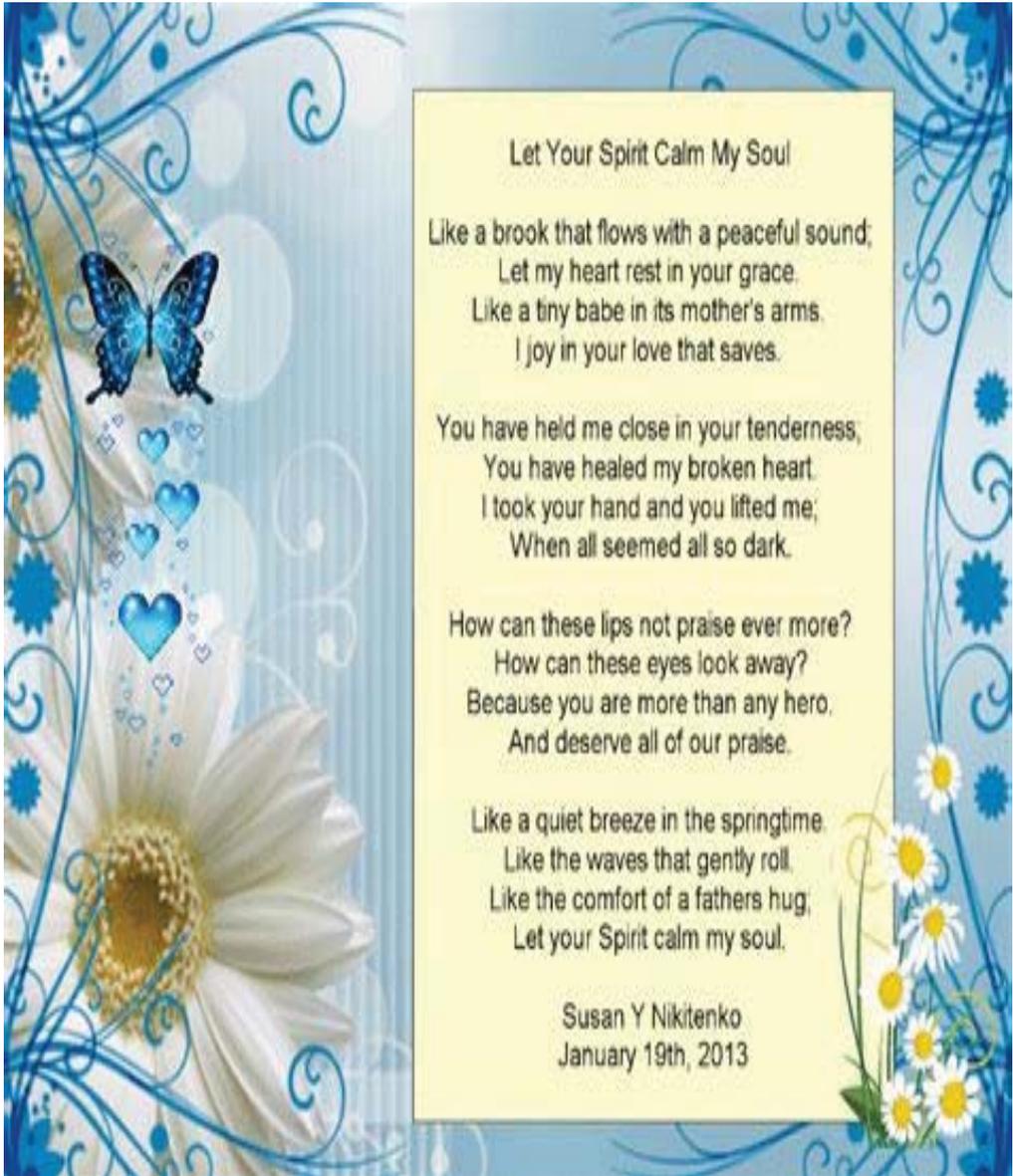


# THE TIE that binds

January 2018



## Let Your Spirit Calm My Soul

Like a brook that flows with a peaceful sound;  
Let my heart rest in your grace.  
Like a tiny babe in its mother's arms,  
I joy in your love that saves.

You have held me close in your tenderness,  
You have healed my broken heart.  
I took your hand and you lifted me;  
When all seemed all so dark.

How can these lips not praise ever more?  
How can these eyes look away?  
Because you are more than any hero,  
And deserve all of our praise.

Like a quiet breeze in the springtime,  
Like the waves that gently roll,  
Like the comfort of a fathers hug,  
Let your Spirit calm my soul.

Susan Y Nikitenko  
January 19th, 2013

## Pastor's Page



### From Christmas through Epiphany

As we begin the journey of a new year together, let me offer a word of deep gratitude for the many hands and hearts that helped make our Advent and Christmas season so rich and full of blessing, culminating in an overflowing sanctuary on Christmas Eve. As we move through the season of Epiphany, may the themes of hope, peace, joy and love continue to guide our ministry, and may God's light born in each of us radiate into the world throughout the coming months.

### Special Thanks to Our Lay Leaders

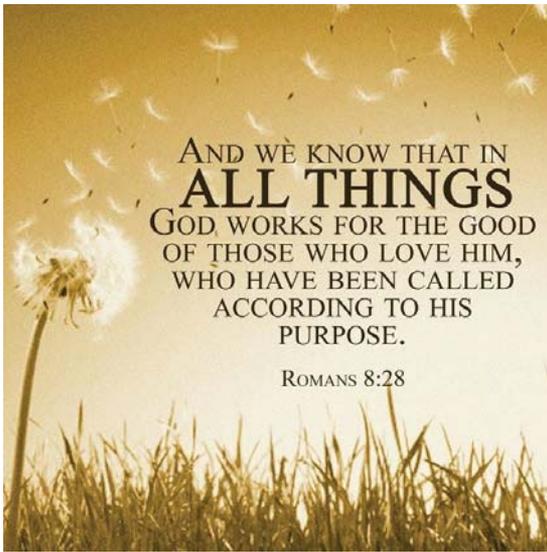
We offer heartfelt thanks to all of our lay leaders throughout the year, and a special word of thanks to those who served in my absence on December 31<sup>st</sup>...for Pete Wong who served as that Sunday's lay leader, for Catherine Hiller who shared special music and led our time of concerns, celebrations and morning prayer, and for Dave Rowley who served as our preacher. We celebrate his message and ministry!

### Our Ecumenical Family

This month the Mystic Area Ecumenical Council (MAEC) will gather on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> for a Potluck Supper in honor of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and to present the 2018 Kluepfel Community Service Award to Emily Barrett. The event will take place at 6pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1230 Flanders Road. All are welcome.

### The New ABCCONN Executive Minister Here at PBBC!

Please join us for worship on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> as we welcome the Rev. Dr. Harry Riggs to our pulpit! That afternoon the region will gather for his Service of Installation. What an honor and blessing to hear his message that day!



### A NOTE OF THANKS FROM REY AND AIDA

*Dear Church Family,*

*Rey and I thank you all so much for the get well cards you sent. It really helped us a lot, thinking that our church family is thinking about us in times of illness.*

*Rey is on the mend, with the help of nurses, therapists and occupational therapist. They come three times a week.*

*Again, we thank you all for the beautiful cards you sent.*

*God Bless,*

*Love,*

*Rey & Aida*



## **JANUARY MINISTERS**

**Communion: Prepare: Dave & Carol Rowley**

**Serve: David & Carol Rowley  
Kathy Piscitello  
Catherine Greenfield**

**Assist Pastor: Catherine Hiller**

**Lay Leader**

**07 - Anita Fernald  
14 - Dianne Dellarco  
21 - Dave Rowley  
28 - Alex Lew**

## **FEBRUARY MINISTERS**

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

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

**Assist Pastor: Dianne Dellarco**

**Lay Leader:**

**04 – Jonathan Liu  
11– Bob Nelson  
18 – Barbara Brant  
25 - Holly Boyle**





## JANUARY

- 02 – William Deveau
- 02 – Noelle Butler
- 04 – Mackenzie Ackley
- 05 – Eric Bianchi
- 05 – Ronald Land
- 06 – Sarah Adams
- 07 – Pete Wong
- 08 – Pete Deveau
- 09 – Barbara Bellefleur
- 13 – Emma Martel
- 15 – Patti Crooks
- 15 – Adam Greene
- 15 - Matthew Greene
- 16 – Jackie Dorobkowski
- 17 - Go Tuang
- 18 – Richard Tourjee, Sr.
- 22 – Libby Ribarich
- 25 – Pebbles Quibble
- 31 – Candy Zeppieri

## FEBRUARY

- 01 – Gary Benson
- 14- Yvette Ackley
- 14 -Sandy Vocolina
- 18 - Celia Lew
- 20 – Ronald Tourjee
- 20 – Donna McLaughlin
- 23 – Kristin Greene
- 27 – Richard Bassett



**Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Sunday, January 14, 2018**

Meeting was brought to order at 6:30pm.

**Devotions:** Richard Tourjee led us in devotions

**Review December Minutes:** Corrected a name in the nominations for church council, listed Jeff instead of Alex Lew as Buildings and Grounds Chair. The minutes were accepted and filed as amended.

**Communications:** None

**Treasurer**

Cash Flow Detail handout filed with minutes.

**Benevolence Treasurer:**

No Report

Checking Account Balance: \$594.77 (last month)

**Pastor's Report**

- Pastor reported she is still tangling with health insurance. Because of the family's small increase in total income (Heidi's earnings at school), it has influenced the total payment and this is still being worked out.
- February 11<sup>th</sup> will be the installation of the Rev. Harry Riggs. Harry is our new executive minister of ABCCONN. Claudine has been given the honor and will be delivering the message at his installation that afternoon. As an added bonus Rev. Riggs will be preaching from our pulpit for our Sunday morning worship service.
- February 14<sup>th</sup> will be Ash Wednesday followed by our weekly Bread and Broth Series
- Easter is Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>, and our regular monthly communion will be moved one week ahead to April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Claudine also asked for prayers as she continues to provide pastoral care to our congregation. It is a very difficult and trying time for many of our fellow members.

**Deacon and Committee Reports:**

**Building/Grounds**

- Alex wanted to acknowledge and thank Marilyn Baird for her donation to purchase rock salt for the steps and walkways. Bags have been placed in closets near entrances to be used as needed.
- Alex wanted the council to be aware of things that will need attention in the future;
  1. A cracked toilet seat in the upstairs mens room
  2. Wallpaper peeling in the upstairs mens room
  3. Water damage upstairs (Fellowship Lounge and Sunday School room above it; this is an ongoing problem)
  4. Rental property garage door won't close properly
- Richard addressed the issue of the leaking roof; this has been going on for years. He also did some preventative measures before this week's rain storm – he bought a tarp and put it up – put a hole in it and put the bucket under the hole so any water will go into the bucket and not do any more damage to the floors or ceilings! Yankee ingenuity at work!!! He asked for council approval for him and Jeff Kent to repair the roof in the spring. Apparently they have a new type of tar paper called 'Snow and Ice' which he believes may address the problem.

Dave Rowley made a motion for council to approve these repairs and their associated cost; Yvette seconded and the motion was carried.

- Richard also reported Anderson Oil replaced a faulty sensor in the church furnace. Yvette questioned if it was still under warranty. It has been over a year since it's purchase, so Richard told her to expect a bill.

### **Education/Discipleship**

- No report
- **Hospitality**
- Things are going well – the coffee fund has \$188. This week they received 5 pounds of coffee as a donation.
- Marilyn asked Barbara to create a 'sign-up' sheet for the luncheon prior to the Annual Meeting

### **Pastoral Relations**

- Richard Tourjee noted that his term was up and he would be retiring from council. He has served on the Church Council for as long as he can remember in one way or another. The Council thanked him for his many years of dedication and service.

### **Worship/Membership**

- Peg and Li Ling thanked everyone for taking down the decorations in the sanctuary.
- They also asked Richard to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday

### **Mission/Outreach**

- Jennifer Kent delivered 28 bags of food last month, and it looks to be about the same about for this month. Carol continues to thank this congregation for their generosity.
- Adopt-A-Family: Groton Human Services assigned us a family of Dad, Mom and 4 children: 12 year old boy, two 10 year old boys and a 5 year old girl. Gifts were not requested by or for the parents, but gift cards for groceries and gasoline were acceptable. The donations were very generous and prompt. In addition to \$300 in cash donations (\$210 given to Carol by individuals and \$90 from Carol), donated gifts included VISA gift cards totally \$150, 4 Razor scooters (ie., one for each child), two Barbie dolls and accessories, box of mini cars, remote control vehicle; pants, shirt and hooded shirt, and decorations. Cash donations were used to purchase 1 pair ice skates, a remote control vehicle, pajamas and top for each of 3 boys with logo/design of football team of preference, hooded outer shirt, Monopoly board game, Easy Bake Oven accessories and Shopkins character item, and three \$25 gift cards for groceries and gasoline. The items were delivered to GHS on Monday, 12/11. GHS said our generosity would be shared with other than our designated family to better balance gifts.
- Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering: Reverend Burt Crooks spoke to the congregation about this monies collection, presenting history and purposes of financial assistance in times of need and annual gift to retired ABC ministers. He movingly described the meaningfulness to the group and his personal appreciation.

## Nominating Committee

- The Nominating Committee has set forth the slate of new Council Members for 2018  
They are as follows: (New members or if people changed position will have an asterisk by their name)  
Moderator: Catherine Hiller\*  
Vice Moderator: Patti Tootell  
Clerk: Kathy Piscatello\*  
Financial Secretary: Ron Land  
Treasurer: Mei Ling Liu\*  
Buildings and Grounds: Alex Lew and Brian Berry\*  
Worship and Membership: Peg Straub and Barbara Brant\*  
Stewardship/ Finance: Dave Rowley  
Benevolence: Dianne Dellarco\*  
Missions/Outreach: Carol Gatlin  
Education/Discipleship: Li Ling Liu\* and one opening  
Pastoral Relations: Darrell Tootell\*  
Hospitality: Sandy Vocalina and Marilyn Benson  
Other members:  
Delegate to SNUL/ABCCONN: Portia Freeman \*  
Memorial Fund: Jon Hiller  
Mission Treasurer: Rick Tourjee  
Historian: Catherine Hiller  
Auditor: Rick Tourjee\*  
Pastoral Relations Committee: Dave Rowley, Candy Zeppieri, Sue Shontell\*

## Old Business

- **PBBC Support:** Dave reported that the enlistment committee has looked over some of the inactive member lists. It is a work in progress but he also announced that Sue Shontell would be joining their team. Welcome Sue.
- **OMBC:** Nothing new to report
- **2018 Budget:** Dave presented the proposed 2018 Budget. It was studied and one line was changed to read:  
Line 1.09 under Ministerial Expenses – will now read Continuing Education/Flex Week instead of Continuing Education.  
The Proposed Budget is down 2.20% for the upcoming year.  
Richard Tourjee motioned to accept and present to the congregation at the annual meeting; Holly Boyle seconded. A vote was taken and carried unanimously in favor.

## **Emergency lights batteries**

- Ron said this is a work in progress

## Very Old Business:

- **Cell Phone Tower:** Apparently 10 years ago a 25 year contract was signed to allow a cell phone tower in our steeple. Nothing has ever come of it, and Richard would like this to be investigated. It was supposed to have paid us \$1000 a month.
- **Outcome of Church Break-in:** Richard was curious if anything had ever come of this. This answer is “no”; we have never heard from the courts regarding this issue. All proper paperwork was submitted for reimbursement of the estimated money taken and repair of office door.

## New Business

- **Soup-A-Thon:** Barbara Brant asked permission from the council to have a Soup-A Thon as a fundraiser for the church's general fund. It will be held Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 5:00-6:30 p.m., and the cost will be \$10 per person. They have approximately 13 volunteer soup makers, and people are being asked for desserts and bread.

Holly motioned to approve this function; Marilyn Benson seconded. The motion was carried, and the Soup-A-Thon committee will proceed.

- **TASK:** Yvette asked if she still had to pay this bill – this is the third party for insurance – Claudine assured her that she must
- **Groton July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Christmas Light Parade:** Holly was looking for thoughts on participating in these events. If we are proposing to look for exposure to the public, she thinks these events would help. More discussion will follow in the future.

Submitted by:

Barbara Brant, Clerk

Next meeting: February 5, 2018, 6:30 pm

Devotions: Sandy Vocolina



## **Schedule of Events for MAEC JANUARY**

On Friday, January 19th the Mystic Area Ecumenical Council will present the 1018 Kluepfel Community Service Award to Emily Barrett. This award is presented annually to individuals in the Groton/Mystic/Stonington area who exemplify community service with an ecumenical spirit. The award was established in 2010 in honor of Neil and in memory of Pat Kluepfel, who had been leaders in the Mystic area ecumenical community for many years. Previous recipients include the Kluepfels, John Butler, Gladys Reynard, Julia and David Porter, Robert Land, Julia Evans, Mary Bordhead, and Eleanor Perry. Recipients are chosen from nominations received from congregations in the Groton/Mystic/Stonington area.

Emily Barrett is well known in Mystic where she has been active in charitable events and community organizations for many years. Besides her involvement in St. Mark's Episcopal in Mystic, Emily's involvement in MAEC is noted in the Church world Service CROP walk, held annually in October, where she has been one of the participants and organizers for many years. In her promotion of the walk, she was continually raised awareness about hunger around the world and what communities and congregations can do to help relieve it.

The award will be presented at the MAEC Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, 1230 Flanders Road in Groton. A potluck dinner will begin at 6 pm, followed by the presentation and program.

The public is welcome.

## **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

# MAEC GOOD FRIDAY WALK 2018

To: Mystic Area Churches

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual MAEC Good Friday Walk will take place on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 2018

YOU are encouraged to publicize this event and secure walkers and sponsors.

The purpose of the Walk is to support local food agencies and assist rural communities in Alabama and Mississippi. The southern areas have been personally identified and monitored by the Kay Doherty, Director of *Sharing, Inc.* of Braintree, MA and founder of this Walk. Our contributions have helped improve life in these communities.

The scenic 7-mile route travels from Mystic Congregational Church to Old Mystic Methodist Church and back. Stations of the Cross along the way are easily seen by walkers to emphasize the theme *We Are Walking with Jesus*.

Directions:

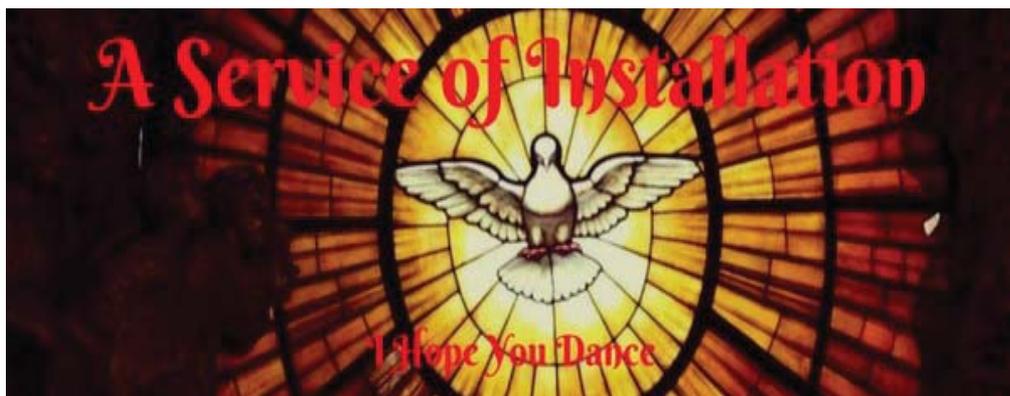
- Register between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall of the Mystic Congregational Church.
- Walk along Main Street, cross the bridge, turn to Gravel Street, Eldridge, Pearl, Starr, River Road, Route 27 to Old Mystic Methodist Church. Arrow signs will guide walkers.
- Walkers must return to the Parish Hall to account for all participants.
- Sponsor sheets and donations should be turned in at the start of the Walk.
- Checks are to be made out to MAEC.

Your packet will contain a poster and a sponsor sheet. Please plan to make more copies as needed.

The success of the Walk is in the number and spirit of the walkers and the pledges they obtain. Please do whatever you can to make this a good year. Please use this information for your own church publication.

THANK YOU for your participation, support and prayers.

Sue Barker  
Chairperson  
860-536-3100, [suebarker212@gmail.com](mailto:suebarker212@gmail.com)



You are cordially invited to a Service of Installation for The Rev. Dr. Harry Riggs II as the Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut. The theme is "I Hope You Dance" (Acts 17:26-28a). The preacher is Rev. Claudine Crooks.

Worship begins on Sunday, February 11 at 4:00 PM at Christian Tabernacle Church in Hamden, CT. The snow date is the following Sunday, February 18 at 4:00 PM. Clergy are invited to wear robes and to join the procession. A reception will follow the worship service.



## A Little Church Humor

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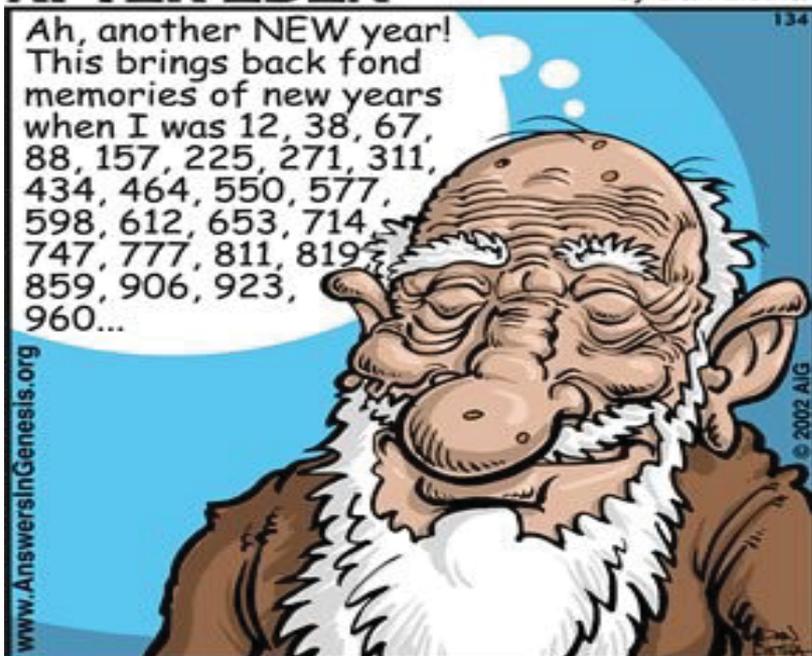


12-29-2014

MY NEW YEARS RESOLUTION THIS YEAR IS  
TO DO THE THINGS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
DOING LAST YEAR

## AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha



Methuselah on New Year's Day.



## *Christmas Flower Donations 2017*

*In Memory of Dina Umrysz beloved daughter and mother to Tommy  
Brother Jack and wife Mary Ackley  
Family members  
Given by: Ted and Catherine Hespeler*

*In Memory of lost loved ones  
In Honor of Lauren Brant  
Given by: Barbara Brant*

*In Memory of Steven Straub  
Given by: Peggy Straub*

*In Honor of Evelyn Gatlin and Emery Gatlin  
Given by: Carol & Larry Gatlin*

*In Memory of Jim and Denise Baird  
Given by: Marilyn, Karen, Jim & Deb Baird*

*In Memory of Claire and "Red" Marquardt  
Given by: Jane Imdahl*

*In Memory of loved ones passed  
Given by: Gail Neff*

*In Memory of Ted and Yvonne Ackley  
Given by: Yvette and Peg Ackley*

*In Memory of Bob and Vange Fortune and Thomas & Florence Piscitello  
Given by: Austin and his family*

*In Honor of Len Lun Niang  
Given by: The Liu Family*

*In Memory of their son Jamey Freeman  
Given by: Portia & Charley Freeman*

*In Memory of Theresa Scroggins  
Given by: Sandy Vocolina*

*In Memory of (mom & dad) John & Alice Ackley  
Given by: Jennifer Kent and Susan Schmidtknecht*

*In Memory of Ken and Aline Trail  
Given by: Carol Case*

*In Memory of Harry and Marjorie Footell  
Given by: Darrell Footell*

*In Honor of Connie Stalker  
Given by: Mom (Carolyn Land) and Bob*

*In Memory of Lester Jordan  
Given by: Belle and Dianne*

*In Memory of Garold Benson, Harley Osgood, John & Marjorie McGraw  
Given by: Marilyn Benson*

*In Memory of her husband, Hubert  
Given by: Barbara Bellefleur*

*In Memory of Gim S. Lew, Wai S. Lee, Bo Kun Wong  
In Honor of loved ones  
Given by: The Lew Family*

*In Honor of Donna & Tim Wong, Chan Ham and Ko Kwong  
Given by The Wong Family*

*In Honor of Gail Neff  
Given by: Emma Neff*

*In Memory of Loved Ones, Parents, Grandson and Brother  
Given by: Jerry & Joan Watkins*

*A gift from Sarah Adams*



Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonnock Road  
Groton, CT 06340