

THE TIE that binds  
November 2019



Poquonock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonock Road  
Groton, CT 06340



*Thanksgiving*

*T*rees adorned in splendid  
*L*ues of orange and gold  
*A*utumn days grown shorter  
*N*orth winds turning cold  
*K*nowingly creation  
*S*eems to be aware  
*G*od's promise of the seasons  
*I*s proof that He is there  
*V*erily creation  
*I*nvites us to recall  
*N*ou with a grateful heart  
*G*od has supplied it all

 dfm/dlm

Pastor's Page



All Saints' Day Celebration

We share in a Service of Remembrance this year...

The Rev. Bonita Grubbs, our guest preacher

The Rev. Janice Kimball, our guest organist

Catherine Hiller, our Moderator

Cathy Greenfield, our Lay Leader

Dianne Dellarco, our Communion Assistant

The Liu Family and Drew Wesche, our special musicians...

In both joy and sorrow we recall those who died this past year: we read their names, light a candle, ring a bell...to honor their light as it shines, proclaim their life as it resonates in our hearts.

Together we rejoice in the glory that now is theirs, and we pray for the comfort of their loved ones.

Please see the list of names printed in this copy of The Tie.

Opportunities for Giving Thanks

We gather at Camp Wightman for our Annual Women's Retreat, reflecting on the theme of "Finding Balance."

We rejoice in the leadership of Rev. Kathryn Palen and we bring the gift of song and sign language back to the congregation, sharing "You Raise Me Up" during morning worship.

We fill Second Sunday food baskets with holiday items for Groton Social Services in their Thanksgiving outreach.

Stewardship and Pledge Commitment Sunday

On our "Last But Not Least" Sundays we hear church members reflect on the gifts we receive and the gifts we return, on the stewardship of resources entrusted to our care and on our support of the church's ministry. Let us now move into the future God has in store for us as we prayerfully consider our faith and financial commitments, receiving and dedicating our pledge cards on November 17<sup>th</sup>. We praise God for all gifts given!

Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church  
1241 Poquonnock Rd. Groton



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday Dec. 7th 9 am to 2pm

All Are Welcome

Silent Auction

Antiques

Theme gift baskets

Crafts

Needle works and Specialty ornaments

Estate Jewelry

Collectibles

Furniture

Baked Goods & cookies, cookies, cookies

A light lunch available

PBBCGroton

## MEAC Happenings

DATE	TIME	NAME	PLACE	COST
Every Wed	7:30pm 8:30pm	Testimony Meetings	Christian Science Church	
Thurs Nov. 6th	5-8 pm	Bazaar	Mystic Congregational	
Fri Nov. 7th	11:30 am 5:30 pm	Bazaar	Mystic Congregational	
Sat. Nov. 16th	9am—2 pm	Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon	Union Baptist	\$8
Sat. Nov. 23rd	9am-3pm	Bazaar	Noank Baptist	
Sat. Nov. 23rd	9am-2pm	Christmas Bazaar	St. Mark's Episcopal	
Thurs. Nov. 28th	10am - set up 12 - driving 1 pm dining	Thanksgiving Dinner All are welcome!	St. Mark's Episcopal	
Sat Dec. 7th	9am-2pm	Christmas Bazaar & Luncheon Luncheon 11:30am-1:30pm	No. Stonington Congregational	\$12 Adult \$10 Senior \$5 Children 5-12
Sat. Dec. 7th	10am-2pm	Holiday Bazaar	Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church	
Thurs. Dec. 19	7 pm	Blue Christmas Service	Mystic Congregational	

## *Fusion Youth Ministry Proposed Schedule of Events*

### **Fall Events!**

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

November 16 - Volunteer at UBC Holiday Bazaar - 9AM-2PM

November 17 - High School Youth Group @ PBBC - 4-6PM

November 26 - Supercharged - 4-6PM

December 13 - Christmas Caroling - 6-8PM

December 15 - Christmas Party - 6-8PM - All Ages

### **Director of Youth Events**

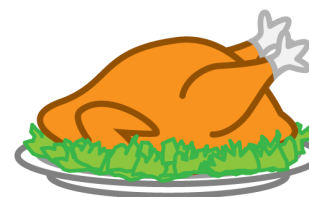
*Fusion Youth Ministry*  
119 High Street  
Mystic, CT 06355  
(860) 389-3904

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

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From our Mission and Outreach Committee

“ If you would like to donate a frozen turkey for second Sunday food donation, it can be taken to Groton Human Services by Nov 20 for Thanksgiving meal distribution. Donation of monies to be pooled for purchase of frozen turkeys can be given to Holly Boyle or Carol Gatlin for delivery with today's dry food donations this Friday, Nov 15. We will do the same in December for Christmas meal distribution.”





### NOVEMBER MINISTERS

**Communion:** Prepare: Li Ling Liu & Jonathan Liu

Serve: : Li Ling Liu & Jonathan Liu  
Barbara Brant & Rick Tourjee  
Assist Pastor: Dianne Dellarco

**Lay Leader:**

- 03 – Catherine Greenfield
- 10– Barbara Brant
- 17 - Patti Tootell
- 24 - Jonathan Liu

### DECEMBER MINISTERS

**Communion:** Prepare: Barbara Brant & Portia Freeman

Serve: Barbara Brant & Portia Freeman  
Londa & Drew Wesche

Assist Pastor: Dave Rowley

**Lay Leader**

- 01– Marilyn Rodearmel
- 08 - Richard Tourjee
- 15 - Catherine Hiller
- 22 - Holly Boyle
- 29 - Barbara Brant



## A Little Church Humor



# **All Saints' Day 2019**

**Rev. Robert Bartlett, Rev. Paul Gillespie &**

**Rev. Shirley Pudney**

**Teddy Ackley**

**Myrtle Beale**

**Rayford Jefferson Brister**

**Janice Brister**

**Peter Castro**

**Norman Gagnon**

**Herb Hespeler**

**Cindy Hill**

**Eugene Hoyt**

**Ed Kent**

**Chris Lamb**

**May Lin Lew**

**Patricia Ann (Vars) Martell**

**Scott Martell**

**Skip Mauer**

**Bill Miller**

**Norman Mitchell**

**Benlak Morgan**

**Patricia Pearce**

**Jean Rowley**

**Ted Schultz**

**Steve Staley**

**Connie Stalker**

**William Sullivan**

**Janis (Curry) Tripp**



## **NOVEMBER**

04 – Andrea Dellarco

05 – Alex Lew

05 – Barry Morton

07 – Peg Straub

08 – Britni Tourjee

09 – Carolyn Land

10 – Eva Tourjee

11 – Vance Lamb

14 – Dave Rowley

18 – Belle Jordan

19 - Silas Keeton

20 – Jenny Sanda

23 – Holly Mulvihill Boyle

24 – Megan Taylor

25 – Marilyn Baird

30 - Cathy Lewis Myers

30- Peter Dellarco

## **DECEMBER**

04 – Sandy Wong

05 – Joan Watkins

06 – Robert Nelson

10 – Ted Hespeler

16 – John Rodearmel

17 – Clyde Myers

21 – Sheila Manchester

25 – Catherine Hiller



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

Brian read a passage from Daily Devotions, referencing Matthew 8, 18-22, focusing on following Jesus.

**Minutes of October Meeting:** an error in October, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes was noted and asked to be rectified. Budget line item 6.01, “Stonington-Union NL Association”, previously written as “may be assumed” by “Noank and Mystic church budgets”, was written in error of understanding by clerk Joe. Budget line item 6.01 of \$750 will be paid. Claudine will establish who the check will be to.

**Communications:** Barbara reported that a check was received for use of the parking lot by a neighbor (as previously authorized).

### Pastoral Relations

#### **Ministry and Committee Reports**

*Pastoral Relations:* Sue addressed the church rental house. First to be determined was the number of actual bedrooms in the house. As the property has been utilized as a three bedroom house for years it was deemed a three bedroom house. Sue provided a tentative “Plain Language Lease – Single Family Residence” for consideration. Strike outs in the language were visible to demonstrate alterations from the previous contract. A HUD sheet designating allowed rents was distributed. The fair market value for a three bedroom home, per HUD, was capped at \$1,542. Current rent is \$1,200. The State of Connecticut pays the rent. As a Section 8 rental property 60 days’ notice must be given before a rent increase. Discussion for appropriate rent to be collected was enjoined by many. Also discussed was the security deposit account, to insure it was generating interest. It was ascertained the security deposit is in a separate account. The legalities of which names should be included on the new lease was discussed, residents of the property having turned eighteen since the previous contract was signed. It was determined the use of an addendum to list all residents of the property would fulfill State requirements. Any necessary reformatting of the contract will indicate it is in accordance with the general statutes of the State of Connecticut. It was requested a final lease form be provided for the next Church Council meeting.

Barbara made a motion that the rent be \$1,400. Marilyn and Li Ling seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Diane pointed out the front and back porches of the residence might need attention, as there were visible accumulations of belongings. The greater question was safety: did the belongings prevent safe escape from the house in case of a fire. The impression from casual observation was that the belongings might indeed inhibit safe exit from the back door. How to address the concern generated much discussion: letters seemingly have little consequence, the State of Connecticut ostensibly does its inspections, and calling upon town inspectors, considered, is in all probability not necessary. A committee of three to further regard the issue was posited as the means for seeking clarification in egress regulations and a solution. Diane and Joe volunteered, a third member will be sought.

**Hospitality:** Sarah had nothing to report.

**Nominating:** Dave pointed out a replacement for Brian will be needed.



## 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





**SAVE THE DATE - Annual PBBC Holiday Bazaar -**

**Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Heard of the legendary PBBC Annual Spring Tag Sales or Holiday Bazaars? Ever wondered how you could have a great time while also contribute to our congregation's biggest fundraiser? The Holiday Bazaar Committee is seeking your help. We need donations: jewelry (costume or the good stuff), Christmas items/decorations, quality collectibles, antiques, linens, tools, furniture, silent auction items (know a professional who'd like to donate a service, perhaps a restaurant or store who would donate a gift certificate?), as well as those handcrafted items we all look forward to purchasing every year.

We'd appreciate your help in ensuring all donations are in good condition. Money raised by the Holiday Bazaar goes directly to the General Fund, and we'd prefer to not incur disposal costs for those not so good items. Starting in September those donations can be left in the church kitchen.

It takes more than donations of goods to make this happen. Success requires the time and talents of the congregation. As we get closer to the date we will need event workers, bakers, set up and/or take down help to name a few. Got a great idea for a bazaar table? Let us know. We can always use new ideas. We'll be making our lists and checking them twice...will your name be on them?

See any one of the "Elves" and add your name to the list

Holiday Bazaar Committee Elves (Belle, Pat & Dianne D.)



**Worship & Membership**

Portia and Barbara had special thanks for the job well done by Holly, Catherine, and Diane in the Remembrance ceremony of the previous week's service, as well as with assistance in communion.

Portia read, on behalf of the Deacons of Worship and Membership:

"The following individuals have expressed their desire to become members of PBBC: Dave Augeri (profession of faith); Gladys Burns (letter of transfer); Harold Burns (letter of transfer); John Rodearmel (profession of faith); Marilyn Rodearmel (letter of transfer); Carlos Rojas (profession of faith); Beth Sherman (profession of faith); Lou Sherman (profession of faith); Ric Silver (letter of transfer)

We would like to recommend calling a business meeting of the congregation on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of voting to receive these new members.

We plan to extend the Right Hand of Fellowship on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019." When explained to the clerk it was his responsibility to post the names in the church no less than two weeks before the business meeting, and to the purpose of the meeting, Barbara graciously said she would attend to it, having already made up posters with the names. The clerk was greatly appreciative.

Barbara stated the Women's Retreat, pending the forthcoming weekend, was \$150 short of funding. After determining funds were available from the budget to cover the expense Dave made a motion to transfer \$150 from the appropriate church fund to cover the shortage. Mei Ling seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Education & Discipleship - No Report**

**Mission & Outreach**

As Carol was unable to attend Holly read the following:

"Collection for World Mission Offering was received for 3 Sundays in October. Contributions of toiletries continue to be added to the basket in the lounge; a larger, more attractive basket is being used. The donations are picked up monthly by a representative of the facility.

Second Sunday food collection: 33 bags in Sept; 33 bags in October.

Three walkers (Megan Freeman, Jeff Wilbur, and Carol Gatlin) represented PBBC at CROP Walk for Hunger as walkers on Sunday, Oct 20. A few others collected monies. Total funds raised were \$900, including an employer match. The interest and responsiveness of congregation was high. Thanks to Bob Land who continues to be our contact with the planning organization. He will have a report in the future as to funds that remain local. Although I did not count the group of walkers, the size of the gathered group appeared much smaller than in years past, although last year appeared to have fewer as well. A feedback comment is that prefer not start the group walk before the identified start time, as walkers were still arriving and monies being submitted.

We have received notice from Groton Human Services that Adopt-a-Family Program is near launch for this Christmas/ holiday season. I have spoken for a family with "more" children, based on interest and generosity of our congregation in the past. I expect to get info on our assigned family in the next 2 weeks. My tentative plan is to present to the congregation on Sunday, November 17, pending agreement with Pastor Claudine on service schedule. That will give us 3-4 weeks for collection, depending on GHS collection deadline."

Minutes cont.

## Building and Grounds

Alex and Brian continue to work on a budget, contingency allotment to be not less than \$1,000.00.

Snow removal contractors were discussed. Alex covered many details of his discussion with Mr. Mitchell from Outdoor Property Services for snow removal and salting. Particulars of Mr. Mitchell's pricing are governed by there being less than one inch, three inches or less, and more than three inches. Cost also varies depending on which area is cleared of snow, or simply salted. The church would receive a discounted rate being a religious institution. All particulars are provided in a letter Alex sent to the church for record. As Mr. Hodge is also willing to be contracted for snow removal his services were asked to be compared with what Mr. Mitchell was offering. Alex said he would get further specifics from Mr. Hodge.

Specific problems with the stair glide were discussed

**Ad Hoc Committee;** Dianne stated the sales committee is in good shape for the bazaar.

## Old Business

Church bylaws are being worked on for revision. In particular what would happen should the church be dissolved will be addressed.

Video recordings are hampered by equipment difficulties. Audio recording continues.

The wheelchair from the garage is being followed.

There is no update on Brotherhood Insurance as option for utilization.

## New Business

The safe continues to be in the hallway. If a member of the church wants to move it away it would be helpful.

Reconditioned photographs of previous pastors are ready to be placed back on the walls of the church. The company processing the photographs suggested old photographs of the exterior of the church be interspersed on the walls between the pictures of the pastors.

Budget items for the Finance Committee are requested.

Pledge cards are being regarded.

The next Church Council Meeting will be Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM

Submitted by:

Joe Greene, Clerk



## **CALL FOR SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING OF Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church After worship Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### **Agenda:**

Voting in new members of  
Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Church

Dave Augeri (profession of faith)  
Gladys Burns (letter of transfer)  
Harold Burns (letter of transfer)  
Ann Mauer (profession of faith)  
John Rodearmel (profession of faith)  
Marilyn Rodearmel (letter of transfer)  
Carlos Rojas (profession of faith)  
Beth Sherman (profession of faith)  
Lou Sherman (profession of faith)  
Ric Silver (letter of transfer)

*We will extend the Right Hand of Fellowship Sunday, December 1st  
Joe Greene*

**Clerk**