

*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

September 27, 2009

MORNING WORSHIP

September 27, 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 *The Musical Clocks*.....Franz Josef Haydn
Song of the Quail—March—Andantino—Minuet—Presto—Vivace 1732-1809

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 56** Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above.. Mit Freuden Zart

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Wind of God, keep on blowing! Blow over the barriers that we build to divide ourselves from one another.

People: **Fire of God, keep on burning! Ignite new passion for justice and mercy within our hearts.**

Leader: Dove of God, keep on soaring! Take new flight within our minds and spirits as we seek to follow the way of Christ.

People: **Bread of God, keep on nourishing! Feed our bodies and spirits, and then help us to feed all your hungry children.**

Leader: Word of God, keep on speaking! Teach us to listen to your word of hope and wholeness.

People: **Song of God, keep on singing! Inspire us to hear your music and to release that song to the world.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

ALL: **We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

***INVOCATION (unison)**

God of truth, you are the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the thoughts that seek you. Help us so to know you that we may truly love you; so to love you that we may fully serve you, in whose service is perfect freedom. We worship in the spirit of Christ, who taught us to pray: Our Father... (debts).

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM *The Heavens Are Telling*.....Franz Josef Haydn

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Mark 9:14-24 (pg. 790)

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 CHILDRENHeather 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 *The Yearning to Believe*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

***HYMN** O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink (insert)..... Arlington

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory *The Fifers (Rondeau)* Francois d'Andrieu
1684-1740

***Doxology 34**Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 496** *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* Showalter


***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Gigue-Rondo* Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach
1732-1795

**Those who are able may stand.*

Chancel Choir

William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts



Many thanks to those who sent in vacation photos!
Have you seen them? They are posted in the display case across from Gordon Hall!

Also see photos from our recent FALL PICNIC at the BARRE FALLS DAM!

O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink 255

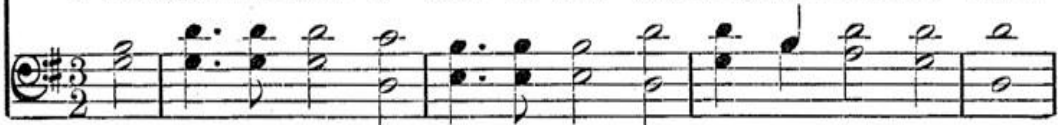
ARLINGTON. C. M.

WILLIAM H. BATHURST, 1796-1877

THOMAS A. ARNE, 1710-1778



1. O for a faith that will not shrink, Tho' pressed by ev - ery foe,
2. That will not mur - mur or com-plain Be - neath the chas-t'ning rod,
3. A faith that shines more bright and clear When tem-pests rage with - out;
4. Lord, give me such a faith as this; And then, what-e'er may come,



That will not trem - ble on the brink Of an - y earth - ly woe!
But, in the hour of grief or pain, Will lean up - on its God.
That when in dan - ger knows no fear, In dark - ness feels no doubt.
I'll know while here, the hal - lowed bliss Of my e - ter - nal home. A-MEN.



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.

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.

CHANCEL FLOWERS...The arrangements given last Sunday were dedicated in memory of Cinderella "Cindy" McFee by her daughter, Dr. Robin McFee. We regret the omission. Today's arrangements are dedicated in memory of Harry F. Malm, by Helen Malm and family.

NEW SUNDAY EDUCATION SCHEDULE

8:00 AM: Bible & Bagels I

8:45 AM: Continental Breakfast Served

9:00 AM: Bible & Bagels II, Church School

10:00 AM: Morning Worship

11:00 AM: Coffee and...

11:20 AM: Forum, AB Kids, Mini-Chorister Choir

11:45 AM: Youth Group





TODAY'S ADULT FORUM...Join us for a report on the American Baptist Biennial, held this past June in Pasadena, California. Led by Thomas R. McKibbens, Donna McKibbens, and Michael Harvey at 11:20 AM in Gordon Hall.

YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF TODAY!...Bring a blanket and a few outdoor games — we are having a PICNIC on the lawn! Invite a friend, and come share your ideas about what you want to do this year. **Meet at 11:45 AM.**



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 (see today's insert).

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES...Interested in learning more about joining First Baptist Church? Join the Senior Minister, Thomas R. McKibbens for three Sunday morning sessions in the Whitney Room to learn more. Sessions will meet at **9:00 AM** on October 4, 11, and 18.



SCROGIN GREAT ISSUES BOOK FORUM...October 11, 2009 at 11:20 AM in The Roy Room. Topic is Today's Immigration and Where You Stand. The book to be discussed is *Tortilla Curtain*, by T. C. Boyle. U.S. immigration as viewed from the Spanish speaking world.

SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE...Attention all YOUTH (and others)! We have the privilege of running the *Second Sunday Service* at the Knollwood Nursing Center on Sunday, October 11, 2009. We are looking for individuals willing to sing, play an instrument, or deliver a short skit or presentation for the residents. Those interested should SIGN-UP on the sheet outside of Heather Kattan's office, or contact her directly [508-755-6143 x228 or heatherk@fbc-worc.org]. Looking forward to your participation!

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. **FREE.**

WORCESTER INTERFAITH PRESENTS...The FOURTH ANNUAL *Beggar's Bowl*, fundraiser and arts event on Tuesday, **October 20, 2009**, 5:30 PM in Gordon Hall. Please come and enjoy a bowl of homemade soup served in a hand-thrown stoneware bowl which you will take home. For repeat attendees, here is the opportunity to complete your set of bowls! 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.**

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.

PRAYER...

*I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.*

Psalm 116:1-2

Please include in your prayers:

- Our Pastor, Thomas R. McKibbens, and his family
- The FBC Staff and the core of volunteers
- Our Church as we launch a new program year
- The family of Betsy Ayres
- Donna McKibbens (recovering), Madelyn Morse, Alice McQuade, Stephanie Harvey, Eleanor Long, Sue Wen, Marion Anderson, Dean Stevens
- Those who suffer from cancer, asthma, bi-polar disease, Alzheimer's, and/or a host of other ailments
- Our TABCOM churches and families; our American Baptist clergy
- Those who are homebound or in care facilities
- Victims of violence, accident, natural disaster, war, crime
- People in spiritual crisis
- The world, so much in need of peace, justice, faith, hope

The Women's Prayer Fellowship and The Evening Prayer Fellowship have resumed. Please come—you are missed when you are absent. All are welcome to join either fellowship (see calendar) whenever possible.

LOCATION CHANGE: The Skein of Knitters will meet on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 10:30 AM at the home of Betty and Ned Bennett, 61 Harvest Circle, Holden. Please note this in your calendars!



First Baptist Church is so fortunate to have committed volunteers who contribute their time and expertise, enabling our worship experience to be enhanced and improving our operations. The Technology Committee has actively implemented a phased plan to modernize and upgrade our computer and networking capabilities, thanks to **Richard Wolf** and **T.C. Gaudette**. **David Holl** has contributed enormously, from updating our e-mail operating environment to recommending networking and audio equipment, along with media archiving improvements. **Joyce Brown** has devoted many hours and a complimentary workshop on Access Database to help improve our extensive membership record keeping and to enable improved, targeted communication. **Thank you all** for your dedication to First Baptist Church! Pat Czerny, Church Administrator.

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, 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 Choir
 11:45 AM YOUTH GROUP (KICK-OFF)

Mon., Sept. 28, 2009

5:30 PM Phoenix Players

Tue., Sept. 29, 2009

10:00 AM Weekly Staff; Benevolence (mailing)
 1:00 PM Salisbury Belles
 4:00 PM Chorister Choir
 6:30 PM Habitat

MUSTARD SEED

Wed., Sept. 30, 2009

9:00 AM Women's Prayer; Lit. Volunteers
 5:30 PM Phoenix Players
 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Fellowship;
 Food Addicts in Rec.

Thu., Oct. 1, 2009

9:00 AM Lit. Volunteers
 5:30 PM Phoenix Players
 6:15 PM First Handbells
 7:00 PM Benevolence
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir
 8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., Oct. 2, 2009

3:15 PM Girl Scouts

Sat., Oct. 3, 2009

8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Fellowship
 10:00 AM Worcester Interfaith

Sun., Oct. 4, 2009

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS SUNDAY

8:00 AM Bible & Bagels Session I
 8:45 AM Continental Breakfast
 9:00 AM Information & Orientation Class;
 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
 5:00 PM Film: *Broken Vows*

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