

**First
Baptist
Church of
Pawtucket**

Herald

February/March 2020

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A Time of Spiritual Preparation

How do you prepare to say good-bye to those you love? After calling His disciples, Jesus had taught, walked with, and ministered to them for three years. He knew their strengths and their weaknesses. Jesus also recognized their great potential, if they remained faithful.

The Son of God had given them His best, pouring into the 12 disciples what they might need to carry on His ministry. Several times Jesus reminded them that soon He would be leaving and going where they could not go. He forewarned that in Jerusalem, He would suffer and be killed, but raised from death on the third day (Matthew 16:21). Some disciples lived in denial of their Teacher’s impending departure. Peter scolded Jesus for thinking so negatively. Jesus rebuked His star pupil for only seeing things from a human point of view, rather than God’s. Still, Christ lovingly and patiently journeyed



with His disciples toward Jerusalem, knowing that He would be arrested, tried and crucified there.

The 40 days leading up to Christ’s death and resurrection is known as the season of Lent. It continues to be a time of spiritual preparation for Jesus’ followers around the world. The preparation includes self-examination, confession, repentance as well as reflection. As we symbolically journey to the Cross with Christ, Christians are called to ask ourselves important questions related to our faith walk. Are there areas in your life where you continue to sin and the

Lord wants you to stop? Is there anyone you need to forgive or apologize to so your broken or prideful heart can be restored? Is God nudging you to make any changes in your life so you can live in His will and be a stronger witness for Christ?

Jesus died and rose as He had prophesied. He promised that His spirit would always be with His followers to guide, correct, and help those who would let Him. This Lent may we live with a greater awareness of Jesus’ presence and strive to live to our fullest potential in Him. Lenten blessings, Pastor Linda

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Services
10:45-11:45 am (February)
10:30-11:30 am (March)

Sunday School for Children & Youth (begins 15 minutes after service starts except on 1st Sundays)

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:30–8:00 pm (Bible Study resumes February 26)

First Baptist Church of Pawtucket

91 Cottage Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Phone: 401-725-7225

Email: fbc pawtri@verizon.net
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



Michele Alt



Steve Bobola

Happy Birthday!

February

- 6 Michele Alt
- 6 Evan Smith
- 7 Kevin Andrews
- 11 Sophie Artery
- 15 Stephanie Gregorio
- 16 Barry Bobola
- 16 Pam Walker

March

- 1 Susannah Michaud
- 11 Joshua Giglietti
- 15 Arlene Dube
- 17 Richard Bobola
- 17 Pat Rolfsema
- 17 Rob Dube
- 22 Steve Bobola
- 27 Jay Dufault
- 29 Eric Haselton

Celebrations ~

Congratulations! FBC received a \$2,617 grant for the Food Pantry from the RI Emergency Food and Shelter Program, thanks to the work of Cindy Downie and her stellar team of Food Pantry volunteers.

Thank You ~

~ for all your support to us, the Familia Alonzo & the thriving group of Great School children in El Salvador. *Rhina Alonzo*

~ for your generous monetary gift given to me to recognize my five years

of service at FBC. Some of it will go toward a RI fishing license and a beach parking pass. *Sandra Kelly*

~ FBC for your financial gift of \$226.00 in support of the America for Christ 2019 Offering. We are grateful for your continued financial sponsorship.

American Baptist Home Missions Society (ABHMS)

LENT begins on February 26, Ash Wednesday. Let's prepare our hearts for this sacred season.



Ministry Matters



Ministry Matters

ATTENTION FBC MEMBERS AND VISITORS

◆
**Beginning March 1
FBC's worship
service time will
change to
10:30-11:30 am.**

Hospitality will follow the service.

This schedule will be tried until Children's Day in June. The Board of Governors will then decide if it will continue.

CHRISTIAN ED

This Lenten season come experience **Jesus -The God Who Knows Your Name**, a 6-week video Bible study by bestselling author Max Lucado. On **Wednesdays February 26 to April 1, 7:00-8:00 pm**, we'll focus on the life and character of Jesus, the man. It is easy to keep the humanity out of the incarnation. But by Jesus becoming human, God made it possible for us to see and hear God. By learning more about the person Jesus was and is, we can better understand the people that we were created to be. Join us for this enlightening study!

MISSIONS

American Baptist Home Mission Societies is currently mobilizing volunteers and donations to help residents of Puerto Rico who are still trying to recover from Hurricane Maria and recent earthquakes. Another mission team from Rhode Island will travel to Puerto Rico October 9-17 this year. Registration is now open for the trip which costs \$800 per person, including roundtrip airfare, meals, housing, and transportation



in Puerto Rico. If you have questions or are interested in participating in this mission trip, please contact Rev. Kathryn Palen for details at 401-522-9731 or email kpalen@abcori.org.

DEACONS

Would you like to help our congregation? Volunteers are needed to serve as Worship Leaders, Ushers, Hospitality Hosts and Flower Distributors on Sundays. If interested, please call the church office at 401-725-7225 or sign the Volunteer clipboard left on the front pew on Sunday mornings. Thank you!

THE SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. June King

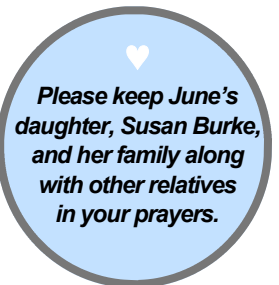
Our First Baptist Church family lost our long-time member Mrs. June King, who passed away peacefully at home on January 14 at the age of 96.

June was a faithful member of our church for 47 years. She generously shared her time and talent by serving in the choir, on various boards and, most recently, as a Sunday School teacher and Board of Christian Education member. June was loved by children and adults in our Sunday School. She had a quiet, yet effective way of teaching in the classroom. Her humble, straightforward and thoughtful approach resulted in gratitude and respect from students, teachers, and others in our church family. June also celebrated our young people's accomplishments. She would make personal telephone calls to congratulate them and clip newspaper articles that highlighted their success.

June's rich legacy at FBC will live on not only in our fond memories of her, but through The Thomas G. King Scholarship Fund which she established in her late husband's honor. For more than 25 years, the fund has helped numerous qualifying FBC members

pursue a formal education beyond the high school level. These scholarships are a testament to June's generosity and passion for education. June was educated in the Agawam and Springfield, MA school systems. Her first of many jobs was at the home office of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. A later graduate of the University of Rhode Island, she enjoyed 18 years as a Smithfield High School English instructor. After World War II, she and her family lived 14 years in Wisconsin and Michigan, before returning to New England and settling in Lincoln in 1960.

In recent years, health challenges hindered June from attending church regularly, including the Children's Day Service last spring where we honored her for her contributions. Still, June continued to express her love and support in other ways, including sending out belated Christ-mas cards shortly before she passed away. We will greatly miss June and remember her with these words penned by the Apostle Paul: *"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful"* (2 Tim. 4:7). May June now receive and wear her reward: a crown of righteousness given to her by our Lord, Jesus, in heaven!



Talking About Your Wishes

On Sunday March 1st at 12:15 pm, FBC will host a free workshop, *Talking About Your Wishes*.

What wishes do you have for care and comfort at life's end? What other wishes do you have for the end of your life? With whom do you need to talk about those wishes? Join us for this one-hour workshop to reflect on those and other related questions. Participants will receive a copy of *Five Wishes*, which offers a complete approach to

discussing and documenting your care and comfort choices, and additional resources to help you talk about your wishes with others. A light lunch will be served at 11:45 am. **To reserve your spot for the workshop and lunch, RSVP to 401.725.7225 or to fbc pawtri@verizon.net by February 23.** End-of-life planning is important regardless of a person's age. That is why this workshop is designed for young adults to seniors citizens.



Happenings



WOOF YOU BE MINE?

Friday, February 7, 6:00-9:00 pm
The Guild, 461 Main St., Pawtucket

RI Pet Network and Buppy Pets are teaming up to host this unique adoption event, where you can meet adoptable dogs and meet your fur-ever friend. Enjoy good food, puppy kisses, live music and local sweets & treats.



FBC Free Movie Night: "Harriet"

Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 pm

Come and see this powerful film about the courageous slave Minty who ran away, became an abolitionist, changed her name to Harriet Tubman, and helped lead the Underground Railroad. Led and protected by God, Harriet risked her life to help others find their freedom too.



Talking About Your Wishes

A Free Workshop at FBC

Sunday, March 1, 12:15 pm

Join us for this important one-hour workshop to help us reflect on and identify conversations we may need to have with family, friends and medical providers about end-of-life plans and related issues. A light lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. To reserve your spot, RSVP by February 23 to 401.725.7225 or fbcpawtri@verizon.net.

American Baptist Women's Ministries of RI



Mission & Service Day
Saturday, March 14, 9:00 am
Warwick Central Baptist Church
3270 Post Road, Warwick

Our focus will be encouraging Women Veterans in their faith journey, with guest speaker Reverend Dr. Rotunda East, Chief of Chaplains at the VA Medical Center, Providence. Enjoy devotions/Bible Study and mission & service state projects. Register by e-mail to Emma Jones at emmalj@verizon.net.



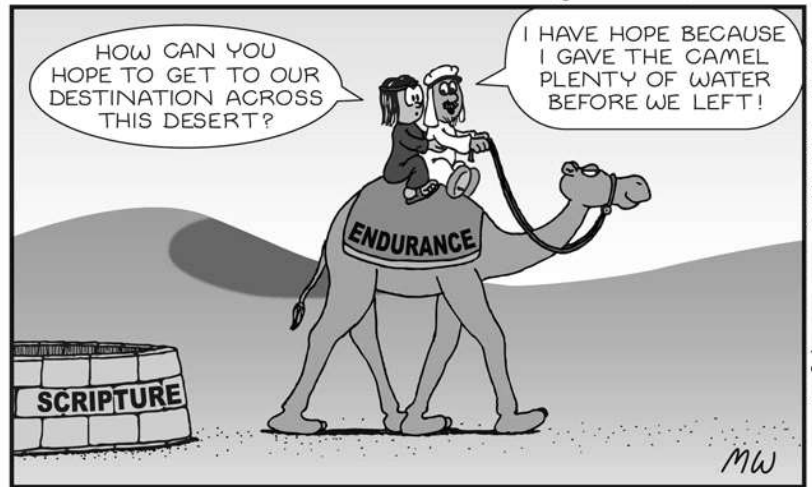
The Spiritual Gifts of Aging

Tuesday, March 24, 10:00 am-1:00 pm
Lakewood Baptist Church, 255 Atlantic Ave. Warwick

This free interactive mini-retreat allows participants to explore how the spiritual gifts of aging can open the way to deeper meaning, joy, fulfillment, self-understanding, and freedom. The retreat is for adults in the "third third" of life and people who minister alongside them. To reserve a spot or learn more, contact Rev. Kathryn Palen at 401-522-9731 or kpalen@abcori.org.

CAMEL

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. — ROMANS 15:4 NIV

Just for Kids

Through the Deep Water

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. Isaiah 43:2a (NIV)

Words are taken from Isaiah 43:1-2 (NIV).

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

sweep	pass	over	walk
redeemed	rivers	waters	fire
burned	fear	mine	name

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