

First Baptist Church of the City of Washington D.C.

“Every Member Engaged in Ministry...”

June 15, 2016

Wednesday, June 15

11:00 Staff Meeting
5:00 Sandwich Making for Martha’s Table/FH

COOKOUT CANCELLED ... Join Us Tonight...

In Memory and Hope: An Interfaith Prayer Vigil for the People of Orlando and for Peace.
6:30 p.m. –7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 945 G St. NW, (corner of 10th & G Streets)

Friday, June 17

9:00 CDC Donuts for Dad /Lobby

Saturday, June 18

11-6 Building open
Mosaic Worship/Side Chapel

Sunday, June 19

9:30 Church School
10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Rm. 312
11:00 Worship
Sermon: *Facing Depression*
Pastor Julie, preaching
Deacon Ordination and Installation
12:00 Reception/Parlor
2:00 Church of the Good News of Salvation, Rev. Saúl Garcíá, Dawson Room

Recent Additions

Congratulations to Amy and Paulo Ordoveza in the birth of Ezra Koslowski Ordoveza on June 9.

Sympathy to D’O Dillard and family in the death of her cousin, Ricky Lawson.

To our prayer list:

Violet Bakare
Libby Cain
Sadye Doxie
Amanda Ellison
Bettie and Stan Hastey
Will Short
Ki Johnson, grandson of Laval and Frankie Sanks
Gordon Richmond
Ernest Stone

What Cannot Be Killed or Swept Aside: Love

I don’t know what disturbs me more: the reality that our nation and world are gripped in a fist of violence, hatred, blame and rage—or the reality that when I heard about yet another massacre on Sunday, this time in Orlando, I experienced feelings inside my own heart of violence, hatred, blame and rage. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn summed us up well:

“If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being.”

It seems we’re all caught in this dark, gooey web. What’s more, we keep choosing to be caught. Every one of us. No exceptions.

And yet.

There is a Presence. A reality more powerful than any human force we could name or imagine. We can’t dissect it or explain it. But when it appears, instinctively we turn, like meerkats, toward its warmth.

Just hours after the horrific events in Orlando, it’s no surprise that Lin-Manuel Miranda’s acceptance speech at the Tony Awards immediately went viral. Miranda, whose Broadway musical *Hamilton* earned eleven Tony awards, accepted his own for Best Score, not with a speech but with an audacious sonnet of hope:

*...we live through times when hate and fear seem stronger.
We rise and fall and light from dying embers.
Remembrances that hope and love last longer.
And love is love is love is love is love is love is love cannot be killed or swept aside.*

Miranda’s words echo another audacious proclamation:

*Love...bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends...
And now faith, hope and love abide, these three;
and the greatest of these is love.*

The Apostle Paul knew something about God’s kind of love: We can mock it, ignore it, reject it, threaten it, torture it, shoot it and/or nail it to a cross. We can actually kill the love of God...but we cannot defeat it. Love will keep coming back for us. It will keep pursuing us and forgiving us and inviting to come out of death and into life.

(continued on page 2)

What Cannot Be Killed or Swept Aside: Love (continued from page 1)

Love is what God is.
Love is why Christ came.
Love is what the Church must be and do.
No exceptions.

Julie



Your Deacon "on call" for this week

This week's deacon on call is Erik Smith. If you have prayer requests this week, you can reach Erik at 919-357-8128.

A Big THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who've contributed gifts for Syrian Relief. The May love offering on Communion Sunday totaled \$1871.07, and another \$1229.06 was received at the Diane Bish concert (which will be divided between the Syrian relief fund and Fundación Aventura, which provides trauma relief for young men and boys in Bolivia). Total gifts for Syrian Relief: \$2485.60, which will be forwarded to Baptist World Aid for this purpose.

EfM Informational Meeting

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a lay theological program at First Baptist. On June 26, immediately following the worship service, there will be an informational meeting about the program in the Conference Room. If you cannot be there, but are interested in EfM, please contact Ellen Parkhurst at 703-683-1273 or elparkhurst@verizon.net.

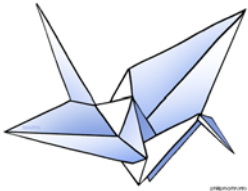
Season of Prayer Verse: Inspired by Psalm 42 and 43

*Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God. We come in search of help and hope.
Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression. We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.
Come, you who are in need of good news. We come in search of joy, truth, and light.
Come and find refuge in God your rock Let us again praise the One who is our help and our hope.*

Read - Reflect - Respond - Rest - Remain

Pastor to Attend CBF General Assembly

Pastor Julie will be in Greensboro, NC, from Tuesday until Saturday next week (June 21-25) for the 25th annual General Assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. During the week, in addition to plenary sessions and breakouts, she'll participate in gatherings of Baptist Women in Ministry, the Religious Liberty Council (Baptist Joint Committee), Global Women and Mid-Atlantic CBF. Keynote speakers this year are Tom Long and Diana Butler Bass. Please pray for this year's Assembly, and for all who are traveling to Greensboro for spiritual inspiration, mission and friendship.



First Sunday Potluck and Origami! Origami Summer Group



Does origami fascinate you? Ever wondered how it is done? Want to try? Then join our own FBC origami expert, Bettye Robinson, as she teaches us the Japanese art of folding paper into shapes. We will gather after the potluck meal on Sunday, July 3, in Fellowship Hall. To ensure that she has enough supplies, you are requested to register for this fun family activity by calling or emailing Julie Pascu at 301-530-5258 or juliepascu@starpower.net. Bettye welcomes all ages. Please join us!

Johenning Baptist Community Center Event: July 30

Coordinator and Volunteers Needed!

First Baptist Church of D.C. has been invited to host another event at the Johenning Baptist Community Center in late July. This event gives FBCDC the opportunity to fellowship with our friends in Southeast DC, organize games for children and provide a meal at the time of the month when resources for residents are stretched. In order to be able to answer this request, we need a coordinator to organize the event. Would one or two people like to lead the event? Would others like to volunteer? It will take a volunteer group of about 15-to-20 people broken up into four teams. *If you are interested in coordinating or serving at this event, please contact Dinh Tran at dinhtran0430@gmail.com.*

By the Numbers

- 124: Worshipers on Sunday morning, June 12**
- 65: Adults, youth and children who gathered on Sunday, June 12, for Bible study, conversation, choir rehearsal and friendship**
- 250: Music lovers at the Diane Bish organ recital on June 12**

Scenes from Sunday...



Diane Bish Recital Wows Enthusiastic Audience

The fiery red outfit Diane Bish wore for the first half of her recital was an indication of the fireworks to come. Her performance wowed an exuberant audience, some of whom came from as far away as Peru, Indiana (birthplace of famed composer Cole Porter) and Greenville, South Carolina. Miss Bish, known as “The First Lady of the Organ,” included works by Bach, Tournamire and Elgar in her program, and the audience sang two verses of “All Creatures of Our God and King” during her own composition of “Introduction, Theme and Variations on Lasst Uns Erefuen.” A festive reception followed in Fellowship Hall, where Miss Bish greeted her fans and signed CD’s and music scores. Thanks to all involved for making the event run smoothly.



Scenes from Sunday (continued)...



Center right:
Zena Aldridge and
Ronald Aldridge

Far right:
Chelsea Clarke and
Paul Clark

Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, June 22

11:00 Staff Meeting/Conference Room

SATURDAY, June 25

11:00 - 6:00 Building Open

12:00 FBC Basketball

5:00 Mosaic Worship/Side Chapel

SUNDAY, June 26

9:30 Church School for all ages

10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Room 312

11:00 Worship

Passing the Baton

Pastor Julie, preaching

12:00 Informational Session on Education for Ministry/
Conference Room

12:15 Church Council Meeting/Meadows Room

2:00 The Church of the Good News of Salvation,
(Spanish Language) Rev. Saúl Garcíá,
Dawson Room

Summer Small Group Outing

Rockies vs Nationals
on Sunday, August 28

Watch the bulletin and Update for more
information.

*Lectionary Readings
for
Sunday, June 19
Fifth Sunday
after Pentecost*

*1 Kings 19:1-15a
Psalm 42*

*2 Corinthians 4:7-10,16
Luke 8:26-39*

CHURCH STAFF:

Julie Pennington-Russell, Pastor, jpr@firstbaptistdc.org
Deborah Cochran, Associate Pastor, dcochran@firstbaptistdc.org
Lawrence P. Schreiber, Organist-Choirmaster, lschreiber@firstbaptistdc.org
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Stephen Hunter, Building Engineer, shunter@firstbaptistdc.org
Tim Pennington-Russell, Comm. & IT Support, tpr@firstbaptistdc.org
Carolyn B-Roebuck, CDC Director, croebuck@firstbaptistdc.org

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