

# THE TIE that binds

November 2017



## A Thanksgiving Garden

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace in our hearts  
Peace in our school  
Peace in our world

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip  
Squash indifference  
Squash grumbling  
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful  
Lettuce be kind  
Lettuce be obedient  
Lettuce really love one another

No garden should be without turnips:

Turnip for lessons  
Turnip on time  
Turnip to help one another

Water freely with patience; cultivate with love.

There is abundance in your garden  
Because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme:

Thyme for study  
Thyme for friends  
Thyme for family!

## Pastor's Page



### All Saints' Day Celebration

With both joy and sadness we remember the saints among us, gathering on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, to recall those who died this past year. As we read their names we light a candle and ring a bell...in honor of their light as it shines, their life as it resonates in our hearts. Please look for the list of saints as it appears in this newsletter. Together we rejoice in the glory that now is theirs; we pray for the comfort of their loved ones.

### Opportunities for Giving Thanks

This month we give thanks in a variety of ways. We gather for our Women's Retreat at Camp Wightman, reflecting on the theme "Who's in your cloud of witnesses," and bringing the song "You Raise Me Up" as a gift back to the congregation. We fill our Second Sunday food baskets with holiday items for Groton Social Services in their Thanksgiving outreach. We join in Thanksgiving worship to offer gratitude for all of God's blessings. We rejoice in the ministry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Mystic as they host a free Thanksgiving meal.

### Pledge Commitment Sunday

On the "Last but not least" Sunday of each month we have heard church members reflect on the gifts we receive and the gifts we return, on the stewardship of resources entrusted to our care and on our support of this church's ministry. Let us now move into the future God has in store for us as we prayerfully consider our faith and financial commitments, presenting our gifts and pledges on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### The Joy of New Members

We vote to receive new members into the church, extending the Right Hand of Fellowship on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

# it's Cookie time!

*Our PBBC Holiday Bazaar and  
Estate Sale*

*Will be Friday, December 1st from 5pm –8 pm  
And Saturday, December 2nd from 10 am—2 pm*

*And*

*We are in need of ...*

## *Cookies, Cookies, Cookies*

*Please feel free to make them in advance and  
bring them to church and put in the freezer -  
just make Patti Tootell aware that they are  
there.*



*We are looking for lots and lots of  
COOKIES!!!!*

*If you are baking them fresh—please have them to the church  
no later than Friday morning, December 1st .*

\*\*\*\*\*

Groton Human Services will be providing Christmas Food Baskets to 500 Groton Families in need this year. If you, your family, or your co-workers would like to help,

**The following items are needed:**

**Frozen turkeys, canned fruits, canned vegetables, instant mashed potatoes, canned yams, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, muffin/bread mixes, Jell-O, dessert items, cereal, hot cocoa, microwave popcorn...or monetary donations for the purchase of Turkey Gift Checks.**

Donations should be dropped off by December 20th to  
Groton Human Services





## NOVEMBER MINISTERS

**Communion: Prepare: Catherine Hiller & Jon Hiller**

**Serve: : Catherine Hiller  
Jon Hiller  
Gail Neff  
Rick Tourjee**

**Assist Pastor: Dianne Dellarco**

**Lay Leader:**

**05 – Jonathan Liu  
12– Rick Tourjee  
19 – Catherine Hiller  
26 - Jon Hiller**

## DECEMBER MINISTERS

**Communion: Prepare: Marilyn Baird and Mei Ling**

**Serve: Marilyn Baird and Mei Ling  
Ron Land and Bob Nelson**

**Assist Pastor: Richard Tourjee**

**Lay Leader**

**03 - Alex Lew  
10 - Barbara Brant  
17 - Dennis Piscitello  
24 - Holly Boyle  
31 - Pete Wong**





## **NOVEMBER**

- 04 – Andrea Dellarco
- 05 – Alex Lew
- 05 – Barry Morton
- 07 – Peg Straub
- 08 – Britni Tourjee
- 09 – Carolyn Land
- 10 – Eva Tourjee
- 11 – Vance Lamb
- 14 – Dave Rowley
- 18 – Belle Jordan
- 20 – Jenny Sanda
- 23 – Holly Mulvihill Boyle
- 24 – Megan Taylor
- 25 – Marilyn Baird
- 30 - Cathy Lewis Myers
- 30- Peter Dellarco

## **DECEMBER**

- 04 – Sandy Wong
- 05 – Joan Watkins
- 06 – Robert Nelson
- 10 – Ted Hespeler
- 17 – Clyde Myers
- 21 – Sheila Manchester
- 25 – Catherine Hiller



**Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, November 13, 2017**

Meeting was brought to order at 6:30pm.

**Devotions:** Dave Rowley led us in devotion s

**Review October Minutes:** Filed as emailed and printed **Communications:** None  
**Treasurer**

Cash Flow Detail handout filed with minutes.

**Benevolence Treasurer:**

September income \$40.00 – Disbursements - \$ 0

Checking Account Balance: \$554.70

**Pastor's Report**

- Thanks to Mei Ling for arranging Stewardship Moments with Dave Rowley being the most recent; pledge cards were placed in bulletins on Sunday
- This Sunday will be Thanksgiving Sunday, presenting pledges with offerings
- Congregational Meeting the 26<sup>th</sup> of November to vote on new members
  - John David Helsel
  - Silas Keeton
  - Emma Martel
  - Dale Rehberg
  - Valerie Rehberg
  - Sue ShontellAll joining by profession of faith. They will receive the Right Hand Fellowship December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Looking at the possibility of a Baptism Class in the spring
- December 24<sup>th</sup> is a Sunday and will have two services – Morning worship for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm
- Harry Riggs has begun to serve as our new Executive Minister, ABCCONN – I have been asked to serve on his Installation Committee. Hope to have him visit here at PBBC soon.
- Prayers for FBC Sutherland Springs, Texas. As we try to get our hearts and heads around this tragedy, we may want to have conversations about emergency Response to Crisis of any kind during worship

**Deacon and Committee Reports:**

**Building/Grounds**

- Alex thanked everyone that participated in the last work day
- Alex met with Richard Tourjee and Brian Berry last Sunday to assess some shingles that came off the sanctuary roof during the last storm – will follow up
- Richard reported he fixed the following
  1. Fixed leaking faucet in Ladies Room upstairs
  2. Installed new faucet in parsonage bathroom
  3. Removed mattresses from rental garage
  4. Installed two shelves in closet where chairs and tables are stored
  5. Fastened down pews in sanctuary (good thing too – what with such moving sermons we may have been so uplifted we floated away!!!)sermons we may have been so uplifted we floated away!!!)

**Education/Discipleship**

- Ice Cream Social went well – thanks to all who helped
- Decorate for Advent & Christmas following worship November 26<sup>th</sup>
- Children will be singing soon in church.

## **Hospitality**

- Things going very well – over \$200 in “coffee” collection
- Will provide cake for new members December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Recommendation to do refreshments both morning and evening on December 24<sup>th</sup>

## **Mission/Outreach**

- Successful CROP Walk –we raised over \$1,000
- Next mission is Adopt-A Family for Christmas through Groton Human Services
- RMMO (Retired Missionaries and Ministers Offering) in December
- Holiday food for Second Sunday Food Collections

## **Worship/Membership**

- Peg thanked Li Ling and others for filling in during her absence
- New members will be voted in November 26<sup>th</sup> and to receive the Right Hand of Fellowship December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Decorate the sanctuary November 26<sup>th</sup>

## **Pastoral Relations**

- Met on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> to prepare 2018 Budget - followed MMBB (Ministers & Missionaries Benefit Board) guidelines for salary increase (based on cost of living & merit) which is 2%.
- Waiting on health insurance premium figures for the new year (will depend on Access Health Ct, Anthem BC/BS and changes in tax credits/gov't subsidies with Affordable Care Act.)
- Will submit budget to finance committee for review and for housing expense adjustments
- Change recommended to use Continuing Education Week & Sunday as a “flex” week – available as vacation if continuing education events not available or affordable

## **Old Business: Church Sign**

- The lights went out temporarily, but while Ron was away they magically started to work again!

## **PBBC Support**

- Dave and his team are working on a letter to inactive members –  
Dave asked committee workers to write sample letters/come up with different wordings – they will use these letters to compose together one letter.  
Will meet again after the New Year.

## **Snow removal contract**

- Richard has contacted several contractors
  1. Allied Snow Removal – est. \$350 over 5” \$300 for more
  2. Spicer Lawn Care – est. \$300

Richard is still searching for someone more economical – it was suggested he call other churches to inquire who they use

## **OMBC**

- They have met to vote on new officers. They will continue to explore options and previous offers. Let us continue to hold them in our prayers and be ready to extend the possibility of partnership



## **Old Business cont.**

### **Metal Chairs**

- They have all be given away – Groton Town Hall came and took 12 and the remaining ones were given to Groton Town and Rec Committee.

## **New Business**

### **2108 Budget:**

- Dave has requested that all proposed Budgets for 2018 be submitted to him no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>. Also all reports are to be in by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Square Inc. Credit Card device**

- This is a device that attaches to an iPad or and iPhone and will allow us to accept Credit Cards at our sales. It will allow people not only to be free to spend more money but they also will not have to run out to and ATM because we demand strictly cash sales. It was brought before
- There is no equipment or monthly fee and will give us the flexibility to use credit cards for majoy expenses.
- We will need devices (IPad- iPhone or any Android device) on the day of the sale with the apps downloaded
- Square will charge 2.75% fee on the dollar, PBBC will limit the use of credit card sales to a minimum of \$10
- Square will deposit the money (after the deduction of the 2.75% fee) to PBBC checking account
- Ron Land (Financial Secretary ) will have access to Square account and statements to know the amount we made during the sale
- Treasurer (Yvette Ackley) will see the deposit in the checking account

The next step will be:

- Order 2 Square credit Card swipec devices this week – and the best part is these devices are FREE
  - Ron is looking into another email account with PBBC name (it will be better than using the gmail account)
  - Once equipment is delivered Mei Ling will work with Ron and Yvette to set up the account, banking connection, etc.
  - Mei Ling will also work with volunteers to have the devices set up and try for the December Sale where we will have some high ticket items.
- The motion was then called for a vote and it was carried.

.There was no other New Business and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Barbara Brant, Clerk (taken from notes from Patti, Sandy, and Claudine)

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting: December 4, 2017



## Schedule of Events for MAEC

### NOVEMBER

Soup-A-Thon @ United Church of Stonington, Sat. Nov. 18 @ 5:30pm

Pie Festival @ the N. Stonington Congregational - Tues & Wed. Nov. 21 & 22

Thanksgiving Dinner @ St. Mark's Episcopal - Thurs. Nov. 23rd @ 1pm

Thanksgiving Day Service (Nov. 23) @ First Church of Christ Scientist, (5 Gravel St., Mystic) from 10-11am

### DECEMBER

Christmas Bazaar @ N. Stonington Congregational on Sat. Dec. 2 from 9-2

Christmas Bazaar @ Poquonnock Bridge Baptist, Sat. Dec. 2 from 9-2 plus Fri. evening, 12/1 from 5pm-8pm

L.U.N.C.H. (Local United Network to Combat Hunger) Holiday Show @ Union Baptist Church, Sat. Dec. 2 @ 7pm

Christmas Family Craft Night (all invited for crafts, cookies, Santa Claus & celebrating the birth of Christ) @ Union Baptist, Friday, Dec. 8 from 6pm-8pm

Christmas Bazaar @ St. Mark's Episcopal, Mon. Dec. 18 from 10-3pm

Christmas Dinner @ Union Baptist, Mon. 12/25 from 2-4pm

### JANUARY

Dinner @ N. Stonington Congregational - 3rd Sat. (1/20) from 5-7pm

### FEBRUARY

Dinner @ N. Stonington Congregational - 3rd Sat. (2/17) from 5-7pm

### MARCH

Dinner @ N. Stonington Congregational - 3rd Sat. (3/17) from 5-7pm

### APRIL

Dinner @ N. Stonington Congregational - 3rd Sat. (4/21) from 5-7pm

# ***All Saints' Day November 5, 2017***

***Rev. David Bartlett***

***Garold (Garry) Benson***

***Sally Brown***

***Betty Brustolon***

***Gene Brustolon***

***Rev. Nancy Butler***

***John Cosby***

***Ellen Davis***

***Carol Day***

***Millie Dellarco***

***Judy Dole***

***Jamey Freeman***

***Barry Hyde***

***Carl Kiely***

***Joe LaRose***

***Alma Limpert***

***Sherin O'Brien***

***Sally Kilpatrick Robichaud***

***Phyllis Ross***

***Theresa Scroggins***

***Bill Spitzschuh***

***Karen Martel Vanzandt***

***Kate Wilbur***

***Larry Yering***



# Youth News

## Youth Co-Op Christmas Party



*Sunday, December 10th from 4-7 pm  
Noank Baptist Church*

*Let's celebrate the holidays together with a white elephant Yankee swap! We will enjoy treats and hot drinks and listen to Christmas music, while we play games and maybe even watch Elf! Please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$5 or less to participate in the swap. Should be something random or silly! I still have a plastic swan in my house from one many years ago. Also bring a treat to share if you are able.*

## Christmas Caroling



*Friday, December 15th 6-8 pm*

*We will be visiting local elderly care facilities spreading holiday cheer! We will also attempt to visit some church members that may not be able to leave their homes to attend Christmas services..*

*Go to Courtney's email to respond to these invitations:*

*youthcoopdirector@gmail.com*



# HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND ESTATE SALE

POQUONNOCK BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

(CORNER OF ROUTE 1 AND SOUTH ROAD)

FRI DECEMBER 1ST  
SAT. DECEMBER 2ND

5 PM—8 PM  
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

BAKED GOODS

A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE!

**SILENT AUCTION**

BOOKS, JEWELRY AND GRANDMA'S ATTIC  
CRAFTS AND NEEDLEWORK AND COOKIES!!!



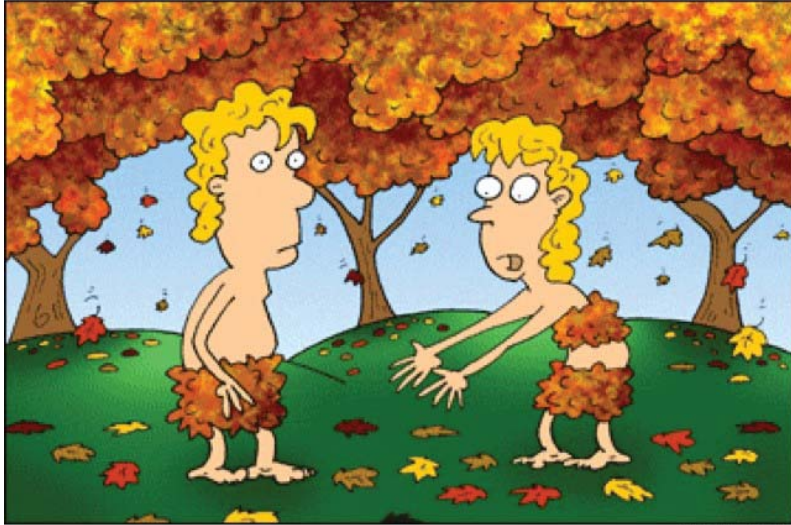
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PECIALTY CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS

# A Little Church Humor

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10-06-2006

WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?



# LIVING NATIVITY

## SEVEN SCENES-DRIVE THRU

### "ROAD TO BETHLEHEM"



Christ United Methodist Church  
200 Hazelnut Hill Road, Groton, CT  
860-445-0088  
December 15-16, 2017  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Our gift to the community  
Suggested donation:  
Non perishable food items  
for the Groton Food Locker

This Living Nativity provides a unique opportunity for people to drive through and view the seven scenes of the story of Jesus' birth located around the perimeter of the church property at 200 Hazelnut Hill Road in Groton. Many who came in past years said that they experienced the true meaning of Christmas, which lifted up their spirits.

# *Community*



## *Thanksgiving dinner*

*Thursday, November 23, 2017*

*1:00 pm*

*St. Mark's Church*

*15 Pearl Street*

*Mystic*

*All are Welcome*

*Call 860-572-9549*

*To arrange a ride, schedule a meal  
delivery, or donate food.*

*Volunteers needed for Thursday  
Especially clean up (2:00-3:30 pm)*



Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonnock Road  
Groton, CT 06340