



MIDDLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Middle Street Baptist Church – June 2017 Newsletter

FROM PASTOR CHRIS

Several Monday mornings ago I found myself overwhelmed as I read many of your responses to the Vision Team's spring survey. "How does the church succeed?" the fifth question asked. Here are some of your answers:



"By teaching the world about God."

"The church succeeds when it wins hearts for Jesus."

"The church succeeds through the proclamation of the Gospel."

"Continuing to make and baptize disciples who then make and baptize disciples."

"It's who we know that is our success; we have been called to be a light, the bride of Christ."

As I read these answers, I couldn't help but thank God for this church. For you. Many of the answers I read in those survey results confirmed what every pastor wants to see: we have a strong church family—men and women whose lives have been changed by Christ, and who want to see Christ change others' lives too.

Let me simply express my gratitude for y'all (you know I couldn't let an article get by without the word "y'all!"). You're "doing the work of ministry, building up the body of Christ," (Ephesians 4:12) and so fulfilling Jesus' purposes for the church!

Well done, good and faithful servants.

Warmly,
Chris



Our annual Children's Day celebration is coming up this Sunday! We are excited for our children and teenagers to lead us in worship, and to hear Eliza Stiles, our Intern for Student Ministry, preach!

After the worship service we will enjoy an all-church cookout together! The CE board will provide burgers, hot dogs, drinks, and utensils, and you are all invited to bring a side to share!

We look forward to celebrating with you!



MIDDLE STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH

presents

an Evening of Worship

Sunday, June 4, 2017
6:30–7:30 pm

Please join us afterwards for light snacks.

An offering will be taken to benefit Camp Sentinel.

18 Court Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801

PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Saturday, June 10, 7:00–11:00 AM

Adults – \$6.00

Children (12 and under) – \$2.00

Buy tickets and invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

Tickets and questions - Dick Wilder - (603) 436-8379

If you would like to help out, volunteers are needed. There are forms with all of the different tasks needed located on the bulletin board located by the main entrance.



CAMP SENTINEL NEWS

Slots for summer campers at Camp Sentinel are quickly filling up. If you would like more information about Camp Sentinel or would like to register, please visit their website at www.campsentinel.org.

The Board of Christian Education is happy to offer a scholarship to each camper from our church family for half of the cost of one week at camp. Please notify the church about your plans so we can apply the scholarship to your session.

Also, you may enjoy reading the [most recent Camp Sentinel newsletter](#) (pdf).

MISSIONS

MISSION IN OUR COMMUNITY

Six members of MSBC joined 80 other local folks from area churches and organizations on Saturday, May 13th at Operation Blessing's 9th Annual One Day to Serve: Adopt A Block. This neighborhood mission outreach provides spring clean-up help to Portsmouth's Housing Authority neighborhoods. Thank you to Tom & Janet Hand, Larry & Lynn Hart, and Peter & Marilyn Gustafson for your time, hard work, and commitment to mission outreach right here in our own



community.

Tom and Janet Hand, Lynn and Larry Hart, and Marilyn and Peter Gustafson

Also, thank you to our May Salvation Army Soup Kitchen Volunteers: Sarah Mason, Sarah Cooley, Sharon Stone, Marilyn Gustafson, Al Gillete, Gary Sama, and Peter Gustafson. MSBC is committed monthly on the 1st Thursday and 1st Friday to this community outreach. If you would like to volunteer occasionally, your help would be most appreciated. Please speak to Marilyn Gustafson @ 603-343-4989 or marilgus@aol.com.

MISSION NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

On May 5th Janice Clark and Marilyn Gustafson delivered the 6 Church World Service Emergency Clean-Up Buckets to the NH CWS pick-up depot, Bow Mills Methodist Church ,

Bow, NH. Thank you to all who contributed to this much needed project that so helps people with clean-up after natural disasters in our country (tornados, floods, hurricanes, etc.).

Your Mission Dollars at work:

In honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day, MSBC continues the tradition of supporting the Church World Service Blankets and Tools program during May and June. If you would like to make an "over and above" gift to this program in honor of a parent, aside from your pledge, there are appropriate envelopes in the Narthex and at the front of the Sanctuary.

Your Mission Dollars Supporting our Denomination:

During July, MSBC will promote our denomination's annual offering... ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING. This year's offering theme is... YOU ARE HERE. Through this offering, you are here.... I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was hungry and you gave me food. — Matthew 25:35.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, your mission money is used to help those in need nationally and internationally. If you feel so moved to give a donation above your mission pledge in support of our denomination's yearly offering, you will find appropriate envelopes in the Narthex and at the front of the Sanctuary.

Your Board of Missions looks forward to sharing with you in the fall two new mission outreach opportunities... Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox gift for children, and a field trip to Heifer Farm, part of Heifer Project International. Stay tuned!!

In closing, may we as the church of Jesus Christ, go forth remembering the words in Romans 12:13... "Share with God's people who are in need"... Our CWS Blankets and Tools offering and our One Great Hour of Sharing offering give us opportunity to respond to this Biblical teaching. Amen.

Please pray for our missionaries who respond daily to God's people in need.

Blessings to You,
Your Board of Missions,
Rosalie Churchill, Janice Clark, Marilyn Gustafson, Julie Morford



BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL

CONCERT

June 17, 7:00–8:30 pm

We are pleased to host a concert, sponsored by the Black Heritage Trail of NH, on Saturday, June 17th. The concert will be from the American Song Book and performed by Rev. Robert Thompson. Rev. Thompson is an incredible baritone vocalist and this concert will definitely be one not to miss! The suggested donation is \$20.00.

THE BIG RED BOX

For the summer months (June, July, August) the collection of food items will go to [Gather](#) (formerly known as Seacoast Food Pantry). The items will be used in the Meals 4 Kids program. In September when school begins, we will resume the collection of food for End 68 Hours of Hunger.

HOW WE CAN HELP :

We will collect designated food items each month. These items will be delivered to the Gather location on West Road.

JUNE REQUESTED FOOD ITEMS :

Canned or dried beans (especially black or pinto) and snack size applesauce, preferably in pouches (the round containers with the foil often break and the pouches are pretty sturdy).

Please put all items in the Big Red Box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for all the generous donations. It does make a difference in the lives of kids and their families.

SOUTH LONDONDERRY, VT

VOLUNTEER BUILDING WEEK

Many of you remember Chris and Kathleen Blackey, members of the Middle Street family who took a call to pastor First Baptist Church in South Londonderry, VT in 2010. Roughly six months after their arrival, their church building burned down. As a part of their rebuilding effort, they are hosting a volunteer building week. Below are the details, in their words:

The First Baptist Church of South Londonderry, VT has been rebuilding in the wake of our 2010 fire. After years of planning, fundraising and construction, we are in the final stages of completing our new new building. We need some help for this final push.

We are going to be doing a lot of finish work and will need volunteers to help keep costs down. We are looking for help from one to six of the days June 19th - June 24th, no matter your skill level. We will provide volunteers with a place to stay and all the good food a Baptist church can muster!



To learn more and to register please go to our website: www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org/volunteer-building-week.html or call Pastors Chris and Kathleen Blackey at 802-856-7266. There is also a video at : <https://youtu.be/yc180p2kSw0>.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



June 5 – Alissa Dodds
June 6 – Juliet Morford
June 7 – Barbara Churchill
June 12 – Jon Wendell
June 18 – Jeremy Moynihan
June 19 – Stephanie Hurd
June 19 – Gary Hurd
June 27 – Rosalie Churchill
June 27 – Cassidie Moynihan
June 30 – Lee Hutchins

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

June 1st – John and Christine Overton (21 years)
June 3rd – Jack and Audrey Foster (56 years)
June 7th – Kevin and Linda Van Etten (30 years)
June 9th – Rod and Jeanne Powers (27 years)
June 25th – Richard and Jessica Clark (37 years)
June 26th – Wayne and Toni Price (63 years)



The Flower Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have donated flowers in the past months. If you haven't but would like to, there are many openings for the upcoming summer months.

We especially appreciate donations from you own flower gardens. If you order the flowers instead of bringing them from your garden, the price is \$25.00.

Be sure to fill out the chart (in fu ll) located on the lower level by the kitchen. Please call any member of the Flower Committee if you need help or have any questions.

Ellie Hayes - (603) 964-6587

Dottie Steere-Doyle (207) 384-5065
Janice Witham - (603) 436-7252

ANN JUDSON FELLOWSHIP

Our June luncheon will take place on Monday, June 12th, at the Portsmouth Country Club in Greenland at 12:45 pm.

The sign up sheet will be on the podium next to the kitchen.
If you have any questions or need more information please call Jan Witham at (603) 436-7252.

DAUGHTERS OF EVE

Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to come and find out how a group of women connect with their daily walk with Christ, learn more about one another, and have a great time together. We are currently studying "Twelve Women of the Bible". The study guide and DVD are based on the teaching from Lysa Terkeurst and several other women. Each of the twelve sessions is focused on one biblical woman, to help women discover new insights and provide a powerful witness of God's gracious love.

Daughters of Eve meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm and the meetings will be held at the church. This new program is a separate Bible study each month so even if you miss one, just come the following month! Each meeting we will watch the DVD together with a discussion to follow. Remember to bring your Bibles!

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, June 20th, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

We are having a Potluck supper at the home of Vicki Walters, 13 Parkmen Brook Lane, Stratham. Please contact Vicki if you plan to attend and she will let you know what items are needed for the Potluck.

She can be reached at 603-778-3009 or vickiwa@comcast.net

We will be discussing Mary of Bethany, in session 9. Mary was a student, hungry to learn and receive the words of Jesus. The key Scripture is Mark 4:1-9.

Tuesday, July 18th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
We will be meeting at the church.

The Bible Study will be about Martha, session 10 in the book. Jesus wanted Martha to understand that while her desire to serve was valuable and important, knowing God and being in his presence needed to take priority in her life. The key Scripture is Luke 10:38-42.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Janet Hand at (603) 436-3051 or janetmhand@gmail.com.

MOTHER DAUGHTER BANQUET





CPR/ AED TRAINING



On May 6, 2017, ten people participated in the CPR certification training session put on by Captain Rick Murphy of the Portsmouth Fire Department. We learned how to assess a person's need for CPR, perform chest compressions, and use of the AED. We are now all card carrying members of the

American Heart Association CPR certification. Middle Street looks to offer this type of session annually for interested members.

CAMP SENTINEL WORK DAY



MOUNT AGAMENTICUS HIKE



TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees met on May 15, 2017 and the projects, work plans and schedules have been updated. Below is the list of projects with the most recent updates:

1. Carpet replacement for the sanctuary, narthex, entry, and stairs will begin shortly with completion by mid-June. The window casings will be painted and the drapes will be removed. The restoration of the front steps will also be completed by mid-June.
 2. Four grant application and/or letters of inquiry for up to \$43,000 in grants have been filed. More will be filed in the fall.
 3. The kitchens renovations are scheduled to begin 6/19/17 by Budel Construction. There will be more information on these renovations as the time approaches.
 4. We are working with the city to re-pave the parking lot.
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5. After the meeting with St. John's Church Common Table committee, enthusiasm at MSBC is building. Vicki Walters has very graciously agreed to head up the committee for our outreach. Many thanks to Vicki!
6. Battery operated window candles and perhaps battery operated candles for Christmas Eve are being considered.
7. The need for expanded janitorial services is being reviewed.
8. The new CPA has provided a report of the financial activity and it was in good order. He suggested three housekeeping procedural changes to enhance the financial process. These changes will be made.
9. The cost of the renovations are between \$550,000 and \$600,000 as reported previously.
10. A capital campaign will be formed after Council approval, with a first meeting on 5/31/17. More details to follow on this....
11. The Trustees are revising the building use policy to have in place after the renovations are completed.
12. MSBC is hosting a food safety training on May 31st from 2:30-4:30. This has been coordinated with the City of Portsmouth Health Department and will be conducted through the UNH extension program. An invitation has been sent to all area churches for them to attend as well. This training will replace the need for a permit when the church has public dinners, breakfasts, etc. It is strongly suggested that anyone who works in the kitchen at any time – coffee hour, pancake breakfast, suppers, - attend this very important training. All are welcome and there is no charge for this training.

The biggest challenge that lies ahead is the funding for all these projects. We will need the grant money, our own capital campaign along with some funds on hand to get the critical portion of the work completed. Please pray for God's direction as we move the church in a direction of service and outreach.

Trustees: Tom Hand Chairman, Lisa DeStefano, Peter Gustafson, Roland Ripley, Gary Sama

NOTES

JUNE POTLUCK DATE CHANGE

The date for the June Potluck after the worship service will be moved to the 2nd Sunday, June 11th, to leave Father's Day open! Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I

look forward to sharing a meal together with you all.

[Jaime Dunaway](#)

I'VE MOVED!

Joan Keech has moved to Atria Senior Living Community in Kennebunk. Her new address is 1 Penny Ln. #206, Kennebunk, ME 04043. Her new phone number is 207-467-8488. She welcomes visitors any time!

CONGRATS GRADS!

Congratulations to all our spring graduates on their accomplishments:

Sara Harvey

Mindy Hurd

Brittany Powers

Maren Seul

SAVE THE DATE

The Overton Family would like to invite everyone for a luncheon after worship service on Sunday, July 16th. We would like to thank everyone for their support in Josh's journey and accomplishment in earning his Eagle Scout Rank.

Christine Overton

NEW WI-FI INFORMATION

We have completed installation of a new wireless internet network in our church building. This new network is faster, more reliable, and uses a single network to cover the entire building. You can connect using the network name MSBC, and the password is "underthesteep" (without the quotes). Many thanks to Rob Welsh, who gave generously of his time in order to make this helpful upgrade!

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank the men who prepared and served the delicious meal for the Mother/Daughter banquet in May. There were so many wonderful comments about their great service and what a wonderful night out it was with family and friends. Many think we should do it every year. Thanks again.

Rosalie Churchill

NEWSLETTER

Now that we have gone digital we will be printing the newsletter all twelve months of the year. We will send out our reminders as usual regarding the deadline and it will still be sent out on the last day of the month. If you have anything for the summer months please be sure to send it in!

REPAIR CAFE

At council on May 17th, we discussed the possibility of establishing a "Repair Café" at Middle Street Baptist. Our limitations on what we can repair are only limited by the support and expertise that we can summon. This is potentially a great outreach opportunity.

Repair Cafés are free meeting places and they're all about repairing things (together). In the place where a Repair Café is located, you'll find tools and materials to help you make any repairs you need. On clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, appliances, toys, etc. You'll also find expert volunteers, with repair skills in all kinds of fields.

Visitors bring their broken items from home. Together with the specialists they start making their repairs in the Repair Café. It's an ongoing learning process. If you have nothing to repair, you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Or you can lend a hand with someone else's repair job. You can also get inspired at the reading table – by leafing through books on repairs and DIY.

For those of you who would like to see more information, please visit <http://www.repaircafe.org/en>.

Thanks,
Larry Hart

INFORMATION REGARDING LIQUIDS IN THE SACTUARY

The Trustees have contracted to have new carpeting installed in the sanctuary, narthex, outside entry, stairs, balcony, and balcony stairs. When this work is completed please use extra care to make sure all liquids are in a container with a secure lid. If an accident occurs and something spills, please let someone know so the stain can be properly treated. Thank you!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Updated May 24, 2017

Continuing Concerns

Jan Anderson and family
Lisa Beard

Cathy Davis
Amy DeStefano

Joan Keech
Lyle Webb

Friends and Family

Denota Deshamps, niece of Melodie Chapman
Norma Estrada, friend of Rosalie Churchil
Karen Metrolis, wife of Frank Metrolis
Rita Rozek, mother of Tamara Rozek
Amir Taghizad, friend of Russ Johnson
The family of Liva Webb
Dana and Mark Wise, brothers of Tara Wise

Our Soldiers in Service

Peter Clark, Army
Damon Doyle, Marines

Joe Freda, Jr., Navy
Becky Resendes, Army

Eli Sewell, Navy

Homebound Friends and Family

Al Coyle

Carolyn Harvey

Joan Keech

Norma Lang

Marjorie Little

Victor and Helen Tine

THE MONTH AHEAD

Friday, June 2nd

12:00–5:00 pm

Red Cross Blood Drive

Sunday, June 4

10:00 am

Children's Day Worship Service

6:30–7:30 pm

Evening of Worship

Saturday, June 10th

7:00 - 11:00 am

Pancake Breakfast

Monday, June 12th

12:45 pm

Ann Judson

Saturday, June 17th

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Black Heritage Trail Concert

Monday, June 19th

5:30 pm

Trustees

Tuesday, June 20th

5:30 pm

Daughters of Eve

Tuesday, June 20th through Saturday, June 24th

First Baptist South Londonderry, VT volunteer building week

Wednesday, June 21st
Church Council

Thursday, June 22nd
Newsletter Deadline

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