



Baptist Notes

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



A very popular passage of scripture begins, “If I speak in the tongues of mortals and angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude; It does not insist on its own way. Love never ends” (I Corinthians 13: 1-2,4a).

These few words from the Apostle Paul’s letter to the church at Corinth are an encouragement to us and a reminder of how congregations and communities function best. The English word for love is actually four distinct words in the Bible, each having a different meaning in the New Testament. There is the love between a parent and child, **Storge** love; the love between siblings, **Phileo** love; romantic love between partners known as **Eros**, and the divine love of God, called **Agape** love. It is this love, the divine love of God, or Agape love, that this passage is referring. Agape love is considered to be the Holy Love of God, a love that transcends time, a future light shining into the present and leading us to live a pure and holy life.

When I consider this Agape love, it is a *constant* in an ever-changing world. Consider the environment we live in; a culture rooted in the next, best, and greatest thing promising to fulfill our desire. With the Agape love of God, we experience fulfillment on a deeper and more profound level. The Agape love of God leads us to what will be and what cannot be replaced, and this love rooted in the Spirit of God will be the destiny of all who receive and desire eternal rest with our Creator. In short, the apostle is encouraging this young church established in this cosmopolitan city of Corinth, to *not forsake* what will never fail for distractions that cannot and will not last. I encourage us in the coming weeks leading up to Easter to be encouraged that a fulfillment beyond the temporary of our lives can be embraced. A Holy Spirit of truth and reconciliation desires our soul, and as we consider to whom and what to commit ourselves, I hope we will remember the encouragement of I Corinthians, “Love never ends.”

Jason



Church Rummage/Yard Sale Save the Date - Saturday, May 2

Start thinking about cleaning out your attics, garages and the basement. We will be having a yard / rummage sale on Saturday, May 2. We need your donations to make this sale a success. We will be accepting all sort of household goods and clothes. Look under the bed and behind the door - for your discards could be someone else's treasure.

For more information contact Kathie Zeman or Linda Devine.



We will celebrate the beginning of the Lenten Season with a Worship Service on February 26 at 7 pm. The service will be our traditional hymn and scripture service, with an invitation for each person to come forward to receive a cross of ashes placed on your forehead. Ashes are a traditional Christian symbol for mortality and repentance. Mortality, because even though our spirit lives eternally, our bodies eventually die and return to the dust of the ground, and repentance because long ago, when people felt remorse for something they did or did not do, they would put ashes on their head and wear scratchy clothing as a reminder of the discomfort sin brings to our life. The ashes come from burnt palm leaves from past Palm Sundays. The ashes are mixed with a small amount of oil and saved for future Ash services.

Happy Birthday Baby Needs Your Help!

We are short on many needed items for our Baby Baskets:

12 large rectangular laundry baskets	6 bottle brushes	20 baby hats (boys & girls)
12 boys bibs	12 baby lotion	12 baby wash
12 diaper bags/ lg. Hobo bags	12 boys onesies	Any baby buntings (baby snowsuit/bag)
12 baby rattles	12 baby shampoo	
12 pkgs. baby wipes	12 diaper cream	
	12 hand sanitizer	

Most of these items can be purchased at the local Dollar Tree store. Other items such as: diaper bags and buntings can be found at discount stores and Savers. We have found that Walmart is the best source of laundry baskets, baby bottles, wipes and bibs (10 pack).

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Communications Meeting Potluck Lunch	3	4	5	6 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7	8
9 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Missions Meeting	10	11	12	13 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	14	15
16 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship	17	18 7:15 pm A&F Meeting	19 7:00 pm Executive Council	20 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	21	22
23 9:45 a.m. Christian Education 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Deacons Meeting	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Service	27 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	28	29

Notes: AA meets : Monday evenings at 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. in the Children's Room
 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at Noon in Reilly Hall
 Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in Reilly Hall

Hope Bible Baptist Church rents space Sundays 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

All calendar entries are subject to change

3 Gail Harrington
 5 Marques McEwan
 5 Emmanuel Badoo
 6 Don Chute
 13 Martin Hennelly
 14 Cheryl Perry
 14 Velissa Velazco

16 Stella Chapin
 22 Lecia Schronce
 23 Jane Williams
 24 Akosua Badoo
 24 Carlota Velazco
 26 Nancy Devine
 27 Patrick Watton

February Birthdays





Grab your sneakers, strollers, and leashes and help us raise funds to end family homelessness in our Metrowest community. With a new afternoon start time, enjoy lunch with Montilio's Pizza Truck, music, crafts, fun provided by Apex Entertainment, and an invigorating walk through Natick Center. All ages are welcome.

Where: Natick High School, 15 West Street

When: Sunday, April 5

What Time: Registration and fun begin at 12:30 pm, walk begins at 1:30 pm

Who: Walkers of all ages. Dogs are welcome too!

How: Registration is now open!



Let's Help Clean the Earth on Earth Day

Framingham's Earth Day coordinators want to team up with First Baptist Church on **Saturday, April 25**. We are invited to help with the "hard" recycling that people take to the Earth Day celebration. The festival runs from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., so you are welcome to participate for one, two, three, or all four hours – whatever works with your schedule. We can tag-team so that everyone has a chance to visit all the other booths, shows, and exhibits too. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone looking for community service hours!

Our main job will be to direct people to place their recyclables in the proper bins. We also will have handouts to educate them on reducing their footprint on our earth. Between now and then, all of us can save up our own recyclables for the big day. Batteries, light bulbs, Brita filters, wine corks, CDs/DVDs, printer cartridges, and Keurig cups are among the many items we can give a new life.

Please talk to Linda Devine to volunteer to help clean the earth.

FBC IN FRAMINGHAM NOMINATIONS FOR 2020

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

>2020 Kelly Rutherford, chair, Pastor Jason Rutherford; >2020 Linda Devine

CHURCH OFFICERS: *Elected Annually*

CLERK: *2020 Marilyn Wakeman
TREASURER: *2020 Wilson Kibam Ndzi
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: *2020 Neil Halbert
MODERATOR: *2020 Linda Devine
CHAIR A&F: *2020 Al Harrington

Note: Ray Zeman volunteers as Assistant Treasurer, an ad hoc position.

CHURCH DELEGATES: *Elected Annually*

TABCOM: * 2020 _____ * 2020 Naomi Stanley
STILLMAN ASSOCIATION: * 2020 Naomi Stanley * 2020 Kathie Zeman

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

The Nominating Committee is recommending the override of the two-term limit for starred positions marked as “3rd” (noted in bold below).

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

3 rd > 2020	Diane Halbert	3rd * 2022	Tom Stefanini
3 rd > 2021	Jay Reilly	2 nd > 2022	Annette Stefanini
3 rd > 2021	Ray Zeman	1 st > 2020	Marilyn Medler
1 st * 2022	Naomi Stanley		

Visitation Manager: Position 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: Al Harrington
Church Treasurer (ex-officio A&F) Wilson Kibam Ndzi
Ray Zeman voluntarily as Assistant Treasurer
Church Fin. Sec. (ex-officio A&F) Neil Halbert
1st>2021 Akosua Badoo
2nd> 2021 Jennifer Swain

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

2 nd > 2020	Lecia Shronce	1 st >2021	_____
3 rd > 2020	_____	1 st >2021	Martin Hennelly
2 nd > 2020	Cheryl Perry	1 st >2021	Francesca Cerutti
3rd* 2022	Lorna Mailhoit		

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Church Moderator, Church Clerk, Assistant Clerk, A&F Chair, Deacons/Ministry Chair, Missions Chair, Communications, Nominating Committee Chair: >2020 Markella Rutherford (attendance expected only Oct. thru Dec.)

At Large Annually: *2020 Ray Zeman *2020 Naomi Stanley

Recommended non-voting Christian Ed Chair, Recommended non-voting Stewardship Chair Oct. thru Dec.

CHURCH AUDITORS: Annually *2020 Nancy Devine *2020 James Wakeman, Sr.

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR: Annually: *2020 Linda Devine

First Baptist Church in Framingham

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Framingham, MA 01703



You Can Be A Star !!



Our Annual Talent Show will be held after lunch on **Sunday, March 22, 2020**. 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!!