

THE TIE that binds

February 2020



Poquonock Bridge Baptist Church
1241 Poquonock Road
Groton, CT 06340

True Love

For God so lo**V**ed the world,

That He g**A**ve

his on**L**y

Begott**E**n

So **N**

That whosoever

Believeth **I**n Him

Should **N**ot perish,

But have **E**verlasting life."

John 3:16

Pastor's Page



After Epiphany – Before Lent

Following the season of light as God's glory is revealed to the world, we hear stories that shed light on the beginning of Jesus' public ministry...remembering his baptism, the call of his disciples, his beatitudes (blessings) and his sermon on the mount.

Ash Wednesday Service

We gather on Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30pm for our Ash Wednesday Service. This is a meditative and reflective time of worship as we listen to scripture, sing hymns of contemplation, offer prayers for our journey, and receive the mark of ashes. The ashes symbolize forgiveness and healing, our return to God, our repentance for all that is broken in us and in the world, and our invitation to begin again with new spirit and clean hearts.

Bread and Broth Returns

We gather on Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm throughout the season of Lent, beginning on March 4th and ending on April 1st. We share a simple meal of soup and bread, enjoy conversations of faith around the tables, and follow Adam Hamilton's DVD series: "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life."

Stories We Have Recently Shared

"You're Here for a Reason"

By Nancy Tillman

"Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King"

By Jean Marzollo; illustrated by J. Brian Pinkney

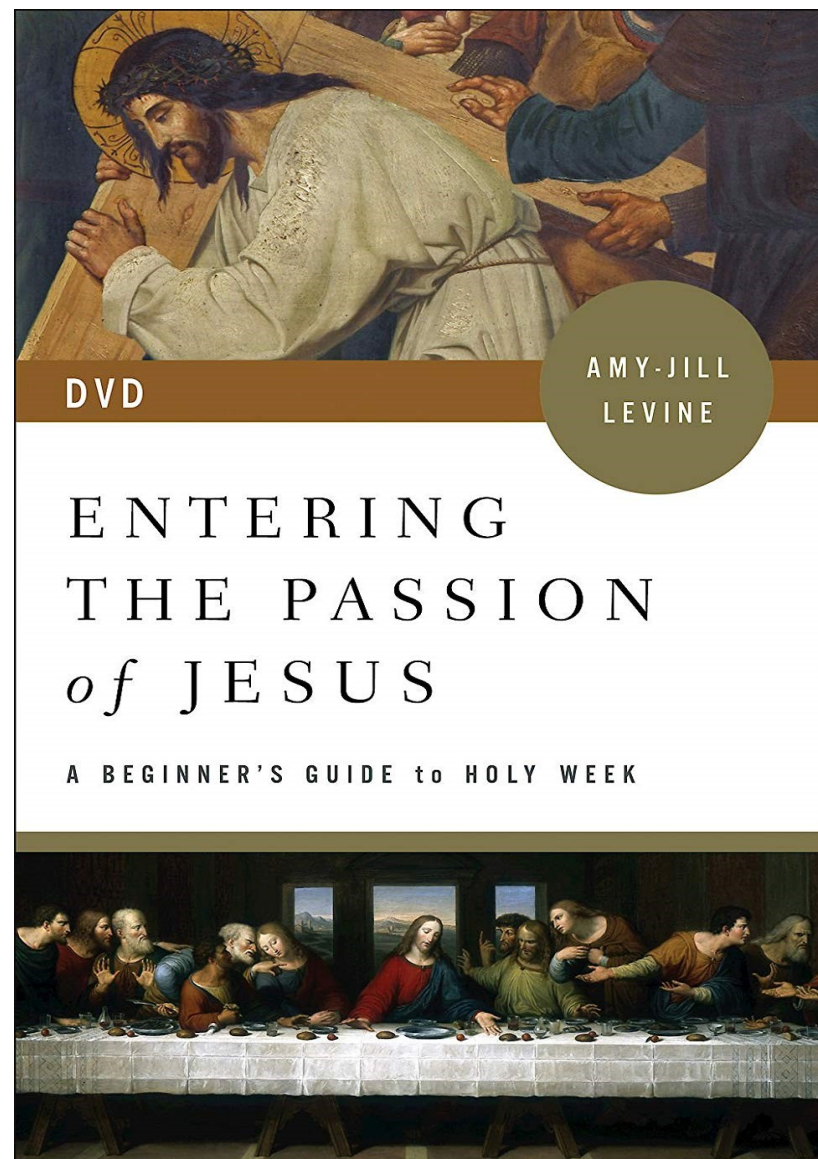
"Thank You, God"

By J. Bradley Wigger; illustrated by Jago

"Children of God: Storybook Bible"

By Archbishop Desmond Tutu

We will be studying this program at our Adult Sunday School prior to Holy Week...please join us! All are welcome!!!





Fusion Youth Ministry

Youth Bowling Spring Events!

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

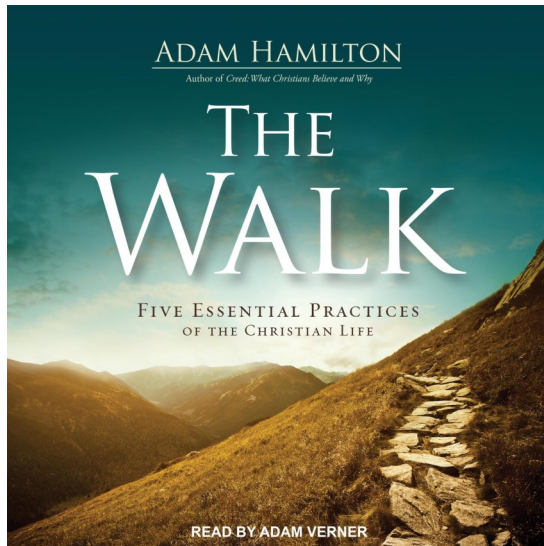
Join us Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 pm for our
Ash Wednesday Service

Followed by the following Wednesdays with

Bread and Broth Returns for Lent

We will gather each Wednesday evening, 5:30-6:30pm,
during Lent, beginning on March 4th and ending on April 1st.
We'll share a simple supper of soup and bread and join I faith
conversation around the tables.

This years' DVD series is called, "The Walk"
with Adam Hamilton.



Director of Youth Events *Courtney Assad*

Fusion Youth Ministry

119 High Street
Mystic, CT 06355
(860) 389-3904

www.fusionyouthministry.com

Please see the sign-up sheets in the Lounge if you plan to
attend, and be willing to make soup or provide bread.

A Little Church Humor



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

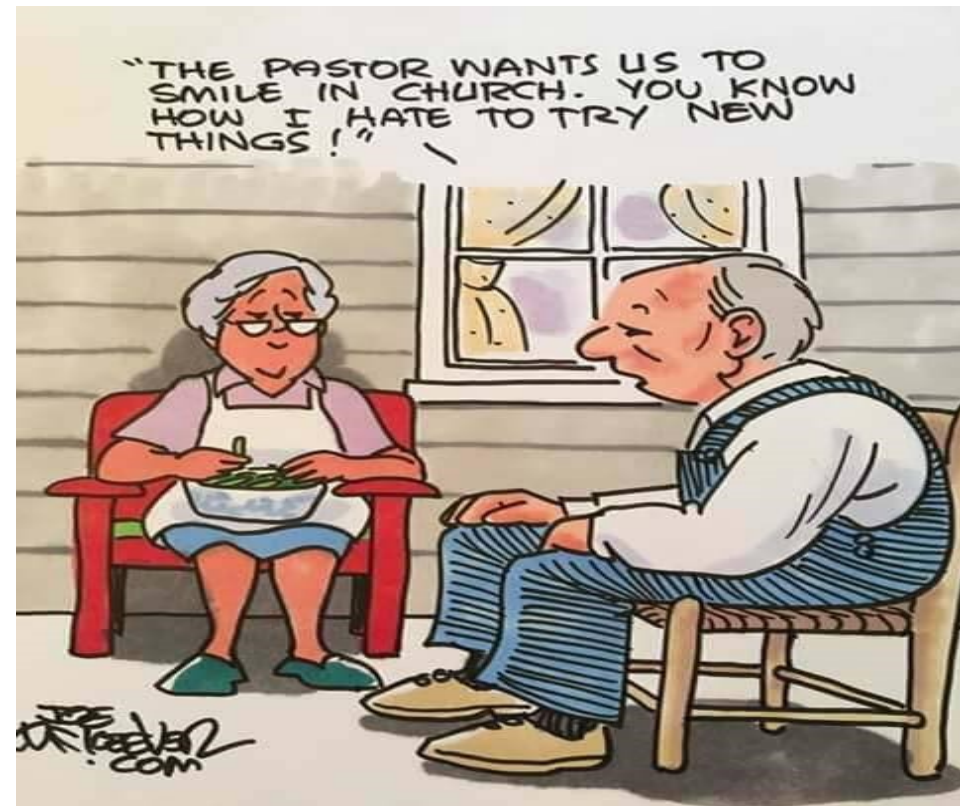
MARCH MINISTERS

Communion: Prepare: Richard Tourjee & Belle Jordan

Serve: : Richard Tourjee & Belle Jordan
Candy Zeppieri & Barbara Brant
Assist Pastor: Rick Tourjee

Lay Leader:

01 –Patti Tootell
08– Catherine Hiller
15 - Marilyn Rodearmel
22 - Pete Wong
29 - Holly Boyle



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



02-12-2010
SORRY FELLA, THE DRESS CODE STILL
APPLIES ON VALENTINES DAY



***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

MARCH

02 – Burt Crooks
07 – Josh Chomicz
10 - Mela Magno
11 – Claudine Crooks
11 – Ann Mauer
13 – Jennifer Kent
13 – Carla Berry
15 – Daniel Morton
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
29 – Portia Freeman
29 – Carol Case
31 – Aida Amuan



163rd Annual Meeting of Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

Feb 2, 2020

Members of the congregation convened for the meeting following a potluck luncheon, which itself was preceded by the morning worship and communion service. The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by Catherine Hiller, Moderator of the Church Council.

Devotions were read by Pastor Claudine.

Moderator Catherine thanked the Hospitality Committee for overseeing the wonderful meal preceding the meeting.

Minutes of Annual Meeting:

Catherine stated that as minutes of last year's meeting would take a considerable amount of time to read, and that as the membership was provided copies for review the preceding week, and opportunity to familiarize oneself with the minutes was provided, necessity of reading them could be disbanded. The membership affirmed Catherine's consideration to bypass the reading of last year's minutes. Catherine asked if there were any corrections to the report, or omissions needing to be included. There were none. Catherine stated that the report would be filed as written.

Interlude: before the review of reports it was announced that Pete Wong, after 37 years of excellent service as engineer at Electric Boat, was retiring. A hearty round of applause ensued.

Reports:

Pastor Claudine initiated the review of the Pastor's report, found in the booklet *Annual Reports Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church 2019*, a compilation of reports submitted by primary committees of Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church. She indicated the Pastor's Annual Report was a snapshot view of the church year from the perspective of "my life personally", witnessed as Pastor.

Reaching beyond the written report Pastor Claudine wanted to emphasize, secondary to many questions from the congregation, the Church was in no imminent, or foreseeable, threat of closing. Rather, planning for such an event, however unlikely, was the smart thing to do. Following, as one cannot predict the future, Pastor Claudine described how planning for end of life necessities likewise could be considered a smart thing to do. An upcoming program on February 23rd will regard such issues, the Rev. Kathryn Palen, elder care minister for the American Baptist Church of Rhode Island attending, as well as presiding over the second hour of the program, using the *Five Wishes* guide booklet.

Pastor Claudine discussed PBBC's status in social media, presented through Facebook and the church website. Sue Shontell is the new manager of the PBBC Facebook site, giving snapshots of services and promoting church activities. The PBBC's own website continues to be managed by Marvin Wong, along with help from Rachael and Dianne Dellarco and Barbara Brant. From this latter website audio versions of the sermon are available after permission has been granted by the webmasters.

Pastor Claudine highlighted the generosity of church members in giving to the Mission funds, and thanked them, there being an increase in pledges and more gifts. The "Top Ten" funds are for American Baptist organizations. The additional 6 entities are not budgeted, though there are goals to reach, which have always been met.

Pastor Claudine noted the impending adult classes, and content. She also mentioned the Bread and Broth series coming up and her own 30th ordination anniversary on the 30th of June. Addressing the Youth Ministry report Pastor Claudine said Courtney Assad could not attend the meeting, discussion of the Youth Ministry report would be bypassed.

The *Annual Reports Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church 2019* was further regarded. Carol Gatlin wished to have it noted, on page 11, *Mission and Outreach*, that Jennifer Kent was taking Second Sunday Food Collections to Groton Human Services.

There was no commentary on the other written submissions of annual reports of 2019, covering the Church Council, Mission and Outreach, Christian Education and Discipleship, the Hospitality Committee, Worship and Membership, Pastoral Relations, Building and Grounds, Stewardship and Finance, Report of the Historian, and Rental Property.



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





TALKING ABOUT YOUR WISHES

11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 23

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

1241 Poquonnock Road, Groton, CT

What wishes do you have for care and comfort at life's end?

What other wishes do you have for the end of your life?

With whom do you need to talk about those wishes?

Join us for this Second Hour program to reflect on those and other related questions. Participants will receive a copy of *Five Wishes*, which offers a complete approach to discussing and documenting your care and comfort choices, as well as additional resources to help you talk about your wishes with others.

To reserve your spot for this one-hour program, there is a sign-up sheet in the Lounge

Financial Statements

There were no corrections on the Benevolent Fund report.

The Memorial Fund report was noted to have a correction: the balance of \$21,754.90 should be \$21,754.10.

There were no corrections to the Mission Treasurer's Report.

The Treasure's Report elicited the question of accounting for the line item "Refund \$ 90". Pete Wong stated that it was returned money from the internet provider after cancellation of services.

There were no corrections to the General Funds Report, Mission Funds Report, or Memorial Fund Report.

It was noted the Treasurer's Fund has not yet been audited, as previously prescribed.

Old Business

There were no subjects presented to discuss.

New Business

Proposed General fund Budget: the proposed Operating Budget was discussed by Patti Tootell. Of note was Pastoral Ministry receiving an increase of 5%: 2.5% as standard increase, 2.5% as merit. Other items elicited no commentary. As the motion to approve the budget had previously been established by the Church Council the vote to approve the presented budget was taken and unanimously approved.

Subsequent to the approval of the budget it was noted the \$3,000 Contingency Fund allocation, line item 2.07, was for the purpose, if need be, to increase the remittance of a new choir director and organist.

Proposed Mission Budget: the proposed Mission and Outreach Budget was regarded. Pete Wong pointed out the projected goals of 2020 remained the same as 2019, not being budgeted items, rather gifts.

As the motion to approve the Mission and Outreach budget had previously been established by committee of the same the vote to approve the budget was taken and unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee Report: Dave Rowley read the names of the nominees to the Church Council, referencing page 31 of Annual Reports Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church 2019. There were none opposed to those nominated for the vacant positions. Nominations for the vacancies were approved.

Proposed New By-Law, Article X: Catherine Hiller discussed the need to be proactive is the case PBBC should find itself in a situation of potential dissolution. The intent of the new proposed By-Law, Article X, was written to address such concerns of dissolution. Many people worked on the proposed By-Law. It would insure a transition with clearly defined outcomes. The Rev. Burt Crooks pointed out that state laws are complex, and in place determinants of what should befall a church, should it find itself no longer able to carry on financially, are able to positively assist impacted congregations. Newly elected Moderator Dave Rowley accepted a motion by the Rev. Burt Crooks to approve Article X into the church By-Laws, which motion was seconded by Charlie Freeman. The vote by the congregation was unanimous in approving Article X and adding it to Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church By-Laws.

Wrapping up the meeting was a request by Belle Jordan for tag sale items, and a mention by Richard Tourjee that the leaking hot water tank is being replaced. The meeting was concluded with a vigorous round of applause for Catherine Hiller in recognition for her exemplary work as Moderator, having retired from the position.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Greene, Clerk



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 3-4:30 pm

Mystic Congregational Church

GREEN FORUM ON STATE LEGISLATION

In last year's state legislative session, we showed what it looks like when we stand together to pass environmental legislation on the local and state level that will not only protect our state, but also send a message to national legislators that we need action!

This environmental legislation forum will cover:

- Toxic chemicals, pesticides, and PFAS
- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Plastics
- Forests and carbon sequestration

Despite the progress made last year, there is still a lot more work to do. Connecticut has an active legislative session coming up. Join us as we learn about important legislation.

Hosted and sponsored by Mystic Congregational Church and co-sponsored by the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network.

RSVP at:

<https://mysticforumonstatelegislation.eventbrite.com>

Visit www.irejn.org for more information.

SPEAKERS

Anne Hulick—Clean Water Action

Samantha Dynowski—Sierra Club

Jennifer Siskind—Food and Water Watch

Amy Paterson—CT Land Conservation Council

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