



GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me”

Philippians 4:13

Perhaps you know the above verse from Philippians and have claimed it when you were facing difficult times. Knowing scripture is very important in understanding the works and ways of God. The reading and study of the Bible helps us to mature in faith and grow spiritually. There are many different ways that we encounter God’s Word.

In our worship services, the Word of God is central not only in the chosen passages that are read and the sermon, but also in prayers and hymns and songs. Listening to the Word and its interpretation and application during worship is like fueling up for the week. But of course we need more than that to increase our knowledge of God’s Word.

Perhaps you read a daily or weekly devotional that might include a short (or long) passage and commentary or personal reflection on the passage. This is a good way to have the Scripture be meaningful in a down to earth kind of way. You may attend a group Bible study or study on your own using a resource that focuses on a theme or a particular book of the Bible. Perhaps you have a set number of chapters you read a day so that you can read through the New Testament (or even the entire Bible) in a year. Have you ever tried reading a proverb a day?

Reading the Bible on a regular basis is a good and necessary habit for Christians. If you have never done so or have fallen away from doing so, why not try to get on track this summer? At church we have “The Secret Place” devotionals for the taking or books that you can borrow to get you started. You can read the “Our Daily Bread” daily devotional online (www.odb.org.)

In July I will be preaching through Philippians (on the 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st). May I suggest that during the month of July you read the 4 short chapters of Philippians *every week*.

Paul wrote this letter to the Christians in Philippi, a Roman colony in the province of Macedonia. Scholars place the writing of this letter about the year 50. Paul writes that he is in prison, although not specifically where. Paul had been imprisoned more than once for preaching Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Paul begins his letter by giving thanks to God for the Philippians, saying that he constantly prays with joy for all of them as they share the gospel. He does reveal his concerns about some missionaries and their motives and also warns about certain types of people who could be a danger to church. However, the theme of joy in the Lord is weaved into this letter.

As I preach through Philippians and as you read through the entire letter at least once in July (preferably once a week if you can), perhaps we can gain insight from Paul about reclaiming joy even in the midst of unfavorable circumstances. Even if you cannot be at worship every Sunday in July, I invite you to read Philippians through and jot down any insights or questions you may have. Let us encounter God’s Word as written in Philippians and see how the Holy Spirit gives us wisdom to discern what God wants us to learn from the Word.

Peace
Pastor Wendy

“God prospers me not to raise my standard of living, but to raise my standard of giving.”

Randy Alcorn

JULY BIRTHDAYS

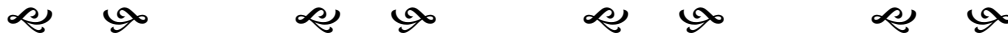
1st Lindsay Anderson
6th Odessa Mazzei
7th Peter Grace
7th Derek Lanni
9th Virginia Hofknecht
11th Joan Mowry
13th John Chakuroff
16th Donald Gardner
16th Rachel Ross
17th Ariana Caffeso
23rd Priscilla Holt
27th Isabeau Hamel
30th Nancy Kozatek
31st Carolyn Brush



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

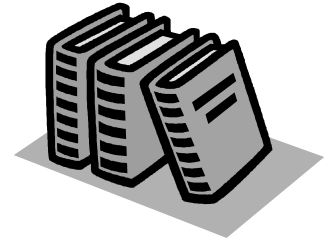
2nd Carla Lundquist
4th Andrew Bates
4th Andrew Barden
7th C.J. Howard
7th Lauren Mowry
9th Jim Lanni
6th Matthew DiLuglio
23rd Anna Gates
27th Jan Thomas
29th Laura Weeks

If we missed your birthday, please call the church office at 949-1134.



LIBRARY CORNER – *“If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost, that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.”* - Henry David Thoreau

BIBLE DATA: Esther was a Jewish orphan maiden in the city of Shushan, she became Queen of Sheba. When the Jews in the empire were faced with destruction, she was able to save them. In her honor the Bible book which bears her name is read every year at the Jewish Feast of Purim – a Jewish holiday celebrating the deliverance of the Jews from the massacre by Haman.



Arthur Meyer has written a small volume called *“Heartbeats”*. As he describes them “little messages on subjects that are vitally close to the heartstrings of mankind.” It’s easy to read. It’s waiting to enlighten you!

Hundreds of languages and dialects are spoken; dozens of distinct cultural traditions are expressed; all of the world’s major religions are practiced in this study of Southern Asia – Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are looking for a new understanding in the changing world. If you enjoy history, you will enjoy reading *“Spirit and Struggle in Southern Asia”* edited by Barbara Chase and Martha Man.

Recommended books are usually displayed on the top of the bookshelves for your convenience.

There is something for everyone, DVD’s, books, videos, poetry, music, and prayers, reference and craft material. Come visit us, we’re open for browsing!



TRUE BLUE CIRCLE: All women of the church are invited to participate.

Thank you for collecting and giving to True Blue Circle the Box Tops for Education and the Campbell's soup labels. We really appreciate your support. These are sent to the Springbrook School in New York.

Following is a partial list of all the products that you can find the Box Tops on. For a copy of the complete list, call the church office. As a reminder, please make sure that your Box Tops have the expiration date on them, and that your Campbell's soup labels have the bar code.

Our thanks for helping True Blue Circle with this project to help this School for People with Disabilities.



Baking: Betty Crocker mixes

Fiber One mixes

Gold Medal Flour

Beverages: Nestle

Cereal: Basic 4

Cheerios

Cascadian Farm Cereals

Chex

Cocoa Puffs

Frozen Foods: Green Giant

Tostinos

Refrigerated & Dairy (Pillsbury)

Snacks (Chex Mix, Fiber One Bars, etc.)

Jelly, Jams and Spreads

School & Office Supplies

Storage Bags & Containers (Ziploc)

Paper Products

Disposable Tableware & Cookware

Waste Bags (Hefty)

Water Filtration Systems and Filters (NEW Brita)

Products with limited availability (Avery products)

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Frank Dolyak (Paula D), Jeff Michard (Karen H), Gloria Olivier (Sue C), Matthew DiLuglio, Tina Ledbetter Lussier (Peggy M), Marin Neumann (Agla G), Inga Burns (Elaine P), Shirley Eagleson, Doris Battey, Eleanor Campbell (Elaine C), Philip Oakley, Ken Petrucci (Lois P) Jimmy Johnson (Shelly L), Jim Lanni, Carl Adler



PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY – Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the Adler family on the death of Caitlyn Marie on June 3, 2011.

Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Flora Leigh-Curry who passed away on May 28, 2011 in Costa Mesa, California.

“O my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to all the prayers made to you in this place.” **2 Chronicles 6:40 NLT**

Prayer time Sundays after worship: 10:45 – 11:15

**In the Upper Room (2nd floor, behind the pulpit area of the sanctuary)
If it is very hot, we will move to the Pastor's office where there is air conditioning**





MINISTRY TO THE MILITARY – Addresses are available on the bulletin board at coffee

Hour. If you get a chance to mail a card or note to them, it would surely be appreciated.



Thanks to my church family for all the cards, prayers and phone calls during my recent stay at Miriam Hospital.
- Richard Mowry

Dear Church Friends, your kindness and sympathy are more deeply appreciated than any word of thanks can ever express. Your help in the time of our need was a great comfort to us. The room was set up beautifully. All of the food was delicious.

– Gil, Gil Jr, Carolyn, Charlie and families



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gift Received - Greenville Baptist Church has received a new computer for use by our Administrative Assistant as a gift from the Woolmington family. We offer our special thanks to Wes as he integrates this new hardware into our existing network.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NOTES

Our main focus right now is **VBS, July 11-15**. The teachers have their material and setup preparations have already begun. If you have a child, grandchild or know of a child in the neighborhood who would enjoy this very special experience, please make sure they are at GBC at 5:30 pm on Monday, July 11.

The Board is planning a **workshop session on Saturday, July 30, from 9-12 am** for teachers, board members, and anyone interested in the Christian Education of our youth and adults.

Please keep both of these events in your prayers – and remember your input is very important to us.

**GEENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH IS PART OF
THE AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES, USA.**

Some of you may be very familiar with the denomination. Others may be new to ABC-USA. Therefore, our newsletter has been offering information about the denomination’s identity, vision, ministries and more.



From Ten Facts about American Baptists (www.abc-usa.org web site)

Fact #6

American Baptists support religious freedom and respect the expressions of faith of others. As a people whose forbears came together in response to intolerance, American Baptists have cherished freedom and pursued it for millions around the world. Manifestations of that ideal include supporting separation of church and state, advocating for people everywhere to be guaranteed the right to worship free from discrimination, and lifting up respectful dialog as a healthy means to understanding.

Fact #7 next newsletter



Pastor Wendy will be on vacation:

Friday, August 12, through Tuesday August 30. She will return to the office on August 31st.

In the event of a pastoral emergency please call the church office. A deacon or on-call pastor will be notified.

Summer worship is at 9:30 am through September 5th.

The Summer Board meeting schedule is:

Mission Board	No July	August 15	
Diaconate	No July	August 9	
Trustees	July 25	August 22	
Stewardship	No July	No August	
Christian Ed	No July	August 21	Workshop July 30, 9-12 am
Executive	No July	August 1	



**Join the fun at
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 11-15th**

“Where God is Wild About You”

5:30 PM: Light Supper in Lower Vestry

6:00 PM VBS begins in Fellowship Hall

Ends at 8:00 PM

During the week you will learn that:

God Made you

God Listens to you

God Watches over you

God Loves you – no matter what

And that God gives good gifts



SAVE THE DATE
MISSIONWorks New England
September 23-24, 2011

The American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont/New Hampshire will be coming together to celebrate Missions in a fantastic way! There will also be representative from International Ministries from Valley Forge.

It will be held at the Courtyard Marriot and CoCo Keys Water Resort in Fitchburg. Yes, there is an indoor water park, so bring the youth!

The event begins with Friday dinner through Saturday Banquet. You can come both days or just one. The speakers are top notch, the worship uplifting, and there will be many Mission opportunities displayed and explained. It will be exciting for all ages!

Brochures and registration forms available in the Lower Vestry and the Church Office.

For more information call Linda Martin at 401-294-6318, ext. 103 or email her at Linda@abcori.org.

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE (401) 949-1134

DIAL-A-PRAYER (401) 949-0580

Email greenvillebaptist@verizon.net

FAX (401) 949-3535

Website: www.greenvillebaptistri.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to noon (June 27-August 26)

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

NO Sunday School

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m.

We extend our warmest welcome and invite you to join us each week in praise and worship.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Wendy Kiefer-O'Brien, Pastor

Richard Danielson, Moderator

Randy Lundquist, Treasurer

William Perry, Sexton

Rochelle Vaughan, Organist

Pastor's e-mail: pastor.gbcri@verizon.net

Jan Thomas, Admin. Assistant

Wes Woolmington, Choir Director

Marjorie Danielson, Financial Secretary

Fran DeLage, Maintenance Coordinator