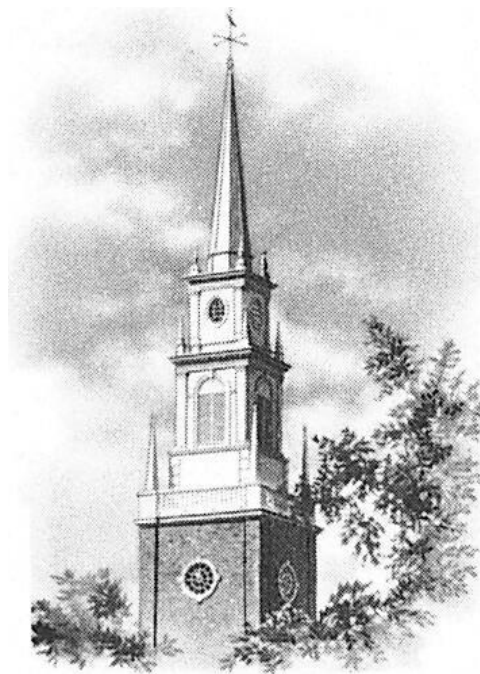


# *First Baptist Church*

*September 7, 2008*



**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



September 7, 2008..... 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** Toccata..... Everett Titcomb  
Pastorale 1884-1968

**\*HYMN 1** God Is Here! ..... Abbot's Leigh

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We step into this new church year listening to God's great story.

**People: We make ready for God's freedom.**

Leader: We step into a new church year with the light of God before us.

**People: We make ready for God's freedom.**

Leader: We step into new purposes for our lives as we taste God's reminders of hope.

**People: We make ready for God's freedom.**

Leader: Let us give thanks for the gift of life and for the presence of the Holy One among us.

**People: We make ready for God's freedom.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!**

## **\*INVOCATION (Unison)**

**Great God, your ways are goodness and your presence is our peace. We move into this time and space with our sight and our smell, with our listening and our touch, with our hearts and our minds, so that we may live as your free and faithful people. Help us to remember who we are and whose we are as we follow the way of Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer the prayer he taught us: Our Father...(debts).**

**\*GLORIA PATRI 734.....**Greatorex

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

**Call to Giving**

**Offertory Anthem** Behold now, Praise the Lord..... Everett Titcomb

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE**

Exodus 12:1-14 (p. 51)

*The story of the first Passover, forever associated with God’s deliverance and freedom.*

**Unison Reading of Psalm 119:33-40 (p. 494)**

***A prayer to understand and to follow God’s way.***

Matthew 18:15-20 (p. 799)

*Jesus gives instruction for how the church ought to conduct its life together in order for the church’s unity purpose to be sustained.*

**AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDREN**

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

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** *Restive in the Empire!....* Thomas R. McKibbens

**\*COMMUNION HYMN 706** I Come with Joy..... Dove of Peace

**A SERVICE OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus .....Alec Wyton  
1921-2007

The Passing of the Bread and Wine

Bread of Heaven ..... David Ashley White  
b. 1944

The Passing of the Peace and “Blest Be the Tie”

**\*HYMN 577** Sing a New Church (*Stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5*)..... Nettleton

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Festival March, Op. 29, no.1..... Arthur Foote  
1853-1937

*\*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 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.

***CHANCEL FLOWERS...***Today's arrangement is given by Jan and Karl Bjork in memory of Phyllis and Charles Hardy, Nils Bjork, and Raymond Larson.

***PRAYER...***The Prayer Pyramid continues to pray for any prayer requests during this interim the Prayer Fellowships are not in session. You may place Prayer Request cards in any of the Prayer Mail Boxes. You may also call the Church Office (508-755-6143) or Eleanor Brockway (508-753-7827) with any prayer requests you may have.



***CHURCH SCHOOL CURRICULUM...***for the new program year is now available in the Education Office (across from Gordon Hall). Teachers may pick up their copy of the curriculum materials at their convenience.

**TODAY!**



**At BARRE FALLS DAM**

# A First Baptist Church "POT LUCK"

*Departure time: 11:30 AM from FBC Parking Lot*

*Return time for minibus: About 4:00 PM.*

The picnic area closes at sunset if you drive yourself and wish to stay longer. Pick up a copy of the flyer for directions, map, and other important information!

**T**he staff will bring the “main course” for the grill (hamburgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, and the fixin’s). We are asking those who attend the picnic to bring the following *prepared* items to share:

Last names starting with **A — C, Salads** (e.g. garden salad [bottled dressing on the side], pasta salad, potato salad, coleslaw).

Last names starting with **D — J, Finger Foods & Sides** (e.g. baked beans, fruit or veggie tray, cheese & cracker tray, chips & dip, chips & salsa, pretzels or nuts).

Last names starting with **K — O, Cold Beverages**

(e.g. water, juice, punch, lemonade, iced tea, soda—we will supply the ice).

Last names starting with **P — Z, Simple Desserts**

(e.g. whole fruit, *makings for s'mores*, yogurt or pudding cups, cookies or brownies, anything easy to distribute).

**The examples listed above are only suggestions.**

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**W**ill you need a ride? Can you give a ride? We have a minibus to provide rides for those who need to get to the picnic on **Sunday, September 7, 2008** (departure time from FBC 11:30 AM). **We are also asking everyone to carpool, and in doing so starting our time of fellowship on the way!** Please pick up a flyer in the Church Office if you need directions or additional details about this event!

**TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE NEEDED...**We occasionally receive requests for rides to & from Sunday services or events from people who would otherwise be unable to attend. If you would like to help by making yourself available to drive (your car) when the need arises, please leave your name and phone number in the Deacons' mailbox in the main office, Attention: David Aalto.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY...**Led by Michael Harvey on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Krueger Room. We hope you will join us as we continue the series *Living a Joyful Life*. This week's topic is entitled: *Living with Your Neighbor*.

**MEN OF ALL AGES...**time to MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the MEN'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST @ BICKFORD'S ON LINCOLN STREET. Our next fellowship will be on Saturday, September 13. We meet at 8:00 AM. *Please JOIN US!* CONTACT TOM WARD FOR DETAILS.

**FESTIVAL SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 14...** We will dedicate our Sunday School Teachers and Christian Education Volunteers during morning Worship Service, followed by Brunch in Gordon Hall.

**HEALTH FAIR...**at First Baptist Church on Oct 18, 2008, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, sponsored by the FBC Health Cabinet. **REMINDER:** HeartScreen America is providing free screening for 6-8 children/teens on a first-come, first-served basis. **Pre-registration is necessary.** E-mail Robin McFee [tweetydoctor@aol.com] or call Jinny Smith [508-393-8659].













**HOPE for HOUSING**  
CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS  
*Preventing Homelessness • Providing Hope*

**A POST-VACATION REMINDER FROM YOUR SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE & HOPE FOR HOUSING...**Hundreds of families in and around Worcester are still homeless (or on the verge) and we have a wonderful opportunity to join with other local faith communities in declaring that this is unacceptable.

We will be in the front of Gordon Hall after worship every Sunday selling grocery cards from Shaw's, Stop and Shop and Big Y in 25, 50 and 100 dollar denominations. The amazing news - you will get the full value of that card at the grocery store – but the store contributes 5% of your total purchase to Hope for Housing! And it gets better. Hope for Housing will give that 5% to the Central Mass Housing Alliance and they in turn will use it to provide prevention and early intervention assistance to families and individuals that are at risk of homelessness. Please remember to buy and use these homeless family prevention grocery cards for **ALL** of your own shopping.

## FALL MUSIC SCHEDULE—SEPTEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 1 Planning for the Fall	2 Labor Day	3 	4	5 Chancel Choir 7:30 PM	6 	7
8 Chancel Choir	9	10 Children's Choir 4:00 PM		11 6: 15 PM First Handbells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	12	
13 Festival Sunday Chancel Choir		14 1 PM Salisbury Bells 4 PM Childs Choir 4:45 PM Orff	15	16 6: 15 PM First Handbells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir		17
18 Chancel Choir  M&A Bake Sale For the Piano Restoration Fund	19	20 1 PM Salisbury Bells 4 PM Childs Choir 4:45 PM Orff		21 6: 15 PM First Handbells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	22	
23 Chancel Choir Children's Choir		24 1 PM Salisbury Bells 4 PM Childs Choir 4:45 PM Orff	This allows <b>EVERYONE</b> to know our beginning schedule for the music year. Mark <b>your</b> calendar and plan to be here for one of our choirs—you will enjoy it!			

### W-A-R-M [Worcester Area Refugee Ministries] LIST OF NEEDS...

We are running very short of the following items:

Dishes, pots & pans, bed linens (queen & twin), pillowcases, pillows, soap & detergent (for dishes, laundry, bathing), toothpaste, shampoo, cooking utensils, silverware.

There are many people coming this week and the next. If you are able to help, please contact **FBC Social Action Committee** member Warren Jones at:

**978-368-1310**



*Many thanks in advance!*

# Thanks

