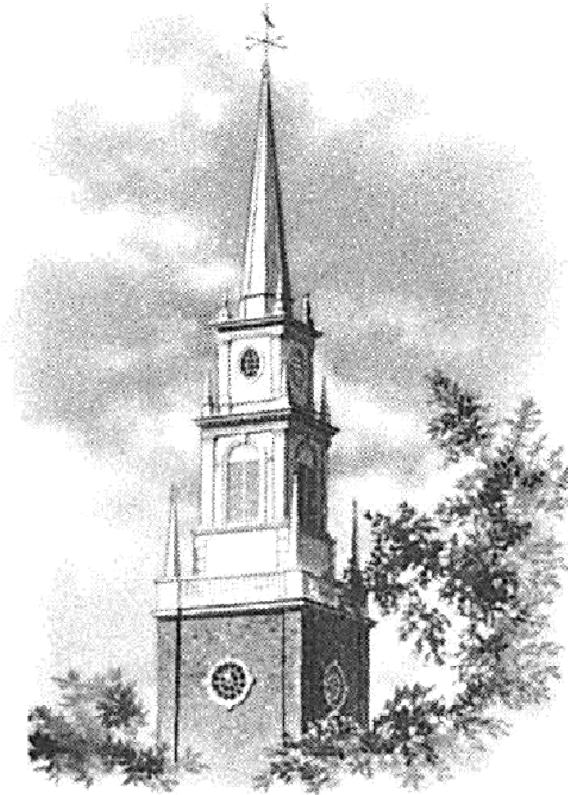


First Baptist Church

May 31, 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



May 31, 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 Meditation on *Come Down, O Love Divine*..... Fred Gramann
b. 1950

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 330** *Come Down, O Love Divine*.....Down Ampney

***CALL TO WORSHIP**..... Heather Kattan

Leader: In the last days I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

People: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Leader: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

ALL: If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

***INVOCATION (Unison)**

Eternal God, we offer to you praise for the gift of your Spirit. When we are lonely, the Spirit comes to be our friend. When we are filled with doubt and lack faith, the Spirit speaks the Word of truth. When we are filled with resentment, the Spirit brings to us the gift of love. Pour forth your Spirit, O God, on all the earth, that conflict and strife may be brought to an end. Deliver people everywhere from contempt for those who are of a different race, color, or creed. Hasten true fellowship among all peoples through your gospel, and bring them to true unity in your Spirit. We offer the prayer Jesus taught: Our Father...(depts)

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Heather Kattan

HANDBELL ANTHEM Festive Bell Flourish..... Lee Barrow

LITTLE CHILDREN, WELCOMEKoleda

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.)

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21 (pg. 885)

HANDBELL ANTHEM The Lord is My Light Frances Allitsen

Psalm 27:1-3, 5 (pg. 437) 1848-1912

*The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid?
Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid;
And though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him.
For in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His Tabernacle.
Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me,
and set me up upon a rock of stone.*

SERMON *The Unhindered Gospel*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

***HYMN 333** Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow..... Aberystwyth

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory *I Will Not Leave You Comfortless*..... Everett Titcomb

*I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you yet again;
And your heart shall be joyful. Alleluia!* 1884-1968

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 461** Breathe on Me, Breath of God Trentham

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Come Down, O Love DivineRobert Lind

b. 1940

**Those who are able may stand.*

Chancel Choir

First Handbells

William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts

Marjorie Ness, assisting organist

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 by Donna and Tom McKibbens in gratitude for and in honor of the worshipping community of the First Baptist Church of Worcester☪

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.☪

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 at the First Baptist Church!☪

SPECIAL ADULT FORUM TODAY...Everyone is invited to take part in an important discussion about the Sunday morning schedule for the 2009-2010 Program Year. The ministerial staff will make proposals that would call for changes we believe will enhance our programming. Families of Church School children, our Church School teachers, and members of the Board of Christian Education are especially encouraged to attend. The presentation and discussion will begin at **11:15 AM in Gordon Hall.**

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP TODAY...Pending plans include travel to the **Higgins Armory Museum** here in Worcester to see the *Live Arms and Armor Show!* PLEASE speak with Heather Kattan TODAY as soon as possible if you desire to go. Admission is \$9.00 for adults (ages 17-59) and \$7.00 for children (ages 6-16). Free to children ages 5 and under.

ATTENTION GRADUATES, AND THOSE WHO LOVE THEM...Are you, or do you know someone who is graduating from high school, college or beyond? As part of our program on Education Sunday, June 14, 2009, we would like to honor those in our church family who have reached this milestone! If you, or someone you know qualifies, please contact Heather Kattan by Sunday, June 7 [heatherk@fbc-worc.org — 508-755-6143 x228] with their name, school from which they are graduating, degree earned, and any future plans they may have. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP...To celebrate the arrival of sunny weather, the Youth Group will visit the **Crystal Caves Family Entertainment Center** (790 Southbridge Street, Auburn, MA) on **Sunday, June 7.** We will meet in the Lee Room at 12:30 PM and then depart for some mini-golf and fun times together. The cost of a round of mini-golf is \$7.50. Lunch will be provided, but bring extra money for any additional snacks and treats. Please write your name on the sign-up sheet outside of Heather's office A.S.A.P.!

SUMMER SERENDIPITY – START THE SUMMER IN STYLE!

Come and have Supper, listen to some Summer music, some witty Words, and launch yourself into That Summertime Feeling!

Gordon Hall – Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Tickets are \$15 each, and are available from the Church Office and after the service on Sundays. ***SPECIAL OFFER*** Book a table of eight (8) for \$100! So, gather your friends, book a table, and enjoy the show. Tickets *must* be purchased in advance by **TODAY, May 31, 2009!**

SUMMER CHOIR...will function on the following Sundays: **July 5, 12, 26, and August 2**, for those who are interested in singing only on Sunday morning with no robes. We will sing one Anthem per Sunday. Make a joyful noise!

VBS...Experience & Discover God Everywhere during **CAMP E.D.G.E.**, August 2—5, 5:30—8:30 PM at FBC! **SAVE THESE DATES! SEE HEATHER TO VOLUNTEER!**

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

SAVE THE DATE...The 35th Annual Worcester CROP Walk will be held on October 25, starting from Trinity Lutheran Church. As this is a special anniversary, they are hoping to raise \$35,000, and will need lots of prayers, donations, and workers to pull this off. **SAVE THE DATE** and then **PLAN TO WALK** for hunger.

JEWISH HOME HOSPICE...Is looking for caring and compassionate souls to serve as volunteer visitors for their patients of all faiths. The next training sessions begin in June. For further information, please contact Harriett Katz at 508-798-8653 x2164, or e-mail harriettk@jewishhealthcarecenter.com.

NEEDS OF REFUGEE FAMILIES ARRIVING WEEKLY IN WORCESTER

Beds, chest of drawers, tables, chairs, sofas, dishes, pots & pans, microwaves, children's strollers & playthings, computers, computer tables & chairs, pillows, sheets, blankets, towels, fans, air-conditioners, televisions, and VCR's. Please contact Warren Jones [520-907-5385] or bring things to the Church Office [508-755-6143]. Volunteer drivers are needed to meet the growing number of families wanting to attend Sunday morning church services or to help take some of the above donations to refugee homes. *Note: Donations are tax deductible.*



**DONATIONS
NEEDED**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE REMINDER...The deadline for the JULY, 2009 issue of the newsletter is on **Monday, June 8, 2009**. Please submit items to Cindy Johnson via e-mail [cindyj@fbc-worc.org], fax [508-797-3313] or place a hard copy in her mail slot in the Church Office. Thank you!

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Prayer...

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in your all day long.

~Psalm 25:4-5

Please include in your prayers:

- Our church in its worship and ministry this summer
- The Prayer Pyramid
- George McDermott, Hillary Bath, Alice Hohler, Daryl Otobo, Alexandra Bergstrom, Erik Gustafson
- Those who suffer from chronic disease
- Our country, the United Nations, and their leadership
- Those who are bereaved
- The growth of understanding within our families
- The youth ministries of our church
- The refugee families in our midst





PLEASE NOTE... The Women's Prayer Fellowship and the Evening Prayer Fellowship will resume their 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM schedule on Wednesday, September 23, 2009.

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.



OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, May. 31, 2009	8:00 & 9:00 AM	Bible & Bagels
	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Church School; Adult Forum
	12:30 PM	Family Fellowship
Mon., June 1, 2009	5:45 PM	Buildings & Grounds
	7:00 PM	Music & Arts; Habitat
Tue., June 2, 2009	9:30 AM	Literacy Volunteers
	10:00 AM	Full Staff Meeting & Luncheon
	12:00 PM	Literacy Volunteers
	4:00 PM	Financial Review
	7:00 PM	Special Education Training; Social Action; Compassionate Friends
Wed., June 3, 2009	9:00 AM	Jericho Road
	6:00 PM	Women's Group
	7:00 PM	Park Congregational; Food Adds/Rec.
Thu., June 4, 2009	9:30 AM	Literacy Volunteers
	12:00 PM	Literacy Volunteers
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
	8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous
Fri., June 5, 2009	7:00 PM	Music & Arts (rehearsal)
Sat., June 6, 2009	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast Fellowship at KP's
	10:00 AM	Worcester Interfaith
	2:00 PM	Music & Arts (set-up)
	6:30 PM	Summer Serendipity
Sun., June 7, 2009	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Church School; Scrogin Forum
	12:30 PM	Youth Group

The First Baptist Church
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