



GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

Children’s Sunday this year falls on June 12, which is also Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost celebrates the beginning of the Christian Church after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples of Jesus, who were then empowered to proclaim the risen Christ. Many call Pentecost the “birthday” of the church.

Pentecost was a Jewish festival, 50 days after Passover, commonly called the “Feast of Weeks.” It was during harvest time when the Jews would offer their “first fruits” to God at the temple in Jerusalem. Many Jews were gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast of Weeks, as were many of Jesus’ followers and other non-religious folk who were milling about, buying and selling. The disciples had gathered together to pray when all of a sudden there was a sound of a rushing wind that caught everyone’s attention. All of the disciples were immediately filled with the Holy Spirit, and as they spoke, people of all different languages were able to understand what they were saying about God and Jesus. It was miraculous! Many people came to know Christ that day, and the Christian faith quickly spread throughout the known world.

The Rev. William Kolb wrote: *“Pentecost truly is a celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit. It comes from the realization that God’s very life, breathe, and energy lives in, with and among us. When it was poured out upon the believers 2000 years ago, it was a unifying Spirit that crossed the artificial boundaries of language, race and culture. People could speak and be understood; strangers heard one another; communion happened. The Spirit breathes peace.”*

According to the Scripture, the fruit of the Spirit are: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). What would happen if we truly lived aware of the power of the Holy Spirit in and among us? When we put our trust in God, God’s Spirit puts in us the seed of these fruit. As the Spirit works in our hearts and the fruit of the Spirit grows in our lives, we will be transformed. We learn to treat others with love and dignity. We increase in patience and gentleness. We find strength that we never knew existed. We see people in the world and in the church differently. We learn to live a “supernatural life” in the sense that we learn to allow the Spirit of God to mold us and shape us and lead us in all that we do. It isn’t always easy and it doesn’t come quick, but God can transform us and the church into Spirit filled instruments as dedicated ministers of the Gospel in word and deed.

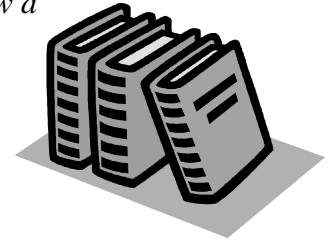
The power of the Holy Spirit ignited the first century church, and has sustained the church, kept it going, nurtured the faithful, strengthened them and gave them (and us) the Good News of Jesus Christ with the mandate to go and share the message everywhere. As John Stott said: *“We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come to the church; He came on Pentecost and has never left the church.”* Let us live Spirit empowered lives and pray that the evidence of the Holy Spirit is made known to all who encounter us – both in and out of church.

Peace

Pastor Wendy

*“What you receive from life will be greatly determined by what you give in life.
You’ve got to put something in to get something out.”* Rod Rogers

LIBRARY CORNER – *“I wandered lonely as a cloud...when all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils ... fluttering and dancing in the breeze...
- William Wordsworth*



Would you like to read an engrossing novel as we move into spring? An unexpected visitor shows up in a New Hampshire home as the author, Anita Shreve, creates *“Light on Snow”*, a loving story of redemption and renewal.

BIBLE DATA: There are 39 names for Jesus in the Bible: Good Shepherd, Lord of Lords, Emmanuel, King of Kings, Son of God, Master, Everlasting Father, and Alpha and Omega to name a few.
- *The Complete Book of Bible Lists*, Joel L. Meredith

“All Creatures Great and Small” by James Herriot is a wonderful title and a wonderful book for both children and adults. If you haven’t read it, you are missing a truly enjoyable treat. It’s a true account of a Scottish veterinarian who has a way with animals and with words.

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!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1st Lindsay Anderson
6th Odessa Mazzei
7th Peter Grace
6th 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

If we missed your birthday, please call the church office at 401-949-1134



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

Our next Meeting is the annual banquet on June 7th at Chester’s.
Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Thanks to all for their paper donations in May for the Women’s Shelter.



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, Daryl Crossman (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 Gil Barden and family on the death of his wife, Barbara Barden, who passed away on May 23rd.

“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 at 9:30 – 10:00 AM in the Upper Room

Several have been gathering for prayer time to discern God’s will for our lives. Come any week that you are available. If there are some who would like to continue through the summer, let the pastor know and we will change the time to 8:45 – 9:30 AM starting June 19th.



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.



Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for your out pouring of prayers and cards following the death of Carl's brother, Bill Buckley. We appreciate also the care and concern you have shown while I recuperate from my total knee replacement. We have had delicious meals, visits, cards and flowers. Thank you so much for all you have done. God Bless you. **Carl and Jeanie Buckley**

Dear GBC Family, Once again I find myself thanking God for the many blessings I have received because I am so fortunate to be a part of the GBC community. My family and I would like to thank you for the many cards and gourmet meals given to us along with the hospital visits and prayers during my recent hospitalization. My father-in-law has also appreciated the meals we have shared with him; especially with my mother-in-law still being in rehab. We can't thank you all enough. We hope that you feel as blessed as we do. It is through the difficult times that we realize how blessed and fortunate we are. Love and God Bless, **Allan, Ann, and Matt Gardner**

Thank you for all the cards, flowers and phone calls during my recovery. I am feeling much better and will be returning back to work soon. It is great knowing that you have a church family praying for you when in need. Thank you, **Kelly Woolmington**

Thank you so much for warmly welcoming our students at your beautiful church. The boys always enjoy having a new venue at which they can sing and I'm sure you could tell that they enjoyed the huge dose of sugar products in the church hall! Mostly, I am grateful for all the support our boys have received from the Greenville Churches over the past year. My best, **Brother Lawrence (The San Miguel School of Providence)**



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

An Eagle Scout project by one of the members of Troop 1, Greenville, will be undertaken in July to paint the interior of the Thrift Shop. This project has been scheduled so as not to conflict with the normal operations of this important outreach of our church.

The Board of Trustees is presently receiving and evaluating estimates to sealcoat and restripe our parking lots. The lots were completely repaved and striped in August 2006 at a cost of approximately \$60,000. This maintenance is necessary to maintain the integrity of the wearing surface and thereby protect our investment.

At its May 23, 2011, meeting, the Board of Trustees accepted, with regret, a letter of retirement from Jan Thomas as our Administrative Assistant. Jan has thoughtfully given us until the end of 2011 to find the right candidate to fill this position. The Trustees' personnel committee will, during the month of June, begin work to identify the qualifications that we will be looking for in potential candidates. While Jan will be with us for up to another seven (7) months, it is never too early to express our thanks to Jan for her eight years of service to Greenville Baptist Church.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NOTES – June 12th (last day of Sunday School) will be observed as Children's Sunday at GBC. The young people will take part in the service and as a special treat blankets that have been made by the Sunday School students will be dedicated and then taken to the children at the Women's Center. Immediately following the service please plan to stay for the all church family picnic. (See flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.)

We want to promote the camp program at Canonicus (both day camp and resident camp). Don't let cost be an obstacle both ABCORI and GBC are ready to help with scholarships. No child should be left out! Please contact the office or Janet Whalen for more details. Camp folders are available through the office.

A short Christian Education meeting will be held on Sunday, June 19, right after the service at 10:45 so get your coffee and come to room 107.

GREENVILLE 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 #5: American Baptists take seriously the call to evangelism and missionary work. American Baptist worldwide mission work is a response to Christ's call to "make disciples of all nations." Through the efforts of our missionaries in partnership with others, ministries of evangelism, healing, education and development have made Christ's love known in the U.S. and around the world.

Fact #6 next month



"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work" 2 Corinthians 9:8

In 2010, OGHS helped around the world with earthquake, tsunami, cyclone and flood relief in countries such as Bosnia, Chile, China, Haiti, India, Pakistan, Uganda and more. In the U. S., many states were helped with flood relief, including Rhode Island.

In June we will be receiving the 2011 **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** along with thousands of other ABC churches and churches from 8 other denominations.

This offering helps:

- Build homes, schools, medical clinics, and clean water and sewage facilities in villages devastated by earthquakes, floods and poverty
- Bring safety, shelter, and food to refugees after often violent circumstances have made their hometowns uninhabitable
- Nurture stronger futures and self sufficiency through health care, education, job training, and tools for livelihood.

We are blessed that God is able to provide when and where help is needed through us. In what may seem to be an amazing twist, we ourselves benefit from the Sharing. OGHS donors say:

- Giving just feeds my soul! This is what life is about – not collecting things but helping people.
- Giving lifts me out of my own troubles. It helps me appreciate what I have.
- As I see needs met, I am reminded how God takes care of me.
- One Great Hour of Sharing lets me put my hands on problems that need attention throughout the world.

Sharing because we have felt God's love aligns our lives with God's own life and work in our world. By sharing we are renewed and transformed. Sharing our love of God through OGHS, we offer ourselves to others as they need us, imitating Christ's offering of his life for us. In turn, we receive much more deeply into our own hearts, bringing indescribable joy.

Please give prayerfully and generously through One Great Hour of Sharing!

SPECIAL EVENTS AT GREENVILLE BAPTIST

All Church Picnic
Sunday June 12, 2011
After the 10:15 worship service



Fun Food Fellowship For all ages

Hamburgers, Hotdogs,
Veggie Burgers and drinks will be provided.

Feel free to bring a side dish to share.

Invite Friends and Family to a Special Worship Service
With the Children and Youth participating

June 12 is the last day of Sunday School
Summer worship changes to 9:30 AM on June 19 (Father's Day)
through September 4 (Labor Day Weekend)



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

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE (401) 949-1134

DIAL-A-PRAYER (401) 949-0580

FAX (401) 949-3535

[Email greenvillebaptist@verizon.net](mailto:greenvillebaptist@verizon.net)

[Website: www.greenvillebaptistri.org](http://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)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour 11:15 a.m.

(Summer worship hours from the 3rd Sunday in June through the 1st Sunday in September is at 9:30 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