



THE BEACONLIGHT

Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

1400 John Fitch Highway - Fitchburg, MA 01420

Telephone: 978-345-5622 - E Mail: fbcbeaconlight@comcast.net



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From the Pastor

Revelation 7:9 -10

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that on one could count from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to God, who sits on the throne and to the Lamb"

What a great time we had at the 4th of July Civic Days Block Party. It's always a blessing to have an opportunity to meet and touch so many people. Yesterday evening a young man (mid-20's) who professed to be a non-believer walked around wearing a believers bracelet because he had passed by our tent. A young mother of three is reviewing a brochure this morning about what Baptists believe as she tries to understand why we don't baptize infants. Several are reading devotionals and contemplating God or perhaps brochures on addiction and marking their calendars for Thursday evenings.

There are 488 kids and adults walking around with rubber bracelets on their wrists proclaiming the light of God and several people twirling that pen around in their fingers as they consider the website.

Fitchburg, Leominster and Lunenburg are diverse communities and there is no church, although we are fewer in numbers, that is more diverse than First Baptist Church Fitchburg. We are an "open door" to those who may feel out of place in other congregations. God created as all and assigned to us all, not only our gender, but our color and culture as well. It is such a blessing to see those members of our church talking, welcoming, sharing with others of a different culture, a different race and even in many cases a different creed.

It's a picture taken right out of Revelation where John writes that he saw "a great multitude from every tribe, nation, people and language", the very things men often use to separate us from each other. That "great multitude" in Revelation cries out not in a lot of loud voices but in one single loud voice. It shows a unity, an intertwining of relationships that is the church, the Body of Christ.

Paul has told us that nothing can separate us from the Love of Christ and it is that same love that will unite us to each other. We have shown Fitchburg we have one voice, that we are the Body of Christ, that we are united and we have spread the gospel.

Like so many of the flower gardens that because of the dry weather are only now beginning to bloom, we have cast a variety of seeds that will grow into a diverse garden of color, of shapes of sizes of fragrances. Paul has planted, Apollo watered but God gives the growth!!

Let's be ready, with one voice to welcome any who respond to that call.
To God be the Glory