

THE TIE that binds
January 2020



Poquonock Bridge Baptist Church
1241 Poquonock Road
Groton, CT 06340

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

Pastor's Page



Advent Series

The Season of Epiphany

As we begin the journey of a new year together,
let me provide a word of abundant gratitude
for the many hands and hearts
that helped make the Advent and Christmas
seasons so rich and full of blessing.

For the offering of your gifts to the church
and the giving of your gifts to me personally,
for your faithful attendance and participation
in all of our worship experiences and services,
for the ministries of outreach, care and love
you extended to me, to the community and to one another,
may you know how grateful I am
to this Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church family.
As we offer thanks for all of the support and prayers
surrounding our family in light of Kevin's illness,
may each of us continue to be the people God calls us to be,
and may the light and glory of Epiphany
shine on the world through us.

Stories We Have Recently Shared

"The Worst Christmas Ever"

By Kathleen Long Bostrom and Guy Porfirio

"The Night of His Birth"

By Katherine Paterson

"Good Night, Baby Jesus"

By Adam Gamble and Joe Veno

"The Christmas Star"

By Marcus Pfister

In Memory of Elaine, Frank & Steve Staley

Given by: Burt and Patti Crooks

In Memory of our son Chris Lamb

Given by: Vance and Shirley Lamb

In Memory of our families

Given by: Vance and Shirley Lamb

In Honor of Len Lun Niang

Given by the Liu Family

In Memory of our parents and Jerry Watkins, the third

Given by Jerry and Joan Watkins

To Honor and Remember Garold Benson & other loved ones past and present

Given by Marilyn Benson

In Memory of Grampa Tom, Grandma Floss Grampa Bob and Gramma Toots

Given by Austin Center and his family

In Honor of Pastor Claudine, Heidi and Noelle

Given by someone who loves them all





Christmas Flower Donations 2019

*In Honor of all firemen
Given by: Peggy Straub*

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

*In Memory of Patty Vars Martell
Given by: Jane Imdahl and Will Vars*

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

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

*In Memory of our loved ones passed
Given by: The Lew Family*

*In Memory of Louie & Yee Sur-Ming Wong
Given by: The Wong Family*

*In Memory of Lois and Earle Rowley, Becky, Marion, and C.D. Chambers
Given by: Carol and Dave Rowley*

*In Memory of Kristin Greene
Given by: Joseph Greene*

*In Honor of our church
Given by: John and Marilyn Rodearmel*

*In Memory of Lester Jordan
Given by: his family*

Fusion Youth Ministry

Youth Bowling

Saturday January 18 2-4PM

Let's get together with our friends for an afternoon of bowling! We had a great time last year and I would love to see you all there again. Please RSVP at the link below. Cost \$10.

Spring Events!

More details to come but save the dates for all of our events through the spring.

January 12 - Middle School Youth Group @ UBC 4-6pm

January 18 - Bowling 2-4pm

January 26 - High School Youth Group @ UBC 4-6pm

February 7 - High School Overnight Retreat

February 9 - Middle School Youth Group @ NBC 4-6pm

February 23 - Cabin Fever Festival Volunteering 12-4pm

March 8 - Middle School Youth Group @ PBBC 4-6pm

March 18 - Cooking Class 6-8pm

March 29 - High School Youth Group @ PBBC 4-6pm

April 5 - Middle School Youth Group @ UBC 4-6pm

April 10 - Good Friday Walk

April 19 - High School Youth Group @ UBC 4-6pm

May 3 - Middle School Youth Group @ NBC 4-6pm

May 17 - High School Youth Group @ NBC 4-6pm

May 29 - Movie Night

June - Youth Sundays at UBC and NBC

Director of Youth Events

Courtney Assad

Fusion Youth Ministry

119 High Street

Mystic, CT 06355

(860) 389-3904

www.fusionyouthministry.com

A Little Church Humor



JANUARY MINISTERS

Communion: Prepare: Gail Neff & Peg Straub

Serve : Gail Neff &
Ron Land & Carol Gatlin
Assist Pastor: Barbara Brant

Lay Leader:

05 – Rick Tourjee
12– Becky Freeman
19 - Dave Rowley
26 - Alex Lew

FEBRUARY MINISTERS

Communion: Prepare: Becky Freeman & Marilyn Baird

Serve: Becky Freeman & Marilyn Baird
Richard Tourjee
Catherine Greenfield

Assist Pastor: Catherine Hiller

Lay Leader

02– Charley Freeman
09 - Dennis Piscitello
16 - Richard Tourjee
23 - Mei Ling Liu



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 3)

12-30-2013

REMEMBER THAT NEW YEAR RESOLUTION YOU
MADE TO TRY NEW THINGS?

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha



Methuselah on New Year's Day.



JANUARY

02 – William Deveau
 02 – Noelle Butler
 03 - Joshua Boyle
 04 – Mackenzie Ackley
 05 – Eric Bianchi
 05 – Ronald Land
 06 – Sarah Adams
 07 – Pete Wong
 08 – Pete Deveau
 09 – Barbara Bellefleur
 12- Londa Wesche
 13 – Gladys Burns
 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
 22 – Ric Silver
 25 – Pebbles Quibble
 31 – Candy Zeppieri

***PBBC* is looking for someone to direct our choir!**

**If you know of anyone interested please see your deacons
 of**

Worship & Membership

Portia Freeman or Peg Straub

OR Pastor Claudine!



FEBRUARY

01 – Gary Benson
 06- Lou Sherman
 14- Yvette Ackley
 14 -Sandy Vocolina
 18 - Celia Lew
 20 – Ronald Tourjee
 20 – Donna McLaughlin
 27 – Richard Bassett



Moderator Catherine Hiller called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Devotions: Alex read for *The Secret Place*

Minutes of November Meeting: There was no request for review.

Communications: Moderator Catherine read of a correspondence regarding TVCCA's reimbursement to the church for the rent of the residence at 15 South Road, Groton, CT. The state agency approved the rental increase to \$1,400.00 but will provide the church with only \$1,100, the difference of \$300 being the responsibility of the tenant

Ensuing discussion revealed that the State of CT has a formula whereby the percentage of TVCCA Section 8 coverage is dependent on the income of the resident(s) and that the household at 15 South Rd. has had an increase in annual income.

Additional queries by Moderator Catherine revealed the extensive time Mei Ling devotes to the duties of Treasurer, three hours being spent each weekend, minimally. Catherine thanked Mei Ling and said how grateful the Council was for Mei Ling's work.

Ministry and Committee Reports

Pastoral Relations: Sue had nothing to report.

Hospitality: Cathy had nothing to report.

Nominating: Dave reported the open positions have been filled by candidates: proposed are Peg Straub for Worship & Membership, Richard Tourjee Jr. in Building and Grounds, Richard Tourjee Sr. as Vice Moderator, Dave Rowley Moderator. Charlie Freeman was proposed to act as auditor for Church expenses. The Annual Business Meeting of the Church, to be held February 2nd, will hold the vote.

Worship and Membership: Portia stated a concern to delineate active vs. non-active membership participants. Sue mentioned outstanding keys issued to those no longer in need of them might also need consideration. Discussion followed.

Education and Discipleship: Diane reported Education going well. Formal Sunday school undertakings are comparatively limited as 2/3rds of students are not old enough to participate in the classic structured setting of Sunday school. Alternatively signing has proved a very good way to engage the younger students and will continue to be utilized, the Church blessed with members proficient in sign language. Parents and stewards have made an appreciable difference by their involvement.

Mission and Outreach: Carol spearheaded a discussion on the inventory of yarn as relates to the making of shawls, many voices attending. There are different types of yarn and the need for certain preferred types of yarn is pending. Carol offered to be the point person in a plea to the yarn supplier to acquire that most appreciated by our knitters.

Buildings and Grounds: Alex last heard from Mr. Hodge December 17th. Alex gave a recap of prior communications. There being no contract the immediate approach is "wait and see". If need be Jeff Kent may be available. Discussion highlights were to write a simple contract, to put in what the Church wanted in the contract, and/or use last year's contract.



STLL LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON!

We are on a search for someone who would enjoy taking on a task that involves a degree of search and rescue. PBBC has a "Memorial Book" in which all non-monetary memorial gifts to the church should be recorded with information regarding names of honoree and donor(s), dates, possible photo, etc .

Sadly, the first gift is yet to be recorded in this book. We have been blessed with many significant and wonderful memorials throughout our 163 years and there should be a place where anyone could find them documented. We did have such a book at one time but sadly was destroyed in a household accident. The process will not require a super memory or extensive years in membership, but rather a sense of inquiry and knowing where to search. No meetings and no public speaking! You may work at your own pace, and I am willing to mentor and assist anyone who would be up for this job.

~ Catherine Hiller



January 3, 2020



On behalf of the Town of Groton and this department, we would like to thank you for your generous donation that made our 2019 Christmas Distribution program a success. This Holiday Season we provided food baskets and turkeys to 415 families, feeding over 1000 people and gifts were given to over 450 children!!!!

We are able to make a difference for many Groton families in need each year because of the generous donations we receive from our community.

We appreciate your generous support of our community during the Holiday and wish you a Happy and prosperous New Year.

Marge Fonulas ~ Director~ Groton Human Services

The state inspected the church rental property. There has been no subsequent correspondence from the Connecticut state inspectors, an indication the property meets all state specifications.

Brian left a spool of wire to repair a gap in the fence in the back parking lot. His hope was to see the repair done sooner rather than later.

Jeff Kent will still be the lawn mowing designee until we find an alternate replacement. Jeff may be able to accommodate the Church on a longer term basis, but it is yet to be determined the cost.

Moderator Catherine commended Sue and Richard (in absentia) for their excellent work in replacing the ceiling tiles in the lounge room. Alex emphasized the appreciation by making an informal motion to thank both Sue and Richard, all acknowledging.

Old Business

Sue delineated the process by which TVCCA determined their portion of rent money for the Church rental property.

New Business

Barbara set forth a potential contract for the new custodian. Janet Kent would like the job. Janet is familiar with the church and knows the duties of the job. As an active member of her own church she would not be able to open and close the church. Belle will consider to continue to do so on Sundays, along with Richard, whose track record speaks for itself. Janet would clean the church as prescribed though not clean for weddings, funerals, etc., unless she consents to do so for additional pay, paid for by the sponsoring group. If she was unable to do cleaning for larger occasions on church property a private contractor would have to be employed to do so. Discussion led to the consideration for the Church to consider utilizing a "Host/Hostess" as an observer for non-Church special occasions. Such an individual would open and close the Church, act as ambassador for PBBC, and otherwise be able to appraise wear and tear to the premises. Cleaning supplies will need to be inventoried and resupplied, Belle previously tending.

Review of the contract led to expanded discussion. Words "mop and sweep" should be changed to "vacuuming." The phrase "but not be limited to" could be excluded altogether as it is an open ended phrase without understood limitations. The annual allowance of \$5,100.00 in 26 equal payments does not address considerations of time absent from illness and vacation. Many questions were posited, including annual increases in pay, if warranted. Sue and Holly volunteered to review the contract in further detail taking into consideration the concerns raised by the Council with further insight from Belle, and to write a new contract.

In other matters Moderator Catherine read from a letter from the Potter-Rathbun Organ Company, who after examining the Church organ determined repairs were needed. One day would be needed to make the repairs. The cost would be \$850.00. After discussion Diane made a motion to approve the cost of the repairs, then seconded by Mei Ling. The vote was unanimous in approval.

Dave discussed Program Safe Church, a structured program designed to make church's safe from an intruder's intent on disrupting, if not harming, a church and congregation. Dave's familiarization with the program was initiated about a year ago. Part 2 of the program is expected to be presented February 5th at 10. The program will be open for all PBBC members who wish to attend. Dave commended Catherine Hiller for her outstanding job as Moderator. Catherine stated she enjoyed being Moderator and will continue her role as church historian. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Submitted by,

Joe Greene, Clerk



**CALL FOR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF
Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
11:30 pm Sunday, February 2, 2020**

The 2019 Annual Business meeting will be held to:

- Receive reports from all areas of ministry for the year 2019
- Act upon the proposed Mission Fund and General Operating Fund budgets for the year 2020
- Adding a New By-Law
- Elect officers and deacons to the Church Council
- Act upon any other business that shall come before the membership.

Joe Greene
Clerk

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church
Presents
The 3rd Annual
Soup-A-Thon



plus bread and dessert.

Come and try one
1241 Poquonnock Road
Groton, CT 06340
Saturday, February 15th
5:00 - 6:30pm
PBBC Purple Room

We plan to feature 10 different soups or two or
all TEN!
\$10 donation

For more info or advance sales
please call 860-445-6126