

GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH JULY-AUGUST 2010 PASTOR'S MESSAGE

July 1, I will have been pastor at Greenville Baptist church for 1 year! Since then, my office has been relocated; I introduced new things in worship during the morning and special services, led the Wednesday afternoon Bible study and a Lenten Bible study in the evening, participated in the Middle School and High School Sunday school classes, taught a baptism class, meet with the youth and helped them plan a worship service. I led retreats for the Deacons, Missions, and Christian Education Boards. Besides numerous board and committee meetings I have visited many in nursing homes, hospitals and at home. I would like to visit with more of you so I can get to know you better.

As part of my continued education and spiritual growth, I meet monthly with my spiritual director and attend a monthly Bible study with women (of various denominations) in my neighborhood. I also attended a 5 day minister's conference in Florida, led a 22 team member mission trip to Honduras and enjoyed an overnight retreat on Block Island (my first time on the Island).

I am a new member of the Executive Minister's support team and on the Missions and Evangelism team of ABCORI. I meet monthly with ABC pastors for breakfast, conversation and prayer. Although I still use my GPS to get places in RI, I am beginning to know my way around.

I pray for God's wisdom to be the spiritual leader needed at this time in the church's 191st year. Because of the frequently expressed desire of many members for a deeper spirituality, I have sought out ways both within and beyond the church to move us forward. A workshop on Stephen Ministries that I and a few other members attended seemed to be a ministry that would benefit the entire congregation.

With the approval of the Deacons and Executive Board, our congregation has enrolled in the Stephen Series system of lay caring ministry. Stephen Ministries is a nonprofit religious and educational organization, equipping lay people to minister to others in need.

July 11 -17, Ann Gardner and I will be attending an intensive Leader's Training Course in Dallas, Texas. At this training we will receive the instruction and materials necessary to implement and sustain this program of lay caring ministry here at GBC.

Following the one week Leader's Training Course, Ann and I will set up a timeframe for lay people from our church who will undertake 50 hours of training over a period of several months. This training will prepare the participants to care for others, covering such areas as how to listen effectively, how to use traditional Christians resources in caring, how to maintain confidentiality, how to minister to people in crisis, and many other areas of concern. A Christ centered approach to caring and the need to care for the whole person will be stressed throughout the training.

Upon completion of the Stephen Series training, these lay caregivers will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers and will become an important part of the caring ministry here at GBC. These Stephen Ministers will provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care for people experiencing challenges in their lives such as hospitalization, loss of a loved one, loneliness, divorce, unemployment, birth of a child, and many other life events for which a person could benefit from an effective helping caring ministry.

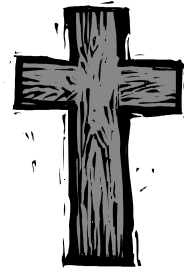
If you have questions about this new ministry our congregation is undertaking, please feel free to ask me or Ann. In the meantime, please keep me, Ann and the congregation in your prayers as we prepare for this major step forward in our lay caring ministry and spiritual growth.

Peace

Pastor Wendy

Statue of Liberty
By Neil Enloe

In New York Harbor stands a lady,
With a torch raised to the sky;
And all who see her know she stands for
Liberty for you and me.



I'm so proud to be called an American,
To be named with the brave and the free;
I will honor our flag and our trust in God,
And the Statue of Liberty.



On lonely Golgotha stood a cross,
With my Lord raised to the sky;
And all who kneel there live forever
As all the saved can testify.

I'm so glad to be called a Christian,
To be named with the ransomed and whole;
As the statue liberates the citizen,
So the cross liberates the soul.

Oh the cross is my Statue of Liberty,
It was there that my soul was set free;
Unashamed I'll proclaim that a rugged cross
Is my Statue of Liberty!!

July

1st Lindsay Hanson
6th Odessa Mazzei
7th Peter Grace
7th Derek Lanni
9th Virginia Hofknecht
7th Lauren Mowry
13th Rita Leach
13th John Chakuroff
16th Donald Gardner
16th Rachel Ross
17th Ariana Caffeso
23rd Priscilla Holt
25th Bud Leach
27th Isabeau Hamel
27th Sean Connaughton
30th Nancy Kozatek



August

2nd Carla Lundquist
4th Andrew Bates
4th Andrew Barden
7th CJ Howard
7th Lauren Mowry
11th Joan Mowry
16th Matthew DiLuglio
23rd Anna Gates
27th Jan Thomas
29th Laura Hanson Weeks

If we missed your birthday, please call the church office.

THANK YOU – For your generosity to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering collected in June. If you have not yet brought or sent in your offering, please submit it as soon as possible so it can be sent off.

REMINDER: SUMMER WORSHIP is at 9:30 am, June 20 through the Labor Day Sunday, September 5.

IN NEED OF PRAYER

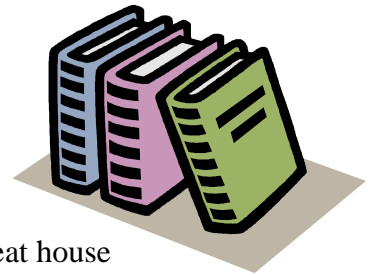
Frank Dolyak (Paula D), Jeff Michard (Karen H), Gloria Olivier (Sue C), Matthew DiLuglio, Tina Ledbetter Lussier (Peggy M), Bob Phelan, Sr., Marin Neumann (Agla G), Linda Graham, Inga Burns (Elaine P), Shirley Eagleson, Daryl Crossman (Elaine C), Virginia Robinson (Ginger), Bill Buckley (Carl B), Barry Brightman (Jeanie B),

“Reach out to someone by phone or letter.”

MUSIC NOTES

Our dedicated music minister, Vonnie Dutton, will be leaving us in order to assume responsibilities for the two services at her home church: North Scituate Baptist. Her last Sunday with us will be September 5, 2010. Our prayers are with Vonnie as she ministers elsewhere and our prayers are with the music committee as they seek to find a new music director.

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



A little book titled “*The Secret Garden*” written by Frances H. Burnett, is recommended for age 9 and up. It has been beloved by generations of young readers. Mary Lennox, an orphan, comes to live at her uncle’s great house and finds a lot of secrets, including a secret garden. She meets Dickson, a magical boy, who shares her adventures. Your children will love it.

BIBLE DATA: The Old Testament has two major divisions. The first eleven chapters of Genesis deal with the whole human race, and with questions of origin. There we are told that God created this universe and that human beings are special within it...there we learn of the fall which introduces sin into the world, of judgment, and of the hope of redemption. Once these basic themes are established, Genesis introduces us to Abraham and the rest of the Old Testament tells the story of this one man and his descendents.

- The Bible Readers’ Companion, Lawrence O. Richards

Karen Kingsbury, a prolific writer, and a New York Times Best Selling Author has written another inspiring novel which she identifies in this way, “Sometimes hope lies somewhere in the *Shades of Blue*”. She characterizes her books as “life changing fiction”, and her fans are many. You can become one of them.

“*And God Said, Let There Be Laughter*”, and there is in a book by the same name. You will feel wonderful after reading it. I guarantee it! Here are a few samples: You know you live in a small town when....- second street is on the edge of town, - the city limit signs are both on the same post, - the MacDonal’d’s has only one Golden Arch, - a “night on the town” takes only eleven minutes, - the zip code is a fraction, - you plan your vacation around a gun and knife show.

There is something for everyone, books, videos, poetry, prayers, Bible study and reference material. Come visit us, we’re open for browsing!

Anniversary Celebration

May 16, 2010 marked the 190th Anniversary of the First Freewill Baptist Church of Smithfield, commonly known as Greenville Baptist Church. We have had several weeks of moments in history talking about how the church was founded as a result of a revival and that within 15 years our church sent people out to start 3 other churches in neighboring communities. To acknowledge our 190 years of ministry, we are having a 190th Anniversary Celebration weekend with the theme: "Revive Us Again!"



Save the dates:

Friday September 24, A celebration service at 7 PM with upbeat music, several choirs and a dynamic preacher.

Saturday, September 25, from 2-5 PM, family fun, lots of free food, music, games, and more in celebration our church and our community.

Sunday, September 26, will be the culmination of our celebration during our morning worship service at 10:15 AM.

If you would like to help with the planning, speak with Carla Gardner.

ANOTHER "CHOIR YEAR" COMES TO AN END



Sunday, June 27th marks the end of the choir program year that began last September 13th. Of the many ministries of the church, the choir of Greenville stands out as a group of Christians whose joy in their faith is shared week by week, not just in worship, but in the Wednesday choir rehearsals, in fair weather and foul!. Greenville Baptist is truly blessed by choir members who share their love of music, their flexibility in trying special music, and their amazing good humor, week by week. They appreciate deeply those who join them for the Christmas and Easter seasons, and the soloists who add variety to the music ministry, especially Gracie O'Brien and Steve Morrison. Nancy Bates and Wayne Brown not only are members of the choir, but following Wednesday rehearsals spend additional hours preparing their music for worship. The Gates Family and other church members provide the wonderful celebratory brass ensemble at Easter and Christmas. For all the effort and faithfulness of all the church musicians, my sincere thank you, and may you continue next year providing the "Joyful Noise" that lifts our souls heavenward. - Vonnie Dutton

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE (401) 949-1134

DIAL-A-PRAYER (401) 949-0580

FAX (401) 949-3535

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

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour 11:15 a.m.

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

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Wendy Kiefer-O'Brien, Pastor

Richard Danielson, Moderator

Randy Lundquist, Treasurer

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

Jan Thomas, Admin. Assistant

Vonnie Dutton, Organist/Music Director