



News From The Corner **The First Baptist Church of Derry**

**The Church in the Heart of Derry
With A Heart for Derry**



July-August 2023



Since turning 70 age has been on my mind a lot. That's why Sunday's message was about aging. The things God puts on our hearts should be talked about.

We're so blessed to live in a time when medicine and nutrition let us live long lives. The average life span was just 31 years in 1800 and in the low 50s in 1900. It rose near the high 70s in the US but has come down a few years in the last decade, which is sad.

Thoughts related to aging pop up most often at night when I can't sleep. Negative, accusatory thoughts, related to past sin and guilt, often come to mind. "I should have done this." "I shouldn't have done that." These thoughts must be resisted. We push them back via the Word of God.

Our past sins are real, and their consequences often stay with us a long time. But we are completely forgiven of them - not through our own efforts to make things right, but through the grace of God seen in the Cross. Jesus' death on our behalf removed them from us "as far as the east is from the west". That is a fact. Claim it by faith.

Any thoughts of past guilt are not from God but from the forces of evil. The Bible calls the devil "our accuser". So when we feel any sense of condemnation for our past we must claim His promise that they are gone.

As a single person sometimes the negativity also tends toward being alone. We are not alone. Think of Jesus' words, "I am with you always", "I will never leave you or forsake you." Again, claim His presence as real when loneliness creeps in. Repeat these promises over and over to yourself, and add in prayer, "I'm trusting these words of yours to help me through this Lord."

I often speak on this theme with the seniors at Pleasant Valley, as they both have difficulty sleeping, and feel isolated there. But they apply to all of us. Our human natures fall into self-condemnation at times. That's a bad place to be. Don't stay there. But God's nature is different. As He revealed to Moses over 3,000 years ago, "He is merciful, and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in faithful, everlasting love." He will hold us up and take the "clouds of sin and darkness" away as we call on Him.

Pastor Malcolm

**Join us at FBC this Friday, July 14, at 7pm for the
Hearts of Fire virtual event**

Hear inspiring testimonies of costly faith from four courageous women.

Worship music by Michael W. Smith

Outdoor Worship Service



Join us for an outdoor
worship service at the Boys
& Girls Club of Derry
Sunday, August 13 at 10am
Rain date August 20

Pastor Malcolm will be on vacation from July 17 through July 31.

On July 23 our guest preacher will be Rev Sam Schreiner and on July 30 Mark Sohmer.

Sam pastored the Londonderry Presbyterian Church through a time of revival from 1990-2003. He also pastored in Antrim, NH and Noroton, CT. He retired recently from being the North American Development Director for Forman Christian College in Lahore, Pakistan. He lives in Derry with his wife Deb.

Mark Sohmer left a lucrative career in technology to be an evangelist. He has lead teams trying to get people to consider God's claim on their lives in Boston subways, at Hampton Beach and elsewhere. See his website: Luke-15.org for some courageous video clips and photos, and some great tips on how to talk with people about faith. He and his family live in Raymond. (His wife Shelby grew up as a neighbor of Joan Chase.)



MISSIONS

...at home and around the world



Our Missions Committee met in early June. As usual we shared updates on the Missions we regularly support with quarterly gifts - a group of about 20 including our American Baptist denomination and its Camp Sentinel, the Food Pantry, several pro-life groups, homeless and prison

ministries, missionaries we know personally like Ben and Jessica Vreeland, Valerie Markowski, and Luke Perkins, et al.

We also heard reports on new missions activity. We decided to give special, one-time gifts to a few of these and want to report on them as it is money given by you that we send.

We helped:

A wonderful pastor in Manchester, Vallerian Mganga, at Southside Bible Fellowship, who is from Kenya, and goes back each summer for 3 weeks to teach young people preparing for ministry. Our own Sheldon Grass, who is heading to India in September to instruct Christian leaders there. Both these men will provide updates on their trip for us.

Also - Helping Hands, a Christian halfway house in Manchester. The pastor has brought several men who came to the office for help to Helping Hands, and they've housed them temporarily and helped them find work. One of their Board members will be speaking during a Missions Moment in August.

Finally, Mt Zion Christian School in Manchester, whose teachers serve for only about half what public school teachers earn.

Thank you to all who participated in the baby bottle fundraiser—approximately \$900 was collected for Real Options.

2023 Salisbury Beach Christian Concert Series

Wednesday nights for 9 weeks - June 28 thru August 23
FREE ADMISSION ALL SHOWS 6:45-9 P.M.

As always, donations are greatly appreciated!

FREE PARKING FOR CHURCH VANS/BUSES— \$5 PARKING FOR CONCERT GUESTS AT BROADWAY PARKING
 Arrive early and enjoy a great family atmosphere. Plenty of food stands, restaurants, arcades, gift stores, the Oceanfront Boardwalk, **plus the new Carousel Pavilion**, and much more! *Bring beach/lounge chairs to enjoy the concert as seating is limited.*



| Date | Musicians | Host Church/Ministry |
|--|---|--|
| June 28 | Hope Worship Team BPC Praise Band | Hope Community Church, Newburyport, MA Byfield Parish, Georgetown, MA |
| July 5 Special Start Time 6:30 3 Bands! | Wanderheart Salt & Light Company Dave Spaulding & The Double Edge Blues Band | <i>New Salisbury/Newburyport area band</i> Epsom Bible Church, Epsom, NH |
| July 12 | Grace Worship Team Kingston FCC Worship Team | Grace Community Church, Rochester, NH Kingston First Congregational, Kingston, NH |
| July 19 | Calvary Bible Worship Team Centerpoint Praise Band & Friends | Calvary Bible Church, Derry, NH Centerpoint Community Church |
| July 26 | Tenley Westbrook & Friends Groovy Grace | <i>Sponsored by ChristianFilmProductions.org</i> Danvers Church of Nazarene, Danvers, MA |
| August 2 | Salt & Light Company BPC Praise Band | Epsom Bible Church, Epsom, NH Byfield Parish, Georgetown, MA |
| August 9 | New Life Community Granite United Worship | New Life Community Church, Georgetown, MA Granite United Church, Salem, NH, Haverhill, Lawrence |
| August 16 | Just Worship Fireside Worship | Just Church, Newton, NH, Haverhill, MA Fireside Church, Salisbury, MA |
| August 23 | West Church Praise Team The Choral Majority Gospel Choir | West Church, Haverhill, MA |

Sound Provided by:
JF Entertainment

CONCERT SPONSORS

In the event of rain, concert will still be held at the **Surfside Cafe**. Visit ChristianFilmProductions.org for details.
 For any other information email: TomSaab@ChristianFilmProductions.org or visit www.facebook.com/ChristianFilmProductions.

This is a poem from Richard Cardner's first poetry book.

Ages

When I was ten,
I thought growing older meant driving a car—
and it did.

When I was twenty,
I thought growing older meant marrying my star—
and it did.

When I was thirty,
I thought growing older meant raising our kids—
and it did.

When I was forty,
I thought growing older meant being on the skids—
and it did.

When I was fifty,
I thought growing older meant I'd be retired—
and it did.

When I was sixty,
I thought growing older meant in aches I'd mire—
and it did.

Now that I am seventy,
I think growing older means growing closer to God—
and with His help, it is.

December 13, 2012



Bible Studies

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Sunday mornings at 9am. All are welcome to join.

LADIES' WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – All Women are invited to attend each Wed 10-11:30 in the fellowship hall. We'd be delighted to have you join us. Contact Gail 603 553-0433 with any questions or for information on the current study.

THURSDAY VIDEO BIBLE STUDY – This study meets Thursdays at 1:00 in Fellowship Hall and is open to everyone. We view DVDs that have great information and insight into the Bible. Please join us if you are able.

IGNITE THE FIRE – Friday nights at 6:30 – meets in Fellowship Hall. Led by Alpha Kanu. All are welcome.



Media/Books



Don't forget - our church has a subscription to RightNow Media - a good alternative source of films and shows to watch for free.

I've been reading several commentaries on the Book of Revelation and feel just about ready to teach a class on it starting in August or September. We will do it in-person on a weekday evening and try to have it available online too.

In connection with that class I'm so glad Karen T. had our teachers and Junior Church leaders come to the front to be recognized on Youth Sunday. These people do a great job in guiding us through the Bible and building togetherness.

A new Christian film came out recently called "Sound of Freedom". It did almost as well as the new Indiana Jones movie on the 4th weekend. It exposes how many young people get pulled into human trafficking, a cause our missions committee is supporting with a special gift to Destiny Rescue.





July 2023



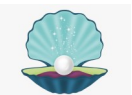




| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service | 3 | 4 OFFICE CLOSED  | 5 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 6 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall NO Zoom Prayer | 7 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 8 |
| 9 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service 1:30 Pleasant Valley | 10 | 11 | 12 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 13 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall NO Zoom Prayer | 14 7:00pm—at FBC HEARTS OF FIRE Virtual event | 15 |
| 16 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service | 17 | 18 10:00 Ladies' Craft Group meets at church office | 19 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 20 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall NO Zoom Prayer | 21 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 22 |
| 23 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service | 24 | 25 | 26 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 27 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall NO Zoom Prayer | 28 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 29  |
| 30 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service | 31  | | | | | |



August 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|
|  | | 1  | 2 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 3 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall 5pm Zoom Prayer | 4 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 5 |
| 6 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service | 7 | 8 | 9 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 10 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall 5pm Zoom Prayer | 11 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 12  |
| 13 9am Adult Bible Study OUTDOOR SERVICE AT BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AT 10AM 1:30 Pleasant Valley | 14 | 15 | 16 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall | 17 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall 5pm Zoom Prayer | 18 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall | 19 |
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