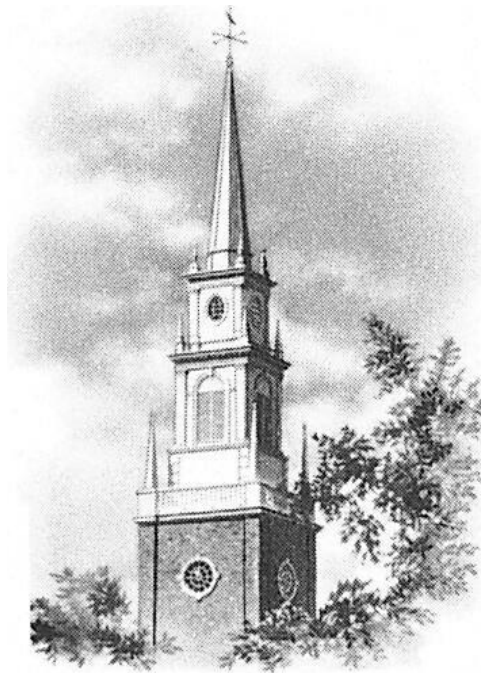


First Baptist Church

June 29, 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

June 29, 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 in E minor*.....Johann Pachelbel
1653-1706
Now Pray We to the Holy Spirit..... Dietrich Buxtehude
1637-1707

***HYMN 16** The God of Abraham Praise Leoni

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let us speak together about the power of God's love: If I speak in tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal;

People: And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

Leader: If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

People: Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Leader: And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three;

ALL: And the greatest of these is love!

***INVOCATION**

Holy and loving God, we have come into the presence of your people in this house of prayer to be met by you. Come to us now. In the silence, in the speaking, in the singing and praying, come to us with your cleansing love. Speak to us in the quiet of our hearts with words of guidance and comfort. Tell us more than what we want to hear; tell us what we need to hear. Keep us attentive to you in this time together, so that we may be shaped by the gift of your presence. We offer this prayer as we pray the words Jesus taught: Our Father...(debts)

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

BABY DEDICATION

We welcome Kristen Landgren and Patrick Curran
as they bring Kylan Brady Curran, Born January 29, 2008.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Ashley Ward

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Call to Giving

Offertory Solo Siciliano from *Sonata II in E flat Major* J.S. Bach
1685-1750

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Children who would like to participate in Summer Sunday School are invited to join the group in the Lee Room following the Message.)

***HYMN 502** Be Thou My Vision Slane

SOLO Adagio from *Sonata IV in C Major* J.S. Bach

SCRIPTURE Genesis 22:1-14 (p. 15)

SERMON *Unbearable Sacrifice*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

***HYMN 486** Have Thine Own Way, Lord!..... Adelaide

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Allegro Vivace from *Athalia*..... Felix Mendelssohn
1809-1847

**Those who are able may stand.*

*Sarah Sams, flute
Randy Bloom, organist*

ABOUT OUR GUEST ORGANIST:

No stranger to First Baptist Church, Randolph Bloom was formerly the Assistant Organist at Wesley United Methodist Church and All Saints Episcopal Church (both in Worcester). Retired after teaching in Holden Public Schools for over 35 years, Mr. Bloom serves as a substitute organist throughout the Worcester area, and we appreciate his participation in our service this morning.

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 arrangements are dedicated by Nita & David Holl in remembrance of their grandparents.



REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP...Join your friends, and perhaps make a few new friends, following the service in Gordon Hall!

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP TODAY...We will head to Crystal Caves in Auburn for some mini-golfing and ice cream. Please speak with Ashley Ward if there are any questions and plan to join with us at 11:30 AM!



BIBLE & BAGELS...CONTINUES on Sunday mornings throughout July in the Lee Room at 9:00 AM, with a study on the Gospel of Mark. Please join us as early as 8:45 AM to enjoy coffee and BAGELS! **MURALS FROM MARK** also continues, with youth and children creating murals from stories in the Gospel of Mark. See you at 9:00 AM, in the Green Room!

SOCIAL ACTION AND W-A-R-M...W-A-R-M (Worcester Area Refugee Ministry) needs a few volunteers on Sundays this summer to transport three adults and three children (a car seat is available) to their home on following the worship service & refreshment fellowship. Please speak with Warren Jones, Anne Puffer, or give Warren a call at 978-368-1310.

PLEASE REVIEW THE BULLETIN BOARD TO SEE OTHER WAYS YOU MAY HELP REFUGEES ARRIVING IN WORCESTER.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC THANK YOU...to each and every one who joined us during our English Teas on June 16 through 18. We are thrilled the weather held out and are pleased to report that a total of \$971.00 was raised toward the fund to refurbish our piano in Gordon Hall. Many thanks also to Lynne Carroll for graciously opening her home and providing the catering for this event!



SUMMER WORSHIP...A change of setting will take place beginning **July 27**, when we move the location of our Sunday Worship Service to Gordon Hall. This will provide comfort necessary during the warmer months, and permit routine cleaning and maintenance of the narthex and sanctuary areas. Sunday Worship will continue to meet at 10:00 AM.



DATES AVAILABLE FOR CHANCEL FLOWERS...Please stop by the Church Office to pick up a form, fill it out for the date of your choice, then return it to the office with your payment, with **Floral Arts** written on the memo line of your check. July 6, 13, and 20 are all open!

GARDEN FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL...The Floral Arts Committee encourages the gardeners among us to consider sharing the beauty of their gardens with us on the Sundays during those months. We welcome any arrangement, and ask that you use your own vase for the arrangement and bring it with you on Sunday before worship, to be placed on the Chancel in July or in Gordon Hall in August.





~VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY~



There are several openings for volunteers at the Reception desk in the Church Office at First Baptist. The volunteer receptionist is responsible for greeting and directing visitors, answering the phone, and generally helping out where possible. Every day is different! Some days are busy and the time flies by; other days are slow, so it's nice to bring something to read. You may volunteer for as little as one morning or afternoon per month, or more frequently. If you would like to volunteer occasionally but are unable to commit to a regular schedule, you might consider being on the "On Call/Substitute List". Please contact Pat Czerny 508-755-6143 or e-mail patc@fbc-worc.org.



It's **FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED, TO:** **Pickity Place**[®]

248 Nutting Hill Road, Mason, NH 03048

The First Baptist Church Staff has a reservation
for Wednesday, July 16 at 2:00 PM.

**THERE is ONE (1) PLACE LEFT FOR SOMEONE WHO
WISHES TO JOIN US!**

We will carpool, departing at 12:30 PM

Five-Course Gourmet Luncheon with complimentary beverages.

COST: \$22.00 includes tax and gratuity.

(Kindly plan to make a small offering toward fuel for your driver.)

Make your check payable to The First Baptist Church,
write "Pickity Place" on the memo line, and submit to Andrea Letourneau.

If you are interested, please reply immediately to:
Cindy Johnson (cindyj@fbc-worc.org / 508-755-6143 x223)
Deadline: When all spaces are filled or Monday, June 30, 2008.

Prayer...

*Each day I pray: God give me strength anew to do the task I do not wish to do,
to measure what I am by what I give.
God give me strength that I may rightly live.*

~Author unknown

Please include in your prayers...

- ☞ Thanksgiving for the TD² Bible & Bagels
- ☞ Each who is suffering chronic illness
- ☞ Jean and Norman Mills, Lois Sawin, Stanley Manierre, Mary Stone, Audrey Terpo, Emily Holt, Hillary Bath, Cynthia Fischer, Marijane Jones
- ☞ Those who live in the ravaged areas of the country
- ☞ People in Afghanistan and Iraq who need moral and spiritual guidance and support
- ☞ Our church as it progresses into its summer schedule
- ☞ The Prayer Pyramid as it takes over the responsibility of prayers for our FBC congregation
- ☞ Our youth and the programs of the Education & Youth Director
- ☞ Families in crisis
- ☞ Young people seeking employment and opportunity

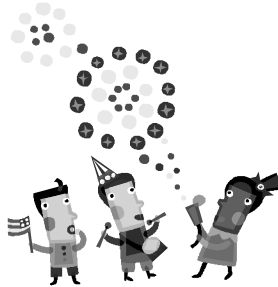


Prayer is Answered...

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Today, June 29	8:45 AM	Bible & Bagels
	9:00 AM	Murals from Mark
	10:00 AM	Worship <i>Summer Sunday School</i>
	11:30 AM	Family Fellowship
Mon., June 30	6:00 PM	Habitat Restore Committee
Tue., July 1	10:00 AM	Full Staff Meeting
	6:30 PM	Habitat Construction Committee
	7:00 PM	Social Action Committee
Thu., July 3	7:30 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., July 4 — Independence Day, Office Closed



Sun. July 6	8:45 AM	Bible & Bagels
	9:00 AM	Murals from Mark
	10:00 AM	Worship <i>Summer Sunday School</i>

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