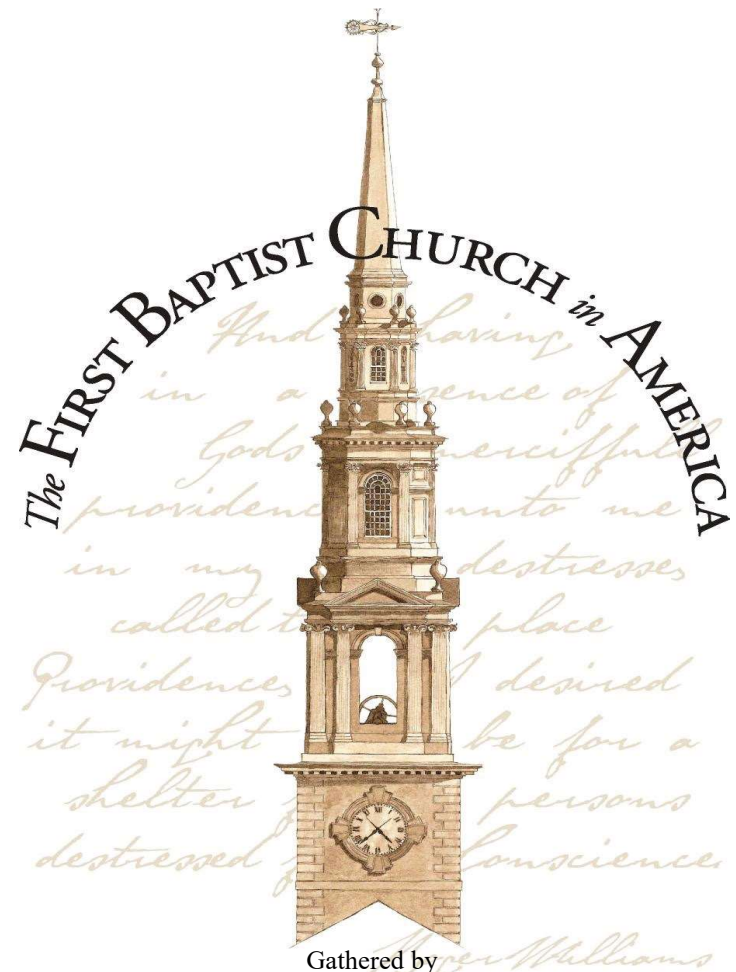


Historical Notes

- 1638 Roger Williams and his companions founded the First Baptist Church in America. "Soul liberty" was and continues to be its watchword.
- 1692 First Baptist Church helped to organize the General Six Principle Baptist Association, the first Baptist association in America.
- 1700 Pardon Tillinghast, then pastor, constructed at his own expense a meeting- house on a lot he owned on North Main Street.
- 1726 A new meetinghouse, forty by forty feet, was erected at the corner of North Main and Smith Streets next to the first church building.
- 1774-75 The Charitable Baptist Society secured a charter from the colonial legislature, allowing it to own property and to use the same for the support of pastors. It immediately began to build the present Meeting House, which was completed in May 1775 and dedicated: "For the publick Worship of Almighty GOD, and also for holding Commencement in." The auditorium is eighty by eighty feet, and seats about 1200 persons. The steeple is 185 feet in height.
- 1782 The First Baptist Church joined the Warren Association, the first Regular Baptist association in New England, and soon assumed its leadership. The fifteenth pastor, Stephen Gano, served as Moderator from 1805 to 1824.
- 1792 The large crystal chandelier was brought from Ireland and installed.
- 1805 First Baptist Church helped to establish the Second Baptist Church of Providence. From then until 1919, it helped to found twelve churches in the Providence area.
- 1806 Jonathan Going, whose work led to the founding of Newton Theological Institution and to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, was baptized here in 1806 and licensed to the ministry by First Baptist in 1809.
- 1807 Women of First Baptist Church founded the Female Mite Society, the first missionary society in Rhode Island. The idea spread to other Rhode Island churches, and their home mission work led in 1825 to the establishment of the Rhode Island Baptist State Convention.
- 1814 Stephen Gano was one of the four delegates from New England to the gathering in Philadelphia, which formed the first national convention of Baptists in America. The General Missionary Convention of the Baptist Denomination was established to support the foreign mission work of Adoniram and Ann Judson.
- 1819 Young women and men established a Sunday school in the vestry of the Meeting House, leading to the ground floor being excavated and finished for Sunday School use.
- 1825 The Rhode Island Baptist State Convention was begun in the Meeting House and Stephen Gano was its first President.
- 1830s Changes in the auditorium saw the high pulpit and square box pews replaced by a low pulpit and slip pews (1832), the organ installed (1834), and an interior baptistry placed beneath the floor of the pulpit (1838).
- 1884 An addition was made to the east end of the building in which were installed a new baptistry and stained glass window. The organ was rebuilt and enlarged, and the ceilings were painted several colors.
- 1938 In its 300th anniversary year, the church officially adopted the name "First Baptist Church in America."
- 1957-58 With a grant from John D. Rockefeller Jr. the entire building was renovated and strengthened, paint returned to its 18th century colors, the organ enlarged with a third manual added, and the high pulpit rebuilt.
- 1980s The steeple, exterior and sanctuary were restored again.
- 2000 The organ is rebuilt by the Foley-Baker Company.
- 2001 The steeple was fully lighted for the first time.
- 2013 America's first Baptist church celebrated its 375th anniversary.
- 2015 Jamie Washam is called as the 37th Minister.



Gathered by
ROGER WILLIAMS
 A.D. 1638

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Sunday, September 18, 2022
 Eleven O'clock AM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude Prelude in c minor BWV 546 Johann Sebastian Bach
Dr. Leilani Nixon, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn 78 O God, Our Help in Ages Past *St. Anne*

Responsive Invocation

One Our faith draws us together this day.
Let us trust enough to open our ears and our hearts.
**Many We have heard of God's miracles in other times;
our ancestors kept the story alive for us.**
One Give ear, people, to God's word for today.
Taste the bounty of God's blessing here and now.
**Many We long for a faith that makes sense today.
We want to keep the story alive for new generations.**
One God's revelation is for all people, near and far.
God is waiting to communicate with you and me.
**Many God have mercy on us and all people.
Surely, God's will shall be made known to us. Amen.**
Lavon Bayler

Scripture Judges 7:1-8

Hymn 516 Be Still and Know

Prayers of the People

**Abba God, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our
debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not unto temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the
power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen**

Children's Message

Hymn 107 Christ Be My Leader *Slane*

Preaching Gideon's .9375%

Offertory Hymn 317 All People That on Earth Do Dwell
Old Hundredth

Offertory Prayer 552

Commission and Blessing

Postlude Fugue in E Flat Major BWV Johann Sebastian Bach

Offering: A Fellowship Offering will be taken as you exit the church.

Worship Participants

Ushers: Colleen and Larry Whelpley
Worship Leader: Georgette Munyampirwa
Tour Guide: Joanne Schneider

Ministry Staff

Minister Rev. Dr. Jamie P. Washam
Minister of Music Stephen T. Martorella
Administrative Assistant Holly B. Edwards
Bookkeeper Anne H. Gagan
Sexton Tony Zambarano

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

*PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES

*Hearing assistance receivers are available from an usher.

*If you are interested in learning more about the history of our community or would like to take a tour of the meeting house, please meet downstairs in the Manning Room, following the service. The Manning Room is downstairs, on your right, behind the piano.



If you would like to make a donation with your smart phone, instead of using a check or cash, use this QR code.

75 North Main Street, Providence, RI 02903
Phone: 401.454.3418/ Website: www.fbcia.org/ Email: FBCIA1638@gmail.com