



# THE BEACONLIGHT



Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

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Dear Congregation,

It is another lovely Fall day. The leaves are dying. As I sit here looking out the window, I am reminded that this lovely view, which displays a spectacular view of God's splendor manifested in the colors of nature, will indeed pass all too quickly; replaced by leafless trees and a barren winter landscape. This too brings me joy, as I remember that these are but signs of a promise expressed many times in the Bible, and here most poignantly:

*"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So, from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Cor. 5:14-17).*

The birth of Jesus was indeed wondrous and miraculous. Through His growing years, Scriptures reflect not much more of His life than a calmness and growth, and then came the season in which He displayed Himself in all His infinite majesty and glory. How Beautiful were His works? Yet we know that what had to follow, for the sake of all humankind, looked temporarily barren, desolate and dead.

Then up from the grave Jesus arose to new life, so that we may have the assurance that one day all those who are in Christ, Jesus will also be made new, Just as was our Lord. As each of us grows older, may we each remember that the sunset of our lives is meant to be no less beautiful than our spring. There is nothing so lovely as that which comes from maturity and wisdom gained from years of patience and experience, with life, and with God.

So I encouraged each of you, no matter your aches or ages, that you remember, regardless of what blows your way, no matter the situations to come, that you are called to display the radiant love of the Lord for all to see, that others may come to the saving knowledge of Christ, our Savior; after all, this is not the end, but only the beginning of a new lovely season.

Regards,

Pastor Meredith

## CHURCH AND PASTOR HISTORY PROJECT

Do you know. . .

What is Your church history?

Who were the founders and leaders who stepped out in faith to start your church?

Who were the pastors who led your faith band of believers?

What began as a project to celebrate the upcoming 200th anniversary of the Old Colony Baptist Association, has expanded to include the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It will be a great tool for scholars, pastors, and churches preserving and celebrating their history.

We are in danger of losing our Baptist history if we do not take the time to save it from the mists of time. Old photographs, documents, memories need to be preserved to help tell the story of how God has been working in your church through the years.

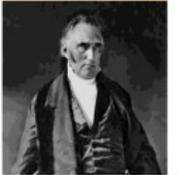
A database of all the Baptist Churches have existed in Massachusetts and all the pastors who have ever served our churches is being created. Your help is needed.

Photographs of your church building over the years; photographs of your pastors as far back as you can, any information about your pastors such as where they attended school, when they were born, where they pastored before and after being your minister. Any information you can provide would help tremendously.

If you or your church can assist in creating a Baptist database,

please contact me at

[baptisthistoryproject@gmail.com](mailto:baptisthistoryproject@gmail.com)



Rev. Diane L. Badger

# !! YOUTH NEWS !!

Greetings! My name is Catherine Robertson and I am blessed to have the opportunity to work with the older youth here at First Baptist Fitchburg!

This year our focus is: “Wait? WHAT?”

In John’s Gospel, (8:12), we read that Jesus was speaking to the crowds and made this statement: “I AM the Light of the World.” No doubt those listening were thinking of similar words spoken to Moses, (Ex 3:14), when God said: “I AM WHO I AM.”

Surely, most listening to Jesus were marveling at these words.

In the Gospel of Matthew, (5:14), again Jesus was speaking to yet another crowd, we read that He said: “YOU are the light of the world.”



## WAIT!! WHAT??

Were they stunned to hear this? Presumably. Jesus’ ministry was always astounding!

But certainly we should all be stunned and a little awed too because....  
....that YOU...is...US!! W O W !!

This is an example of the types of discussions we’ll be having in the Youth Room this year!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - Meet & Greet! Parents and Guardians are invited to come to the Youth Room after the Church Service to join their youth to hear, and share input for the plans we are praying for the 2019/2020 year.



Nov 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> - Youth will remain after the Church Service to share a fun lunch together and decorate their room! (We need family input as to which date is better.) The following Sunday we invite everyone to stop in, before or after the



Service, to see their room(!) – please leave a prayer in their prayer box.  
Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> - Youth Sing! Several of the youth will share a song with the Congregation in the Service that morning! Thank you’s to Bonnie Calnan for leading them in this music ministry for the year! The plan is to sing about once a month in Worship. You’ll love them.....and..... their exuberance!

We welcome and appreciate your prayers! *Thank YOU!*

# Local News

Nov 1 – 3, 2019 *Fall Vacation for Adults with Disabilities*

Hosted by [Grotonwood Camp & Conference Center](#) Call for details (978) 448-5763

November 22-24, 2019 *Women Oasis Weekend: Empowerment*

Hosted by [Oceanwood](#) Call for details (207) 934-9655



GIRL SCOUT



Troop 65127

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesday @ 5:30 P.M.

For more information call Stacey Phillips-Year @ 978-413-0372



637 Lancaster Street (Route 117) - Leominster, MA 01453 - Phone: 978-227-5556  
Email: [restore@ncmhhabitat.org](mailto:restore@ncmhhabitat.org)

*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

*Let May Goff know your favorite hymn  
We will sing one a week as long as they last*

# Local News



Refugee Immigration Ministry

33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

**International Dinner**

**& Silent Auction**

November 17, 2019 5:30-8:30  
Armenian Cultural and Education Center  
47 Nichols Avenue, Watertown, MA

*Sharing the Gifts of Our Diverse Cultures  
Through Music, Art and Food!*



**Your support will help welcome Asylum Seekers who have come to live among us in search of safety. As you get to know them you will be inspired by their courage and resiliency and you will help them to offer their talents to our communities!**

On Tuesday, Oct. 22, I attended Bible study and had a “road to Emmaus” experience. (Luke 24:32). I realize it’s why I keep coming back for more. What joy we Christians have at our disposal!

I can’t guarantee that you will experience the same, but He can. “Where two or three gather in my name I shall be there with them. (Matthew 18:20).

Come to Bible study on Tuesdays brothers and sisters you may meet the Holy Spirit. He can really perk you up!

Yours in Christ,  
Wil Gariepy

Thank You Wil !!!

**Today in church  
Pastor said this:**

if you can trust a puzzle company to make sure every piece is in the box to complete the puzzle, why can’t you trust GOD that every piece of your life is there for a reason.

# First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

1400 John Fitch Highway, Fitchburg, MA 01420-2035

## 2020 Pledge Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle One

Pledge to Operation of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Per Wk. Per Mo. Per Yr.

Please Circle One

Pledge to Missions of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Per Wk. Per Mo. Per Yr.

Please Circle One

Pledge to Loan Repayment \_\_\_\_\_ Per Wk. Per Mo. Per Yr.

Please Circle One

Pledge to Snow & Oil Fund: \_\_\_\_\_ Per Wk. Per Mo. Per Yr.

# Recipe of the Month

## Cheeseburger Dip



### ***Ingredients:***

1 pound lean ground beef (93% lean)  
1/3 cup chopped red onion  
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese  
1/3 cup mayonnaise  
1/3 cup chopped Vlasic® Kosher Dill Baby  
Wholes  
4 tablespoons Hunt's® Best Ever Tomato  
Ketchup  
1 small tomato, chopped  
1 cup shredded lettuce  
1 pkg (4.4 oz each) Glutino® Original  
Crackers

### ***Preparation:***

#### ***Step one***

Brown ground beef with red onion in large skillet. Stir in cheese, mayonnaise, chopped pickles and ketchup. Heat through.

#### ***Step two***

Serve hot topped with chopped tomatoes, shredded lettuce and additional pickles and red onion.

#### ***Step three***

Enjoy with our Original Crackers!

# Stewardship



Stewardship means more than just giving money every week.....

Stewardship should also include giving of your:

## “Time and Talent”

to help our church needs, whether it is serving on a committee; singing in the choir; being a Greeter or an Usher or a Worship Leader; hosting coffee hour; doing minor repairs around the church; mowing the lawn; shoveling snow; the list is endless.

More importantly it is sharing your “time and talent” that God gave you to help our church for today and tomorrow.



*November Birthdays*

- 5. Michael Christian*
- 9. Portia Perkins*
- 15. Comference  
Mbunwe*



*Happy Anniversary*

*November Anniversaries*

- 26. Eric & Nicole Yangsi**



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](mailto:FBCBEACONLIGHT@COMCAST.NET)

# PRAYER LIST

Anoura Rose Angelin  
Annie De Martino  
Bette Adams  
Claire Budroe  
John Mim  
Cindy Beck  
Connie & Will Gariepy  
Daniel Bascomb  
Susan Force (Bette Adams daughter)  
Kathy Gosselin  
Kathy Young (coworker of Diane Bigelow)  
Kim & Katie (Bette Adams daughter & granddaughter)  
Linda Gosselin  
Lorraine (friend of Pam Chapman)  
Matthew  
Mark & Diane Bigelow  
Marsha – return of lung cancer  
Nancy Peters  
Paula Ustin  
Roberta Poole  
Ed Guerard  
Tom and Karen Adams  
Karen Simpson  
Elaine Corzine  
The Blake Family  
Renee Brideau - Crohn's Disease  
The Steward Family  
Roger Abell  
The Yangsi Family

Pastor Becky  
Martha Quinn  
Brady, Amy Giordano / Weeks  
Pastor Garcia & his ministry

## **Our Missionaries**

Light A Candle Ministries  
Rovaungha Richardson, William Seo  
mission trip to Afganistan

Daniel Auguste and the Haitian  
Missionary Team

## **Other Concerns**

Baptist Church of Grafton  
First Baptist Church of Gardner

For those under persecution for their  
faith.

For our civic leaders- local and  
national

Prayers for those suffering from acts of  
violence around the world



**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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