

THE SPIRE

First Baptist Church in America Newsletter

June 2024



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Welcome to June!

This month there are a number of ways to get involved, at whatever level you might choose.

After services on Sunday, June 9, we will be assembling Blessing Bags. Thanks to Karen Bell for leading the effort! We have string bags, bottles of water, granola, pairs of socks and a resource sheet to include in the bags. We will channel our best assembly line energy and then members are welcome to take bags to distribute to people in need (street corners, traffic lights, bus stops...)

June is Pride month. Together with Berean Baptist (Burrilville), Community Baptist (Providence), Lime Rock Baptist (Lincoln), Phillips Memorial Baptist (Cranston), and Tabernacle (Hope) we will host a table at the **Saturday, June 15th** event. We will be there to let folks know that these **Baptists** love them.

We are looking for volunteers to sign up to contribute in several capacities. We need folks to help bake cookies to distribute that day, along with volunteers to set up/ break down the table and tent, as well as to staff the table throughout the day in 1 1/2 hour time slots. There will be pastors from the various churches on hand throughout the day. Click on the sign up genius link below to sign up.

We have a link to the sign-up genius, [here it is](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B48A9AA2BA5FDC07-49386683-baptists#/). and you can also copy and paste it here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B48A9AA2BA5FDC07-49386683-baptists#/>

We will have an online training session the week prior for table volunteers.

We will be sending some of our young people to camp this summer at Canonicus and Camp Wightman in Connecticut. Stay tuned for ways to support and enhance their camping programs this summer.

The Garden of Earthly Delights is flourishing! We will continue to have workdays throughout the summer and it is open for grazing 24-7.

Happy summer!

Peace,

Pastor Jamie

Sunday, May 12 was indeed a great day. In addition to a wonderful worship service, we were blessed with a solo by Sam Brunner, a Great Day for a new member, Steven Seay, and the dedication of an infant by his parents.



We heard the traditional singing of "You Raise Me Up" on Mother's Day by Samuel Brunner, tenor section leader.



It was a Great Day! Deacon Jennifer Riedel introduced Steven Seay to the entire congregation while Pastor Jamie Washam enjoyed the moment.



Wee little Abdullah Jumbe was presented for dedication by his parents, Daddy, Mnyonge Jumbe and Mama, Fitina Mazurunu.

Jameson Powers was baptized by Pastor Jamie as part of the morning worship service on May 19. He received congratulations and hugs from the congregation and family. Afterwards in the Fellowship Hall, his parents served up a great cake to everyone.





Susan and Richard Lepore hosted a picnic at their country home in Scituate on Sunday, May 26 while Brown University occupied the Meeting House for their baccalaureate service. Among those attending were Pastor Jamie Washam, Ella Teta, and David McVicker who were admiring the donkey, horse, and goats out by the barn.

Sam Hall sends
“Summer Greetings” from Little Compton.



Our new Peace Table Bibles have been well-received, as we knew they would!

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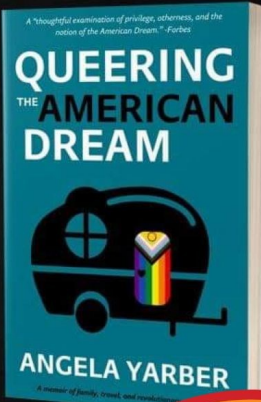

Rev. Dr. Jamie Washam, Pastor
 Stephen Martorella, Minister of Music
 Holly Edwards, Administrative Assistant
 Anne Gagan, Bookkeeper
 Tony Zambarano, Sexton
 Ary Peralta, Sunday Sexton
 Victoria Pfanstiehl, ASL Interpreter

Statement of Welcome

Roger Williams gathered the First Baptist Church in America in 1638 on the bedrock of religious liberty, with its principles of soul freedom and the separation of church and state. Together, we continue our ministry of welcome and liberation.

This congregation honors its Baptist heritage. Many of our members are lifelong Baptists and others come from varied denominational and religious backgrounds. We welcome all people of every age, race, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, cultural background, socio-economic status, mental or physical ability, marital status, and any other distinctions of society. We are diverse people united in Christ. We remain a safe harbor.

JUNE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Queering
 THE AMERICAN
 DREAM**
 ANGELA YARBER

Pride Book Tour
 A memoir of family, travel, and revolutionary women
 "A thoughtful examination of privilege, otherness, and the notion of the American dream." -Forbes

First Baptist Church in America, Providence, RI
Sunday, June 30, 10am
Dr. Yarber preaches, followed by a book event

75 N Main St Providence, RI 02903-1307 tehomcenter.org/booktour

