



THE BEACONLIGHT



Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Fitchburg

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Dear Congregation,

Welcome to Summer. The Jewish year, much like a school year, runs from September through August, respectively, and so then for students this is the beginning of the home stretch of the year. It is a Sabbath; a time of rest, restoration and a time to recharge our physical, mental and spiritual batteries.

After ministering in many cities and performing many mighty works to the glory of God, Jesus said to His weary disciples,

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yolk is easy, and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

As the year winds down, I pray that you will remember that the most important work has already been done for us on the cross. Having received His free gift, there is not only a time to go forth and press forward for the kingdom, but also a time to rest in the finished work of Jesus and know that your heavenly Father has designed you rest, relax and enjoy the company of others, but also to spend some of that time growing in a more intimate knowledge of Him and His word.

Setting aside some space for prayer and Bible reading has always been a source of strength for me, as I feel renewed in the spirit as if my batteries have been recharged in order for me to go out and face the day, or kick back and bask in some quiet time with my best friend Jesus. I pray you will find a way to reconnect with the Living Water this summer and find refreshment and renewed energy for the path that God has set before you.

As for me, I am off to camp. Remember, God wants you to have fun! (Ecclesiastes 8:15)

Regards,
Pastor Meredith

RECIPES FOR THE SOUL

A recipe for: Worship

Linger In and Ponder the Melody of His Word

Ingredients:

Colossians 3:16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your heart.

Directions:

- 1. Linger in the presence of God's word during corporate times of singing God's word.*
- 2. Ponder His words as you sing them and hear the instruction He is speaking to you.*
- 3. Let the promises of the Cross fill your heart with gratitude to God and pour out in song.*

www.feedingahungrysoul.com

A recipe for: Spiritual Growth

Making Room for More of God

Ingredients:

1 Peter 2:1-3 (focus on 1)

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Directions:

- 1. Ask God to reveal to you anything that you need to be 'rid' of.*
- 2. Seek healing and ask God to give you such disdain for things that are not of Him that you are like a baby who craves only his mother's milk and refuses to eat anything else; turning his head and clenching his mouth closed.*
- 3. Thank God for the gift of His pure spiritual milk and let Him fill up the spaces opened up when we rid ourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.*

www.feedingahungrysoul.com

Resume of Jesus Christ

Author Unknown

Address: Ephesians 1:20

Phone: Romans 10:13

Website: The Bible

Keywords: Jesus Christ, Lord & Savior

My name is Jesus - The Christ. Many call me Lord! I've sent you my resume because I'm seeking the top management position in your heart. Please consider my accomplishments as set forth in my resume.

Qualifications:

- I founded the earth and established the heavens (see Proverbs 3:19).
- I formed man from the dust of the ground (see Genesis 2:7).
- I breathed into man the breath of life (see Genesis 2:7).
- I redeemed man from the curse of the law (see Galatians 3:13).
- The blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant comes upon your life through me (see Galatians 3:14).

Occupational Background:

- I've only had one employer (see Luke 2:49).
- I've never been tardy, absent, disobedient, slothful or disrespectful.
- My employer has nothing but rave reviews for me (see Matthew 3:15-17).

Skills & Work Experiences:

- Some of my skills and work experiences include: empowering the poor to be poor no more, healing the brokenhearted, setting the captives free, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and setting at liberty them that are bruised (see Luke 4:18).
- I am a Wonderful Counselor (see Isaiah 9:6). People who Listen to me shall dwell safely and shall not fear evil (see Proverbs 1:33).
- Most importantly, I have the authority, ability & power to cleanse you of your sins (see I John 1:7-9)

Educational Background:

- I encompass the entire breadth & length of knowledge, wisdom and understanding (see Proverbs 2:6).
- In me are hid all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (see Colossians 2:3).
- My Word is so powerful; it has been described as being a lamp unto your feet and a lamp unto

your path (see Psalms 119:105).

- I can even tell you all of the secrets of your heart (see Psalms 44:21).

Major Accomplishments:

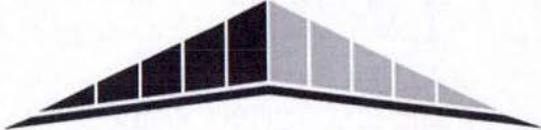
- I was an active participant in the greatest Summit Meeting of all times (see Genesis 1:26).
- I laid down my life so that you may live (see II Corinthians 5:15).
- I defeated the archenemy of God and mankind & made a show of them openly (see Colossians 2:15).
- I've miraculously fed the poor, healed the sick and raised the dead!
- There are many more major accomplishments, too many to mention here. You can read them on my website, which is located at: [www dot - the BIBLE](http://www.dot-theBIBLE.com). You don't need an Internet connection or computer to access my website.

References:

- Believers and followers worldwide will testify to my divine healings, salvation, deliverance, miracles, restoration and supernatural guidance.

In Summation:

Now that you've read my resume, I'm confident that I'm the only candidate uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in your heart. In summation, I will properly direct your paths (see Proverbs 3:5-6), and lead you into everlasting life (see John 6:47). When can I start? Time is of the essence (see Hebrews 3:15).



THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER



A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL



The City of Fitchburg, MA
invites you to honor
Vietnam Veterans

July 12 - 15, 2018

Crocker Field

Broad Street, Fitchburg

Open 24 hours a day and free to the public

The Wall That Heals mobile exhibit features a three quarter scale replica of The Wall in Washington, D.C. The exterior sides of the trailer that carries The Wall That Heals open to become a mobile Education Center. Information cases display photos of service members whose names are found on The Wall, along with items left at The Wall in D.C. Since it was unveiled in 1996 it has visited more than 400 communities throughout the nation, spreading the Memorial's healing legacy to millions.

Local News

Our brother in Christ, Rev. John Bio Asante, pastor at the New Creation Baptist Church in Millbury Mass hosts a weekly radio program entitled “Baptist Hour”. He discusses issues of prayer, single-mindedness and other topics in clear, loving and spirit-filled conversations.

He is live at the link below on Sunday nights at 8pm.

https://www.facebook.com/URW2017/?hc_ref=ARQT2d1K-Vys2NgocESsNYKYAyyQqgqUZETIBNqvW7X2pi0ykS-LWvSmUkxtEjDHUMg&hc_location=group

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Usher
Door Greeter
or Coffee Hour**

We all enjoy these services!

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

Please join me in prayer against the Genocide on the Anglophone minority in Cameroon under the regime of President Paul Biya, and the current Prime Minister, Philemon Yang.

An article published last year stated, “He has sent policemen and soldiers to shoot at protesters in the Southwest and Northwest and ordered the arrest of a Supreme Court judge...without any warrant or arrest...He is accountable to no one but himself” (TheSimonArwbaNews, Washington DC, Copyright 2018 Cameroon Concord).

Many may think in such times that there is nothing that they can do but pray, as if that is a last resort act of weakness. However, we know as Christians, that all are accountable before God, and that, “it is the Lord who removes rulers and establishes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning” (Daniel 2:21). Prayer is our most effective first response weapon against the spiritual warfare behind these physical battles.

In times such as this I am reminded that in every great battle of man portrayed on television, as the enemy advances, the defending team drops to their knee and braces themselves, knowing that many of those who advance will destroy themselves on impact, without any effort on the defender’s part. So it is with prayer. As we bring our needs before the Lord, trusting in His ability to show His Mercy and commit justice in our conflicts, we can be confident that as we are gathered, He hears and is working in ways that we cannot always see or imagine.

As some of our congregation struggle with the current atrocities in their homeland, I ask that we as a congregation pray for those who are caught in this conflict, that the Lord will hide and cover those who are being oppressed, soften the hearts of those who are oppressing His children and that God will put into power one whom He chooses in this next election.

Regards,
Pastor Meredith

Recipe of the Month

Pasta Crab Salad



Ingredients

- 4-1/2 cups uncooked tricolor spiral pasta
- 1 package (16 ounces) imitation crabmeat, flaked
- 1/3 cup chopped celery
- 1/3 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/3 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat ranch salad dressing
- 1 teaspoon dill weed

Preparation:

- Cook pasta according to package directions; drain and rinse in cold water. Toss with crab and vegetables. Combine remaining ingredients. Pour over pasta mixture; toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving.

Nutrition Facts

3/4 cup: 242 calories, 7g fat (1g saturated fat), 15mg cholesterol, 579mg sodium, 33g carbohydrate (0 sugars, 1g fiber), 10g protein.
Diabetic Exchanges: 2 starch, 1 lean meat, 1/2 fat.



“
Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect
to show hospitality to strangers for by
doing that some have entertained
angels without knowing it.

”

Hebrews 13.1



The Center for Career
Development and Ministry



The American Baptist Churches Of
MASSACHUSETTS



In conjunction with: The Northern Baptist Education Society



Mission Works Embracing Hospitality

Doubletree Hilton, Leominster, MA

October 11-13th 2018

Keynotes Rev. Mariama Hammond White & Miroslav Volf

Embracing Hospitality panel discussions, workshops and seminars focusing on: Embracing Hospitality and Economic Justice, Creation Justice, Race Relations, Incarceration, Interfaith Dialogue, Immigration and Homelessness.

To register: www.mmmm.org



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 loan repayment.

Mailing Address: First Baptist Church

1400 John Fitch Highway

Fitchburg, MA 01420-2033



This letter was posted in The Central Massachusetts Baptist Association newsletter. It was sent from the General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, Dr. Lee Spitzer to Attorney General Jeff Sessions on behalf of American Baptists in response to the current situation with immigrant children being held on our southern border.

June 15, 2018

Mr. Jeff Sessions, Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Sessions,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the 5,000 congregations and 1.3 million members of the American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA). As General Secretary, I serve as the national pastor of the denomination. ABCUSA has a long and distinguished record of service in welcoming immigrants and refugees to communities throughout the United States.

The American Baptist family would like to communicate our deep concern over the unjust immigration policies of the United States government, and in particular, the unconscionable separation of children from their parents on our southern border. As a fellowship of Christ-followers who recall the trials of the child Jesus and his parents, who fled from persecution in their homeland to another country (Matthew 2:13-18), we adamantly oppose separating children from their relatives. A just society can fulfill its fidelity to its own laws and border security without resorting to such unwise and harmful practices; instead, we urge that compassion, fairness and family-affirming policies characterize our response to the plight of families on our borders. We note that destructive practices such as the separation of children from parents place a serious burden on our law enforcement agents and officials, who in carrying out such policies find their own consciences ethically compromised and troubled.

Furthermore, we strongly disagree with your erroneous appropriation of the New Testament (in particular, Romans 13) to justify inhumane and unjust governmental actions. No responsible Christian theologian would assert that Romans 13, or any other passage in the Bible, supports the horrific separation of children from parents that we are witnessing at the present time. In fact, both the Old and New Testaments call those who believe in God to welcome refugees and immigrants with open arms and friendship, with loving care and concern, and with the willingness to assist others in enjoying the prospects of a future based on hope and opportunity.

Accordingly, American Baptists wish to express our sincere hope that the separation of children and parents will immediately cease. We urge Congress and the President to approve and implement without delay more compassionate and just immigration policies and procedures. As the leading law enforcement official of our government, it is your privilege and responsibility to lead such an effort. Thank you for considering our position.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Lee B. Spitzer, General Secretary

American Baptist Churches USA

Our brother in Christ, Rev. John Bio Asante, pastor at the New Creation Baptist Church in Millbury Mass hosts a weekly radio program entitled "Baptist Hour". He discusses issues of prayer, single-mindedness and other topics in clear, loving and spirit-filled conversations.

He is live at the link below on Sunday nights at 8pm.



July Birthdays

- 5. Caitlin Blake (11)
- 13. Tom Adams, Jr.
- 16. Isabelle Luskin
- 18. Pastor Jean Wright
- 20. Jean Osgood
- 21. Pastor Meredith Christian
- 27. Courage Yangsi



Happy Anniversary



July Anniversaries

- 3. Humphrey & Anne Mutindwa
- 12. Jim & Lynne Ruschioni
- 19. Leo & Rhonda Becotte
- 29. Bob & Karen Simpson

August Birthdays

- 3. Holly Primeau
- 4. Mark Bigelow
- 7. Katie Becotte
- 8. Kim Rooney
- 12. Leo Becotte
- 13. Megan Force
- 13. Anne Ndunda
- 19. Kaitlin Rooney
- 28. Ashley Brunt

August Anniversaries

- 7. Jim & Diane Hope
- 24. Mark & Diane Bigelow
- 31. Tom & Debi Cross



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

Joyce (Ron Martin's daughter)

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

Ruth Abell & Family

Susan Force (Bette Adams daughter)

Tom and Karen Adams

Karen Simpson

Roger Steward

Karen Knowles

James Hope

Roberta Stewards

Other Concerns

For those under persecution for their faith.

Our Missionaries

Rovaungha Richardson

Marilyn Raatz

Daniel Auguste and the Haitian Missionary Team,m



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.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

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