



THE BEACONLIGHT

Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

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From the Pastor



“Let no one despise your youth; instead you should be an example to the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.” I Timothy 4:12

As I looked through the glass doors into the room I could see many church leaders seated around long tables. Some of them I knew, some I didn't. There was a sign posted on the door: “How To Reach Out To Millenials”. It's a sad situation to me since it seems to reduce the gospel to a marketing scheme. How do we take a target audience and “sell” them. The group seated in that room might have done more good by simply getting up from the table and out of the way.

I don't have enough room here to really tackle that issue and say all I would like to say but I can say this. Perhaps our young people aren't in our church because we never gave it to them! We have kept our place in the pulpit, on the board, in the pew, at the piano and at the front of the church and never passed it on! We forget our commission was to make disciples instead we have turned our attention to making church members.

June 4th we celebrate Pentecost, that which some call the birthday of the church. We celebrate with communion, a shared lunch and a business meeting about the future of our church. On that first Pentecost, in the sermon that Peter gives, he states “For the promise is for you and for your children..” Unfortunately for some churches the part about the children was missed.

On June 11th we will celebrate “Children's Sunday” where the youth and children of our church will lead us in the worship service. Some will play the piano, others will read, another will preach. All of them are preparing for their part not only in this worship service but preparing for their part in church. As they work together in fellowship throughout the rest of the year, earning money for camp they will also be participating in yard sales, church dinners, maintenance work, outreach, discipling and missions. Learning how to be a church with every step.

If you look closely you will see a future church pianist, a deacon, a moderator, a preacher and a choir. As we prepare them for the future we too must prepare ourselves to give it to them. That is discipling. That is the Church. That is Pentecost!!

Blessings

June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Pentecost: "Know Your Bible" Sunday School 9:30AM Pot Luck Luncheon & Special Business Meeting				SMART Recovery Meeting 7 P.M.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Children's Sunday				SMART Recovery Meeting 7 P.M.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
"Know Your Bible" Sunday School 9:00AM				SMART Recovery Meeting 7 P.M.		
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
"Know Your Bible" Sunday School 9:00AM Stewardship Committee Meeting 11:15 AM				SMART Recovery Meeting 7 P.M.		

NOTES

Sunday Worship at 10 A.M. each week followed by Coffee Hour
 Communion first Sunday of month during worship

Campership Balances July 16 to 22

Youth Camp

Raymond (Ray) Crawford, James Crawford, Jacob (Jake) Crawford, Faith Labah, Barack Labah, Ayla Robinson, Izabel Stanley, Caitlin Blake.

per camper: \$570-\$57 (10% discount)= \$513 -\$70 deposit= \$443.00 per camper
 totals: \$4,560-\$456 (10% discount)= \$4,104-\$560 deposit= **\$3,544 total amount owed**

Horse Camp

Freya Bowman, Charlotte Crawford.

per camper: \$700-\$70 (10% discount)= \$630-\$70= \$560 per camper
 totals: \$1400-\$140 (10% discount)= \$1,260-\$140 deposit= **\$1,120 total amount owed**

Total amount owed for all campers: \$4,547.00

Total Cost for all campers.....\$5,960
 10% Discount for pre-registration.....(\$596)
 April 21st Deposit paid.....(\$700)
 May 15th Campership for Freya Bowman paid.....(\$560)
Total amount currently due to Oceanwood.....\$4,104

Donations to date.....\$1,392.00
 Profit from Yard Sale.....\$102.10
 Camp Scholarships.....\$500
Total Funds raised to date.....\$1,994.10

Still needed: \$2,109.90

Fill the Bus!



¼ kid.....\$52.75
 ½ kid.....\$105.50
 Whole kid.....\$210.99
 Wholesome kid.....priceless

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



Camp Scholarships 2017

from

Central Massachusetts Baptist Association

Once again this year C.M.B.A. is offering a \$100.00 scholarship for any camper from a member church going to Grotonwood or Oceanwood this summer.

Application deadline is Sunday, June 11, 2017, to qualify camper must be registered at Grotonwood or Oceanwood before the deadline.

Please forward the applicant's name, which location going to, camp program name and the date of the camp program to Mark Bigelow, at msb080456@aol.com or call at 978-342-5337 or 978-235-6499 for submission to C.M.B.A.

All campers going with Pastor Ken's, *"Fill the Bus"*, July 16th to 22nd are already registered and on the C.M.B.A. Camp Scholarship List.

What We Leave Behind

It suddenly came back to me. I hadn't thought about him recently, but there he was.

Memories are triggered sometimes by subtle changes in your life. We get stuck in routines and patterns that keep us going, but often times get us nowhere. Like walking in a circle.

I heard someone say the words "the circle of life" and there he was again. I might have missed this life-changing moment had it not been for the accident I came upon that day. That would also mean that I never would have met Jack.

It was on a back road near where I live. As I came around the corner, I saw the lights of emergency vehicles ahead. Off to one side was an over turned car partially blocking one lane of the narrow country road. I knew there would be no getting around this, nor turning back. Several more police cars came in behind me now blocking my retreat.

I felt uneasy just sitting there listening to my radio, so I got out of the car and walked toward the accident.

I stood with a small crowd, a collection of other drivers and neighbors who were drawn to the scene.

"I can't figure how this happened," one person said. "It's daylight. I would figure at night he would have simply missed the curve.

I was about to ask if the driver was injured, when suddenly a stretcher appeared from the other side. A blanket completely covered a body indicating there was nothing more that could be done.

"I hope he had his life in order," one person said.

"Do we ever?" another replied. "I wonder what he leaves behind?"

There was silence as we all seemed to think about what we would leave behind had that been our fate.

That's when Jack spoke up.

"If all you've ever accomplished in life was a collection of things, then you really leave nothing at all," he said.

One woman began a brief discussion about how important she thought "things" were in life adding, "I hope to leave my valuables for my children to remember me by," She then walked back to her car.

Jack shook his head in disagreement.

I knew there was a greater reason for me to be here. I now attribute this moment to a major change in my own life. It was all based on what Jack said next.

"What we take and what we leave all depends on what we give."

As the group began to disperse I stayed back for a few minutes to speak with Jack. I knew he had a lot to offer and I was now convinced this was no chance meeting.

We spoke for awhile and watched until the car was up righted and towed away

"It was a pleasure meeting you, my friend, I do wish it was under different circumstances," I said.

"It couldn't have been. It was meant to be," he said.

"Do you live nearby?" I asked.

His response struck me as odd.

"Close enough that we will meet again," he said. He then began to walk away disappearing around the corner further down the road.

We never did meet again, but every once in awhile I think of him.

It was because of him that I began to see life as a family style meal. You know, when plates and bowls are passed around the table usually with enough for everyone in attendance. Guests usually bring something of their own to add to the meal.

Life is like that. When you participate each day you bring something to the table. When a bowl is passed to you, never empty it, so that others after you can share in the bounty.

While some take all they can without concern for others, I have learned that, in the long run, by leaving some behind I end up with more than I can consume.

"What we take and what we leave all depends on what we give."

"I wish you enough!"

J

~ Bob Perks ~

Local News

13 REASONS TO BE A CHURCH MEMBER

Matthew 16:18

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." (KJV)

Being a church member will not assure you a place in Heaven. It does not guarantee your prayers will be answered. It will not stop the enemy from coming against you. If these things are true, and they are, then what are the benefits of being a committed church member?

Here is a list of 13 good reasons you need to be a member of a church:

1. You learn the ways of Christ by being in an environment that encourages His life to come through you. (I Corinthians 4:17; Ephesians 1:22)
2. You learn how to be in harmony with others. Romans 14:19 says, *"In this way aim for harmony in the church, and try to build each other up."* (TLB) We are members of His body and need to be in contact with each other.
3. You learn how to be a Christian. (Acts 11:26) It is impossible to be a doctor without going to medical school. We need to be taught Christianity.
4. You hear things the world cannot hear. (Acts 11:22) The Word is always being spoken, but not being heard. Faith will come when you are in church.
5. You learn how to pray. (Acts 12:5) Prayer that brings power!
6. You are given to wise leaders. (Acts 14:23) Everyone needs to be led.
7. Prophetic ministry is placed in your life. (Acts 13:1; I Corinthians 12:28)
8. You learn how to walk in peace and comfort. (Acts 9:31)
9. You are fed well! (Acts 20:28) The Manna from Heaven is given.
10. You learn the principles of giving and receiving. (Philippians 4:15)
11. You learn how to worship God. (Hebrews 2:12)
12. You are given the opportunity to help others. (III John 1:6)
13. You have a place to get healed. (James 5:14)

APPLICATION:

1. If you are a member of a church, then become the best member you can be!
2. The effort you put into your church will determine what you are able to receive back.

WHEN *life* GETS
TOO HARD TO STAND,
Kneel

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



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

Please consider signing up for...

*Worship Leader
Usher*

*Door Greeter
or Coffee Hour*

We all enjoy these services!



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

Recipe of the Month

GRILLED POTATO SALAD WITH MUSTARD DRESSING



Ingredients:

3 pounds baby Yukon gold potatoes
3 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 onion (sweet), thickly sliced
6 slices thick cut bacon
1/4 cup roughly cut fresh dill weed
1/2 cup sliced green onions
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup Gulden's® Spicy Brown Mustard
1 tablespoon cider vinegar
Kosher salt and fresh cracked pepper to taste

Preparation:

Preheat the grill to high.

Add the potatoes to a large pot of boiling salted water and cook for 8 minutes or until just before al dente.

Strain the potatoes and add them to a bowl and toss with 2 tablespoons of olive oil and add them to the grill, to slightly char and finish cooking.

While the potatoes are cooking, coat the onion slices in the remaining oil and add them to the grill to roast.

Once the potatoes are slightly charred and cooked through, remove them from the grill along with the onions and chill.

Next add the bacon strips to a cooler part of the grill and cook until crispy. Note the bacon will cause a lot of flames so constantly be turning them and moving them. The bacon will also cook very fast.

1. Once the bacon is cooked, remove and chop.
2. In a large bowl whisk together the mayonnaise, mustard and apple cider vinegar until combined and add in the potatoes and onions once cool along with the bacon, dill, green onions, salt and pepper and toss and chill. Serve cold.

Stewardship



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

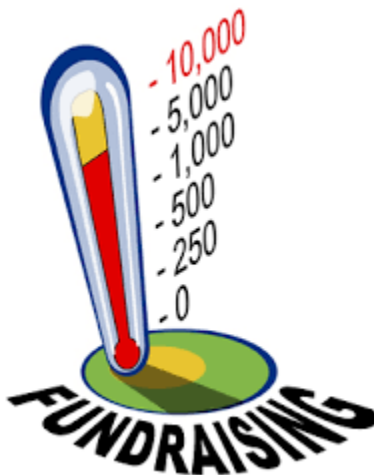
Please remember to keep your current and mission pledge up to date, the operation of the church continues through the summer.....

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





June Birthdays

- 1. Diane Hope
- 5. Eric Primeau
- 6. More Chingor
- 14. Kevin Mutindwa
- 19. Lizz Luskin
- 25. Steven Bigelow
- 28. Amy Weeks



Happy Anniversary

June Anniversaries




- 21. Dick & Donna Auger

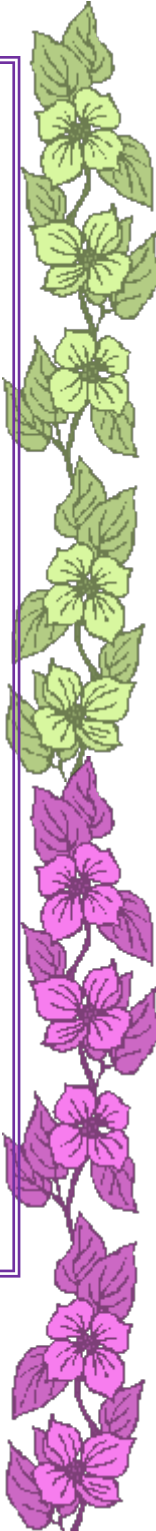


IF YOU'RE BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT HERE, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL INCLUDE IT IN THE BEACONLIGHT! REMEMBER TO NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO YOUR ADDRESS OR TO OUR MONTHLY LISTING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
 CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
 978-345-5622
 E-MAIL: FBCBEACONLIGHT@COMCAST.NET

PRAYER LIST



Anoura Rose Angelini
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.

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