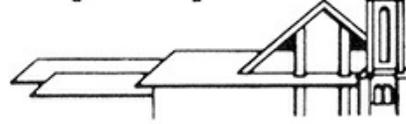


THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

Ministers:

[Rev. Julie R. Flowers](#)

[Rev. Kent D. Harrop](#)

[Rev. Richard Harris](#), Interim Ministry Consultant

Director of Music: [Dr. Esther Chang](#)

Office Manager: [Pat Haight](#)

HNS Director: [Jennifer Baez](#)

HCP Director: [Andrew DeFranza](#)

Treasurer: [John Thomson](#)

Facilities Manager: [Jeremy Weir](#)

Communications Associate: [Mary Powers](#)

Visit our Website

Join Us for Sundays at First Baptist Church in Beverly

Sunday, July 19, 2020

REMINDER: Our Sunday worship services have been moved to an online format. Please join us via our First Baptist Church Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistBeverly>) page on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. for a Facebook Premier Worship Service - this will be a FULL worship service experience, with participation from both ministers, as well as music from Esther Chang. This video will also then be published on our website at www.fbcbeverly.org/sermons, as well as on our [YouTube channel](#), and can also be found on our Facebook page at any time after it is initially posted. Our thanks go to the Constantine family for helping to create this full worship experience in our on-going efforts to best reach our church family in a variety of ways.

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/>

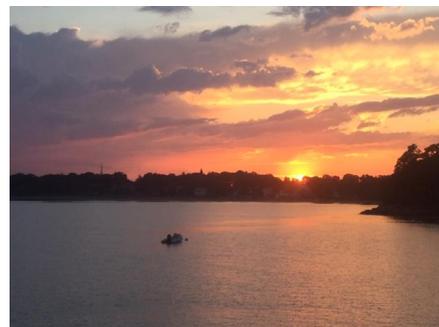
10:00am: Join us on our [Facebook page](#) for a Facebook Premier Worship Service!

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

Waking up to God

Rev. Kent Harrop, preaching

Scripture: Genesis 28: 10 - 19



Resources on Racism

As we consider - particularly those of us with white skin - what it means to learn more and to do better and to really work to be anti-racist (as Angela Davis said, "In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist; we must work to be anti-racist."), we know many of you may be searching for resources and books to learn, yourselves, and to assist you in talking with your children and working to raise anti-racist kids.

The links below contain resources and suggestions for people of all ages, including for families wanting to do the work of addressing racism and having these conversations with your children. We share them not as an exhaustive library of resources, but as some excellent starting points. We invite and encourage you to share excellent resources that you may find with us/with one another, too.

We will continue to educate ourselves, as a church family, and to commit, over and again, to doing the work of being an actively anti-racist congregation and to hold one another accountable along the way. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Kent and Julie for conversation or with your ideas about how to engage one another in this critical justice work, as well!

Some beginning links and resources for anti-racism work and education:

[Looking for Excellent "Diverse" Books for Children? Start Here!](#)

[Resources for Talking about Race, Racism and Racialized Violence with Kids](#)

[A Kids Book About Racism by Jelani Memory](#)

Reopening Task Force Survey

Dear Church Family,

The Reopening Task Force has been meeting to grapple with all the issues surrounding our desire to offer in-person worship to those who want it. Although we have what we think is a pretty robust virtual presence now, there is definitely a longing for the benefits of communal worship that is tempered by very real health concerns. So what shall we do and how shall we do it?

We would like to hear from you on this topic, understanding this is a deeply personal topic for each of us. We have learned that our virtual reach on Sunday is much broader than we are used to, with people signing in to watch from literally across the continent. We anticipate a blended worship experience going forward at some point in the future, both in person and virtual, to take advantage of this opportunity and to continue to provide a worship experience for those who are staying home. We also recognize that the situation continues to be fluid, and that a resurgence of the Coronavirus or changes to local regulations may make our planning moot. Still, we have to start somewhere.

Please respond to the online survey that you can access by this link:

<https://surveymonkey.com/r/3WGJSLT>.

If you would prefer to fill out a paper survey please email Pat at phaight@fbcbeverly.org

We would appreciate your response by July 31st. The survey is a short 10 questions, and you should be able to complete it in one sitting.

The Reopening Task Force really wants to hear from you! Please consider taking a few moments now to complete the survey while you are thinking of it.

Sincerely,

The Reopening Task Force

The Next Contemplative Paddle will be July 18th

Friends, as Massachusetts slowly opens up, Kent Harrop will be leading several Contemplative Paddle sessions over the course of the Summer. The prophet Isaiah said "Listen and your soul will live" (Isaiah 55:3). We paddle at a relaxed pace and sometimes drift as we listen for the ways in which the Creator renews us.

To ensure safety we will have steps in place to ensure social distancing as we launch and as we return to the shore (i.e. launching one at a time, wearing a mask getting into and out of boat). Read our [Contemplative Paddle Safety Protocol for Pandemic here.](#)

While on the water, paddling lends itself to distancing and we can paddle without a mask in a safe and relaxed manner. This paddle is limited to 8 participants. We have 6 kayaks (and one canoe, for two persons in a shared household), life jackets and paddles available for loan (or bring your own equipment). No fee. Our launch site will be the Blanchard's' cabin right on the lake. Reservations are required via Kharrop@fbcbeverly.org

Tentative plans are for a mid-September contemplative paddle and program around and on Misery Island, off of West Beach. More details for this and other paddle events to come. For those who sign up, Kent will send guidelines to ensure all feel safe and have a great experience on the water. These are wonderful events for novice and experienced paddlers.



Reports from Dismantling Racism Workshop

In late June – early July FBC co-sponsored with Essex County Community Organization (ECCO) a three part online series entitled ‘Dismantling Racism: An online workshop for white people’. The purpose was to create space for white people to understand the concept of white privilege and systemic racism which is baked into our political, judicial and societal systems. The killing of George Floyd awakened many white people to racism both overt and subtle, which is often the reality for our sisters and brothers of color. ECCO an interfaith organization created the virtual curriculum for this study (at the request of FBC’s Social Concerns Committee, chaired by Leslie Brennan). The underlying premise is that racism has a 400 year old history in our nation and that it can only be dismantled when white people understand it and can listen to and walk alongside people of color in rooting it out. A cap of 100 people was set but due to demand we expanded to 125. Kent Harrop served as a small group facilitator and 15 from FBC participated. Over the next few weeks, we’ll hear reports from several of the participants from FBC who’ve been asked to reflect on one thing they learned and one commitment to work to dismantle racism. If you have any questions or want to get involved, email Leslie Brennan at lesliebrennan@comcast.net



Report from Leslie Brennan: I found it amazing that over 100 people participated in three sessions of this program. I am happy that ECCO responded so well to the challenge of creating this online program. My takeaway is that there is more historical information that I was unaware of that I need to learn more about which has contributed to the racism being entrenched in so many different areas of our society and so systemic. I have learned through discussion that one small difference and change made by one person can make an impact which is why I feel a need to continue to talk about the impact of our/societal actions have negatively impacted so many lives (people of color).

I am committing to becoming more active by speaking and writing to senators, representatives both state and federal levels to advocate for changes in policy that will create an equitable treatment of people. I would also like to continue discussing the importance of being not just “not racist”, but be “anti-racist”, by speaking out more and furthering the discussion about the meaning of being anti-racist. If there are people at FBC who would like to continue this discussion with me, I would be happy to get together.

Report from Karen Popadic: Racism is so insidiously embedded in our society that we often don’t recognize it, but The onus is on us as white people, as beneficiaries of the status quo, to do more about it-to be antiracist. Antiracist needs to be a verb and I came away from the working sessions knowing that I need get out of my comfort zone and put some energy behind that verb. Every person of color from Barack Obama to the fifth grader in the third row has a horrendous story about being treated differently and reacting with emotions from embarrassment to terror. I want to learn how to call out racism. I want to practice rising above white fragility to use language effectively in dialog, a skill I found hard to do in the workshop sessions. I’m starting out by reading Ibram Kendi’s book, How to be an Antiracist, a highly readable (Though filled with mind blowing data) book which traces Kendi’s own life journey to discovery of what Antiracist can mean. A second recommended book, White Fragility, takes more concentration to read but may well end up being more helpful in learning to speak out. So I have begun along with over a hundred people from the ECCO workshop to try and do better being an ‘anti-racist’. I’ve got a lot riding on this, There’s a God and a little three year old boy who are going to hold me accountable.

Opportunities to Connect Virtually Via Zoom

We may not be able to have a coffee time or a fellowship gathering all together in person, but we can still drop-in and see one another in this way! You can join in a Zoom gathering EVEN WITHOUT a Zoom account. You will do so by clicking the link for the given event you wish to join, and then allowing it to run on your computer or smartphone/device. You will then need to click to allow use of your audio and again to allow use of your video. You may be prompted to enter a Password, which is included with the posted event information, as needed. You can also use the phone numbers include below to CALL IN, even without access to internet or a computer/smartphone. We hope that you will join us!

For all Zoom sessions, participants will now need to enter the meeting id and/or password provided. This information is included with the meeting invitation link and info. ALSO Waiting Rooms are being used on Zoom sessions in many cases now - please make sure your device name EITHER clearly shows who you are OR watch for us to send a message in the Chat feature to the Waiting Room just asking for your name - you can just send us your answer back in the same chat box! This helps keep Zoom gatherings safe and welcoming for all!

Thursday Coffee Time:

This week's Thursday Coffee Time will be hosted by Lisa LaPlante!

Grab your morning coffee or tea and pop in to this virtual Zoom Coffee Break from 10-10:30 a.m. on Thursday! All are welcome, and you should be able to join from a smartphone or computer, just by clicking on the meeting link below!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86773013721?pwd=MG1qRUkvbVBiQVFoeW45Z2dkTlg2QT09>

Meeting ID: 867 7301 3721

Password: 447563

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,86773013721#,,,,0#,,447563# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,86773013721#,,,,0#,,447563# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

[+1 301 715 8592](tel:+13017158592)

[+1 312 626 6799](tel:+13126266799)

[+1 646 558 8656](tel:+16465588656)

[+1 253 215 8782](tel:+12532158782)

[+1 346 248 7799](tel:+13462487799)

[+1 669 900 9128](tel:+16699009128)

Meeting ID: 867 7301 3721

Password: 447563

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kjNIyJtm>



Music with Esther - Friday at 1:00pm on Facebook Live

Join FBC's Director of Music, Dr. Esther Chang to enjoy music inspired by the abstract concept of time and how time in itself can be viewed as an instrument to heal wounds. Music will include *Time in a Bottle* by Jim Croce, *Hands of Time* from the movie Brian's Song, and *Somewhere in Time* by John Barry

Live on our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistBeverly at 1pm on Friday

FBC Kids and Kids-at-Heart Tuesdays at 1:00pm on Facebook Live

Join minister Julie Flowers or our Childcare Coordinator Abby Johnstone LIVE on our Facebook page at 1:00pm every Tuesdays for a kids' connection time just for you! (You can bring your grownups, too!)

We hope that this time for Kids and Kids-at-Heart will help to continue to foster not only faith development, assurance, care, and love BUT ALSO to help our youngest church friends to maintain their own connections with and to their church family, as well.

Live at 1:00pm or watch anytime when the video is saved on our Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistBeverly>

Steeple Work

Work is proceeding on the steeple painting project under Jeremy Weir's supervision. Much of the work is being done by hanging from ropes tied above, as this picture from Abbott Street shows.



Staffing Update

Julie Flowers will be on vacation and out of her virtual office from July 13th – August 3rd. Kent Harrop will be available for pastoral needs and concerns during this time. Kent can be reached at Kharrop@fbcbeverly.org or (971) 237-0583

Coming Up at FBC



Thursday, July 16

10:00-11:00am: Virtual Drop-In Coffee Time for Church Family via Zoom

Friday, July 17

1:00pm: Facebook Live: Music with Esther

Saturday, July 18

8 a.m. Contemplative Paddle

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

Sunday, July 19

10:00am: Virtual Worship via Facebook Premiere

(Worship video may be viewed on Facebook, YouTube, and our website at any time following the initial Facebook post)

Monday, July 20

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

Tuesday, July 21

9:30am: Virtual Staff Meeting

1:00 pm: Facebook Live Kids' Time

Check out all of FBC Beverly's sermons at fbcbeverly.org/sermons

***Yes, There is Brokenness,
and Still, There is Beauty***

Rev. Julie Flowers, preaching

Scripture: Psalm 104:1-24



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

STAY CONNECTED

