

*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

Worcester, Massachusetts

1939 - 2009

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009
10:00 AM
RE-DEDICATION OF THE SANCTUARY
FESTIVAL SUNDAY

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 *Fantasy and Fugue in G minor, BWV 542* J.S. Bach
1685-1750

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 106** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! Coronation

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For the worship of God in prayer and praise; for the proclaiming of the word in voice and symbol;

People: **We gather to rededicate this holy place.**

Leader: For the comfort of those who mourn; for the help of those who are perplexed; for the encouragement of those who seek strength;

People: **We gather in a spirit of gratitude.**

Leader: For the support and nurture of families; for the guidance of youth to a life of service;

People: **We gather in a spirit of gratitude.**

Leader: For fostering faithfulness and promoting peace and justice in our community and around the world;

People: **We gather in a spirit of gratitude.**

Leader: For the opening of minds; for the care of the needy; for the giving of hope and courage;

People: **We gather in a spirit of gratitude.**

Leader: For the consecration of life and service, in grateful remembrance of those who have gone before us, and in gratitude for our life together in this church,

ALL: **We give thanks for this church's past, celebrate its present, and pray for its continued blessing and guidance.**

***SANCTUS** Franz Schubert
1797-1828

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Eternal and loving God, today we give thanks to you for your goodness through all the years of worship and witness in this place. For your grace in calling us to be your people, for your love revealed to us in Christ your Son, for your gift of the Spirit and the joy of salvation. For those who established this congregation, for their faith and vision, for their gifts and abilities. For all who have been members of this congregation, for those who have given freely of their time and money, for those whose wisdom guided our congregation.

For all who have preached and taught here; for all who have confessed here that Jesus is Lord; for all who today lead in worship, witness, and service, give us the assurance that we too belong to that great company, and that we too may find the peace that passes understanding. In the spirit of Christ we pray the prayer he taught: Our Father...(debt).

***GLORIA PATRI 734** Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HISTORICAL PRESENTATION

ANTHEM Psalm 150 César Franck
1822-1890

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Anthem Praise to the Lord Charles Stanford
1852-1924

***Doxology 34** Old Hundred

***Prayer of Dedication**

***HYMN 549 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord** St. Thomas

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.)

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 12:1-2 (pg. 978)

SERMON Saints Remembered and Saints to Come Thomas R. McKibbens

(Continued on next page)

***ACT OF DEDICATION**

Minister: The heaven of heavens cannot contain God, much less this house which our hands have built. Yet the Lord is in his holy temple. Let all the earth keep silent before him.

People: To private devotion and public worship; to the revelation of God in beauty, the acknowledgment of God in praise, and the appropriation of God's power in prayer, we dedicate this house.

Minister: Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven.

People: To the building of personal character; to the faiths which sustain it, the inward resources which enrich it, and the spirit of Christ which fulfills it, we dedicate this house.

Minister: Seeing ye are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, run with patience the race that is set before you.

People: To the memory of all true and loyal souls into whose labors we have entered, by whose lives our faith has been illumined, and through whose sacrifices our toil has been made effectual, we dedicate this house.

Minister: When ye pray, say, Our Father; for now are we children of God.

People: To the strength and beauty of the home; to the abiding sacredness of its relationships; to the loyal love which hallows marriage, glorifies childhood, sustains maturity, and crowns old age, we dedicate this house.

Minister: Know ye not that ye are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

People: To the welfare and progress of the Church of Christ; to the liberal spirit which shuts none out whom Christ has taken in; to the fearless love of truth, the home of the Church's unity, and the endeavor to make the Master's spirit the inspiration of the whole world, we dedicate this house.

Minister: The kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ.

People: To the support of every good work among us; to Christian fellowship and service; to sincere concern for the causes of education and philanthropy; to the furtherance of economic justice, national probity and honor, and international goodwill, we dedicate this house.

Minister: All souls are mine, saith the Lord. Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.

(Continued on next page)

People: To the training of children in faith and character; to the summoning of youth to serviceable living; to the cure of souls that doubt and the persuasion of those that have not yet believed; to the comfort of the discouraged, the relief of the distressed, the consecration of the strong, the guidance of the bewildered and the consolation of the dying; to the ennobling of this life and to confidence in life eternal, we dedicate this house.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 458** O Jesus, I Have Promised Angel's Story

***BENEDICTION — Choral Amen** Peter Lutkin
1858-1931

POSTLUDE *Grand Chœur Dialogué*..... Eugène Gigout
1844-1925

**Those who are able may stand.*

*Chancel Choir
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 & LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE... Please speak with one of our ushers for assistance.

NEW SUNDAY EDUCATION SCHEDULE...We offer a variety of worship and learning opportunities for all ages! **Bible & Bagels** meets in the Lee Room at 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM for a study of I Thessalonians. Everyone is invited to join us in either class for this exciting Bible Study experience. **Church School resumes at 9:00 AM beginning September 27.** Following the Children's Message during Morning Worship each Sunday, children are invited to attend a **Children's Worship** session upstairs in the Green Room. **September 27**, our **Adult Forum** resumes and **ABKids [*NEW*] will begin at 11:20 AM**, followed by the **YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF at 11:45 AM.**



For more information, please speak with Heather Kattan,
Minister of Youth & Education.

TODAY IS FESTIVAL SUNDAY

Please join us for our traditional **BRUNCH** in Gordon Hall following Morning Worship.
Meet your Church School Teachers and visit your classroom.



MUSIC & ARTS BAKE SALE TODAY...Plan to take delectable delights home following Morning Worship and the Festival time. We will be at **BAKE SALE** our tables with goodies to sell!

THE PRAYER FELLOWSHIPS...resume their 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM schedule **THIS Wednesday, September 23, 2009.**

CALLING ALL GOLFERS...Come play in the **First Annual Golf Outing** to benefit the Briarwood Continuing Care and Retirement Community on **Thursday, September 24, 2009 at Wachusett Country Club** in West Boylston. Briarwood is celebrating its 25th Anniversary of providing care and services to Seniors in the Central Massachusetts area. Show your interest in this event by contacting David Johnson [508-856-9041/johnsonDM@alumni.umass.edu].



WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY...presents, *Vienna Serenade* featuring compositions by Beethoven, Schumann, Schubert, and Mozart on Saturday, **September 26, 2009** at 7:30 PM in Gordon Hall. Members include Tracy Kraus, flute; Krista Buckland Reisner, violin; Peter Sulski, violin; Mark Berger, viola; David Russell, cello; William Ness and Ian Watson, piano. With guest Douglas Metcalf, clarinet. **TICKETED.** Visit worcesterchambermusic.org for more information.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS SUNDAY...Our church will hold a special thematic worship service, followed by educational events and opportunities for the entire day on **Sunday, October 4, 2009.** Special guests will include State Senator Harriett L. Chandler, Ginger Navikas of New Day, Vinny Gorglioui of the Worcester Police Department, and Ann Early from the Batterer's Intervention Office. A panel discussion will highlight the Adult Forum, and there will be a showing of the film, *Broken Vows* at 5:00 PM.




OLD-FASHIONED BEANS & FRANKS SUPPER...On **Saturday, October 17, 2009** at 6:00 PM in Gordon Hall. Sponsored by the Sunday School Children of Park Congregational Church. Adults \$8.00, Children ages 5-12 years, \$4.00. ***BASKET RAFFLE!*** Please make reservations by calling 508-752-2468 or by placing your name on the sign-up sheet. **JOIN US FOR SUPPER!**

FALL BUSINESS MEETING...on **Sunday, October 18, 2009**, immediately following the Morning Worship Service. Please plan to attend.

SYNERGY... will present *Organ Plus!*, a concert in celebration of the completion of the extension to the FBC Chancel Organ on Sunday, **October 18, 2009** at 4:00 PM. The members of Synergy are Debbie Franks, flute; Lira Cady, harp; and William Ness, organ.

WORCESTER INTERFAITH PRESENTS...*The Beggar's Bowl*, a fundraiser and arts event on Tuesday, **October 20, 2009**, 5:30 PM in Gordon Hall at FBC. Please come and enjoy a bowl of homemade soup served in a hand-thrown stoneware bowl which you will take home. Donation \$50.00. For more information, call 508-754-5001.

ANNUAL BECK LECTURESHIP..."One Book, Many Voices" with award winning journalist Liz Walker on **Wednesday, October 21, 2009** at FBC.  Lecture and film begins at 11:30 AM with a buffet lunch. R.S.V.P. required by Monday, October 12, 2009. Contact Nathan to register [617-969-9404/admin@massbible.org]. See our bulletin board for details, or visit www.massbible.org.

THE 22ND ANNUAL ELISABETH BLANCHARD CASWELL MEMORIAL CONCERT...Friday, **October 23, 2009**, 8:00 PM presenting Paul Bisaccia, concert pianist. Please save this date and come to hear Paul play some of his favorite Gershwin and other favorites by American composers. Free to all!

JERICHO ROAD WORCESTER SEEKS SKILLED VOLUNTEERS...Jericho Road Worcester (JRW) is a new nonprofit founded by leaders from the First Baptist and First Unitarian Churches. We are volunteering our skills with greater Worcester nonprofits to complete a variety of high impact projects. If you would like to add your professional skills to the JRW roster, or if you know of a local nonprofit that can benefit from collaborating with us, please contact Deborah Wild, JRW Program Director at dwild@jerichoroadproject.org, 617-633-9939. See the October Newsletter for more information, or visit the Jericho Road website at www.jerichoroadproject.org.

THANKSGIVING PIES...The Music & Arts Committee plans to bake your Thanksgiving Pie! Choices will be Apple, Pecan, and Pumpkin. Please place your order by November 15. Pick-up is on Sunday, November 22 following Morning Worship in Gordon Hall. Don't miss out on these great homemade pies!

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.

WALK FOR HUNGER...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. Lots of prayers, donations, and workers are needed to pull this off. **SAVE THE DATE** and then **PLAN TO WALK** for hunger.



THE PHOENIX PLAYERS PRESENTS...JENNY JONES — *Spy Catcher*, directed by Brian Hayes on **November 6 & 7, 2009, 7:30 PM** in Gordon Hall. This short thriller will be augmented with a bit of musical theatre by the Chancel Choir. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults/\$6.00 for children, and will be available in the Church Office!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU...First Baptist Church is so fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talent to create beauty and help care for our



building and grounds. For the beautiful flowers planted near the entrance to the main lobby, and the many hours spent tending to them, we have Ruth Heywood to thank. For the pruning of the hedges around the periphery of the property, we have Kim Woodbury to thank. And, on Saturday September 12, there was a serious "power crew" who arrived to go to work cleaning, dusting, and polishing in the Sanctuary: Nancy Curtis, Paula Harvey, Heather and David Kattan, Andrea Letourneau, Tom McKibbens, and Michiko Yamaguchi. John Belanger was invaluable with the set-up so that everyone could get right to work, and Emily Smith ensured that the picnic lunch had all the right ingredients. Thank you to everyone! Pat Czerny, Church Administrator



COMING THIS DECEMBER...A **HANDBELL EXTRAVAGANZA** with performances by **THREE** groups! Plan to join us on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 7:30 PM for a musical extravaganza, including carol singing!

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, Sept. 20, 2009



FESTIVAL SUNDAY

70th RE-DEDICATION of the SANCTUARY

8:00 AM Bible & Bagels Session I
 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels Session II
 10:00 AM Worship
11:20 AM FESTIVAL SUNDAY BRUNCH;
 BP Screening

Tue., Sept. 22, 2009



8:00 AM Worcester Interfaith
 10:00 AM Weekly Staff
 1:00 PM Salisbury Belles
 4:00 PM Chorister Choir
 7:00 PM Board of Deacons; Board of Finance

Wed., Sept. 23, 2009

9:00 AM Women's Prayer (resumes); Lit. Volunteers
 10:00 AM WCMS rehearsal
 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Fellowship (resumes);
 Park Congregational; Food Addicts in Rec.

Thu., Sept. 24, 2009

10:00 AM WCMS rehearsal
 1:00 PM Literacy Volunteers
 6:15 PM First Handbells
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir
 8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., Sept. 25, 2009

9:00 AM WCMS rehearsal
 3:15 PM Girl Scouts

Sat., Sept. 26, 2009

7:30 PM WCMS Concert [ticketed]

Sun., Sept. 27, 2009 — NEW SCHEDULE BEGINS!

8:00 AM Bible & Bagels Session I
 8:45 AM Continental Breakfast
 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels Session II; Church School
 10:00 AM Morning Worship
 11:00 AM Coffee and...
 11:20 AM Forum; AB Kids; Mini Chorister's Choir
 11:45 AM YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

The First Baptist Church — 111 Park Avenue — Worcester, MA 01609

508-755-6143

www.fbc-worc.org