

FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH OF  
ROCKLAND  
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Rockland's **First Baptist Church** is an independent Baptist church offering a traditional worship service with hymns and traditional music and an emphasis on strong biblical teaching.

**Sunday Service:**  
**10:30 AM**

Wednesday Bible Study:  
7 PM

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**Word from the Pastor 1**

**Joytime Singspiration 1**

**Fall Festival 2**

**Rockland Stroll 2**

**Sunday Messages 3**

**Secret Sisters & Craft  
Time 3**

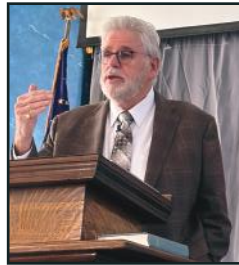
**The Adult & Teen  
Challenge 3**

# Church Newsletter

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

2023

## Word From the Pastor



*Pastor Jay Witham*

“Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”  
Joshua 1:9

On the first day of a new year many of us wish each other a “Happy New Year!” But as we begin a new year, we need more than a hopeful greeting from the people around us. We need to listen to what God told Joshua (about 3,400 years ago). As Joshua was about to lead God’s people into the promised land, he had reason to be afraid. He had an enormous task ahead of him, and he was well aware of the dangers that he and the people would soon be facing. He needed God’s encouragement. A new year brings lots of questions: Will our health hold? Will I live to see the end of this year? Will the economy improve? Will there be a terrorist attack or some natural disaster that takes me or my loved ones? Who will be in the Whitehouse following the November election? The Creator of the universe comes to us and says, “do not be afraid, nor be dismayed.” In other words, “don’t be discouraged.” What happens in this coming year is not left to chance. God is in charge, and He promises to stay close: “The LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” Many years later, the Lord Jesus made the same promise when he said, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). That’s the reason we can wish each other a “Happy New Year!”

## Joytime Singspiration



From left to right: *Andy Forrest, Cheryl Ehrlich, Cheryl Osgood with Pam Grabowski, Rachel Moreno*



From left to right: *Deb Bailey, Sue Walkins, Cheri Taylor*

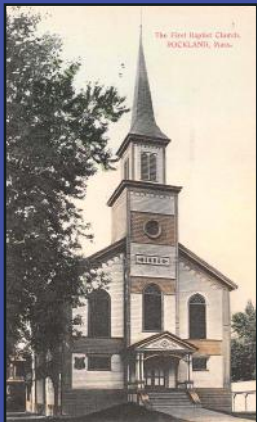
The **Joytime Singspiration** has welcomed several nationally and internationally known gospel artists such as Cheri Taylor as well as numerous local artists such as Pastor Jay Witham, Sue Walkins and Brian Peckham. Joytime Singspiration is on the 1st Saturday of every month. This event is free to the public.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me;”  
 (Matthew 25:35)

Rockland Holiday Stroll, Saturday November 25, 2023

Sunday Service 10:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study 7PM:  
 “To Be Like Jesus”



## Rockland Fall Festival

The 3rd Annual **Rockland Fall Festival** was held on Sunday, October 1st from 1-5pm. Pastor Bob was outside letting the Fall Festival attendees know that there were free pies available as well as free water and snacks. We also had a craft table for the kids. Additionally, there was a name drawn for a beautiful Teen Challenge cutting board that was awarded to a very happy recipient. The weather was beautiful and it was a fun day for all!



## Rockland Stroll



Here are some of the pictures from the **Rockland Stroll**. We used 14 crockpots of soup, multiple snacks, hats, scarfs, and almost 200 gift bags. We had approximately 250 people visit the church during the evening!

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AND WATCH US ON LIVESTREAM AT:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ROCKLAND, MA

Online Giving: [giving.servantkeeper.com/fbrockland](http://giving.servantkeeper.com/fbrockland)

## Bible Studies and Sunday Messages

The Bible study topic is “To Be Like Jesus” focusing on the Christian putting on the whole armor of God. Sunday Messages were on the book of Ruth from Pastor Jay.



## Secret Sisters and Craft Time

On Nov 18th, the **Secret Sisters** met for their special time together, and right after that the ladies had their craft time led by Bonnie Benford, where beautiful Christmas ornaments were created. That was followed by a very inspirational devotional led by Sue Pulsifer. It was a great event and a fun time to get together.



## The Adult & Teen Challenge

On Dec 3rd, **The Adult & Teen Challenge** was here for our morning service. What a blessing and inspiration they are, being used by the Lord. Six men came to minister to us in music and a few very powerful testimonies. Their website is: [www.tcnewengland.org](http://www.tcnewengland.org). They are funded only by donations!



**Adult & Teen Challenge**  
New England and New Jersey

Freedom From Addiction Starts Here