

# THE TIE that binds

## August 2018



### **Busy, Busy Me**

Poet: Greta Zwaan, ©2018

My life is filled with service for family, church and friends,  
The needs seem overwhelming, it simply never ends.  
One friend is terribly lonely, and no one seems to care,  
I try to see her often; her life seems dull and bare.

My other friend is crying, she's struggling with her grief,  
I listen to her story, which helps to bring relief.  
My neighbour's arm was broken when she fell in her yard,  
And even doing dishes, she finds so very hard.

I'm glad that I am healthy, there's things that I can do,  
To make their burden lighter, to help to get them through.  
But then an illness hits me, and suddenly I am down,  
I fret and stew and worry, I just can't get around.

But these folks need attention, I've got to help them through!  
Then comes the quiet whisper, "I can do that for you."  
"My dear, you're very busy, you're running at full speed,  
But you don't seem to notice your own most private need.

Your time with Me is shortened; at best I get a glance;  
You read the Word I wrote you, just when you get a chance.  
It's time for a refresher, it's time for a review,  
Your busy life is altered; now I take care of you."

So quickly I remember, it's God I set aside;  
I scatter crumbs of mercy, but God's Word is denied.  
The time I need for gathering the gems it has in store,  
My engine needs refueling before I tackle more.

God has not caused this illness; I know His hands can heal,  
Yet on my bed of sickness, I know my needs were real.  
A need that I be quiet and listen to Him speak,  
His presence is more precious than good deeds that I seek.

## Pastor's Page



### The Awesome Month of August!

#### Sunday, August 5th

We gather for Worship and Communion, celebrating the unity of the Spirit and our oneness in Jesus Christ.

Come and share the Bread of Life at the Lord's Table!

#### Sunday, August 12th

During worship we will celebrate our Prayer Shawl Ministry, singing and praying words of blessing for new shawls.

We receive our Second Sunday Food Collection.

#### Sunday, August 19th

Our young people visit friends at the Regency.

We gather after worship with those who are planning to join or considering joining Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church.

We will receive new members in the fall!

#### Sunday, August 26th

We take time to consider our Stewardship and the offering of our gifts in a Last But Not Least mission moment during worship.

We gather again with those who would like to join the church.

#### Books the Children have Shared with Pastor Claudine this summer...

***"The Marvelous Mustard Seed"***

by Amy-Jill Levine & Sandy Eisenberg Sasso

***"Blue Sky White Stars"*** by Sarvinder Naberhaus

***"I Am Enough"*** by Grace Byers

***"The Dot"*** by Peter H. Reynolds

***"The Legend of Mackinac Island"*** by Kathy-jo Wargin.

# YOUTH NEWS

Fusion Youth Ministry

YOUTHCOOPDIRECTOR@GMAIL.COM

Join our texting service! Opt in to get text notifications for upcoming events and newsletter links. Email me at [youthcoopdirector@gmail.com](mailto:youthcoopdirector@gmail.com) with your name and number (or your child's) to start receiving text messages about upcoming activities. Very beneficial for those that don't check email often!



Parking Fundraiser  
Union Baptist Church  
August 11 & 12 2018

## IMPORTANT!!!!

We will be having our annual parking fundraiser on Mystic Outdoor Art Festival Weekend. Proceeds from this fundraiser support Fusion so the staffing is entirely led by the youth. Please sign up for a shift to help with parking cars and giving out water/lemonade. Last year we raised \$2,400 which goes towards our programs and keeps costs low for outings.



## AUGUST MINISTERS

**Communion: Prepare: Bob Land and Peg Straub**

**Serve: Bob Land and Peg Straub**

**Catherine Hiller**

**Holly Boyle**

**Assist Pastor: Belle Jordan**

**Lay Leader**

**05 –Holly Boyle**

**12– Dennis Piscitello**

**19 – Dianne Dellarco**

**26 - Barbara Brant**

## SEPTEMBER MINISTERS

**Communion: Prepare: Pete Wong & Mei Ling Liu**

**Serve: Pete Wong**

**Mei Ling Liu**

**Dianne Dellarco**

**Rick Tourjee**

**Assist Pastor: Kathy Piscitello**

**Lay Leader**

**02 –Dave Rowley**

**09 - Barbara Brant**

**16 - Alex Lew**

**23 - Rick Toujee**

**30 - Mei Ling Liu**





## **AUGUST**

- 02 – Dianne Dellarco
- 04 - Marc Friedman
- 05 - Jeff Lew
- 10 - Beth Rumery
- 10 – Catherine Hespeler
- 12 – Jennifer Akesson
- 17 - Dante Dellarco
- 20 – Sharon Anderson
- 20 – Amanda Tourjee
- 29 - Cathy Greenfield

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 08 – Dawn Bassett
- 13 – Shirley Lamb
- 17 – Parker Friedman
- 19 – Cheryl Mundell
- 20 – Betty Land
- 21 - Richard Tourjee, Jr.
- 21 – June Nunes



Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 6, 2018

Our moderator, Catherine Hiller, opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Alex Lew led us in devotions.

**Review of the May meeting minutes:**

Catherine Hiller summarized the minutes from the June and Special Meeting in July and they will be filed as printed and emailed.

**Communications:**

Alex Lew said he received a letter from Densmore oil looking for our business. They would give us a price cap of \$2.87 per gallon – more will follow under new business. Catherine did inform us that a letter had gone out to the tenants regarding care of outside property.

• **Benevolence:**

Marilyn reported - the August offering was \$37 - Paid out \$71- balance of \$521.77

**Pastor's Report: :**

Prayer Shawl Blessing to be this Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and we are blessed to be able to include shawls given to us by Old Mystic Baptist Church.

- Two New Members Gatherings – August 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> – will choose the date for the Right Hand of Fellowship once we know schedules of those joining.
- The First Baptist Church of North Stonington (Pendleton Hill) will be celebrating their 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2 pm – All are invited
- ABCCONN will have Mission and Stewardship gathering “Come Join the Dance” on September 29<sup>th</sup>. More info will be included in the TIE
- The Rev. Tim Chesser will be preaching November 4<sup>th</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup>.

• **Deacon and Committee Reports:**

**Buildings/Grounds:**

Kudos to Brian and Alex for getting the roof project done which included the insurance portion of the job right through dealing with the contractor!

- While they had the contractor here – they took advantage and got an estimate for replacing the flat roof. As many of us know – this room has been leaking and has caused a lot of damage over the years – a flat roof in New England is never good!!! To replace the entire flat roof the cost would be \$30,000. As we gasped aloud – they will seek a few more bids and research raising up one side so it would no longer be flat.
- The Rental Property garage has been an issue for some time. It is falling apart and for years we have not wanted to take away from the value of the property, however, it has now become more of a liability than anything else. A new 10 X 20 Structure can be obtained for about \$4,000. Once again Brian and Alex have accepted the job of researching this project as well.
- Talking about another work day in the fall – to finish up jobs not completed in the spring!

### **Education & Discipleship:**

- Rally Day will be next month – followed by a Pot Luck Luncheon at 11:30 am
- They are researching new curriculum because we have the delightful opportunity for much younger pupils in our Sunday school – ABCCONN may have something for the varied age group.

### **Mission and Outreach:**

- Many thanks to all those who walked, rode, and participated in the HEATED Fourth of July Parade. It was a wonderful outreach.
- Speaking of outreach our Craft Ladies displayed some of their works at the North Stonington Fair and came home with 32 Blue ribbons!!! Great job ladies. They took that money and paid the fee to be at the Ledyard Farmer's Market for the remainder of the season. It is held each Wednesday from now until the end of September. Last week they earned \$80 – Good job crafters!
- The Youth Fusion Group held a picnic at Esker Point and was well attended. We have 3 youth from our church participating. Many fun activities are being planned for the fall.
- Tools of Hope Offering will be September 2<sup>nd</sup>
- World Mission Offering will be October
- Crop Walk on October 14<sup>th</sup> – more info will be put into the bulletin and TIE as time approaches
- Donations of Second Sunday Food Collections have been outstanding – keep up the good work!

### **Worship & Membership:**

New Members gatherings on August 19<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>.

- Right Hand of Fellowship (date to be determined)
- Claudine thanked everyone for the wonderful attendance this summer!

### **Hospitality:**

- Sandy thanked everyone for all the donations – the coffee fund now has \$213
- Marilyn suggested that we put something into the bulletin or the TIE to encourage more people to become involved with providing refreshments.
- She also suggested that folks bring their own coffee mugs or cups and put your name on them if you have a particular fondness for using your same mug or cup each week.
- Thank you to Sue Shontell for revising/resizing the Communion Card located in the pew racks

### **PRC:**

- PRC will meet in September
- September 16<sup>th</sup> a Pastoral Evaluation form will be passed out to the congregation – this is at the request of Pastor Claudine. Darrel thanked Sue Shontell for redesigning the form to fit our needs.

### **Nominating committee:**

In September we will have a new Church Clerk – Heidi Butler has graciously accepted the post.

- Patti also noted those members who will be coming off the Council next year – they are:

## Council minutes cont.

Patti Tootell – Vice Moderator

Alex Lew – Buildings and Grounds

Ron Land – Finance

Peg Straub – Worship and Membership

Dave Rowley – Finance

If you are interested in serving your church in any of these positions – please see Patti

- **Old Business:**

- **Safe Church:**

Dave and his committee have spoken and brought awareness to the choir, the ushers, lay leaders and greeters. Holly Boyle will in turn put together the minutes of these sessions and they will be forthcoming.

- **OMBC stained glass window:**

- This is a work in progress and hope that it will be completed soon.

- **New Business:**

- **Roadside Signage**

- John Rodearmel has noticed that our signs along the roadside are in terrible shape. He has volunteered to make them anew - adding our name to them and not the time of worship and to replace them in their designated areas. Holly Boyle made the motion to approve and Marilyn Benson seconded – after little discussion the motion was carried.
- Peg Straub motioned that we replace the antiquated and not working up to capacity air conditioners in both the church office and in the Pastor's office. Marilyn Benson seconded – the discussion was that books were molding and the copies was jamming because the moisture in both rooms. Dick Tourjee, who usually insists on awaiting council approval went out and purchased two new dehumidifiers because the need was dire, however they are not enough. The motion was carried unanimously. Ron Land almost volunteered to purchase the air conditioners.
- Mei Ling said she received the new contracts from Anderson Oil – they must be signed by the end of August. Holly Boyle made a motion that we stay with Anderson Oil and the same package as we had from the past two years. Li Ling seconded. A discussion followed about Densmore's letter and found that they were much more expensive. Then it was mentioned that Anderson has been more than accommodating and reliable. The motion was approved purchase

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Next meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.

Devotions: Mei Ling Liu

Submitted by: Barbara Brant





**A note of 'thanks' for the trial size products that were donated.  
There is a basket for your continued donations in the Lounge.  
Shampoo - toothpaste-soap - any and all toiletries are needed**



**New London  
Hospitality Center**

July 3, 2018

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
Attn: Pastor Claudine Crooks  
1241 Poquonnock Road  
Groton, CT 06340

Dear Members of the Congregation,

Thank you very much for your recent donation of hygiene products for our out-reach program. These items are always in high demand, so we are doubly grateful for your gift. All of us—including the people we serve—appreciate your commitment to those who are experiencing homelessness in southeastern Connecticut.

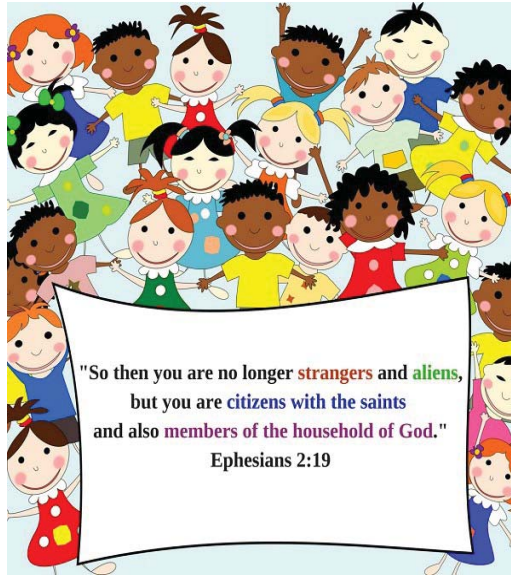
So often it is the seemingly little things that brighten someone's day, like a fresh bottle of shampoo or some good hand lotion. We are grateful for your kindness and know that it will make a very big difference in the lives of our guests.

The challenges that lead to homelessness are significant—a job loss, mental health problems, substance abuse—and the path of escape is difficult. Your support makes it easier for our guests to get back on their feet while they work to rebuild their lives.

Thank you again, and best wishes from all of us.

Sincerely,

Barb Nagy  
Development Manager



**Do you enjoy the refreshments after church each Sunday?  
Do you have that cup of coffee/tea along with fellowship following  
worship?**

**If so would you like to bring you own mug/cup to have each  
week. Please feel free to do so...but remember—if you like that  
cup and would like it for your private use—please put your name  
on it!**

**Also would you like your name added to the small list of regular  
volunteers that bring refreshments each week?**

**If so—please sign up in the Lounge**

**The sheets are there to sign up from now until the  
end of the year!  
Share that special recipe with your church family...  
We will all enjoy it!!!**





## **Mission and Stewardship Day**

**Saturday, September 29, 2018**

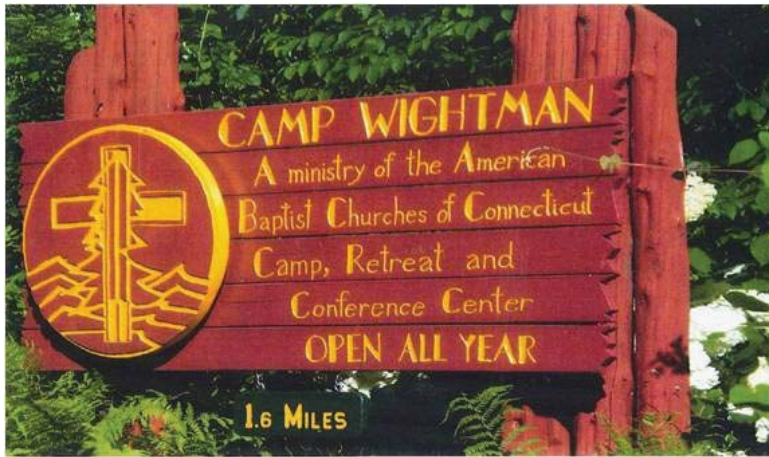
**Central Baptist Church, Norwich**

**Our 3rd annual Mission and Stewardship Day, Come Join the Dance**, will be on **September 29th, from 8:30am to 3pm at the [Central Baptist Church of Norwich](#).**

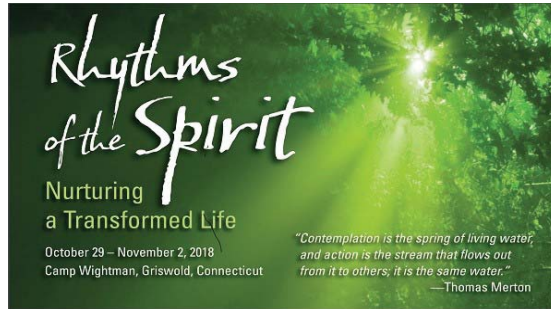
Come celebrate 'Unity in Diversity' as we move to the rhythm, dancing to God's heartbeat!

Planned activities will include a Culturama or Cultural Showcase of food, national dress, and music. We will again be presenting several Workshops and we anticipate that the Praise and Worship sessions will not only draw us together as one people under God but draw us closer to the triune God as we "join His dance." Also, Mission t-shirts will be available for a small donation with all proceeds given to United Missions.

We encourage you to respond to the calls and information that will be given to you through telephone contact, e-mails, the weekly e-News and ABCCONN's website.



## News from Camp Wightman



**Do you struggle for balance between prayer and activity?**

**Do you long for a more quiet, centered time for silence and reflection?**

**The conference, offered in a retreat style is a unique opportunity to explore and practice the transformed life together.**

**“Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive. - Howard Thurman**

Download registration from at [www.rhythmsofthespirit.com](http://www.rhythmsofthespirit.com) or call

Holly Blacker 860-376-2179

# A Little Church Humor

## CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



**“You’re doing a good job as an usher,  
but its called an offering, not a sin tax.”**

© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com



**“Acme Excavating. Faith speaking.”**

**As many of you know we have a Facebook account and pictures may be posted. Please see and adhere to below if applicable.**

**\*By attending services and events of the Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church (PBBC), I give my consent for myself and minors in my charge for photos to be used in print or electronic media and be displayed on sites owned or sponsored by the PBBC. If you object it must be written, signed and delivered to the church secretary.  
Thank you**

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**Participate in the 2018 Lay Ministry Institute! Dr. William B. Sutton III, Pastor of First Baptist, Stratford will lead each session.**

**Save The Dates:**

**CYCLE 1: August 10-15 (at Camp Wightman)**

**CYCLE 2: September 14-15**

**CYCLE 3: November 10**

If you would like to participate, please contact the ABCCONN Office right away! Call 860-521-5421 or email [abcconn@abcconn.org](mailto:abcconn@abcconn.org).



**First Baptist Church  
793 Pendleton Hill Road  
North Stonington, CT 06359**

**Is celebrating 275 years of spreading  
God's word.**

**September 23, 2018  
2 pm**

Nearly 33 years prior to the founding of the United States of America, First Baptist Church of North Stonington, CT was established (275 years ago!) Since September 1743, the church has been actively spreading the word of God and proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. To honor this milestone, we have planned a celebration and sincerely hope you can join us for praise, song and worship

**RSVP: September 1, 2018  
wingatedd@comcast.net or call (860) 591-4172**

**Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonnock Road  
Groton, CT 06340**