

THE TIE that binds

November 2018



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

On November 4th you gathered in joy and sadness to recall those who died this past year. I thank all those who read their names, lit a candle, rang a bell...to honor their light as it shines, proclaim their life as it resonates in our hearts. Together we rejoice in the glory that now is theirs; we pray for comfort of their loved ones.

Opportunities for Giving Thanks

We gather for our Women's Retreat at Camp Wightman, reflecting on the theme "Be Still...and Know" with our retreat leader, the Rev. Ho-Soon Han. We bring the gift of song and sign language back to worship, "You Raise Me Up."

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 God's blessings.

Stewardship and 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 the 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, receiving our pledge cards on November 11th and presenting them with all our gifts and offerings on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 18th.

Books We Have Shared This Month

"God's Dream" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and
Douglas Carlton Abrams

"Where Are You Hiding, God?" by Elisabeth Zartl

"Don't Laugh At Me" by Steve Seskin and Allen Shamblin



*Our PBBC Holiday Bazaar and
Estate Sale
Saturday, December 1st from 9am—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, November 30th .*

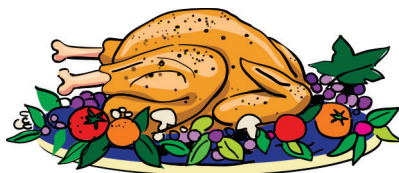


Groton Human Services will be providing Christmas Food Baskets to 500 Groton Families in need this year. If you, your family, or your co-workers would like to help,

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 19th to
Groton Human Services





NOVEMBER MINISTERS

Communion: Prepare: Barbara Brant & Peg Straub

**Serve: : Catherine Greenfield
Jon Hiller
Carol Gatlin
Rick Tourjee**

Assist Pastor: Dianne Dellarco

Lay Leader:

**04 – Rick Tourjee
11– Anita Fernald
18– Marilyn Baird
25 - Jonathan Lie**

DECEMBER MINISTERS

Communion: Prepare: Jennifer Kent and Li Ling

**Serve: Jennifer Kent and Li Ling
Ron Land and Bob Land**

Assist Pastor: Dave Rowley

Lay Leader

**02– Becky Freeman
09 - Richard Tourjee
16 - Catherine Hiller
23 - 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
19 - Silas Keeton
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 5, 2018

Meeting was brought to order at 6:30pm.

Devotions: Peg Straub led us in devotion s

Review October Minutes: Filed as emailed and printed

Communications: None

Treasurer

- Cash Flow Detail handout filed with minutes.
- Note that the General Fund is holding up with pledges about as expected.
- – Catherine will put a reminder in The Tie that the opportunity is still open if people want to make an offering to support this project.
- Note from Catherine: In talking with various deacons about their work and asking about their expenses, she believes that it has historically become a part of the job to absorb any immediate expenses themselves and count it as a donation to the church (not including Buildings and Grounds, which has a fund for these sorts of things). Catherine wondered if it was possible to include a “General Council Expenses” designation in the budget for these miscellaneous things that come up, such as cleaning of paraments, polishing brass, replacing things for coffee hour, etc. She wanted to recognize that, while many have been willing to make these types of donations, future council members may not be able to do so, and wanted to recognize officially that we are aware of and appreciate these small ministries. Mei Ling’s recommendation was that people include such a fund in the creation of their individual budgets.
- Catherine also asked if it might be helpful to Mei Ling to have an extra signer on the account, since Yvette will be away for some time. Mei Ling said that it’s not imperative right now, but with the next rotation of council positions she would like it to be brought up.

Pastor’s Report—No Report

Deacon and Committee Reports:

Finance:

- Dave noted that Barbara passed along information about a possible fundraiser that involves a Mystic restaurant, Angie’s Pizza and Pier 27. The restaurant is involved in a consortium with other restaurants around the country that allows organizations like ours to set up a date wherein between certain hours we receive 15% of the receipts, not including alcohol, tip, or taxes. The money would have to process through the organization (grouppraise.com). Dave wanted to bring it up, but doesn’t think it’s something we want to pursue at the moment.
- Dave will be getting together with the finance committee in the coming weeks, but many have already spoken to him about increases (or lack thereof) in their budgets.

Building/Grounds

- Church workday was held on Saturday, October 20th. It was a small but mighty crew, with 5-6 people attending. The group got work done around the kitchen and in the sanctuary. The weather was not great so they could not do outdoor tasks.
- Alex has scheduled to get the furnaces of all properties cleaned on January 11, 2019.
- Complaints have been raised about an unpleasant smell coming from the first floor utility closet. Alex and Brian checked it out (they believe it may be a dead mouse), and they will proceed in trying to clean out the closet and deal with the smell. Catherine mentioned that Belle Jordan reported that the front steps seemed to be missing a large piece; Brian will take a look.
- Regarding a tree hanging over the parsonage that should be removed due to the likelihood of branches falling and causing damage, Jon Hiller asked a friend about tree removal and was quoted \$1,200 for that particular tree. Richard Tourjee thought that this was a reasonable price.
- The committee will get in touch with J&R this week about beginning work on the Miner Building roof.

Education/Discipleship—Li Ling and Dianne Dellarco

- The Halloween party was held on October 28th, and had a small but mighty crew! The children had a fabulous time, and the adults that did come had a wonderful time. The committee did comment that in the future, they would love if more adults had come and taken part in the festivities, but they truly appreciated the donations and the contributions of all who helped to make the party happen.
- The committee has been struggling to come up with ideas for Sunday school programming with the children being so young, having small attention spans but being very enthusiastic. The committee has decided to have a short Bible story (5 mins) right before music class starts, to help the children center and focus for music. They have spoken with a few parents and they like the idea. They still have to figure out who will lead this, but they are moving forward with plans.

Hospitality—Sandy Vocolina and Marilyn Benson

- 6 new members were welcomed this past month with a lovely reception.

Mission/Outreach—Holly Boyle, Carol Gatlin

- CROP WALK: PBBC group with the 41st Mystic/Stonington CROP walk was 7 walkers, and we collected \$832. We should hear total amount raised by Mystic/Stonington group soon. The walker participation was lower than in recent years, but it was well organized and had a good energy.
- Groton Food Locker: 26 bags of food donated in October, which is consistent with our usual collection. The committee thanks Barbara for her bulletin reminders.
- We should hear from Groton Human Services in the next couple of weeks that a family has been selected for Adopt-A-Family, and Carol will provide information when it is available. Any questions can be directed to her.
- The committee estimates that its financial needs will be only \$5 for the next year, for the purchase of supplies for our ABC offerings.

Worship/Membership—Peg Straub, Barbara Brant

- Getting ready for advent, including putting the tree up on Sunday, November 25th. There will be a smaller Christmas tree this year, and the committee is hoping that Pat's Craft Ladies' Group will be willing and able to make a small tree skirt.
- Catherine brought up that one concern will need to be addressed in the near future: Betty Land has requested to be relieved from her choir/accompanying duties, and as such, the music committee (part of the worship committee) will have to search out a new choir director. Betty will still retain the organist role, but if the committee finds someone who wants to handle all the music elements, she is willing to give that up as well.

Pastoral Relations—Darrell Tootell

- Pastoral evaluations: Claudine has them now, and she is reviewing them. All the data and comments will be compiled into handouts for congregation.
- The initial reports look good, and the committee was pleased with the response they got from people filling them out. The full report will be brought to the council in December.
- The PRC will meet with Pastor Claudine next Sunday after the service.

Old Business:

Apple Festival: Pat Tootell

- The festival was very successful! People did donate a lot of supplies, which is very nice and was definitely appreciated, but it would be appreciated in the future if some would also donate their time in assisting with the baking or baking items on their own and donating them. But plenty of people helped that day, even allowing some church members to attend a local funeral during the festival itself, and that help was much appreciated.
- Catherine reported that, though she could not attend, she had heard it was a fun and lovely experience.

Safe Church Committee: Dave Rowley

- The committee consists of Peg Ackley, Holly Boyle, & Dave so far, and they are hoping for more to come aboard.
- They have expanded their focus to the outside of the church whereas they had focused on the inside up to this point.
- The committee had a walk around the church 2 weeks ago, and came up with some things to pass along to Alex & Brian about Buildings and Grounds concerns
- These items included the first floor door, ground level windows, fixing cracks in the asphalt of the parking lot, possibly installing railings, installing glass windows in the sanctuary double doors, among other things
- They also wondered about the rear parking area where they say a few neighbors have been parking, and asked if we could ask the neighbors not to park there on Sunday morning. Catherine said that it was her understanding that there had been a longstanding agreement that they would not, but she would check into it.

Old Business cont.

- Parking predicament: John Rodearmel constructed a sign, but the council was not sure if it had been installed yet. Barbara still plans to contact Groton Utilities to ask about places for extra parking.
- Security cameras: Ron was going to buy one for a new system as discussed at the previous meeting, but the CBC Communications representative generously donated a camera to us. It has been installed and we are now back where we were previously. The council plans to look into Peg Ackley's security system when she returns, and Ron will talk with the Safe Church Committee about the benefits of purchasing an entirely new security camera system. Heidi will write a letter of thanks to Mr. Chalecki.
- Insurance: Mei Ling connected with Brotherhood Insurance and set up a meeting but it got cancelled due to her recent hospital stay. She will reschedule this meeting, wherein a representative will come to the church, take a look around, and give a quote. Once this is received, the council will be able to compare offers. Catherine suggested that Mei Ling did not necessarily have to be the person to meet with them, and Mei Ling agreed that she would ask around and find someone else to meet the representative.

New Business

- Possible fund raiser from Dave; discussed above
- Catherine brought up the fact that when the window from OMBC was installed, a number of the pastors' photos in the fellowship lounge needed to be removed. She and Claudine have been thinking about how to reorganize them, and she talked with John Rodearmel about possibly making a collage of all the past ministers. This collage would have their names and terms of service included with the photographs. The consensus was that this was a good idea, and it will be pursued.
- Alex moved that we accept the \$1,200 offer to remove the tree over the parsonage. Mei Ling seconded. A question was asked about possibly removing other potentially dangerous trees at the same time, and it was decided that we would have those other trees assessed and quoted when the first is removed, since that removal is likely to be a lengthy process. A question was also raised about verifying that Jon's friend has his own liability insurance. The motion was amended to add the condition that we only move forward if the tree remover has insurance. The vote was carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting is December 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

The Finance Committee wants budgets by the second week of December, so at the next meeting, please bring budget requests.

Submitted by: Heidi Butler

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting: December 4, 2018

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 4, 2018

***Mary Ackley
Erastus Benn
Jennifer Comstock
Harry Curry
Kristin Greene
Frances Holman
James Henschel
Leeann Kinnecom
Joseph Laliberte
Carole Martin
Teresa Messina
Henry Olexy
Rev. Hugh G. Penney
Helen Plouffe
Rodney Rappe
Rev. Allen Scott
Gloria Smith
Noelle Tourjee
Thomas Umphlett
Amanda Wardwell
Frank Whittaker
Trene Whittaker***



Youth News

Youth Meetings

This year our regular youth group meeting will take place the third Sunday of every month from 4-6pm. We will rotate churches each month. Here is our rotation schedule:

November 18th - Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

December 16th - Union Baptist Church

January 13th - Noank Baptist Church

February 17th - Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

March 17th - Union Baptist Church

April 21st - Noank Baptist Church

May 19th - Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

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

youthcoopdirector@gmail.com

A Special Note of Thanks from Elaine Henschel

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the words of comfort in the loss of my son, Jim. You have helped toward healing a burden no parent expects or is totally prepared to face.

**Sincerely,
Elaine**



Holiday Bazaar And

Silent Auction

Theme gift baskets

Antiques

Estate Jewelry

Collectibles

Furniture

Red Sox Bistro Set

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

1241 Poquonnock Rd. Groton

Saturday Dec. 1st

9 am to 2pm

Crafts
Needle works
Jewelry
and Specialty
Christmas tree ornaments

Baked Goods & cookies,
cookies, cookies

A light lunch available

See pictures and

follow us



PBB CGroton



A Little Church Humor



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TO THE **POQUONNIANS** FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The fall months, particularly those of November and December are especially busy ones for PBBC. Once summer has drawn to a close and we get caught up in the usual flow of busyness again, it can become even overwhelming at times. Your Church Council is no exception to this seasonal state and right now has a slate full of challenges. The seemingly never ending rain has delayed the roofing of the Miner Building, national news headlines are pushing our Safe Church Committee to appraise our church home for security, and pressing maintenance needs are always knocking at our doors. In addition, this month we will begin the search process for a Choir Director/Accompanist as Betty Land has requested that she be relieved of that portion of her position as Music Director. Your council members are working diligently to keep up with all aspects of it responsibilities and there are ways in which everyone can help.

Our bylaws stipulate that our two Deacons of Buildings and Grounds will provide LEADERSHIP in the care and maintenance of the buildings. With their guidance we should all feel a responsibility to participate in keeping them sound, clean and safe, either through actually being “on the job” in group projects like workdays (perhaps even by providing a snack or coffee break), or by taking on a smaller task that can be done on one’s own time. We happen to have a task list of current needs in the Fellowship Room.

The care of our buildings is a big job but is only one of many other responsibilities. If you would like to be a “shareholder” in our efforts in the areas of worship, education, mission, finance, hospitality, ways and means, please speak to me or any council member. We will happily help you find a place where you will find a satisfying place to serve.

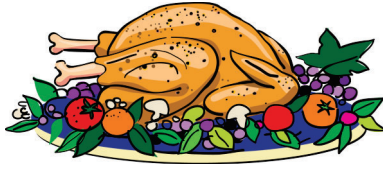
Finally, there are financial opportunities. A few weeks ago the “Miner Building Roof Project Fund” was established in honor of Arthur Miner who built the church addition, and all the other saints who through the years maintained this beautiful house of worship that we love. This fund’s purpose is to offset the cost of \$17,950 which will otherwise have to come from the Memorial Fund. The total of gifts for this effort thus far is \$3200, a long way from the needed amount. Perhaps you would like to make your donation to the maintenance effort a financial one. Gifts may be placed in an envelope marked “Roof Project” and placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning.

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10

In love,

Catherine Hiller, Moderator

Community



Thanksgiving dinner

Thursday, November 22, 2018

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