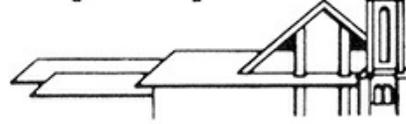


# THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



*A progressive and welcoming Christian community!*

Ministers:

[Rev. Julie R. Flowers](mailto:jflowers@fbcbeverly.org) jflowers@fbcbeverly.org

[Rev. Kent D. Harrop](mailto:kharrop@fbcbeverly.org) kharrop@fbcbeverly.org

[Rev. John DeNardo](mailto:jdenario@fbcbeverly.org), Interim Minister

jdenario@fbcbeverly.org

[Rev. Rick Harris](mailto:rharris@fbcbeverly.org), Interim Ministry Consultant

rharris@fbcbeverly.org

Director of Music: [Dr. Esther Chang](mailto:echang@gmail.com)

echang@gmail.com

Office Manager: [Pat Haight](mailto:phaight@fbcbeverly.org) phaight@fbcbeverly.org

HCP Director: [Andrew DeFranza](mailto:adefranza@haborblightcp.org)

adefranza@haborblightcp.org

Treasurer: [John Thomson](mailto:jcthomson@fbcbeverly.org) jcthomson@fbcbeverly.org

Facilities Manager: [Jeremy Weir](mailto:JWeir@fbcbeverly.org) JWeir@fbcbeverly.org

Communications Associate: [Mary Powers](mailto:bulletin@fbcbeverly.org)

bulletin@fbcbeverly.org

Visit our Website

*Join Us for Sundays at First Baptist Church in Beverly*

**Sunday, March 22, 2020**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**REMINDER:** Our Sunday worship services have been moved to an online format for Sundays, March 22nd and 29th. Please join us via our First Baptist Church Facebook page on Sunday morning 10 a.m. and watch for a live pastoral reflection and gift of music by Esther Chang and John DeNardo. We will also post an edited and more polished version of this same video for the weekly Bulletin and webpage. For more information on this topic and to stay informed about all COVID-19 related changes and announcements, please go to <http://www.fbcbeverly.org/covid-19-and-temporary-closure-at-first-baptist-in-beverly/>

**10:00 am: Join us LIVE on our Facebook page for reflections from our ministerial team and for a worship experience!**

*(This video will ALSO then be available to watch at any time following on our Facebook page and website.)*

**All Will Be Well, and All Will Be Well, and All Manner of Things Shall Be Well**

Rev. Julie Flowers, coordinating

Dialogue sermon by Rev. Julie and Kent; musical offering by John DeNardo and Esther Chang.



## COVID-19 and Temporary Closure at First Baptist in Beverly

Due to public health concern, the First Baptist office will be closed for the next three weeks (starting March 19th, . The pastoral staff: Julie Flowers, Kent Harrop, John DeNardo will be working remotely. Any pastoral concerns, contact your staff via email or Julie via cell (call or text) 617-692-0477 or Kent 971-237-0583

**Facebook Live:** Each week, we will post 'live' opportunities for the church family to gather. Sundays 10 a.m. Facebook Live Worship from the FBC Sanctuary; Tuesdays 1 p.m. Rev. Julie with an interactive message for children; Fridays 1 p.m. a variety of inspiring programs (stories, reflections, music). Upcoming, March 20<sup>th</sup> 'Take a walk on the wild side', join Rev. Kent as he reflects on experiencing the Sacred in nature. All 'live' events will then be posted on Facebook. Feel free to share with friends. This is all, part of FBC Beverly's commitment to sharing the love of God in fresh and creative ways!

---

### Youth Fellowship, Choirs, Small Groups and Committees

**All church gatherings in our church building will be cancelled** through the end of March. This includes small groups, choirs, youth groups, committees. Some groups/committees may choose to stay connected via email, conference calls or ZOOM. For more information please visit : <http://www.fbcbeverly.org/covid-19-and-temporary-closure-at-first-baptist-in-beverly/>

---

### Leaning on Faith in a Fearful Time

Each day, seemingly each hour, we receive news of escalating efforts by government leaders, both national and state, to contain and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 (the illness caused by the novel coronavirus) crisis. We worry about our health, our livelihoods, our savings and retirement funds, and about the well-being of our community.

How does our faith speak into the context of such a time? We hear these words in John 20:19:

"On the evening of Easter, when the disciples were together with the doors locked for fear of being arrested, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Jesus entered into their fear and spoke a word of peace... a word of hope... a word of blessing. So it is for us today. We too, caught up in our own worry, anxiousness, fear, are invited to open our hearts, minds and imagination to the infinite ways in which Jesus says "peace be with you."



Here are a few ideas for cultivating an openness to the risen Christ during this fearful time:

- Find a prayer partner. Ask someone you are comfortable with, a person of faith, to keep you in their prayers. Offer to do the same for that person. Be specific as to what you'd like them to keep in prayer. Once a week, via email, text or phone, let each other know how you're doing. Allow your prayer life to evolve and grow.
- Read a Scripture passage each day. Consider reading a Psalm a day or a chapter or two from the Gospel of Mark.
- Lectio Divina (meditating on Scripture), try 1 John 4: 7 – 21. Once per day, select 3 or so verses in sequence. Read the same passage three times, interspersed with 5 minutes of silence. Focus on the gentle rhythm of your breath to help you relax into the silence. With each reading ask one question: 1) What word or phrase intrigues you; 2) what insight/wisdom do you hear; 3) what wisdom will you carry with you?
- Take a mindful walk (in the woods, garden, neighborhood, beach). Walk in silence. Notice what interests you on your walk, notice what thoughts and feelings come to mind. Don't judge, simply notice and give all this up to God.

Each of these practices invites us to sense/hear the voice of Jesus, reminding us that we are not alone; we are known, remembered, and cherished. "Peace be with you." Amen.

Note: Feel free to reach out to Pastors Kent Harrop ([kharrop@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:kharrop@fbcbeverly.org)) and Julie Flowers ([jflowers@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:jflowers@fbcbeverly.org)) via email or phone at (978) 922-3295 if you'd like to discuss ways to navigate this challenging time.

---

## Lenten Season and Holy Week 2020

**Lent** is a six- week season of reflection. A time to reflect on attitudes and behaviors that separate us from God and to try on new and life giving ways of growing spiritually. Lent leads us to the promise of Easter.

**Our Lenten Theme:** "There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in." -Leonard Cohen, poet and musician.

**Our Theme, Described:** To be human is to be wounded, broken, or "cracked" in some way. Such moments can create space for the presence of God, the light of the Spirit, and the voice of Jesus to enter into our lives and to offer healing and hope, challenge and change.

As we walk together and live together in what is, surely, a time of a "literal Lent," a time with some wilderness moments and some moments of really separation and even loneliness, let us continue to strive, in all ways, to be the church, together. Check in on one another. Send love and prayer out into the world. Let your ministers know what your needs might be. We are walking through a wilderness time together, it is true. And yet, despite the cracks in everything, we know - we trust - that with God's love and with the gift and company of one another, even still, the light *will* get in.

*Our Lent 2020 planning was done by the Spiritual Life Team (Bryan Vosseler, Karen Wood, Lisa LaPlante, Marty Lincoln, Barbara Brann-Weir, Cassie Bartolo, Shaina Stevens, and Rev. Kent Harrop).*

---

## Appreciation to John DeNardo: UPDATED INFO

We wish our Interim Minister John DeNardo well as he prepares to embark on the next steps of his journey, as minister of the First Baptist Church in Winchester, MA. John's last official day with First Baptist Beverly is Sunday, March 29th; however, we know that now, as we live in this uncertain time of the coronavirus crisis, we will not be able to physically gather together on that day to offer our thanks and appreciation to John or to celebrate his new call with him.

We encourage you, of course, to reach out to John by email ([jdenardo@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:jdenardo@fbcbeverly.org)) or by phone to express your thanks and to say goodbye; but we wanted to ALSO let our church family know that we will make plans, once we are on the other side of this experience with COVID-19, to bring John back for a time of thanks and celebration together - stay tuned for this to be scheduled in the future! You can trust, however, that there WILL BE a chance, when we are all together again, to celebrate and to say goodbye and to say thank-you to John for his good work and ministry in our midst!

---

## Family News

Family News: Our love and prayers go out to Cathy Auld, upon the passing of her mother, Kathleen. Kathleen passed into God's love on March 11<sup>th</sup>. The services for Cathy's mother will be held privately for family.

---

## A Challenge to all Wrapped in Love Prayer Shawl Committee members

Since we are doing Worship in place where we are, Let all of us spend at least 1-2 hours on what would be Prayer Shawl Sunday, knitting & crocheting in place, as we hold the prayers and intentions of our church family and of and for our world in our hearts. Thanks you to all our members for your craft and for your love and for your abundant prayers!

---

# Coming Up at FBC



## Sunday, March 22

10:00am: FBC's Pastoral Reflections posted live on Facebook

## Monday, March 23

6:00pm: Monday Night Supper (Boxed meals to-go meals will be provided from the gym)

## Tuesday, March 24

9:30am: Virtual Staff Meeting

## Saturday, March 28

12:30pm: Lunch Program (Boxed meals to-go meals will be provided from the gym)

---

Check out all of FBC Beverly's sermons at [fbcbeverly.org/sermons](https://fbcbeverly.org/sermons)

Virtual Worship Service  
Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>



---

[First Baptist Church in Beverly](#) | 978-922-3295 | [bulletin@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:bulletin@fbcbeverly.org) | [www.fbcbeverly.org](http://www.fbcbeverly.org)

STAY CONNECTED

