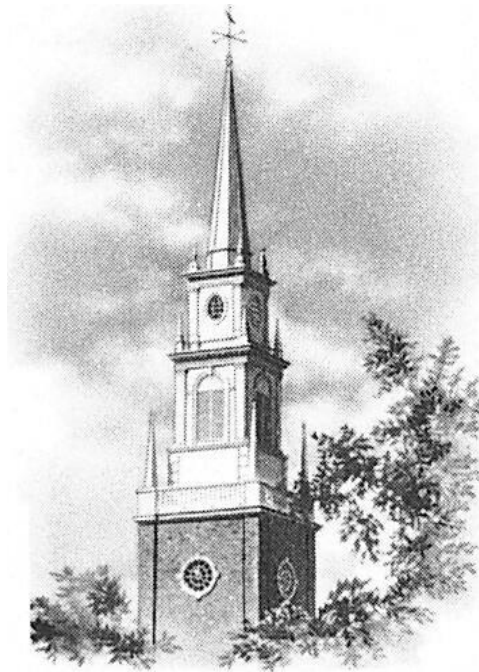


First Baptist Church

February 8, 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



February 8, 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 Church of God, Elect and Glorious.....Cathy Moklebust
b. 1958

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 541** Church of God, Elect and Glorious.....
Nettleton

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

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

People: He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Leader: He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

People: Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

All: But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Can it be, Almighty God that you, the Creator of the ends of the earth, nevertheless call upon us to gather in your name? We come together at your bidding, and call on you once more to let your Spirit dwell richly among us. Inspire us through our time together with your people, as we gather to praise you and your wonderful works. We offer this prayer in the spirit of Christ, who taught us to pray: Our Father...(debts).

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Heather Kattan

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Singing the Psalter—Psalm 147 Unison Response:

Psalm 147
(12-20)

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain

God, the Lord of Hosts, is with us,
Ja - cob's God, the Lord of all.

Refrain text: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

Music: Tune: *HOLY MANNA*, from William Moore's *The Columbian Harmony*, 1825 (PD).

Setting: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

Mark 1:29-39 (pg. 813)

Jesus heals Simon Peter's mother-in-law, and then heals many others who are in great need.

LET THE CHILDREN COME..... China

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so!

Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDREN..... Heather Kattan

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

SERMON *Mind the Understanding Gap!*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

***HYMN 621** For the Healing of the Nations Regent Square

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS..... Thomas R. McKibbens

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS..... Brenda Baker

Offertory Have You Not Known? K. Lee Scott
b. 1950

***Doxology 34**..... Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 631** There Is a Balm in Gilead..... Balm in Gilead

***BENEDICTION**..... Thomas R. McKibbens

POSTLUDE I Want Jesus to Walk with Me..... Calvin Taylor
b. 1950

**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 given in memory of Hiroshi Yamaguchi by Michiko, Akira, and Hitoshi Yamaguchi. ✨

SUNDAY EDUCATION...We offer a variety of worship and learning opportunities for children and youth. Following the Children's Message, all children are invited to attend a Children's Worship session upstairs in the Green Room. At 11:15 AM, we have Sunday 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 welcome those among us who are new!



ANNUAL MEETING TODAY...in Gordon Hall. Lunch will be served at 11:30 AM at the cost of \$5.00 per person, with the meeting following.


YOUTH GROUP...Listen for an announcement about when to touch base with Heather following today's Annual Meeting! Report on how fundraising is going for the **30 Hour Famine**, and bring any questions or concerns you may have. This will be a BRIEF meeting!

ALL-COMMITTEE NIGHT THIS TUESDAY! Following tradition, all newly elected FBC committee members meet with their committee for the first time on **Tuesday, February 10, 2009**. We will begin with a light dinner at 6:00 PM (donation requested), followed by a briefing with the Moderator, after which we will break out into meetings by committee. If your name appears on the posted ballot for 2009, please plan to be present at your FIRST meeting of the year!

VALENTINE REMBRANCES THIS WEEK...We are looking for some CARING INDIVIDUALS who would be willing to bake cookies, donate money for fruit, help to package these items, or help to deliver them to one or two of our 35 shut-ins. If you are willing to help in any of these ways, please sign-up in the Church Office OR contact Jean Tait or Jean Mills to let us know. **We will package these items this Friday, February 13 at 10:00 AM**, and they will be delivered after that time. Thanks in advance for your participation!



[Jean Tait (508-852-4629)/Jean Mills (508-829-4551)]

NEXT SUNDAY IN ADULT FORUM...we welcome the Rev. Elizabeth M. Magill from Worcester Fellowship, an organization dedicated to ending the isolation that comes with home- **Adult Forum** lessness, through spiritual care, and community. Join us on February 15 at 11:15 AM in the Whitney Room to learn more!

30 HOUR FAMINE MEETING...next Sunday, February 15 at 12:30 PM in the Lee Room. We will have lunch and a final discussion of our schedule. This meeting is for chaperones, youth, and anyone else who desires to participate!

CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM...Classes to prepare candidates for baptism will begin on **February 22, 2009 at 9:00 AM** in the Youth Lounge. Families having a candidate for baptism should speak with Tom McKibbens. The classes will run for six weeks, culminating with baptism on Palm Sunday.





PARK CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

(from our heart to yours!)...A Delicious SPAGHETTI SUPPER on Saturday, February 21, 6:00 PM in GORDON HALL. Cost: ADULTS—\$8.00, CHILDREN 3-12 yrs.—\$5.00; under 3 yrs. — free. BASKET

RAFFLE. **Tickets are available at the FBC Church Office. Please sign up on the bulletin board, stop by the Church Office or call 508-755-6143.**

***FOR PROPER PLANNING, RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 2/14.**

ALL WELCOME!

PIANO FUND BAKE SALE...on Sunday, February 22, following Morning Worship. Sponsored by the Music & Arts Committee—and you KNOW how good the Music & Arts Committee cooks are!



*****SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRET FRIENDS*****

By popular demand, this springtime tradition resumes at FBC! Sunday School Secret Friends will run from March 15 through April 19, 2009, with a small party at the end for the big REVEAL. If there are any Sunday School children interested in participating, please write your name on the sign-up sheet posted outside Heather's office. Adults who are interested in participating should contact Heather Kattan via e-mail or phone, so she may keep your name a secret and enhance the surprise.



[heatherk@fbc-worc.org] [508-755-6143 x228]

Details to follow in the mail...😊

HOPE FOR HOUSING...Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to continue making your food shopping card purchases!



Wonderful Wednesdays!

Prayer...

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.
Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

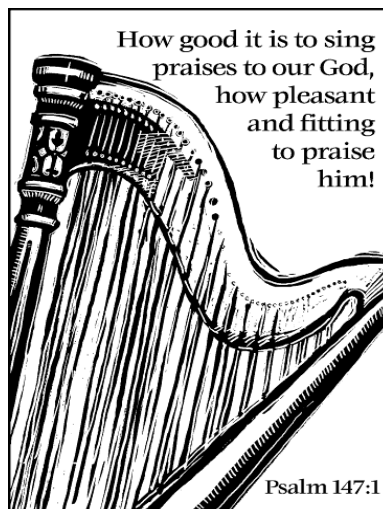
~Romans 12:12-13

Please pray for...


- Today's Annual Meeting
- Today's Second Sunday Service at Knollwood Nursing Center
- Tuesday's All-Committee Night at church
- Each who is scheduled for surgery or medical procedure
- Those experiencing natural disaster; war; displacement
- People who are victims of domestic strife or abuse
- Those with chronic disease
- The homeless, hungry, unemployed



PRAYER REQUEST CARDS may be posted in any of the three Prayer Mail Boxes for prayer by the Prayer Fellowship and Rev. Thomas R. McKibbens.



OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

- Today, Feb. 8, 2009 8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM **ANNUAL MEETING** (luncheon)
12:30 PM Youth Group
5:00 PM Habitat
- Mon., Feb. 9, 2009 9:00 AM Worcester Garden Club
- Tue., Feb. 10, 2009 9:30 AM Literacy Volunteer Reading
10:00 AM Weekly Staff Mtg.; Skein of Knitters
1:00 PM Salisbury Belles
4:00 PM Children's Choir
6:00 PM **ALL COMMITTEE NIGHT!**
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- Wed., Feb. 11, 2009 9:00 AM Staff Planning Retreat; Women's Prayer
12:00 PM Hope for Housing
5:00 PM Habitat
7:00 PM Food Addicts in Recovery;
Intercollegiate Bible Study
7:30 PM Evening Prayer Fellowship
- Thu., Feb. 12, 2009 9:00 AM Literacy Volunteers; Literacy Vol. Reading
6:15 PM First Handbells
7:30 PM Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous
- Fri., Feb. 13, 2009 8:00 AM Worcester Interfaith Board
9:00 AM NAEP
10:00 AM Valentine Remembrance "Baskets"
3:15 PM Brownies
- Sun., Feb. 15, 2009 8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Sunday School
12:30 PM Youth Group

Blood Pressure Check in the Going Library

The First Baptist Church
111 Park Avenue — Worcester, MA 01609
508-755-6143
www.fbc-worc.org