



*The Messenger
of Good News*

February, 2012

“Welcome Home”

By Pastor Maggie

Diane Merrill Pomeroy to Preach on Sunday, February 5th

Please help us “Welcome Home” Rev. Diane Merrill Pomeroy as she preaches and leads worship (including Communion) with Pastor Maggie on Sunday, February 5th.

Diane was born and raised in New Hampshire where she and her family (Mary and Leonard Merrill, Ed Merrill and Jan Miller) actively participated in the First Baptist Church of Nashua. She attended Plymouth State College and received her Bachelor’s in Elementary Education before teaching for seven years in Ketchikan, Alaska and Bow, New Hampshire. During those years, she heard God’s call to ministry and studied at Andover Newton Theological School, receiving her Master of Divinity degree in 1985.

Diane has served churches in Washington DC, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Illinois and Rhode Island.

She is married to the Rev. George Pomeroy, a retired Presbyterian pastor. They have two grown children and a delightful 8-year-old granddaughter, Devon. In the Spring they will be moving into a Retirement Community in Cornwall, Pennsylvania.

It will be a joy to see Diane and worship with her!

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From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Are you too busy? Feeling exhausted?

Have you forgotten what it feels like to be fully rested and restored?

Me too.

That's why I am inviting you to be a present for a three week sermon series I am beginning on Sunday, February 12th.

It's called *Remember the Sabbath*.

We are living in a world that is undeniably addicted to busyness and working ourselves to exhaustion yet our souls crave solace and sanity. Think about nature and how it always includes a period of rest (day into night, summer into winter). Trees and plants cannot thrive or bear fruit without rest. We are wired the same way. Humans need time to renew our hearts and minds, to take time away from the rigors of daily life. If we don't, our physical and mental health will suffer.

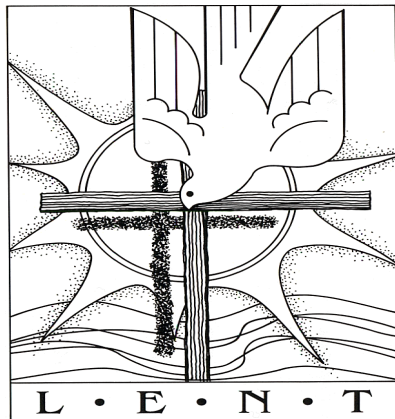
When I was a young church-goer and would read the Bible verse "commanding" us to keep the Sabbath, I always heard that this was something God wanted us to do for *God*. But now I realize that the Sabbath is something God has created for *us*, too.

Join me on this exploration. I promise some practical advice for incorporating Sabbath experiences into your lives.

"Life is an amazing journey, but many a time we wade through life and forget to experience it."

Love, Maggie

P.S. Please join me on Wednesday, February 22 at 7 p.m. in the chapel for a special worship service. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and its name comes from an ancient practice of placing ashes on worshippers' foreheads as a sign of humility before God and a symbol of mourning and sorrow. In my Christian experience and ministry, I have not used ashes. However, I think it is important to mark the start of Lent in a meaningful way. We will have music, prayer, and readings. I hope you can be there.



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The First Baptist Church of
Nashua, New Hampshire
121 Manchester Street
Nashua, NH 03064-1564

Talk to Us!

The Church Office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 1 pm (Except Holidays) .

Church Website

<http://www.fbcnashua.org/>

Contact Us !

Telephone:

603-882-4512

Leave messages for :

Pastor Maggie (x11)

Office (x10)

Church Fax(24 hours) :

603-882-6266

Church Email:

Pastor Maggie:

pastor@fbcnashua.org

Office (Michelle):

office@fbcnashua.org

The First Baptist Church of Nashua, New Hampshire, was founded in 1822. FBC is an American Baptist Church cooperating with the American Baptist Churches USA & VT/NH.



How it works: TD Bank makes an annual contribution to First Baptist Church of Nashua based on the average balance of our members' accounts. Eligible accounts include: business checking, Consumer checking, savings, money market, certificate of deposit and IRAs. **All information is *strictly confidential*; your account(s) will be linked to FBC's code number. NO ONE knows your personal information!!** Checking accounts—1/2 of 1% contribution based upon the annual average balances of all participants. Savings accounts, CDs, money markets, or IRAs—1/4 of 1% contribution based upon the annual average balances of all participants. A minimum of 50 household membership participation is required (but over 50 is desired).

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This is our third year with the program. First check \$1800+, second check \$4500+ - let's keep it going!! Any questions, contact Vicki Holden, 689-4473. It is simple: visit any store or call Sally Raposa or Donna at the Nashua store at 577-5150. They are the best!!!

Thank You!!!

Adopt a Family Program. A big 'thank you' to everyone who purchased gifts for the adopt a family program. We adopted 3 families this year—9 children. Each child got four gifts, including at least one clothing item, and at least one toy/music/or sports item. The families and gift requests are supplied by the Nashua Pastoral Care Center which works with the Santa Fund. Most of the families served have few material goods and this is the only time of year they receive things we take for granted.

To My FBC Family: I wish to say **"Thank You"** to all who sent me cards, prayers, phone calls and visited me during my recent hospitalization. Thank you also to those who brought my family and I dinner once I got home. The food was AWESOME!! Love in Christ, Karen Day

From the Property Manager - Thank you to *Henry Sparks* for locating the microphones and head set needed to begin improving our sound system so everyone can hear. Again, many thanks to Henry for his knowledge and expertise in this area and for accomplishing this in an expeditious timeframe. Sincerely, David Holden.

Armando Jesus Cernuda November 22, 1926—January 7, 2012

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say; Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console my heart, I THANK YOU SO MUCH WHATEVER THE PART. On behalf of myself and my family, Thank You. ~ George and Betty Cernuda and Family

The Monthly Youth Review

by Jen McInnis

WE kicked off 2012 with a Christmas Party for 4th—12th graders at Rose's house. Seven of us got together on New Year's Day for our party, where we played some games like *Pin the Nose on the Reindeer* and *Christmas Who Am I?* We also had a Yankee Swap and some Christmas music puzzles. February should be exciting, with the first Annual Chili Cook-off! We plan to enter a chili, and hope there are lots of other entrants in the competition. As always, all youth grades 6-12 are welcome to our weekly meetings on Sundays at 7:00pm or our other activities. Please see Rose or Jen for more information.



Photo: *Pin the Nose on the Reindeer* with (left to right) Max, Ben and Sam Irwin.

Age Group Ministries *Fun For All Ages!!* by Karin Harvey-Olson

Snow Adventure! Don't forget—join us on Sunday, February 19th at 12:30pm for our Annual Snow Adventure! Adults, youth, and children are welcome for this snowy afternoon of fun building snow forts, snowmen, making snow angels and anything else you can think of in the snow!

FBC Chili Cook-off! Our first Chili Cook-off will be held on Sunday, February 19th at 4:00pm following the Snow Adventure! Warm up with a mix of mild and spicy chilies, and bring your own to compete! If you want to compete in the Chili Cook-off, register with Karin Harvey-Olson (mirpmama@gmail.com) by February 14th. This is an FBC fundraiser and the entry fee is \$10. The Youth are already planning their chili, and are looking forward to a friendly competition among family. If you want to help but don't want to bring chili, cornbread and chili-fixin's will be needed. Help us spread the work throughout the community! Ticket information available through Karin.

The Rose Circle The Rose Circle will be meeting on Thursday, February 16th at 7:00pm to continue our book discussion on *The Bad Girls of the Bible*, Chapter 6. All are welcome!! RSVP to Jennifer McInnis (420-8252/jennifer.dwc@gmail.com).

Contemporary Music Booklets: Help Needed!!

One of the goals of creating the Contemporary Music Booklets used for Morning Glory and Evening Worship is to add new music periodically—but your help is needed to make this happen! There are new songs ready to add to the booklets, and with a few people who can help for an hour, this job could get done very easily. If you can help, or if you have ideas for new songs to be added, please contact Jen McInnis (420-8252 or jennifer.dwc@gmail.com) Thank you!

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

The Ahrendt Families—Personal Concerns. Daniel Bortle—God’s Protection. Jill Burns, Henry Bower, Shirley Condon, Carl Hayes, Darlene Hayes, Family and Friends, James Hayes, Dottie Legett, Rev. Bob Washer, Friends of Peggy L’Ecuyer, Don Keith, Elaine Labbe, Elaine McLatchy, Claire Straughn, Carole Tooley—Health Concerns. Family and Friends of Armando Cernuda—Grieving His Loss. Campbell Hoyt (age 5) - Fighting Cancer. Brandon Johnson—Deployed to Afghanistan. Brian P. (age 37) - Ongoing Issues Due to Paralysis. The Weithman Family— As Mark Con-



Birthdays

February Birthdays

Donna Schuster	5
Wayne Robbins	7
Nate Douglas	15
Irene Gordon	15
Michele Cernuda	16
Jane McAlman	16
Kitara Mason	17
Jacob Thomas	18
Rich Stebbins	19
Norma Steele	19
Adalia Mason	20
Karen Day	22
PJ Harvey-Olson	22
Ivy Rose Harvey-Olson	23
Malcolm Holden, Jr.	26
Adam Sweetland	26
Allie Sweetland	26
Nancy M Comeau	27
Nancy Santerre	28

March Birthdays

Kristi Newcomb	1
Ethan Frenette	3
Jill Gidge	6
Jack McDonald	8
Ethel Caesar	9
Ed Demirgian	15
Mark Weithman	16
Audrey Holden	19
Ida Keith	27
Maggie Lewis	30
Mildred Rollins	31

Funding Our Ministry

by Jan Miller

Hallelujah! We passed a balanced budget at our 2012 Annual Meeting! Thank you Pastor Maggie and members of the Administration Team for your efforts at achieving this very important goal. **This does not mean, however, that we can sit back and relax.** It means that **we need to step up and support or even surpass our commitment to TITHE or GIVE GENEROUSLY** toward the operation of our church. **It means that we need to SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISERS,** such as the dinners, the spring yard sale, and other fundraisers that are in the works (e.g. chili cook-off, a time and talent auction, a chicken BBQ during the summer, our new mini Holiday Fair). **Our goal of the two upcoming dinners is \$800 in profit. We cannot achieve that without your attendance!** For 2011, total income was \$162,785 (budget amount was \$134,869) against total expenses of \$173,757 (budget amount \$192,649).

Financial Snapshot Year to Date as of January 28th. Pledges and plate income: 2012 = \$7662; 2011 = \$9565. Total Income: 2012 = \$10,470; 2011 = \$11,925. Total expenses incurred: 2012 = \$14,248; 2011 = \$14,342



First Baptist Church sends its loving condolences to George and Betty Cernuda and their family on the passing of George’s Father, Armando Cernuda, who passed away on January 7, 2012.

Martin Luther King Celebration a Huge Success!!

By Jim Leonard

Successful and Exciting 30th Martin Luther King Celebration. Our church recently held its 30th Annual Martin Luther King Celebration that was filled with insightful words and wisdom and joyous music. Not only was



it a celebration for Rev. King's birthday, it was also a special evening to honor the members of the Council for Civil Rights of New Hampshire who organized the first MLK event that was held at First Baptist Church on January 15, 1982.

The guest speaker who was introduced by Jack McDonald was Valerie Cunningham, a noted New Hampshire African American historian who challenged the audience of over 250 attendees to get involved in discovering and preserving the involvement of African Americans in New Hampshire's history. Former NH State Representative and an original member of the Council for Civil Rights of NH, Harvey Keye,

spoke on how the lack of a holiday at that time moved the group to initiate the first celebration. Other members of the Council of Civil Rights of NH who were in attendance and recognized were Jerri and Perry Spearman. Incidentally, Jerri has been attending these events since the inception in 1982. It was also noted that former FBC member, Esther Parker was instrumental in persuading Pastor Jean Greer of FBC to let the group use the church when no other church at that time would do so.

Participants along with Pastor Maggie were Dr. Alan Green (Temple Beth Abraham), Father Richard Kelley (St. Christopher's), Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett (Nashua Area Interfaith Council and Temple Beth Abraham) and Mayor Donnalee Lozeau.

Highlighting the evening with the energetic and soulful music that got everyone on their feet and clapping was provided by our Chancel Choir, Julia Leonard, Doc Michaud, the New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus, the Nashua Choral Ensemble and the Gospel Choir of the New Fellowship Baptist Church of Nashua. This annual celebration is one that shouldn't be missed so plan on attending next year at our 31st Annual MLK Celebration which will be held Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 6:00pm.

Thanks to everyone who planned and worked to make the event successful. Special thanks to the members of the MLK Planning Committee. They were: Jean Adie, Ethel Caesar, Archie Caesar, Jill Burns, Frank Burns, Betty Cernuda, Rosemary Crawford-Smith, Barb Keirstead, Barbara Kierstead, Julia Leonard, Jim Leonard, Pastor Maggie, Mary Marks, Jennifer McInnis, and David Moody.

Photo: Harvey Keye and Valerie Cunningham



VALENTINE'S SWEETHEART DINNER

WITH ALL THE FIXIN'S at

First Baptist Church of Nashua

121 Manchester Street

882-4512 - www.fbcnashua.org

Continuous Seating

4:30—6:30pm

\$9 Non-senior Adults

\$8 Seniors



\$5 Ages 6 - 12; Under 6 FREE

Saturday, February 11: Turkey with stuffing & Gravy – Cafeteria Style

We look forward to seeing YOU at the

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Turkey Dinner on February 11!



<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
5 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 1:30pm FBC Fit ZUMBA Club (C) 2:30pm FBC Fit Yoga (C)	6 11:30am-2:30pm Nashua Women's Club (C) 6:30pm Admin Mtng (V) 7:30pm AA (C)	7 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtng (C)	February 1st 7:00pm Nashua Garden Club (C)	2 Groundhog Day 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	3 9:00am Potato Peelers / Church Supper Set-Up (C)	4 7:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast (C)
12 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 1:30pm FBC Fit ZUMBA Club (C) 2:30pm FBC Fit Yoga (C) 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	13 7:00pm Trustees Mtng (V) 7:30pm AA (C)	14 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 6:30pm-8:30pm Girl Scout Leaders Mtng (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtng (C)	8 7:00pm Diaconate Mtng (V)	9 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	10 9:00am Potato Peelers / Church Supper Set-Up (C)	11 4:30pm Church Supper (C)
19 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Christian Ed Snow Adventure (E) 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 26 First Sunday of Lent	20 President's Day 7:30pm AA (C)	21 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtng (C)	15 7:00pm Ash Wed Service (C)	16 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00pm Rose Circle (O)	17 8:30am-5:00pm Creative Memories (C)	18 9:00am Women's Fellowship Breakfast Mtng (C) Christian Ed Snow Adventure 'No-Snow Date' (E)
26 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 1:30pm FBC Fit ZUMBA Club (C) 2:30pm FBC Fit Yoga (C) 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	27 7:30pm AA (C)	28 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtng (C)	22 Ash Wednesday 7:00pm Ash Wed Service (C)	23 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	24	25

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

by Vicki Holden

Tuesdays Together with Jen McInnis and Pastor Maggie at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 10th from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Come enjoy a delicious sit down dinner and let us serve you. Corned beef, cabbage, vegetables, rolls, desserts and beverages. All who wear green (whether Irish or not) will receive something special. Come, bring your neighbors and friends and enjoy!!!



Worship with Us

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Praise at 6:00 p.m.

Christian Education

Church School for Children and Youth at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Youth Group at 7:00 p.m. Sunday evenings.

Adult Bible Study starts on October 16th.

Opportunities for Prayer

Tuesday Prayer with Pastor Maggie at 11:00 a.m.



First Baptist Church of Nashua, NH

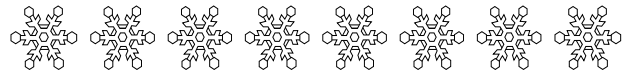

121 Manchester Street

Nashua, NH 03064-1564



Next Newsletter Deadline

March 2012: Wednesday, February 22nd


**CANCELLATIONS
DUE TO BAD
WEATHER.**

 During the winter months, please be sure to check WMUR Channel 9 or 95.7, WZID for any cancellations we have due to bad weather.


An Open and Inclusive Community of Faith