- 7. Katie Becotte
- 8. Kim Rooney
- 12. Leo Becotte
- 13. Megan Force
- 13. Anne Ndunda
- 19. Kaitlin Rooney
- 28. Ashley Brunt

August Anniversaries

- 7. Jim & Diane Hope
- 24. Mark & Diane Bigelow
- 31. Tom & Debi Cross



IF YOU'RE BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT HERE, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL INCLUDE IT IN THE BEACONLIGHT! REMEMBER TO NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO YOUR ADDRESS OR TO OUR MONTHLY LISTING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

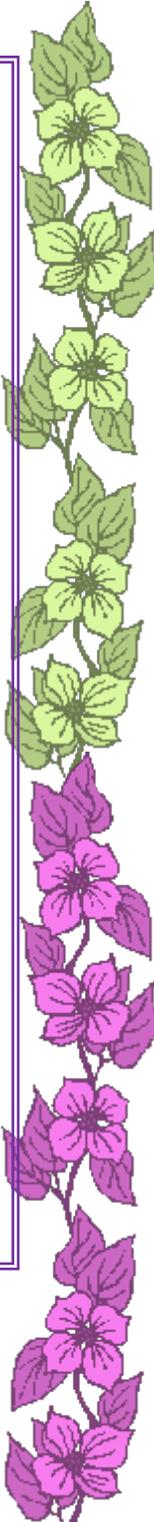
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PRAYER LIST



Anoura Rose Angelini
Bette Adams
Cindy Beck
Connie & Will Gariepy
Daniel Bascomb
Debi Cross
Deborah St. George
Elaine Corzine
Graglenn Mitchell
Karen Knowles & Family
Karen Simpson
Kathy Gosselin
Kim & Katie
Linda Gosselin
Mark & Diane Bigelow
Mark Gosselin
Marsha – return of lung cancer
Michelle (Diane Hopes sister in law)
Nancy Peters



Roberta Poole
Ruth Abell & Family
Sandra Dorsainville's father in Haiti
Shirley Webster
World Mission offering
Our Missionaries
Our congregation and the communities
around us
Tim Robinson and Fitchburg Youth
Haven

Our Missionaries
Rovaughna Richardson



**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST, PLEASE, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL INCLUDE IT IN
THE BEACONLIGHT!**

REMEMBER TO NOTIFY US WITH ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THESE LISTINGS.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

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