

ROCKPORT BAPTIST CHURCH

2015

ANNUAL REPORT



Follow Jesus and Proclaim Him to the World!



First Baptist Church
Rockport, MA



First Baptist Church

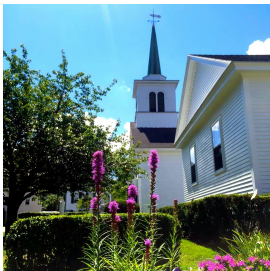
Rockport, MA

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Established In 1808





First Baptist Church
Rockport, MA

2015 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Report from the Pastor - 3

Report from the Board of Deacons - 7

Report from the Board of Stewards - 8

Report from the Clerk - 9

Report from the Music Committee - 10

Report from the Hospitality Committee - 11

Report from the Ushers - 12

Report from the Associate Minister - 13

Report from the God's Family Class Assistant - 14

Report from the Office Manager - 14

Report from the Church Personnel Safety
Oversight & Nominating Committee - 15

Report on Attendance - 16

Financial Reports

Report from the Treasurer - 17

Report from the Collector - 21

Past Decade Financial Overview Comparison - 24

Report from the Investment Portfolio - 25



First Baptist Church

Rockport, MA

2015 Annual Report of the Pastor

“Saddam Hussein has been captured”, declared the breaking news bulletin on the morning of Saturday, December 13, 2003. I will always remember the moment that this account snapped across the car radio as I drove through my first New England snowstorm with a group of fellow college friends enjoying our junior year Christmas break. The news of Saddam’s capture marked the end of an international crisis that had begun when I was in first grade. This day also marked the beginning of my interest in pursuing vocational ministry in New England. The purpose of the trip was to explore a potential partnership between student ministry groups from The Ohio State University and Providence’s Brown University. While the partnership did not happen, an interest had been awakened and I was determined to come back to New England.

The year 2015 marked the ten-year anniversary of my return to New England, first for seminary and then to serve with you in this church. It is remarkable how fast ten years progresses and yet also how much can occur within such a measure of time. In this decade I have come to more acutely understand the challenges facing the church in New England while also growing in my love for the people who have for generations been committed to her welfare. It’s always valuable to look back at various seasons in our lives and consider what we have learned from the Triune God. The annual report is a helpful tool as it reviews the last year but also allows for future generations to look back and answer the question “what was going on in 2015”? My prayer is that the future generations would be able to say that above all we were aspiring to be faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There were many areas of growth in 2015 in our church that were a result of people working together and building on fruitful endeavors of past years. The expansion of our involvement in Family Promise North Shore is one such example as over ten different church volunteers participated in this community outreach effort. The recent completion of major organ repairs, the installation of a new church and parsonage boiler and the installation of a fire alarm and smoke detector system are huge



Commissioning Kendra Short to the Mission Field

upgrades to the church property that will preserve the church infrastructure for future generations. While most of these projects were completed in 2015, they have been topics of research and board discussion for well over a decade and are the result of the hard work and contributions from present and past church team players.

In the spring we had the opportunity to commission Kendra Short as a missionary to Greece. It was a wonderful opportunity to host many of the regional Christian leaders at our church in this service of celebration and send-off. Kendra participated in our church for three years while attending Seminary. Kendra is serving near Athens, a region that has been at the center of much world focus. This attention is due to the millions of refugees fleeing from the violent terror that has been consuming the Middle East. If these refugees are able to successfully escape, Greece is the often the first place they arrive. Kendra is literally on the front lines of the one of the great spiritual and humanitarian turmoil's of our generation. Throughout the year, we have sought to keep in touch with Kendra through talking on Skype, reading her newsletter and keeping her in prayer.



Agency D3 Vacation Bible School

Additional highlights from the year include the Agency D3 Vacation Bible School that took place the third week of July. This fun week thankfully did not include record heat again but did see record numbers as we exceeded past attendance records. This year we succeeded the best so far in extending the reach of VBS into the rest of the year. Much of the youth group, which meets regularly throughout the school year,

is built upon relationships that were originally fostered in Vacation Bible School. Additionally, after a three-year hiatus we resumed hosting a Children's Sunday School program that has been established with children from VBS. I have taught the Children's Sunday School this year while Tom Paisley has been teaching Adult Sunday School.

It has been a joy to be involved with the youth group again this year. Tom and Fiona Paisley have done an excellent job in their second year of leading the group. Through a generous grant from the Boston Baptist Social Union, we were able to create an additional youth group position for Tchelsea Grenfell. Tchelsea was one of the charter members of the youth group in 2010 and a 2015 graduate of the University of Massachusetts. She has done a great job in building relationships with Rockport students as well as taking care of many of the youth group details.

The church has an important responsibility of reaching all generations with the gospel and seeking to love and value the contributions of all ages. Part of this responsibility is the strategic need to cultivate younger disciples of Christ for the future welfare of the church.

Weekly, I continue to lead the Wednesday Morning Bible Study, which is a lively group from the church and greater community. The numbers of regular participants in this group grew in the last year as we regularly averaged 16-20 participants. In 2015, we studied Tim Keller's book *The Reason for God*, had a series looking at church heresies (Tom Paisley was of special help with this quest), looked at the Old Testament book of Leviticus and we finished the year starting a venture through 1 Corinthians.



Youth Fellowship Singing Together

Another important highlight of 2015 was the re-establishment of Friday Morning Prayer at 8 AM. In the warmer months the group meets in the sanctuary and the colder months my office. This is a critical time to come together and pray for the church and greater community. While not all may be able to attend the meeting at this time, corporate prayer and recognition of our need for God is essential for the effectiveness of the church and livelihood of the individual Christian.

On Sunday Mornings throughout the year, I had the opportunity to lead the church in a sermon series engaging in several chapters from the gospel of Matthew, the book of Philippians, and a series looking at “heroes of the faith” based on Hebrews 11. I am grateful to Tom Paisley, Chip Copp, Tom Haugen and Jim Koerth who also preached at various times throughout the year and did excellent jobs of teaching the scriptures. Throughout the year I worked at trying to incorporate different visual aids and media tools within the service and to enhance the sermon. I am particularly grateful to Katrina Tuck and her excellent volunteer work of managing our sound and video booth. This work has served to increase the quality of our worship experience.

A personal highlight of the year was the ability to travel to China for two weeks as part of my training with the Lily Endowment funded Harold John Okenga Fellows program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. It was an incredible journey to Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai. The trip featured many memorable moments such as running next to a platoon of Chinese soldiers in Tiananmen Square, scaling the great wall of China, and buying a selfie-stick along the Bund River in the largest city in the world. Shanghai is roughly 4x larger than New York City. The purpose of the trip was not primarily tourism but to learn from the Church within China.

Christianity is growing faster today in China than anywhere else in the world. This is particularly amazing considering the widespread government sponsored persecution of any form of religion that persisted for the better part of the last century. While the Chinese state continues to exert



Harold John Okenga Fellows In Tiananmen Square

control over the church, there has been increasing toleration of the practice of religion since the mid-90s. As can be imagined there is a large difference between the older generation of Chinese Christians who experienced improvised China and heavy persecution and the younger generations that have seen extraordinary economic growth as well as exponential church growth. The continual advice given to us from these church leaders was “stay faithful to scripture” and “avoid the temptation of materialism”. It is

very valuable to learn from Christians in other parts of the world, and I am grateful for the opportunity I had to learn in China. As we move forward as a church, I hope we can together explore more avenues of learning from global Christianity.

The annual report is a valuable tool for looking back and helping us to plan for the future. For the Christian we are called to live in a continual state of looking back to the life, death, resurrection and promised return of Jesus Christ. We also look forward to the future guarantee of the Christ’s eternal Kingdom. As we look to the past and future, we are reminded of how and why to live in the present. As we embark on a new year together let us hold fast to the certitude of the Triune God’s promises and character. There are many uncertainties about 2016, but we can be confident that Jesus is on his throne and continuing to extend his grace to our church and world. May we keep our eyes fixed upon him as we seek to worship and serve together in the 2016.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Matt Wigton

Report from the Board of Deacons

The Deacons had several highlights this year, supporting the commissioning service for Kendra, participating in Alistair's Baby dedication in February and supporting Matt during his preparation for his China trip.

The year saw Tom Paisley's transition from Pastoral Apprentice to Associate Pastor role. In 2015 the Deacons felt it important to keep our missionaries before the congregations supporting them in prayer, and providing a view into the global work of Christ Church. The recent Skype sessions are an example of this desire and we hope to do this on a regular basis.

The board continues to work with Matt to seek God's guidance for what his teaching focus should be for Sunday school and sermons.

We also had a introspective season, discerning what God is doing in our fellowship, what are we called to do as individuals and overall are we making progress? More to come on that as we see God work out His plan for our fellowship in the coming year.

Respectfully,
David Pierson,
Chairman Board of Deacons



Alistair's Baby dedication

Report from the Board of Stewards

The Board of Stewards managed two main projects during 2015 concerning the maintenance of the church and parsonage.

1. Tri State was hired to install a fire suppression system including sprinklers, heat detection, smoke detection, and new fire extinguishers throughout the church. All of the work was completed. The project was funded through a grant from the CPC.

2. A new furnace was installed at the church by Walsh Oil.

Other miscellaneous tasks that were addressed by the Stewards in 2015 include:

The floors at the parsonage were refinished by ABC Floors.

Snow removal was very important early in the year. American Landscaping did a wonderful job keeping up with the huge amounts of snow that fell in 2015.

The doors at the parsonage needed replacing. Michael D'Annolfo, General Contractor, replaced the front and side doors this Fall.

New blinds were purchased in the parsonage.

Frank Levesque and Margaret Williams volunteered to install the blinds.

The Stewards met regularly to discuss the progress of projects and to evaluate the finances for the church.

Flowers were purchased throughout the year for the church and grounds.

Regular maintenance was performed by volunteers.

We had two workdays when volunteers worked on various small projects around the church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Stewards



Above:
New boiler
Excavation for fire
suppression system

Right:
Church clean up day

Annual Report of the Church Clerk – 2015

Members Reported December 31, 2014

Active Resident Members.....	85
Non-Resident Members.....	8
Total Membership.....	93

Membership Changes in 2015

Additions: None in 2015

Transfers:

Members to Heaven - Doris Gerrard
James Sherburne
Friends to Heaven - Ronald Stanton

Members as of December 31, 2015

Active Resident Members.....	83
Non-Resident Members.....	8
Total Membership.....	91

Baptisms: None in 2015

Weddings: None in 2015

Births: None in 2015

Dedications: Alistair Charles Wigton

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Koerth, Clerk

Report from the Music Committee

The search for our Music Director/Organist was on hold during 2015 while organ repairs continued for most of the year.



Return of the organ

Thankfully, Laurie Tuck continued as our interim music director for another year. Thanks to her leadership, the continuing dedication of our vocal choir, the flourishing of the youth Praise Band, various soloists and instrumentalists we were able to plan and provide special music at each service throughout the year.

Although the Hand Bell Choir continues to be on hiatus, we did hear occasional ringing especially in early July when we annually remember Gertrude Tarr Reed. It was on the occasion of Gert's 100th birthday many years ago that one of the bell octaves was gifted to the church.

Finally the organ can be heard once again on Sunday mornings. In late October during a special service that included special music by the Lighthouse Brass Quintet, the organ sounded in the sanctuary after nearly 2 years of silence.

Minor repairs continue, but Laurie is able to compensate for the lingering issues while playing. We are grateful for her flexible musicianship.

Special thanks to the many musicians who have played and sung during the past year. Especially, Ruth Bowers, Jim Koerth and the Lighthouse brass, Ken Sturgeon, Ben Tuck, Ruth Maasen and others. The Sturgeon children (Christian, Kimi, Harry and Danielle) continue to be the backbone of the Youth Praise Band along with David Avila and Pastor Matt added to the vocals. The group joins worship regularly and continues to be a blessing to all in attendance.

On behalf of the music committee and congregation I would also like to offer a special, very large, thank you to Katrina Tuck for faithfully executing and maintaining all things related to the sound system!

Our entire music ministry at the First Baptist Church is dedicated to the glory of Our Triune God. We have been greatly blessed and all those that serve in the music ministry covet your continued prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Koerth
Music Committee Chairman



Choir singing

Report from the Hospitality Committee

To the Members and friends of FBC,
Rockport:

The Hospitality Committee has not been meeting on a regular basis, although it exists in theory and in practice when needs arise. The meetings are not well attended, but there are those who are only a phone call away when it comes to being willing and able to help. The meetings do serve a purpose in the realm of communication, making decisions about what activities and when they occur to be decided in a group manner, and also feedback and assessment of how the function went, wither positively or what might be done differently.



Celebration for Alistair's Birthday

There are always things that this committee can do as it seems to be the umbrella under which many activities and events function.

As a small community church, we seem to tap and re-tap the same folks again and again. Although we have a bevy of cheerful givers, there is a lot of "homework" of life within the daily functions that are behind the scenes and yet part of a definite structure that provides the successful atmosphere of warm welcomes.

Please join me in your voiced and shared willing participation in the hospitality of our church in its outreach and internal support system.

I would like to hear from any and everyone about what they feel lead to do in the coming year.

Sincerely and as ever, Your Sister in His Love,
Sally May Levesque

Report from the Head Usher/Greeter

The responsibility of an usher/greeter is to be the church's "ambassador" as worshipers come through our front doors. We want all who come to feel welcome and at ease. Each usher/greeter wears an "USHER" button and a smile (and in their Sunday best, of course). They remain near the back of the church to aid any latecomers and to identify if there is a need for nursery directions or someone is in need of help. The usher/greeters also light the candles in the front of the church, take weekly attendance and collect the offering.

Rockport Baptist Church has 10 Regular volunteer usher/greeters:

Millicent Bruce & Nancy Pallazola – 1st week

Margaret Williams & Kris Carlson - 2nd week

David Pierson & Terry Schwenk - 3rd week

Janet O'Donnell & Tom Paisley 4th week

Diane & Doug Lynn - 5th week

The usher/greeters are encouraged to engage visitors at the front door and if they are visiting for the first time to hand them a "Visitors Bag" which may include any of the following (depending which materials are available - as they change periodically):

- Church information sheet
- Rockport Baptist mug
- A copy of More Than A Carpenter by Josh McDowell
- A bookmark or a ribbon cross
- Pastor Matt's business card

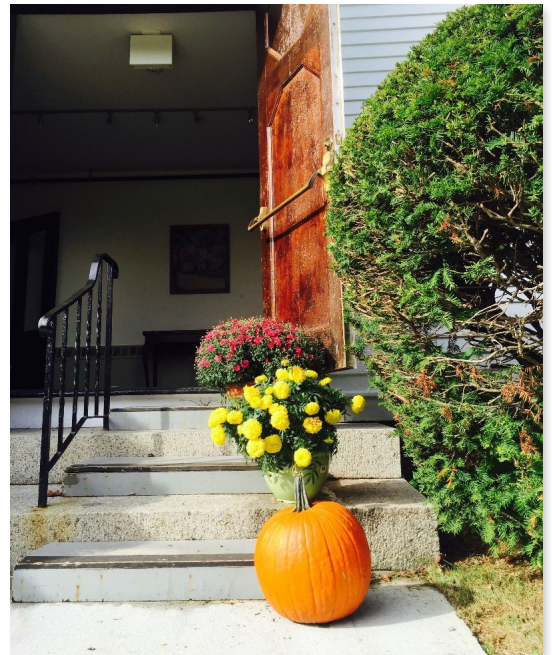
Also available in the Narthex are children's packets they can use while attending the service. The packet contains a pen, pencil, a drawing pad, crayons and a coloring book.

The usher/greeters can also serve during special occasions such as funerals, special events and New Years Rockport Eve.

We are always looking for additional usher/greeters. If you feel the Lord's leading to serve Him in this way, please let Pastor Wigton or myself.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kris Carlson, Head Usher



Church entrance in the Fall

Report from the Associate Minister

Upon my completion of the Master of Divinity degree at Gordon-Conwell midway through 2015, my position at the First Baptist Church of Rockport changed from Pastoral Apprentice to Associate Pastor. In the fall, I began a 1-year postgraduate program in Church history at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. It is my hope that what I learn through this degree will assist me in my ministry and prepare me for the possibility of further studies in the future. My role at the church throughout the year has included consistent involvement in the youth group, Wednesday morning Bible study, Sunday school, and other functions of the church.

There have been many exciting moments with the youth group. In the spring, I shared the teaching with Fiona, Kendra, and Matt, and we taught the Gospel of John to high schoolers and the Gospel of Luke to the middle schoolers. In the fall, I taught all of the high school lessons, in which we discussed



Youth Group activity

different topics in Christian ethics, looking through the lens of our ethical responsibility to God and God's free gift of salvation in Jesus Christ. This fall saw a large increase in middle-school students at the weekly meetings as well as the addition of Tchelsea Grenfell to our adult leadership team. As well as our regular Wednesday night meetings, we had several special events throughout the year, including a couple service days, Vacation Bible School, a trip to Water Country, an outdoor adventure at La Vida's high ropes course, and a Christmas party.

The Wednesday morning Bible study discussed some interesting topics this year, including the books of Leviticus and 1 Corinthians. I also have been the primary teacher for the church's Sunday school program for most of the year. We studied the life of King David in the spring and Christian church life in the fall, including seven weeks with *I Am a Church Member* by Thom Rainer.

I preached several times throughout the year, including a few Sunday mornings when Matt was away. I have also been actively working with the Board of Deacons in leading the church, as well as preaching at Den-Mar assisted living facility some Sunday afternoons, and numerous special events throughout the year. It was a privilege to worship and serve with the First Baptist Church of Rockport in 2015.



Report from the God's Family Class Assistant

God's Family continues to be an important and necessary ministry of the First Baptist Church of Rockport. I have continued in my role as God's Family assistant again this year. In this role, I have the opportunity to help with Sunday school each week and to assist any of our participants who need help during the regular worship service. We finished the 2014-2015 school year looking at what it means for the Lord to be our Shepherd. We have begun the 2015-2016 school year with the theme from VBS, "This is the Way, Walk in it." We began with the life of Daniel and have moved on to talk about other examples we find in the Scriptures of those whose faith in God compelled them to live lives of obedience. God's Family class is an important ministry of the First Baptist Church of Rockport. My participation in this class has afforded me the opportunity to see the advancement of the Kingdom of God. I am grateful to Kay, Nancy, Janet and Rosalyn for their dedication to this ministry and their vision of God's kingdom.



Report from the Office Manager

Through 2015 I have enjoyed a myriad of responsibilities at the church including projects large and small. The largest project that I helped to oversee this year was the installation of the fire suppression system at the church, including procuring bids for earth work, hiring and communicating with Tri State for the installation of sprinklers, smoke and heat detectors as well as new fire extinguishers. Other building projects include getting bids on floor refinishing, boiler installation and new doors for the parsonage.



VBS crafts with kids

Communications are a large part of my job. I am responsible for general letters, helping with grant material, communications with the Youth Group and Vacation Bible School attendees. Recently, I have begun writing the weekly email, also referred to as *Harvey Park Journal*.

Design and publicity are also my responsibility as the Office Manager. I designed material to publicize the church; a new pamphlet for the church, flyers and mailings for VBS Summer Camp, a new logo for Rockport Baptist's Youth Group and material for special activities during the Christmas season. This year I had an added challenge of creating my first scarecrow to help publicize the church and our Thankfulness Project during Rockport's Harvest Fest. Our scarecrow won a 1st Place ribbon!



CPSON Nominating Report – 2015

Church Personnel Safety Oversight and Nominating Committee

Board of Stewards: The Pastor, Treasurer and Collector are ex-officio members.

<u>Steward</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Diane Lynn.....	2018
Frank Levesque.....	2017
*Margaret Williams.....	2019
*Terry Schwenk.....	2019

Board Deacons: The Pastor is an ex-officio members.

<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Kristine Carlson.....	2018
Sally Levesque.....	2018
*David Pierson.....	2019

Officers (One-Year Terms)

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
*Auditor.....	Ruth Bowers
*Clerk.....	Karen Koerth
*Collector.....	Gail Zeman
*Head Usher.....	Kristine Carlson
*Historian.....	Phil Zeman
*Moderator.....	Mary Malcolmson
*Treasurer.....	Andrea Brown

Chairpersons of Standing Committee (One-Year Term)

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
*Hospitality.....	Sally Levesque
*Music.....	Karen Koerth
*CPSON.....	Nancy Pallazola
Church Personnel Safety Oversight and Nominating	

*Asterisk indicates those who are to be elected January 31, 2016

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Pallazola

Report on Attendance

Each Sunday the ushers take attendance of those attending Sunday Morning Worship. Attendance taking began in 2011. The monthly average does not include Christmas Eve or other special services.

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	54	47	55	58	57
February	53	52	45	64	37
March	58	49	61	54	54
April	70	63	56	63	66
May	58	59	61	67	65
June	73	71	67	73	56
July	66	63	65	78	61
August	66	64	64	62	57
September	57	67	72	62	57
October	59	62	63	62	55
November	62	65	67	56	65
December	58	65	61	64	63
Cumulative Average	61	61	62	62	58

Report From Treasurer

Expenses

		Jan - Dec 14	Jan - Dec 15	Budget	% of Budget	Budget 2016
	1 General Mission Giving					
	Bennett - Missionary Support	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	100.0%	1600
	Deacon's Fund	1,600.00	800.00	2,400.00	33.33%	1200
	Open Door/ CA Food Bank	1,600.00	800.00	1,600.00	50.0%	800
	Family Promise	0.00	800.00	0.00		800
	Partners in Development	1,600.00				
	World Mission	1,600.00				
	Short - Missionary Support	1,600.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	100.0%	4000
	Total 1 General Mission Giving	9,600.00	8,000.00	9,600.00	83.33%	8400
	Board of Deacons					
	Car Allowance	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%	0
	Continuing Education	75.00	19.09	200.00	9.55%	0
	Convention/Travel	0.00	19.23	250.00	7.69%	0
	Evangelism/Outreach	843.17	1,426.89	600.00	237.82%	1000
	Fellowship/Hospitality	825.60	1,393.20	1,500.00	92.88%	1500
	FICA Allowance	10,404.00	10,734.00	10,734.00	100.0%	10,907.52
	Health Insurance	9,652.98	4,475.04	4,488.00	99.71%	4,809.60
	Judson Dues	142.00	142.00	250.00	56.8%	150
	Nursery	1,266.67	300.00	1,200.00	25.0%	600
	Pastor's Salary	36,000.00	37,830.00	37,830.00	100.0%	38,776.08
	Pastoral Apprentice	6,452.75	4,886.27	3,500.00	139.61%	2,000.00
	Pension	10,880.64	11,226.24	11,226.24	100.0%	11,405.28
	Professional Expense	1,180.00	1,105.00	1,200.00	92.08%	1,500.00
	Pulpit Supply	1,050.00	700.00	700.00	100.0%	700.00
	Worship Materials	511.93	156.07	500.00	31.21%	500.00
	Total Board of Deacons	79,284.74	74,413.03	74,678.24	99.65%	73848.48

(continued)

		Jan - Dec 14	Jan - Dec 15	Budget	% of Budget	Budget 2016
Board of Deacons Christian Education						
	Adult Christian Education	507.16	396.92	500.00	79.38%	500.00
	Children's Sunday School	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.0%	400.00
	God's Family	983.10	223.12	1,800.00	12.4%	1,800.00
	Vacation Bible School	2,341.09	940.08	2,000.00	47.0%	2,000.00
	Youth Groups	1,375.24	1,307.43	1,300.00	100.57%	1,300.00
Total Board of Deacons Christian		5,206.59	2,867.55	6,000.00	47.79%	6,000.00
Board of Stewards						
	Electric, Church	2,303.60	2,900.18	2,500.00	116.01%	3,000.00
	Electric, Parsonage	954.06	1,502.61	1,500.00	100.17%	1,500.00
	FICA	767.44	996.21	1,100.00	90.57%	1,100.00
	Fuel Oil, Church	6,348.03	3,528.03	7,000.00	50.4%	5,000.00
	Fuel Oil, Parsonage	2,434.81	1,740.88	3,000.00	58.03%	2,500.00
	IT Support	555.07	1,809.40	500.00	361.88%	500.00
	Miscellaneous	1,520.95	1,451.20	1,500.00	96.75%	1,500.00
	Office Manager	4,406.93	11,547.16	16,000.00	72.17%	13,000
	Office Supplies	9,130.23	3,533.50	3,000.00	117.78%	3,000.00
	Property Insurance	2,862.00	3,237.00	2,500.00	129.48%	2,500.00
	Repairs/Maintance	31,511.28	27,157.12	15,000.00	181.05%	15,000.00
	Telephone	1,835.21	1,103.21	1,000.00	110.32%	1,700.00
	Water&Sewer, Church	1,099.87	1,254.60	1,100.00	114.06%	1,100.00
	Water&Sewer, parsonage	974.53	1,787.00	1,300.00	137.46%	1,300.00
	Worker's Comp	455.00	677.00	750.00	90.27%	750.00
Total Board of Stewards		67,159.01	64,225.10	57,750.00	111.21%	53,450.00
Music Committee						
	Music Director,Organist	10,340.60	7,950.00	14,000.00	56.79%	12,000.00
	Sheet Music	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.0%	400.00
	Substitutes	475.00	250.00	500.00	50.0%	500.00
Total Music Committee		10,815.60	8,200.00	14,900.00	55.03%	12,900.00
Total Expense		172,065.94	157,705.68	162,928.24	96.8%	154,598.48

Note: numbers in the 2016 budget in larger font are changes from 2015

Report From Treasurer

Restricted Funds

	Balance 1/1/2015	Receipts & Interest	Disbursements & Losses	Balance 12/31/2015
MEMORIAL FUND	1,103.26	81.71	0.00	1,184.97
YOUTH GROUP 2015 \$3000 GRANT	1,097.79	0.00	1,097.79	0.00
ELDER OUTREACH 2016 GRANT	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
BBSU GRANT 2015/2016	0.00	9,000.00	3,782.58	5,217.42
BOILER CAMPAIGN		4,049.00	4,049.00	0.00
GOD'S FAMILY CLASS	205.70			205.70
FLOWERS	142.40	464.00	473.06	133.34
MUSIC	1,220.19	0.00	600.00	620.19
SECOND SUNDY SUNDAES	327.10	0.00	129.95	197.15
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INCLUDING 2016 \$3500 GRANT	3,000.00	3,666.30	3,166.30	3,500.00
LECTURE SERIES	735.54	0.00	0.00	735.54
RESTRICTED GIFTS principle may not be spent, interest goes to Endowment interest	1,600.00			1,600.00
HOBBS 100.00				
GILES 200.00				
COLBY 100.00				
HARRIDEN 371.35				
OTHERS 828.65				
STEWART MUSIC FUND principle balance \$21,000 interest to be used for the music program	26,616.36	146.80	3,500.00	23,263.16
ENDOWMENT FUND	686,578.66	19,423.24	119,727.60	586,274.30
Endowment Fund Disbursements		67530.23		
Endowment Fund Loss of Value		52196.77		

Report From Treasurer

Additional Information

	2015	2014
Total Receipts for Current Expenses	92,927.45	102,578.48
Total Budget Disbursements	157,705.68	174,949.94
Budget Deficit	64,778.23	72,371.46

Non-Budget Disbursements from the Endowment Fund

Investment Services	2,752.00
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Total Non-Budget Disbursements	2,752.00
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Total Disbursed From Endowment Fund	67,530.23
--	------------------

Total Disbursements from Designated Money Excluding Stewart Music and Endowment Funds	13,298.68
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Church Accounts

Massachusetts American Baptist Investment Trust (MABIT)

Stewart Music Fun	Account #AI 0222	11,478.03
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Fidelity Investments

Endowment Fund	Account # Z83-280119	586,274.30
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Rockport National Bank

Savings	Account # 9211760	14,495.10
Checking	Account # 101194	9,145.02

DEACON'S FUND

1/1/2015	Receipts & Interest	Disbursements	12/31/2015
217.91	1,050.00	676.49	591.42

Funds used for:

Gifts

Discretionary

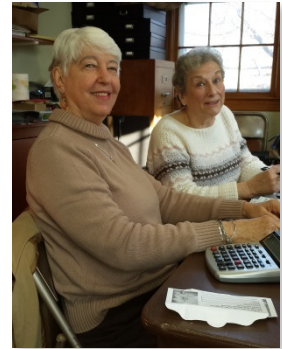
Respectfully submitted by the Treasurer, Andrea G. Brown, January 19, 2016

REPORT FROM THE COLLECTOR FOR 2015

After a very slow start to the collections year partly due to weather, we ended on a high note in December. Receipts again exceeded those recorded in the previous year. For the first time in recent history however, congregational giving was lower than that of the previous year. Grant funds totaled \$14,000, of which \$3,783 was paid for compensation to four of our seven employed staff members. In addition to our pastor we have an associate pastor, organist/choir director, office manager, youth group coordinator, God's Family assistant and nursery helper.

Not counted in our church total is one large additional grant given by the Rockport Community Preservation Committee for the installation of a smoke alarm and fire suppression system, recently completed. Bills for this work were paid directly by the Town, as required by the grant terms.

Just as it takes a congregation to do the work of a church, it takes a team to properly manage the church's income. Collections are carefully accounted for every week by two of four regular 'counters', the collection is logged into church records by the Collector, and it is counted for a third time by the Treasurer who deposits it in the bank. The Board of Stewards oversees procedures for both collections and expenditures.



Counters: Margaret Williams and Diane Lynn

It continues to be of concern that:

- Our general weekly collections (members, friends and visitors) totaled \$92,927.
- These collections only cover about 59% of our expenditures
- About 41% of our expenses are supported from the church's endowment.
- Designated collections (grants, special offering for boiler, gifts for youth activities, etc.) support another \$13,300 in spending beyond budget.
- In the past five years we have expended \$279,555 from the endowment, more than 60% of which was from principal.

The church leadership is working hard to bring more young people – kids and families – into our fold, but retirement-age folks largely provide the financial means and 'hands' to support the church. We are also very fortunate to have a substantial number of visitors who contribute generously (more than a third of the total) to the work of First Baptist. Perhaps our message is being broadcast more widely than we realize.

With the help of our Lord, our long traditions of work and faith as taught by Jesus Christ will sustain First Baptist Rockport, and guide us individually and collectively to use our resources wisely.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail M. Zeman, Collector

Report from the Collector

First Baptist Church, Rockport Alternative View of '14 and '15 Expenditures and '16 Budget						
	Jan - Dec 2014		Jan - Dec 20 15		Budget 2016	
Personnel Compensation	Salaries	Expenses	Salaries	Expenses	Salaries	Expenses
Pastor's Salary	36,000		37,830		38,776	
Pastoral Benefits		32,335		27,721		28,772
Music Director/Organist/Subs	10,816		8,200		12,500	
Staff Benefits		1,222		1,673		1,850
Associate Pastor's Stipend	6,453		4,886		2,000	
Office Manager's Salary	4,407		11,547		13,000	
Youth Leader	-00		-00		-00	
Nursery Helper	1,267		300		600	
God's Family Assistant	983		223		-00	
Subtotal	59,925	33,557	62,986	29,394	66,876	30,622
Percent of Total Budget	54.3%		58.6%		63.1%	
Worship and Christian Education Expenses						
Pulpit/Worship Supplies		1,562		856		1,200
Adult Ed/Bible Study		507		397		500
God's Family		-00		-00		1,800
VBS		2,341		940		2,000
Children and Youth		1,375		1,307		1,700
Music Supplies		-		-00		400
Subtotal		5,785		3,500		7,600
Missions, Outreach and Fellowship						
Evangelism and Outreach		843		1,427		1,000
Fellowship and Hospitality		826		1,393		1,500
Deacon's Fund		1,600		800		1,200
World Missions		6,400		5,600		5,600
Local Missions		1,600		1,600		1,600
Subtotal		11,269		10,820		10,900

(continued)

		Jan - Dec 2014		Jan - Dec 2015		Budget 2016	
Church and Parsonage Expenses							
	Utilities, Church		9,752		7,683		9,100
	Utilities, Parsonage		4,363		5,030		5,300
	Telephone/Technology Support		2,390		2,913		2,200
	Church office supplies		9,130		3,534		3,000
	Property Insurance		2,862		3,237		2,500
	Building Repairs/Maintenance		31,511		27,157		15,000
	Miscellaneous		1,521		1,451		1,500
	Subtotal		61,529		51,005		38,600
	Totals by column	59,925	112,141	62,986	94,719	66,876	87,722
	GRAND TOTAL		172,066		157,706		154,598
	Additional Spent from Grants			3,783	9,516		
=====							
Receipts							
	Collections		97,410	56.6%	92,927	58.9%	
	Investment Int/Div		21,225	12.3%	19,423	12.3%	
	Investment Principal		53,431	31.1%	45,356	28.8%	
	Grants/Spec. Gifts		8,907		20,015		
Grants and end of year gifts are often not expended in the year they're received							
Expended to cover regular budget							
	Interest/dividends	Principal			Receipts	Expend's	deficit
2015	19,423	45,355		2015	92,927	157,705	64,778
2014	21,225	53,431		2014	97,410	172,066	74,656
2013	22,248	50,725		2013	90,843	163,816	72,973
2012	22,628	19,025		2012	81,142	122,795	41,653
2011	21,702	3,793		2011	85,150	110,645	25,495
Total	107,226	172,329	279,555	2010	85,150	102,409	17,259
			5 yr total	2009	67,612	85,108	17,496

Decade Financial Overview: 2005-2015

Year	Collection for expenses and missions	Value of Endowment	Total Church Expenses	Budget Deficit (Primarily made-up from the endowment)
2005	57,644	251,858	87,088	24,711
2006	67,384	245,850	92,649	23,163
2007	60,091	771,310	77,389	15,461
2008	56,605	778,043	75,383	17,191
2009	61,723	663,159	85,108	19,689
2010	64,097	695,363	102,490	34,878
2011	83,003	706,039	110,645	25,495
2012	81,082	709,230	122,795	41,652
2013	90,843	721,495	163,816	76,352
2014	97,410	688,579	172,066	72,371
2015	92,927	586,274	157,705	61,948

Note: Over the last decade there have been minor changes in the way collections have been counted. The information above presents an accurate big picture of the church financial outlook over the last decade. Detailed questions regarding specific years can be found in the annual reports from these years. All data in this graph is based upon the annual reports.

Report from the Investment Portfolio

NICHOLAS H. SAFFORD & CO., INC.
Investment Counsel

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2015

PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

	Total Invested	Market Amount	Value %	Annual Income	Current Yield %	Yield % At Cost
Money Markets	28,769	28,769	5	3	0.0	0.0
Fixed Income	25,488	25,064	4	344	1.4	1.3
Common Stocks	299,300	532,442	91	18,109	3.4	6.1
TOTAL PORTFOLIO	353,557	586,274	100 %	18,455	3.1	5.2

COMMON STOCK DIVERSIFICATION

	Total Invested	Market Amount	Value %	Annual Income	Current Yield %	Yield % At Cost
Business Services	13,004	32,194	6	906	2.8	7.0
Consumer Products	63,229	104,799	20	3,263	3.1	5.2
Distribution Services	36,840	48,832	9	1,413	2.9	3.8
Diversified	30,861	78,959	15	2,310	2.9	7.5
Health	27,508	65,687	12	2,047	3.1	7.4
Materials	14,552	22,769	4	567	2.5	3.9
Natural Resources	28,426	38,234	7	1,974	5.2	6.9
Retail	22,892	30,148	6	1,125	3.7	4.9
Technology	16,820	38,922	7	1,255	3.2	7.5
Telecom Services	11,166	23,354	4	1,184	5.1	10.6
Utilities	34,002	48,542	9	2,066	4.3	6.1
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS	299,300	532,442	100 %	18,109	3.4	6.1

(continued)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Par Value of Bonds or No. Shares	Description	Date Purchased	Amount Invested	Mkt Price	Current Market Value	Indicated Rate	Income Yield Mkt	Income Yield Cost	Total Annual Income
<u>MONEY MARKETS</u>									
26,203	Fidelity Cash Reserves	--	26,203	1	26,203	0.00	0.0	0.0	3
2,565	Fidelity US Treasury Money Market	--	2,565	1	2,565	0.00	0.0	0.0	0
			28,769		28,769				3
<u>FIXED INCOME</u>									
25,000	3M Co SR Note 1.375% 09/29/16	03/05/12	25,488	100	25,064	0.01	1.4	1.3	344
			25,488		25,064				344
<u>BUSINESS SERVICES</u>									
217	Automatic Data Processing	07/30/91	1,397	85	18,384	2.12	2.5	32.9	460
515	Bidvest Group Ltd	09/13/11 -- 04/14/14	11,426	21	10,908	0.74	3.5	3.3	381
54	Broadridge Financial Solutions	07/30/91	181	54	2,901	1.20	2.2	35.8	65
			13,004		32,194				906
<u>CONSUMER PRODUCTS</u>									
375	Coca-Cola	01/13/93 -- 04/05/10	5,632	43	16,110	1.32	3.1	8.8	495
1,250	Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd	06/16/10 -- 03/01/12	14,318	7	8,458	0.31	4.6	2.7	388
255	Nestle SA (ADR)	04/04/08 -- 01/02/15	14,680	74	18,991	2.28	3.1	4.0	581
100	PepsiCo	07/30/91	1,436	100	9,992	2.81	2.8	19.6	281
225	Procter & Gamble	11/27/84	1,348	79	17,867	2.65	3.3	44.3	597
150	Reckitt Benckiser PLC	11/18/13 -- 05/02/14	11,618	93	13,886	2.02	2.2	2.6	303
450	Unilever N.V.	09/13/11 -- 03/01/12	14,196	43	19,494	1.37	3.2	4.4	618
			63,229		104,799				3,263

(continued)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Par Value of Bonds or No. Shares	Description	Date Purchased	Amount Invested	Mkt Price	Current Market Value	Indicated Rate	Income Yield Mkt	Cost Yield	Total Annual Income
DISTRIBUTION SERVICES									
200	Genuine Parts	09/13/11	10,615	86	17,178	2.46	2.9	4.6	492
100	Norfolk Southern	03/09/11	6,553	85	8,459	2.36	2.8	3.6	236
375	Sysco Corp.	05/07/09 -- 11/18/13	10,000	41	15,375	1.24	3.0	4.7	465
100	Union Pacific Corp.	07/28/15	9,672	78	7,820	2.20	2.8	2.3	220
			36,840		48,832				1,413
DIVERSIFIED									
167	3M Company	07/10/81	2,913	151	25,157	4.10	2.7	23.5	685
260	Emerson Electric	04/04/08 -- 09/13/11	11,191	48	12,436	1.90	4.0	4.4	494
338	General Electric	03/10/95 -- 01/19/06	6,570	31	10,529	0.92	3.0	4.7	311
175	Illinois Tool Works	12/07/93	1,646	93	16,219	2.20	2.4	23.4	385
300	Jardine Matheson Holdings (ADR)	04/03/08 -- 05/07/09	8,541	49	14,619	1.45	3.0	5.1	435
			30,861		78,959				2,310
HEALTH									
250	Abbott Labs	06/07/94 -- 03/09/11	3,087	45	11,228	1.04	2.3	8.4	260
250	AbbVie	06/07/94 -- 03/09/11	3,347	59	14,810	2.28	3.8	17.0	570
100	Cochlear Ltd.	08/02/12	6,840	70	6,954	1.41	2.0	2.1	141
150	Indivior PLC ORD	11/18/13 -- 05/02/14	335	3	415	0.00	0.0	0.0	0
234	Merck	07/10/81	2,486	53	12,360	1.84	3.5	17.3	431
170	Novartis AG	05/07/09 -- 11/26/14	8,516	86	14,627	2.72	3.2	5.4	462
164	Pfizer	10/16/09	2,896	32	5,294	1.12	3.5	6.3	184
			27,508		65,687				2,047

(continued)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Par Value of Bonds or No. Shares	Description	Date Purchased	Amount Invested	Mkt Price	Current Market Value	Indicated Rate	Income Yield Mkt	Income Yield Cost	Total Annual Income
<u>MATERIALS</u>									
175	Air Products	01/19/06 -- 03/01/12	14,552	130	22,769	3.24	2.5	3.9	567
			14,552		22,769				567
<u>NATURAL RESOURCES</u>									
200	Cenovus Energy	08/04/08 -- 04/05/10	6,137	13	2,524	0.48	3.8	1.6	96
150	Chevron Corp.	07/10/81	1,973	90	13,494	4.28	4.8	32.5	642
200	ConocoPhillips	06/16/10 -- 12/11/14	11,303	47	9,338	2.96	6.3	5.2	592
125	Exxon Mobil	09/15/64	1,189	78	9,744	2.92	3.7	30.7	365
150	Woodside Petroleum Ltd.	04/03/08	7,823	21	3,134	1.86	8.9	3.6	279
			28,426		38,234				1,974
<u>RETAIL</u>									
200	Dairy Farm International Hldgs Ltd (ADR)	05/07/09	5,338	30	6,080	1.15	3.8	4.3	230
150	McDonald's	04/04/08 -- 05/07/09	8,250	118	17,721	3.56	3.0	6.5	534
70	Shopping Centres Australasia Property Group	11/26/12	113	2	108	0.00	0.0	0.0	0
350	Woolworths Ltd.	11/24/09 -- 04/05/10	9,191	18	6,239	1.03	5.8	3.9	361
			22,892		30,148				1,125

(continued)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Par Value of Bonds or No. Shares	Description	Date Purchased	Amount Invested	Mkt Price	Current Market Value	Indicated Rate	Income Yield	Income Cost	Total Annual Income
TECHNOLOGY									
60	IBM	07/11/97 -- 05/07/09	4,317	138	8,257	5.20	3.8	7.2	312
584	Intel	12/07/93	2,539	34	20,119	1.04	3.0	23.9	607
100	Microsoft	07/28/15	4,556	55	5,548	1.44	2.6	3.2	144
100	Qualcomm	11/24/09 -- 05/02/14	5,408	50	4,998	1.92	3.8	3.6	192
			16,820		38,922				1,255
TELECOM SERVICES									
175	AT & T Inc.	03/13/86	1,511	34	6,022	1.92	5.6	22.2	336
375	Verizon	11/21/86 -- 11/26/10	9,656	46	17,333	2.26	4.9	8.8	848
			11,166		23,354				1,184
UTILITIES									
350	Atmos Energy	02/02/10	9,609	63	22,064	1.68	2.7	6.1	588
375	Enbridge Inc.	04/04/08 -- 05/07/09	6,704	33	12,446	1.58	4.8	8.8	593
450	Spectra Energy	03/09/11 -- 08/02/12	12,700	24	10,773	1.62	6.8	5.7	729
100	TransCanada	11/26/14	4,990	33	3,259	1.56	4.8	3.1	156
			34,002		48,542				2,066
Total Common Stocks:									
			299,300		532,442				18,109
Total Portfolio:									
			353,557		586,274				18,455

We urge you to compare your appraisal with the account statements you receive from your custodian(s).