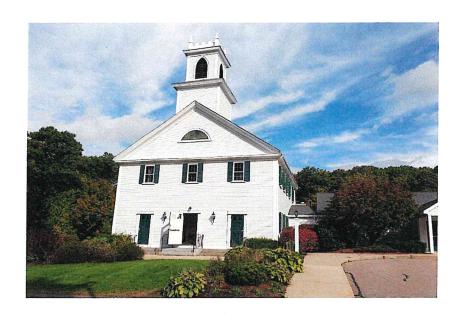


808 HIGH STREET · WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS 02090



The Message September 2024

REV. CATHERINE M. MILLER, PASTOR

CHURCH OFFICE: 781-461-1730 EMAIL: OFFICE@FBCWESTWOOD.ORG

PASTOR'S STUDY: 781-461-0297 EMAIL: PASTOR@FBCWESTWOOD.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.FBCWESTWOOD.ORG



From The Pastor's Desk.



September 2024

Grace and Peace...

First Baptist Church Westwood
& Friends

Praise God! Summer continues until Sept. 22nd. May the Holy Spirit's gentle presence continue to give you moments of ease and happiness. You do have a reason for hope to lift your heart each day. Remember, *God's mercies toward us are new every morning*. Have you shared about God's life-changing love active in *your life* through Jesus? Let someone know *what a friend you have in Jesus*. Introduce them to Him in prayer.

* * *

While it is true that the transition from Summer to Fall season is a few weeks off, our church is in midst of major change within our Music Department. We all have known for some time now that after Sunday August 25, 2024, our dear Jan Randlett, will no longer carry the title of Music Director at FBC, Westwood. She shared this decision to retire this past Spring. Now the time of her stepping down is upon us. Celebrating love and appreciation for Jan's many years of committed service to Christ's Church will be bittersweet. I've worked closely with her for almost 1 ½ years. Not nearly as long as many of you have known her but it's sad for me. I'm very thankful she'll still be here!

It made me smile when Jan accepted my invitation to interview her a couple of months ago for this September newsletter. It was both a historic and fun time. We meet for work always and built a true friendship while chatting about life, dogs and birds! But interviewing Jan was a special privilege and I am personally encouraged by her testimony of God's faithfulness and miraculous power that strengthens Jan's will, faith, and body!

Jan is one of those musicians hand-picked to play for God. This was made apparent very early on when she was a young child. Her loving father, Rev. Edward G. Ward, a Baptist minister, recognized his daughter's musical gift, so when she was 4 years of age, he sat her at the piano and taught her to play *Home On the Range*, to the glory of God! Next, he found a piano teacher for his little girl and Jan played for her first worship service at merely 10 years of age! The story gets even better... Jan's feet could not yet reach the base pedal so her dear father left the pulpit, got down on hands and knees, and pressed the pedals while Jan played her heart out on the keys!

At 19 years of age, when Jan was preparing for her nursing career at New England Baptist Hospital, she was a member of their Glee Club. A high honor was extended to Jan that she could have never imagined would come her way. The Baptist Glee Club chose Jan to be their pianist for a combined concert with Boston University's fraternity and she would be accompanied by the fraternity's organist. The concert was held at John Hancock Hall and Jan told me about the amazing diversity of instruments and vocal melody ringing out in harmony. Sounds of organ, piano and choir voices created a memorable grand finale of *Battle Hymn of The Republic* which was the classic arrangement by Peter Wilhousky. Jan's heart has a beautiful imprint of that experience and that particular arrangement. Jan's eyes sparkled as she shared this in my office. She said: "What an honor to be considered, let alone to be chosen." Well done, Jan!

Family is one of the greatest blessings Jan has received in life and she thanks God for them each day. Her three 3 children (Linda, Lisa and Mark) have always been supportive, never giving her a problem. Jan put it simply: "My family easily fell in line with life and has always upheld me." They are respectful, loving and kind and her 7 grandchildren are being raised in this way. She adores her grandkids who are always waiting to greet her at family gatherings. As soon as she arrives there are shouts of: "Nana's here!" followed by their big, group hug.

Jan has had worries as we all have, but refused to let worry overwhelm her. She never let discouragement force her to give up. Jan is soft spoken but courageous. In her words: "I always have faith that God is going to take care of me." She stands firm on these words of Jesus recorded in the Gospel of **Matthew 6:27, 31**:

"And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?... But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Her father, Rev. Ward, was a good man and a people person. Jan's strength for life was also built up by observing him helping other people... diverse people. Jan was learning that godly character is built when we help others from a <u>selfless</u> heart. She was being prepared for the nursing vocation. She noticed her dad's way of *being present* <u>for</u> people, *being company* <u>to</u> people, and *being an authentic listener*. Jan recalls at 12 years of age during worship feeling certain that God was real and that she was special to God. She didn't understand many things about the Christian faith yet, but she felt God with her.

In spite of great trial, God ordained even greater abundance of blessing upon Jan's life.

Hallelujah! Jan dear, you	ir cup <i>runneth over</i> .
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Peace to us all.

Pastor Catherine

"Remember, the joy of the Lord is our strength! Thankful for Summer fellowship... Pastor Catherine











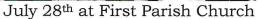






Summer Interfaith services







August 18th at FBC Westwood

Westwood's Participating Houses of Worship:

FBC Westwood – Rev. Catherine M. Miller First Parish Church – Rev. J.T. Hills St. John's Episcopal Church – Rev. V. Michael Bousquet

The Summer Interfaith service at FBC Westwood – August 18th



Rev. V. Michael Bousquet St. John's Episcopal



Our Chancel Choir



"Let's Talk" group discussion and Holy Communion

Hello everyone!

Pastor Catherine hosts an in-person and Zoom Bible discussion monthly where she will present a topic for us to reflect upon and there will be open discussion for sharing and learning from each other, with the Holy Spirit's guidance.

We'll close with The Lord's Supper, so bring your bread and juice! The sessions will resume on Thursday, September 5^{th} , gathering in the Reception room and on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. We will meet on the first Thursday of each month.

Hope you can join us!

For those attending by Zoom, Rev. Catherine M. Miller is inviting you to the scheduled event.

Topic: Let's Talk: Bible Study & Holy Communion w/ Pastor Catherine

Time: Sep 5, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the First Thu, until Jul 3, 2025, 11 occurrence(s)

Sep 5, 2024 07:00 PM

Oct 3, 2024 07:00 PM

Nov 7, 2024 07:00 PM

Dec 5, 2024 07:00 PM

Jan 2, 2025 07:00 PM

Feb 6, 2025 07:00 PM

Mar 6, 2025 07:00 PM

Apr 3, 2025 07:00 PM

May 1, 2025 07:00 PM

Jun 5, 2025 07:00 PM

Jul 3, 2025 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcodu-

<u>urTwuHdac3InSTEQ_Ezi5BrhXckDa/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGrqzosHNeStB6FRpwqGYj4M</u>-7ztmZbqqdcn0zMDRNnRzLJE_hLZ5BtGODT

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83516637472?pwd=EvL6pkHvrpu0fst9Pyl3PKEydXFVak.1

Meeting ID: 835 1663 7472

Passcode: 618284

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/k10BxoEcM

Congratulations to our Music Director, Jan Randlett, on her retirement!

Sunday, August 25, 2024





Jan, the Chancel Choir & Pastor Catherine



Steve Barrett
came and sang two
solos for the
special occassion



Jan & Sunny, piano duet



Jan's cake



Pastor Catherine





Gail, Jan S. and Jan R.



WESTWOOD RINGERS UPDATE......

After a wonderful 2023-24 season (including regular Sunday morning services, the December service of Lessons and Carols, a Christmas concert at a neighboring church, a Spring Concert and summer quartets) the Ringers are energized for a new season, new music, and new ringing opportunities.....but we need one more ringer!

Included in this season's plans are musicianship classes for all ringers. These classes will be held prior to Sunday evening rehearsals and are a wonderful opportunity to boost your musical knowledge AND have fun ringing this unique instrument.

We rehearse on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm following the 5:15 musicianship classes, and once a month on Sunday morning (8:15 am) prior to participating in the morning worship service.

If you have some musical experience all the better - but it is not a prerequisite; we will teach and help you learn what you need to know.

Please contact the director, Dan Moore at: mlmkdkm@gmail.com



Westwood Ringers Summer Quartet July 7th

2023 Christmas Concert





For information regarding the speakers, go to tabcom.org, click on "News", "Half Notes", then "August 2024".

TABCOM ANNUAL GATHERING 2025

SAVE THE DATE

May 2-3, 2025

Grotonwood Camps and Conference Center 189 Prescott Street, Groton, MA

Oceanwood Work Weekend

Oct. 11-13, 2024

Calling for volunteers to work on specific projects.

Youth Groups | Skilled Laborers | Families | Painters | Churches | Cleaners

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH
Arrive 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM for fellowship and refreshments.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

7:30 AM Devotions

8:00 AM Breakfast

8:30 AM Work

Noon Lunch

12:30 PM Work

3:30 PM Free Time

5:00 PM Dinner

6:00 PM Devotions & Fellowship

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

8:00 AM Breakfast

8:45 AM Worship

9:30 AM Clean Room & Depart

REGISTRATION

Name(s):

(Use a separate piece of paper if needed.)

Telephone:

Food Allergies:

☐ I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$

to cover the cost of four meals provided by Oceanwood.

The cost for Oceanwood to prepare four meals per person is

\$60.00. Two nights lodging is waived by Oceanwood as a

"thank you" for your service.

Complete the registration form and mail it to John Mulloy, 27 Ox Rd., Billerica, MA 01821 with a check made payable to Oceanwood for the four meals.



Donation requests from The Westwood Food Pantry

- 1. Please do not travel to the stores just to pick up donated itemsinstead we suggest that you purchase a few donation items during your regular shopping trip, especially if they are on sale.
- 2. You can bring your items to worship on Sunday.

Suggested items:

- Canned Soups -especially Progresso (Vegetable types, Clam Chowder, etc)
- Canned Vegetables (Peas, Corn, etc.)
- Canned Baked Beans
- Canned Fruit (Pineapple, Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pears, Mandarin Oranges, etc.)
- Canned Beef Stew, Hash, Chili with Meat)
- Spaghetti Sauce (small 24 -25-ounce jars)

Other "Always Needed" Popular Items

- Health & Beauty Aids (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste etc.)
- Diapers
- L or XL Depends
- Cleaning Products (dish detergent, laundry detergent, etc.)
- Cake mixes and frosting
- Canned White Albacore Tuna in water
- Canned Chicken (5-ounce cans or small pouches)

Volunteers:

At this time they have all the volunteers they can use, but their needs may change at any time. If you or your high school or college-aged student is interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry, please email westwoodfoodpantry@gmail.com.

(Sorry, but they are unable to accept volunteers younger than 9th grade.)

How to Apply:

The Westwood Food Pantry is available to all residents of Westwood who are experiencing temporary or long-term food insecurity.

To request assistance from the Westwood Food Pantry or to set up a client visit, please email them at westwoodfoodpantry@gmail.com or call them at 781-269-2008.



Pull-Tabs for Shriners Hospital

Are you aware that for years we've been collecting pull-tabs from beverage cans – and we're still doing it? Why? Here's the story.

Shriners Hospitals in Springfield and Boston have been collecting pull-tabs or "poptops" from beverage cans since 1989, recycling them, and putting the money toward programs that directly benefit children. The pull-tabs are the only pure aluminum part of the beverage can, and there are approximately 1,200 to 1,400 tabs in one pound. Since the program's inception, about a half-million pounds of aluminum tabs have been collected and recycled.

We donate the tabs to the Shriners' Burns Hospital – Boston. Neil Patterson coordinates this project, and Ken Shaw delivers the tabs to the hospital. There is a plastic jug in the Reception Room at church where you can leave the tabs you have removed from beverage cans.

Their website reminds us that Shriners' Children's Hospitals are "always here for our patients, regardless of a family's ability to pay or insurance status".

You can help a Shriner help a child. Donate pull-tabs for recycling.







(for in-person, calls, or Zoom)

Tuesdays:

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wednesdays & Thursdays:

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

For an appointment call: 781-461-0297 or 781-461-1730

ext. 12

or email:

pastor@fbcwestwood.org.

(if you call when she isn't there, you can leave a message)



Through August 30th: Tuesdays & Thursdays only 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Beginning September 3rd: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 1:30 pm

Besides visiting Donna in the church office, she can be reached by phone at 781-461-1730 or by emailing her at

office@fbcwestwood.org

Face masks are required in the church office.



Sunday Worship Services

Please check out our website, www.fbcwestwood.org. We post Livestream links and videos of our worship services there, plus other news and devotional materials.



<u>Crafters' Group</u>

Join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month as we work on items for December's Holly Fair.

Meeting dates are:

September 11th October 9th November 13th

We meet in room 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at office@fbcwestwood.org.



You are invited to join the Chancel Choir rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 9:20 a.m. starting in September.



Hebrews 2:11-12

Join us for Rally Day Sunday, also known as National Back to Church Day, on September 15th at 10:00 a.m.

Our Chancel Choir will be performing and there will be a Coffee Hour following worship.

We trust you had a good Summer break and look forward to everyone worshipping together again this Fall!



Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is a great time to enjoy

catching up with others and having some goodies, too, following morning worship.

Join us in September as we will be back to holding Coffee Hour each Sunday following worship in the Reception Room.

We are looking for additional helpers to host a Sunday. Wouldn't you like to host one? Sign-up sheets for September, and October are posted on the bulletin board in the Reception room.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Thompson at kleethompson65@gmail.com or the Church office at office@fbcwestwood.org or call 781-461-1730.



A Note from the Music Committee

In 2015, our church was blessed to have Jan Randlett accept the position of Director of Music.

This year, in April, we received Jan's letter of resignation. Although we were saddened to hear this, our search began to replace her - NOT an easy task.

Jan has rarely missed a Sunday or a choir rehearsal. She has always stepped up to the plate for anything that was asked of her with a smile on her face. She has continued to have special music, kept our Easter and Christmas bands going, taken care of the organ and pianos, kept everyone in the music program within budget as well as a multitude of tasks that we don't even know about.

Jan's last Sunday was August 25th. We are sorry to see her step down but wish her all God's blessings.

Thank you, Jan, for your love of music and all you have done for our music program. We love you!!!



Sign-up sheets for September & October are posted on the Reception room bulletin board.
This is your opportunity to

volunteer.



Digital version of the Sunday Bulletin



We produce a digital version of the weekly Sunday bulletin that is

formatted so that it can be easily read on a cell phone, tablet, or computer. This is being emailed to people a day or two ahead of the service. It can be helpful when watching the worship service online or simply to find out what's happening at FBC that week. If you wish to be added to the email list to receive the digital bulletin, please contact Donna Metcalf via email at office@fbcwestwood.org.



Church Council and Staff meeting

hybrid (Zoom & Reception Room)

September 17th 7:00pm



October "Message"

Material for next month's newsletter is due to Donna in the church office by:

Wednesday, September 18th (office@fbcwestwood.org)



Saturday, Sept. 21st

Additional volunteers are needed to help staff our booth.

Come join the fun, and help spread the word about FBC!

Contact Jen Cromack
(jenstenc@yahoo.com) or the church
office (office@fbcwestwood.org) if you
are interested in volunteering (can be
for an hour or more) at the booth.
A CORI form must be completed by all
volunteers and they are available
in the church office and the bulletin
board in the Reception room.

Westwood Day is held at
Westwood High School's parking lot on
Nahatan Street from 10am- 3pm,
rain or shine.

Salem Radio Boston



Christian Radio Station

Tune in to AM 590 WEZE "The Word" channel on Saturdays
@ 5:15pm and enjoy our Pastor's
prayer/inspiration program,
Be Still, a family-oriented radio
outreach sponsored by
FBC Westwood!
Livestream & podcasts at
http://wezeradio.com/radioshow/
be-still.



Boy Scout Troop #3 Ever So Humble Pie Company Fundraiser

The Boy Scouts are holding their pie fundraser again this fall. They are accepting orders now through October 7th. November 6th will be the delivery date at the church.

An order form is included within this newsletter and other copies are available in the Reception room and the bulletin board outside of the church office.



You are invited to join our Prayer Chain. This is a small group of FBC folk who email one another with prayer concerns of the larger church community and then include those concerns in their prayers. This is beyond the all-church prayers shared by the Pastor. If you would like to join The Prayer Chain, please contact Sunny O'Malley.

Attic Treasure donations



Have you been doing some "spring cleaning" this summer? Are you

looking for a place to donate items? Starting October 1st, we will be accepting items for our Holly Fair's Attic Treasures table. Items can be dropped off at the church office. We will be collecting items through November 17th.

We can use just about anything that is in good, clean condition at this table. (However, please note: we cannot accept T.V.'s, computer equipment, dehumidifiers, typewriters or air conditioners.)



If it's easier for you, we accept PayPal payments on our website for offering or other donations. Just click on the "donate" button on www.fbcwestwood.org.

Another option we offer is through using Venmo. Here is our QR code that you can scan.





Congratulations!!

We celebrate the wedding of
Daniel DeVoy
& Sarah Van Wagenen who were
married on July 8th. This beautiful
photo is from their ceremony in
Aruba.

Congratulations Kayla!



Kayla Dolley graduated from
Brockton Hospital School of
Nursing in June.
She is now a Registerd Nurse
and works at
Beth Israel Deaconess in Milton



Ever So Humble. Pie Company, Inc.

153 Washington Street E. Walpole, MA 02032 (508) 660-9731 www.eversohumble.com

BOY SCOUTS Troop #3 fundraiser

New England Apple Pie - Freshly peeled apples tossed with brown sugar and spices, beneath a delicate flaky crust.

Apple Crisp - Freshly peeled apples topped with rolled oats, whole wheat flour, butter and brown sugar.

Wild Blueberry Tart and juicy wild blueberries kissed wioth a hint of lemon.

Jumble Berry Pie - Our Blue Ribbon Winner! Cape Cod cranberries, sweet strawberries, blueberries and zesty oranges.

Chocoate cream - Our own, made from scratch, chocolate pudding topped with 100% real whipped cream.

Farmhouse Chicken Pot Pie - Tender Chicken breast, hand cut carrots, celery and peas in our own gravy.

8" Pie Serves 6

Apple Crisp Serves 5

Allergy Alert: Produced in a facility that uses eggs, milk, wheat, pecans, walnuts, almonds, almond oil.

	19.95 New England	19.95 Wild Blice	19.95	19.95	Apple Criss	Farmhouse 2.95	Chicken Pot Pie	TOTAL
Name & Phone	19.95	19.95	19.95	19.95	12.95	22.95		
Totals								

Deadline to order: October 7th. Pies will be delivered to the church parking lot Wednesday, November 6th. Checks should be made payable to Boy Scout Troop #3.

Completed order forms and payment may be dropped off or mailed to the church office (808 High St, Westwood, MA 02090)