



The Baptist Window

FEBRUARY 2012

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

601 Main Street Bennington, VT 05201
OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM to 3 PM weekdays
802/442-2105 (ext. 0, Office; ext. 1, Pastor)
fboffice@sover.net fbpastor@sover.net
<http://www.fcbennington.org> and FACEBOOK

WELCOME TO

TWO NEW MEMBERS!

ROBERT WILSON

&

CAROL MORIN

+++++

FIRST BAPTIST:

“A PLACE FOR HEALING, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND SPIRITUAL GROUNDING”

FIRST BAPTIST.....ON ICE!



Ever wanted to show off your triple axle to your fellow congregants?

Now's your time to shine!

**Saturday, February 4, 2 PM to 4 PM
North Adams Municipal Skating Rink**

Admission & skate rental will be provided for FBC households!

Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, 2/3 to confirm your interest and for assistance with directions!



CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

The First Baptist Church of Bennington, Vermont, will hold a business meeting on Sunday, February 26, beginning at 10:45 AM in Colgate Hall for the following purposes:

Corporate Body

1. Consideration of and action upon proposed bylaw changes
To transact any other business that may come properly before this meeting.

Note: Copies of the Bylaws (as revised 1/19 and affirmatively first voted upon on 1/24) are available via the church office or www.fcbennington.org.

COMING SOON

February 4—Ice Skating in North Adams (2-4 pm)

February 22—Ash Wednesday/Lent begins

February 26—
Congregational Business Meeting for Bylaw Revision, 2nd and final vote, 10:45 AM (Colgate)

April 1-7—Holy Week

April 8—Easter

May 18-19—ABCVNH 2012 Annual Meeting (West Dover, VT @ Mt Snow)



Transformed by the Work of the Holy Spirit

ABCVNH 2012 Annual Gathering

Friday, May 18 & Saturday, May 19, 2012

Grand Summit Hotel and Conference Center
Mount Snow Resort, West Dover, VT

Keynote speaker: Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, National Coordinator of Evangelism and New Church Planting with American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

The weekend includes the Friday evening installation of Rev. Dale Edwards, new Region Minister, with the Rev. Dr. Roy Medley, ABCUSA General Secretary attending, workshops, meals and fellowship time, and a Saturday program especially for kids offered by Camp Sentinel staff. Registration information for the Region meeting will be available soon!



PASTOR'S NOTES

LAY LEADERSHIP AND CHURCH STAFF

Church Officers

Wayne Kachmar, Moderator
Aleta Bryant-Boutin, Church Clerk
Byron Spafford, Financial Secretary
Robert Wilson, Treasurer

Board of Church Life

Lisa Flynn
Sandy Williams
Jean Hoag
Frances Hunt
Kerry Shermer

Board of Trustees

Grace Becker-Wilson
Ralph Rockwell
Sandy Redding
Byron Spafford

The Church Staff

Rev. Jerrod Hugenot, Coordinating Minister
Melissa Hepler, Office Manager
John Harwood, Sexton
Scott Smedinghoff, Organist
Alycia Post, Director of Christian Education
Michelle Fournier, Playroom Supervisor

Each month, the newsletter features a listing of church officers, board members, and church staff.

As a new administrative year begins, the list reminds us of a very important element of our congregational life. These officers and board members lead our congregation, and I encourage you to join me in saying "Thank you" to each person!

In 2012, our church is led again by Wayne Kachmar, our Moderator. The church officers include Aleta Bryant-Boutin (Church Clerk), Byron Spafford

(Financial Secretary) and introducing Robert "Bob" Wilson as the Church Treasurer.

Bob will be serving under the new description of duties for the Treasurer, overseeing financial management needs and reporting to the Cabinet and Trustees throughout the year and annually/as needed to the congregation. We welcome Robert to his new leadership position!

Not so long ago, this listing of leadership started with the names of minister and church staff. I elected to change the formatting to reflect "who we are" as a congregation. As good Baptists, we understand that the governance of the congregation is not led by the minister or any employee (ordained or lay). Baptist polity affirms that local congregations are led first and foremost by the congregation and its elected lay leadership. The clergy and lay staff play important roles, yet "the buck stops" with the elected leadership.

As the boards of Trustees and Church Life are able to convene in February, chairs and recording secretaries will be selected. Board chairs will serve also on the Cabinet with the church officers.

As the "new" Church Life board comes into existence with the proposed changes to our bylaw, this board will be working on its new identity as a board, helping foster the spiritual life of congregants through worship, religious education, and all of the "little things" that make (or break!) a congregation: fellowship, hospitality and care. Your input on how we can make your experience of First Baptist as a place to grow as a disciple is valued. Let's talk!

The board of Trustees is working on various projects. The budget approved at this year's annual meeting presents a set of opportunities and challenges. Your support and feedback to the Trustees is vital and valued. As they work through decisions and look at our present and future sustainability, the Trustees want to ensure you are kept in the loop.

With the new governance structure beginning this year, the Board of Mission members finished the last year of this board's tenure under the previous governance system. We thank Board of Mission members Darcy Oakes, Lois Comar, Susan Kachmar, and Aleta Bryant-Boutin for their service. The work of the Mission Board will be picked up partially by the Trustees and via various task forces as administrative needs and missional opportunities are identified.

We also thank Budsie Smith for her tenure as the Church Historian (a position being revised out of the proposed bylaws). Our thanks as well to Betty Cross who completed a term as a Deacon, and for Grace Becker-Wilson and Carolyn Peckham's tenure on the Pastoral Relations Committee. With the new bylaws, committees and short-term taskforces will be selected as needed for our future projects and needs, as appointed by the Cabinet or the two Boards..

As we move through February and later into the Spring (yes, we can dream while the rest of winter looms, can't we?), we will be making the annual pilgrimage through the Lenten season, preparing for the Holy Week cycle, and tuning up our voices for Easter alleluias. I am hopeful we will increase this year in our worship attendance, our fellowship opportunities, and our care for one another and our neighbors in need.

With the good folks at the helm leading our governance and discerning our ministry and mission priorities, I would say we're in good hands!

Welcome, new and continuing lay leaders!

Grace and Peace, The Rev. Jerrod H. Hugenot



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 2—Richard McSherry

February 5—Frances Hunt

February 6—Barbara Cota

February 8—Susan Kachmar

February 15—Kerry Shermer

February 18—Marion Riddle

February 21—Robert Marsh

NOTE: *If we have missed your birthday in our listings, please contact the Church Office.*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our Sympathies to: Carol Morin, in the death of her mother Isabelle Mould, and to Stan and Nancy Kemmerer in the death of Stan's mother Edna Kemmerer.

Congratulations to: Our former minister, the Rev. Norma Drosky, who was recently called to the Jamaica Community Church in Jamaica, Vermont.

For Our Congregants at Home or in Area Care Homes

For Those With Ongoing Prayer Needs

Deanna Oakes, Gladys Paddock, Gracie Sherwood, Haley, Harriet Gaines, Sara LaBombard, Robert Wilson, and our congregants not able to attend due to health reasons. **Please see weekly bulletin for updates.**

For Those Serving Our Country:

Adam Kenyon--Grandson of Allyn and Richard Lindsey

Bradley Cooper—Wife Jamie, nephew of Greg Lewis

Harlen Capen—Cousin Rhonda Harmon

Geoff Dufur—Cathy Shepard, Mother-in law (Coast Guard)

Heath Harwood—John & Joanne Harwood, parents

Benjamin Hunt—Dick & Fran Hunt, grandparents

Barrett Reed—Wilma Vose, great-grandmother

Christopher McSherry - Nephew of Jean Hoag & Grace Becker-Wilson

UPDATES TO OUR SERVICE LISTING ARE WELCOME!

HELP WITH FOOD NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

HIS PANTRY

@ Sacred Heart/St Francis

Bring donations to church office anytime!

Especially needed: Tuna, Canned Pasta, Toilet Paper, Shampoo and other toiletries, pancake mix, syrup, cake mixes, baked beans and/or pork and beans

DOVE PROJECT

for the Bennington AIDS Project

(Bring your donations by the church office anytime!)

THE KITCHEN

CUPBOARD

The Food Distribution Center Project
of the Greater Bennington Interfaith Community Services, Inc.

800 GAGE STREET, BENNINGTON, VT

*OPEN: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 PM
and Saturdays: 2:00-5:00 PM*

Volunteer opportunities abound!

*CONTACT: Sue Andrews 802/379-0149
Sue.Andrews@comcast.net*



**American
RedCross**

***The Next Blood Mobile will be held
at First Baptist on Wed. Feb. 15, 2012
(11:30 am-5:00 pm)***

***Register for advance appointments
via www.redcrossblood.org
or 1-800-RED-CROSS***

BENNINGTON FREE CLINIC

@ First Baptist Church Thursday evenings 6 to 9 PM

447-3700

Appointments encouraged. Walk-ins welcome!

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601 Main Street

Bennington, VT 05201

"A place for healing, community involvement, and spiritual grounding"



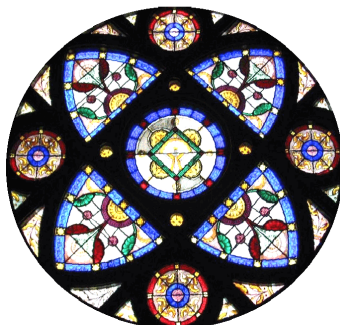
WORSHIP SERVICE

Rebroadcast on CAT-TV
(Comcast, channel 15)

Sun.	9:30am
Mon./Fri.	3:30am
Tues./Thurs.	9:30pm
Wed./Sat.	3:30pm



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