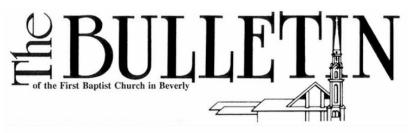
## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

A progressive and welcoming Christian community



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

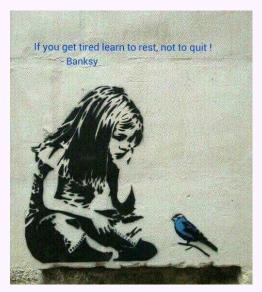
**Get Involved** 

Worship with Us

Lent is officially here! Read on to find out what our FBC Lenten theme is for 2025, and to get the full *picture* on what's in store starting today through Easter Sunday! We look forward to walking through this journey together.

Looking for our regular Sunday worship notes and news? You'll find all the info for this Sunday right below our exciting Lenten launch news! Scroll down and read on!

# Launching Lent 2025 at First Baptist! Rest, Renewal, Resolve – and More!



The season of Lent begins today, Ash Wednesday, with the first Sunday in Lent coming up on March 9th. Lent is the season and time of preparation before Easter – a season of 40 days (the Sundays in the season of Lent do not count in the 40 days *of* Lent, because every Sunday is instead intended to be like a "little Easter," remembering the Resurrection of Jesus – so they are not counted in the days of preparation, fasting, or simplifying that compose the rest of the season) that invites us to ready our hearts and our minds for Holy Week and for Easter itself, reflecting on our faith, the life of Jesus, and the ways in which God continues to call to us in our time and lives.

Our Lenten theme for this year is *The Art of Rest, Renewal, and Resolve*. Throughout the season, our worship exploration will find us

journeying with Jesus through stories of his life and ministry, and noticing the ways in which Jesus models for us the importance of finding space to rest, to care for oneself and for those on the journey with us; to fill our spirits and to be renewed; and then to resolve to return, again and again, to the work to which God calls us: the work of resisting earthly powers of oppression, greed, violence, and injustice, and to work and speak for a world that reflects God's kin-dom of equity, care, justice, and love. To learn to rest is an art we can practice. To

find renewal for our souls is an art we can practice. To resolve, again and again, to set our feet to the path Jesus revealed to us is, indeed, an art we can practice. With practice, we find we can make progress at creating patterns in our daily lives for the rest and renewal that steel our resolve.

Throughout the season, we will also be invited to put our theme and the scriptures of our faith into conversation with literal works of art: street art and community murals that help communities give voice to themes of justice, care, and love, offering us hope and inspiration for our journey. Together, we will consider the ways in which murals and street art so often give voice and expression to those who might otherwise go unheard, and the ways in which the art that inspired our Lenten worship theme reflects the threads of wisdom we find in the scriptures of our faith – challenging and inspiring us to practice, in our own lives, the arts of rest and renewal that can fuel our resolve to be agents of love and do-ers of justice and kindness in God's world.

This work to which we are called can sometimes feel daunting or even exhausting. This Lent, you are invited to come, bringing all of your weariness, your hope, your wonders, your worries, your sorrows and your joys, and to journey together exploring and recognizing the ways in which, when we feel weary, Jesus' example reminds us to rest, but not to quit. Come and journey together with us this Lent!

With thanks to our Lenten Worship Planning Team: Kelsey Belis, Heidi Keating, Luke Oliveira, and Doris Ann Vosseler, who joined Rev. Julie Flowers in planning for the season.



As part of interacting with our Lent theme this year, there will be opportunities in the sanctuary for *Visio Divina* experiences, inviting us to look more closely at the featured mural of street art selection for each Sunday in Lent, as well as a *Take One/Leave One* Affirmation Prayer Wall, where we can care for one another and offer one another strength and resolve for the journey by adding an affirmation note for someone else to take as they need *and* where we can take an affirmation – or several! – that speak to us and nourish our souls for the week and work ahead, too!

## Orders Now Being Accepted for Easter Lilies and Tulips!

Easter lilies and tulips are now available to order at FBC! The cost is \$10.00 for lilies and \$8.00 for tulips. Orders are due to Pat by Monday, March 17th. You can note your lily or tulip order on the clipboard in the church office on a Sunday or contact Pat Haight at 978-922-3295 or at phaight@fbcbeverly.org to place your order.

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 service on April 20th. If you prefer, you can donate your flower(s) to be gifted to members of the First Baptist Church family who are not able to join us for worship as often as they would like in person but who are still very much a part of our FBC Family!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

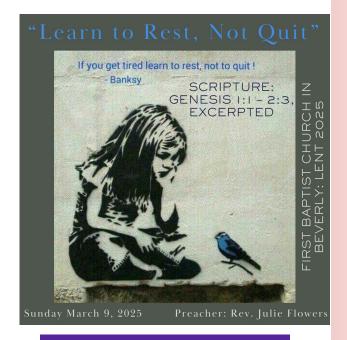
#### **Worship With Us!**

Join us for our Worship Service this Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., either in person or via our *FBC YouTube Channel*.

## It's the First Sunday of Lent AND Daylight Savings Time!

Notes for Sunday:

- The Infant/Toddler room will be open during worship this week.
- Littlest Learners will meet during worship this week.
- The Prayground will be open as worship begins to allow our elementary-age and younger friends to enter into the quiet enjoyment of worship in a flexible childfriendly space.
- Our Elementary Class will meet following the Stepsitters children's message time during worship.
- The Youth Pew is available for youth in grades 5-12 to enjoy worship together with peers.
- Baptism Class meets at 2:30 p.m.
- Middle School Fellowship meets at 4:00 p.m. and Sr. High Fellowship at 6:00 p.m.



Click HERE to join Worship via Livestream on Sunday



Coming Home Mini Info. Session this Sunday from 11:30-12:30 p.m. with Lisa & Abby in the Chapel!



## Coming Home Mini Session this Sunday, March 9th!

Abby Sykes and Lisa LaPlante are BACK joining forces this Sunday, March 9th offering a special mini session of "Coming Home" following worship from 11:30-12:30 p.m.! This session provides a wonderful opportunity for those who are new to the Coming Home series, as well as those who have attended sessions in the past, to come together and learn more about current topics like

- What does weight science research REALLY tell us? What factors are at play?
- What are practical things you can say when someone comments on your body?
- How can we reclaim our health and reconnect with our bodies?

Our first Coming Homing weekly vocabulary word with definition is included above. Stay after worship Sunday to learn much more on these timely, important topics!



## Fellowship News for this Sunday

Middle School Fellowship

Sunday, March 9th: Make Your Own Movie! 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge at First Baptist

Middle School Fellowship will have the chance to hone their creativity and movie-making skills this Sunday afternoon with a *make your own movie* challenge! The group will be given different genres of films and some funny phrases and elements that their films must include – but the rest of the decisions about how their movie and its plot will come together are up to

them! Youth and advisors are invited to bring one item they think would serve as a fun, funny, or creative prop for a movie, as well – with no guarantee that the prop they bring will end up in *their* film! Come ready for an afternoon of creativity and fun as Middle School Fellowship makes what will surely be some Oscar-worthy short films together! Friends are, of course, welcome!

Save the Date: Middle School Fellowship Retreat will be happening April 4th – 6th at Grotonwood Camp in Groton, MA. More details will come to you as the weekend gets closer!

#### Sr. High Fellowship

Sunday, March 9th: Organ Crawl with Esther AND Steeple Climb 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge at First Baptist

The Sr. High Fellowship will meet at First Baptist at 6 p.m. for an evening of exploring and learning about some of the coolest spaces and places in the church – the incredible pipe organ AND the historic steeple with a light at the top that serves as a Coast Guard range light lighthouse! The group will begin by meeting our Music Director, Esther, in the choir loft to learn about the incredible pipe organ in the sanctuary. Esther will share about the organ's history and its structure and design, as well as playing some pieces for the group to get to hear the different sounds of the stops and pipes.

Then, for the *coolest* part of the whole experience, Esther will take the group *inside* the organ pipes themselves, allowing the group to see how the pipes range in size – some as small as a pencil and some well over 6 feet in height! Once the group has had a chance to explore and learn about the organ, there will be time for those who are interested to climb up inside the steeple – adding their names to the walls along the way, as so many other Youth Fellowshippers before this crew have done! Climbing up the inside of the steeple will bring the group to various levels along the way – from being able to ring the steeple bell, to *seeing* and standing next to the bell, and then onward and upward to the lighthouse light near the peak!

The group will then have dinner together in the Youth Lounge and have the chance to share Concerns and Celebrations before the evening ends. Bring a friend and come join in all the fun!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### **Introducing The + Club at First Baptist Beverly**

We're excited to introduce **The + Club (pronounced The Plus Club)**, a new group at First Baptist Beverly created as a welcoming space for LGBTQIA+ individuals in our church and community. This group is a place for connection, support, and fun as we build relationships and celebrate who we are. Whether you're looking for community, conversation, or just a relaxed time with friends, The + Club is for you!

Join us for our first event—a game night on Thursday, March

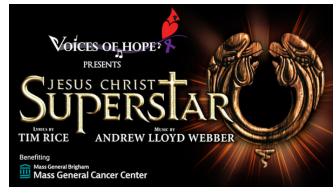
21st at 7:30pm! We'll gather for laughter, fellowship, and some friendly competition. Stay

tuned for more details, and feel free to reach out to Kelsey Belis if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you for *gayme night!* 



## Get Your Tickets to see *Jesus Christ, Superstar!* this Spring

Be sure to make the *Jesus Christ*, *Superstar* performance at the North Shore Music Theater on Friday, March 28th, for which FBC has a block of 20 tickets reserved.



If you'd like to buy tickets for the show through us, they are \$48 each. *Contact Daniel* directly to secure ticket(s).

The show is produced by the Voices of Hope theater company, "a not-for-profit community of artists who raise funds for cancer research thru theatrical performance, and has been bringing its powerful and moving performances to NSMT since 2013. Now in its 16th season, Voices of Hope has donated more than one million dollars, contributing to the evergrowing source of treatment options that continue to give hope to their vision of a cancer free world."

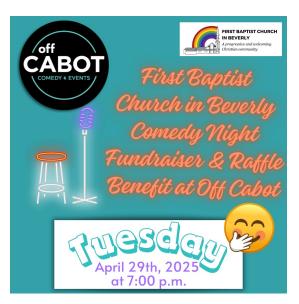




The Garden School 36 Foster Street Beverly, MA 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registration for attendees and display application can be found on <u>KinshipFarm.org</u>

Please email us at info@kinshipfarm.org with any questions



### Save-The-Date: Comedy Night Fundraiser and Raffle to Benefit the FBC Summer Service Trip!

Enjoy a night full of laughs in downtown Beverly at the Off Cabot Theater for an allstar comedy show and raffle on Tuesday, April 29th at 7:00 p.m! This show will feature the hilarious Tony V., Jimmy Dunn, Kathe Farris, Will Noonan, and Corey Rodrigues – all of which are comedy headliners in the Boston comedy scene! There is no better way to raise money for the FBC Service Trip than through laughter! Tickets cost \$35 and can be

purchased online or at the Off Cabot box office. Seating is first come first served and doors

open at 6:00 p.m. Join us for a fun night out while helping fuel the church van to Marion, VA this August!

Get Your Tickets Now Before They Sell Out!









Looking at the exciting week ahead at FBC Beverly...



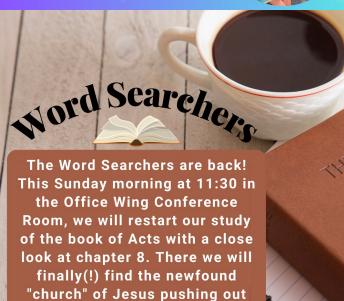
Zoom Coffee Hour Link for Thursday @ 10 AM

Lectio Divina continues Friday with Daniel and Friends at 5:00 pm.

Join us in the Lounge or via A Zoom!

Lectio Divina Zoom Link for Friday





beyond the comfortable confines of Jerusalem! Or were they

pushed? Join us and find out!





And on the seventh day God finished the work that God had done, and God rested on the seventh day from all the work that had been done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that God had done in creation. — Genesis 2:2-3

## 22

#### PENCIL IN FBC

March

7

Friday

### Parents' Night Out!

It's FBC's monthly PNO from 6:00-8:30 p.m. open to children and youth in our church family and the greater community! Book a date night, catch up with a friend, get a jump on your grocery shopping—the time is yours!

March

9

Sunday

# First Sunday in Lent & Daylight Savings

Spring ahead with us one hour for the first Sunday in Lent!

# Coming Home: Mini Information Session with Abby and Lisa!

Join us in an exciting Coming Home event from 11:30-12:30 p.m. after worship as we further educate and explore body-related topics.

March

18

Tuesday

FBC's T3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast

This men's fellowship group will meet at 7:00 a.m. to dine at Depot Diner together this month.

March

21

Friday

The + Club Game Night at FBC!

Join us for this exciting kick-off event *Gayme* Night starting at 7:30 p.m.!

March Twerties Movie Night & Chat After all the fun of Clay Dreaming, the Twerties can't wait 22 to gather together again! More details TBA. Saturday **Summer Service Trip Informational** March Meeting 23 Stay after worship to have all your questions answered and to potentially sign up for this summer's FBC Service Trip Sunday to Marion, VA! March Jesus Christ, Superstar! at the North **Shore Music Theater** 28 If you purchased tickets from Daniel from our block, see you there at 8 o'clock tonight! Friday March Save-the-Date: *Ecumenical Spring* Celebration Outdoor Service 29 The Outdoor service will be at 3:00 p.m. but come check it out anytime from 2:00-4:30 p.m. Saturday March Esther's Sing-A-Long Children's Choir Rehearsal after Worship 30 Elementary-aged children are invited to stay after worship

Sunday

for a brief, fun rehearsal with Esther!

March

31 Monday

### Wit & Wisdom Luncheon Meeting in the Lounge

This flourishing new group will meet from 11:30-1:30 p.m. to cover official business as well as the business of fun!

**CONTACT US** 



Phone: 978-922-3295 (Main)

**Contact Us** 

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY 221 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 bulletin@fbcbeverly.org

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