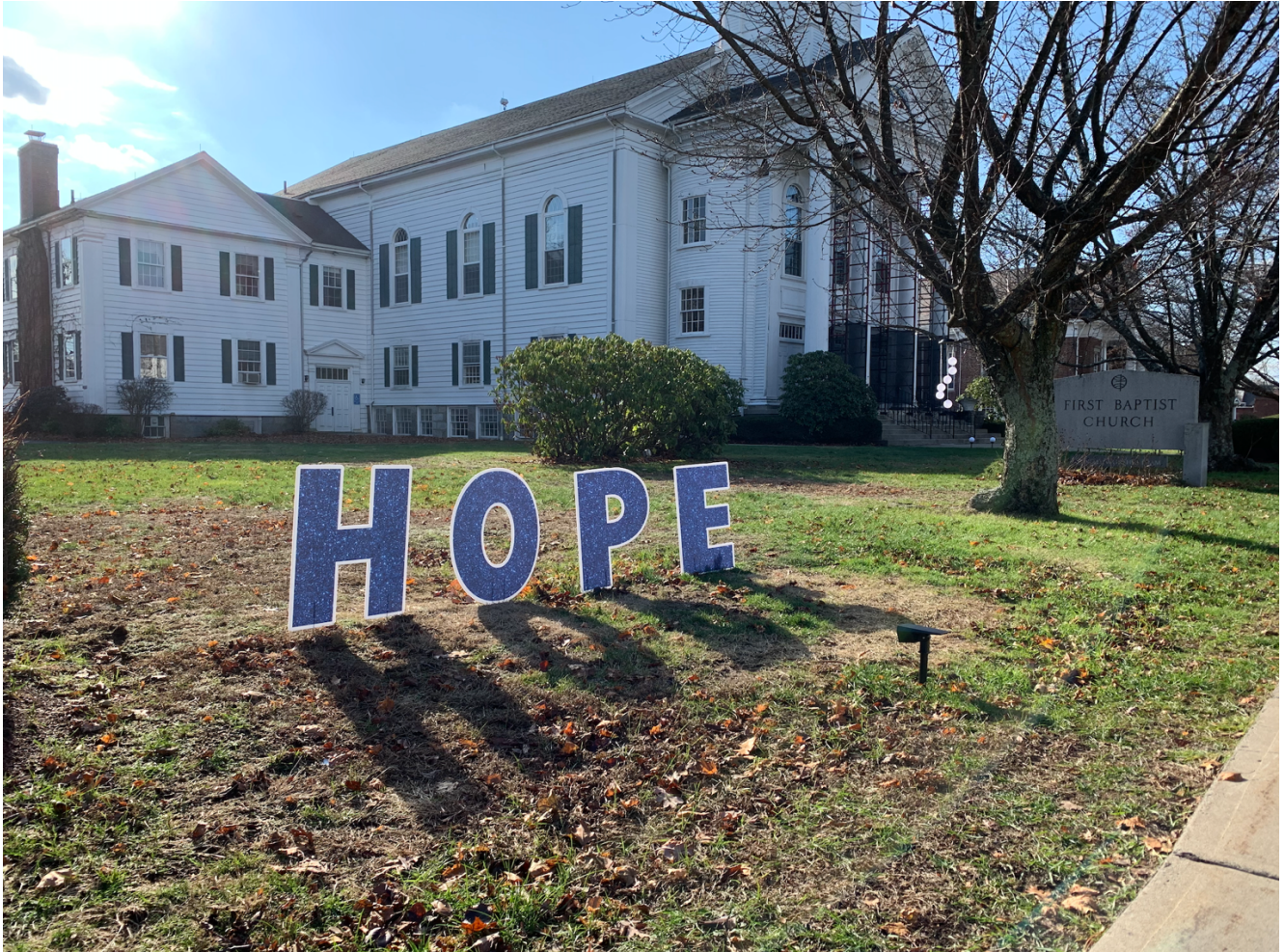


First Baptist Church in Needham

One in the Spirit: Transition Prayer Resource

November 2021



Transition Edition 7
(for whenever you are so led to pause, reflect, and pray)

858 Great Plain Avenue · Needham, MA 02492
www.fbcneedham.org

A Note for November – This season of Thanksgiving tends to remind us of all we have to be grateful for, and ushers in Advent, a season of expectant hope and longing. As we move through our own time of spiritual and communal transition and discernment - as we long and hope for life-giving goodness for our community through this time of possibility and opportunity – let us not forget to be grateful for all the blessings of our past, for all the miracles of our present, and all the promise for our future, trusting that God is drawing ever nearer.

The coming months hold special moments for our community to gather and worship together. A calendar of events will be included as a part of this prayer resource.

Please join me in prayer... - *Pastor Daryn*

+ We Hold in Prayer +

My Prayers of Gratitude & Thanksgiving

O God, thank you for each new day and all that it brings.

**You promise to provide all that I need, caring not only for me, but for all creation
and so I rejoice...**

With Louise in gratitude for good health and her family...

With Harry for card games and community at the Senior Center, and the joy of dancing ...

With Bev, for Pastor Daryn, and for friends who have surrounded her family with care, particularly during this time of grief ...

With Barbara on the birth of her great granddaughter, Bella! ...

With Dorothy and Bev, for the joy of traveling to be with family for Thanksgiving for the first time since the pandemic started ...

With Holly for a place to call home, and for settled rest ...

With Pastor Daryn, for the lives and inspiration of Ernest Steeves, Sr. and Trevor Parsons, who have recently gone on to be with God in a new and beautiful way ...

+++ Offer your own prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving here. +++

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow....

Prayers of Personal Concern, Healing, Solace, & Courage

**Faithful God, you know me inside and out,
all my hopes and dreams, fears and failures.**

You hear your children cry out for healing and consolation, courage and strength.

Send your Spirit in the sharing of the concerns of our hearts as I pray...

With Harry, for healing and good health in the midst of his continued treatments and care ...

With Bev, as she faces each new day in the wake of Trevor's passing. For continued strength and comfort ...

With Clif, for his sister Janet as she cares for her husband, Charlie, around the clock in his declining health, and prayers for Charlie, for his peace and comfort ...

With Mark and Peggy, whose granddaughter's daycare had a positive COVID case. Prayers for the staff, the children, and their families ...

With Barbara, for healing and treatment for dental concerns ...

With Bev, for relief from back pain ...

With Clif, for his cousin, Audrey, who is facing health struggles, and is shouldering much of the work and burdens of a small church community while her pastor is away...

With Marty in her ongoing recovery and complex decisions she and her family face ...

With the family of Ernie Steeves, as they navigate the world without his presence ...

+++ Offer your own prayers of concern, healing, solace, and courage here. +++

Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer....

Prayers in Our Transitions

God of Life, in all of life's turns – planned and unexpected – you are there.

**For the transitions that are hard for me to bear,
grant me the strength to be vulnerable and seek loving accompaniment.**

For the changes I anticipate, grant me hope and wisdom.

**Trusting your Spirit is moving to prepare a place in fellowship and community for
each beloved member of our First Baptist congregation, I pray...**

With Pastor Daryn, for each of our high school seniors – Katie, Adia, & Fayrah, as they plan and apply toward next steps in their journeys ...

With Clif and Anthony, as they begin to explore Carter Memorial Methodist Church as a possible new church home ...

With Clif, for pastoral presence and guidance throughout the transition to new community ...

With Liz, as she continues to live through a time of uncertainty and transition with housing ...

For our Administration Ministry's continued good and dedicated work in preparing the next steps of our transition process...

With Pastor Daryn and Pastor Holly for each congregation member's prayerful discernment of the next step in your spiritual journey and the communities of faith who will be blessed by your presence among them going forward...

+++ Offer your own prayers for our transition here. +++

Hear my prayer, O Lord...

Prayers for the Community, Nation, & World

God of compassion and justice, there is so much in the news that is painful, from natural disasters to governmental actions to hunger, poverty, and violence.

And there are so many instances of lovingkindness, beauty, and hope.

Move among your creation and your children, as I pray...

With Dot Kinne, for the troubles and the sufferings of the world ...

With Louise, prayers for everyone in our church community ...

With Harry and Jim, for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving and holiday seasons for all! ...

For Needham's most vulnerable inhabitants that they know safety, security, support, and hope in community...

For Oceanwood Camp as they navigate a time of creative revisioning ...

For our denomination, The American Baptist Churches, USA, for sister churches across the nation and the world ...

For our Lebanese siblings in Christ, and for all living through financial crises and instability in our world ...

With Pastor Daryn, for her sister June and our own Sandra Dorsainvil, who will be traveling with International Ministries to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to explore new ministry possibilities ...

For the retired ministers and missionaries and their families who have offered so much of their time, love, and dedication to this world in the name of Jesus ...

+++ Offer your own prayers for our community, nation, and world here. +++

For the moving of your Spirit in hope and healing throughout our world, praise God, from whom all blessings flow ... And for your enduring presence, justice, and mercy in our brokenness, Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer....

Hear my prayer, O Lord...as I pray the prayer your son taught us saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

Announcements

Our **church office** is open for our Office Manager, Robin Bevilacqua. We are encouraging limited visits to the church building, and all who visit are required to mask, sign-in, and socially distance. **If you need to speak with Robin, please call ahead if you can.** Pastoral and other church staff are working from home. Office voicemail and email are being checked regularly.

For pastoral care, contact Pastor Daryn or Pastor Holly by phone, text, or email.

**Watch for the next Prayer Resource
due mid-December**

IMPORTANT DATES to REMEMBER!



2021

November 20th --- Transgender Day of Remembrance Service,
4pm broadcast on YouTube or watch later

November 21st --- Community Thanksgiving Service,
1pm on Facebook or watch later

December 5th --- Service of Prayer, Communion, Lessons & Carols in celebration of
Advent/Christmastide, **5pm**

December 19th --- Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service, **6pm**,
for those heavy of heart this holiday season

2022

January 1st --- A Blessed New Year to all!

January 2nd --- We will gather the **9th of January** for our monthly worship service

January 9th --- Our monthly 5pm Worship Service of Prayer and Communion

January 16th --- A Zoom service of Prayer and Communion

January 23rd --- Annual Business Meeting of the Church
(hybrid – in person and on Zoom)

First Sundays

In Our Transition,

We Gather in Reflection, Prayer, and Communion
the First Sunday Evening of Every Month in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m.

Masks and Social Distancing Required.

+++ Our Next Service is Sunday, December 5 +++

All Saints/All Souls

Contemplative Service of Worship and Remembrance

On November 7th, we celebrated a lovely service of communion and prayer in honor and memory of those who have gone on to be with God in a beautiful way. We give thanks for the lives and souls of those who have passed away this year from our community of faithful.

David Eaton
Joan Holt
Ruth Alicia Long
Marilyn A. Blake
Janet MacGray
Janice Drew
Ernest A. Steeves, Sr.
Trevor L. Parsons





Join us

for a service of

prayer, communion,

lessons & carols

in celebration of

Advent & Christmas

December 5, 2021

5pm

First Baptist Church in Needham

enter through Warren Street

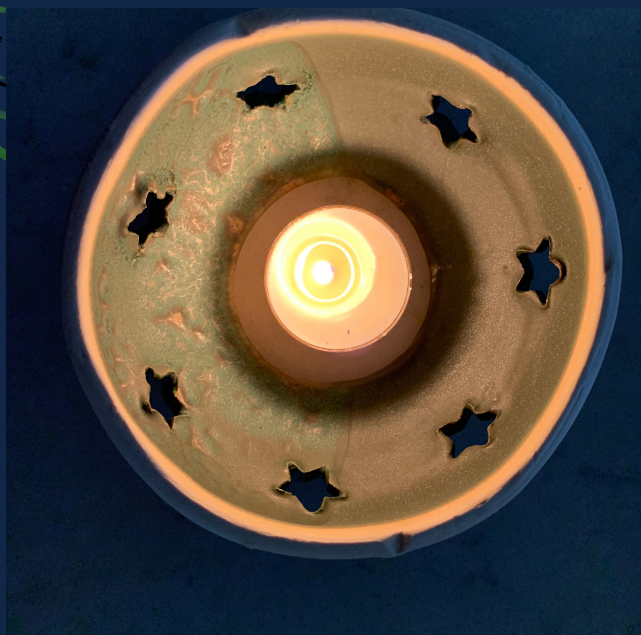
masks required

Ecumenical Blue Christmas

A Christmas service for
those blue of heart this
holiday season

DECEMBER 19, 2021
6PM

ALL ARE WELCOME



Location: First Baptist Church in Needham,
858 Great Plain Ave.
(enter through the Warren Street office door)

Creative Callings Year 2, Session 3 ADMINISTRATION STEWARDSHIP

& PASTORAL ACCOMPANIMENT *through* TRANSITION

With the congregational vote on Sunday, June 27, 2021, the Administration Ministry is tasked with developing a plan for closing the church. As the Administration Ministry continues to meet to develop a plan to bring before the congregation, **each member of the congregation is also encouraged to do your own good work of prayerfully discerning what community of faith you may wish to visit or consider joining.** Pastor Daryn and Pastor Holly are available to offer spiritual and pastoral accompaniment and reflection upon request.



Offering

Your continued financial support of the daily work and ministries of FBC Needham is vital, particularly as we move through this time of transition, and as we prepare to restore the front porch of our historic building. We are not embarking on an intentional stewardship campaign this year, but are encouraging each of you to continue in your regular giving toward the support of our continued ministry through this transition, and also to consider giving toward the Capital Fund for building restoration. Offerings can be turned in during Worship, through the church website online, or via mail. May the act of giving be a spiritual practice that accompanies your daily prayer and worship.

Mail Checks to:

First Baptist Church in Needham
858 Great Plain Avenue,
Needham MA 02492

Online:


Go to <https://www.fbcneedham.org>
Click the **Take Action** link & follow the directions.

Make checks payable to: First Baptist Church in Needham.

Please indicate it is your offering or pledge on the check. If it is an offering toward the capital fund, please indicate that intention on the memo line.

Denominational Offering for November/December: *Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering*

You can give your offering online at the website link provided in the image below, or by mailing a check to FBC Needham (please indicate the offering is for RMMO in the memo line).



Say “thank you” to retired pastors and missionaries who have served ABCUSA churches and ministries through your gift to the 2021 RMMO. Show your support, give at your church or visit

abc-usa.org/RMMO

*Transformed
by Generosity*

*And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
Colossians 3:15*

Dear FBC Needham Community

I wanted to express my gratitude for you. You are an amazingly strong and faithful community who prays and accompanies one another through times of joy and sorrow, who intentionally seeks the will of God for this church and its resources, and who allows the love and peace of Christ to shine in and through you in all that you do in this world. You inspire me to these important patterns of grace in my own life and ministry. I am grateful to be your pastor. Thank you for that honor and privilege.

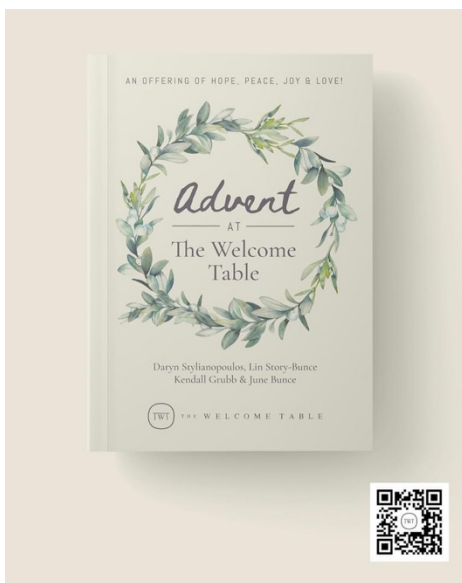
In this season of gratitude, I encourage you to share your own words of thanksgiving with the folks in your life who have offered inspiration for your journeys.

Blessings of gratitude in this holiday season!

In Christ,

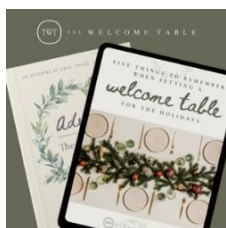
Rev. Daryn Stylianopoulos





Advent at The Welcome Table is a resource of daily reflections that meet us in the midst of our urgent waiting with grace and renewal. Each day offers an invitation to come as you are, to meet God anew in stories and scripture, to remember our belovedness, and to see the community around us through the renewed understanding of God's gift of love for the world.

With each book sold, **10% of that purchase will go toward Feeding America**, to help put food on the tables of hungry families during the holidays!



ALSO, get a FREE Holiday eBook with your purchase!

Five Things to Remember When Setting a Welcome Table for the Holidays

This eBook suggests 5 main ideas accompanied by practical suggestions toward creating your own Welcome Table before your guests even arrive!

Once you purchase a copy of **Advent at The Welcome Table**, shoot us an e-mail, or DM us, and we will send you a copy!

www.TheWelcomeTable.co

A little more about us...

We are "The Bunce Girls", or at least that is what we have been called most of our lives. Originally from Lexington, North Carolina, we were raised surrounded by music, justice, and faith. Our mother and both grandmothers were music ministers, our father was an attorney, and our grandfather was the pastor of our church. Needless to say, we were constantly challenged to express ourselves in thoughtful and meaningful ways. Often that was through the use of our voices, whether through singing or just good, honest conversation - conversations that most often took place around the table. Most of our Sunday afternoons were spent gathered around an open table with family and friends where the food was plentiful, stories and laughter connected our hearts, and where the presence of each individual was held sacred. It's those moments that have inspired The Welcome Table.



We hope you will join us and order your copy of **Advent at The Welcome Table** TODAY!!!
Just click on this QR code...

