

# THE TIE that binds

## September 2025

1241 Poquonnock Road, Groton, Connecticut 06340

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[www.pbcgroton.org](http://www.pbcgroton.org)



### **Autumn Blessing**

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with  
the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,  
may the earlier setting of the sun  
remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves  
remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air ‘  
remind us that it is you who gives us  
the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us  
of the abundance we have been given and  
bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer’s spirit remind  
us of your great promise that death is  
temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever  
and ever. Amen.

## Pastor's Page

### Hebrews 13: 1-2

*Let mutual love continue.  
Do not neglect  
to show hospitality to strangers,  
for by doing that  
some have entertained angels  
without knowing it.*

Thankfully, we do know it...  
that week after week we have entertained angels in our  
midst; that we have gathered for worship each Sunday to  
welcome strangers and neighbors among us; that we have  
shown hospitality to our friends and family both near  
and far; that we are blessed to receive new members  
into our congregation; and that we are doing our best  
to let mutual love continue.

Please join me in extending the Right Hand of  
Fellowship to these individuals who are joining the church:

John Bennett  
Andrea Buell  
Allison Smith  
Will Filosi  
Carol Vocolina  
Jim Vocolina  
Bill Wilbur

May God bless their lives of faith and their stories of love!

## SEPTEMBER MINISTERS

### Lay Leaders:

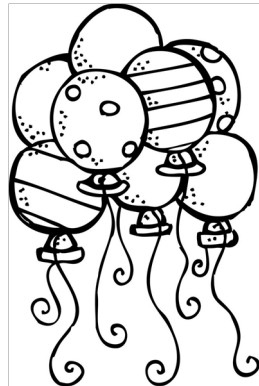
07 - Pete Wong  
14 - Carol Rowley  
21 - Carol Gatlin  
28 - Marilyn Rodearmel

### Serving Communion:

Mei Ling Liu, Wynonna Tuang,  
Sandy Vocolina, Pete Wong  
Preparing Communion: Mei Ling Liu & Pete Wong  
Assisting Pastor: Kathy Piscitello

### September birthdays

01—Bob Startz  
07—Charles Freeman  
08—Dawn Bassett  
08—Diane Collins  
13—Shirley Lamb  
15—Julia Boyle  
17—Parker Friedman  
19—Cheryl Mundell  
20—Betty Land  
21—Richard Tourjee, Jr.  
21—June Nunes  
22—Jane Startz  
30—Zayden Vocolina



# **Celebration of Life for Cindy Soler**

**Saturday, September 6, 2025**

**At 11 a.m. in the sanctuary**

A reception hosted by Cindy's family and Hospitality will be held downstairs immediately following the service

## **Notice of Special Congregational Meeting**

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 7, 2025 immediately following the worship service for the purpose of voting on new members.

We will welcome new members with the Right Hand of Fellowship Sunday, September 14, 2025.

## ***Second Sunday Food Collection— September 14...***

### ***Don't forget...***

Canned soups & pastas, spaghetti sauce, pasta, cereals, etc. are all much appreciated. Don't forget you can also contribute bagged and canned food for your four legged friends in need.



## ***It's Apple Festival Time...***

***The annual gathering of apple peelers and slicers, crust makers and pie bakers will begin Wednesday, September 14 at 9 a.m.***



Our annual Apple Festival will be held on Saturday, October 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pie making, including peeling and slicing many apples, will take place in the church kitchen and vestry on Wednesdays Sept. 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22 and Friday Oct. 24, beginning at 9 a.m. All are welcome! Come when you can - many hands make light work! Donations are appreciated - money for apples and ingredients, granulated sugar, light brown sugar, stick butter and Crisco cans. More information coming soon on placing advance orders.

## ***Church Directory Updates***

Have you moved?

Changed your phone number or email address?

If so, please let the church office know. We hope to issue an updated directory in September.

## **Quilt Raffle Tickets are available for purchase.**

They are sold in books of 10 tickets for \$20. This year the PBBC Church Mice have created two lovely quilts—one a lap size quilt in blue for those chilly nights coming soon.

Contact the church office or a member of the Church Mice for tickets.

## *Church Council Updates*

Although there was no Council meeting in July, the pace of activities only picked up: completed remediation of the church's electrical system to a single breaker panel, conversion of all kitchen lighting fixtures to longer-life LED, replacement of rental home refrigerator, replacement of office computer with a laptop with spam-protection software, labeling of rooms and spaces consistent with evacuation plans,



power-washing and scraping rental house and applying prime coat in readiness for paint (likely freshly applied and drying as you read this!). Refurbishing the exterior of the rental house is a major project and help is still needed; please watch for your opportunity to contribute - many hands

lighten the load! The church lounge has a new plug for the mini-fridge and is cooled by a newly donated A/C unit. Sunday School is on summer break but the children planted a productive raised-bed garden. We are working thru administrative details for insurance compliance, planning for ongoing use of spaces, mid-year auditor review of financial accounts, expansion of Memorial Plaque and memorial donor book, and heating oil projections. Hot fudge sauce (homemade!) and strawberry topping (homemade!) on vanilla ice cream, with whipped cream and pecans, went wonderfully with fellowship time in the middle of summer as a tasty love-offering event.



The next Council meeting is Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Vestry.

## **September Mission Corner**

### **Church World Service— Tools of Hope**

*For God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. - Psalms 107:9*

A Harvest of Hope begins with you!

Hope begins with the right tools. Through your generosity, families gain access to seeds, tools and even chickens—empowering them to grow their own food and build a sustainable future, both in the U.S. and around the world. Every shovel, garden tool and watering can is a blessing in the hands of those working toward a better future.

At PBBC we traditionally honor mothers or those who have been like mothers to us in May with our Blankets of Love offering on Mother's Day. In September, around Labor Day, we honor fathers or those who have been important men in our lives with Tools of Hope. All donations as well as who the donations were given in honor or memory of will be noted in a future bulletin and Tie.

#### **Women's Retreat at Camp Wightman on Friday, November 7-8, 2025**

Stay overnight Friday or just for the day on Saturday. Breakfast and lunch will be served on Saturday. See Barbara Brant for more details or send her an email at [clbrant22@comcast.net](mailto:clbrant22@comcast.net).

More details will follow in the coming weeks.



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