

# THE TIE that binds

## March 2024

1241 Poquonnock Road, Groton, Connecticut 06340  
860-445-6126  
[www.pbcgroton.org](http://www.pbcgroton.org)



## March

Racing clouds and whistling winds,  
Coats flapping in the breeze,  
Bright kites circling in the skies,  
The dance of swaying trees,  
The cheerful sight of crocuses,  
The first sweet breath of spring –  
Just part of all the many moods  
The month of March can bring.



## *Sabbatical Pastor's Page*



# Dear PBBC Friends

The countdown to Easter has begun! Are you ready?

When we get ready for Christmas, we often decorate, plan menus, and shop. In contrast, the season of Lent prior to Easter traditionally is observed with solemn colors, fasting, and acts of charity.

Advent, like Lent, is meant to be a penitential season, but it is difficult for many of us in that dazzling time of year to enter into serious reflection—until Christmas Eve itself, the “silent night” when we join Mary in pondering in our hearts the miracle of Christ.

During Lent we respond to Jesus’ call to follow him to Jerusalem, and we remember his betrayal, suffering, and sacrifice. We meet Mary in this season, too, at the foot of the cross. We confess our sins and marvel at the lengths to which God is willing to go to redeem us.

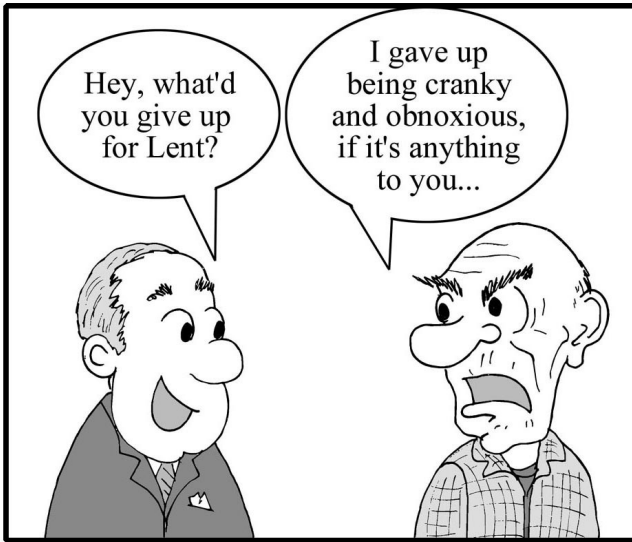
When Easter morning arrives, we will sing with joyful exuberance “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!” I look forward to sharing that wonderful celebration with you here at PBBC.

Let us in these weeks of Lent, though, allow God to prepare us to understand personally and profoundly our need for salvation and grace.

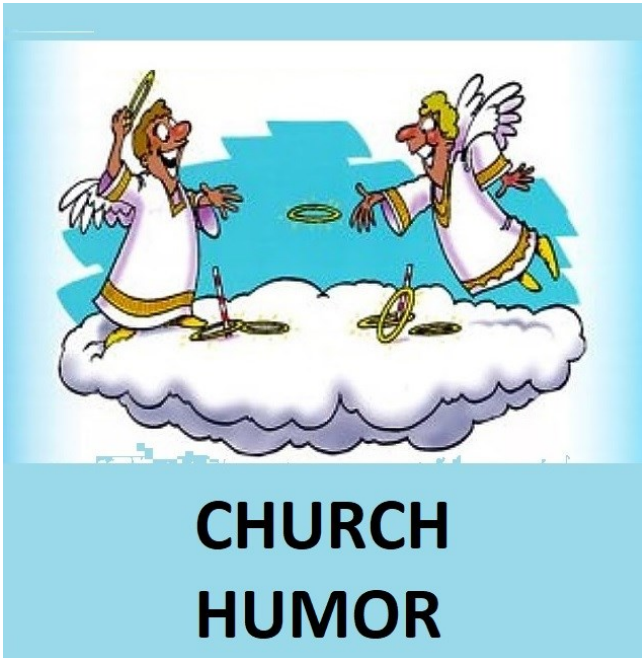
Blessings on this Lenten Journey,  
Pastor Michelle

Michelle Madsen-Bibeau  
Interim Pastor

## Church Humor



[www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com](http://www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com)





## **MARCH MINISTERS**

### **Lay Leaders:**

03 - Holly Boyle  
10 - Drew Wesche  
17 - Carol Gatlin  
24 - Steve Hughes  
31 - Catherine Hiller

### **Serving Communion:**

Portia Freeman & Steve Hughes  
Candy Zeppieri & Barbara Brant  
Preparing Communion: Steve Hughes & Belle Jordan  
Assisting Pastor: Becky Freeman

## **APRIL MINISTERS**

### **Lay Leaders:**

07 - Dianne Dellarco  
14 - Marilyn Rodearmel  
21 - Carol Rowley  
28 - Pete Wong

### **Serving Communion:**

Bob Land & Dianne Augeri  
Jonathan Liu & Li Ling Liu  
Preparing Communion: Bob Land & Portia Freeman  
Assisting Pastor: Charley Freeman

## MARCH

06 - Sawyer Wilbur  
07- Josh Chomicz  
10- Mela Magno  
11- Claudine Crooks  
11- Ann Mauer  
13- Betty Curry – Passed  
13- Jennifer Kent  
13- Carla Berry  
15- Daniel Morton  
15 – Sandi Burns  
15- Peg Ackley  
15- Meghan berry  
15- Gianni Pezzolesi  
18- Matthew Johnson  
18- Cassie Johnson  
18- Robert Johnson  
21- Cheryl Piscitello  
25- Heidi Butler  
26- Janice Watrous Quick  
29- Portia Freeman  
29- Carol Case  
31- Aida Amuan



## APRIL

05- Jonathan Liu  
08- Anita Nelson Fernald  
10- Mark Mundell  
10- Reese Friedman  
16- Liz Rousseau  
17- Stephen Morton  
21- Nancy Spalluto  
21—Will Vars  
22- David Augeri  
26- Becky Freeman



**Pastor's Sabbatical**  
**February 1 through April 30**

"What is a little Sabbath? It is a time when you are down, not up; receiving, not giving; being, not doing. It is a time set apart that is different from ordinary time. It is departure from your allotted time into God's time, which is as much your home as your allotted time is. It is special time, when we reflect on our actions and let them seep into our souls. Sabbath is moving into the eternal from the daily, to a little bit of heaven from a lot of earth. It is sacred time.

Sacred time is the time of praise and gratitude.

It is not measured in minutes and hours but in something larger,  
as big as eternity. Ashes to ashes, stardust to stardust, I like to say."

To my beloved church family, thank you for the gift of this sabbath  
time. Even though you will not *hear* from me over the next three  
months, you will still be *held* by me...

in spirit, blessing, and prayer.

You will be in good hands and heart with Michelle!

God be with you 'till we meet again...

With immeasurable love, Claudine

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During Lent we meet each Wednesday evening at 5:30 for  
one hour. We enjoy a light repast of Bread & Broth.

March 6th - The First Dinner: Risking Rejection

March 13th - The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends

March 20th - Gethsemane: Risking Temptation

Monies given at B&B goes to our

America for Christ Offering.

There are also envelopes in the pew racks.

# Camp Wightman



Registration is open for Summer Programs!

Boating, swimming, art, nature, archery campfires, singing, smores & so much more!

## **Traditional Camp: Age 6-17**

*June 23-June 29*

*June 30-July 6*

*July 28-August 3*

*August 4-August 10*

*August 11-August 17*

## **Leaders in Training: Age 15-17**

*Equips youth to be leaders at Camp, in their home, schools , & Churches.*

*June 23-June 29*

*June 30-July 6*

## **Family & Friends Camp—All Ages**

*Lodging in retreats Centers & Cabins -\$250 per camper with the maximum fee per household capped at \$900—children under 5 are free!*

*July 28-August 3*

## **Special Needs Program—ages 18+**

*June 23-June 29*

*June 30-July 6*

*July 21-July 27*

*August 4-August 10*

## **Wild Women in the Woods—Ages 55+**

*July 29-August 3*



## EASTER FLOWERS

THE FLOWER COMMITTEE HAS AGAIN PROVIDED FLOWERS FOR THE LENTEN SEASON. INSTEAD OF A PLANT DONATION YOU ARE INVITED TO MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHURCH'S GENERAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET IN MEMORY OR HONORING INDIVIDUAL (S).

A LISTING OF THE MEMORIALS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON EASTER SUNDAY.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND DROP IN THE OFFERING PLATE  
PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT IN MEMORY/HONOR OF:  
(CIRCLE ONE)

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_



PLEASE FILL OUT TODAY AND DROP IT IN THE  
OFFERING PLATE AS IT COMES TO YOU



Pastor Claudine is on a much deserved Sabbatical She will NOT be available until May 1st.

Please respect her time away—she will not be answering phone calls or emails during this private time of Reflection, Renewal, and being Rekindled in Faith

In the interim we will have Michelle Madsen-Bibeau.

She is here each Wednesday in the office providing coverage and any pastoral needs and will also lead our Lenten Bread & Broth Series



**Her cell # is 860-597-4223  
and preferred email  
mmadsenbibeau@gmail.com**

## Looking ahead Holy Week

Sunday, March 24  
Palm Sunday



### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday March 28th at 6:30 pm in the  
Sanctuary

### **Good Friday Service**

Friday, March 29th, Noon  
Here in the sanctuary



### **Sunday, March 31st**

9:30 am Easter Sunday Service  
Come and Rejoice with us!



An Easter Egg hunt will follow worship.

Gather in the kitchen at 10:40 and then we will  
proceed to the Parsonage Lawn for the traditional hunt  
Invite your friends to join us

# Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 15, 2024  
5pm–6pm

**\$18 each**

**ORDER  
NOW**

860-445-7409

or

Sign-up after 10am  
Worship Service every  
Sunday through March  
10th

**Phone Orders Taken  
until March 10th**

Menu:

Corned Beef, Cabbage, Onions,  
Parsnips, Carrots, Irish Soda Bread  
Shamrock Cookies

**grab  
'n GO!**



Groton Congregational Church  
162 Monument St., Groton, CT



Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonnock Road  
Groton, CT 06340