

# Baptist Notes

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



There is a common thread that weaves through the conscious mind and concern of all people; the thread of desire for personal safety and fulfillment. Will I, and the people I care and share life with, be safe and happy. Will I, and the people I care and share life with, have opportunity to grow and experience fulfillment in life. Traditionally in the Christian life, we combine striving for quality in this life with striving for security in the next. We see this same sentiment during the time of Jesus, prompting Jesus to illustrate what we can do to bring joy to the heart of God, as well as personal fulfillment and security to our own life as well as the lives of people around us. We bring joy to God, and peace and fulfillment to our life, by taking care of others and never denying to another what we desire and even demand for our own life.

The illustration Jesus uses is that of a Good Samaritan. This short story is found in the Gospel of Luke, and is a potent reminder of the importance of caring for others, and how important it is that we not be prejudicial in our serving and including people in our life. Unfortunately, categorizing and drawing lines of distinction among people is not unique to our generation. It was certainly a part of the world Jesus came into. And, as a result, when asked by a lawyer, "what must I do" to inherit eternal life, Jesus' response was a story of healing and restoration. The story tells of a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho who was robbed, beaten, and subsequently left for dead. First, a priest passed by and continued on his way. Second, a Levite, who was an assistant to the priest, saw him, passed by on the other side, and continued walking. Then, a Samaritan, traveling on the same road stopped, was moved with pity, and took him into his care. The priest, on his way to lead a service of sacrifice to God, was so caught up in his ritual and tradition that he missed an opportunity to do what was right. The Levite, one in the tradition clearly set apart for the special service to God, also missed this opportunity to care for one in need. Then, a Samaritan, one who was not considered a good or pure person by Hebrew people, including the Priest and Levite, did what was right in the eye of God. The Samaritan cared for the injured man on the road, demonstrating action that pleases God, and surely brought personal fulfillment to his own life.

Our Christian identity compels us to take seriously the life of others, without prejudice, and become advocates for the well-being of people in our world. Furthermore, Jesus' life modeled care and compassion for others while consistently pointing to the truth of God. We can do this. As members of a Christian congregation, we can assemble our talents and spiritual gifts for the purpose of teaching others how to care and serve one another. I believe all people are the creation of God, and therefore all people, as well as the habitat provided for us, fit into God's care.

March 1 begins a Holy Season in the Christian Church. The season of Lent an opportunity to renew and recondition our lives to more fully model the heart of God. My prayer is that we will take opportunity in worship and service to strive for the peace and fulfillment of others, even as we consider our own needs. And, in the likeness of Jesus, become a blessing on the road to all we meet, remembering that every encounter holds the potential to become a Holy encounter.

*Jason*

## Church Notes

Our condolences to Jeanne Emmons on the passing of her husband, **Bob Emmons**. They lived in Tewksbury, but travelled to First Baptist Framingham (where they became members) until Bob was no longer able to drive. Jeanne chose our church because her father used to attend here years ago. Bob passed away on January 24th. He was 87 years old.

We mourn the loss of **Rev. Quentin Sewell**. Quent died suddenly and unexpectedly on January 31. He most recently had volunteered to fill an open slot on the Board of Administration and Finance and was continuing as a delegate to the Samuel Stillman Association. Quentin had a long and distinguished history in the town of Framingham as both a Pastor and teacher. We send our condolences to Joanne and the family.

**Hope Food Pantry** has requested the following. Their limited budget can rarely afford these items.

- Bars of soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and Conditioner

**Earth Day - Textile Drive:** We will be setting up a tent on the church green on Saturday, April 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please start now to gather donations from your home and ask all your friends to do the same. Here's what we'd like to collect, all of which must be clean:

- |                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| • Clothing                 | • Blankets             |
| • Hats                     | • Sheets               |
| • Belts and ties           | • Towels               |
| • Purses and tote bags     | • Soft or stuffed toys |
| • Footwear (tied in pairs) |                        |

We cannot take pillows. Although the donations must be clean, the clothes do not have to be wearable. Bag2School, the group that buys them from us, may sell those that are reusable. Torn and stained items can be recycled into other products. If you would like to join the fun in setting up, collecting donations, loading donations into a truck at the end, or cleaning up, please talk to Linda Devine.

**Daylight Savings Time:** Remember to "Spring Forward" on Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 a.m.

Your next chance to help support the **Salvation Army dinner** comes along on Friday, March 10. Please see the sign up in Reilly Hall. You can make a casserole or cake. We also need volunteers to work in the kitchen at the dinner.

## March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	2 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4 10:00 am Happy Birthday Basket Making
5 <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship  Potluck Lunch	6	7	8	9 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 Salvation Army Dinner	11
12 <b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Missions	13 7:15 pm A&F Meeting	14	15 7:00 pm Executive Council	16 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18
19 <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship—Rev. June Cooper, Guest Preacher	20	21	22	23 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25
26 <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship Lunch followed by the <b>Talent Show</b>	27	28	29	30 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	31	

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*

2 Bob Phillips  
3 Joseph Paiva  
4 Carolyn Reilly  
7 Ethel Luton-Campbell  
8 Neil Halbert  
12 Naja Arianna Allen

16 Joann Sewell  
16 Alicia Gonzales  
19 Betty Temple  
25 Marilyn Medler  
28 Laura Reilly  
31 Diamond Campbell

### March Birthdays



## **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk Away Homelessness Walkathon**

**Saturday, April 8**

**Natick Community Senior Center**  
**117 East Central Street, Natick**



Registration : 8:00am

Walk Begins : 9:00am

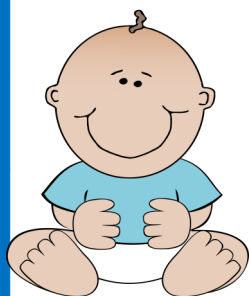
### ***BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY***

*Music, children's crafts, face painting and much more!*

Your participation is key to the success of our programs for the families we serve. All proceeds benefit Metrowest Family Promise. For details visit: [www.familypromisemetrowest.org](http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org) or call 508-318-4820



**Service on March 1**  
**7:00 p.m.**



## **Happy Birthday Baby Basket Making**

Saturday, March 4  
10:00 a.m. in Reilly Hall

### **Come join in the fun**

Making baskets for newborn babies, mingle, gab,  
enjoy coffee, laughter, and munchkins!

**HBB current needs:** (10 pkgs. (size 1) diapers), (12 pkgs. baby washcloths), (12 diaper crème), (12 bottles hand sanitizer).

## **FBC IN FRAMINGHAM NOMINATIONS FOR 2017**

(“<” = vote needed for new term; “>” = continuing term; YEAR = last full year of term)

Quentin C. Sewell, Chair; Pastor Jason Rutherford; Linda Devine

### **CHURCH OFFICERS:** *Elected Annually*

CLERK: <2017 Marilyn Wakeman  
TREASURER: <2017 Wilson Kibam Ndzi  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: <2017 Akosua Badoo  
MODERATOR: <2017 Alan Harrington  
CHAIR A&F: <2017 Kathie Zeman

*Note: Lecia Shronce volunteers as Assistant Treasurer, an ad hoc position.*

### **CHURCH DELEGATES:** *Elected Annually*

TABCOM: <2017 Paul Moore <2017 Naomi Stanley  
STILLMAN ASSOCIATION: <2017 Quentin Sewell <2017 Kathie Zeman

### **CHURCH BOARDS**

(Elected for 3-year terms, for maximum of two consecutive terms)

### **DEACONS/MINISTRY BOARD:** *(Suggested Organization to be Chair, Care and Concern, Christian Education & Discipleship, Hospitality & Fellowship, Worship, etc.)*

2 <sup>nd</sup> >2017	Diane Halbert	2 <sup>nd</sup> >2018	Ray Zeman
2 <sup>nd</sup> >2017	Carolyn Reilly	1 <sup>st</sup> <2019	Annette Stefanini
2 <sup>nd</sup> >2018	Jay Reilly	2 <sup>nd</sup> <2019	Tom Stefanini

*Visitation Manager: Position, previously ex-officio, to be filled internally by Board of Deacons.*

### **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE BOARD:** *(Suggested Organization to be Chair, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Church Building, Church Grounds, Parsonage, Pleasant Street, etc.)*

Church Officer A&F Chair:	Kathie Zeman
Church Treasurers (ex-officio A&F)	Wilson Kibam Ndzi; <i>Lecia Shronce voluntarily as Assistant</i>
Church Fin. Sec. (ex-officio A&F)	Akosua Badoo
2 <sup>nd</sup> >2017 Jimmy Wakeman, Jr.	1 <sup>st</sup> <2019 _____
1 <sup>st</sup> >2017 Martin Acevedo	1 <sup>st</sup> <2018 _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> <2019 Neil Halbert	1 <sup>st</sup> >2018 Jennifer Swain

### **MISSIONS BOARD:** *(Suggested Organization to be Chair, Local Missions Coordinator, Local Events, Nat'l & Int'l Coordinator, Outreach, Treasurer, Secretary, etc.)*

1 <sup>st</sup> >2017 Lecia Shronce	2 <sup>nd</sup> >2018 John Moore
2 <sup>nd</sup> >2017 Judy Richardson	2 <sup>nd</sup> >2018 Paul Moore
1 <sup>st</sup> >2017 Cheryl Perry	1 <sup>st</sup> <2019 Mary Moore
2 <sup>nd</sup> <2019 Lorna Mailhoit	

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:**

Church Moderator, Church Clerk, A&F Chair, Deacons/Ministry Chair, Missions Chair, Communications, Nominating Committee Chair: <2017 Markella Rutherford (attendance expected only Oct. thru Dec.)

At Large Annually: <2017 Cheryl Perry ; <2017 Naomi Stanley

Recommended non-voting Christian Ed Chair,

Recommended non-voting Stewardship Chair Oct. thru Dec.

### **CHURCH AUDITORS:**

Annually <2017 (Nancy Devine); <2017 James Wakeman, Sr.

**COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR:** Annually: <2017 Linda Devine

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First Baptist Church in Framingham

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## *You Can Be A Star !!*



Our Annual Talent Show will be held after lunch on **Sunday, March 26, 2017**. This event is always a lot of fun but more importantly is a major fundraiser for the Levin/Chute Scholarship Fund. Please think about sharing your talents (whatever they may be) or just being part of the audience. Desserts will be on sale at intermission and we will take a free-will offering for the Scholarship Fund.

Please contact Kathie Zeman if you are interested in participating in a group activity. We are currently formulating ideas for this group act. No special talents required, just your enthusiasm and willingness to do almost anything. You won't regret it!!