



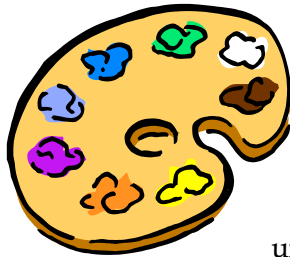
First Baptist Church in Wickford

THE GOOD NEWS

November 2005

THE COLOR STUDY OF PERSONALITY

NOVEMBER 8TH AND 9TH ~ 6:45 – 9:00 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL



You won't want to miss this opportunity to bring more understanding and meaning to your relationships. What color combination will you be? Orange, Blue, Green and Gold (formally Brown).

The first night will help us understand ourselves and others by taking a simple test. We will divide into our like groups and explore the advantages and the road blocks of our color. The second night we will explore Creative Problem Solving using the color styles of thinking.

Ken Weiboldt will be our presenter. He has worked with churches, corporations, schools and is presently working at the Job Corp in Exeter. He is president of his Church Council and a Sunday School Teacher.

For those of you who are saying, we've already done that. I say true, but have you done it with this group of people? It was an eye opening experience for our church the last time it was done and I am hoping that it will enhance our current church family and enable us to work toward the Church's Mission of the advancement of the Kingdom of God and of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(Purpose statement is taken from our Constitution)

There is no charge for the class. A free will offering will be taken after each session. Anyone needing a ride due to the night time meeting please call the church 294-4595.

- Beth Blink, Stewardship Committee Chair

WOMEN'S GUILD MONTHLY MEETING

Our next meeting will be held at 1 PM on Wednesday, Nov. 9th. We will be working on White Cross projects. Dottie Cusack and Gladys Sherman will act as hostesses

GALS NIGHT OUT

Those who attended our October meeting enjoyed an interesting and informative program where Beth Fitzpatrick demonstrated spinning fleece into yarn. Please join us on Monday, Nov. 21 for our next meeting. Save the date and check your Sunday bulletin for more information!!

WHITE CROSS REQUESTS FOR SOUTH PROVIDENCE

Iglesia Bautista Hispana El Calvario at Calvary Baptist Church in Providence is looking for donations of the following items: 15 bars of soap, 10 towels, 10 washcloths, 20 toothbrushes, 20 tubes of toothpaste and 15 combs. Please place donations in the basket located in Fellowship Hall by Nov. 13.

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STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Clifford R.
Hockensmith

Administrative Assistant
Cricket Genest

Director of Music
Ministries

Elaine Alexander

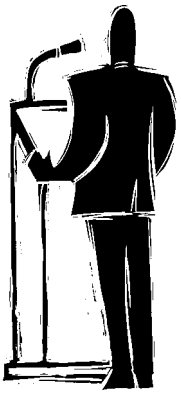
Church Phone
294.4595

Fax Number
294.7628

Email
fbcwickford@verizon.net

Website
www.wickfordbaptist.org

THE DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE GOOD NEWS IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD



HARVEST BLESSINGS

By Rev. Dr. Clifford Hockensmith

I cannot believe that it is November already, marking Carol's and my first anniversary as residents of North Kingstown. Our beach has been swept clean of rocks and debris from the recent storms, as if the Lord were preparing for winter. At the end of harvest, it is a good time to count our blessings, as families, as a church, and as Americans.

If you missed the tremendous program performed by John Hubert at our organ this past Sunday, you still have a chance to hear him next month as we put on a Messiah Sing Along. Watch for details.

The choir is presenting a string of great anthems, and is as well balanced as ever.

We now have a whole team of people who will serve communion to those shut-ins who cannot attend morning worship.

Recent financial reports show our church operating budget nearly balanced and rolling along very efficiently, thanks to your faithfulness, and that of past and present financial officers. Thanks to these same people, Cricket's administrative and bookkeeping position has brought a seamless transition.

The adult Sunday school, as well as the children's, continues faithfully each Sunday, with much lively and inspiring participation.

Annual dinners like the Insight Luncheon and Over 80's Luncheon are going on, as high quality as ever.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study brings around a dozen women, who faithfully study Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

Sunday morning worship attendance is up into the 80's.

The Colors Study promises to be a lively, educational and entertaining program.

I have the privilege of preaching at the annual community Thanksgiving service across the street at St. Pauls, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The By-Laws committee continues to meticulously review and revise by laws, and their recommendations will soon be reviewed.

Your gifts to Hurricane relief have been generous.

As fall turns to winter, our church remains active, faithful, inspiring and growing in our ministry. May we continue to seek the Lord for focus and direction in our work of advancing the Kingdom of Christ.

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAYS

9:30 am

Sunday School
Chapel Building
& Stafford House

10:45 am

Worship
Sanctuary

11:45 am

Fellowship Hour
Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAYS

9:00 am

Prayer Group
Stafford House

10:15 am

Bible Study Fellowship
Stafford House

1:00 pm

Ladies Guild (2nd Wed.)
Craft Workshop
(1st, 3rd, & 4th Wed.)
Stafford House

THURSDAYS

7:15 pm

Choir Rehearsal
Choir Room

Thank You

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior,

First and foremost I want to thank you Pastor Hockensmith. I call you Pastor because I love your church service. The music, organ, piano etc. and above all your preaching and teaching. Every morning I listen to one of your tapes. I feel I'm right there with all of you. It is such a blessing to hear you exalt and excel in the Word of God. You take us right into the presence of our Lord Jesus. I learn so very much from you. "I rejoice with you" and the people there. Thank you!!

Please accept this gift of love for the tapes I receive each week. May God continue to bless you and your family and use you for His glory.

-Fran Barko

(Taken from a card sent to the church in appreciation of the tapes she receives each week.)

October 13, 2005

Dear Friends,

We have received your very generous contribution of \$1,000 to the "sponsor a family" program supporting the unmet needs of evacuees located in Middletown.

We have sent you the first names of your "adopted family" (see below.) Should your congregation want to communicate with your "adoptees," letters and notes can be sent through the Council office (see address below.)

Thank you for your incredible response. It is inspiring to see how quickly so many of our faith communities respond to such horrendous tragedies! I am also humbled by your kind expressions of trust in what the Council is trying to do on your behalf.

Cordially,

The Rev. John E. Holt

The Rhode Island State Council of Churches
225 Chapman Street, Suite 303
Providence, RI 02905-4539

Our Adopted Family
Parents: Greg & Amal
Child – Lena, age 3

October 25, 2005

Dear Reverend Hockensmith,

Thank you very much for inviting us back to First Baptist Church in Wickford for our first IN-SIGHT Social of the season. We were received with great warmth and hospitality by your wonderful congregation. Not only was the food delicious as always, and the entertainment delivered to delight those attending, but there was the undeniable joy of giving to others that was so evident.

Thank you again for your continued support of our blind and visually impaired IN-SIGHT community.

Sincerely,

Judith Pierce, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for IN-SIGHT

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 8th
5:00 PM

Missions Committee
Stafford House

Wednesday, Nov. 9th
2:00 PM

Worship Committee
Stafford House

Wednesday, Nov. 16th
7:00 PM

Buildings & Properties
Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 21st
6:30 PM

Diaconate

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Color Study of Personality

Tuesday November 8th &
Wednesday, Nov. 9th
6:45 PM
Fellowship Hall

The Over 80's Luncheon
Sunday, November 13th
12:15 PM
Fellowship Hall

Marriage Enrichment Group

Saturday, November 19th
Fellowship Hall

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 20th
5:00 PM
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Gal's Night Out
Monday, November 21st
7:00 PM



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2005

| | | <u>Plan</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | <u>07/01/05 - 10/26/05</u> | <u>07/01//05 - 10/26/05</u> |
| Income | | |
| Pledges & Repeat Supporters | \$ 37,361.50 | \$ 39,811.87 |
| Other Income | <u>\$ 6,820.00*</u> | <u>\$ 10,041.62*</u> |
| Total Income | \$ 44,693.67 | \$ 51,804.95 |
| Expenses | | |
| Current Operating Expenses | <u>\$ 44,991.43</u> | <u>\$ 51,805.95</u> |
| Net Income | \$ (297.76) | \$ 0.00 |

* Includes \$4,413 from reserves per plan.

MISSION NOTES

The **World Mission Offering** for the month of October was \$607.50. The Missions Tree in the front of the church, with each leaf representing \$20 to support an international missionary, filled up nicely.

Please mark your calendar for a **Mission Dinner on January 11th**. Nancy Bancroft of the American Baptist Women's Ministries will give us personal insights and accounts of the **Kodiak Alaska Mission** which we support. More information and a sign up sheet will be available in December.

Mike Bucklin reports from his mission field in the remote mountainous regions of **Indonesia** that the two brand new PC-6 aircraft are now in service and have made a big difference in the ability of the Wycliffe Bible Translators to accomplish their mission. He gives a "terima kasih" (thank you) for our prayers and support this past year. The Bucklins will return to the States for a short furlough visit in December and will be staying in Waxhaw, NC.

Buildings & Property Update

This has been a busy end of summer, fall season for the B&P committee. As Christian Ed and users of the Stafford Building can attest we have ended summer with enough plumbing challenges to last the rest of the year!

As we move on from summer to autumn we are planning the annual **FALL CLEAN UP DAY IN NOVEMBER** (we will wait till most leaves have fallen) watch bulletins for a date **COFFEE WILL BE READY BY 8:30 AM!!**

We are also planning to launch our "Pave the Way" campaign. In an attempt to make some changes that will reduce the amount of **labor** involved in caring for the grounds we are hoping to edge gardens in the lawn areas with landscape pavers. This will eliminate the need to edge gardens, and should inhibit lawn plants (and weeds) from migrating into garden areas as well. We will have a "paver" sample and the cost per paver in fellowship hall. More info to follow.

Thanks to all who have been planting bulbs for spring blooming, and to those who adopted a garden spot. We hope the tool supply has made those chores easier.

This committee meets monthly, checks the property daily, and asks that YOU let us know when something needs attention. There is a bulletin board in the kitchen if you want to post messages there. *At the moment our biggest need is more members.* Whether you are willing to be available for specific property related tasks or on an "on call list" for projects we welcome you to speak to a member of the committee, or watch the bulletin for posted meetings. Thanks to Herb Bassett, Jim Blink, and our very efficient secretary Nancie Schnell for their commitment and all they do for FBCW!

Next B&P meeting Wed. November 16th at 7:00PM

On behalf of this hard working committee...Audrey Schmid

The Blind Boys of Alabama



An 80th Anniversary Benefit for IN-SIGHT

Friday, November 11th at 8:00 PM

VMA Arts & Cultural Center in Providence

Tickets on sale now at tickets.com or by calling

800-919-6272 or 401-272-4VMA

MEMBERSHIP & CARE NEWS

The Over 80's luncheon will be held on Sunday, November 13th at 12:15 pm. We are planning a delicious chicken dinner prepared by Audrey and her many helpers. If you are willing to help us, please contact Carolyn Bassett at 294-2239. We also have a special musical treat that you will enjoy.

Don't forget to sign up to host a fellowship hour!! There are many Sundays that need hosts. This "time" happens thank to all who are willing to take a turn hosting.

A word from our friends:

- Much love to all at FBCW from the Drew family
- Shirlye Jacob gives her best wishes to all and wishes us a happy and successful year.
- Bill and Sherrie Neal send their love!
- Mike and Ann Wright and family give their best to all and they still think of FBCW as their home church.



DON'T SELL THAT ANTIQUE YET!!!

We are having a **FUNDRAISING AUCTION** next spring and will be asking for items and/or services to be donated.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to participate on the committee planning the auction.

See or call Linda (Mrs. Kenneth) Lawrence at 789-0768 or Beth Blink at 294-4644.

SUMMARY OF IN-SIGHT LUNCHEON ON OCTOBER 20, 2005

This year we fed 62 folks who receive social support from the IN-SIGHT organization of Rhode Island. We also had two hosts and a staff of 14 kitchen and dining room helpers. This totals lunch for 78 people.

Our menu included: fresh fruit cup, meatloaf and gravy, mashed potatoes, orange glazed carrots, cold beets, assorted breads, homemade gingerbread and real whipped cream, coffee, tea and ice water.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
IN WICKFORD**
34-44 MAIN STREET
NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI 02852

**TIME VALUE - DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5th** Macie Johnson
- 6th** Bruce Renner
- 7th** Josh Leonard
- 8th** Bette Lou Pease
- 12th** Elaine Alexander
- 25th** Libby Urish
- 27th** Danielle Pirhala
- 28th** Cindy Bellisle



LIBRARY CORNER

We are so grateful for the many book donations that continue to arrive for our Church Library. The Library Committee would like to be able to thank you for your generosity (or offer the return of a book if it is a duplicate) but we cannot, if we don't know who is the donor. Would you leave a note, with your name, and whether you would agree to our passing any duplicate books along to other church libraries or to the NK Library for their periodic book sales. And again, **THANK YOU** for continuing to add to the treasure of books in our Library."

FLOWERS

We are now in need of offerings of flowers for the winter months. Would you like to give flowers? Please sign up on the flower chart in Fellowship Hall and fill out the form for the bulletin announcement. You may take care of getting the flowers yourself or the flowers will be ordered from Bert & Pegs in your choice of colors for the bargain price of \$20.00!! Many Thanks to everyone who shared their garden flowers in Worship this past Spring, Summer and Fall!



ABCORI LISTENING TEAM

On Tuesday, September 6, and Wednesday, September 7, workshops were held at Wickford to help restore unity and bring understanding of common problems that most churches encounter in their journeys. Both nights' workshops were well attended with 55 to 60 members each evening. This strong support shows, as a church body, we are looking to find solutions to the problems that every church must work through. The session began with participants breaking into small groups and listing things we feel we do well as a church. It was inspiring to see just how many things we do well and the pride we took in exclaiming them out loud. It was apparent by the reaction of the Listening Team that a church with all these gifts would have no problem getting back on track if we use our strengths as a starting point for church harmony. Our music and fellowship (especially when food is involved) topped most of the groups' lists as strengths.

The second night was a little harder. We were asked to list areas of church life that were felt to be problems or that needed work. Again, looking at a list that showed the vulnerability of our church, the Listening Team reassured us that we were in about the same spot as most churches with similar internal conflicts. Topping the lists were lack of communication, loss of members, and personal agendas not in keeping with the Bible. By the end of the night members were in agreement we all want peace, harmony, and fellowship to return to our church family, but how?

On October 8 Cathy and I attended a workshop at West Kingston Baptist Church sponsored by the Peacemakers Ministries. This group works with churches in conflict throughout the country. Based in Montana, the Peacemakers program responds to conflict biblically by providing coaching, mediation, and arbitration to find resolution. We were told at the start if your church is not in conflict now, it will be within seven years. The Peacemakers' approach is to train and educate church members so that when dissension does arise, they can try and resolve it before it tears the congregation apart.

Using the Bible as the only resource seems to be the direction we should be taking to grow our ministry. The church hosting the seminar split completely in half some six years ago and is now successfully functioning with higher membership numbers than before their conflict. After the seminar was over, I spent some time speaking with the Elders of the church, asking them what they felt the first step had been to start the healing in their church. They felt reconciliation was the most important step they could take. But not in the way you might think. They made an effort to contact all the members who had left in the split and attempted to find peace with them. They made efforts to renew friendships both in the community and in the church. However, they did not beg anyone to come back to the church but let them know the door was always open if they should choose to return. They told me in some cases they asked people not to come back if they were still thinking about causing problems and suggested that they would probably be better off finding a new church. So where do we start?

Our immediate goal is to begin the reconciliation process. In an effort to move forward, the Personnel & Administration committee has established the Pastoral Support Committee. This is a one-year, experimental committee to follow up the work started at our Listening Team sessions. With the support of the Diaconate and especially Membership & Care, we look forward to starting the healing process.

Committee members are Barbara Bullock, Gail Gurnon, Jean Hanna, Paul Lundblad, and Pastor Cliff.

Yours in Christ,

Walter Horridge
Chair, Pastoral Support Committee