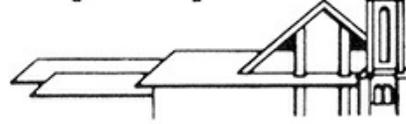


THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

Ministers:

[Rev. Julie R. Flowers](#)

[Rev. Kent D. Harrop](#)

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

Communications Associate: [Mary Powers](#)

Office Manager: [Pat Haight](#)

HNS Director: [Jennifer Baez](#)

HCP Director: [Andrew DeFranza](#)

Treasurer: [John Thomson](#)

Facilities Manager: [Jeremy Weir](#)

Visit our Website

Join Us for Sundays at First Baptist Church in Beverly Communion Sunday, September 6, 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.)

***For this Sunday: BYOC - Bring Your Own Communion!
Bring whatever element you have for the Bread and the Cup, and we will have the opportunity to share in the Lord's Supper together***

Our Antidote to Fear

Rev. Kent Harrop, preaching

Scripture: 1 John 4: 7 - 12, 18-21



Church Council Meeting to be Held Wednesday at 7 p.m.

To All Members of the Church Council,

Please mark your calendars for **Wednesday, September 2, 2020 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for a virtual (Zoom) meeting of the Church Council.**

We are moving forward in these ever-changing times, and we will be voting on a proposed part-time position for a Video Tech Production Associate. Additionally, we will receive information and updates on areas that were discussed at our last meeting and at the Annual Meeting.

(Please note that Church Council meetings are also open to ALL church members and friends - when it comes to voting on issues before the Council, only Council members (Chairs or all Boards and Committees or the designated reps of those Boards and Committees) will vote. But ALL are welcome to join us for discussion!)

The meeting agenda and zoom link to access the meeting are below.

***Please note that if you need to add a Topic to this Agenda, please contact our Moderator, Gloria Stoneham (email: gloria.stoneham@gmail.com, phone or text 978-239-0982*

Church Council Meeting Agenda September 2, 2020 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Zoom

1. Welcome and Zoom basics
2. Concerns and Celebrations
3. Opening Prayer
4. Approval of the Church Council meeting minutes of May 4, 2020 [VOTE]
5. Rick Harris' Proposal (Pre-Covid), accepted by Staff Ad and *for information only* [Gloria]
6. Presentation of proposed Video Production Tech position together with the recommended equipment purchase [Staff Ad/Kent & Julie] [VOTE]
7. Virtual Interim Minister position* [Staff Ad/Julie & Kent]
8. Treasurer's Report [John Thomson]
9. Ad-Hoc Re-entry information and status [Julie & Kent]
10. Compassion Fund update [Julie & Kent]
11. Adjourn - hard stop (9:00 p.m.) and Thank you

* Church Council Members: please refer to the Annual Meeting minutes (draft) that was included with the meeting notice you should have received by email, along with the agenda and other information for discussion at this meeting. If you are a member of the Council and did NOT receive this email, please let Julie (jflowers@fbcbeverly.org) and Gloria (gloria.stoneham@gmail.com) know.

Topic: Church Council Zoom Meeting

Time: Sep 2, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84603582221>

Meeting ID: 846 0358 2221

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84603582221# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,84603582221# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799

+1 646 558 8656

+1 301 715 8592

+1 346 248 7799

+1 669 900 9128

+1 253 215 8782

Meeting ID: 846 0358 2221

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84603582221>

Reopening Task Force Update

Our Reopening Task Force has been hard at work to determine our next steps as a church family, and we wanted to share this update in terms of decisions around building use and policy with our church family. We will continue to work together to build community in ever-increasing new ways, and you will see increasing opportunities to gather in the virtual space AS WELL AS some increasing creative outdoor ministries in small groups.

Policy for Outside Use of the Building

As a faith community, we seek to balance spiritual development and social action in order to share God's love with others. In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, we now find ourselves balancing these activities of the church with what we believe to be the best way to keep our local community healthy and safe. Decisions about how our building will be used for the foreseeable future must be made using a benefit-risk approach.

Given what is known about how this virus is transmitted and who is at greater risk of serious illness, we will not be worshipping in person in this building until further notice, choosing rather to pursue other, less risky modes of worship, such as virtual experiences and very small outdoor gatherings. Similarly, we will not allow other organizations or groups to use the building until further notice. This is for the protection of those group members, of FBC staff who are in the building, and for the participants in the two programs of the church that will continue to run in person: Harborlight Nursery School and the community feeding programs, Saturday lunches and Monday Night Suppers. Each of these programs has developed strict protocols to minimize the risk of infection and, therefore, we consider the social benefits of the programs to outweigh the risks.

Being open to and a part of the broader Beverly community is who we are as a congregation, and this has not changed, despite Covid-19. We continue our commitment to serve God, to do justice, and to love mercy, seeking especially now to discern the needs of our community and to meet them as best we can in a safe and healthy manner.

Church Protocol, Which Will be Posted at the Entrance:

First Baptist Church – Building Access and Usage

Nothing could be more important to us than the health and safety of our community. The First Baptist Church in Beverly has created safety protocols for admittance within the building; holding as our utmost priority the responsible care and respect for the overall health and well-being of all our community. Please note the mandatory changes to how we currently operate to keep you and our staff safe.

BEFORE ENTRY

- Masks **REQUIRED** at **ALL** times upon entry and while inside the building. No one will be admitted into the building without a proper face (nose and mouth) covering.
- **CAUTION:** Please do not enter the building if you have a **Fever greater than 100 degrees, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing**, or if you are awaiting results from a COVID test due to exposure or symptoms, or if you have come into contact with anyone testing positive for COVID within the last 14 days.

Upon Entering

- **FOR CONTACT TRACING**, all employees, approved guests and contractors are required to register using our sign in and out procedure, located at the Main Office window. Please find and complete our sign-in form upon each entry and exit of our building.

- Please use the hand sanitizer provided each time upon your entry and exit from the building.

During Your Visit - Please limit your person to person contact

- Please remain at least 6 feet from any other person whenever possible while inside the building.
- Restrooms are currently for FBC Church Staff and approved volunteers, HNS Staff and its students and approved building contractor use only. Please maintain no more than a single adult in each restroom at a time.

For Inquiries:

- Our Church Main Office can be reached by phone at: 978-922-3295
- Harborlight Nursery School Office can be reached by phone at: 978-927-9030

Thank you for your cooperation, compliance, and efforts to help keep those in our building and our community healthy and safe during this time.

Let Them Sing for Joy on Their Couches

Believe it or not, the words of the title of this Bulletin article are words of scripture! Rev. Julie Flowers included this scripture reading from Psalm 149, verse 5, as part of her sermon "Songbird" from our August 23, 2020, virtual service of worship ([click here](#) to find the service, if you have not already seen it and would like to!).

Could there *be* a more perfect 2020 verse of scripture?! For times when many of us have felt stuck in our homes more than ever, separated from one another more than usual, and are, perhaps, spending much more time on our couches, what a perfect and powerful reminder that even in these moments, God is with us, even on our couches... and God helps us to sing for joy, and to find moments of joy, even then.

At the close of the service, our video editors, the Constantine Production Company, included the above picture of Julie showing joy, even on her couch.

Now it's YOUR turn!

We would love to receive your pictures – of you or your family or even with your family pet – showing joy from the couches! It is our hope to get a great representation of our church family in these pictures so that we can then create a virtual coffee hour, so to speak, a slideshow of familiar faces, to include in an upcoming service of worship. We do not want to miss including YOU! **Please send your picture by email to Julie at jflowers@fbceverly.org by Saturday, September 10th!**

Even from our couches, we sing out with joy! Let us see how you express and manifest that joy, even in these days!



Reunited for the first time in person since March 8th... our Senior High Youth Fellowship gathered for a closing time on the 2019-2020 program year and to say goodbye to our Class of 2020 seniors and send them off with our love and a circle of candlelight.

Masks, hand sanitizer, outdoor space (thank you to our friends at St. Peter's Episcopal for loaning your lawn!), and distancing - as well as having to bring our own chairs and candles - made things unlike any other year... but just right for this one.

Kitty, Cameron, Aly, Luke, Olivia, Eloisa, Sophia, and Eliza... we love you. Shine bright out there in the big world, and remember... you've got a friend...always.

Paddle to Misery Island: September 12th 9 a.m. - Noon

In September, FBC Beverly will be hosting its second annual kayak trip from West Beach in Beverly to and around Misery Island (September 12th, 9 a.m. - Noon). There are currently 7 openings! Our guides and equipment will be provided by Coast to Coast Paddle. **To register [click here](#).**

The cost listed is a discounted cost. Please note that you can rent a single or tandem kayak or bring your own kayak. This event is limited to 10 participants. Aaron Mearns, the owner of Coast to Coast Paddle, will guide our trip and ensure we feel safe and have a great experience. Misery Island and Little Misery Island comprise 96 acres of beautiful conservation land with breathtaking scenery. We paddle over, land on South Beach, and then enjoy a mindful walk hosted by Kent Harrop. Due to the nature of ocean kayaking, for this paddle participants should have moderate experience kayaking.



In the Family

We hold Evelyn Wightman in our hearts and prayers at this time, as Evelyn is at CareOne at Essex Park, following some medical issues. Evelyn will be continuing with treatment for some ongoing medical concerns, and so we hold her in our hearts as she does. At this time, Essex Park is not allowing visitors, but you can reach Evelyn by phone (through their main number) and she is also able to receive cards and notes.

We also hold Meena Tejwani in our hearts and prayers, as she is navigating her way through on-going medical diagnoses and setting treatment plans with her doctors. Meena would truly value our prayers of love and care as she continues to move forward with her medical providers.

We also received another prayer request from our friend and former Interim Minister/Interim Ministry Consultant, Rev. Richard Harris. Recently, Rick was diagnosed with cancer. After many doctors' appointments and tests, he will begin a six-week regimen of daily (weekday) radiation therapy and chemotherapy that enhances the effectiveness of the radiation on Monday. Following that he will be in a period of recuperation and strengthening for anticipated surgery by the end of the year. The prognosis is good and the medical team is among the best in the world for this cancer. We are blessed to be in this medical environment. Although this has been and continues to be a difficult time for Rick and Anne, they appreciate your prayers and support during these next four months. The surgeon said to Rick that the statistics with his procedure (that he developed and is used by all surgeons in the world for this cancer) is around 89% long-term survival, but he indicated that he planned for Rick's to be 100%.

Yes, You Can Still Donate!

Although the church building is closed and the collection plate is no longer being passed on Sunday mornings, please don't forget that you can still donate to the church. Church activities have continued during the lockdown and summer months. In fact, some people have remarked that in some ways the church seems busier than ever. Your continuing financial support is still vitally important to support the church. Here are suggested ways to pay a pledge or to make a donation.

- Mail a check to the First Baptist Church at 221 Cabot Street, Beverly 01915 with a notation that the check is for a pledge payment, a donation or other purpose.
- Contact your bank about online bill payment. Many people have found this a very convenient way to pay their pledge. This is usually a free service, resulting in your bank sending a physical check to the church on your behalf either for a one-time payment or at regular intervals of your choice (monthly, for example). There's no fee to the church.
- Use the "Donate" button on the church website: www.fbcbeverly.org. Please be sure to indicate if the donation is for a pledge, donation or some other purpose. A small fee will be deducted from your donation by the processing site.

Even during the pandemic, the work and service of FBC continues. Our ministers, staff and lay persons have been incredibly clever in transforming traditional in-person worship and activities into online format. Virtual worship services are creative and attendance is growing even beyond our state; Christian education programs for children are presented weekly by Abby Johnstone's Kids-at-Heart program; Thursday coffee hour gives opportunity for church fellowship; and music continues through Esther Chang's Friday afternoon concerts. Eileen and John Hadley have faithfully continued to provide nutritious take-out meals to the Beverly community every Saturday. Stephanie Dillon, our in-church horticultural expert, has prepared the enriched soil foundation for our future sidewalk garden of native New England plants, even though the city expanded the garden area to twice its original planned size. Jeremy Weir, our property manager, oversaw the summer-long painting of our steeple, a project over a year in the planning. Now our steeple has been restored to a shining white beacon with no peeling paint. A church Re-Opening Committee is hard at work conscientiously planning what steps will be needed to safely re-open the building when the time is right. And a new theme for the 2020-21 church year has already been selected, which means that Rally Sunday is right around the corner.

Your donations make possible the wonderful work of the church during these most challenging times and are greatly appreciated.

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:

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!

Topic: Zoom Coffee Time

Time: Sep 3, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85689486547>

Meeting ID: 856 8948 6547

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,85689486547# US (New York)

+13017158592,,85689486547# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 856 8948 6547

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kXmK7MQgk>



Theology on Tap

We hope you can join us for a time of connection and conversation! We'll talk about life and faith and where they intersect - and have time for sharing our questions and our laughter, too. The meeting is open to all, so feel free to spread the word and invite friends!

NOTE: This month's Theology on Tap will be held a week later than usual.

Topic: September Theology on Tap

Time: Sep 8, 2020 08:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159169633>

Meeting ID: 871 5916 9633

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,87159169633# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87159169633# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

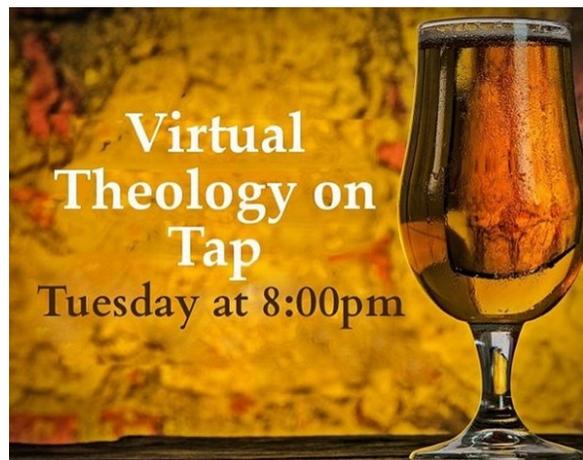
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 871 5916 9633

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbw9nQas5h>



Contemplative Practice with Kent - Friday at 1:00pm on Facebook Live

An inspiring program of stories and practical steps to grow your spiritual tool box. Kent will reflect on how the challenges of this time, create an opening for new life in the Spirit. 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>

Coming Up at FBC



Thursday, September 3

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

Friday, September 4

1:00pm: Facebook Live: Growing your Spiritual Tool Box with Kent Harrop

Saturday, September 5

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

Sunday, September 6

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, September 7

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

Tuesday, September 8

9:30am: Staff Meeting

1:00 pm: Facebook Live Kids' Time

8:00pm: Theology on Tap

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

Asleep in the Boat

Rev. Julie Flowers, preaching

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41



First Baptist Church in Beverly | 978-922-3295 | bulletin@fbcbeverly.org | www.fbcbeverly.org

STAY CONNECTED

