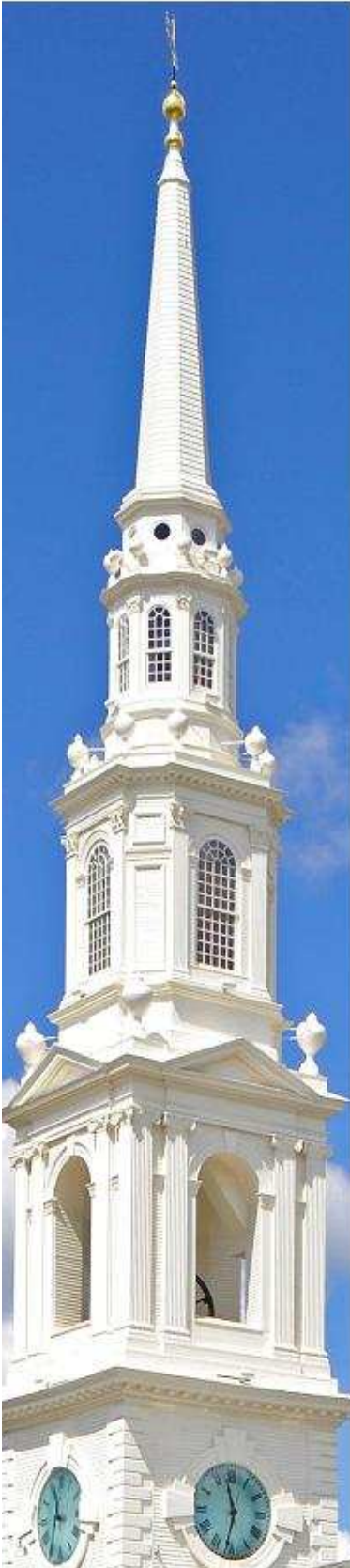


The Spire

Newsletter of the First Baptist Church in America

October 01, 2016, Volume 19, Issue 14



From the Pastor

Jesus ate with all kinds of people: powerful, social outcasts, women, foreigners, children, religious, sick, and combinations of all of the above. Jesus shared meals with people in their homes, and multiplied fish and bread until all within the sound of his voice were fed. He cooked breakfast on the beach at dawn. Jesus nourished people's bodies and their spirits.

The first Sunday of October is World Communion Sunday, a day when Christians the world over share around common tables of remembrance. Jesus commanded his followers to eat and remember him. He recognized that when people sit and are fed together, more is shared than bread.

In this spirit, we are calling you to the table. If you are interested in being a part of dinner groups at First Baptist, call the church office or sign up in the sheet in the fellowship hall. You will have a few weeks to sign up as individuals or families, then people will be introduced to their groups. Each group will determine the shape of their particular dinners. Ideally, you would eat together every other month over the coming year. You can have dinner at someone's home or backyard, you can potluck or meet at a restaurant. It is up to you. Just eat together. Spend time around a common table. Feed and be fed.

Peace,

Jamie

Christian Education

Children's Sunday School Lessons - October

Anchor Point: *We remember God's powerful acts.*

Bible Verse: I'll set you free with great power. (Exodus 6:6)

Sun. October 02 - The Baby in the Basket

Bible Story: Exodus 1:8-14;2:1-10

Sun. October 09 - The Burning Bush

Bible Story: Exodus 2:11 - 3:22

Sun. October 16 - Moses and Pharaoh

Bible Story: Exodus 5:1-13:9

Sunday Morning Forum

October 2nd & 9th Ruth Marris Macaulay will give our reading for the justice series and provide some ideas for preliminary discussion.

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

For those who attend the Sunday Forum September 25th here are two quotations to reflect on for next Sunday's presentation.

"What has changed from the collapse of Jim Crow has less to do with the basic structure of our society than with the language we use to justify it. In the era of colorblindness, it is no longer socially permissible to use race explicitly, as a justification for discrimination, exclusion, and social contempt. So we don't. Rather than rely on race, we use the criminal justice system to label people of color "criminals", and then engage in all the practices we supposedly left behind."

(The New Jim Crow, chapter 1 p.2)

"Now a new king arose in Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore, they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor.... Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw in the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

(Exodus 1:8-10,22)

Jot down your individual reflective responses to these passages to share with the group on Sunday, October 2nd.

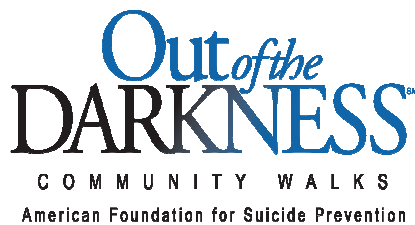
October 16th Baptist missionary Marilyn Raatz.

Mission and Outreach

Sandwich Brigade



Support Crossroads Rhode Island the five Sundays of October. We will make sandwiches that will be distributed by Crossroads to those who need them. The mission of Crossroads is to help the homeless and at-risk individuals in our state develop more secure lives. If you would like to help, sign up in the Fellowship Hall or show up on a Sunday morning.



The annual **Out Of Darkness walk for suicide prevention** will take place Saturday, October 22th at Slater Park in Pawtucket at 2 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please visit their website for more information at:

afsp.donordrive.com



PICA presents
Drink and Dabble
with Charlie Hall!

Friday, November 4, 2016 at 6:30

Tickets are \$50 per person. Your ticket for this PICA fundraiser includes all the materials needed for painting, a light food buffet and entertainment. The



event will be located in the Wine Cellar of B. Pinelli's, 736 North Broadway in East Providence. There is plenty of parking and valet parking is available. Tickets will not be available at the door so get them in advance before they run out! If you cannot attend, consider making a donation.



Reminder: Bring in your **coin boxes** for the World Missions Offering.



FBCIA News

On Saturday evening, September 24th, the "Prayer Vigil for Healing" was held in front of the Meeting House. This vigil was organized by the American Baptist clergywomen of Rhode Island, and our pastor, Jamie Washam presided at the occasion. Among the speakers was our own Tom Wiles, Executive Minister of ABCORI, Don Anderson, Executive Minister of the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, and a variety of others including other Baptist pastors, community activists, the Providence Commissioner of Public Safety, and the Imam of the Masjid Al-Islam mosque. The FBCIA choir sang "Lights of the City" at the conclusion of the gathering.



Sunday, September 25 was the final Sunday for our sexton David Michel. He has retired, sold his home, bought a camper, and he and his wife, Linda, are going to be doing mission trips for their church. During the worship service, Pastor Jamie offered a blessing upon David upon his retirement, and after worship services there was a reception in his honor and an appropriate cake, made by Betsy Shealy, complete with a camper .



Friday Seekers and Potluck

THE GASPEE INCIDENT



HMS Gaspee was a British customs schooner that had been engaged in anti-smuggling operations. It ran aground in shallow water on June 9,

1772, near what is now known as Gaspee Point in the city of Warwick, Rhode Island, while chasing the packet boat *Hannah*. A group of men led by Abraham Whipple and John Brown attacked, boarded, looted, and torched the ship.

Join us on October 28th for a performance in full period costume starring Lincoln School theater teacher David Ely as Lieutenant Duddingstone of the British Royal Navy and our own Ruth Marris-Macaulay as a colonial American woman. They will present a scene based on a conversation between these two characters after the famous burning of *HMS Gaspee* in the run up to the Revolution. Lieutenant Duddingstone was wounded in the attack and was cared for in the home of a Rhode Island woman (she considered it her Christian duty to take care of him....) - and they have a tricky conversation over a cup of tea. The audience is invited to discuss what really happened with the actors afterwards.

A sign up sheet is posted in Fellowship Hall.

Music Mansion

The "Friends of the Music Mansion" invite you to attend a **1928 Estey Pipe Organ Concert** performed by **Stephen Martorella** with **Sarah Dunn, soprano**, on **Sunday, October 30, 2016** at **2:00PM** in the **Music Mansion**, 88 Meeting Street, Providence, RI. Seating is limited. General Admission at the door = \$10.00

Reception in the dining room following the concert. Please join us for coffee, tea and pastries.

The Estey Opus 2668 is a special instrument with excellent voicing, design and tonal finishing of the pipework. This residence organ fits perfectly within the acoustical environment of the music hall itself. Despite Estey's output of 3200 organs, few survive, fewer are unaltered and even less contain the ingenious roll player mechanism or a library of rolls. Therefore, this instrument is a gem worthy of your presence to perceive the sound of its music!

Cordially yours,

The "Friends of the Music Mansion"

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Holly Edwards, Administrative Assistant
Anne Gagan, Bookkeeper
Tony Zambarano, Sexton
Ivy Bermudez, Child Care Worker

Sunday Calendar

Sun. Oct. 2

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Forum
11:00 AM Worship Rev. Jamie Washam
Worship Leader: Mary Alice Kleiber
Greeters: Barbara McCurdy and Barbara Staples
Ushers: Emily and Zach Martin
12:15 PM Tour Guide: Stan Lemons

Sun. Oct. 9

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Forum
11:00 AM Worship Rev. Dr. Tom McKibbens
Greeters: Louise Tillinghast and Priscilla Steadman
Ushers: Emily and Zach Martin
12:15 PM Tour Guide: Joanne Schneider

Sun. Oct. 16

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Forum
11:00 AM Worship Marilyn Raatz
Worship Leader: Jamie Washam
Greeters: The Guiney Family
Ushers: Richard Aubin and Bruce Leonard
12:15 PM Tour Guide: Richard Aubin