



BELL TOWER

First Baptist Church in Hope Valley
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The Hope Valley First Baptist Church family makes followers of Christ and worships God through prayer, fellowship, service and the study of the Holy Bible, testifying to the glory of His Name.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FBHV | NOVEMBER 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You will notice that this is where you usually find the Pastor's Note. Instead, this is a letter from Mickey Dair the President of FBHV to notify you of Pastor Chip Northup's resignation as our pastor, effective October 14, 2021.

What follows is the announcement made at the October 17, 2021, Worship Service. The Deacons have asked me to share this announcement with you in the Bell Tower. We felt this was a good way to reach people near and far who want to be part of the greater First Baptist Church family. We are all very saddened by the announcement, but feel we have a duty to share this as honestly and transparently as we can with our entire FBHV church family.

We know God has a plan for us as individuals and as a church. We look forward with blessed assurance, patience, and hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

October 17, 2021 – Sunday Worship Service President's Message

Today I stand before you in my capacity as President of First Baptist Church in Hope Valley to announce that on the morning of October 14th, I accepted the resignation of Pastor Chip Northup, effective immediately.

This is such a hard announcement, and one I never hoped to make. For some of you this was expected, others I expect are stunned.

Let me try to lay out for you how this came to be.

For quite awhile, even before COVID hit, the Deacons had been very concerned with Chip's ability to perform his Pastoral responsibilities. As with all of us, COVID did have an impact. This was also true for Pastor Chip. In the end it was only one factor. There were numerous conversations and encouragements with Pastor Chip. There was little change. It all came to a head this month, the week prior to the October 2021 Deacons' meeting. That week, there was a special meeting to discuss the path forward. The decision was made to ask Pastor Chip to resign. On Tuesday Oct. 12, 2021 Rob Roeleveld and I met with Pastor Chip and presented him with a letter asking for his resignation. He was sad, but not surprised. We asked him to come to that night's Deacons' meeting with his answer, and he agreed.

At the meeting he gave a verbal resignation. There was a lengthy discussion on how to smoothly and gradually sever our ties. It was decided that a period of time, as much as 2 months, would be used as a transition time. The Deacons and general board accepted this plan. The Deacons were tasked with meeting Oct. 14, Thursday night, to iron out details of finance, housing, and in general a plan the move forward.

On Thursday morning, October 14, before our planning meeting, we were made aware that the police were called to the Northup residence the evening of October 13, for a domestic violence complaint.

At about 10:30 the next morning I returned a call to Pastor Chip. He was on his way to Hopkinton Police Station to turn himself in, as that was what was required. At this time Pastor Chip gave me his verbal resignation as Pastor of First Baptist Church in Hope Valley effective immediately. I accepted his resignation.

This is very upsetting news and a lot to process. The Deacons are available to discuss with you what has transpired as transparently and factually as we are able. Conversation can start at Coffee hour immediately following the service.

You may wonder what you can say to the people in the community who ask about Pastor Chip's resignation, here's an example of what you might want to say. "We care about Pastor Chip and pray for him, but our focus now is on caring for Kerry and the kids and helping our congregation heal and move forward."

If you have questions/concerns, please reach out to any of the following people:

Deacons' Contact Information:

Robert Roeleveld – 401-601-0453
Archie Andrews – 703-501-2768
Carol Gallant – 401-500-1569
Pete Toy – 401-578-9777
Bob Goff – 401-539-7080

President's Contact Information:

Mickey Dair – 401-348-8620

Vice- President's Contact Information:

Raymond Andrews – 401-480-0125

In Christ,

Michelle Dair

Michelle Dair
FBHV President



Time Change Sunday
Sunday, November 7

Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour On Saturday Evening

What's Happening

WOMEN'S Bible Study

The 7pm Monday Night On-Line Bible Study will study "The Bible through the Lives and the Eyes of Women." Each week, we'll answer the same 10 questions about a woman or group of women from the Bible. Handouts are available in the sanctuary or over email from Lori at lorisroel@gmail.com.



Every month, the Mission Committee will present a "Mission Minute" highlighting one of the missions that First Baptist Church in Hope Valley supports.

Also, be on the lookout for a list of missions we support in the pews.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:10



Thank you to everybody who participated our Book Sale and Clothing Drive. Both were a huge success! We appreciate your time, donations, and service.

Love, The LBS Ladies *Thank You!*



BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday — November 9, 2021

6:00 PM — Deacons & Trustees

6:30 PM — Christian Ed.

7:30 PM — General Board

2nd Wednesday — November 10, 2021

10:00 AM — Nichols Board



Every Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Parlor. See Raymond Andrews with questions.



FREE CONCERT!

An Evening of Gospel Music with: Daryl Moseley

Where: Central Baptist Church
16 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891

When: November 14, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Book Sale



Looking Ahead

November Events 2021

- ☑ **I Am A Church Member** — 7-Week Book Study. Every Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Parlor.
- ☑ **Sunday Nights** — **Are You Chosen?** Second Season Video Series and Bible Study every Sunday at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- ☑ **Monday Nights** — **Online Women's Bible Study.** 7 PM. Via Zoom.
- ☑ **November 9** — **Board Meetings.** Time varies.
- ☑ **November 10** — **Nichols Board Meeting.** 10 AM, Parlor.
- ☑ **November 13**— **LBS Soup Cooking Day.** 9 AM in the church kitchen. See Gayle with questions.
- ☑ **November 14**— **LBS Souper Take-Out Lunch Distribution.** Right after church service.

PARSONAGE & GROUND CREW

Thanks to our dedicated workers.
May the Lord continue to bless you!



Family Fall Fest at The Kenneys





The Wisdom of Groups

One of the highlights of my week is the Zoom coffee chat my office hosts on Wednesday mornings. We began this virtual group to help provide community when the pandemic confined most of us to our homes.

The group has continued to come together to chat about a variety of topics. The makeup of the group also has varied over the past eighteen months.

What hasn't changed is the group's spirit. There's an openness about life experiences, a gentleness with each other, and lots and lots of laughter.

There's also a great deal of wisdom. No one claims to be an expert or have all the answers. Group members simply share what they've learned over the years of their lives.

That wisdom has struck me in a special way during our current series. We've talked about doing things that may be hard for us—things such as asking for help or letting go of something.

One Wednesday morning we talked about the hard thing of disagreeing with someone. During a separate meeting that evening, I found myself using three of the suggestions I had heard during the coffee chat. Those ideas enabled me to express my disagreement in a much more constructive manner.

Our coffee chats remind me of the wisdom of groups. While there are times when it's helpful to reflect and make decisions on our own, often the wisdom of a group makes our reflection and decisions so much better.

As our region continues through this time of transition, we hope to gather that type of wisdom by inviting you to participate in groups. Whether through in-person town halls or Zoom discussions or other group formats, we hope to hear your dreams and ideas for new directions our region and its ministries and programs may take.

When we come together, no single person will have all the answers, and we may have different perspectives. But as we listen to one another, I am convinced that the wisdom of the groups will help us discern who God is calling us to be and become as a region.

In the meantime, please pray for the members of our Executive Minister Search Committee as they continue the important work with which we have entrusted them. Please also pray for the members of our Board of Ministries as they consider and make important decisions to help guide our region.

Your prayers, participation, and wisdom are what make ABCORI so special.

Gratefully yours,
Rev. Kathryn Palen



JENI PEDZINSKI
- THAILAND
Abolishing Global Slavery.



CORENE & PHILIP SMITH
National Baptist
Convention of Brazil.
Rescue homeless street
children and youth rang-
ing in age from 8 to 18.



DAVID & DEBORAH KREYSSIG
Serving full time as missionaries in Haiti.
They are directors of the Espere Kay (Hope
House) Program for young adult orphans in
Haiti.



REIGNE AND JUN
(MARIA GILL'S SISTER AND
BROTHER-IN-LAW)
Currently serving as
missionaries in Nepal.

