



*First Baptist Church*  
Est. 1751

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# WELCOME TO BORDENTOWN, NEW JERSEY

**GREATER BORDENTOWN AREA** - consists of Bordentown City, Bordentown Township, and Fieldsboro with 16,000 residents total.

**LOCATION** – Bordentown is situated almost equidistant between Philadelphia and New York City (each a 45-60 min. drive) with two major interstates, the NJ Turnpike and Route 295, maintaining exits in Bordentown. It is approximately 7 miles from NJ's state capital, Trenton. Bordentown is also a stop on the Riverline (light rail system) that travels along the Delaware River towns from Trenton to Camden. Major NJ highways, RT 130 and RT 206 converge in Bordentown. New Jersey Transit also operates bus line 409 from Philadelphia to Trenton with several stops in Bordentown City. Bordentown is approximately one hour from certain NJ shore points and about two hours from the Pocono Mountains in neighboring Pennsylvania.

**HISTORIC** – Bordentown is an old town of one square mile established at the confluence of the Delaware River, Black's Creek and Crosswicks Creek. The first settler was Thomas Farnsworth who moved to the area in 1682. The area at the time was known as Farnsworth's Landing. In 1717 Joseph Borden, for whom the town was later named, arrived in what was then known as Farnsworth's Landing. Borden took advantage of the location to establish a transportation system between New York City and Philadelphia for delivery of cargo utilizing the river and the overland route to Perth Amboy. Cargo was then ferried to NYC from Perth Amboy.

**INCORPORATION** - Bordentown was originally incorporated as a borough in 1825. It was re-incorporated as a city in 1867.

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR** – Due to its location high on the bluff of the Delaware, Bordentown became a strategic location for war activity but no major battles were fought in the town. There are several major Revolutionary War battlefields in close proximity to the town.

**HISTORICAL FIGURES WHO RESIDED IN BORDENTOWN** – FRANCIS HOPKINSON (a signer of the Declaration of Independence), THOMAS PAINE (known for his revolutionary period writings), PATIENCE LOVELL WRIGHT (America's first female sculptor), NOTABLE REVOLUTIONARY WAR COLONELS (Borden, Kirkbride, and Hoagland), CLARA BARTON (founder of the first free public school in NJ and later founder of the American Red Cross), SUSAN WATERS (painter) and JOSEPH BONAPARTE (brother of Napoleon). Bonaparte, during his exile from France, lived in Bordentown for 17 years on the grounds now known as the Divine Word Seminary.



Clara Barton School (above) Farnsworth Avenue (right)  
House circa 1729, overlooking river, on site of Thomas  
Farnsworth 1682 original homestead (below)







House overlooking river with Thomas Paine Statue, author of "Common Sense" and other Revolutionary War papers (above)

Bordentown Light Rail Train Station (right)







First Baptist Church Parsonage (top left)

Francis Hopkinson House, signer of Declaration of Independence (below left)

Bordentown Iris Street Festival (below right)



## **EDUCATION**

Bordentown Regional School District is a K-12 school district with 5 school buildings and a regional board of education. It has approximately 2,200 students with 172 teachers representing a 12:1 student/teacher ratio.

**Schools** – Clara Barton Elementary, Peter Muschal Elementary, Mac Farland Intermediate School, Bordentown Regional Middle School, Bordentown Regional High School

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)**

**Ambulance Services** – These services are shared by all three Bordentown community areas. The services are provided by paid staff 24/7.

**Fire Stations** - Bordentown City has two volunteer fire stations, Consolidated Fire Company and the Hope Hose/Humane Fire Company. Bordentown Township also has two fire stations, Mission Fire Company, which has a paid staff during the day and volunteers during other hours, and the Derby Fire Company which has a paid staff that operates 24/7. All fire stations work together to respond to fires regardless of their location in the area.

## **POLICE SERVICES**

Both Bordentown City and Bordentown Township support their own police departments.

## **GOVERNANCE**

Bordentown City is governed by an elected three member commission with a Mayor chosen by the commission members.

Bordentown Township is governed by an elected five member committee with a Mayor chosen by the committee members.

Fieldsboro is governed by an elected Mayor and five other elected Borough Council members.

## **PARKS/RECREATION**

Nearby parks include Gilder Park in the city, Northern Community Park and Joe Lawrence Park in the Township, and close proximity to parks in Mercer County, such as Veterans Park and Mercer Community Park. Community recreation leagues for children are available including teams representing girls and boys soccer, basketball, baseball/softball and football.





Bordentown  
Regional High  
School (above)

Town &  
Country Diner.  
(right) One of  
many in our  
area. Note the  
closeness to  
major highways





## **DOWNTOWN BORDENTOWN**

**Restaurants** – Wonderful restaurants provide menu offerings from American and Italian cuisine to Chinese, Japanese and Latin-American cuisine. Bordentown Township boasts the locations of large diners, Mastoris and Town & Country, as well as sports bar restaurants such as Chickie’s and Pete’s and Alstarz Bar and Grille. Small diners such as Wisdom Diner and chain restaurants such as Denny’s and McDonalds are also located in the township.

**Shops** – Many quaint shops lining the streets of the city include used book stores, antique stores, art galleries, gift shops, framing stores, music shops, and specialty shops featuring items like exotic olive oils and vinegars, candy and ice cream.

**Other** – Several physician’s groups maintain offices in the town. Pharmacies are also located both in the city and township. Several banks, attorney’s and accountants also maintain offices in the area.

**Downtown Bordentown Association** – sponsors events throughout the year including the May Iris Festival and Art Show, May Street Fair, Cranberry Festival, and various holiday activities in November and December such as the Tree Lighting, Santa Visit, House Tours, Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, Chocolate Walk and model train exhibits.

**HOUSES OF WORSHIP** - There are 12 houses of worship in Bordentown: American Presbyterian Church, B’nai Abraham Synagogue, Christ Episcopal Church, Ebenezer Full Gospel Community Church, First Baptist Church of Bordentown, First Presbyterian Church, Mount Zion AME Church, Saint Mary’s Roman Catholic Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, Dorothea Dix Unitarian Universalist Community and Union Baptist Church.

Ecumenical Services are held on Thanksgiving Eve and also include a wintertime Sunday pulpit exchange and choir festival during Ecumenical Week. An ecumenical breakfast is held monthly with pastors of the various churches meeting together for fellowship and to discuss community issues. Interfaith dinners were introduced in Bordentown circa 1871-76 by First Baptist pastor, Rev. Lansing Burrows.

### **WEBSITES:**

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

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

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

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



Bordentown City Train Display (above)

Horse-drawn carriage rides during winter holidays (below)





## Prospective Pastoral Profile

**Spirituality and Vision** - First Baptist Church of Bordentown is looking for a Pastor who is deeply rooted in Biblical principles and who lives these principles out in their daily life. We are looking for someone whose life reflects the fruits of the spirit as listed in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. A thirst for spiritual knowledge is a must as we are looking for someone who has the ability and motivation to grow along with our church and the vision to move the church forward. The pastor must have an abiding belief in the role of the church as a beacon of light to the unsaved. In addition to living a life guided by faith this person should be someone who is rooted in prayer. They must be a capable and passionate preacher, teaching and empowering the congregation with the tools necessary to live out spiritual principles in their own daily lives. We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic, creative and understands the importance for 21st century application of the Bible and discipleship.

**Skills and Leadership Style** - The candidate must possess a Bachelors degree and a Masters in Divinity from an accredited seminary and must also be licensed and ordained according to the standards of the American Baptist Churches, USA. A minimum of five years Pastoral experience with knowledge of Baptist policies, principles and procedures is required. The candidate should demonstrate sensitivity and excellence in counseling and have an open and welcoming spirit without prejudice. We value the warmth and caring spirit which is evident in our church from the moment you enter. We expect the Pastor to appreciate and encourage the continuation of this attribute that has been nurtured over the years. Pastoral care and visitation of home and hospital-bound church members is expected. Our Church is looking for a good planner and administrator to work collaboratively with the boards, officers and committees in programming, evaluating and improving the effectiveness of church ministries. Experience with and understanding of established budgets and fiscal responsibility is necessary. The ideal candidate will be able to connect with all age groups and be skilled in developing age specific programs. Someone with experience in and familiar with the challenges associated with youth ministry and working with young families is desired. The pastor should be able to connect and work with civic, church and social leaders on local and national levels. For the benefit of the membership the candidate should also display social awareness of local and global issues. The candidate must demonstrate strong and visionary leadership that will take First Baptist's ministry into the future on solid spiritual ground.

**Personal Qualities** - First Baptist Church of Bordentown is looking for a servant-leader with humility and personal integrity. We desire a discerning leader who possesses the ability to recognize when change is appropriate and needed and the wisdom to pursue such change with a tactful approach. We are looking for an engaging, dynamic pastor who is approachable and radiates the warmth of the Holy Spirit.

## **CHURCH COVENANT**

**“And they entered into a Covenant to seek the Lord, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their soul.” 2 CHRONICLES 15:12**

- Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior; and on the confession of our faith having been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.
- We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love.
- We will strive together for the advancement of the church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality, to sustain its worship, ordinances, disciplines and doctrines.
- To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.
- To walk cautiously in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, exemplary in our behavior; to avoid those habits and practices which would debase God’s image in man; to avoid all gossip, unjust criticism, and excessive anger; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior.
- We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.
- We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this Covenant, and the principles of God’s Word



# OUR MISSION STATEMENT, BELIEFS AND AFFILIATIONS



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*“TO BE A CARING CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP – LEARNING, LIVING AND SPREADING THE WORD OF GOD”*

## **BELIEFS**

Baptists believe in the great doctrines of the church:

- The Bible is God’s Holy Word
- The redemptive ministry of Jesus Christ
- The believer’s resurrection made possible by the resurrection of Jesus Christ
- The Triumph of God over sin and death

We also believe that:

- Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and human beings
- The Bible is our final authority in faith and conduct.
- Baptism by immersion in water was taught in the Bible and symbolizes the death of sinful living and the rising into a new life in Jesus Christ.
- Baptism should be administered only to those who believe in and follow Jesus Christ.

## **ORDINANCES**

We have two ordinances: Believer’s Baptism and Communion.

## **AFFILIATION**

While closely affiliated with American Baptist Churches of NJ, the Capital Association and American Baptist Churches USA, we follow the Baptist tradition of local church autonomy, being responsible for its own preaching, worship, teaching, finances, property and for outreach missions.

## First Baptist Church of Bordentown has a rich 250+ year history



- 2001 marked our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! In 1751 Baptists from Upper Freehold (Monmouth County) NJ established what would later become present day First Baptist Church of Bordentown.
- Today First Baptist Church is recognized as the oldest active church in Bordentown.
- On April 14, 1821 First Baptist was officially recognized as an “independent” church and, based on figures from around that time, was then constituted of 28 members including men and women.
- On May 3, 1844 the church was officially reincorporated as “First Baptist Church of Bordentown.”
- First Baptist Church Bordentown helped found the Fieldsboro Baptist Chapel in 1871.
- The church building has been rebuilt a total of three times. The last followed the “Great Fire of 1882.” The cornerstone from the last church building remains and was incorporated in the vestibule.
- Traditions and programs which can trace their present day roots back several decades or more include: Lend – a – Hand (now the Women’s Society), Shepherding List, Children’s Story, Women’s Society, Smorgasbord Dinner and Interfaith Dinner/Breakfast.
- At a meeting held in our church in 1863, it was decided that the State needed a Baptist school in NJ. As a result of this meeting Peddie School in Hightstown, NJ was established.
- Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 13 first met in our church building in 1925. Members of BSA still meet in our church to this day.
- A new pipe organ was dedicated in October 1941. It remains in use today.
- The Church owns its own parsonage – built in 1953.
- The Church has only had three permanent pastors in the last 55 years.



# Our Worship Services are Welcoming and Stimulating

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE IS OFFERED AT 10:15 AM AND INCLUDES:

- A Call to Worship
- Announcements
- Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer
- Children's Story (Began between 1939 – 1946)
- Mission Concerns and Spoken Prayer Requests
- Offering
- A "blended worship" selection of music which includes traditional hymns, choir anthems, and contemporary music and songs.
- Pastoral Prayer
- Scripture Reading and Sermon
- Closing Prayer/Benediction

## MONTHLY COMMUNION

- On the first Sunday of each month, Open Communion is served and we collect a Deacon's Fellowship Offering.

## SPECIAL ANNUAL SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Children's Sunday, Women's Sunday, Bring a Friend Sunday, Palm Sunday with Baptisms by immersion, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve



## PREVIOUS PASTORS SERVING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BORDENTOWN

First Baptist Church can trace its history of pastoral care all the way back to 1821 when the Rev. Samuel W. Lynd presided over what became present day First Baptist of Bordentown. Since 1900 the following permanent Pastors have presided over First Baptist Church:

- 1892-1902 – Rev. James Lisk, D.D.
- 1902-1906 – Rev. Edmund F. Garrett
- 1907-1913 – Dr. Daniel G. Stevens
- 1913-1921 – Rev. Allan N. Nettleman
- 1921-1925 – Rev. Stephen Cunliffe
- 1925-1927 – Rev. Howard H. Brown
- 1928-1938 – Rev. Alexander Fraser
- 1939-1946 – Rev. Roland J. Weisser
- 1946-1948 – Rev. Thomas E. Ellis
- 1949-1959 – Rev. C Robert Pederden
- 1959-1966 – Rev. Dr. William W. LeConey



Dr. LeConey preceded the two most recent Pastors who, combined, went on to preside over the church for the next 47 years! The following write-up on those two pastors illustrates how stable and connected to community service they and our church has been. They demonstrate the type of leader that First Baptist is looking for in a Pastor. It is a testimony to our church's commitment to outreach, missions and spreading God's word to those in need. Our Pastors and our church have been dedicated to following God's teachings which has become our foundation and purpose.



First Baptist's most recent three Pastors – (L to R) Rev. Jay Rambo; Dr. William LeConey; Rev. Charles Jackson



## **The Reverend Charles R. Jackson (1967 – 1981)**

Rev. Jackson (“Charlie”) was the son of a Baptist minister who grew up in Salem County, NJ. He was baptized at Elmer Baptist Church. “Charlie” was a graduate of Eastern College and completed his theological studies at Eastern Baptist Seminary, now known as Palmer Seminary. Prior to the beginning of his ministry in Bordentown he was the minister for four years at nearby Columbus Baptist Church where he was ordained in 1963. Notably Rev. Jackson was also a part-time Chaplain at the Masonic Home in Burlington, NJ, a position in which he continued at the request of our church because of the importance of that ministry.

As quoted from the *“250th Anniversary History of the Bordentown Baptist Church,”* Rev. Jackson was “tall, with a buoyant manner, a ready smile and a strong cultured voice who ministered devotedly for 14 years to the faithful at First Baptist and to the community.” During his ministry Rev. Jackson instituted the practice of involving lay people in the church worship service. He re-introduced the Children’s Story to the worship service and developed a monthly “Mini-News” letter to effectively communicate goals, activities and meetings of the church. In 1975, “Charlie” inaugurated the friendly practice of a person to person handshake and greeting among the congregation at the beginning of each worship service, a practice that continues today.

During his tenure the church celebrated its 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USA in 1976. A special “Baptist Meeting House Sunday” was held in our church with Rev. Jackson preaching from a tall Colonial style pulpit constructed by Deacon, Bill Boner. Congregation members and church staff dressed in colonial garb for the occasion.

In the late 1960’s Rev. Jackson was instrumental in establishing closer relations with the two Afro-American Churches in Bordentown following the death of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He arranged successful exchanges of worship services with the Afro-American churches in an effort to develop a stronger Christian bridge of brotherhood in Bordentown.

In denominational matters Rev. Jackson was president of the ABCNJ Baptist Minister’s Council and was the State Advisor to the ABCNJ Baptist Youth Fellowship. Rev. Jackson was also active in the Capital Association of ABCNJ as well as serving in several leadership positions at Baptist Camp Lebanon. He was responsible for organizing a “Bike Camp” in 1972 during which the group peddled through the Pennsylvania Amish countryside.

## **The Reverend Charles R. Jackson (1967 – 1981) cont.**

In community matters, Rev. Jackson was a member of the City Human Relations Council and became a key figure as part of the Bordentown City's innovative and well-documented "Work Fare" doctrine. This program was an assistance program based on the premise that able bodied recipients of welfare monies could work in the community helping with projects for a minimum wage in exchange for their financial aid.

Rev. Jackson announced his resignation as Pastor in November 1980 to accept the position as Pastor-Administrator of the Baptist Home of South Jersey in Riverton, NJ. Mr. Jackson's Chaplaincy at the Masonic Home prepared him well for this mission."

Reverend Jackson was married to his wife Joan during his tenure at First Baptist. He had three sons, Steven, David and John, the latter of whom became a minister.





## **The Reverend Jay Rambo (1981 – 2014)**

Rev. Rambo (Jay) began his ministry with First Baptist on July 5, 1981 and served for 33 years retiring on June 30, 2014. He grew up in Downingtown PA and was baptized into the fellowship at First Baptist of Downingtown, PA. During his senior year at West Chester State College, Jay answered a personal call to ministry and entered Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, now Palmer Seminary, graduating in 1972 with a Masters of Divinity degree. Prior to his arrival in Bordentown, Rev. Rambo served as Pastor for four years at the Magnolia, NJ Baptist Church.

He is described in the “250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History of the Bordentown Baptist Church”, “as a very committed, Bible-focused, well organized and caring gentleman, who’s warm boyish manner brought a fresh tone to our fellowship.” Rev. Rambo focused on the power of the written Word of God and the power of prayer during his ministry, believing that both would draw one closer to God. Jay contributed to the worship experience by developing the art of “first-person” sermons with portrayals of key Bible figures enhanced by dressing in costume. He sang baritone in our church quartet called *Higher Ground* and, with his wife, Ginni, was a member of our Adult Choir. Jay also developed an unique approach to the Children’s Story each Sunday during which a child would bring “something” in a paper bag and Jay would develop an on the spot Children’s Story from the object. Rev. Rambo established a shepherding program in the Diaconate whereby names of members/families are prayed for by each Deacon while he prayed for each Diaconate member. Over the years he participated with youthful vigor in the Baptist Youth Fellowship.

In denominational matters Reverend Rambo has served on the American Baptist Churches of NJ Council as a member of the Personnel Committee and Chair of the ABCNJ Investments Committee. He has been a leader at NJ Baptist Camp Lebanon including leading a *Sailing Camp Experience* for several years. Jay served on the board of Riverview Estates (formerly the Baptist Home of South Jersey ) for nine years, the last six as Chairman. In 2010 Rev. Rambo was honored with an appointment to the board of ABC/USA. Following one year of service on this board, it was reorganized and Jay was appointed in 2011 to serve on the American Baptist Home Mission Society of the ABC/USA.

**The Reverend Jay Rambo (1981 – 2014)** cont.

In community affairs Rev. Rambo has held leadership posts in the Bordentown Ministerium, the former Pastoral Counseling Center, the local Food Pantry and the Good Neighbor Guild which provides emergency shelter and food to those in need. He was Chairman of the Good Neighbor Guild for 30 years of his ministry in Bordentown. Rev. Rambo also served on the board of the “Summer Youth Program” in Bordentown from 2005-2010. Jay’s face, kindness and reputation for gentleness and deep faith were easily recognized and praised in the community.

During his ministry Pastor Rambo stressed several elements in church life that enhance spiritual growth. Simply stated these are based on a caring fellowship committed to Bible study, prayer and stewardship of time and money. His sermons were directed to these topics. His theme on stewardship was “Giving should not be out of obligation, but rather in the spirit of thankfulness for God’s blessings.”

Reverend Rambo is married to Virginia Rose Rambo. They have two grown children, Karen and Michael.





# CHURCH STAFF



Church Secretary  
Terry Bell



Senior Choir Director  
Paul Chapin



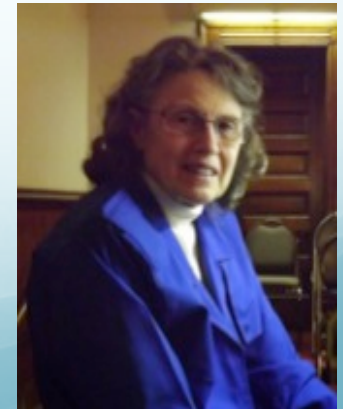
Facilities Manager  
Larry Goad



Assistant Choir Director  
Janice Chapin



Custodial Staff  
Mike Carson



Organist  
Helen Magowan

# OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

*“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.”  
Psalm 100:1*

## **OUR MUSIC STAFF**

- Senior Choir Director – Paul Chapin
- Assistant Choir Director – Janice Chapin
- Organist – Helen Magowan

With the leadership of our long time music staff we are committed to our music program and its importance in the worship service as an instrument of praise to God. Our congregation sings traditional hymns and contemporary songs. We consider our worship service to be a “blended” music type service. Our local praise team opens the worship service once a month with songs of praise.

## **THE CHOIRS**

- Adult Choir
- Handbell Choir
- Instrumentalists
- Junior Choir
- Praise Team (monthly)

Adult choir has 25 faithful members who contribute weekly to the worship service. In addition they provide inspiration to our special services on Christmas Eve, Easter and the annual Ecumenical Choir Festival. Through personal connections of Janice and Paul Chapin, the choir has sung in other church venues as far away as Philadelphia, PA.



## Our Music Ministry in action

Adult Choir and special music (left)

Junior Choir (below left)

Handbell Choir (below right)







Praise Team (above left)  
Junior Choir (above right)  
Bell Choir (left)



# **CHILDREN'S EDUCATION PROGRAM**

## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM**

- Sunday School is held before Church Services and is offered to children from toddler to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. We have approximately 25 children in attendance.
- We have a dedicated staff of teachers and Board of Christian Education members.
- All children gather in our Fellowship Hall for singing and an offering before going to their prospective classrooms.

## **DURING CHURCH SERVICE**

- A children's story is presented.
- We often have wonderful performances by our Junior Choir.
- While children are encouraged and welcome to stay in the worship service, nursery services are offered for those children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and under.
- Nursery services are staffed by two adult volunteers in a classroom next to the Sanctuary.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

- During the summer there is a Vacation Bible School during the evenings for one week. This is an ecumenical event involving local churches. Most of the children that attend are from several local churches and the community.
- Usual attendance is 40 children with 15 volunteers running the program.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- June Children's Day Sunday
- Annual Church Picnic
- October Harvest Costume Party
- Sunday School children's Christmas program during our Church Service in December
- Winter Family Bingo Night with prizes for everyone and refreshments

## Our Children's Education Programs



Children's Story (above left)

PreSchool Sunday School Class  
(above right)

Sunday School Christmas  
Program (left)





Sunday School Class (right)



Children's Harvest Costume Party  
(above left and left)

## YOUTH GROUP

- In addition to Sunday School classes, Youth Group is offered to teens in grades 8 to 12.
- Regular meetings are held Sunday evenings and are led by two adult leaders with 6-10 youth currently attending.
- Youth Group activities include Bible lessons applied to daily life as well as fun social games.
- Monthly social events held include laser tag, bowling, beach trips, pizza nights, church lock-ins/sleep overs.
- Youth sponsored fund raising efforts include events such as their “famous” Spaghetti Dinner to support attendance at Snow-Camp held at Schroon Lake, NY.



Help for  
the  
Spaghetti  
Dinner  
comes  
from all  
ages





# **CHURCH BOARDS, COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES**

## **DIACONATE**

The Diaconate has twelve members who meet together to assist the Pastor in his/her work. Their primary areas of concern are worship, church membership, visitation, and caring for the sick, needy and distressed. They also encourage and support the spiritual growth of the church and provide for the ordinances of The Lord's Supper and Believer's Baptism.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees has nine members who meet together to discuss issues relating to the church properties and to take all necessary measures for the protection, management, maintenance and up keeping of the same. They have custody of the securities, investments, title papers, and other valuable documents of the church. The local expense treasurer attends all Trustee meetings and serves as a liaison between the Trustees and the Investment Committee, which reports to the Trustees.

## **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Board of Christian Education has six members. They study the educational needs of the church, including the Sunday School and Youth Group Program, Vacation Bible School, adult education and outreach programs in order to plan, promote and administer a comprehensive program of Christian education. The Superintendent of the Sunday School is a voting ex-officio member.

## **THE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Advisory Council has eleven members who meet to strengthen the total work of the church, its boards, committees and auxiliary organizations. The members also appoint the members of the various church committees. It considers recommendations from the various boards, committees and organizations of the church and may also make recommendations to the same. The council approves all matters that are brought to the congregation for an active member vote.

## **COMMITTEES**

Church Committees are:

Music, Financial Support, Auditing, Investment and Ushering

The Nominating Committee has assigned members as set forth in the Church Constitution.

## FELLOWSHIP

- “Ties that Bind” – Is a monthly informative newsletter mailed to members and friends. It includes a Pastor’s letter, church calendar, Board and Committee updates, upcoming events as well as prayer requests.
- Bible Study – A weekly Bible study for adults is led by the Pastor.
- Singles Dinners - Bi-weekly dinners are held for single adults and include scrumptious food and fun fellowship.
- Coffee Hour - coffee hour after worship service is hosted by church groups and held monthly.
- Potluck Suppers – dinners are held at the church throughout the year.
- Bring-a-Friend Sunday – Church attendees are encouraged to invite friends that would not normally attend services.
- Annual Church Picnic – A cook-out with great food, games, laughter and fellowship is held at a local park after church service.
- Hanging of the Greens – Church attendees decorate the church and Sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season.

Examples of special Advent services are pictured below







## Fellowship Activities



## MISSIONS and CHURCH GROUPS

Church members are active in numerous community activities that support God's call to share the Gospel & God's love

A significant percentage of the annual church budget is designated for mission support of local, national and international organizations.

- **Motel Ministry** – Hot meals and grocery bags are prepared monthly for local motel residents. Grocery bag items are provided by members of our congregation and several other houses of worship. Our church serves as a drop-off location for these items and the grocery bags are delivered at the end of the month with the meal our church provides.
- **Bible Bucks** – Children earn certificates for their participation in Sunday School and the children's story during the service. The certificates are redeemed for donated food and toiletry items that are then included in the Motel Ministry bags.
- **Truck Stop** – Lay Chaplains from our church conduct weekly services at the local Petro truck stop.
- **Food Pantry** – Our church collects donations and church members are actively involved in the local Bordentown community food pantry.
- **Trenton Soup Kitchen** - Church members are actively involved in this local ministry.
- **Crop Walk** – The church supports local efforts to raise money to fight hunger.
- **Mission Trips** – Children and adult church members have participated in mission trips within the continental USA.
- **Angel Tree Ministry** – Gifts are collected at Christmas to support participants of the local Salvation Army program.



As part of our Motel Ministry hot meals and grocery bags are prepared monthly for local motel residents.



## WOMEN'S SOCIETY

Women of the church unite to work together and answer the call to support and spread God's word. The Women's Society grew out of the merging of the church's "Lend-a-Hand" and American Baptist Women's Mission groups. The Women's Society meeting attendance averages 20-24 adult women committed to helping out wherever they are able. Historically the Women's Society has made it possible to complete many maintenance projects in the church. They have also made possible many additions to the church such as carpeting for the sanctuary, completion of the lower fellowship hall kitchen and refurbishing the church lounge, to list only a few. There were instances when donations from the group helped with the local expenses portion of the church budget when times were hard. Their impact over the years has been an amazing tribute to their hard work. As quoted from the *250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bordentown Baptist Church*, "from 1951 to 1999 the *Lend-a-Hand* contributed from its treasury almost \$124,000 to all facets of the church's needs".

Meeting monthly, the group raises money to support local, national and international missions. Supporting each other in prayer, meetings consist of devotions, business activities and fantastic desserts. Furthering fellowship and fun, twice yearly pot-luck dinners are held. The Women's Society has also sponsored bus trips for entertainment and dining.

We support White Cross overseas ministries with financial gifts and rolled bandages.

The group also coordinates funeral luncheons for church members.

*Fundraising events include –*

- Soup and Sandwich Luncheon prior to the Church Annual Business Meeting
- Spring Pancake Breakfast
- Pennsylvania Dutch Smorgasbord Dinner
- Fall Festival featuring new and/or hand-crafted items and food
- Red Stockings at Christmas to support Riverview Baptist Home





**Friends,  
Fun and Food  
go hand in hand at  
First Baptist Church**







Outdoor service (left)

Coffee Hour (below left and right)







Fall Festival (left and below left)

First Baptist Church's entry in the Bordentown Halloween Parade (below right)





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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

OF BORDENTOWN.

FOUNDED 1751.

THIS IS THE FOURTH EDIFICE  
TO OCCUPY PRESENT SITE

1752 - 1834 - 1860 - 1893