



**First
Baptist
Church of
Pawtucket**

Herald

November / December 2019

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A Call to Generous Living

Sister Dorothy Evans was viewed by many as a sweet little old lady who loved Jesus. But to those who personally knew her she was much more than that. Even at the age of 100, this Washingtonian lived generously. She was always doing good deeds for others, like giving free bread to neighbors in need and answering her telephone and doorbell in case someone needed help.

When Sister Evans went to church Sundays, she offered warm smiles, encouragement and her weekly tithe for the offering plate. Although she entered heaven shortly after her 106th birthday, she is still fondly remembered for her generous and loving spirit. Her generosity reflected God's Lordship in her heart as well as gratitude for the ways that God blessed her life.

Are you grateful to God for your blessings whether your family, friends, job or more? Is your gratitude reflected in



your generosity toward others and the church?

In Matthew 6:21 Jesus taught, *"Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."* I believe Jesus meant that humans often spend our time, energy and money on what matters most to us. Whatever that is becomes our "treasure." But Jesus also warned, *"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven"* (Matt. 6:19-20). Many things on earth that seem good lack eternal value. So let's invest more in what's important to God.

For some generous living may mean making

more time for others. For some generous living means sharing your talents more broadly like volunteering in your church or community. For others generous living means giving financially based on gratitude for what you have, rather than fear of what you might lose.

God always met Sister Evans' needs. Uninvited guests often brought her meals and sweets. When she needed companionship her telephone or doorbell rang. That was because of God's grace and her generosity toward others. This Thanksgiving season, how can we live more generously? Grateful & blessed, *Pastor Linda*

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Services
10:45-11:45 am

Sunday School for Children & Youth 11:00-11:45 am
(except 1st Sundays)

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:15 pm -8:00 pm
(Bible Study Nov. 20, Dec. 4-18)

First Baptist Church of Pawtucket

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Web: www.fbc pawtucket.org

Pastor: Rev. Linda Watkins

MISSION & VISION

We are a welcoming and loving Christian community that provides worship, outreach and fellowship to all. We envision a world in which all people experience the love of God, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Celebrations and Acknowledgments



Mary Artery

Happy Birthday!

November

- 7 Carol Ann Neider
- 8 Carolyn Volmer
- 8 Billy Volmer
- 9 Linda Castle
- 12 Barbara Holmes
- 17 Trinayse Ward
- 20 Mal Chrystie
- 20 Stacey Ward
- 25 Mary Artery
- 25 Suzanne Volmer

December

- 3 Jennifer Rolfsema
- 7 Devin Ward
- 14 Stephon Monteiro
- 14 Selena Skey
- 17 Fred Ramos

- 23 Tracy Barreno
- 23 Ava Fortin
- 25 Baby Jesus
- 25 Martin Tay
- 27 Marc Gravel, Jr.
- 27 Freddie B. Tay
- 27 Princess Tay
- 30 Cindy Ledoux
- 31 Bryan Dube

Happy Anniversary!

November

- 14 Steve & Pat Bobola

Thank You ~

...for the beautiful vase of flowers sent to me during my recovery. My ribs and foot are healing.

Love, *Dottie Doe*

I am writing to let Pastor Linda and the FBC family know that I really appreciate the snacks basket, words of comfort and the monetary love gift. God bless you all.


Regina Brown & Family

FBC Fall Retreat

Sat, Nov. 16, 2019
9:30 am - Noon
Church Parlor

Let's strategically plan for our church's future, from impacting our community for Christ to celebrating our 215th Anniversary in 2020.

All FBC members are strongly encouraged to attend!

 **Wishing You and Yours a Blessed Thanksgiving and Advent Season! ★**

Ministry Matters



Ministry Matters

CHRISTIAN ED

Awaiting the Already: An Advent Journey Through the Gospels is the name of FBC's Advent Bible Study. Come join us Wednesdays November 20, December 4, 11 & 18 from 7:00-8 pm as we explore the different ways the four Gospel writers present the Christmas story. Each class invites us to encounter a fresh experience of Jesus' birth and engage in spiritual practices that can grow our faith during this sacred season. All are welcome!

MISSIONS

FBC is holding a **Winter Coat & Warm Clothing Drive** November 1-30. We

are collecting new or gently used winter clothing for our Clothing Closet visitors. We would greatly appreciate donations of clean coats, jackets, sweaters, and pants for women, men, girls and boys. These items should be clean and ready to wear.



As in past years, our Food Pantry is **collecting food items for the holidays**. Please consider donating stuffing mix, gravy, instant potatoes, cranberry sauce, cake mixes, or monetary support. Nonperishable items can be left in the basket outside of our

Sanctuary. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors in need.

DEACONS

FBC's new **Praise Group** is rehearsing and preparing to sing at services this holiday season. If you'd like to be part of this awe-some new thing God's doing at our church, contact our Music Minister Anderson Anjos at 401-725-7225 or after a Sunday service!

Volunteers are needed to serve as Worship Leaders, Ushers, Hospitality Hosts and Flower Distributors. If interested call the church office or sign the Volunteer clipboard Sunday morning.



THE SPOTLIGHT

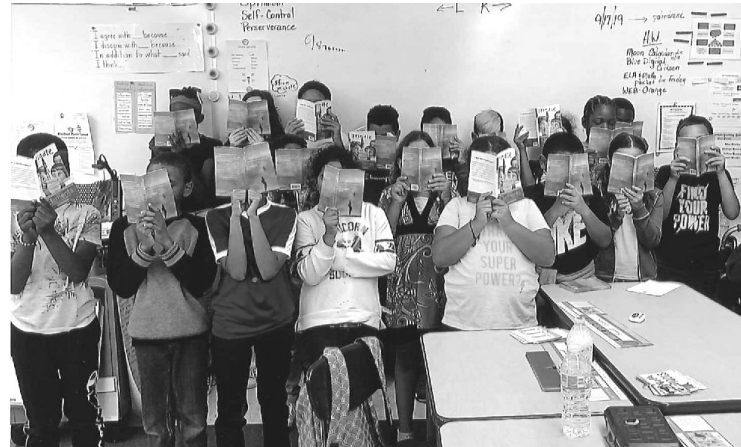
Mrs. Olivo's Fifth Grade Class Nathanael Greene Elementary School in Pawtucket

Thanks to the leadership of Cindy Downie, FBC has sponsored a 5th grade class at Pawtucket's Nathanael Greene Elementary School for 2019-2020. Through the sponsorship of \$180, Scholastic Book Club gives each child in the class a new book each month. This equates to \$9 worth of discounted books per student. What follows is a sample of the wonderful notes that FBC's received in response. The comments illustrate the impact of giving as well as receiving. Enjoy!

Dear Cindy and First Baptist Church, Thank you so much for sponsoring my class. Each student has 2 books already! Each month they will build their library thanks to your donation! Thanks again, *Jodie Cash Olivo, Nathanael Greene Elementary School Teacher*

Dear 1st Baptist Church, Thank you for sponsoring our class. I got two books. The September book is *Frindle* and the October book is *My Side of the Mountain*. We really appreciate you for sponsoring our class. Thank you, *Johnny*

Dear 1st Baptist church... We are very thankful because without books I don't know what I would do! I like reading because



it calms me when I'm either mad or sad. Again I'm very thankful and happy. I love books so much and they inspire me to be a better person. Sincerely, *Givell*

Dear 1st Baptist Church... Thank you for the money that you gave us. I really like to read books. I got the *pikachu* book. Sincerely, *Santiago*

Thank God for you guys. We really appreciate you guys. Thank God for church. Thanks for making us smarter and being nice. We are grateful. Sincerely, *Michelle*

Dear 1st Baptist Church, thank you all for donating to me, and my class. I am oh so grateful and am sure my class is too... You guys have inspired me to donate to charities and to help the people who have less. Again, thank you for all

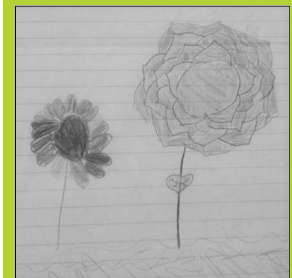
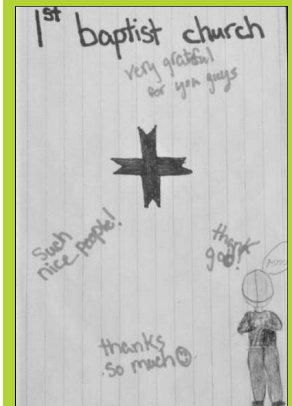
you have done. XOXO, *Marleny*

Hi my name is Brandon and I want to say thank you so much for the books. You guys are the best and you guys gave it for the whole class. Thank you for the free books. You are the kindest people ever. I am so grateful... I am full of joy. You helped us get books and I love *Dog Man!!!* Thank you, *Brandon*

Dear 1st Baptist church, Thank you for sponsoring our class. I'm sure the whole class is grateful for sure! All the books will be useful for this class. We have been all excited to get these books. We will all take good care of these books. These books will give us more knowledge and better grammar. We appreciate you. Thank you, *Glo-rya*



(Above left) Mrs. Olivo's students hold up their new books (Below) Drawings on thank you notes by (top) Michelle, (center) Marleny and (bottom) Rosgaly



Happenings



ABCORI Thanksgiving Feast Wed., November 13, Noon Meadowood Conference Ctr 54 Exeter Rd. in Exeter, RI

This traditional Thanksgiving feast includes turkey, dressing, potatoes, green beans, pies, cranberry sauce, and beverage for \$17 a person and \$15 for seniors. To reserve your spot, call Kathy Black by November 4 at 401-522-9729

Winter Coat and Warm Clothing Drive November 1-30



FBC is collecting new or gently used winter clothing for our Clothing Closet visitors. Clean coats, jackets, sweaters, and pants for men, women, boys and girls would be appreciated. Donated items should be clean & ready to wear.

FBC's Annual Hanging of the Greens Sunday, December 1, 12:00 pm

Help decorate our church for the Christmas season in celebration of the hope, love, joy and peace Christ brought to our world!



Hat, Mitten and Scarf Tree December 1-22

Please consider donating new winter accessory items for FBC's hat, mitten and scarf tree in our Sanctuary this December. The items will be given to a local nonprofit agency serving families in need.



La Salette Festival of Light Trip Monday, December 23, 6:00pm (depart from church)

Join FBC for this wonderful event at La Salette Shrine, 947 Park St., Attleboro. This year's theme is "The Light of Hope" and celebrates that Christ, our light, gives us hope – even if we feel there's darkness around us. More than 300,000 lights on display will brighten our spirits. Due to possible crowds, carpooling from FBC is encouraged. Admission is free!

Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, December 24, 11 pm



Please join us at this warm, Spirit-filled candle light worship service as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ through scriptures and Christmas songs.

GIVE YOURSELF

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.
- 2 CORINTHIANS 8:5 NIV

Just for Kids

Giving Thanks

"Enter his gates with Thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." -Psalm 100:4

The puzzle is based on Psalm 100.
Look for and circle the words below.



C T Y A E E G G E F W S O Z D
W Q K V B O F H A N E N V G S
Y Q O X Q Y P O G T D A G C F
W L K Z R S N W R O E U R J U
V O S O N G S Q V E T S R T W
O U R F E I X E U U V H N E H
Y O T S D J C H O K F E N B S
A T E T H J R H O J O Y R H W
Y R G F N I S O E B J Y H Z E
Z L O N R O P S E Q S M X I N
G L A D N E S S F S H L N A T
X A T W C L I P A S T U R E E
Q U U H Q A G F C H N Y L R R
D A P I R H M V I Q S H E E P
X N N P G O H H Z T H A N K S

WORSHIP	EARTH	JOY	LOVE	ENTER
ENDURES	FOREVER	SHEEP	THANKS	SHOUT
SONGS	PASTURE	GLADNESS	GATES	PRaise