



# "SpiritSpark"

**The First Baptist Church  
of Manchester Center, VT**

P.O. Box 1049, 4895 Main St. 802-362-1555

[www.fbcmanvt.org](http://www.fbcmanvt.org)

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Sommons

See note on last page regarding this photo.

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**AUGUST 2019**

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## **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR REBECCA**

Dear Church Family,

Are you excited about reading God's Word each day? I once heard the Bible described as God's love letter to us. What an amazing letter it is, having so many contributors inspired by the Holy Spirit to share God's heart and perspective with us over thousands of years!

I've recently come across a new translation of the Bible that I am really enjoying. It's called The Passion Translation, and it's actually a work in progress. The Bible I have includes the whole New Testament, plus the Psalms, Proverbs, and Song of Solomon. Dr. Brian Simmons and his wife Candice have served together as translators, missionaries, and church planters for decades, and now they lead a team of linguists in creating this new translation. They believe that "God wants His passion, His heart to come through the revelation of the Word. He wants us to read the Word not just for our minds, to get it out of head knowledge and to really settle it into our heart. So [they're] attempting with the Passion project to really bring the scriptures into a heart level comprehension" (<https://www1.cbn.com/books/revealing-the-heart-of-god-in-the-passion-translation>).

Whatever version of the Bible you choose, I hope that you experience it as fresh and passionate, so that it reaches your heart. We are meant to live in a dynamic relationship with God and the Bible is vital in helping us to know God, ourselves, and our purpose in life.

*“Every Scripture has been written by the Holy Spirit, the breath of God.  
It will empower you by its instruction and correction,  
giving you the strength to take the right direction  
and lead you deeper into the path of godliness.”  
2 Timothy 3:16 (TPT)*

Love in Christ,  
*Pastor Rebecca*

### **MARY MARTHA FELLOWSHIP**

A car full of MMF members spent a delightful day in July visiting a butterfly garden, other gardens and having a picnic lunch. Everyone who went had a wonderful time and enjoyed the beauty of the day. Thank you, Judy Koch, for organizing this special event.

Take Note: The MMF is calling an informal meeting at 9:00 am Sunday morning, Aug. 11th to transact some business. 1.) Voting to transfer MMF funds into the kitchen fund and 2.) setting a date and leadership for the Chicken Pie Supper. We'll put on a pot of coffee and hope you can be there, before church, at 9 o'clock.

~submitted by Martha Thompson

### **NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR**

The Neighbor to Neighbor organization which provides support to seniors in our area is planning their Second Annual Pie Auction to be held Sunday afternoon, Oct. 6th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm at Burr and Burton Academy cafeteria. Right now, we are seeking pie bakers. Last year several excellent bakers from our church helped. We hope to have 100 pie bakers signed up by the end of August. If you can help, call Robin Galguera at the Neighbor to Neighbor office, 367-7787 or let Martha Thompson, 362-3473 know you are willing to bake. Thank you in advance!

~submitted by Martha Thompson



## **COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD WISH LIST**

Your donations of school supplies to the community Food Cupboard will help kids get off to a good start this year. The following items are needed: backpacks, pens and pencils, crayons, notebooks, paper, and binders. All gifts to CFC are appreciated. Donations may be left in one of CFC's donation bins: in the hallway in the Manchester Town Hall, in the front of Shaw's Supermarket, at the Manchester Community Library or the Dorset Post Office. Thank you!

ENJOYING THE MUSIC of the Middle River Gospel Band at the Horseshoe Acres Campground in Andover! Unrivaled hospitality and a wonderful time!  
If you missed this fun event, read on for another opportunity!



From: Ann Janauer

We are hosting a Music and Fellowship event at Horseshoe Acres Campground Sept 7th. Featuring Sherry Ann (<https://www.sherryanne.com/bio.html>) and Middle River Gospel Band (<http://www.middlerivergospel.com>). The event is completely free. We will be supplying soft drinks, hot dogs and hamburgers. Bring something to sit on. The event will start at 4:30 pm on the 7th and end at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend. If anyone would like to camp for the weekend we are offering 1/2 price camping. We have a limited number of rental campers that we will also rent at 1/2 price for this event. We hope to get as many Christians together as we can. Let's celebrate our common belief in our God and Savior Jesus Christ.



**September 7th 2019**  
**4:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

**Sherry Anne** and **Middle River Gospel Band**

[www.sherryanne.com/home.html](http://www.sherryanne.com/home.html)

[www.middlerivergospel.com](http://www.middlerivergospel.com)

**Join us for an evening of Music, Fellowship and Worship**

**Horseshoe Acres Campground**  
1978 Weston-Andover Rd  
Andover, VT 05143  
802-875-2960

*No visitor fee, 1/2 price camping and the campground is providing hot dogs and hamburgers to all who join us. Come early and enjoy the rest of the campgrounds facilities. Bring what you need to relax and enjoy the music on the grass. Please let us know if you will be joining us so we have enough food.*

**Pastor Rebecca received the following invitation to pass along.**

Hey folks,

I wanted to invite you to the Vermont Interfaith Action 4th annual Statewide Convention on Friday, August 16 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm at Our Lady of the Angels (43 Hebard Hill Road) in Randolph.

We will hear reports from our working groups on issues like immigration, the moral economy, and affordable housing, and our keynote speaker will be former Rep. Kiah Morris, addressing the topic of the intersection of race and class in social justice. The day will also include remarks from Faith In Action National Network's Executive Director, Rev. Alvin Herring, time to talk with new friends from around the state, an interfaith worship service, and a light breakfast and lunch.

Contact Ann at [office@viavt.org](mailto:office@viavt.org) or (802) 651-8889. Cost per person: \$20, but no one will be turned away for lack of payment.

On a personal note, I'm looking to demonstrate the growing base of people in Southern Vermont who are ready to take action to transform our communities and so it would be wonderful if you and members of your congregation could attend. I will be responsible for parts of the day and need to assemble a team of volunteers to talk about what's happening in our part of the state.

Let me know if you have questions or would like to come along.

Thanks, Daniel

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The Christian Ed Committee hosted a Family Care Event during the Manchester Street Fest on July 19th. It was a very warm evening, so we were happy to have a few dozen young children visit our church vestry for games, juice, and snacks. A variety of prizes were available for kids to choose from, including some children's storybook Bibles, which the kids enjoyed taking with them. We were also able to offer a cool and quiet space for nursing mothers and families in need of a diaper care station. Bottled water was available for adults on their way in to the church as well. It was wonderful to meet and interact with so many young families during the evening.

Save the Date: Sunday School classes resume on September 22nd. We will once again offer a Littles class for children through grade 5, a Tween and Teen class for grades 6 through 12, and an Adult class. We hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Annie Crumb



Rosemary Hall and her granddaughter, Elas, during the Street Fest!

**THE PHOTO ON THE FRONT PAGE** was posted on facebook by Shawn Harrington, curator of the Manchester Historical Society, with the caption, “Does anyone remember the 2-toned Baptist Church?”

The post received at least 32 comments. One person mentioned that she was married there 59 years ago. Another pointed out the parking meters. Someone else said they didn’t realize the Colburn House was called a Motor Inn. And, the King family remembers their dad painting the steeple while hanging from a harness!

**OUR CHURCH IS PRIVILEGED TO OFFER OUR FACILITY  
TO THE FOLLOWING AA GROUPS EACH WEEK.**

Equinox Group: Mon-Fri from Noon to 1:00 pm

Thursday Morning Men’s Group: Thursday 7:30-8:30 am

Primary Purpose Group: Sunday 7:30-8:30 pm

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Church Office Hours 9:30-12:30 AM on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Pastor Rebecca’s e-mail address: [rebeccasommons@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccasommons@gmail.com)

Pastor Rebecca’s cell phone: (802) 688-3024

Church office Phone: (802) 362-1555

Parsonage Phone: (802) 362-5335

Please call to request a meeting or visit outside of regular church office hours.

**FLOWERS**

Aug. 4: Lisa Hess

Aug. 11: Anna Ennis

Aug. 18: Russ & Glenna Taxter

Aug. 25: Jackie Perry

**CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

Aug. 4: Dottie & Bryan

Aug. 11: Holly & Ronan

Aug. 18: Maurie & Linell

Aug. 25: Lisa & Annie

