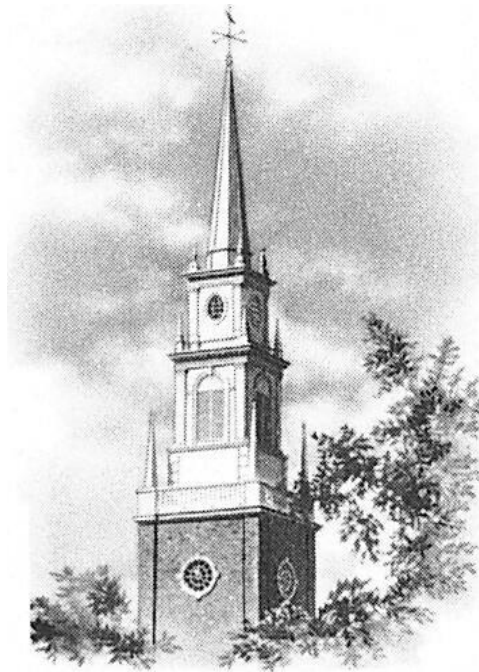


# *First Baptist Church*

*April 26, 2009*



**Worcester, Massachusetts**  
**A Welcoming and Affirming Church**  
**Mission Statement**

*We are a community of believers who seek to grow in our faith and understanding as we live the Way of Jesus Christ.*

## Morning Worship

### YOUTH MONTH — REFUGEE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

April 26, 2009 ..... 10:00 AM

*Please turn pagers and cell phones to silent mode.*

*Nursery care is available for children during the worship service.*

*Please speak to one of the ushers for assistance.*

**PRELUDE** Prelude in F ..... Théodore Dubois  
1837-1924

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 615** Community of Christ.....Leoni

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** ..... Brenda Baker

Leader: Hear the word of the prophet Amos: *Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream* (Amos 5:24)

**People: Our God is a God of justice!**

Leader: Hear the word of the prophet Micah: *And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?* (Micah 6:8)

**People: God's people are a people of mercy!**

Leader: Hear the word of God from the Torah: *God defends the cause of the orphan and widow, and loves the foreigner, giving to each food and clothes. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.* (Deuteronomy 10:18-19)

**People: Our God is a God who loves the stranger!**

Leader: Hear the words of Christ: *Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.* (Matthew 25:34-36, 40)

**ALL: Our God is a God who is encountered in the poor, the needy, and the foreigner! Let us worship the God of all who calls us into fellowship with each other and with the vulnerable and marginalized of the world!**

**\*INVOCATION (Unison)**

**O God, our great strength, help us to fix our eyes on you, trusting in your mercy. Help us to look into the world and discover that you are there, our Emmanuel. Strengthen us as we hold out open hearts and hands to the refugee, to the homeless, to the lonely. Stir us with your presence, your strength, your love. In the welcoming spirit of Christ, we pray the prayer he taught: Our Father...(depts)**

**\*GLORIA PATRI 734**.....Creatorex

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** ..... Heather Kattan

**BELL ANTHEM** *Carillon* ..... Théodore Dubois

**WORD OF WITNESS**.....Prakriti Rai

**MUSIC SELECTIONS**

**THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**Leviticus 19:33-34 (pg. 94)**..... Stephanie Harvey

**Psalms 146:5-7 (507)**..... Rose Pierce

**Luke 10:29-37 (844)**.....Rachel Levine

**LITTLE CHILDREN, WELCOME**.....Koleda

Little children, welcome! Earth is yours to live in;  
arms of love protect you, little children, welcome!  
We, the church of Jesus, we will help your growing,  
Jesus' love enfolds you, little children, welcome!

**AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDREN**..... Heather Kattan

*(Children who desire to participate in a Children's Worship Experience are invited to join their worship leader following the Children's Message.)*

**SERMON** *Neighbors in Need* ..... Thomas R. McKibbens

*(Continued)*

**\*HYMN** How Can We Comprehend?.....Aberwystwyth  
 God, how can we comprehend? Though we've seen them times before  
 Lines of people without end fleeing danger, want, and war?  
 They seek safety anywhere, hoping for a welcome hand!  
 Can we know the pain they bear? Help us, Lord, to understand!

You put music in their souls; now they struggle to survive.  
 You gave each one gifts and goals; now they flee to stay alive.  
 God of outcasts, may we see how you value everyone,  
 For each homeless refugee is your daughter or your son.

Lord, your loving knows no bounds; you have conquered death for all.  
 May we hear beyond our towns to our distant neighbors' call.  
 Spirit, may our love increase; may we reach to all your earth,  
 Till your whole world lives in peace; till we see each person's worth.

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*Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Geneva Press, 2001.

**THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS**

**THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory** *God Be in My Head*.....John Rutter  
 b. 1945

**\*Doxology** .....Hymn to Joy  
 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:  
 Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;  
 He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled—  
 Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead!

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*CLOSING HYMN 622** When Will People Cease Their Fighting? ..Rustington

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Song of Peace* ..... Jean Langlais  
 1907-1991

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

*Chancel Choir  
 First Handbells  
 William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*

## **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VALUES STATEMENTS**

### **INCLUSION**

*We welcome all in Christ's love.*

### **FREEDOM OF FAITH**

*Individual interpretation of God's Word and freedom of expression are cornerstones of our faith.*

### **SERVICE**

*We seek to be a Christ-like presence in the world.*

### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

*We encourage all to seek Christian growth.*

## **ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE & PROGRAMS**

***WE WELCOME YOU...***to the Morning Worship of the First Baptist Church. If you are a guest, we express a special word of welcome and invite you to fill out the Welcome Card found in the pew rack. We are honored by your presence and hope you will return whenever you are able. The congregation of First Baptist Church, believing that God's unbounded love and grace are offered to all and meant to be shared and celebrated by all, embraces persons of every age, race, sexual orientation, denomination, cultural background, and economic means as vital and integral members of God's family. We welcome everyone to participate in the membership, life, worship, and activities of this church.☪

***HEARING AIDS AVAILABLE DURING THE SERVICE...***If you would like to take advantage of our hearing aids, please speak with one of our ushers, who will explain this simple yet effective device.

***LARGE PRINT BULLETIN AVAILABLE...***with the Order of Service. Please speak with one of our ushers to receive a copy!

***CHANCEL FLOWERS...***Today's arrangements are dedicated in loving memory of Patty Welcom by her husband Don and their children, Sandra and Seth.✿

***SUNDAY EDUCATION...***We offer a variety of worship and learning opportunities for children and youth. Following the Children's Message, children are invited to attend a Children's Worship session upstairs in the Green Room. At 11:15 AM, we have Church School classes for all ages on the second floor. For more information, please speak with one of our ushers, or the Rev. Heather Kattan.☺

***COFFEE AND...***Join with the family and friends following the service today in Gordon Hall. Be sure to take time to reach out to those among us who are new to the First Baptist Church!☑



**BIBLE & BAGELS...**has resumed with a study of the book of Acts. Classes are at 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Come and enjoy coffee, bagels, and stimulating Bible study!

**YOUTH GROUP...**YOUTH MONTH BEGINS TODAY and continues through to **YOUTH SUNDAY on May 17, 2009**. Check with Heather before this morning's service to review how you will participate.

**TODAY'S ADULT FORUM...**We welcome a representative from Lutheran Social Services to learn more about life conditions for our refugees in Worcester.



**THE "BIG REVEAL"...**TODAY is the party to reveal our *Secret Friends* at 12:15 PM. Join us in the Lee Room to find out who you have been writing to for the past few weeks!

**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP...**TODAY is our trip to the **ECOTARIUM!** Admission is \$10.00 for Adults, and \$8.00 for children under age 18. Depart at 1:00 PM (after the *Big Reveal*), return around 4:00 PM.



**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GILMORE...**The congregation is invited to a memorial service for Gilmore, the faithful service dog and companion of the Rev. George McDermott. The service will take place in the Davis Chapel on **Monday, April 27, 2009 at 2:00 PM**.

**ASK THE PASTOR...**Do you have questions about the church, or what it means to be a Baptist, or why the colors on the pulpit keep changing? Then join us on **May 3, 2009** at 11:15 AM in the Whitney Room for an **Adult Forum Q&A** featuring our own Senior Minister, Rev. Thomas R. McKibbens. No question is too big...or too small!



**YOUTH AT FIRST TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP...**The Youth Group will take part in the First Tuesday Fellowship at Briarwood Continuing Care Retirement Community on **May 5, 2009 at 6:30 PM**. Please write your name on the sign-up sheet outside Heather's office to show your interest in participating, or contact her by phone or e-mail [508-755-6143 x228/heatherk@fbc-worc.org].

**YOUTH GROUP SERVICE WEEKEND...**The Youth will go to open Camp Oceanwood on May 22 through 25. Those interested should sign-up on the sheet outside of Heather's office. Schedule and details will be sent out to those who sign-up!



# Join us for Music & Arts Weekend! May 1-3, 2009

## *Juried Photo Exhibit!*

- Early viewing TODAY, April 26
- Exhibit continues on May 1 and 3
- Participate in the People's Choice Ballot
- Professional photographer to award prizes



## New England Ringers in Concert

- Friday, May 1, 2009 – 7:30 PM
- Free Admission
- Reception Following

*First Baptist Church – Corner of Salisbury & Park  
Worcester, Massachusetts*

Sunday Worship on May 3 at 10:00 AM includes choral and instrumental music with our Chancel Choir and their guests. **All are welcome!**



*Invite and bring  
your friends!*

## The First Baptist Church

111 Park Avenue  
Worcester, MA 01609

Phone: 508-755-6143  
Fax: 508-797-3313  
Web: [www.fbc-worc.org](http://www.fbc-worc.org)

### **Prayer...**

*Teach me your ways, Lord, that I may praise you for all the surprising, ingenious ways you bless me, and for all the wondrous gifts you give me.*

*~Ted Loder*

### **Please include in your prayers:**

- The ongoing ministry and mission of FBC
- Thanks for those from different cultures who worship with us
- Our young people and their Secret Friends
- The Board of Finance, the Diaconate
- Susan Gustafson, Spencer Parsons, Marijane Jones, David Siddle, Dorcas Kreny, George McDermott, Roger Williams, Ron Case
- The Prayer Shawl Ministry of prayers, love, and visitation
- Each who suffers from chronic disease
- Victims and families of tragedy
- Perpetrators of crimes

**VBS IS COMING...** Experience & Discover God Everywhere during **CAMP E.D.G.E.**, August 2—6, 5:30—8:30 PM at FBC! More information to come. Interested volunteers may speak with Rev. Heather Kattan. **SAVE THESE DATES!**



**HOPE FOR HOUSING...** Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to continue making your food shopping card purchases! When cards are used at local grocery stores, the store will contribute 5% of the total purchase to Hope for Housing to give to the Central Mass Housing Alliance, for use in prevention and early intervention assistance to families and individuals that are at risk of homelessness.

**SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!** Stop by with your camera, a CD or DVD, or e-mail the URL from a sharing website where you have the photos or video clips posted. Please stop by to see Cindy Johnson, leave items in her mail slot in the Church Office, or email (URLs only) to [cindyj@fbc-worc.org](mailto:cindyj@fbc-worc.org). Please do not e-mail photos or video clips as attachments. Thank you!

**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO GO TO TANGLEWOOD?** If not, please phone in to [put your name on the list](#) for a **Tanglewood trip on July 12** with Herbert Blomstedt conducting and Joshua Bell, violin with the BSO. Music is *Egmont Overture*, Beethoven; *Violin Concerto no. 1*, Bruch; *Symphony no. 8*, Dvorak. So please, if you are interested, sign-up in the Church Office by phone or stop by on a Sunday morning! **[508-755-6143]**

## OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Today, Apr. 26, 2009

### YOUTH MONTH — REFUGEE RECOGNITION SUNDAY



- 8:00 & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 11:15 AM Church School; Adult Forum
- 12:15 PM *Secret Friends "Big Reveal!"*
- 1:00 PM Family Fellowship (depart for EcoTarium)

Mon., Apr. 27, 2009

- 2:00 PM Memorial Service for Gilmore (Davis Chapel)  
*Reception follows in the Lee Room*

Tue., Apr. 28, 2009

- 8:00 AM First Friends
- 10:00 AM Weekly Staff Meeting
- 1:00 PM Salisbury Belles & Beaux
- 4:00 PM Children's Choir
- 6:00 PM Scholarship Committee
- 6:30 PM Habitat
- 7:00 PM Board of Deacons; Board of Finance  
*Mustard Seed*

Wed., Apr. 29, 2009

- 9:00 AM Women's Prayer Fellowship; Jericho Road;
- 10:00 AM Music Guild; TABCOM
- 6:00 PM Women's Group
- 7:00 PM Evening Prayer; Pastoral Relations;  
Food Addicts in Rec.; Gtr. Hammond Hts.

Thu., Apr. 30, 2009

- 6:15 PM First Handbells
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous

### MUSIC & ARTS WEEKEND — MAY 1 THRU 3

Fri., May 1, 2009



- 9:00 AM Worcester Interfaith
- 3:15 PM Girl Scouts
- 4:00 PM Music & Arts Photo Exhibit
- 7:30 PM New England Ringers in Concert (reception)

Sat., May 2, 2009

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Fellowship

Sun., May 3, 2009

- 8:00 & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
- 9:00 AM Music & Arts Photo Exhibit (until 3:00 PM)
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 11:15 AM Church School; Scrogin Forum;
- 5:00 PM Habitat