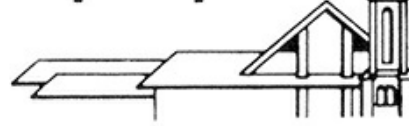


THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

Ministers:

[Rev. Julie R. Flowers](#)

[Rev. Kent D. Harrop](#)

Director of Music:

[Dr. Esther Chang](#)

Office Manager: [Pat Haight](#)

HNS Director: [Jennifer Baez](#)

HCP Director: [Andrew DeFranza](#)

Business Manager: [John Thomson](#)

Facilities Manager: [Jeremy Weir](#)

Communication Associate: [Mary Powers](#)

Visit our Website

Join Us On Sunday at First Baptist Church in Beverly

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019

8:45 a.m.: Morning Cafe

9:00 a.m.: Seekers Adult Class (Childcare provided)

10:00 a.m. Worship and Multiage Children's Class

Childcare is provided throughout the service for our youngest children, through Kindergarten. Our children in Grades 1 and up are encouraged to begin worship in the sanctuary with us - either in the Prayground space or with families in the pews - and then will be dismissed to their class time following Stepsitters!

**11:20 a.m.: Lenten Poetry and Spiritual Practices;
Adult Education Classes**

2:30 p.m.: Baptism Class

*In the Garden:
The Vine and its Fruit*

John DeNardo, preaching

Scripture: John 15:1-17



Fellowship Activities for March 31st

Middle School Fellowship: Project Linus Blankets

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Middle School Fellowship will gather in the Youth Lounge at our usual time to work together on a service project, making handmade blankets to be donated to Project Linus, whose mission is to then distribute them to children who have experienced trauma in their lives. The Middle Schoolers are asked to bring their reusable cup or water bottle (to live out the group's commitment to be more environmentally -friendly in the Youth Lounge!) and, if they have any at home, good fabric scissors!

Senior High Fellowship: HAWC Presentation

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Senior High group will be welcoming presenters from HAWC (Healing Abuse Working for Change) in Salem, as a continuing part of the series we began at the Fall Retreat on "What Matters to Us: Youth Voices Take the Lead." Our young people expressed a desire to learn more about safe and healthy relationships - from friendships to romantic ones and everything in between, and HAWC will be coming to present a workshop to us on just that topic! Youth are reminded to bring a reusable water bottle or cup; dinner will also be provided!

Change for Good Donations Being Collected THIS SUNDAY March 31st: Support the National Center for Transgender Equality!

Each month, on the last Sunday of the month, we invite church members and friends to bring in their blue Change for Good banks, with any money collected over the course of the month, and to combine all of our loose change and donations to make a gift to a wonderful organization or institution working for good in the world.

On March 31st we stand with the Transgender Community for Trans Day of Visibility. We will be donating our collected money to [The National Center for Transgender Equality](https://www.nctye.org/), the nation's leading policy organization fighting for transgender rights. Established over 14 years ago, this trans led organization is central to work at the federal and state levels that move trans equality forward. Check out their great [Trans 101 video](https://www.nctye.org/trans101/) to learn more about transgender people and thank you for your support! IT matters and is life saving.

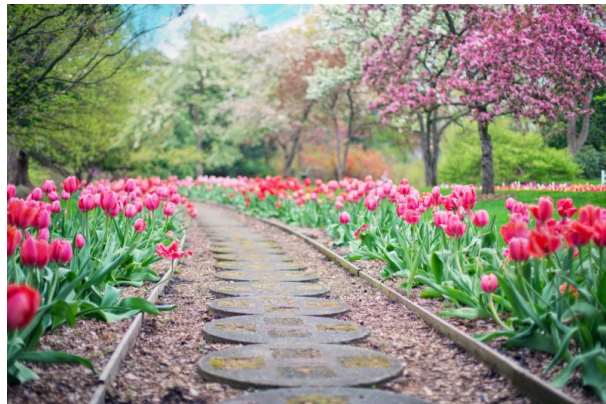


Please join us in supporting this great organization by bringing your bank on March 31st and to continue helping to bring change for good!



Our Lenten Theme: *In the Garden*

Our theme for these six weeks is *In the Garden*. We will explore Biblical stories where the garden serves as a meeting place with the Holy. In Celtic spirituality this place of meeting is referred to as a *thin place*, where we transcend our busy ness and preoccupations and become aware of ways God/Spirit is speaking into our lives.



We began on the First Sunday in Lent with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14: 32-42) and we will conclude our journey on Easter (April 21st), with Mary Magdalene meeting the risen Christ in a cemetery garden (John 20: 1-18).

Here are a variety of opportunities to explore and grow your faith this Lenten Season. Invite a friend to share this Lenten journey with you:

Delightful Dinners – Church Family Dinners

3rd Tuesday evenings: April 16 and May 21st at First Baptist

These dinners are an opportunity for newer and longtime FBC participants to get acquainted in a fun and relaxed setting. A simple but delicious catered dinner will be provided at FBC, served from 6 – 6:30 p.m., with a guided discussion following in small groups. Childcare will be provided. The dinners will be a great way to meet wonderful people. We will have the program wrapped up and everyone on their way home by 7:45 p.m. Watch for sign-ups on Facebook and at the Welcome Cafe on Sundays!

Art Project – Flourishing Pots

Each Sunday as you enter the Sanctuary you will find a table of flower pots. Over the course of Lent, you'll have an opportunity to decorate your own pot and participate in a ritual, to signify an intention for growth in your personal and faith life. Decorated pots are then placed along windows and 'seeds' added throughout Lent.

New Class! Lenten Poetry and Spiritual Practices

Each Sunday at 11:20 a.m. until April 14, in the Lounge on the Main Floor, Bryan Vosseler will host a lively and creative discussion on how poetry can expand the heart and mind. Bryan has selected poems that complement our theme 'In the Garden' along with spiritual practices that connect with the poem's wisdom and the movement of the Spirit. Bryan offers: "I hope these poems and practices will fertilize your own spiritual garden." For more information, [click here to see the flyer](#).

Beautiful Banners

New Lenten banners are up to grace the front of our Sanctuary! These banners were created by Liz Crean. They are designed to expand our hearts, minds and imaginations, as we contemplate our Lenten theme together!

Planning Team: Thank you to the Spiritual Life Team who began planning for this Lent in November: Bryan Vossler, Karen Wood, Barbara Brann Weir, Marty Lincoln, Lisa LaPlante, and Kent Harrop

Reflections from the Steps

To my very dear Church Family,

As I was sitting in worship on Sunday morning – actually, as I have been sitting in and leading in worship these past many Sundays recently – I have been struck, over and over again, by a few things, and I wanted to pause after this most recent Sunday to send a little note and word of musing and reflection and thanks to you all.

This past Sunday, I was the minister who was slated to do the Stepsitters children's message in the service, which is something I always enjoy having the opportunity to do.

As I sat on the steps and invited the children to come forward and join me, I was struck, as they came forward, by their sheer number! Those steps were *full* to overflowing this Sunday – as they

have been recently – but on this particular Sunday, I was just truly taken by the children pouring in from all directions, filling the stairs, and spilling over onto the floor all around me. I was struck by their range of ages, by their unique personalities, by their varied voices and expressions, and by the incredible blessing and wonder of these many uniquely created beloved children of God, who are part of our wider church family.

What a gift they are to all of us! The voices of our children in our service of worship and in our church family help to round out our family of God, gathered here in this special time and place. Their questions and their wonder speak to the questions and wonder in each one of us. Their unique insight and their wisdom is added to the unique insight and wisdom that *all* of us bring into this place. Our church family is better and stronger and richer and more interesting because of *all* of us – and our children are no exception to that truth.

As I watch our children in the Playground space on Sunday mornings, I am struck by this same truth.

As I watch the bustling childcare room, with our youngest friends, from preschool age down, I am struck by this truth.

As I watch – and sometimes have the joy of teaching! – the vibrant Multiage Children's Class, now almost bursting at its seams and begging for us to add an additional class next year (which is in my heart to do!), I am struck by this truth.

As I had the opportunity to have one of our youngest friends – 4-year-old Emma – come and plop down between Kent and me in worship two Sundays ago, and to hear her questions about worship and see the service through her eyes (and with questions posed by her super cute little voice!), I was struck by this truth.

In light of all of that, what I would like to offer here, then, is a word of thanksgiving. Several, actually.

A word of thanksgiving to and for the children themselves, of all ages. Thank you for being here with us. Thank you for sharing your unique gifts with us. Thank you for allowing us the grace to learn right alongside you how best to continue to be a church that does not merely tolerate children but *welcomes* and *celebrates* them. Thank you for allowing us the space and grace to make some mistakes as we grow, too.

A word of thanksgiving to and for the adults – the parents, the families, the caregivers – who bring these children and youth to worship and to be part of our church on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Life is busy and full – sometimes *overflowing* – and it is not always easy to get up and out of the house on one more morning, to get everyone ready and fed and in the car, to get to church. But what you are doing *matters*. What you are doing is *such* a gift to us all. What you are doing – even in the moments when, perhaps, your child(ren) is not/are not behaving exactly as you would like or you are feeling worried or stressed out or strained about it – is important. It is a gift. Your children are now all of our children, and we are so grateful for this opportunity to walk the journey together with them, and with you. Thank you for sharing them with all of us. What a true gift they are to us all and to this church family. What a gift your family is to this church family.

A word of thanksgiving for this entire congregation – for your willingness to be welcoming to all children and youth and to all people; for your willingness to stretch and grow and to try new things (or to let your ministers try new things!); for your willingness to create a space for these young people to be themselves and for these families to grow. Thank you for being such a welcoming and dexterous church family and congregation. Thank you for making space. Thank you for being there to embrace, to welcome, to nurture and to love. We are all being nurtured and loved right back, I am confident of that.

Thank you. That is what I want to say. Thank you.

Thank you to the children.

Thank you to the parents and caregivers.

Thank you to this church family.

Thank you to God for allowing us such a blessing and such a gift of being together in this community, learning and growing every single day.

Thank you.

With shalom, appreciation, and so much love,
Julie



Family Promise: Taste the Promise

First Baptist is blessed to be a partner congregation to Family Promise. Family Promise provides safe housing and wrap around social services for families that are homeless. On May 1, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. a Fundraiser is being held for Family Promise. FBC has purchased a 10 person table for the event to be held at Danversport Yacht Club called 'Taste the Promise', featuring wonderful food from North Shore restaurants. Individual tickets are \$60. A fundraising auction is also part of the event. Please RSVP Pat Haight at phaight@fbcbeverly.org to reserve your spot.

For more information: <https://www.familypromisensb.org/events/taste-the-promise/>

Book Group Meets Friday, March 29 at 2:00pm

The Book Group will meet again on Friday, March 29 to discuss the year-long bestseller *There There* by Tommy Orange. An enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Tommy Orange has been recognized as a new and original voice in contemporary literature, and his debut novel rapidly became a bestseller by word of mouth. His book describes the lives of twelve Native Americans as they prepare to travel from various parts of the country to attend the Big Oakland Powwow. He gives voice to Native Americans who live in the cities and struggle to find an identity that encompasses their history as a people, the urban struggles against addiction, abuse and suicide, and the beauty and spirituality of their ethnic traditions. Many readers have found this to be a remarkable and eye-opening novel.

The Book Group meets at 2 o'clock in the comfort of the church Lounge. New members are always welcome, even for a single session to discuss one particular book.

Intergenerational Fun Night at FBC Gym - April 5th

Our next All-Church Intergenerational Fun Night is on the calendar! Join us on April 5th from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. for an evening of fun and games! Pizza will be served from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m., with fun mixer games for all ages to follow. We will have Kin-ball Volley Ball, as well as other great group games. We also invite folks to bring a favorite board game to share. Invite a friend to share the evening with you and meet some great people!



Pilgrimage to Church in the Woods

On Palm Sunday, April 14th, the church van will be traveling to Church in the Woods, in Canterbury, NH. Church in the Woods Sanctuary is a 100 acre woodland, with paths for meditation and for savoring the beauty of creation. This faith community is rooted in the Episcopal tradition. We will meet in a pasture, by a fire, for an opening liturgy and will then be set free to wander through pasture and forest. Leave FBC at 12:30 p.m., stopping for refreshments at the Hookset Tourist Information Center along the way, and then continue on to arrive in time for their 3 p.m. afternoon worship. RSVP to Kent Harrop kharrop@fbcbeverly.org. Dress for the weather (rain or shine). This is a wonderful event for people of all ages and for families. This event is limited to the first 12 folks who are able to sign up.



April 16th Next Delightful Dinner

Join us for our upcoming Delightful Dinner on April 16th. A catered dinner from Henry's Catering will be served 6 - 6:30 p.m., with a fun and relaxed "get to know each other" conversation from 6:45 - 7:30 p.m. This is a wonderful way for newer and longtime participants at FBC to get acquainted. There is no fee for dinner, and childcare will be provided following the dinner. You'll be on your way home by 7:30 p.m. At the first dinner in this series, held in March, 45 people enjoyed the Delightful Dinner experience together. This second dinner in the series is open to those who attended the first AND to anyone and everyone who was not able to be there! You do not have to attend all sessions to be a part of these dinner conversations and experiences. Sign up by emailing Kent Harrop at kharrop@fbcbeverly.org, or by adding your name to the list in the lobby, before or after worship on Sundays. We look forward to seeing you around the table!



Looking for Lunch Program Volunteers!

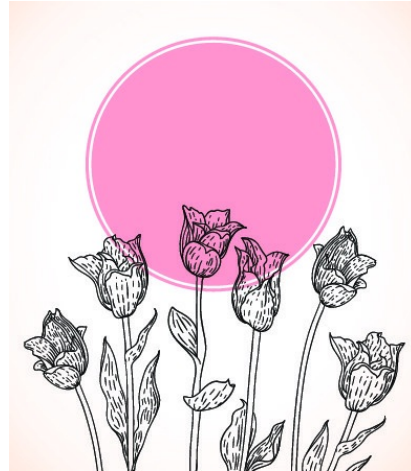
We are looking for volunteers willing to help with the lunch program on Saturdays. It can be a once a month, or every other month, or once a year commitment to feed people in need. Cooking expertise is not required. If you do not feel comfortable preparing a meal, it will be prepared for you. All you will have to do is reheat and serve. Shopping for the meals is done ahead of time, and there will be a set menu in place. We typically provide a hot meal for 20-40 guests on Saturdays. Three helpers per week is ideal. Anyone interested can speak with John or Eileen Hadley, jh254@msn.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Easter Lily and Tulip Sale

Easter Lilies and Tulips are now available for ordering. Sign-up in the church office or contact **Pat Haight** at phaight@fbcbeverly.org to place your order. You can also call the church office at 978-922-3295.

The flowers, in memory or in honor of a loved one, will decorate our Sanctuary during our Easter Sunday Service, and will be available to take with you after the worship service on Easter. If you prefer, you can also donate your flower to be gifted to members of the First Baptist family who are not able to get out of their homes or residences as often anymore to physically be with us in worship, but who are still very much part of the FBC family!

Cost: \$10/flower for either a lily or a tulip. Orders must be placed by Sunday, April 14th.



Coming Up at FBC



Thursday, March 28

4:00pm: Food Project
6:00pm: Celebration Ringers
7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir

Friday, March 29

6:00 pm: Harborlight Nursery School Family Night

Saturday, March 30

11:30 am Chapel Choir
12:30pm: Lunch Program

Sunday, March 31

8:45am: Welcome Cafe
9:00 am: Seekers Adult Class (Childcare provided)
10:00 am: Worship and Multiage Children's Class
11:00 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry
11:20 am: Adult Education
2:30 pm: Baptism Class
4:00 pm: MS Fellowship
6:00 pm: Senior High Fellowship

Monday, April 1

6:00pm: Monday Night Supper
7:30 p.m. Music Committee

Tuesday, April 2

9:30 am: Staff Meeting

7:00 pm: Lay Visitation
8:00 pm: Theology on Tap

Wednesday, April 3

4:30 pm: Lectio Divina
6:00 pm: Joy Ringers
7:15 pm: Harborlight Ringers

Thursday, April 4

6:00 pm: Celebration Ringers
6:30 p.m.: Beverly Community Meeting regarding Cabot St. redesign
7:30 pm: Sanctuary Choir

Check out All FBC's Sermons at fbcbeverly.org/sermons

*In the Garden: Tending the
Soil/Tending the Soul*

Rev. Kent Harrop, preaching

Scripture: Galatians 6: 7 – 10



Check out the attached April Event Calendar, or go to:
www.fbcbeverly.org/calendar

First Baptist Church in Beverly | 978-922-3295 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED



April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 8:45am: Welcome Café 9:00am: Seekers Adult Class 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class 11:00am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 11:20am: Lenten Poetry Class, Adult Education (No children's Choir) 2:30pm: Baptism Class 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	1 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper 7:30pm: Music Committee	2 9:30am: Staff Meeting 7:00pm: Lay Visitation 8:00pm: Theology on Tap	3 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:00pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	4 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	5 6:00pm: Intergenerational Fun Night	6 11:30am: Chapel Choir 12:30pm: Lunch Program
7 8:45am: Welcome Café 9:00am: Seekers Adult Class, Yoga - Spiritual Moments and Movement 10:00am: Worship (No Children's Class or Stepsitters) 11:20am: Adult Education (No Children's Choir) 2:30pm: Baptism Class 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	8 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper 7:00pm: Social Concerns	9 9:30am: Staff Meeting 7:00pm: Staff Administration Meeting 7:30pm: Harborlight Nursery School Board Meeting	10 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:00pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	11 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	12 6:00pm: Parents' Night Out	13 11:30am: Chapel Choir 12:30pm: Lunch Program 7:00pm: Women's Fellowship Paint Night
14 8:30am: Pancake Breakfast 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class 11:20am: Adult Education and Children's Choir 12:30pm: Pilgrimage to Church in the Woods 2:30pm: Baptism Class 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	15 <i>Patriot's Day</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i> 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper	16 9:30am: Staff Meeting 6:00pm: Delightful Dinner	17 4:30pm: Lectio Divina (No Joyringers) 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers 7:30pm Trustees of Endowment	18 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Service 8:00pm: Sanctuary Choir	19 <i>Good Friday</i> 8:00pm: Mozart's <i>Requiem</i> at First Parish	20 11:30am: Chapel Choir 12:30pm: Lunch Program
21 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 5:45am: Sunrise Service at Lynch Park 8:30am: Easter Breakfast/Celebration 9:15am: Egg Hunt 10:00am: Worship	22 <i>Day After Easter</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i> 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper 7:00pm: Missions Committee	23 9:30am: Staff Meeting 7:00pm: Deacons Meeting	24 (No Lectio Divina) 6:00pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers <i>Kent leaves for Nicaragua</i>	25 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	26	27 11:30am: Chapel Choir 12:30pm: Lunch Program Super Mission Saturday
28 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class, Change for Good Collection 11:20 am: Adult Education and Children's Choir 11:20am: Women's Fellowship 1:00-4:30pm: MS Fellowship 4:00pm: SH Fellowship	29 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper	30 9:30am: Staff Meeting	1 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:00pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	2 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	3	4 11:30am: Chapel Choir 12:30pm: Lunch Program