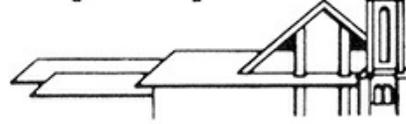


THE BULLETIN

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 26, 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.)

Feeling Pain and Finding Hope

Rev. Kent Harrop, preaching

Scripture: Genesis 32: 22 – 32

Sermon quote: 'There will come a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning.'

~ Louie L'Amour



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.

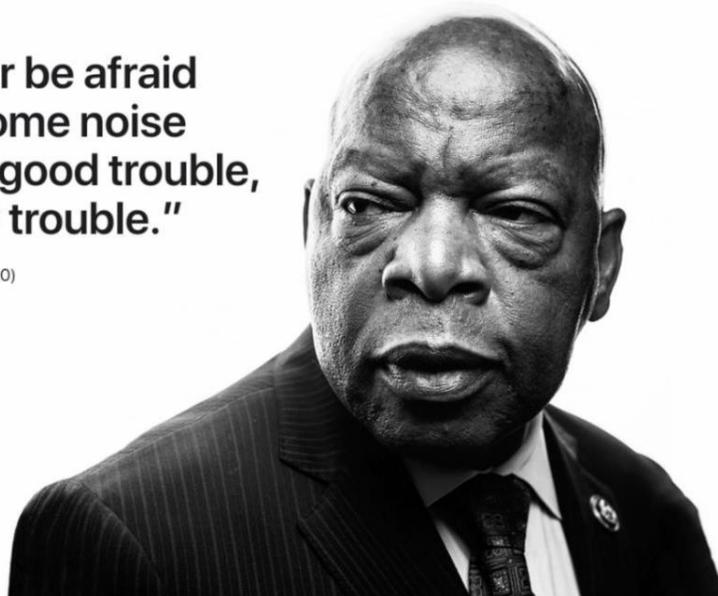
Sincerely,

The Reopening Task Force

Remembering John Lewis, America's Conscience: 1940 – 2020

**"Never, ever be afraid
to make some noise
and get in good trouble,
necessary trouble."**

Rep. John Lewis (1940-2020)



Congressman John Lewis died this past week. Since being beaten by police in the segregated south, while trying to cross the bridge to Selma in 1965, with Dr. King and thousands of other marchers, John Lewis never wavered. He is remembered as a persistent and consistent voice for racial justice and non-violent change from age 21 to 80. He never faltered in calling out injustice, while working to build bridges to his opponents. Historian, John Meacham writes: 'At age 80 he was restless for justice. Gandhi offered the means (non-violent resistance to injustice), but his faith in the teachings of Jesus, was foundational to why he put his life at risk, as he was arrested again and again during non-violent actions for civil rights'.

During this pandemic, while battling pancreatic cancer, John Lewis said: "During this pandemic the obvious differences between access to health care has become obvious. We see the data that people of color suffer at a greater rate. Yet, rich people have learned too, that they can't remain healthy unless poor people are healthy too. We are all interconnected. We are all responsible for the well-being of one another."

John Lewis, lived by the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40: 'Whatever you do unto the most vulnerable of my sisters and brothers, you do unto me.' For a life well lived, we give thanks to God. Amen.

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). A cap of 100 people was set but due to demand we expanded to 125 (15 from FBC participated). Over the next few weeks, we’re hearing from several of the participants from FBC who reflect on one thing they learned and one commitment to work to dismantle racism. If you have any questions or want to get involved to help dismantle racism, email Leslie Brennan lesliebrennan@comcast.net. In last week’s Bulletin we heard reflections from Leslie Brennan and Karen Popadic. In this issue, we hear from Bekah Silva.



Reflection by Bekah: ‘I never realized how much I added to racism by simply being “not racist”. I am still very ignorant but you and ECCO are helping me out of that deep hole. It’s about creating change and pushing for change... I’ve been very non-confrontational in my life to the point where I avoided it at any cost... making conversations almost too palatable for others... I can see that I’ve had a “privilege” of living comfortably in many ways because I’m white. It’s time for me to break from that. Thank you Kent and all those at ECCO for wisdom, compassion and generosity to help me to be a better person. I’ll also continue to analyze where I am in the fight against racism that I may never be who I was’.

Pray and Paddle: A guided morning retreat on Lake Cochichewick Saturday, August 1, 2020 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Join us for a morning of contemplative paddling on beautiful Lake Cochichewick. Facilitated by Kent Harrop, contemplative paddling by kayak or canoe immerses you in the splendor of nature as you become more aware of all that is around you and connect more deeply with God and creation. By paddling and drifting in silence you open yourself to the infinite ways that the Creator speaks.

Only two openings remain, must have own kayak, to learn about safety protocol and to register, please go to [the Rolling Ridge website](#)



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=MG1qRUkvbVBiQVFOeW45Z2dkTG2QT0o9>

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>



Contemplative Practice - 1:00pm on Facebook Live - Hosted by Kent

An inspiring program of stories and reflections to grow our spiritual tool box. Kent will reflect on how painful times can create an opening for new life. Live at 1:00pm on our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistBeverly

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>

FBC Beverly's New Compassion Fund

First Baptist Church in Beverly has established a \$25,000 fund to provide emergency financial assistance to those in our church community who may be especially affected by the coronavirus pandemic, and resulting shutdowns, lay-offs and the like. We are calling this our Compassion Fund. Below are its key elements:

- Potential recipients include not just church members, but all those (and their immediate families) who have a connection to our church, whether by attending church worship services, by participating in church sponsored programs of any kind, or as employees or volunteers at the church or its outreach ministries. Recipients do not need to live in Beverly.

- Awards are expected to be \$500 or less per family or individual, but awards up to \$1,000 may be made in exceptional circumstances. All will be in the form of grants, not loans.

If you or someone you know needs financial assistance due to the pandemic:

To apply, please go the following link and complete the

form: <https://form.jotform.com/200727212739958> or call 978-927-1561

· If you have a financial need arising out of the pandemic and wish to be considered for assistance, please complete and send in the application form as indicated above.

· If you know of someone in our broader church family who has such a need and might not otherwise be aware of our Compassion Fund, please encourage them to apply.

· All applications and information relating to this program will be kept strictly confidential except as necessary to review and process the awards, and in order to issue checks and payments by the church.

If you would like to help by making a contribution:

· We are asking those who may be more fortunate to consider making a donation to the Compassion Fund. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could double the size of the fund to \$50,000!

· Donations are also needed for the Deacons Fellowship Fund which allows the church to help people in emergency situations; it is administered by our ministers and the Deacons, and is funded by contributions, primarily through the Fellowship Offering taken on Communion Sundays. It is a small fund and provides stop gap help. This separate fund has shrunk to \$1,600 currently, especially as we worship in our homes with no Fellowship Offerings being taken.

· To donate, checks may be made out to the church and addressed to the church office, 221 Cabot Street Beverly, MA 01915. The check should state on the memo line whether it is intended for the Compassion Fund or the Fellowship Fund or both. If the check is for both, and no allocation is stated, we will make the allocation as needed.

Alternatively, donations can be made through our website at www.fbcbeverly.org/donate/

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 23

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

Friday, July 24

1:00pm: Facebook Live: Contemplative Practice with Kent

Saturday, July 25

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

Sunday, July 26

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 27

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

Tuesday, July 28

9:30am: Virtual Staff Meeting

1:00 pm: Facebook Live Kids' Time

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

Waking up to God

Rev. Kent Harrop, preaching

Scripture: Genesis 28: 10 - 19



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

STAY CONNECTED

