



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

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

April-May 2025



I was looking through a box of old church records this week and wanted to share a few of the things I found:

A cookbook titled "The Housekeeper's Friend" produced by the women of this church, in 1894. It is in pristine condition and contains recipes for main courses, desserts and bread common to that era, as well as ads from companies long gone in Lawrence, MA and Manchester, as well as Derry. The cover page called our church the "First Baptist Church of West Derry", and included this motto: "Come thou with us and we will do thee good." A bit odd but not a bad one.

Financial records going back to 1880. In 1937 our pastor earned \$1,500 a year. Another pastor had the heating system in the parsonage blow up and the whole house fill with smoke, but he still had to go before the Trustees the next week to "further explain the seriousness of the situation" before they bought a new one! It was impressive to see so many different people - volunteer board members - take the time to meticulously record dividend earnings, many counted in pennies, over several decades.

The winning paper on American Baptist history which was part of a writing competition held during the 1976 Bicentennial - by Laurie Chase Tebol! That was 49 yrs ago and was a real shock as I thought Laurie was still in her 40s!

Coming just after our corned beef and cabbage dinner it was fun to read what was served for a church harvest meal in the 50s: 33 lbs of ham, 40 lbs of potato, 3 lbs of margarine, 3 bushels of beets, 2 large hubbard squash, 20 dozen rolls, a bushel of apples and 5 half gallons of ice cream for apple crisp a la mode.

A lot changes if you live long enough. Just looking at hand-written financial records on ledgers, as opposed to computer-based ones, was disorienting for me. But God remains the same - forever.

Several influential older members were postal workers - Arnold Keith, Louis Moore, Sam Low. Arnold wrote a poem which someone saved, near the end of his career: "It seemed like yesterday, my first day of duty, filled with anxiety and futility. But with the hope of what lies ahead, door-to-door, bringing all kinds of mail to be read...The smiling faces of the young then, are the parents of today, and now when, the new young faces appear, I'll put on my boot, and the good Lord willing, I'll still walk the route."

To connect the dots here, and to show God's faithfulness in using each of us to grow His church - it was that same man, Arnold Keith who, on his Saturday mail route, asked a young Dick Jurentkuff, when he and Judy were new to Derry, if he was taking his family to church anywhere. Dick replied he was a "home" Baptist, meaning he stayed home on Sunday. But Arnold kept asking, until finally Dick "manned-up" and started bringing his family here. Dick and Judy have done a lot over the years for this church - and their being here started with a blue-collar worker who wasn't afraid to speak to a stranger about his faith in the Lord.

As our young speaker, Joseph Wasson, said on Sunday, we are a body here. Some of us are more visible than others, but all of us are essential. If we will speak for the Lord He will use our words in a similar way.

I think it's cool we hold the same baton that all the other members of the body here at 1st Baptist have held over the past 145 years. We don't want to drop it! We want to do all we can to keep this church a strong and effective part of God's kingdom. We want to 'not live for ourselves, but for Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us.' At the same time - this is an example of the 'mystery of faith' - we want to also realize it is always God's Spirit working in us that actually does that.

On to 150 years in 2030!

Pastor Malcolm



JOIN US ON SUNDAY, APRIL 20, AT 6:00AM
MACGREGOR PARK, DERRY, FOR OUR
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST IN FELLOWSHIP HALL





*Memorial Service for
Karen Day
Saturday, April 5
At noon
At First Baptist Church
of Derry*



CHOIR NOTES

Choir Practice Schedule:

**Sunday, March 30—after
worship, 11:15-12:00**

**Friday, April 11—7:30-
8:30pm**

Choir sings:

Palm Sunday

Easter Sunday



*New choir members
always Welcome!*



Media/Books



MOVIES

"House of David" - a multi-season depiction of King David on Amazon Prime. The first season recounts his boyhood as a shepherd, his anointing by Samuel, and his encounter with Goliath. The series often quotes Scripture, and sticks mostly to the Biblical story.

"The Last Supper" - in theaters now, has gotten good reviews, and accurately portrays Jesus' Passion week.

INTERNET

"The Bible Project" is a very useful site. It contains 7, 8 minute video overviews of each book of the Bible, giving a big picture view of the content of each book and how they fit into God's overall plan of salvation. It was created by 2 college roommates, one who became a graphic designer, and one a PhD in Biblical studies. So the content (cartoon-like sketches) is accurate and also visually pleasing. Highly recommended by the Thursday afternoon class which has seen several episodes.

BOOKS

The Awe of God, John Bevere and Practicing the Way by John Mark Comer, are Christian best-sellers now.

What's Happening at FBC...



Donations of flowers for Easter morning service are welcomed and appreciated. See the insert in the Sunday bulletin for information on dropping them off and for having a dedication put in the bulletin.

Mother's Day is coming!—Linda Grass is collecting photos of folks with their moms to make a video collage for Mother's Day Sunday morning. Please see Linda for more info. She needs them asap.

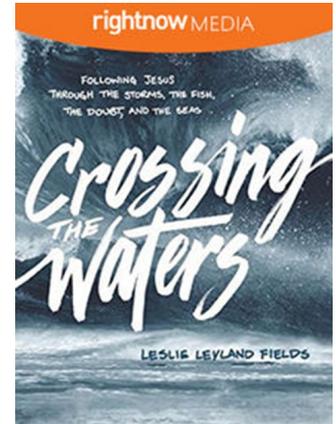
Creative Fellowship is asking for your help by donating used greeting cards (no Christmas Cards at this time, please). The cards will get repurposed for cards for residents of Pleasant Valley Nursing Center in Derry. There will be a basket in the narthex to collect the used cards.



WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join Us For Our
New Study That Starts April 2

In this 6 part video series, Leslie Leyland Fields, author, speaker & seasoned Alaskan fisherwoman, takes us on a journey through the life of Christ. She leads us across the waters of time and culture out onto the Sea of Galilee and through the waters of NT beside the fishermen disciples. Her own story and fresh insights will challenge our understanding of Jesus and what it means to "Come, follow Me."



10:00am on Wednesdays

See Gail Gorski with questions
or for more information



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

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY – Study starts at 7pm, Join us at 6:15 for supper and fellowship. All are welcome. See Chris Miller with any questions.

LADIES' WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – All Women are invited to attend each Wed morning 10-11:30 in the fellowship hall. We'd be delighted to have you join us. Contact Gail at 603 553-0433 with any questions. New study starts April 2.

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.



CHECK THE CALENDAR ON LAST
PAGE FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES



We will be joining with Real Options of NH in their baby bottle fundraising drive starting in April. Lyndsay Hyvonen, their Director, presented here during worship last year and was excellent. She will be coming to drop off the empty baby bottles AND to speak with the Missions Committee on **Tuesday April 22 at 6pm**. Anyone who like to hear more about this Christian pregnancy counseling service is welcome to attend that night.

Dave Spinale, who retired from InterVarsity ministry with college students, will be joining the staff of Calvary Bible Church on the Hampstead Road here in Derry as Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Care.

Pastor Malcolm is on the Board of Helping Hands Mission in Manchester, a residence for veterans, those coming out of prison, and those in recovery. If you'd like to learn more about this ministry please contact him to come to a free dinner at the Puritan Restaurant, on Saturday May 17, 6pm.

We will be partnering with Birthright, another pregnancy counseling center, to provide flowers for all women on Mothers Day.

FBC Boards – 2025

Board of Deacons

Dominic Whitamore	Paul Simmons
Karen Muise	Cheryl Masterson

Board of Trustees

Albert Abele	Jim Harrington
Chris Muise	Ron Gagnon
Rod Jackson	

Board of Christian Education

Karen Tenhagen	Debbie Davis
Alane Zsolnay	Liberty Whitamore
Roni Magaletta	

Board of Outreach

Elysia Desjardins	Sandy Shapiro
Judy Jurentkuff	Dick Jurentkuff
Gail Gorski	Elizabeth Zikmanis
Jim Tebo	Laurie Tebo

Missions Committee (This is not a Board. It is a group of folks interested in missions both in our community and abroad.)

Elizabeth Zikmanis	Cheryl Masterson
Linda Cardner	Richard Cardner
Debbie Davis	Karen Muise
Ronnie Magaletta	

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

What are the Responsibilities of the FBC Boards?

Deacons

Oversee worship and spiritual growth of the church

Trustees

Maintenance of church properties and financial oversight

Christian Ed

Sunday School, Children's Church, Bible Studies

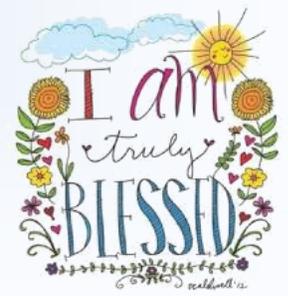
Outreach

Provide opportunities to connect within the church and in the community – dinners, community events, etc.

Missions Committee

Invites missionary speakers and decides on expenditure of missions funds.

Where would you like to use your gifts?





April 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall New Study Starts	3 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	4 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	5  Memorial Service for Karen Day
6 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service Adult & Teen Challenge	7	8 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	9 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	10 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	11 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall 7:30pm Choir Pract.	12
13 PALM SUNDAY 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	14	15 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	16 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	17 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall 7pm Maundy Thurs. Service	18 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	19  Alleluia! <i>Christ has Risen!</i>
20 EASTER 6am Service at MacGregor Park NO Sunday School 10am Worship	21	22 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	23 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	24 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	25 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	26
27 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	28	29 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	30 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall			



May 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Count Your BLESSINGS				1 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	2 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	3
4 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	5	6 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	7 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	8 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	9 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	10
11 Mothers Day 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service 	12	13 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	14 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	15 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	16 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	17
18 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	19	20 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	21 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	22 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	23 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	24
25 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	26  Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	27 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	28 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	29 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	30 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	31  Blessings