

The BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



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Sunday December 10, 2017



9:30 a.m.: Adult Education (childcare provided)

Adult Bible Study: We will take a break from Paul this Sunday and focus on the stories of Christmas. Bring in a favorite story or poem about Christmas and we'll read them, discuss them, and of course enjoy warm fellowship with one another. Led by **Beth Loughhead**. We meet in the Mary Kuell room.

Faith Journey Bible study: "What's so amazing about Grace?" Led by **Gloria Stoneham** and **Kent Harrop**. We meet in the staff conference room, main floor.

Mae Patten: Led by **Andrea Stackpole**, this class studies the Scripture and other books, and discusses how it applies to our lives. We meet in the lounge.



11:00 a.m.: MUSIC SUNDAY & Multiage Children's Class

Bring friends and neighbors to share the fun and uplifting holiday music. Several genres will be represented, including jazz, spiritual, classical, and contemporary. We will proudly showcase Sanctuary Choir, Celebration Ringers, Harbor Light Ringers, flute, and a Bell Choir duet, under the direction of Dr. Esther Chang. Don't miss this festive event! ALL WELCOME!

Now More Than Ever We Need The Angels

Beth Loughhead, offering a brief meditation

12:00 p.m. – Children's Choir

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Christmas Caroling: (carpooling from church)

Share the love and hope of the season as we sing to friends of First Baptist Church who, because of health concerns or circumstance, have limited mobility. We will sing favorite carols at Harborlight, Turtle Creek, Essex Park, and other locations. Great event for all ages. All you need is a smile and a love of singing!

4:00 p.m. – Middle School Fellowship

6:00 p.m. – Senior High Fellowship

This Week At FBC:

Friday, December 8

6:00 p.m. – Parents' Night Out

Saturday, December 9

12:30 p.m. – Lunch Program
6:30 p.m. – Advisor Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10

9:30 a.m. – Adult Education
11:00 a.m. – Worship (**Beth Loughhead**, meditation) and multiage children's class
12:00 p.m. Children's Choir
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Christmas Caroling
4:00 p.m. – MS Fellowship
6:00 p.m. – SH Fellowship

Monday, December 11

6:00 p.m. - Monday Night Supper
7:00 p.m. Mission
7:30 p.m. – Harborlight Nursery School

Tuesday, December 12

9:30 a.m.- Staff Meeting
12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program

Wednesday, December 13

7:30 a.m. - Lectio Divina (at the church)
6:15 p.m. – JoyRingers
7:00 p.m. – Newtown Prayer Vigil
7:15 p.m. – Harborlight Ringers

Thursday, December 14

6:00 p.m. – Celebration Choir
7:30 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir

Friday, December 15

6:00 p.m. – Crowd Christmas Party

Saturday, December 16

12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program



PLEDGE REMINDER

Thank you to all our generous donors and pledgers! In addition to sending in your pledge card for 2018 (if you haven't already), please also remember to bring your 2017 pledge payments up to date before year-end.

Your humble & obedient Business Administrator,
John Thomson



Friday Dec. 8 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Drop the kids with us! **Julie Flowers** and an amazing team of volunteers lead a fun and interactive evening of songs, art projects, and faith stories, all from a progressive Christian perspective—plus we provide dinner! Everybody has a blast. You deserve time to yourself!

Advisor Christmas Party

**Saturday, Dec. 9 at
6:30 p.m.**

Youth Fellowship advisors are invited to the home of **Kelly and Todd Pheulpin** for a Christmas party! Let's share the joyful spirit of the season with one another.

Newtown Prayer Vigil

Wed. Dec 13 at 7:00 p.m.



On the eve of the fifth anniversary of the Sandy Hook mass shooting, we will gather at Ellis Square off Cabot Street for a candlelight vigil. This is part of the #EndGunViolence effort; we join hundreds of other vigils nationwide to commemorate the 20 teachers and children who died that day, honor their families and community who still suffer their loss, remember the hundreds of thousands who have been victims of gun violence since, and call for responsible gun control legislation. We will stand together to insist we do better in protecting our citizens from gun violence. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet at First Parish Church 225 Cabot Street.

John Rosenthal will speak on behalf of Stop Handgun Violence and Matthew Nugent will speak on behalf of Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence.

This vigil is hosted by the Beverly Multifaith Coalition, a partnership of Baptist, Buddhist, Jewish, Unitarian, Episcopalian, Quakers, Presbyterian, Methodist, and more, working together for the common good.

Advent Season

This Advent season we will decorate a Christmas tree at the back of the sanctuary. *Before each service*, while you chat or enjoy a cup of coffee, *please also create a themed ornament!* Or you can donate a theme-based ornament for the tree. In addition, there will be strips of paper on which you can write a thought, poem, or haiku about the theme. After they have been displayed, they will be made into a paper chain to decorate the tree. Each week's theme is noted in italics below.

Saturday, December 9

6:30PM: Advisor Christmas Party at Kelly and Todd Pheulpin's house

Sunday, December 10: Now More Than Ever We Need *The Angels*

11AM: Music Sunday

2:30PM-5PM: Christmas Caroling to the Community

Friday, December 15

6PM: Christmas Party With Room For A Crowd

Sunday, December 17: Now More Than Ever We Need *The Shepherds*

9:30AM: Jesus' Birthday Party: including breakfast, crafts, carols, and a cake!

11AM: Children's Sunday

4PM: Middle School Fellowship Christmas Party

6PM: Senior High Fellowship Christmas Party

Monday, December 18

8:00PM: Messiah Concert at First Parish

Thursday, December 21: Now More Than Ever We Need *Tidings of Comfort and Joy*

7PM: Longest Night Service

Sunday, December 24: Now More Than Ever We Need *The Star*

11AM: Worship

5PM: Worship Ending in Candlelight (children encouraged to participate in this service!)

11PM: Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 31: Now More Than Ever We Need *Newborn Hope*

11AM: Worship

3PM-7PM: First Night

Sunday, January 7: Now More Than Ever We Need *Wise Ones (Magi)*

11AM: Worship

Special thanks to the Advent Worship Planning Team for working with **Beth Loughhead on this year's Advent series: **Jan Armstrong, Pam Constantine, Elly Flowers, John DeNardo, Anna Mei Gubbins**, and **Will Popadic**.



Gift of Heat

We encourage all to stop by the "Gift of Heat" board at the rear of the sanctuary. Each donation to the Gift of Heat will be distributed by Beverly Bootstraps to help individuals and families in our community stay warm this winter. This annual program can be a significant source of assistance and your gift is greatly appreciated! Cash or checks (made out to FBC) are accepted and can be dropped off or mailed to the church office, or you are welcome to place your donation in the offering plate during Sunday worship. We will gather the donations and forward one total check to Beverly Bootstraps. Donations will be accepted through January 7, 2018.



Crowd Christmas Party

Friday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m.

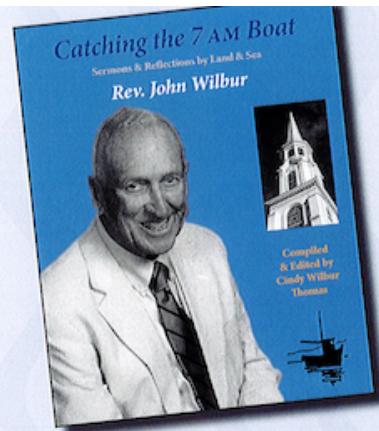
All the adults of the church are invited to “crowd in” at our annual *Christmas Party with Room for a Crowd* at the home of **Dianne and Rich Cashman** (9 Dyer Road, Beverly). Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner. In addition to sharing food and fellowship, all are welcome to participate in a festive Yankee Swap (\$15-20). Please e-mail the Cashmans to let them know you’ll be attending and what dish you plan to bring at richanddianne@comcast.net or contact **Beth Loughhead** if you have any questions regarding the evening. See you there!

Spiritual Life Retreat

June 8 - 10th, 2018

Hallelujah Farm is a restored 17th century farm and retreat center set in the hills and meadows of the southwestern corner of New Hampshire, in the small town of Chesterfield. It is a quiet place to find peace in contemplation, strengthen friendships, feed your soul with the beauty of natural surroundings and enjoy the slower pace of country life. Your FBC Spiritual Life Team is hosting this event. Limited to 20 people. Contact **Kent Harrop** at kharopp@fbcbeverly.org or **Bryan Vosseler** to reserve your place. Cost is \$225 per person for two nights with comfortable lodging, six delicious meals, and a great program. Sliding scale is available to ensure affordability. Consider letting your family and friends know that a great Christmas gift would be sending you on this retreat! To learn more about Hallelujah Farm, visit their website at hallelujahfarm.com.

Former FBC Minister, Rev. John Wilbur, Releases Book of Sermons



Rev. John Wilbur, a minister who presided over First Baptist Church from 1958-1983, has released a book of sermons and reflections titled, *Catching the 7AM Boat*. Wilbur was a cornerstone of our current ministry. He fought for his convictions, and in doing so launched Harborlight Nursery, Harborlight House, and Turtle Creek. He was here during the church fire and rebuild, so much of what we look like today—literally—is thanks to his infamous energy and determination. If you are interested in purchasing his book, contact Cindy Wilbur Thomas at cthomas@coloradomesa.edu. They are being sold for \$25 a copy with \$6.50 for shipping—discounted shipping if you buy multiple copies.



Christmas Poinsettias

Orders for Christmas poinsettias are being taken in the church office. All orders must be placed by Sunday, Dec. 17. Each potted plant, given in memory or in honor of a loved one, will decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas services. The plants will be available to take with you following the 11 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, or you may leave it to be delivered to someone in our church family or community who has been unable to attend worship this Advent season. Each plant is \$9.75.

Shelter Fest: Good Music •Good Cause •Good Time

January 27 from 12:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.



A music festival at FBC featuring local bands and benefiting Harborlight Community Partners. General admission \$10 for the full day. Food provided by A&B Burger.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE



Thursday, December 21 at 7PM

Featuring piano music by Dr. Esther Chang.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Beverly, MA

This candlelit service, sometimes called Blue Christmas, includes periods of quiet designed for contemplation and reflection. It may also offer comfort and hope for anyone dealing with grief. We lift up prayers for our world and welcome the healing and hope we find in community.

Join us if you need solace or a place to find peace this holiday season.

Co-hosted by First Baptist, Saint Peter's Episcopal Church and First Parish.



Recap: Women's Fellowship to Castle Hill

The group of eighteen who attended last weekend's Women's Fellowship trip to Castle Hill at the Crane Estate

had a terrific time admiring the decorations and enjoying freshly baked cookies, dancers, and musicians. We are looking forward to our next event after the New Year. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, January 20**

from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. when we will meet at Acapulco's in Beverly for a Wicked Rustic Workshop. Check out the company

