



*The Messenger  
of Good News*

January, 2012

*Martin  
Luther King  
Celebration*

**First Baptist Church Celebrates Its'  
30th Celebration of  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday  
Saturday, January 14, 2012 at 6:00pm**

*By Jim Leonard*

A special event you don't want to miss is coming soon! Come and join us as our church celebrates its' 30th annual celebration honoring the life, ministry and contributions of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at 6:00pm Saturday, January 14th.

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This year's keynote address will be delivered by Valerie Cunningham, noted New Hampshire African American Historian. A social activist since the 1960's, Valerie has been honored as a Restore America Hero by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and HGTV Restore America. She is a founder and former president of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail. Valerie



has also been a founding member of several civic organizations, including the Blues Bank Collective, the New Hampshire Circle of Friends and the Seacoast African American Cultural Center. In 2005, she was appointed by Gov. Lynch to serve on the NH Commission on the Status of Women where she co-chaired the committee to establish a statewide Women's Heritage Trail. Her publications include articles on Black history and culture in northern New England. Valerie also co-authored the book "Black Portsmouth: Three Centuries of African American Heritage" and she is the creator and conductor of custom designed group tours of Black New England and beyond.

Continued on Page 5...

# From the Pastor



Dear Friends,

First of all, thank you so much for the incredibly generous Christmas gift. You are so good to me! When Jan handed me the envelope during the Dec. 18th service, she said “There’s a monetary gift in this envelope but there’s also a whole lot of *love* inside.” I feel that love every time I think about you all.

I want to also reflect, with great joy, on the Advent/Christmas season at First Baptist. The sanctuary was gorgeous and I appreciate all who came out to “hang the greens” and make everything festive. Thanks especially to Carol McDonald, for overseeing the decorating, and to Jack McDonald and Chris McInnis for all the ladder work involved. Let’s take a moment to reflect on the Christmas Soup-Er Supper and Pageant. To all the children and youth: Kudos for an outstanding job! Thank you, Karin Harvey-Olson and Jen McInnis, for producing this extravaganza and thank you, members of FBC, for supporting our kids by your presence. What a delightful evening! Christmas Eve was amazing, as well, with full pews, many visitors, lovely music from Hal, our choir, Ariel Weithman and Julia Leonard. Thank you, Jerry Bolio, for keeping the street sign board updated with all these many activities.

In January, Jean Adie begins a series on discovering your spiritual gifts. She will lead this journaling workshop for six weeks, beginning Jan.. 17th, during the *Tuesdays Together* time-slot. Read more about this class in her article. She asks that if you plan to attend, that you make every effort to be at each session, since they build on one another. The Age Group Ministries team and the Youth Group are planning another movie night on Saturday, Jan. 28th. We had great fun at these last year and I know you’ll enjoy yourself if you come! Let’s make 2012 a great year.

Love, Maggie

**February Sweetheart Dinner** Let’s pack the house again on Saturday, February 11th, for our roast turkey with all the fixings. Last November we served over 130 patrons and raised over \$800. This time we will have even more food ready to serve, so grab a couple more friends, and come on down to church for our signature meal: turkey; stuffing, green beans, squash, mashed potato, cranberry sauce, assorted pies and cakes—and a little chocolate Valentine at each plate. Dinner is served from 4:30 to 6:30 pm—listen to Hap’s cheerful piano music while you wait. The food is fabulous, and the fellowship is unsurpassed.

And if you can help out, your time and effort will be most appreciated. To serve so many patrons, we need lots and lots of volunteers: peeling vegetables, setting up tables, providing desserts, serving, cleaning up—there’s something for everyone who can lend a hand. Please see the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. But most of all, don't forget to attend the dinner too. Your contribution toward this fundraiser will help out our bottom line, and your taste buds will be glad you did.

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Good News*

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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](mailto:pastor@fbcnashua.org)

Office (Michelle):

[office@fbcnashua.org](mailto: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.

# Visitation Team Meeting

By Jan Miller

Did you know that First Baptist Church has an informal Visitation Team, whose members make visits regularly and share information with one another to make sure that our homebound friends are well taken care of by their church family? Would you like to be part of this group? **We will be meeting at the home of Mary and Leonard Merrill, 53 Seaverns Bridge Road, Amherst, NH on Wednesday evening, January 18th at 7:00pm** to review our list of church members who might need a visit. Following the 'business' portion of our meeting (which includes a lot of informal gabbing and laughter, as you might think), we will have coffee and dessert. If you aren't already a member of the Visitation Team, won't you join us?



## Funding Our Ministry

Year-to-date as of November 30th



<b>Pledges and plate income:</b>	2011	\$107,778	2010	\$108,321
<b>Total income:</b>	2011	\$148,573	2010	\$146,790
<b>Total expenses incurred:</b>	2011	\$159,433	2010	\$149,226

The Deacon's Fellowship Love Offering received on December 4th raised \$187 to be used in times of need for members of our congregation and in our community. In November, we raised \$30 for The American Baptist Churches World Mission Offering and \$30 in Love Gift Offerings. In December, we collected \$389 for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO).

For the month of November 2011, pledge and plate income, and the giving of tithes and offerings was \$15,115, for a weekly average of \$12,963, and a net gain of \$6,376. Year-to-date, at the end of November, shows a deficit of \$10,860.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FEBRUARY BREAKFAST MEETING.** Please join us on Saturday, February 25th at 9:00am in Greer Hall for our monthly fellowship breakfast. We will be revealing our Secret Sisters and picking new ones. Please remember to bring an item for the 'Scotch Sale' to be auctioned. Any questions, please talk to Pat Kiley.

# Thank You!!

A great big thanks to Barbara Kierstead and Barb Keirstead for sorting out all the silverware, to Barb for purchasing more silverware for our kitchen, to David Irwin and his crew for their longstanding commitment to the dinners and taking care of all the shopping and amazing cooking, and to Pastor Maggie for becoming our new FBC "meeter, greeter, and seater" at the dinners. What a way to introduce ourselves to the community at large and to our wonderful Pastor.

# The Monthly Youth Review

by Jen McInnis

**The Power Outage of October** may have messed up the schedule for a number of church events the youth were planning to participate in or run, but we've stayed busy just the same. The youth were able to attend the snow-date of the installation of Pastor Maggie, and also raked in November to help the Leonards with their leaf-covered yard. The movie night planned for November is now scheduled for January 28th—we will be running a concession stand as a fundraiser. We are also planning on cooking an AWESOME chili for the new Chili Cook-off date in February. The Christmas Caroling in December was a great time for a mix of adults and youth and younger children, and we got to visit 7 families of the church. We're looking forward to our Christmas party on January 1st. Everyone grades 6-12 is welcome to Youth Group, Sundays at 7:00pm. If you have questions, please talk to Rose Koerber of Jen McInnis.

## Age Group Ministries *Fun For All Ages!!*

by Karin Harvey-Olson

**FBC Movie Night!** Come join us on Saturday, January 28th at 7:00pm for an FBC Movie Night! The youth will be hosting a concession stand fundraiser, and we will enjoy a family movie together. We had a great time last year watching *Facing the Giants*, we hope you can make it again! A movie for young children will be played in the Youth Room, with some toys available as well.

**Snow Adventure!** True, there's no snow on the ground just yet, but we're hoping for a good load of snow by 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 Chile Cook-off!** Our first Chili Cook-off will be held on Sunday, Feb. 19th at 4pm 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, register with Karin Harvey-Olson (mirpmama@gmail.com) by Feb. 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 word throughout the community! Ticket information available through Karin.

### WARRANT

#### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

First Baptist Church of Nashua, NH Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 12:30pm

Snow Date, Sunday, January 29, 2012 at 12:30pm

You are hereby notified of and requested to attend the Annual Meeting of your church for the purpose of:

- Receiving the Annual Reports of the various ministries and officers.
- Electing of church officers.
- Hearing and taking action on the budget for 2012.
- Taking up any other business that may rightfully come before church members.

**Fifty** active members must be present to constitute a quorum. There will be a potluck lunch immediately following worship service. The Annual Meeting will be called to order promptly at 12:30pm.

Signed: *Sandra J. Martinson*, Church Clerk, December 29, 2011

# PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Jill Burns, Thomasina Brown, Shirley Condon, Paul Conley, Carl Hayes, Darlene Hayes, James Hayes, Campbell Hoyt, Don Keith, Elaine Labbe, Elaine McLatchy, Claire Straughn, Carole Tooley—Health Concerns. Joseph, Kimberly Pike—Personal Concerns. Daniel Bortle—God’s Protection. Brandon Johnson—Deployed to Afghanistan. Jim and Julia Leonard—Grieving the loss of Jim’s Brother, Simon Leonard. Family and Friends of Chet Lopez—Grieving His Loss. Brian (age 37) - Ongoing Issues Due to Paralysis. The Weithman Family—As Mark Continues His Quest for Employment.



P.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### January Birthdays

Rose Koerber	2
Norman Douglas, Sr.	5
Carol McDonald	5
Peggy L’Ecuyer	8
Andrew Day	11
Ed Merrill	15
Elizabeth Turner	15
Charlean Douglas	16
Hap Tooley	20
Shoushan Salibian	24
Dave Irwin	25
Dot Martin	26
Eric Burns	30

### 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 Havey-Olson	23
Malcolm Holden, Jr.	26
Adam Sweetland	26
Allie Sweetland	26
Nancy M Comeau	27
Nancy Santerre	28

### January Anniversaries

Scott and Amy Sweetland	16
Frank and Marvis Mellen	17

Continued from Page 1...

Inspirational and joyous music will be provided by a number of vocal and instrumental groups. Included will be the choirs of First Baptist, New Fellowship Baptist and the New England Pentecostal churches, the NH Gay Men’s Chorus, the Nashua Choral Ensemble, vocal soloist, Julia Leonard and jazz saxophonist, M.R. ‘Doc’ Michaud.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the program in the church hall. Childcare is also provided. Please come out and support this significant event.

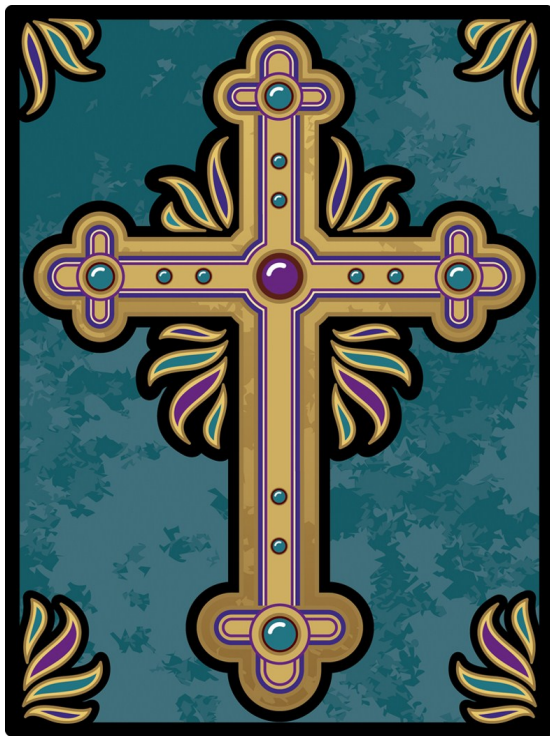


First Baptist Church sends its loving condolences to Jim and Julia Leonard on the passing of Jim’s brother Simon Leonard, who died in December, and to the family and friends of Chet Lopez who passed away on December 15th.

# First Installment of The Spiritual Gifts Series

## to Begin in January of 2012

by Jean Adie



We are living in an exciting and innovative time for Christianity, as many churches are now exploring the role of spiritual gifts in maintaining and empowering the congregation to serve Christ in this world. The old model of ministries as being the domain of pastors and clergy is being replaced by an early Christianity community model in which individuals are encouraged to develop their God given spiritual gifts and to see themselves as ministers in the Body of Christ. This being a relatively new movement in present-day Christianity, many questions arise, such as: What are my spiritual gifts? What is my God given purpose in the Body of Christ? How can I go about identifying and developing my ministry right now? Some of us may already serve in the Church and be aware of and use some of our gifts already. However, we may feel that they are being called to serve in a different way and are unsure of where to begin. Some of us may have always deferred ministries to our Pastors and Deacons and never had to opportunity to really consider what our spiritual gifts are, or the possibility of creating a ministry that brings something new and exciting to our congregation.

Whatever the case may be, Christianity today is coming to rely upon the dynamic and unique contributions of individuals to glorify God and edify those around us and no matter where we are at in our personal journey, we are all held responsible by God for fulfilling our unique purpose in this world.

FBC is moving in this exciting direction of supporting individuals in their personal spiritual development as ministers in the Body of Christ. The first step towards this will begin in January 2012 with the first installment of the Spiritual Gift Series: Spiritual Journaling. This is a six session group (5 to 8 people) that will be exploring spiritual journaling as a tool to achieve a deeper understanding of spiritual gifts, personal style, and ministry passion. Journals can be used for many things, but here we will explore its use as a spiritual discipline that enables us to travel the path of grace and be transformed by the Holy Spirit. Group members will develop and practice journaling skills by keeping a journal during the six weeks of the program. Through Bible reading, prayer, and a variety of group activities, participants will build a deeper relationship with Christ and awareness of God's purpose for us in this world, the gifts we have been given to fulfill that purpose. Sessions will meet on Tuesdays, beginning January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, for six weeks. The sessions will run approximately 90 minutes long and be facilitated by Jean Adie, Deacon of Spiritual Gifts. It is important that participants be able commit to attending each session, as sessions build upon one another. These sessions do not require any prerequisites and are open to all members of the congregation.

If you are interested in discussing the program, getting more information, or signing up, you can contact Jean at 603-809-1545, or at [ganoonah@yahoo.com](mailto:ganoonah@yahoo.com).

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
<b>January 1, 2012</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 6:00pm Youth Christmas Party (C)	2 11:30am-2:30pm Nashaway Women's Club (C) 6:30pm Admin Mtg (C) 7:30pm AA (C)	3 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtg (C)	4 7:00pm Nashua Garden Club (C)	5 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	6 	7 9:00am Fall Fair Planning Mtg (C) 10:00am Prayer Shawl Mtng (C)
8 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 1:30pm FBC Fit ZUMBA Club (C) 3:00pm Rose Circle Christmas Gathering (C) 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	9 7:00pm Trustees Mtg (C) 7:30pm AA (C)	10 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 6:30pm-8:30pm Girl Scout Leaders Mtg (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtg (C)	11 7:00pm Diaconate Mtg (C)	12 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	13 	14 6:00pm MLK Service (C)
15 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) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	16 <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b> 7:30pm AA (C)	17 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 5:00pm-8:00pm CWG Registration (S) 7:00pm Prayer Mtg (C)	18 	19 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	20 	21 10:30am-2:30pm Nashua Garden Club (C)
22 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) <b>ANNUAL MEETING (C)</b> 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	23 7:30pm AA (C)	24 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtg (C)	25 	26 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	27 	28 8:30am-5:00pm Creative Memories (C) 5:00pm Movie Night (C)
29 9:30am-10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:30am Worship Service (S) Annual Mtg SNOW DAXIE (C) 1:30pm FBC Fit ZUMBA Club (C) 2:30pm FBC Fit Yoga (C) 6:00pm Sunday Evening Worship (S) 7:00pm Youth Group (C)	30 7:30pm AA (C)	31 11:00am Prayer with Pastor Maggie (C) 7:00pm Prayer Mtg (C)				

# 2011 Apple Festival & Fair a Huge Success

Thanks to the hard work and creative hands of many, many devoted church men and women, our 2011 Women's Fellowship Apple Festival & Fair was an amazing success. From the apple pancake breakfast, to the face-painting and laughing children; from the homemade soups, sandwiches, and apple crisp luncheon to the outstanding array of items provided by our vendors; from handmade crafts and knitted goods to home baked pies, cakes, cookies, and candy; from the silent auction and all those who solicited and donated items to the handcrafted wooden pens; from jams, jellies, and kitchen items to holiday surprises and goodies, the day was just filled with fun and wonderful fellowship. At the date of this writing, proceeds are \$4,690. The fair is the Women's Fellowship's only source of income, and the Fellowship funds many important church-wide causes throughout the year. Thanks to ALL who chaired and worked on the various tables, helped with publicity, and attended the fair. You are all so very special. With love from the fair planning team: Louise, Vicki, Carol, Mary and Jan.

**2012 Apple Festival & Fair** We are going to start early planning for NEXT year's fair! Please join us on Saturday morning, January 7th at 9:00am at the church for muffins, coffee, and brainstorming.

## *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.

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



**First Baptist Church of Nashua, NH**  
**121 Manchester Street**  
**Nashua, NH 03064-1564**



**Next Newsletter Deadline**

February: **Wednesday, January 25th**

**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*