



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

The First Baptist Church
A Welcoming and Affirming Church
Worcester, Massachusetts
August 22, 2010

MORNING WORSHIP in GORDON HALL

August 22, 2010.....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 *Andante sostenuto*, Op. 72, no. 6 Felix Mendelssohn
1809-1847
Andante amabile, Op. 57, no. 4 Neils Wilhelm Gade
1817-1890

***OPENING HYMN 35** Morning Has Broken Bunessan

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Heather Kattan

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song!

People: We sing a song of peace and hope!

Leader: Sing to the Lord a song of strength.

People: Our strength is in the Lord of hosts!

Leader: Sing to the Lord a song of joy!

ALL: Our song is a song of service and faithfulness.

***INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

We are broken vessels, O God. You have watched us. You have called to us. You have blessed us and yet we have chosen our own flawed ways. Throughout the ages you have sent your prophets to help us return to you. Some people heeded your call and turned again to lives of love and witness. But others chose not to listen. Please help us to tune our ears and our hearts to you, O God. Help us to seek peace and justice rather than greed and complacency. As we have gathered here this morning to listen to your word, to sing praise, to offer our prayers, help us to remember that you hold us dearly in your hands. You cherish our lives and listen to our cries. You respond to our needs. Enable us to place our trust in you totally, that we may faithfully serve you all of our days. In Jesus' Name, we pray: Our Father (depts)...

***GLORIA PATRI 734** Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

*Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

SOLO *I Saw the Cross of Jesus* Ralph Manual
b. 1955

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE John 3:1-17 (pg. 863)

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING.....Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDRENDavid Goff and Mark Hecox

(Children who desire to participate in Summer Church School are invited to join their worship leader following the Children's Message.)

SERMON *Be Born Anew!*..... Rev. Gordon Swan

***HYMN 492** Spirit of the Living GodIverson

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Solo *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*Beverly Babcock Botten
b. 1945

***Doxology**Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 559** Here I Am, Lord Schutte

***BENEDICTION**Gordon Swan

POSTLUDE *Allegro vivace* Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
1805-1847

**Those who are able may stand.*

Gail Simpson, soprano

William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts

CCLI #2763143

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(Continued)

TODAY'S GUEST MINISTER:

Gordon is celebrating 50 years of ordination. He started college in Canada to train as a medical doctor. During his studies he realized he was being called to be a pastor, "a physician of the soul." Pursuing the best of theological thought and the practice of ministry are his passions. He retired in May 2003 from the First Baptist Church in Needham who appointed him Pastor Emeritus "in deep appreciation and gratitude for 17 years as our beloved pastor." For almost two years, beginning in 2004, he served the Second Baptist Church in Suffield, CT in a very satisfying interim ministry. Gordon has done volunteer teaching at Andover Newton and values highly his renewed relationship with the school. He represents TABCOM on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Council of Churches and is chair of TABCOM'S Commission on Ministry. Gordon and his wife Edith (retired special educator who presently tutors privately) rejoice in 52 years of marriage. Gardening and pursuing many cultural, educational, sports (even curling), and service events in the Boston and New England area, fill their lives with delight. Their son and his family live in Florida and their daughter and her family are in California. Seven grandchildren, ages 7 through 20 years, are Edith and Gordon's great joy.

TODAY'S GUEST SOLOIST:

Daughter of Rev. Dr. George V. & Joan Simpson, Gail has been singing for over 30 years. A graduate of the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, Gail completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. Under the directorship of Mr. Noel Dexter of the University Singers (Jamaica), she performed choral theatre pieces and works by Handel, Haydn, Wiley and HoLung. Her musical performance in Massachusetts included playing the role of *Mother Abbess* in *Sound Of Music* (Barre Players Theatre, 2007). Currently, Gail is a Science Teacher at a residential school for students with special needs. She extends her thanks for the opportunity to share her ministry in song at the First Baptist Church congregation.

PASTORAL CARE REMINDER:

Rev. Don Crosby will be available for pastoral care emergencies during Tom's sabbatical. His home phone number: 508-459-0210; cell phone number: 508-723-2600.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VALUE 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.

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.

IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY:

Please join us for fellowship in the Lee Room following the service. You can enjoy refreshments, meet members of the congregation, and learn about the many programs of this church. The Lee Room is located one flight down by exiting Gordon Hall through the rear door, and taking the staircase exit next to the bubbler (or enter the elevator and press BR). Turn left through the glass doors at the bottom and enter the Lee Room by the first door on the right in the hallway. **If you are searching for a church home**, we would love to get to know you. Please speak with one of our Ministers, or call to speak with them during the week at 508-755-6143.

Those with infants and children ages up to age five are welcome to take them to the **Nursery/Preschool class (located in the Caboose)**. Please ask one of our ushers to assist you.

Hearing Aids, Large Print Bulletins, and Children's Bulletins are available... Please speak with one of our ushers for assistance.

FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL...During the month of August, the Floral Arts Committee encourages the gardeners among us to consider sharing the beauty of their gardens! We welcome any arrangements, and ask that you bring them with you on Sunday before Worship and place them at the front in Gordon Hall. 🌸

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45 AM: Nursery & Preschool Room Opens (@ Caboose)

10:00 AM: Morning Worship; Summer Church School

11:00 AM: Refreshments and...

Youth Group: See bulletin announcements or the posted schedule.

SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL...Children will be dismissed following the Children's Affirmation, and have class in the Green Room on the second floor. Parents may pick up their children following Morning Worship. For directions to the Green Room, please speak with one of our ushers for assistance.

REFRESHMENTS AND...Join with the family and friends following this morning's service in the Lee Room. Be sure to take time to reach out to those among us who are new at the First Baptist Church!

THE PRAYER PYRAMID will assume the responsibility for your prayer needs while the prayer fellowships are not meeting. Please contact the Church Office (508-755-6143) or Eleanor Brockway (508-753-7827) with any prayer requests.

PREACHING NEXT SUNDAY

August 29 Rev. Paul Ferrin

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP...resumes monthly schedule on Saturday, September 11, 2010, 8:00 AM at the Parkway Diner, 148 Shrewsbury Street, Worcester. Questions? Contact Tom Ward [tward@oxps.org].

THIRD ANNUAL CHURCH POTLUCK PICNIC is COMING SOON...to Barre Falls Dam in Hubbardston, MA on **September 12, 2010**. We look forward to another wonderful day, departing immediately following Morning Worship and enjoying the beautiful picnic grounds as long as we like. Pick up a copy of the flyer TODAY!

FESTIVAL SUNDAY...is September 19, 2010! Please join us for our FRONT LAWN FESTIVAL. There will be games, food, and tons of fun! You can pick up a copy of our new Fall Schedule, take a tour of the newly painted Education Wing, and help suggest new names for our classrooms. Please save the date and plan to attend!

NEWSLETTER: GOING “GREEN”...Beginning with the September, 2010 issue, we will send an e-mail notice when our monthly newsletter is available online at www.fbc-worc.org (where is it already posted each month!). Hard copies will continue via U.S. Mail, unless you opt out by contacting the Church Office at 508-755-6143 or info@fbc-worc.org.

DONATIONS FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES NEEDED...Warren Jones continues to coordinate pick-up and delivery of much needed household items for arriving refugee families. **Please contact Warren to arrange pick-up items you wish to donate: 978-368-1310.** Current needs include:

- Crib and/or infant bed
- Single, double, and/or bunk beds (or any parts of one)
- Two-seat sofa
- Dining table and chairs
- Washers
- Juicer/blender
- Microwaves
- Computers
- DVD players

DRIVER NEEDED...A volunteer is needed to transport refugee children who are members of the Chorister Choir to rehearsals on Tuesday afternoons, beginning in September. Any individual available to assist with this effort should contact Warren Jones at the above telephone number.

YOUTH GROUP T-SHIRTS...Love the t-shirts worn by the Youth on Youth Sunday and wish you owned one? You're in luck—we are now taking orders for those interested in making a purchase! Place your name, number and shirt size you desire on the sheet outside of Rev. Heather Kattan's office. Pricing determined by the size of the order, so place your order today!

HOPE FOR HOUSING...Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to purchase your food shopping cards! When used, 5% of your total purchase goes toward the prevention and early intervention assistance to those who are at risk of homelessness.

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Sun., Aug. 22, 2010	9:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Nursery & Preschool Opens (@ Caboose) Morning Worship in Gordon Hall; Summer Church School Refreshments and...in the Lee Room
Mon., Aug. 23, 2010	1:30 PM	Weekly Staff Meeting <i>Elm Park Ministries Urban Camp Week Three @ Camp Calumet</i>
Tue., Aug. 24, 2010	12:00 PM	Habitat
Wed., Aug. 25, 2010	12:00 PM	<i>Staff & Tenant POTLUCK</i>
Thu., Aug. 26, 2010	8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous
Sun., Aug. 29, 2010	9:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Nursery & Preschool Opens (@ Caboose) Morning Worship in Gordon Hall; Summer Church School Refreshments and...in the Lee Room;



Fall POTLUCK Picnic @ Barre Falls Dam
Festival Sunday FRONT LAWN FESTIVAL
New Directory Photos
Laity Sunday

...and much MORE!