



THE BEACONLIGHT



Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

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Dear Congregation,

May is a busy month, full of bustle and activity. I pray that you take comfort in knowing that as the days may seem full, yards may need maintenance and things may need tidying, with each finished task you draw ever closer to the restful, slower pace of the promised warm Summer months. This is nothing new. Whatever tasks you face, like the Spring season, at some point they too shall pass.

The same person who penned, "There is nothing new under the sun" (*Ecclesiastes 1:9*), also wrote of a time when people were suffering with no means of comfort. King Solomon wrote:

"Then I looked again at all the acts of oppression which were being done under the sun. And behold I saw the tears of the oppressed and that they had no one to comfort them; and on the side of their oppressors was power, but they had no one to comfort them" (Ecclesiastes 4:1)

Thankfully, times have changed and you no longer need go through oppressions or the anxieties of daily life alone, for our Gracious God has bestowed upon you His presence in the form of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit. John, the beloved disciple used this particular term, the Comforter or Helper, which is the very Spirit of God. In John's Gospel, Jesus said to His disciples, before ascending to heaven, that He would ask the Father, and He would give us another Comforter, that He may be with us forever (*John 14:16*).

This title, Comforter, comes from the word *Paraclete*, which are two words, *pará*, meaning to come along side, and *kaléō*, meaning to "make the call" (*Strong's*, 3875), giving you One who comes along side and advocates for you, encouraging and exhorting you, and not just for a little while, or one or two of life's challenges. You need never be alone so long as you remember God's desire to be active in your situation, whether the evidence of His work is obvious or not. Know that in Christ, God is beside you and desirous to comfort you.

May can be time of comfort, comfort in the knowledge that the worst of harsh weather is behind us, as evidenced by the new life, buds and blades of grass that stretch forth to greet the new season. This month we may choose to lift up our hands to the Lord on our National Day of Prayer, in remembering all that Jesus has done for us, and the great works He will accomplish through us in the coming season.

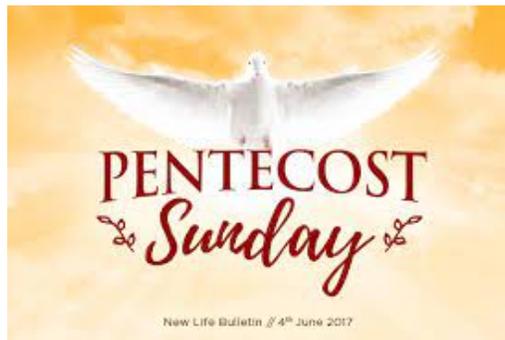
We may remember the comfort of mothers, who by their gentle touch exemplify love, warmth and peace as they care for and nourish our bodies and minds. We may choose to take time to remember the cost of enjoying the comforts of peace and home through the sacrifice of others on Memorial Day. We may honor the magnificent gift of comfort from our God, whose Spirit, the Comforter, is God with us. How comforting!

May we celebrate on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit who is still alive, active and working in and through us and our situations, who has given His word that He will never leave us or forsake us for He is the very God of patience and consolation (*Romans 15:5*), and May the Lord bless and keep, and comfort you all ways.

Regards,
Pastor Meredith



Come Hear Their Testimonials on:
Sunday Morning Worship, May 16, 2021



Sunday, May 23, 2021, Guest Preacher: Pastor, Marquis Lockhart

Marquis Divine Lockhart is a dynamic pastor with a particular anointing for urban and youth ministry, who has shown a passion and gift for sharing the love of God across multiple generations for over 9 years. He was born and raised in the Bronx, New York. As a Monsignor Scanlan High School and Gordon College graduate, he first found ministry service as camp counselor at Grotonwood Camp and Conference Center. Marquis then became Youth Director of Washington Street Baptist Church before going on to train as an Ablaze Intern at Cross Bridge Community Church. Marquis then led multiple Awakenings and summer camp programs through as a Ministry Program Developer before taking a position as a Youth Pastor at Washington Street Baptist church some year ago. He currently resides with his Christ filled, anointed wife of 4 years, Analy, and their 1 ½ year-old son named Landon.

Sunday, May 30, 2021, Guest Preacher: Rev. Phil Goff

WOMEN—Features

Plan To Honor Two Mothers

Two mothers will be honored tomorrow at the 10:45 a. m. service of morning worship in the First Baptist Church when the oldest and the youngest mother in the congregation will be presented with corsages.

Miss Coral Pryskei, president of the Junior Baptist Youth Fellowship will present the corsage to the oldest mother and Miss Patricia Abell, secretary of the Fellowship, will present the corsage to the youngest mother.

Following the service, a coffee-tea hour will be held in the vestry to honor all the mothers present at the service. The Senior Baptist Youth Fellowship will be the hosts with Miss Charlotte Sage, president, Miss Sally Winter, Miss Judith Kazunas, Miss Elaine Fletcher, Miss Carol Laprade and Miss Janne Harris in charge.

At 6 p. m. the Senior Fellowship group will entertain the members of the Senior Youth Fellowship of Pilgrim Covenant Church. A supper will be served under the direction of Miss Winters and Miss Kazunas.

An hour-long film entitled "Monganga" will be shown. This is the story of Dr. John E. Koss, a medical missionary in the Belgian Congo.



YOUNGEST AND OLDEST MOTHERS attending the worship service at First Baptist Church yesterday were honored. Miss Melody Oininen, extreme left, presented Mrs. George J. Cross on her right with a corsage as the youngest mother in the congregation. Mrs. Jennie E. Gwynne, third from the left, was given a corsage by Miss Patricia Abell, extreme right, in recognition of being the oldest mother in attendance. Both girls are members of the Junior Baptist Youth Fellowship.

Mothers Honored At Baptist Church

Mothers were honored at the morning worship service in the First Baptist Church yesterday with the oldest and youngest mothers singled out for special recognition.

Mrs. Jennie E. Gwynne, 84, of 188 Lincoln street was the recipient of a corsage which was presented to her by Miss Melodie Oinonen on behalf of the Junior Baptist Youth Fellowship. A member of the First Baptist Church for 14 years, she belongs to the Welcome Class and Women's League of the church. She makes her home with a daughter, Mrs. Ralph W. Adams, and has two other daughters, Mrs. Wil-

liam Torno of Green Farms, Conn., and Mrs. Francis Murphy of Winchester. Other members of her family, a grandson, Ralph W. Adams, and his five children are all members of the First Baptist Church.

The youngest mother present was Mrs. George J. Cross, 24, who received a corsage from Miss Patricia Abell, on behalf of the Junior B.Y.F. Mrs. Cross, a member of the church for seven years, belongs to the Double Ringers and is a substitute Sunday School teacher. Her husband is assistant Sunday School superintendent. They have a son. A solo, "Through the Years,"

was sung by James L. West as a tribute to mothers and Rev. Frederick V. Hanley, pastor, extended a welcome to all mothers attending the worship service.

After the morning worship service, the Senior Baptist Youth Fellowship was in charge of a coffee-tea hour in the Hartwell-Bennet rooms honoring all mothers. Mrs. Gwynne and Mrs. Cross were special guests. Pourers were Miss Charlotte Sage, president of the Senior B.Y.F., and Miss Judy Kazunas. Assisting were Miss Sally Winters, Miss Elaine Fletcher, Miss Carol Laprade and Miss Janne Harris.

Mothers Day

Sunday May 10, 1959



On Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9, 2021

Love Offering and Gift
Boxes Will Be Collected

***Love Gift Boxes are available on the table in the hallway or see
Linda Gosselin***

Today Love Gift continues to be a part of the basic budget of American Baptist Churches USA. These expressions of love and thanks to God support the full range of American Baptist mission in this country and around the world...

...evangelism and new churches...

...teaching and discipling new believers...

...ministries of healing...

...resourcing pastors and congregations...

...ministries with women and girls...

...training leaders.....

...caring ministries...

Love Gift supports the work of Regions, Educational Ministries (including American Baptist Women's Ministries), International Ministries, National Ministries, Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board and General Ministries..

May's Special Offering:

Camperships



Help are young people to be able to go to camp this summer.....

All camps will be open for both day and overnight camps with restrictions, please go to their websites to find out the details.

(Grotonwood: www.grotonwood.org , Oceanwood: www.oceanwood.org ,
Christian Youth Conference: www.cyop.org)

Along with money raised through this special offering this month, every registered camper will receive a one hundred campership from Central Massachusetts Baptist Association. Please see Mark Bigelow for all the information.

MIRACLE WORKERS

This world is full of miracles from the rising of the sun at dawn, to the first flower in the Spring, to the colors of the leaves in the Fall. The miracles that touch my heart the most, though, are the tiny ones. These are the ones that go unnoticed by most people, but they are the ones that make life worth living.

One of the best of these tiny miracles is performed by a local miracle worker every day. Her job in this world is ringing up and bagging groceries, but her job from Heaven is bringing a little more joy to each heart she meets. I saw her hard at work just today. It had been a rainy morning with cold air and gray skies. Everyone who walked into the grocery store had a shiver in their walk and a frown on their face. I was no exception to this either. It had been a long, hard Winter and I felt tired as I bought extra bread and bananas to get me through the next coming storm. As I got to the checkout line, however, the miracle worker went to work. She greeted me with a warmth that went straight to my heart. Her kind smile caused one to appear on my own face as well. Her shining, compassionate eyes reminded me once again that this is God's world and that it is full of loving souls like her. We chatted briefly as I paid for my food. As I left she told me to enjoy the day and I promised that I would. As I was walking out the store she was already uplifting the spirit of the next person in line. It occurred to me too that in all the years I had shopped there I had never once seen someone leave her counter without a smile on their face.

I thank God for that miracle worker and all the miracle workers of this world. The truth is we all can become miracle workers if we choose. We all can lend our strength, talents, hearts, and souls to making this world a better place. We all can bring a little Heaven down to Earth with our joy, laughter, and smiles. And we all can share the miracle of God's love every single day.

Local News

Church Business Meeting

May 16th

After church

Please plan to attend

May 6, 2021 - National Day of Prayer
May 9, 2021 - Mother's Day
May 16, 2021- Ascension Sunday, Special Guests
Teen Challenge
May 23, 2021- Pentecost Sunday, Guest Pastor
Marquis Lockhart, All Church Annual Meeting
May 30, 2021- Trinity Sunday, Guest Pastor Rev. Phil
Goff
May 31, 2021- Memorial Day

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

A Doubter's Prayer

I'm sinking, Lord
Encourage me, please!
Discouragement
has begun to grow
like dandelions
in my fallow soul.
Your Word rings hollow.
The hymns I sing are words
Resentment's roots reach
deep beneath my surface.
Sunday smile
All the while
worship makes me wonder
If I really do belong.
It's been so long
Since I have known real joy.
My servants heart is empty
My tear ducts are full.
I feel the eyes of those who criticize
the ones I love.
But all the same
I cannot feel
your promised love for me.
Would you be for me a gardener, God?
Would you encourage me?
Would you kill the weeds
and pull the roots
and fertilize my soul
with a renewed sense
of what I'm called to be?

2021 Central Massachusetts Baptist Association



Camp Scholarship grotonwood oceanwood Information Letter

Dear Scholarship Coordinator, Pastor, Youth Leaders and or Church Members.

Central Association is budgeting **\$100.00** for each Camp Scholarship applied for and awarded to campers attending Grotonwood or Oceanwood from Central Association Churches this year and I encourage you to take part.

I would like to encourage your church members to take full advantage of the variety of Grotonwood & Oceanwood Summer Camp Programs available in 2021 for all ages!

Sadly because of COVID-19 Grotonwood will have some overnight and Day Camps but the number of campers allowed in each Program will be limited!
Oceanwood will only have Day Camps Available and some cabin rentals.

Information can be obtained at:

Grotonwood- grotonwood.org or by calling 978-448-5763
OR

Oceanwood- oceanwood.org or by calling 207-934-9655
OR

CYC /Camp--<https://www.facebook.com/ChristianYouthConference>

and requesting information or Camp Program Packets if you or your Church did not receive one.

Applications for 2021 Central Association Grotonwood & Oceanwood Scholarships will need the information asked for below and need to be received by me, on or before Monday, June 7, 2021 (*If Possible*)

Information Needed For Scholarship:	
Church Name:	Church Address:
Church Contact Person for Scholarships:	
Scholarship Applicants Name:	
The Name of the Camp Program the Camp Applicant is Attending:	
The Date of the Camp Program:	
Information can be sent to: Susanne Fleming -Central Association Scholarship Coordinator 33 Fay Mountain Road, Grafton, MA 01519-1428 Or Emailed to: Supergram777@aol.com	

Recipe of the Month

Sheet Pan Breakfast Pizza



• *Ingredients:*

- PAM No-Stick Cooking Spray
- 1 pkg (13.8 oz each) refrigerated pizza crust dough
- 6 eggs
- 1/4 cup milk
- 8 ounces Velveeta®, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 can (10 oz each) Ro*Tel® Diced Tomatoes with Green Chilies
- 6 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1/4 cup chopped sliced green onions

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 400°F.

Spray bottom of 15x10x1-inch pan with cooking spray. Unroll pizza crust in pan; let stand 5 min. Press dough in bottom and firmly up sides of pan. Prick bottom of crust several times with a fork. Bake 10 minutes.

Spray large nonstick pan with cooking spray; heat over medium-low heat. Whisk together eggs and milk; pour into pan. Cook until eggs are set, about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat.

Microwave Velveeta® and Ro*Tel® in microwave-safe bowl on HIGH 5 minutes or until completely melted and mixture is well blended, stirring after 3 minutes.

Top baked pizza crust with warm queso, scrambled eggs and bacon. Bake 10 to 15 minutes, or until edges of crust are golden brown. Sprinkle with green onions, slice and serve!



April Birthdays

- 10. Peter Sprigg
- 12. Eric Yangsi
- 12. Adeline Njamnshi
- 14. Jeriah Sarfrez
- 16, June Dawson
- 16. Betty Rousell
- 16. Lilah Bigelow
- 25. Dan Christian
- 29. Joshua Irfan



April Anniversaries

- 
- 07. Joe & Amy Weeks
 - 07. Glenn & June Dawson



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 Angelin
Annie De Martino
Bette Adams
Claire Budroe
Cindy Beck
Susan Force (Bette Adams daughter)
Kathy Gosselin
Kim & Katie (Bette Adams daughter & granddaughter)
Linda Gosselin
Mark & Diane Bigelow
Marsha – return of lung cancer
Nancy Peters
Roberta Poole
Ed Guerard
Karen Simpson
Elaine Corzine
Diane Hope
Roger Abel
Steward family
Renee Brideau (Mark & Diane Bigelow Friend)
Danial Kirouac

Our Missionaries

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

Daniel Auguste and the Haitian
Missionary Team

Other Concerns

The Lutheran Church
1200 John Fitch Hwy, Fitchburg

Baptist Church of Grafton
First Baptist Church of Gardner

First Baptist Church of Gardner

For those under persecution for their
faith.

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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