

THE TIE that binds

October 2021



1241 Poquonnock Road, Groton, Connecticut 06340
860-445-6126
www.pbcgroton.org

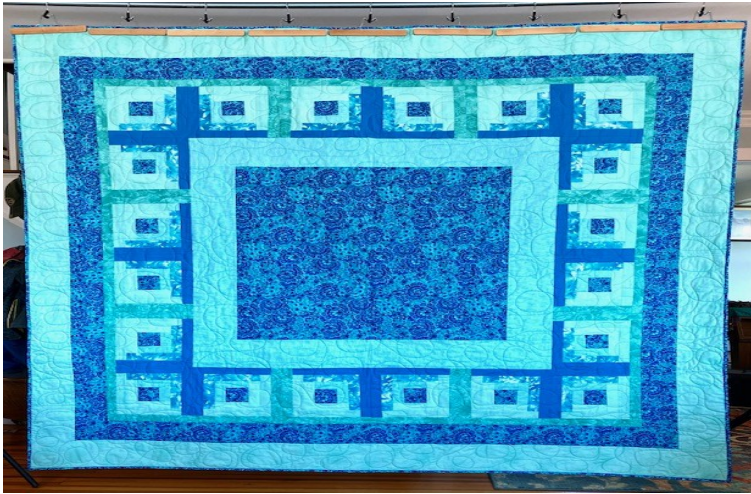
October
Be present.
Let the day flow with grace.
Expect joy. Be positive.
Serve with compassion.
Speak only kindness.
Impart only love.
Never forget you're not alone.
Give thanks for everything.
See goodness in others. every day

EVERY DAY SPIRIT

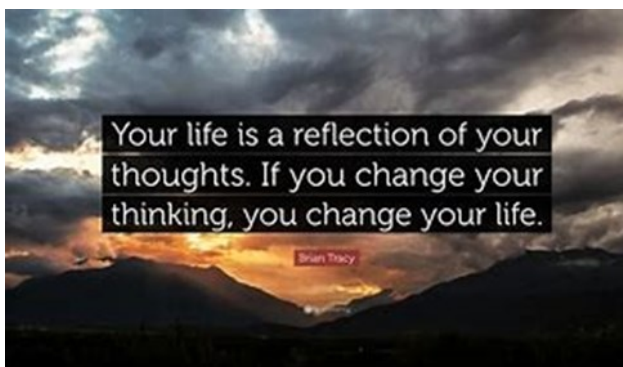
RAFFLE TICKETS

There are packets (10 each) of raffle tickets available for you to sell (or buy) in the church office. The quilt this year is called “Seaside Cabin”

Please feel free to stop by the church office and pick up a packet. Last year we made over \$1,000 on this Raffle and hope to top that amount this year. Can you help?



The monies from this year's raffle will go to the remodel of the rental property.



Your life is a reflection of your
thoughts. If you change your
thinking, you change your life.

Brian Tracy

*Women's Retreat Time
November 12-13*

*Due to our close proximity to each other, we are asking that everyone
be vaccinated before attending and we will be
following Camp Wightman's Guidelines and Mandates.
Smaller cabin this year so plan on coming either overnight or just on
the Saturday, November 13th.*

*Just call the church office at 860-445-6126 or email
PBBC@ppcgroton.org or simply speak to
Barbara Brant to make your reservation.
Come and share in some good times, good food and good
fellowship.*

*The cost this year will be \$75 for overnight stay and \$35 for just the
Saturday—this includes a delicious breakfast and lunch.*

*Friday night there is no food provided so bring a snack to share.
Beverages are provided.
Also bring a sleeping bag.*

*Reynolds (the cabin where we will be staying) has been
remodeled.
Plan on arriving about 5 o'clock to enjoy a nice cup of mulled cider.*

*Our guest speaker for the workshop this year will be Carol Umplhett
Workshop Title*

“Change Your Thinking; Change Your Life”



OCTOBER MINISTERS

Lay Leaders:

**03 - Portia Freeman
10 - Pete Wong
17 - Carol Gatlin
24 - Li Ling Liu
31 - Holly Boyle**

NOVEMBER MINISTERS

Lay Leaders:

**07 - Portia Freeman
14 - Barbara Brant
21 - Dave Rowley
28 - Jonathan Liu**

DECEMBER MINISTERS

Lay Leaders:

**05 - Holly Boyle
12 - Richard Tourjee
19 - Catherine Hiller
26 - Drew Wesche**

Birthdays

OCTOBER

02-Nathan White
07- Marvin Wong
11- James Lew
17- Sallie Land
20- Sophia Liu Keeton
21- Joe Greene
23- Carol Rowley
23- Patti Tootell
23- Li Ling Liu
24- Dale Rehberg
24- Nick Basset
25- Rey Amuan
25- Kristen Negaard O'Brien
28- Alex Lewis
30- Maddison Harasyn



NOVEMBER

04-Andrea Dellarco
05- Alex Lew
05- Barry Morton
07- Peg Straub
08- Britini Tourjee
09- Carolyn Land
10- Eva Tourjee
11- Vance Lamb
14- Dave Rowley
18- Belle Jordan
19- Silas Keeton
24- Megan Taylor
25- Marilyn Baird
30- Cathy Lewis Myers
30- Peter Dellarco

Poquonnock Bridge
Baptist Church
1241 Poquonnock Rd



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday
Dec 4th

10 to 1

Smittens &
Mittens



Crafts &
Ornaments

Grandma's
Attic

Jewelry

Quilt & Basket Raffles



Light Lunch
&
Baked Goods



Masks
Required

*Looking for antiques; collectibles; new items; gift items for
Gramma's Attic
NO clothes or linens please!*

Church Humor

FALLING LEAVES

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

— Psalm 1:3 NIV

Fall entrepreneur...



Minutes of Church Council Meeting September 13, 2021

Call to Order: Moderator Dave Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

No corrections or additions. Dispensed with reading.

Devotions:

Sue Shontell spoke to us on pause to prayer, to include gratitude for talents and abilities and for support to strengthen confidence to live in the world. She then gave a warm prayer.

Communications:

The lease for the Rental Property has been signed, filed, and a deposit of \$3,100 has been received. The lease is effective 9/15 and the renters are expected to be at the property on 9/26 with a truck of household goods. The breakdown of the \$3100 is: \$700 for 1/2 month rent (Sept), \$1400 for full-month rent, and \$1000 deposit (\$500 for each of 2 dogs).

Benevolence:

Marilyn reports beginning balance \$232.93, \$2 deposit for current balance of \$234.93.

Pastor's Report:

In Pastor Claudine's absence, PRC Deacon Sue read her report:

Many thanks for the naming of our Ministers Emeriti, Burt and Patti Crooks.

Many thanks for the granting of the License to Preach for Heidi Butler.

These last two Sunday worship services have been filled with special meaning and abundant blessing.

This Saturday I will be holding a private family memorial service for Gayle Donahue; we will be releasing the ashes of both Gayle and Bill at Eastern Point Beach.

This Sunday, September 19th, we will honor Betty Land and Belle Jordan for their ministries and retirements. Dianne Dellarco will lead us in a time of recognition and acknowledgment, Richard Tourjee offering words of tribute as friend and choir member.

I am planning (and hoping) to take vacation Tues. Sept. 21st through Tues. Sept 28th.

Dave Rowley will be preaching on Sunday, September 26th in my absence.

Deacons of Worship and Membership along with music representatives from choir met with Ellen Gilbert to update the contract for Minister of Music. She is planning to begin her work on Monday, September 27th, with her first Sunday being October 3rd. Betty is willing to come back and fill in for one previously arranged Sunday away in October. Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 30th. All voices are welcome!

Pastoral Relations Committee will be planning a meeting in October.

A few visitors have inquired about joining the church so I will be planning a New Members Gathering in the coming weeks.

I am grateful for the strength and support of your prayers in these days of hardship for my family. We continue to journey in faith with my mom and dad, with Kevin and the girls.

Ministry and Committee Reports

Pastoral Relations: Sue reports that a meeting during October is being planned.

Hospitality: Cathy and Sarah - No report.

Nominating: Richard is looking to fill positions created by expirations, if individuals choose not to extend with a second 2-year term and learning who wants to continue in position. There is need to fill position on Building & Grounds and Treasurer. Jonathan Liu and Charley Freeman have expressed interest in being on the Council.

Dianne noted that Mei Ling has worked hard during her tenure as Treasurer to upgrade the documentation and record keeping, so it should be an easier task/ position to transfer and maintain than in the past.

Worship/Membership: (Portia) - no report

Finance/Stewardship: Patti reports balance in Memorial Fund remains the same as it was last month. Speakers on Stewardship at morning services will be Drew Wesche in September, 'to be determined' for October and Patti in November. Patti asked that all Deacons start to think about needs for next year's budget.

Education / Discipleship: Li Ling and Carol - no report

Mission / Outreach: Dianne reported that Tools of Hope donations are still coming in. The next event is the CROP Walk, scheduled for October 17; they expect to make announcements this Sunday and use the brochures/ information provided by Church World Service for mailing(s). Carol, who had recently picked up the info materials from Mary Harris, noted that in prior years Barbara has reproduced the brochure/ printed info to send electronically or include as bulletin insert and that Mary Harris has more brochures if needed. Dianne said she does not plan on walking but will be finding out who is interested in walking, that Carol has said she will walk. There was idea to pair CROP walk with the Apple Fest which is scheduled for October 16, such as a table for awareness and donations and to give an apple pie to the highest donor.

Building and Grounds: Rick said the Rental Property Renovation will be covered under Old Business; Drew had nothing else to add. After the recent rain event wetness was noticed on the floor of the stairwell area off the Purple Room downstairs; no evidence for ongoing issue subsequent to clean up. After worship service yesterday several mentioned smell of smoke. Richard walked around all building spaces to assess. It is thought that ballast of west panel of lights in the sanctuary is burned out/needs to be replaced. The height of these lights was noted, that they have not been replaced since remodel several years ago, and that there is ladder in the storage area over the Narthex. Ron Land will address this @ 9:30 a.m. on 9/14. It was noted that Ron and John R have previously replaced lights in vestry with LEDs.

Old Business

>Rental Property Update

Richard reports that the cabinets are in, the new kitchen/bathroom floors are down, the hardwood floors have been refinished, and the plumbing was finished today with the installation of the toilet. Richard requests that all volunteers pick up their donated materials/supplies by this Friday, September 17.

It was noted how gorgeous and improved the hardwood floors are and question posed as to the contractor for this service. Richard replied that he hired Mike DeRosier, but did not know who had actually done the work; two men who did the first work (upstairs sanding) did not come back; another team finished the job.

Sue asked for ball-park estimate of renovation expenses. Richard replied that bills have been paid as invoices received, not all contractors' invoices have been received, and that estimated cost is \$15,000-20,000.

Richard reported that John Hespeler (son of Ted and Catherine), as the contracted electrician, has charged for supplies only; his labor has been donated to the church in honor of his parents. Richard reported that the plumber is charging 1/2 of usual service fees. Dianne asked if we had/ could get addresses of all contractors so that they could be sent "thank you" notes; she noted that Ted and Catherine will be particularly honored to hear of this thank you and recognition of gift. Rick noted that the addresses of the contractors are included in the renovation permit documents. Carol noted that Pastor Claudine has tentatively suggested a moment of recognition and presentation of thank you/ love offering check to Janet Kent for her hard work (cleaning, painting, etc) and introduction of Janet (as Sextant) to the congregation; perhaps the recipients of "thank you" can be done together. Marilyn noted that Sunday mornings would present schedule conflict for Janet as she attends her own church; Carol acknowledged this awareness, that is tentative proposal and would have to be worked out.

Minutes cont.

Dianne asked if a front storm door is going to be installed. Richard replied that Steve (carpenter) will be coming to hang front storm door and complete interior trim of bathroom (new replacement) window.

Carol asked for clarity on decision re: paying back to the Memorial Fund the \$12,000 that was transferred, so she can communicate accurately in update to the congregation on the fundraising appeal. She read the minutes of the Special Congregation Meeting on July 11 and stated that her understanding is that the \$12,000 is to be paid back to the Memorial Fund, that the vote of the congregation was to waive the 6-month timeframe for that repayment.

Donated monies are being deposited to the General Fund, but detailed in records as designated for renovation. Sue suggested that we have raised almost \$12,000 thus at some point will have covered that goal. Richard noted that once he gets final cost of renovations and we reached that in donations, that we “cap” the fundraiser. We are still short of expenses but expect that more donations will come in.

Marilyn thinks monies need to go back to Memorial Fund, as those are the only funds that can be drawn on, eg., if there is another project and monies are needed quickly.

Sue commented that separate from the value, she thinks we have moral and ethical obligation to pay back because donors have contributed.

Richard, referencing the Constitution and Bylaws’ description of the Memorial Fund is that the donations are given in memory to do something at the church; the money has been/can be sitting there for years, not making income and that use for rental property that brings in \$1400 per month is a better use of monies.

Marilyn made the point that if we need major repairs the money in the Memorial Fund should be used. Holly asked “what is wrong with putting the money back in?”

Sue said if money is all put in General Fund and it is budgeted against, do not have savings, thus value of separate fund.

Rick thinks Memorial Fund needs to be paid back.

Richard expressed concern that operations budget is being stretched and will come up short at end of year.

Pete states that at the end of each year have been in positive in checking account. At the end of July the account balance was \$47,587; the account is positive now.

The budget for 2021 is \$175,131 and the pledged income is \$89,000; the unpledged portion means persons are donating but have not filled out pledge cards.

Minutes cont.

Dave went around the room asking for opinions/thoughts of those who had not expressed, with these responses:

Patti- if we've raised the money then it needs to be paid back.

Cathy- agreed with Patti's statement.

Sarah- agreed with Patti's statement.

Carol-literal interpretation of vote of congregation is to pay back.

Drew-like individual or family budget, have an emergency fund; consider like a cap on money used for emergency fund, if disparity on use/ concerns, have a separate "emergency fund".

Holly- donors to Memorial Fund are likely non-members.

Dave asked Patti as Deacon of Finance to identify a small committee to meet and come back with decision, then reflected that is not necessary as Council has discussed thoroughly and agreement seems to be that Memorial Fund be paid back from fundraiser monies.

Dianne said at the end of the project there should be a report to the congregation and thinks it appropriate to recognize those who have contributed, that project could not have netted out without these contributions in time, effort and donations. Dave acknowledged.

Holly suggested taking pictures for collage showing progress and completion.

Carol noted 'before' and 'during' pictures are on the fundraising thermometer poster; more pictures will be taken of final when spaces are more cleaned out.

Sue commented re: "thank you", asking if record kept of time spent, so that all can be recognized so feelings are not hurt.

> Sent letter to Brian Edmonds from New England Hemp Farm denying him parking privileges.

New Business

>Dave stated that he has asked Holly to look into the need for changes to by-laws to allow us to conduct electronic voting (eg., via email) and to report back next meeting.

For the Good of the Order:

It was noted that think per the latest Robert's Rules that a person can fill more than one position.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Gatlin as temporary clerk

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
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