



THE BEACONLIGHT



Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

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NUMBER 10

Dear Congregation,

If you have time to sit and read this newsletter, then I suspect that you are doing better than most at managing your time this season. Fall has begun, the delights of Summer vacation and the excitement of “Back to School” are behind us and we are collectively, as a community, setting our eyes toward the harvesting of the fruits of our past years labors as we prepare for the encroaching holiday season, which brings to mind this verse:

“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus, the saying ‘One sows, and another reaps’ is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor” (John 4:36-28).

Truly, our goal, as those who are saved, is to share the Bread of Life with those who are perishing. Other’s may have shared the message of salvation through Jesus before with the people we encounter, yet they may still have not received the Good News of His free gift of Salvation through His finished work on the cross. It is our task as Christians to pick up the messages that have been left by the saints who have passed on and continue the work of sharing the Gospel until as many of the lost that we can reach have been gathered unto the Lord.

There is no need to worry whether or not we have the right words to say, or if we can remember the chapter or verse from which they stem, so long as we are relying on the Holy Spirit’s understanding of the needs of the one we are presented with, we can be assured that they will receive the right Word, at the right time, and that the seed of scriptural wisdom we plant will be watered by others and one day mature (1 Corinthians 3:7-9).

Praise God! We have lots of work to do, for the fields are indeed white, so let us be about our Father’s work. I pray that we will each be blessed with boldness and courage to share what we have already received with those around us during this harvest season.

Regards,
Pastor Meredith

please help

First Baptist Church

FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR

CURRENT

MISSIONS

OTHER _____

\$ ~~_____~~

\$ _____

\$ _____

First Baptist Church

FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR

CURRENT

MISSIONS

OTHER _____

\$ 100.00

\$ 50.00

\$ _____

Remember to mark your Offering Envelope so we can know where to credit the money.....

If the total amount of cash or check is to go to one account just put an "X" on line under proper account, i.e. Current.

If the total amount of cash or check is to go to more than one account please write proper dollar amount on line under account, i.e. \$150.00 total check: \$100.00 Current, \$50.00 Missions

Thank You,

Your Stewardship Committee

October

EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|---|
| October 7 | Communion Sunday
Stewardship Committee Meeting |
| October 8 | Columbus Day |
| October 11 | Mission Works at Double Tree Hotel, Leominster |
| October 12 | Mission Works at Double Tree Hotel, Leominster |
| October 13 | Ladies Circle Meeting 9:30 A.M.
Mission Works at Double Tree Hotel, Leominster |
| October 14 | Deacon's Meeting |
| October 20 | Cribbage Anyone ? 1:00 P.M. |
| October 27 | C.M.B.A. Fall Meeting at New Creation Baptist Church 5 Raymond St.,
Millbury, MA |

Bible Study Every Tuesday Afternoon at 2:00 P.M.

"This Month is World Mission Offering"

One Great Hour of Sharing Funds Released in Response to Hurricane Florence

VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 9/20/18)—In response to Hurricane Florence, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) has begun to release One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Emergency Disaster-response funds, on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA.

Today, \$20,000 in OGHS funding was released by ABHMS to American Baptist Churches of the South. Karen Baptist Churches USA (KBCUSA) will receive \$5,000.

Making landfall Friday on the North Carolina Coast, the storm—at its peak a Category 4—brought destruction, fatalities and what news reports have called the highest rainfall total for any tropical system to strike the East Coast.

Evacuations were ordered in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Approximately 3,000 Karen and 800 Chin ethnic people live in North and South Carolina, according to KBCUSA. Flooding and falling trees have damaged 35 Karen homes in New Bern, N.C., and 30 Karen homes in Wilmington, N.C., KBCUSA further reports. While many Chin have evacuated to Georgia and Kentucky with friends and family, many Karen families have been taken in by Karen churches in Pennsylvania; upstate and metro New York; and Washington, D.C. KBCUSA has been sending donations to evacuees to purchase items for emergency needs as well as gas money to return home.

As recovery efforts continue, ABHMS expects to receive additional damage assessments.

Donations can be made via your church; by visiting <http://www.abc-usa.org/> and clicking “Give Online” at the top right of the page; or check designated to “OGHS-Hurricane Florence” and mailed to the attention of Kim Wilkins at American Baptist Home Mission Societies, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA, 19482-0851.

One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs. To ensure that your church receives credit for your gift, write the church name on your check or, if giving online, in the “comment” box.

<http://www.abc-usa.org/2018/09/20/one-great-hour-of-sharing-funds-released-in-response-to-hurricane-florence/>

The Centre Of The Bible

Q: What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

A: Psalms 117

Q: What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

A: Psalms 119

Q: Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?

A: Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalms 118

Add these numbers up and you get 1188.

Q: What is the center verse in the Bible?

A: Psalms 118:8

Q: Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

The next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of His Word!

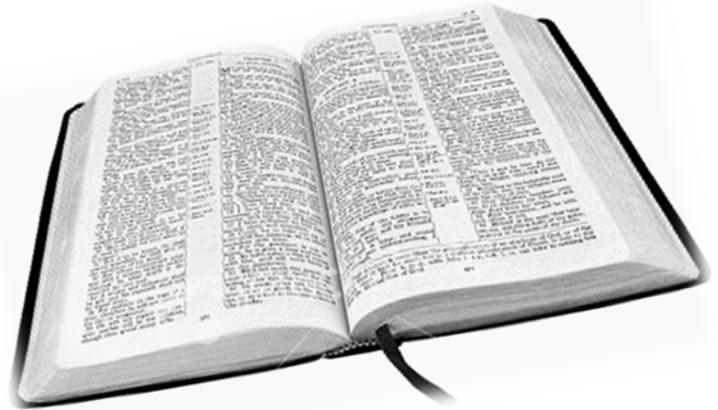
Psalms 118:8

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

Now isn't that odd how this worked out (or was God in the center of it)?

When things get tough, always remember...

Faith doesn't get you around trouble, it gets you through it !!



-Author Unknown

“Pass the salt, please.”

When a group gathers at a table to enjoy a good meal, no sooner are the plates filled than the salt shaker begins making its rounds so that everyone may season the food to their liking. Many a meal would be far less tasty—even bland—if no salt were readily at hand! Jesus tells those of us who follow him that we are “the salt of the earth.” Since ancient times, salt has been used not only as a seasoning to enhance flavor, but also as a preservative. Long before refrigeration was available, salt was coarsely rubbed into meat so that it could be saved and stored over time, remaining useful for nourishment. As the “salt of the earth,” there is a quality about us, a distinct character, a “flavor” that should enhance the quality of life for those around us. It should preserve relationships and the social structures that facilitate human flourishing. And it should make people thirsty for the living water, generating an awareness REV. JIM BELL ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR GLOBAL MISSION of spiritual need that can only be quenched by the presence of the Spirit given to those who come to faith in our Lord Jesus. (John 7:37-39) Jesus includes with this charge a warning, however: Salt that “loses its saltiness” becomes useless and is tossed aside. The “salt” to which Jesus was referring was not like the refined sodium chloride that we use today. It was a coarse white powder mined from the area of the Dead Sea that contained gypsum and other minerals mixed in with salt. Over time, the sodium chloride would leach out of the powder, leaving a chalky tasteless powder that was poured on the roads and pathways. No longer useful for seasoning or preserving, it was discarded. So also we, as followers of Jesus, must remain in him and so retain those qualities that arise out of devotion to Jesus and commitment to the way of Christ—the fruit of the Spirit, love for one another and holiness. (John 15:4-5; Galatians 5:22-23; John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 1:15-16) Even these qualities may lose their life-enhancing, culture-preserving and spiritual-thirst-producing qualities when they are only turned inward. Our “saltiness” is useless when we remain in the shaker, when we become inwardly focused only on our personal spirituality or the life of our Christian communities. It is when we are poured out in obedient service to God—when we become engaged in God’s mission in our neighborhoods, our schools, our cities, our nation and across cultural and national boundaries, “to the ends of the earth”—that we begin to see God’s will being done “on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10) We invite you to join International Ministries in “passing the salt,” not only around a table, but around the globe. Through your encouragement, your prayers and your gifts to the World Mission Offering, you enable IM’s global servants, volunteers and international partners to share the good news of Jesus in word and in deed.

REV. JIM BELL
ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR GLOBAL MISSION

This Year’s Goal is \$300.00



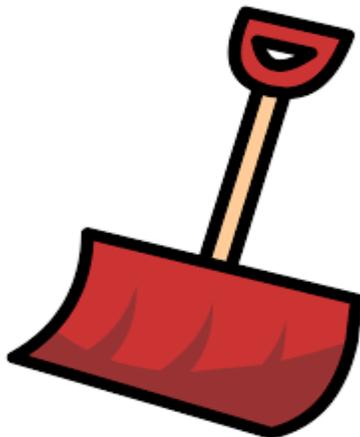
*First Baptist Church of Fitchburg
1400 John Fitch Highway
Fitchburg, MA 01420-2035*

Accepting Bids for the 2018-2019 Snow Season:

- A. Snow Plowing of Driveway and Parking Lot
- B. Sanding and Salting of Driveway and Parking Lot
- C. Shoveling or Snow Blowing and Sanding of:
 - 1. Main Entrance
 - 2. Handicap Ramp
 - 3. Entrance to Adams Fellowship Hall

For more information please contact Mark Bigelow, Deacon of Stewardship at msb080456@aol.com

Bids will be accepted through October 1, 2018 and contract awarded by October 31, 2018.



Local News

REMEMBER
TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK!



**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS
TIME ENDS
Set Your
Clocks Back**

NOV. 3rd



Cribbage Anyone? Saturday

October 20, 2018

1:00 P.M.

In the West Room

Players of all ages welcome to come.

New players (we will teach you) and
experience players

Last month we had 3 players, come join
the fun !!

For more information see Mark Bigelow
or call at 978-342-5337.

Please consider signing up for...



*Worship Leader
Usher
Door Greeter
or Coffee Hour*

We all enjoy these services!

Careful Planning Makes a Difference

**ANTHONY V. FEROCI, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

114 Merriam Ave - Suite 204
Leominster, MA 01453
978-466-5011

Elder and Disability Law
Medicaid Planning
Estate Planning
Asset Protection
Probate Avoidance

Recipe of the Month

Caramel, Chocolate and Candy Apples

Ingredients:



- Vegetable oil cooking spray
- 6 small apples, washed and dried, stems removed *see Cook's Note
- 2 (9.5-ounce) bags soft caramel candies, unwrapped (recommended: Kraft Classic Caramels)
- 1/4 cup pulp-free orange juice
- 1 (4-ounce) bar 53 percent cocoa dark chocolate, chopped into 1/2-inch pieces (recommended: Nestle Chocolatier)
- Assorted small candies, chopped nuts and sprinkles

Preparation:

Special equipment: 6 craft or thick wooden sticks

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and spray it with vegetable oil cooking spray. Insert the craft sticks halfway into the stem-ends of the apples.

In a medium, heavy saucepan, over low heat, combine the caramel candies and orange juice. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the candies have melted and the mixture is smooth, about 10 minutes. Set aside to cool for 2 minutes. Dip the apples in the caramel until coated and put them on the parchment paper until firm, about 2 hours.

Put the chocolate in a medium bowl and set it over a pan of barely simmering water. Stir until the chocolate is smooth and melted. Using a fork, drizzle the melted chocolate over the caramel. Put the apples back on the parchment paper for 10 minutes. Sprinkle with small candies, chopped nuts or sprinkles and allow the chocolate to harden, at room temperature, for about 3 to 4 hours.



October Birthdays

- 2. *Craig Poole*
- 2. *Brady Blake*
- 23. *Olivia Ruschioni*
- 25. *Timothy Primeau*
- 27. *Pam Chapman*
- 28. *Kristen Primeau*
- 30. *Maxwell Ruschioni*
- 31. *Jason Ruschioni*



Happy Anniversary

October Anniversaries



- 30. *James & Kristen Primeau*



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

978-345-5622

E-MAIL: FBCBEACONLIGHT@COMCAST.NET

PRAYER LIST

Anoura Rose Angelini

Atera Ngange

Bette Adams

Cindy Beck

Connie & Will Gariepy

Daniel Bascomb

Kathy Gosselin

Kim & Katie (Bette Adams daughter & granddaughter)

Linda Gosselin

Mark & Diane Bigelow

Marsha – return of lung cancer

Nancy Peters

Renee Brideau - Crohn's Disease

Roberta Poole

Susan Force (Bette Adams daughter)

Tom and Karen Adams

Karen Simpson

Marilyn Carter

Roger Steward

Karen Knowles

James Hope

Roberta Stewards

Our Missionaries

Rovaungha Richardson

Marilyn Raatz

*Daniel Auguste and the Haitian
Missionary Team*

A Benedictine Blessing-

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, & superficial relationships, so that you will live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, & exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them & change their pain into joy.

May God bless you with the foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so that you will do the things others tell you cannot be done.



**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.

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