

# THE TIE that binds

March 2020



Poquonock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonock Road  
Groton, CT 06340



## Pastor's Page



### Words for Lent

We receive the gift of a “word” for our Lenten journey.

Find a place to keep it at home or carry it with you.

Look at it; listen to it; google it; define it.

Play with it; pray with it; watch for it; wait for it.

It might be a gift you need to hold onto for yourself.

It might be a lesson you need to learn from the world itself.

Something to notice or work on; something to keep or give away.

Take solace from your word; ask questions of it.

Be challenged by it; ignore it and see if it goes away.

Have fun with it; use your imagination; live with it; learn from it.

May your word be a blessing for you and for others.

### Bread and Broth Returns

We gather on Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm throughout the season of Lent, beginning on March 4<sup>th</sup> and ending on April 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.”

### Adult Sunday School Class

During the season of Lent we gather on Sunday mornings for a new DVD series with Amy-Jill Levine called,

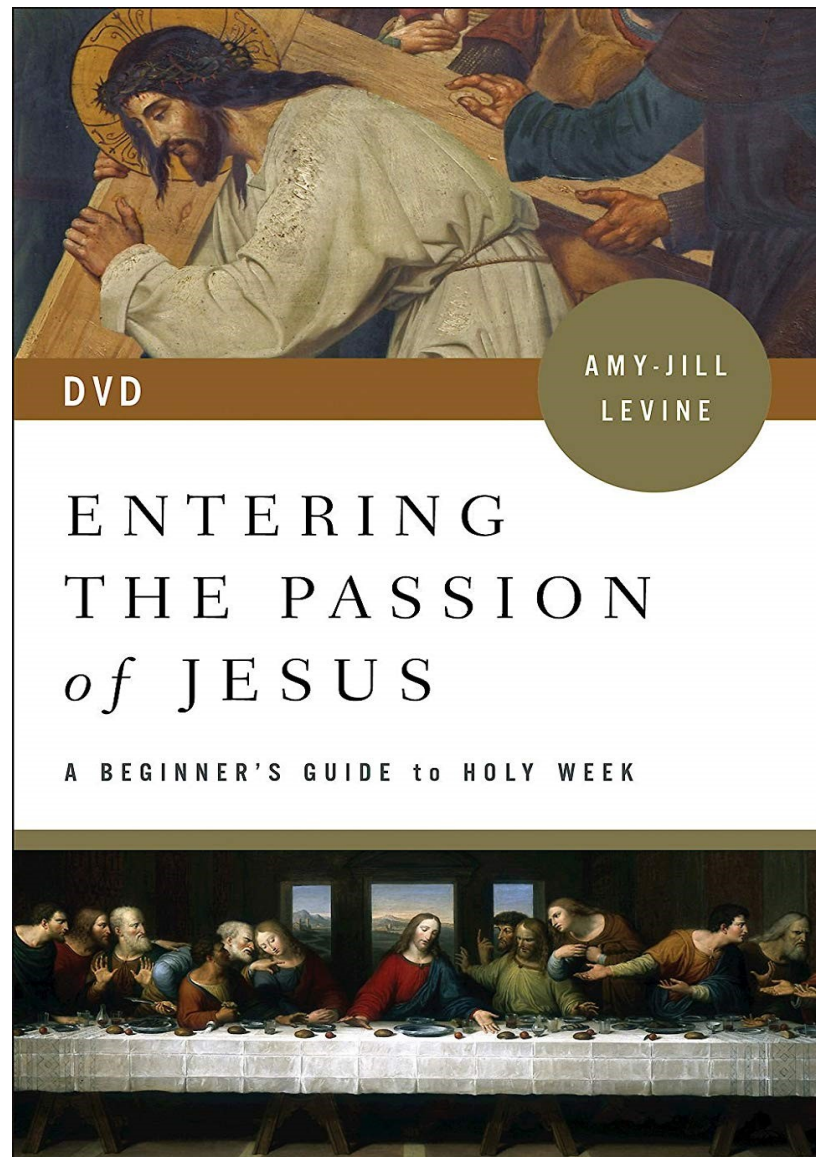
“Entering the Passion of Jesus:

A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week”

### America for Christ Offering

Throughout the months of March and April, and at our Bread and Broth gatherings, we will receive gifts for the America for Christ Offering. This offering supports local, regional and national ministries here in the United States and in Puerto Rico.

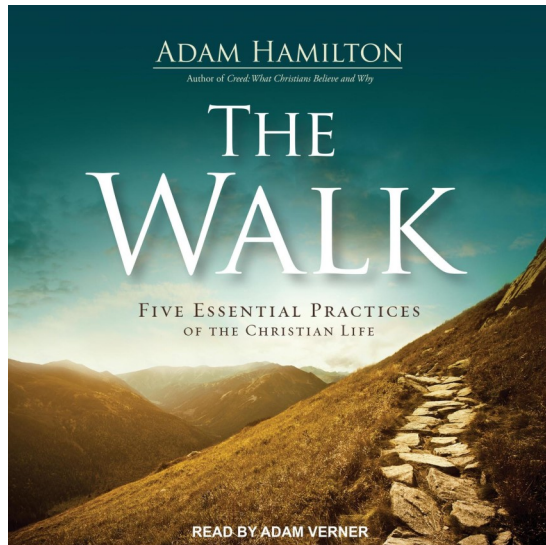
We will be studying this program at our Adult Sunday School prior to Holy Week...please join us! All are welcome!!!



## 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.

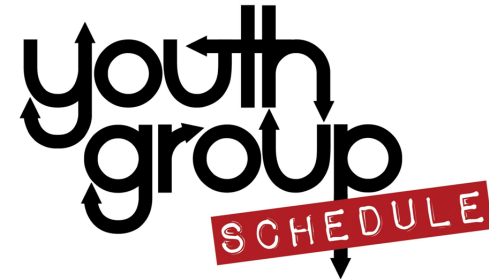
This years' DVD series is called, "The Walk" with Adam Hamilton.



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

## *Fusion Youth Ministry*

### Spring Events!



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](http://www.fusionyouthministry.com)

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## A Little Church Humor



### 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

### APRIL MINISTERS

**Communion:** Prepare: Bob & Carolyn Land

Serve: Bob & Carolyn Land  
Jonathan Liu & Li Ling Liu

Assist Pastor: Charley Freeman

**Lay Leader**

05 - Dave Rowley  
12 - Catherine Greenfield  
19 - Becky Freeman  
26 - Rick Tourjee



### CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"You can always tell when he's going to preach from the book of Romans!"



**"No Gerald, it was NOT Willie Nelson on the road to Damascus."**



***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!**



## **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

## **APRIL**

01 - Irving Hiller  
05- Jonathan Liu  
08 – Anita Nelson  
10- Mark Mundell  
10 – Reese Friedman  
16 – Liz Rousseau  
17 – Stephen Morton  
21 – Nancy Spalluto  
21 – Wilfred Vars  
22- David Augeri  
23 – Beth Sherman  
26 – Becky Freeman



Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

**Call to Order:** Vice Moderator Dick Tourjee called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Devotions:** Joe led devotions.

**Minutes to February Meetings:** Dick suggested the previous Council Meeting Minutes not be read aloud for review unless requested, there were no requests.

**Communications:** There were no communications.

**Benevolence:** Marilyn reported a balance of \$554.78 in the Benevolence Fund.  
**Ministry and Committee Reports**

**Worship & Membership:** Peg and Portia reported the following, Portia reading: "Bread and Broth begins Wednesday at 5:30 PM. Portia and peg will lead the first session. It will run for five weeks, ending on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Adult class started a new series for Lent yesterday (March 1<sup>st</sup>). Charley will lead class on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Holy Week: On Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Palm Sunday and Communion as part of Passion Week story. Tenebrae Table will be prepared for that day. On Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> we have been invited to gather at the Ledyard-Gales Ferry Baptist Church for a shared Maundy Thursday service at 6:30. We will provide readers and participants as needed. On Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> we will have our Good Friday service here at noon. On Sunday April 11<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Easter morning.

Thank you to all who helped prepare the sanctuary for Lent, and all who helped prepare for our Ash Wednesday service. Many participated and we were blessed to share in such a meaningful worship experience.

Special thanks to the Tourjee's for our new cross.

Pastor Claudine is away this week, returning to the office on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Rev. Bonita Grubbs will be our guest preacher on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>."

**Hospitality:** Cathy addressed the issue of left over refreshments, stating unopened left over refreshments will be frozen for future use but that opened leftovers will have to be either given away or returned to the providers.

**Education & Discipleship:** Dianne said "new entertainment" seen with the youth music and signing presentation demonstrated it was working out well, that another presentation may be pending for Easter.



American Baptist Churches of CT  
90 A North Main Street  
West Hartford, CT 06107-1924



### Covid19 Coronavirus



Blessings, and greetings in the matchless and the Holy Name of the risen Christ.

I have been watching all of the updates on the Coronavirus, as I am sure you have too. I have felt helpless and, at times, worried about its impact on the world. I want you to know that I am praying with and for you, as you seek the wisdom of God on how to best address the effects of the virus in your church and surrounding community.

Therefore, I am writing to you my sisters and brothers in light of the rapid spread of the Covid 19 bug that is filling our world with concern, fright, and even death. These are unique times, and the church is being called to stand up and be a voice of faith and reason by modeling best practices based on the scientific evidence. Here are three links to the CDC that you may reference for best methods to help you navigate these uncharted waters. This first link is what to do if you get sick: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/steps-when-sick.html>; this second link is specific to the community and Faith-based organizations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html>; this third link is regarding the implementation of mitigation strategies for communities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>. I hope these CDC links will be helpful as you and your church family love, care, and respect one another.

In closing, if nothing else, the virus has shown me that despite State, Nation, Culture, or any other thing that we have used to build walls that isolate us from one another are all an illusion. We are one humanity, and we must learn to love, care, and respect each other because we are our brother's and sister's keeper.

With Hope,

Harry

## It's Tag Sale Time Again

When: We do not know as of this printing!  
Possibly sometime in May...but in the mean time  
We are still taking donations of:

Donations of clean clothing

Household items in good condition

Appliances

Furniture

Jewelry

Games and puzzles

Linens

Lawn mowers, leaf blowers, chainsaws, tools of any  
kind!

Bake sale items (Saturday Only)

Tell your friends and neighbors!

So it is time to clean out those basements and attics,  
garages and storage sheds!!!

All monies go into the General Fund. We have a goal of  
\$10,000 and we need more "STUFF" in order to achieve  
this goal!

**Mission & Outreach:** Carol stated 23 bags of food had been collected for the Groton Food Locker from the Second Sunday food collection. Jennifer Kent continues to see it is delivered. Carol also discussed the America for Christ Offering 2020 collection options through three venues: a) boxes, b) envelopes, both available at regular Sunday survives, and c) a basket available at the Bread and Broth gatherings. The donations collected go to the American Baptist Home Mission Society to assist Americans after disasters.

**Building & Grounds:** Alex reported the Tourjee's, father and son, took care of the gap in the parking lot fence. The furnace has been cleaned by Anderson Oil. The snow contract is firm and runs to April. Jeff Kent kindly has agreed to continue mowing the grass in front of the church for free. Dick Tourjee has kindly agreed to continue cutting the grass by the parsonage for free. Dick also fixed the ceiling on the third floor. As if Dick had not done enough he reported that he fixed the toilet in the men's room, also an electrical outlet, and saw to it that after the hot water heater had been replaced the air valve on the high port was fixed.

**Old Business:** there was no old business to review.

### **New Business:**

Marilyn asked \$250.00 be earmarked for Groton Community Meals, explaining the value. Marilyn then made a motion for the transfer of funds, Holly seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved. Patti initiated a discussion on the cost of raffle tickets for the quilt made by church members offered at the Holiday Bazaar. Two dollar, three dollar and five dollar ticket prices were regarded by the Council. In hopes that a two dollar ticket might trigger more ticket sales Patti made the motion that raffle tickets sell for two dollars, Holly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Holly wanted to know if there was any interest in the church participating in Groton's Fourth of July Parade with a float. She discussed previous Groton parades and asked for input about the idea.

Dick relayed Ron Land's interest in changing light bulbs in the vestry to LED's. Initially it would cost 15-16 dollars more but save on electricity and result in the bulbs being changed less often. Rick made the motion to let Ron do what he determines best, Dianne seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

A note from Catherine Hiller asked that it be mentioned the curtains in the sanctuary need to be cleaned. It was also noted the ceiling fans need to be cleaned. Discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Joseph Greene, Clerk





## A Note of Thanks from Groton Human Services

*On behalf of this department and the Town of Groton, we would like to thank you for your recent donation to the Groton Food Locker.*

*The Food Locker, which is administered by Groton Human Services, operates under the auspices of the Mystic Congregational Church. The Food Locker provides food and other items to Groton households in need of emergency assistance.*

*Donations such as yours make it possible for us to maintain an adequate supply of non-perishable food, personal hygiene items, basic household cleaning supplies, baby formula and diapers.*

*Thank you, for helping us help others!*

*Groton Human Services*

February 25, 2020

Dear Friends at Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church,

Thank yu very much for you ongoing support via ABCUSA. We at camp truly appreciate all that you do for Camp Wightman.

Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,  
Holly Blacker  
Interim Director, Camp Wightman

P.S. please come and visit!



*The Food Locker is currently low on Spaghetti Sauce/Spaghetti*



*Grape Jelly*

*Cereal/ Shelf Stable Milk*



*Apple Juice*

