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Called to Joyful Service

“Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.”

-Psalm 100:2

These words from a beloved Old Testament psalm are both an invitation and a command. They invite us to join together with all people on earth in worshiping the Lord, our Creator and Caretaker: *“We are his people, the sheep of his pasture,”* the psalm

later states. The command is to come before God joyfully rather than with bitterness and to serve the Lord gladly, not grudgingly. Psalm 100 originally was sung by Jews who gathered at the Temple in Jerusalem for worship. But its opening verse reminds us that its audience is universal.

Generations past, present and future are invited to God’s praise party!

September 8 is Rally Day at FBC and intended to be a joyful celebration. It is a day when many of our members return to Sunday worship after



taking time off during the summer. We also kick off the new Sunday School year. May we enter the Lord’s House with enthusiastic praise and reverence. May we also look forward to serving the Lord and one another with gladness. Service to God and the church should result in happiness when done with a grateful heart and willing hands.

In this issue of the *Herald* you will read about several individuals who’ve generously served our church. You also will learn about new opportunities to serve at FBC in the months ahead. If you are not already plugged

into a ministry, we hope you’ll get involved this fall. Consider serving on a ministry board, as a member of our new praise choir, or as a Sunday School teacher or helper. Or you can volunteer to be a worship leader, usher, hospitality host, or flower distributor one Sunday. The important thing is to find your passion and connect it to service. In Matthew 20:28 Jesus said: *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others...”* In this new season, let’s serve the Lord and one another with gladness and experience a new joy! Blessings, 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

First Baptist Church of Pawtucket

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Pastor: Rev. Linda Watkins

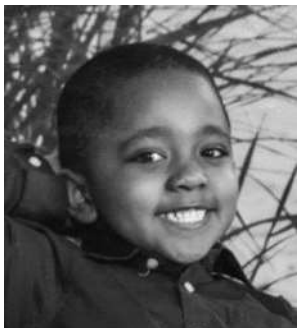
MISSION & VISION

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



Jennifer Dyson



Keyron Sumner-Brown

Happy Birthday!

September

- 14 Henry Graham
- 19 Ryan Thompson
- 21 Rosabell T. Mengun

October

- 7 Regina Brown
- 7 Jennifer Dyson
- 8 Keith Thompson
- 10 Gary Baxter
- 10 Susan Walker
- 12 Mamie Tay
- 15 Keyron Sumner-Brown
- 28 Marc Gravel Sr.

Happy Anniversary!

September

- 1 Brad & Mary Artery
- 1 Deb & Tim Fortin
- 2 Bob & Linda Castle

October

- 28 Ruth & Marc Gravel

Celebrations ~

Kudos to **Ryan Thompson** who was a New England Regional Selection for the U.S.A. Age 13 Baseball Team. Go Ryan!

Congratulations **Melanie Giglietti** for earning a B.S. degree in Nursing from Rhode Island College last spring and a Plant-based Nutrition Certificate from the T. Colin Campbell Center for Nutrition Studies and eCornell.

Welcome **Nancy Faria**, CPA, the new Financial Administrator and Office Manager at American Baptist Churches of RI.

Thank You ~

Jennifer Dyson for donating 32 tickets to FBC for the July 20 PawSox game at McCoy Stadium.. The tickets also included access to a BBQ and Fireworks.

Jennifer Rolfsema for leading FBC's first "Paint Night" on July 26. What a fun evening of painting and fellowship we had!

Pastor Antonio Monteiro Dos Anjos, a celebrated Cape Verde pastor, for his powerful sermon and testimony shared at FBC on August 18. Thanks, also, to **Anderson Anjos**, his son, for making his father's visit possible.

Ministry Matters



Ministry Matters



CHRISTIAN ED

Rally Day is Sunday, September 8! We will kick off the Sunday School year with an outdoor service on FBC's front lawn, followed by a church photo, refreshments and Sunday School registration in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for this festive day as we welcome many back to church and Sunday School.

DEACONS

Let's look forward to our fall worship season. FBC services will include guest artists on certain Sundays

each month. In addition, we're recruiting members for a new praise team/choir that will sing one Sunday a month. If you'd like to participate, tell Anderson Anjos, our Minister of Music, or call the church office at 401-725-7225. Let's do this!

MISSIONS

FBC's **Food Pantry** and **Clothing Closet** reopen on Thursday, September 12, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Want to volunteer stocking the pantry on Wednesdays at 4:00 pm or helping visitors

on Thursday mornings? Contact Cindy Downie, Food Pantry Coordinator, through the church office.

Our **Board of Missions** is sponsoring a **5th grade class** at Nathanael Greene Elementary School in Pawtucket. As a result, for \$9 per child, Scholastic Book Club is going to give each child in the class a new book every month throughout the school year!



THE SPOTLIGHT

Barbara Holmes

Barbara Holmes was born in 1929 in her parent's house in Pawtucket. She graduated from high school in 1947. This November she will celebrate her 90th birthday. Barbara's aunt, Gertrude Smith, introduced her to First Baptist Church. She attended FBC almost every Sunday from first grade through her high school years. Barbara still recalls being baptized by Rev. Prime in FBC's first building at the corner of High and Summer streets in Pawtucket. Years later she married John Holmes in the church chapel. Rev. Forrest Parsons officiated their wedding.

Barbara was active in several ministries at our church. She was a member of the former American Baptist Women's Group which supported missions projects, local and abroad. Barbara also helped plan a summer festival that raised funds for the John Clarke Retirement Home in Middletown, RI. She, her dear friend Maddy Ramos, and Louise Martin were in charge of the Baked Goods table there. Barbara also volunteered at FBC's Harvest Suppers and she helped at several Christmas Bazaars. In addition, she was a member of the Diaconate. She remembered that her experiences as a

deacon were not always serious; sometimes they were quite humorous. For example, one Sunday Barbara and Maddy were serving as ushers. At the proper time, they came forward to collect the tithes and offerings, but then realized they had left the collection plates at the back of the Sanctuary. Barbara chuckled as she recalled how the pastor prayed and prayed as she and Maddy ran back for the plates, then hurried to the front of the church. On another occasion, Barbara and a deacon visited Bill Wilbur, who was homebound at the time. They were about to serve him Holy Communion when they discovered that his dog (Betsy) had eaten the Communion bread!

Barbara has many fond memories of First Baptist Church. She hopes the congregation will be full again, especially with children and families. It saddens her that some children don't go to church any more due to sports games on Sundays. "I was brought up to 'Remember the Sabbath and to keep it holy,'" she said, quoting Exodus 20:8. "We went to Sunday School, church, had our Sunday dinner, and went for rides with our parents and friends." It was simple pleasures like this that added to her wonderful childhood. ♥



Barbara Holmes

**SERVE GOD
WITH HANDS
AND HEART**



✠ Ministry Matters

The World Mission Offering will be collected from September to October 6.

This year's focus is on

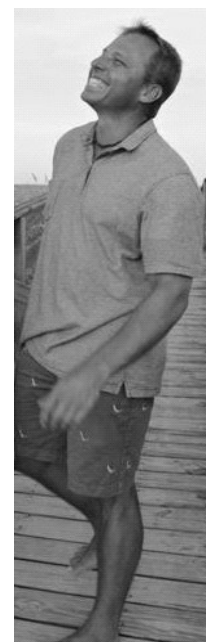


Evangelism and Discipleship, Immigrants and Refugees, as well as Educa-

tion. The 2019 theme is "Let Living Water Flow," based on John 4:14. Take part in this important initiative to raise awareness and foster advocacy and action for global missions. Give a donation to the World Mission Offering and help transform the world!

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

Save the Date! On Saturday October 26, AB Women's Ministries of RI is hosting a special retreat at Central Baptist Church, 15 Elm Street in Westerly. The Keynote Speaker is Min. Natasha Gordon, who is Associate Minister at Ebenezer Baptist Church. It will be a fabulous day of Music, Music, Music based on Ephesians 5:19-20. Interested in attending? See the flyer on our bulletin board.



Brad Artery

Happenings

FBC's Rally Day is September 8! Let's come together to kick off the new Sunday School year. Join us for an outdoor service on our Cottage St. lawn, followed by a church photo, refreshments and Sunday School registration.

Fall Bible Study begins Wednesday September 11, 7:00 pm. In this spiritually moving and thought-provoking DVD study, *Short Stories of Jesus: The Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*, we'll explore the meaning of Jesus' parables not only for us today, but for their original audience: First Century Jews. Join us in this fascinating adventure.

Slater Park Fall Festival, Saturday Sep 14, 11 am-Sunday Sep 15, 6:00 pm in Pawtucket. Enjoy an open air market of 100+ local artisans and crafters selling original handmade items, food trucks, crafts, family-fun activities, music and dance performances. The Pawtucket Teachers' Alliance of the RI Philharmonic 'Pops in the Park' will perform there that Saturday, 5:30-9:30 pm followed by fireworks.

Communicating With Compassion Workshop, Sunday Sep. 29 at 10:00 am and Nov. 10 at 1:00 pm at First Baptist Church in America, 75 N. Main Street in Providence. How can we communicate with grace when emotions run high? Come learn at these FREE workshops how to have meaningful conversations about difficult topics with people who see the world differently from you. The workshop will be led by Judy Kaye Training and Consulting.

FBC Quarterly Business Meeting & Pot Luck Luncheon, Sunday, October 6, immediately after the service. All FBC members, *please plan to attend* this important meeting preceded by a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

American Baptist Churches of RI's Regional All Church Worship, Sunday, October 6 at 3:00 pm. It is being hosted by Memorial Baptist Church, 340 Central Avenue in Seekonk, MA. The guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Harry Riggs, the Executive Minister of American Baptist Churches of Connecticut.

GROW IN GRACE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

— 2 PETER 3:18 NIV

Just for Kids

What a Christian Should Do? By Bill Brinkworth

Read the list of words below this puzzle. Then find and circle each word in the square.



Words to Find:

Attend church
Be an example
Be baptized

Grow
Obey God
Pray
Read Bible

Serve
Study
Tithe
Witness