

THE TIE that binds

May/June 2023

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



May is Mother's Day

**Of all the special
joys in life,
The big ones
and the small,
A mother's love
and tenderness
Is the greatest
of them all.**

June is for Graduations

Keep On
Graduation is
a successful ending
and an exciting beginning.
If you keep on learning,
keep on dreaming,
keep on doing,
you'll travel
toward your goals
until you get there.
Keep up the good work.
You can do it!

By Joanna Fuchs
Poemsource.com



Pastor's Page

Service of Ordination for Heidi Butler

The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith...

Ephesians 4: 11-13

On Sunday, May 28th, we gather at 3 o'clock in the afternoon here in our sanctuary for a service of worship, ordaining Heidi Butler to Christian ministry.

We welcome Michael Noonan as guest organist; he was Heidi's first elementary school music teacher. We welcome Heidi's family and friends from near and far as service participants and worship leaders.

We welcome the Rev. Ned Parker as guest preacher; he was Heidi's professor and mentor at Yale Divinity School.

We welcome the Rev. Amy Freeman-Johnson; she was Heidi's sponsor for the American Baptist Churches. We welcome church leaders and community representatives to bring greetings and present gifts.

We hear an anthem and special music from our congregation.

We lay our hands upon Heidi in an act of ordination.

We join in a special reception hosted by our members.

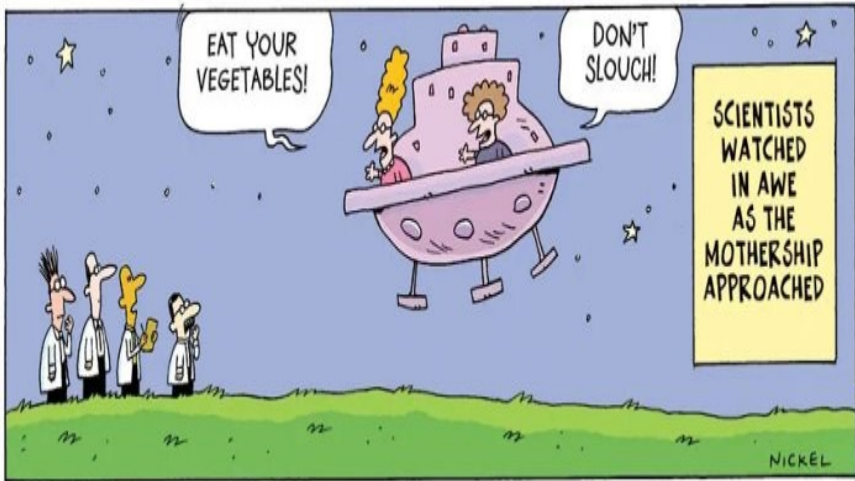
We attend in person and we gather in spirit, offering Heidi the gift of our prayers and God's blessing...

O God of us all, we joyfully commend Heidi and her ministry to your watchful care, that, having created her and redeemed her, you might also sustain her all her days. In so doing, we commit ourselves to supporting hers and all ministries of the church we love.

Alleluia, Amen.



Church Humor



**"A GRADUATION CEREMONY
IS AN EVENT WHERE THE
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
TELLS THOUSANDS OF
STUDENTS DRESSED IN
IDENTICAL CAPS AND
GOWNS THAT
"INDIVIDUALITY" IS THE
KEY TO SUCCESS."**

- ROBERT ORBEN

Routinely Nomadic



MAY MINISTERS

Lay Leaders:

07 - Becky Freeman
14 - Holly Boyle
21 - Lew Sherman
28 - Barbara Brant

Serving Communion:

Drew & Londa Wesche
Barbara Brant Becky Freeman
Preparing Communion: Drew & Londa Wesche
Assisting Pastor: Charley Freeman

JUNE MINISTERS

Lay Leaders:

04 - Joe Greene
11 - Charley Freeman
18 - Carol Rowley
25 - Marilyn Rodearmel

Serving Communion:

Charley & Portia Freeman
Holly Boyle & Gail Neff
Preparing Communion: Holly Boyle & Gail Neff
Assisting Pastor: Richard Tourjee Sr.

MAY


12- Eleanor Cebriwsky
13- John David Helsel
15- Andrew Dellarco
21- Mei Ling Liu
22- Susan Schmidtknecht
23- Jeff Land
28- Cherri Ashbey
29- Derek Bianchi



JUNE

08- Edie Hughes
12- Len Lun Niang
13- Charley Freeman
16- Jon Hiller
17- Sue Shontell
18- Michael Freeman
19- Gail Neff
21- Rachael Dellarco Wong
22- Hailey Bassett
22- Jerry Watkins
23- Dennis Piscitello
26- Ed Boyle
29- Brian Berry
29- Carol Gatlin





You're invited to a
service of

Ordination

for

HEIDI BUTLER

Sunday, May 28 | 3:00pm

At Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
1241 Poquonnock Rd
Groton, CT 06340

A reception will follow the service

Clergy are invited to robe and process

Calling all Graduates

If you have someone in your family that is graduating this year, please let this office know so we can print a list and share in your celebration.

Whether it be from nursery school, grammar school, middle school, high school or college...share it with us.



Graduation Speech:

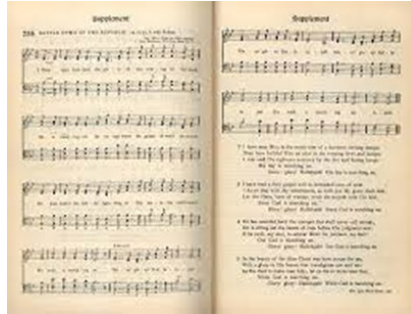
I would like to thank..



**The Internet, Google,
Wikipedia, Microsoft Office
and Copy Paste**

Sunday May 21st

We will be dedicating our New Hymnals!
We thank Janice Watrous Quick for the Memorial Gift to
make this possible!



And May 28th

Heidi's Ordination

See invitation on another page

June 11th Babies and Bylaws

We will dedicate Sawyer Alan Wilbur



On Baby's Dedication

*"The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy!"*
Psalm 126:3

and

Have a Congregational Meeting to approve the revised Bylaws that
our Church Council have been so busy working on.



Minutes Church Council Meeting May 1, 2023

Call to Order – Moderator Charley Freeman at 6:30 pm

Devotions —

Jonathan Liu: Proverbs 16: mortals make elaborate plans but God directs our steps, followed by a prayer and blessing for our meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting- Church Clerk Carol Gatlin Marilyn R moved and Sue seconded to accept minutes as distributed; approved.

Pastor Claudine—expected to be late, delayed reading submission; see under PRC Deacon.

Reports:

Financial Secretary — Pete Wong Deposits for April (does not include 4/30 collection): General fund: \$16,324.46, including \$490 for Easter flowers, \$107 from Easter special offering and \$3051.46 from tag sale (does not include credit charges) Mission fund: \$1405.00, including \$114 from the last Bread & Broth AFC in March, \$110 for AFC from Sunday collection and \$88 OGHs Memorial fund: \$ 220.70 for the new hymnals A \$200 gift for workday projects was received.

Marilyn R moved and Joe seconded to accept report; approved

Treasurer — Jonathan Liu See Cash Flow report for 4/1/2023-4/30/2023. The \$227.45 under Income (other) was for receipts charged at the Tag Sale. Item 1.05 M&M Retirement is higher than usual because the premium has increased to \$390.15; 2.01 for the Supply Organist is higher than usual monthly amount for additional services Maundy Thursday and Good Friday; 2.03 total of \$575 was \$425 for Organ plus \$150 for Piano. Pete asked what the 4.05 amount of \$450 covered; reply that paid for power washing the buildings. Jonathan reported that Uncategorized amount of \$240.70 was payment of bill dated Mar 20 for the new hymnal accompaniment books. Question was raised of how many accompaniment books this covers; no one clear on answer; 2 books are on the piano in the Purple Room. Jonathan will talk with Ed Boyle as to receipt of bill for the hymnals (which have been received) and transfer of monies from the Memorial Fund to the General Operating Fund to cover both hymnal bills.

As follow-on to prior meeting's discussion on autopay for fixed/certain bills (i.e., CPMW and Town of Groton for water) using credit card, per bank's preference to link credit card, Jonathan's name is not on the credit card. There is currently only one credit card for "PBBC", which also names Barbara Brant (as Secretary). There is concern that credit card bill or overage would hit personal credit card account and/or that charge would be declined, both of which have happened. Discussion noted that for a second credit card would want to know who can charge and for what and who the responsible person would be if credit limit exceeded, and if there is option to increase credit limit on existing card.

Deacons Worship and Membership —Portia Freeman/Holly Boyle Portia noted that there is something special each Sunday for a while, so we are going to be busy. Richard T Sr asked about re-activating Greeters at both doors; it was pointed out this is a duty of Hospitality, per Bylaws; Ann M duly noted.

Building and Grounds —Drew Wesche/Sue Shontell Sue reported that she spoke to congregation for a Spring into Action, Clean Up day scheduled for Saturday May 13 at 0900 asking for folks to sign up; as of today, sense that a few folks may be there but not signed up. Barbara Brant has sign-up list; let her know if can work and what task(s).

Goal is to do a bit of everything from cleaning light covers to painting if we have enough volunteers. As far as other work and bigger projects, we have accomplished getting the church powerwashed. Scraping doors and window frames in advance will save time on clean-up day. Got supplies and new first aid kit. Getting quotes for ramp door, both slab and prehung. In the meantime scraping existing door to ready for painting. Working with Carol and Richard to update a vital part of the church, the kitchen. The Craft Guild donated a new oven to the kitchen; Buildings and Grounds is working to provide a new stove in place of the industrial, non-used stove and electrical update.

Minutes Cont.

To make these things happen, B & G \$3000.00 approved budget will fall short. We have already expended \$1362.00 (powerwash, furnace cleaning, supplies/ paint,plumbing) we would like to keep the momentum of moving forward by introducing the following 2 motions on behalf of Buildings and Grounds and Tag Sale Lead, Belle Jordan for funds raised from the 23 April tag sale, approximately \$3000.00, be designated to replace the ramp door and replacing the antiquated industrial GE 36 inch stove. Any funds remaining after these two items are completed will be considered General Fund.

Motion 1. The ramp door, which facilitates more and more of our congregants the ability to join us, is in dire need of replacement. It is cracked, split and dried, allows drafts, has no keys nor window to see when folks are at door. I think we have all seen the condition of the door. Researched costs for replacement door: Drew has found 6-panel, not pre-hung at Lowe's for \$249 Sue has found \$1098- for pre-hung, solid external door, of steel with wood appearance. And \$1408 for pre-hung, fire rated 36"X80" X1.75" thick. Left-hand swing is ~\$300 more than more common right-hand swing; necessary exit bar and expected jamb and trim repair will add to cost. Question raised as to need for inspection after new install. Drew will check State of CT building code. It would be nice to have door in place before winter. In the meantime continuing to scrape, putty cracks and paint existing door.

Motion 2. Industrial oven replacement. We have recently replaced one stove thanks to the craft guild. The steel industrial stove replacement serves 2 functions. 1. it provides the bakers with enough oven space to bake pies, cookies, soups etc. This in turn provides funds that help the church, updated space and facilitates soup-a-thons, bread and broth, mercy meals, showers, receptions, etc., which every congregant has participated in. This provides not only funds but community.

2. More efficient, reimagined, updated space will also ensure a safe kitchen. This motion would include the service of an electrician to diagnose and resolve the circuit breaker popping when kitchen is in full use. It would also safeguard the new stove/ stoves. Sue moved and Dianne seconded motion to purchase replacement stove like the first new one (GE, 30" slide in). Richard reported that electrician John Hespeler replaced 30 amp with 40 amp fuse for stove (new one); the under-rated fuse likely explains experience of tripping breaker when using both (old) stoves and/or with plug ins. Discussion as to possible recipients to take away old industrial stove (third party interest, Habitat for Humanity); Richard says John Hespeler will take away. Motion approved for new stove purchase, to be accomplished before ordination on 5/28, and for Richard to call John Hespeler that he can have old stove.

Considering what supplies and tools will need to be on hand for Clean Up Day. Jonathan brought power washer tonight; will need cordless drill.

The vestry floor will be cleaned tomorrow and polished with rejuvenating solution on Friday by John Rodearmel and Steve Hughes. Richard pointed out that last polish was oil finish. In case not yet dry, Craft Group to meet in Purple Room and Carol will ask Barbara to post sign to ask AA to do same on Wed night.

Finance —TBD Stewardship/Benevolence—Marilyn Rodearmel -End of March balance was \$562.97; no deposits; \$0.01 interest for balance of \$562.98 as of 4/30/23.

Education and Discipleship—Joe Greene/Steve Hughes Joe reports Adult Education continues following Sunday services, at 11:00. Next Sunday Dionne from Camp Wightman will give a short presentation and answer questions. Supervision and activities for 1st and 2nd graders continues when enough attendees; no activities if only one child. Scheduled presentations and activities for adults and children will end June 4. The Annual Sunday School Picnic will return (after 3-year absence due to COVID) June 11 at Bluff Point. DEEP has granted clearance for the picnic. We will need to secure tables of choice early that morning; will try to secure a cluster of 5 tables well situated for our gathering (separated from other picnic area by stone wall). Since there is no grill at this location, a Weber grill will be brought for cooking hotdogs and hamburgers. Joe read from local history book by Carol Kimball of the historical attraction of the annual family picnic of PBBC, being open to all in the villages and clam chowder a main feature of menu. Joe offered to provide rides to/from the picnic for anyone needing transportation.

Consideration to select a book for a summer book club continues.

Mission and Outreach—Dianne Augeri/LiLing Liu Dianne reported that Blankets of Love offering has been moved to May 14. Totals for other missions that includes additional monies in April: World Mission Offering - \$231

America for Christ - \$326 from Sundays and \$450 from Bread & Broth

One Great Hour of Sharing - \$88 in April for current total of \$233

Pastoral Relations—Mei Ling Liu absent Carol read Pastor Claudine's report received by email:

"Greetings of love and thanks to all of you. If I'm not there with you by now, it means I'm still on my way back from Hartford, where I met with Heidi as she tried on wedding dresses (!) and as we worked on final plans and preparations for her Ordination Service. Buckle up, friends.....it's going to be a busy, Spirit-filled month ahead! This Sunday, May 7th: Communion, a Mission Moment with Dionne from Camp Wightman (with thanks to Joe and Steve) including gathering with her after church. Sunday, May 14: Festival of the Christian Home, Blanket the World with Love, Second Sunday Food Collection, Mother's Day Carnations, wearing hats to church. Sunday, May 21st: Dedication of new hymnals, welcoming Janice Watrous Quick to the service to celebrate her Memorial Gift of funds to purchase "Glory to God" hymnal. On Friday, May 19th we will need a few helpers to replace hymnals in the sanctuary. Sunday, May 28th: Day of Pentecost, Ordination Service at 3pm for Heidi Butler (planning in progress to host 100 worshippers for service and reception). Sunday, June 4th, Worship and Communion Sunday, June 11th: Infant Dedication during worship (Sawyer Alan Wilbur), Special Congregational meeting followings services, possible date of Church Picnic? I will be undergoing necessary eye surgery to remove/repair an epiretinal membrane that is causing distortion and loss of vision. Initially planned in April, rescheduled to July. In light of our increasingly hot and humid summer seasons, I would like to suggest that once again this year we move Sunday morning worship downstairs to the airconditioned Purple Room for the months of July and August. In the coming weeks I will be meeting first with chairperson Mei Ling and then with the entire PRC to begin planning for Sabbatical. Blessings and gratitude as we share God's journey of faith and ministry."

Hospitality and Special Events—Sandy Vocolina/Ann Mauer Ann reports planning is going fine for Heidi's Ordination; will have basic refreshments that morning during fellowship time. Card-board sleeves have been ordered for the paper cups rather than washing cups.

Nominating Committee—Richard Tourjee - no report

Drew moved to accept Deacon reports;

Old Business —Update on Safe Deposit Box with Chelsea Groton Bank - Marilyn had received email from Mei Ling: Ron Land confirmed his name is on the safe deposit box, thinks Irving Hiller may be listed as well, that key was kept in church office within file folder for safe deposit box and confirmed that all that is in box is church-related docs; Ron will check when he is at church office next time.

—Working through timeline of Constitution and Bylaws revisions is in progress.

—Replacement of white kitchen stove: since Carol had informed Building & Grounds and Moderator real-time, no info needed re: purchase by Ladies Aid/Craft group of replacement slide-in GE stove to replace the white Maytag. (See separate page after minutes so there is documentation with Council file if needed later.)

New Business - none

Additional Business - none

Adjourn at 7:47

Devotions for June: Sue

Respectfully submitted, Carol Gatlin, Clerk

The Ladies Aid/ Crafters purchased a stainless steel, slide-in GE stove to replace the old white Maytag. After initially booking an appointment for a diagnostic service call, I researched further and after we discussed personal experiences, multiple reports of malfunction and various repair and replacement options, decided a new purchase was best for a reliable stove top and oven. It meets the request for smooth top and 2 power burners. It was purchased from Shore Appliance for \$800 plus \$79.99 for delivery/ installation and take-away of the old one, and installed on 4/13/23. I did not select add-on service warranty; it has 1-year warranty, with servicing by Shore. I mailed in the warranty card and filed the User's Manual in the office. I informed Bldg and Grnds Deacons real-time. I recommended that an electrician assess the system / circuits so there are no damaging issues in near and long-term.

Carol Gatlin

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
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