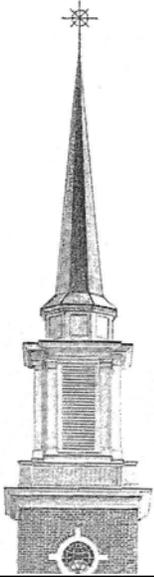


UNDER THE STEEPL^e

November 2016

Volume 13, Issue 8



Red Sl eigh Bazaar

November 19th—9 AM to 1 PM



Here we go!

We need attic treasures, jewelry, tools, small appliances, books, and crafts. Look into those cellars, attics, garages, and drawers for goodies for the fair.

You know that jewelry you have not worn in 20 years, donate it to the fair! How about those tools that have been in the shed, cellar, or a drawer?

Donate them to the fair! When was the last time you used those candle sticks, bowls, Christmas decorations, tablecloths, etc.? I know how you can get rid of them. Three guesses.... Give them to the fair. We need baked goods also – pies, cookies, candy, etc. For the Children's Table—bring toys, books, games, and items just for kids.

We need someone to man the craft table, someone to help take down and pack away the attic treasures. We need people to help with the lunch. There will be sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. All help is greatly needed.

To help with specific tasks you can contact the following:

Yard Sale—Louie Dow—(603) 436-7182
Attic Treasures/Craft Table—Barbara Kirkham—(603) 988-5063
Julie Morford—(603)964-8573
Jewelry—Melodie Chapman—(603) 512-6155
Books—Jack Foster—(207) 363-2978
Baked Goods—Sharon Hartford—(603) 373-8387
Lunch—Rosalie Churchill—(207)-703-0505

Thank you all in advance for your help.

Barbara Kirkham (603) 988-5063
Julie Morford—(603)964-8573

Inside this Issue

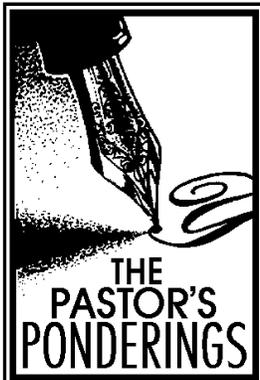
The Pastor's Ponderings/AED Training	2
Birthdays/Anniversaries/Notes	3
Daughters of Eve/ Ann Judson/ Poinsettias	4
Missions	5
Prayer Concerns	6

Church Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed
8 AM—2PM
Thursday—8 AM—12PM
Office closed on Fridays

We are going digital

Beginning in January 2017 we will transition from paper newsletters to digital newsletters! This will allow us to communicate more frequently and faster with our church family. Please be sure we have your email address so that we can be sure you receive the newsletter. If you are unable to receive email, let us know and we will be happy to send you a printed copy by first class mail.



What's your favorite Thanksgiving tradition?

We tell stories. The same stories every year. Stories about my family's roots in rural Georgia. Stories about my dad and his siblings and the trouble they got in growing up.

I love hearing the same stories over and over. Sometimes it's because I forgot those stories. Sometimes it's because I know the stories well, but I want to hear them again, because they make me laugh every single time. Sometimes it's because I want to hear the way one of my uncles tells the stories.

No matter the reason, I love hearing those old stories repeated year after year around the Thanksgiving table. Those stories are part of what keeps us close as a family.

Stories bind us together. And the story of Jesus binds us together as a church. The story of his glory; of our boneheaded self-dependence; of his tenacious pursuit; of our response, of his work in our lives. The same stories—week after week, month after month, year after year.

The stories we tell around our Thanksgiving tables give us joy. The story we tell around the Lord's Table gives us even more joy—and eternal life. That's why, just like my family tells the same stories over and over, we'll keep telling the story of Jesus, over and over.

I hope it never gets old to you. I hope you're amazed in fresh ways by the depth of God's love for you. I hope you're humbled by the way he still pursues you. I hope you're encouraged by knowledge that he has given his Holy Spirit to you.

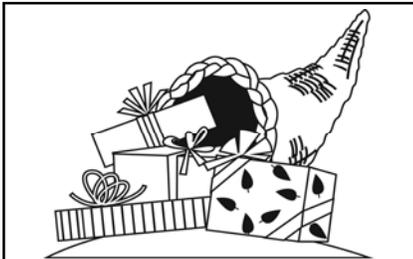
As we gear up for Thanksgiving (and Christmas – can you believe Christmas is next month!?) and set the table, prepare the meal, spruce up the living room, make the beds in the guest room, let yourself anticipate the traditions and stories, and let it cause your heart to remember the greatest story: God who became human for your sake, so that you can enjoy an eternal relationship with him.

Warmly,
Chris



Pictured above is an AED training class that was presented at MSBC in October. The session was attended by approximately 30 interested members of the Church. Captain Richard Murphy of the Portsmouth Fire Department provided his expertise and humor to the interested "students."

Church Member, Josh Overton, made putting an AED unit into the church his project on the way to becoming an Eagle Scout. He raised all of the funds and made sure the installation and training were in place. This Automatic External Defibrillator will benefit not only the church community, but others who use the church building. It is now located in our Fellowship Hall.



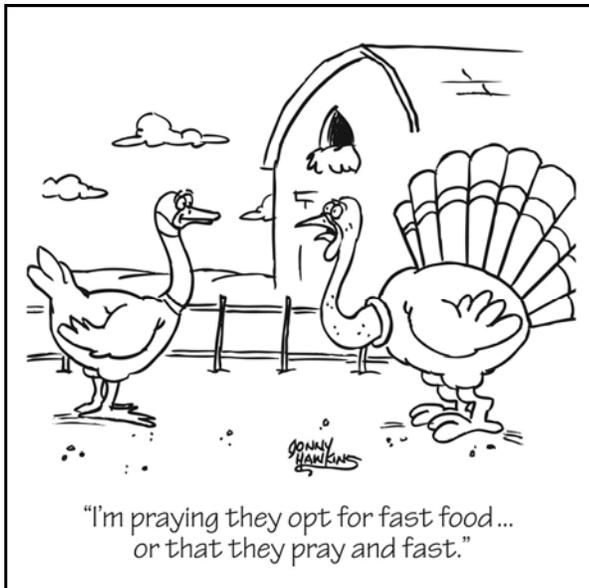
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Doran Morford
- 3 Toni Price
- 4 Betty Gregory
- 5 Emily McKenna
- 7 Ruth Moulton
- 13 Jaqueline Holmes
- 20 Bonnie Orr
- 28 Pamela Sawin
- Mindy Hurd

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

- 9th—Andrea and Ben St. Jean
♥ 14 years
- 10th—Jaime and Chris Dunaway
♥ 4 years
- 20th—Deidre and Tom Hammer
♥ 17 years



~~NOTES~~

My Church Family,

I am pleased to announce that I am in full remission from the cancer. From the bottom of my heart I want to thank everyone who prayed for me. Thank you for all of the support you have given me.

Love,
Lisa Beard

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for the wonderful shower you gave us! We felt so loved by your care and generosity which you have surrounded us with since we arrived, and we are so thankful for the way you have surrounded our girl even before her arrival. You are truly a wonderful and kind group and we are deeply thankful to have such an amazing family here to live and grow with.

Sincerely,
Chris and Jaime

Dottie Steere-Doyle has been getting many requests for a recipe so she has decided to share it with all who may be interested:

My Sister Leslie's Winter Salad by Julie Cook

Dressing

- ½ c sugar
- ⅓ c lemon juice
- 2 tsp onion, finely chopped
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 T poppy seed

Salad Ingredients

- 1 large Romaine Lettuce
(about 10 cups)
- 1 c unsalted cashews, dried
- ½ c diced dried cranberries
- 1 or 2 apples, diced
- 1 or 2 pears, diced

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.

In September, we started a new Bible study, "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 to God's gracious love.

Daughters of Eve meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm and the meetings are 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 Meeting

Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 pm

The next session is Leah and the key scriptures are Genesis 29 and 30" 1-24. Marilyn Gustafson is leading the discussion.

Save the Dates

Tuesday, December 6th

"From the Heart" Christmas Program at Bethany Church. The doors open at 6:30 pm. We will meet at Dinnerhorn Restaurant in Portsmouth at 5:15 for dinner before the program.

Tuesday, December 20th

Annual Christmas Gathering—Location and time to be determined.

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



Order Your Poinsettias

Deadline to order— December 12, 2016

Cost: \$13.00

Make checks payable to:
Middle Street Baptist Church
18 Court ST
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Please fill out the form below:

I would like to order _____poinsettias for personal use

I would like to order _____poinsettias for a shut-in

I can assist in delivering a poinsettia to a shut in
Yes ___ No___

My poinsettia is in memory/honor of:

Given by:
Name _____
Phone _____



ANN JUDSON FELLOWSHIP

Meeting: 12:45 PM On Monday, November 14th

Ann Judson Fellowship will be meeting at Grille 28 on Grafton RD, Portsmouth (Pease).

All ladies are welcome to join us. A Sign up sheet is on the podium by the kitchen.

Any questions call Jan Witham at (603) 436-7252.

MISSIONS

\$25,000 in OGHS (One Great Hour of Sharing) emergency funds being sent to International Ministries Caribbean partners for Hurricane Matthew Relief



Initial grants totaling \$25,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) emergency relief funds are on their way to American Baptist International Ministries (IM) partners in Haiti, Cuba and the Caribbean after Hurricane Matthew barreled through on October 3rd and 4th, 2016. The Category 4 storm brought heavy winds and torrential downpours on the island nations in its path.

OGHS (One Great Hours of Sharing) is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA. The Committee facilitates American Baptist emergency relief, disaster rehabilitation, refugee work and development assistance by establishing policy guidelines and overseeing distribution of the annual OGHS offering received by churches.

Hurricane Matthew entered Haiti on the southwestern coast with winds causing devastating impact. IM's missionaries in Haiti, Nancy and Steve James, who

are now residing in the U.S., got word that people in Gran Goave (west of Port-au-Prince) and in the north of Haiti at the University of Northern Haiti (UNCH) experienced less impact. "Lots of rain, but no damages," Steve reports. Kihomi Ngwemi and Nzunga Mabudiga, IM missionaries in Haiti, are also in the U.S. now.

Hurricane Matthew arrived in Cuba at Guantanamo, on the eastern side of the island nation. IM's partner in that region is the Baptist Convention of Eastern Cuba. In an email received yesterday from IM friends, Pastor Israel Castro and Loida Rodriguez, who live and work in Chivirico, Cuba, reported on the extent of the devastation:

"We are back home. Thank God we have power. We had a lot of flooding, but few losses. However, Baracoa [a city on the eastern coast] is a total disaster. The whole town is devastated. We have been in communication with the missionary coordinator of the deaf ministry and 99% of deaf people lost their homes and everything they had. We don't know anything about Maisi [also on the eastern coast]. We believe they lost everything, but still don't know for sure. There is no communication. We hope that within 10 days the roads are fixed and we can bring some help like rice, soap and see if there is anything we can do."

IM has no residential global servants in Cuba.

The Rev. Adalia Gutiérrez Lee, American Baptist International Ministries (IM) area director, said "Our hearts and prayers go out to our brothers and sisters in Haiti, Cuba, Jamaica and other Caribbean islands that have been affected by Hurricane Matthew. OGHS funds will be providing food, clothing and temporary shelter for the victims."

American Baptists have longstanding relationships with Christian partners in the Caribbean. We have been serving in Haiti and eastern Cuba since 1922, in Jamaica since 2006 and with the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship since 2012.

Additional relief is urgently needed. You may give through your church, make an online contribution by credit card, or mail a check to International Ministries, Attn: OGHS-Hurricane Matthew, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482. Write "OGHS-Hurricane Matthew" on the memo line if you give by check.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE — At Middle Street Baptist Church

Friday, November 4th— 12 Noon—5:00 PM

The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood.™



PRAYER CONCERNS *Updated 10-26-2016*

Cards and notes of encouragement are especially important at times of major transition in people's lives –Just go ahead and send a word even if you do not know someone well. If you need an address check the church family directory or feel free to call or e-mail the church office.

Continuing Concerns

Lisa Beard, Cathy Davis, Amy DeStefano, Joan Keech, Ruth Moulton, Lyle Webb

Friends and Family

Robert Conroy, father of Bonnie Orr
 Norma Estrada, friend of Rosalie Churchill
 Spencer Davis, brother-in-law of Roxanne Ferrin
 Rita Rozek, mother of Tamara Rozek
 John Steere, grandson of Dottie Steere-Doyle
 The family of Liva Webb
 Dana and Mark Wise, brothers of Tara Wise

Our Soldiers in Service

Peter Clark, Army; Logan Lewis, Marines; Damon Doyle, Marines; Becky Resendes, Army; Joe Freda, Jr., Navy; Eli Sewell, Navy; Josh Reeves, Army

Our Friends and Members Based at Home

This list includes individuals and their family members whose mobility may be temporarily or permanently restricted. This may include long- term recuperation, a limiting physical or emotional condition, long term assisted living, or caretaking.

At Home

Victor and Helen Tine, 241 Drakeside RD, #1214, Hampton, NH 03842—(603) 926-5313

Assisted Living

Mark Wentworth Home, 346 Pleasant ST, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Carolyn Harvey ♦ Norma Lang ♦ Marjorie Little

Al Coyle—Maple Suites, 30 Holiday DR #118, Dover, NH 03820 (603) 343-1079



THE MAJESTY OF THE CHRISTMAS MANGER

Outdoor Live Nativity is on Saturday, December 17th

Event times: 3:30 and 4:30 pm.

Rehearsal dates : Sunday, December 4th and 11th at 11:30 and 12:15 pm.

Sign up in Fellowship Hall towards the end of November.

More information will be published in the weekly bulletins.