

Baptist Notes

A Publication of the First Baptist Church in Framingham
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From the Pastor



The Old Testament Scripture documents the history of the Nation of Israel, from the roots of a family in one land, to the development of a nation in another. Centuries of history reveals ups and downs in relationship to God, each other, and the surrounding nations. Their history of captivity in Egypt, the miraculous exodus under Moses' leadership, the wilderness experience, the journey to the promise land, and their exile from the promise land is a story filled with struggle and redemption. However, it is interesting to note what brought this family from their homeland to Egypt in the first place. It was hunger. They did not have enough to eat and sustain their lives. This circumstance was caused by famine in their homeland, and is what brought Abraham's grandson Jacob and his family to live in Egypt. Egypt, they learned, was where

food was available. And, at that time, Egypt was under the influence of Joseph, the eleventh child of Jacob and great grandson of Abraham, as well as a God-fearing leader.

Hunger is a basic human drive and when there is scarcity, suffering and desperation flourish. As people of faith, reconciled to God, we are concerned about people's basic human needs. The USDA estimates that forty-two million people in the United States live in food-insecure households, or plainly stated, are on the verge of not having enough to eat. Furthermore, we are aware that our commitment to our God brings us face to face with the necessity of working in partnership with others to help alleviate hunger. What is so unique to our place in the world is that we are in a position to alleviate both physical and spiritual hunger. What we are in a position to not only fill a void in people's physical nourishment, but bring fulfillment to their soul as well. God cares, and this leads us to care. The challenge comes to us: **how do we, an organized, worshipping congregation, become innovative in addressing the concerns of God's own heart? How will our hunger and thirst for righteousness contribute to the help and redemption of the hungry?** We begin by taking a long, honest look at the needs of people around us. Our faith then leads to some action that is beyond our ability alone, and necessitates the co-operation of others to carry forth the work of our Christian Mission.

As we look to a new season together, we can keep our blessings and fortunate place in this world on the forefront of our minds. Furthermore, we can consider the many opportunities in our church body to bless others in the name of Jesus. Finally, we can remember that each of our lives contributes to the pages of human history, and when we do our part to fulfill our God-given mission, we return thanks to our Lord. During the upcoming holiday season of feasting and celebration, we can take specific action to feed and nourish our soul. When we receive, we can consistently return thanks by sharing what we receive with someone else. We can have the attitude that what we have is a gift of God, not for our boasting. We can remember that who we are and what we possess is available to others. Finally we can remember that what is most significant in life is of eternal value and is cared for by God.

Jason

Church Notes

Congratulations to Amos and Vicky Fernandes on the birth of a daughter, Ruth Augustina on October 13th. She joins brother Caleb.

Giving Tree Project



Once again we will be setting up our Giving Tree project to help low-income families enjoy a special Christmas Season! Food cards, clothing, warm pajamas and toys are just some of the items we will be collecting. Colorful “ornaments” will be placed on our Giving Tree in the Sanctuary in November. You can pick one, two, or three to give your Christmas gift to. Each ornament will list the sex, age, size, and desired gift of a child.

The Stewardship of All Creation

Scripture and tradition remind us that the whole earth is filled with the glory of God. Join us in worship starting November 6 as we explore our responsibilities as stewards of all creation:



November 6	The biblical foundations of stewardship
November 13	The earth and all God's creatures are in danger
November 20	What we can do to be better stewards

We will receive our Estimate of Giving Cards during worship on November 20.

You are invited to join the Stewardship Committee and members of the Board of Administration and Finance in Reilly Hall on Sunday, November 13 (A&F will provide lunch this Sunday) for a short presentation and discussion of our 2017 stewardship goals.

Happy Birthday Baby Basket Party Saturday, November 5th at 10 am

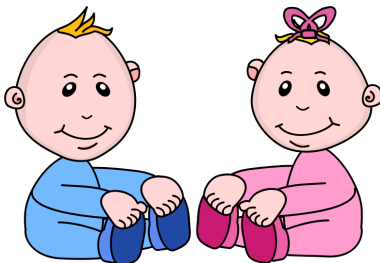
Please join us in Reilly Hall to put together baskets. We still need:

From Walmart:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10 rectangular laundry baskets | 4 pkgs. diapers - sz.1 |
| 3 girls sleepers | 12 pr. baby boy socks |
| 15 girls onesies | 12 fleece blankets |
| 2 baby wipes | |

From The Dollar Tree:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 12 baby rattles | 10 baby wash |
| 10 bottle brushes | 10 bottles hand sanitizer |
| 9 baby lotion and shampoo | |



November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>6:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays</i>	3 <i>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</i>	4	5 <i>HBB Basketball Party</i> <i>Work Day</i>
6 <i>9:45 a.m. Christian Education</i> <i>10:45 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Pot Luck Lunch</i>	7	8	9 <i>6:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays</i>	10 <i>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</i>	11	12
13 <i>9:45 a.m. Christian Education</i> <i>10:45 a.m. Worship</i> <i>Stewardship Lunch</i>	14 <i>7:15 pm A&F Meeting</i>	15	16 <i>7:00 pm Executive Council</i>	17 <i>7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</i>	18	19
20 <i>9:45 a.m. Christian Education</i> <i>10:45 a.m. Worship</i>	21	22	23	24 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent <i>9:45 a.m. Christian Education</i> <i>10:45 a.m. Worship</i>	28	29	30 <i>6:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesdays</i>			

Notes: AA meets : Monday evenings at 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. in the Children's Room
Wednesday and Friday at Noon in Reilly Hall

Word of Life Church meets: Sunday evening from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and hall
Tuesday evening from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the hall

All calendar entries are subject to change

November Birthdays



10 Marcus Vaz
11 Ernesto Velazco
14 Catherine Tucker
19 Reshima Samuel
24 Mary Ann Markmann

First Baptist Church in Framingham

1013 Worcester Road
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Framingham, MA 01703



Work Day

Saturday, November 5

Starts at 9:00 a.m.



Jobs big and small
for everyone

Coffee and donuts
provided