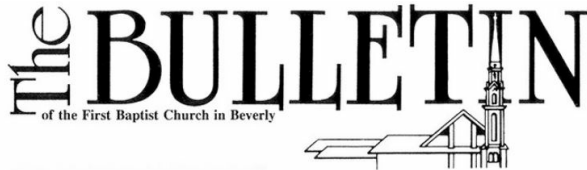


# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

*A progressive and welcoming Christian community*

Can you believe it's already the middle of summer?! Our Summer Features article series continues this week and shines a spotlight on the Harborlight Nursery School, already famous in its own right but a program that continues to flourish under the wonderful staff including our new Director this past year, Billie Jean Chouinard. Read on to see exciting changes coming to HNS and what's in store for the upcoming school year!



*A progressive and welcoming Christian community!*

Get Involved

Worship with Us

FBC BEVERLY'S  
2023 SUMMER  
WORSHIP  
SERIES  
JUNE 18, 2023  
THRU  
SEPT. 17, 2023  
EVERY SUNDAY  
IN PERSON OR  
LIVESTREAMED  
VIA YOUTUBE AT  
10:00 AM



JOIN US AT FBC BEVERLY  
FOR A SUMMER WORSHIP  
SERIES INSPIRED BY  
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE!



## Worship With Us!

Join us this Sunday, July 2nd at 10:00 am for Worship either in person or via our [FBC YouTube Channel](#).

This week is **Communion Sunday** so please bring your own elements of Communion if you will be joining us via Livestream.

### Notes for Sunday:

- The Infant/Toddler room will be open during worship this week.
- Littlest Learners will meet during worship this week.
- The Playground is open for our Elementary and younger friends to use for the quiet and child-friendly enjoyment of worship.
- The Youth Pew will be ready for youth in grades 5-12 to enjoy worship together with peers.
- Worship Ensemble will rehearse immediately after Worship on Sunday.

"On the Oh No and the Learning More"

Oh no, George!

Wild Things & Catching Stars

Oh No, GEORGE!

Sunday, July 2, 2023  
Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34 and 1 John 4:16-19

Rev. Julie Flowers,  
Preaching, FBC Beverly  
Communion Sunday

Click [HERE](#) to view Worship via FBC's YouTube Channel

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click [HERE](#) to view our Web Calendar!

Hear How Dr. Daniel Johnson *Engaged* in San Juan for the Biennial Mission Summit of the

## American Baptist Churches!



From June 21 through June 26, I had the pleasure of hanging out in San Juan, Puerto Rico, for the Biennial Mission Summit of the American Baptist Churches, USA (ABCUSA). Interspersed with the regular events of the Summit was a program named “Engage 2023!”—a series of sessions designed to familiarize American Baptist seminary students, ministers new to the ABCUSA (like me!), and select lay leaders with the ins and outs of American Baptist life. As a participant in that program, my hotel and meal costs were covered by the ABCUSA, while FBC Beverly graciously agreed to pay my airfare to get there (and back!).

I came away from the Engage program, and indeed from the whole Summit experience, with a deeper understanding of the sprawling network of organizations operating under

the American Baptist banner. Feel free to quiz me sometime on the dizzying array of acronyms and initialisms used to identify those organizations—OGS and BGM, IM and ABHMS (not to be confused with the ABHS!), GLCC and the CECL, ABEC and MMBB, etc., along with our Puerto Rican hosts from IBPR. I may even be able to tell you a little about what each of those organizations does and how they all relate to one another!

I also came away from my time in Puerto Rico with an appreciation for the wide variety of churches and people that freely associate with the ABCUSA. Numerous speakers over the weekend saw fit to mention that the ABCUSA is the most ethnically, culturally, and politically diverse denomination in the United States. This observation was invariably a point of pride for those who made it, but it was also reflected practically in the disposition seemingly adopted by most of the Summit attendees. Even where attendees differed greatly in theological, cultural, and political orientation, exchanges between them were generally marked by a spirit of respectful dialogue and a desire for mutual understanding.

The four plenary worship services over the weekend featured preachers who spoke in unapologetically prophetic fashion about the need for the Christian church to work actively to undo unjust and oppressive social systems. Quite to my own surprise, I found myself moved by each of them.

Two other highlights from the weekend came in smaller sessions hosted by the ABC Creation Justice Network and the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB). First Baptist Church in Beverly was actually singled out by name in each of these sessions for significant efforts that have advanced the causes of each group. The Creation Justice event highlighted (with pictures!) the solar array that we have installed on the roof the church building, while FBC Beverly was identified among the earliest affiliates of AWAB at its founding some 30 years ago. The AWAB session was an especially celebratory affair, as it marked the first time in history that AWAB was actually allowed to meet in the same convention center as the Summit and have its gathering listed as part of the regular Summit program.

To be sure, denominational relations can often breed a great deal of tension and discord. Given the size and composition of the ABCUSA, there are bound to be times when decisions that are made on behalf of the whole will rub particular member churches the wrong way. Yet at a time when many denominations in the United States are breaking apart or actively purging themselves of elements judged to be too progressive, the current trajectory of the ABCUSA strikes me as an especially hopeful one. Voluntarily bound together in mission, the American Baptist Churches of the USA continue to share the love of God while actively working to effect positive social change. And FBC Beverly continues to play a significant role in helping to make that happen.





On Saturday, June 24, 2023, FBC Beverly members and friends **PROUDLY** walked in the North Shore Pride parade. Check out this year's **\*NEW\*** extra special mascot!



#LOVEWINS!

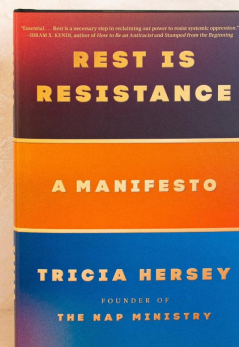


### FBC's Summer Book Study Kicks Off Soon!

Keeping up with your summer reading? There is nothing quite like diving into a good book! Join us in reading *Rest is Resistance*, by Tricia Hersey.

- We will meet on Wednesdays, from 6:30-7:30 pm
- The specific dates will be July 12, 19, and 26, and then August 9 and 16.
- Our meetings will be hybrid, with the online group connecting via Zoom and the in-person group gathering in the Lounge or Conference Room (still TBD so stay tuned).
- Copies of the book will be available in the church office beginning this Sunday, July 2.
- The suggested donation for the book is \$20.

Questions? Contact Dr. Daniel Johnson via Email at [djohnson@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:djohnson@fbcbeverly.org).



## Harborlight Nursery School continues to flourish FBC: Presenting the NEW logo and website!

When you speak with Billie Jean Chouinard, the Director of Harborlight Nursery School who celebrates one year at the helm this July, it's hard NOT to get excited about the program & the students! Billie Jean credits her team and the board of HNS, but if you see her around FBC and have the chance to chat, you'll see just what I mean. In her short time as the Director she's already worked to redesign the HNS logo AND the website, which is due to launch in the next few weeks. The School Family is very happy with the look and feel of the new website, especially the functionality elements added for incoming families.

Harborlight Nursery School's reputation proceeds it due to the play-based learning strategy. Educators mindfully, meaningfully and deliberately work to deliver lessons in a play format. Everything is delivered in a "joyful format for learning" so that it feels like students are playing, when in actuality they are exploring science or literacy, for example. Studies show that the approach is the best way for students to learn and the ultimate goal is to have happy children who are successful and are building life skills along the way; like how to make a friend, be a friend, and keep a friend.

One recent example of how Billie Jean and her team bring their classroom to life is by bringing in a composter and measuring worms together as a lesson. HNS continues to revamp and bring in more outside enrichment such as the local librarian, parents who volunteer as guest readers, firefighter families, and more.

If you have a young child or know a young child who might be interested in attending Harborlight Nursery School, you can call 978-927-9030 or [email Billie Jean](#) to schedule a tour. [Registration is available online.](#)



Pictured above are Billie Jean and Lori Innis at the Dance-A-Thon Fundraiser. Lori retired from teaching in the Red Room (for 15 years!) but stayed on as office assistant for HNS.



See the new Blueberry Bear logo that was selected by the HNS Board! The reimagined logo will be featured on the brand-new redesigned website launching this summer!



The photo above is also from the end-of-year Dance-A-Thon fundraiser, and as you can see, the youth were having an absolute ball! "Fundraisers like these help make HNS' awesome curriculum that much better!" according to Billie Jean. This year's event was successful in raising over \$2,400!

*Here's to another great year at Harborlight Nursery School! Best Wishes to the HNS Team and incoming students who are lucky to join this amazing program!*

Looking at the Week Ahead...

## Together Again!

Zoom Coffee  
Hour  
Thursdays  
@ 10am



[Zoom Coffee Hour Link](#)

Lectio Divina  
continues this Friday  
with Daniel at 5 pm

at Independence Park  
or on Zoom



**THERE WILL BE  
NO LECTIO ON  
FRIDAY OR  
PICKLEBALL  
MONDAY DUE TO  
THE HOLIDAY!**

PICKLEBALL IS KIND OF A BIG DILL!

SEE YOU ON THE COURT AT  
FBC BEVERLY MONDAYS @ 7:00 PM!



★  
**Happy Fourth  
of July!**

**THE FBC CHURCH OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED JULY 3&4.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO  
RECONNECTING ON  
WEDNESDAY THE 5TH!**



Worship Ensemble continues to rock out at rehearsals Sundays after Worship. What a performance this past Sunday of "Our God is an Awesome God!"

Come, Let Us Worship

**FBC'S**

**PODCAST**

The Weekly  
Worship  
Podcast of  
First Baptist  
Church in  
Beverly,  
Massachusetts



**NEW EPISODE:**

Listening Ears from  
June 25, 2023

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

## SIGN UP: MEAL TRAIN

If you haven't already, please consider providing a meal for the Pheulpin Family. This can include a takeout meal option to be delivered to their family's home and/or a gift card to a local restaurant if cooking is not your favorite gift.



*We join together in holding the family in our hearts  
and in our prayers at this incredibly difficult time.*


[Meal Train Sign Up \(Train runs thru June 30th\)](#)

# \*NEW\* MEAL TRAIN



For Liz and Tom Crean starting now through July 7th

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

DANIEL JOHNSON WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE ON VACATION FROM JUNE 30-JULY 10. HE'LL LOOK FORWARD TO RECONNECTING UPON HIS RETURN 

[New Meal Train Sign Up for Liz and Tom Crean](#)

“

<sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. — 1 John 4:16-19

”

## PENCIL IN FBC

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no Lectio Divina this Friday or Pickleball on Monday. We hope you have a safe, happy & hopefully sunny Fourth of July weekend :)!

July

**3&4**

Monday & Tuesday

### The Church Office will be Closed

We will be closed in honor of the Fourth of July both Monday and Tuesday, but will look forward to reconnecting during regular office hours on Wednesday. Shalom & Thanks!

July

**11**

Tuesday

### Theology On Tap

You won't want to miss an FBC favorite, TOT, scheduled for the 11th at 8:00 pm. Location TBD.

July

**14**

Friday

### Movie Night at Beverly Common

At 7:30 pm we are hosting an outdoor movie at the Beverly Common ~ it's only in two weeks so come check it out! The feature will be the animated version of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. All are welcome, and don't forget your favorite lawn chairs and blankets to make yourself right at home! (Snacks will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own, too!)

July

31

Friday

## Service Trip leaves for NC!

Wish our Missions Group well as they are all-aboard for service in Plymouth, NC. The group will be returning Sunday, August 6th.

August

6

Sunday

## Interfaith Homecoming Service

We invite you to Lynch Park for the Interfaith Homecoming Service as we'll be participating in worship in place of at FBC this particular Sunday. Our typical worship service with Communion will resume on Sunday, August 13th.

## CONTACT US

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
IN BEVERLY**

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