



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLENTOWN

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH

72 Waker Ave
Allentown NJ 08501

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Allentown is a historical village with many cozy shops. We have a post office, bakery, ice cream shop, small restaurants, barber shop, police station, hair salons, banks, dentists, chiropractors, pharmacy, & library. There is a first squad and firehouse near the church. There's also a large lake and stream, several parks & schools are within walking distance. There are five denominational churches including ours.



Allentown population is approximately 2,000. The public school system is highly rated . Also, there are several local Christian schools. Major highways are I-195, I-295, I-95 and the NJ turnpike. There is a train station 11 miles away for easy commuting to NY city and Philadelphia. The closest local hospital is 10 minutes away. Allentown is 15 minutes from the State Capital – Trenton NJ. There are several shopping centers, malls and outlets within an easy commute The nearest beach is 35 minutes away.



Allentown Middle School



Allentown High School

Allentown First Baptist Mission Statement

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to be a vital Church in Allentown and the surrounding area.

At First Baptist Church of Allentown we care for the whole person – spirit, soul and body. God has provided everything you need for joy, peace and soundness of mind, and we want to help you live in the fullness of His provision for your life.

Tenets of Faith

The Bible is the inspired word of God

2 Timothy 3:16

There is only one true God

Deuteronomy 6:4, Mark 12:29

Man, His fall and redemption

Genesis 1:26, 3:1-7, Ephesians 1:7

The Salvation of Man:

Conditions of Salvation:

Titus 3:5-7, Romans 8:8-15

Evidence of Salvation:

Romans 8:16, 1 John 4:13

Tenets of Faith cont'd

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| Baptism in Water | Matthew 28:19, Colossians 2:12 |
| The Lord's Supper | John 6:48,51, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 |
| The Baptism of the Holy Spirit | Luke 24:49, Acts 2:4 & 10:44-46 |
| The gifts of the Holy Spirit | 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 |
| Sanctification and living in Holiness | Hebrews 12:14. Romans 12:1, & 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 |
| Virgin Birth | Matthew 1: 18-25, Isaiah 7:14 |
| Divine Healing | Isaiah 53:4-5, Matthew 8:17 |
| The Blessed Hope –The Rapture | 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Titus 2:13 |
| The Lake of Fire – Hell | Revelation 20:14-15, Mark 16:16 |

The Covenant of the First Baptist Church of Allentown

Having been as we trust, brought by divine grace to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and to give ourselves wholly to Him, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant with each other, to walk together in Him with brotherly love, to His glory, as our common Lord. We do therefore, in His strength, engage:

First – That we will strive for the advancement of this Church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort.

Second - That we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully guide each other as occasion may require.

Third – That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, but will uphold the public worship of God and the ordinance of his house.

Fourth – That we will not omit private and family devotions at home, nor neglect the great duty of religiously training our children, and those under our care, for the service of Christ and the enjoyment of heaven.

Fifth – That we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth, we will seek divine aid to enable us to deny ungodliness, and the every worldly lust, and to walk circumspectly in the world, that we may win the souls of men.

Sixth – That we will cheerfully and regularly contribute according as God has prospered us, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor, and to spread the Gospel over the earth.

Seventh – That we will, in all conditions, even to death, strive to love for the Glory of Him who hath called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light.

Prayer

And may the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do His will; working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen

“Keep therefore, the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.” Deut 29:9

Church History

The First Baptist of Allentown had its inception in 1873 and services were held in a hall for about six years. The first Baptism took place in December of 1873 and in March of 1874 letters were granted to 52 people and a church was organized. The first Lord's Supper was observed in April of 1874. The Sunday school was organized during 1874-1877 and the Church house was erected in the years of 1878 – 1881.

During the years of 1885-1924 the Ladies Aid and Missionary Society were organized, the church bells were donated. The Forsythe property was purchased for a parsonage on North Main Street. In 1927-1931 memorial windows and a communion table were placed and dedicated to the Glory of God.

A new organ was installed in 1949 in memory of the Rev. Henry D.S. Coates, pastor for over 21 years. (1919-1941) In 1952 a new parsonage was built on Broad Street and this is the parsonage used today.

The year of 1958 our church was honored by Mrs. Mary Ellen Williams Eastridge going to Burma to serve as a missionary until October of 1964. In 1959 an addition extending our Church house was completed and dedicated as the Mary Burk Hall.

Church history cont'd

Many memorials were given to the church in 1968, namely a leather pulpit hymnal and Bible and a Brass cross and matching candlesticks given by Mildred Farmer in memory of her father. Brass vases were given in memory of Carol & Martha Ayres 50th wedding anniversary.

The year of 1972 was a sad year for the congregation and their friends when the old church caught on fire and burned. The Congregation had many doors opened to them and it was voted to accept the use of the Presbyterian Church school. After the Mary Burk Hall was cleaned we held our services there. In 1972 the lot where the church now stands was donated by Carl and Martha Ayres. The new church was built. One of the fund raisers was, buy a brick for 40 cents or 7 bricks(1 square foot) for \$2.80. On January 13, 1974 we gathered to worship in the new sanctuary for the first time.

Previous Pastors

Dr. William Webb is currently serving as interim pastor. He has served the church previously in this capacity from 1999-2000 and 1996-1998.

Robert Mundras served from June 2002 to June 2010. He resigned and moved to Texas. While serving at the church he was a great motivator, very organized and a dynamic speaker.

Rod Brady served from 2000 to 2002. His strength in ministry was for people with addictions and visiting the sick.

David Gibson served from 1998 to 1999. He had a heart for prison ministry and left to follow that call.

Brian Benoit served from 1987 to 1995.

Andrew Mcmillan served from 1980 to 1986. He left to become a missionary in Medellin, Columbia where he leads a church of over 6,000.

Dr William Webb Interim Pastor



Sunday Morning Worship Service

Starts at 11:00 am

- Call to worship
- Contemporary praise music
- Greet each other
- Announcements
- Praise reports
- Prayer requests and prayer
- Offering is taken
- Children are excused for children's church
- Sermon
- Final Hymn
- Benediction

Fellowship after every service in the church hall
Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month
and the Deacons' offering is collected then also.

Church Leadership Structure

Leadership consists of a Board of Deacons and a Board of Trustees. The Pastor will hold a position on both boards.

Lay leadership includes Sunday School director, Music director and youth group leader.

Membership

We currently have 27 active members. The church is in transition and ready to grow. Ages range from 6 to 95 with slightly more women than men.

Choir & Music Director

Lisa Milazzo grew up in the church. She became the music director in 2002 replacing her father who moved on to another church. Lisa also organized and led the bell choir.



Missions that we Support

ABC -USA

Camp Lebanon

Bruce & Ann Borquist

Compassion International

Mission South America

Andrew & Kathy McMillan

Women's Group

Women of the Church meet once a month . They are currently studying Battlefield of the Mind by Joyce Myers

Youth Group



Fellowship Opportunities

We have an annual Soup Sale and Tricky Tray fund raiser. Many people in the area look forward to a hot bowl of soup eat in or take out. Ten percent of the proceeds goes to mission support. This year we hope to buy new Hymnals.





Good Friends

Good Food

Good Times

Christian Fellowship



Church Parsonage @ 18 Broad Street

Church Parsonage is a 3-4 bedroom cape, 1 ½ bathrooms, family room, eat in kitchen, three-season room, basement and a 1 car garage. It has a small fenced in back yard and is in a quiet neighborhood. It is within walking distance of the town and church.

