



THE JOYBELL

of the

The Baptist Church of Grafton

An American Baptist Church

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October 2018

Next steps for our Church

Sunday, September 30 the church family gathered to consider the next steps in our future. The gathering was led by Rev. Marlene Gil from TABCOM and Rev. Jim Hinds from Central Association with the assistance of Pastor Frank. After agreeing to a Conversation Covenant and a Covenant for Civility to guide our discussion, anyone who wished to speak about his or her beliefs was given an opportunity to speak without being interrupted. It was also noted that Pastor Frank has given his notice and his last Sunday with us will be October 14.

At the end of the gathering the following steps were suggested:

- Diaconate needs to reorganize and select a new Interim Pastor. A resume was submitted by Central Association for the Diaconate's consideration.
- Under the guidance of the new Interim seek to come together and restart the search process. Rev. Hines suggested that 2 ½ to 4 years is not a long time to search for a new minister.
- The new Search Committee will need to review the current profile to be sure it accurately reflects our diverse views.

Diaconate Report

The Diaconate has been continuing to meet and discussing ideas for our Outreach Program Projects. We are making progress and a number of good ideas have been proposed. We hope to finalize our first project in the near future.



We now have a grab-bar installed on the left side of the door to enter the Narthex. We are installing a second grab-bar on the right side of the door as well. A big thank you to Steve Reichle for making this happen. Reminder to anyone who would like assistance with stairs to get to Russell Hall or to enter or exit the church, please let one of the Deacons stationed in the Narthex know and they can get someone to help you.

The **Grotto team is getting short-handed** and is looking for volunteers willing to help run the sound system for Sunday Services. It's not especially complicated but ideally you should have at least basic familiarity with using a Windows PC. Training will of course be provided. Please contact Peter Ballantyne.

Saying Good-bye to Pastor Frank and Kristine

On Sunday, October 14 there will be a special coffee time to say goodbye to the Armstrongs. They have spent 2 years with us and have become a much-loved part of our church family. Please plan to join us as we say good-bye and wish them much happiness at their next interim assignment.

Mission Committee

Susanne Fleming shared a message from Mary Blake about turning 30 years old and the life journey she has been through. We were blessed to have her attend our church while she was a student at Tufts Veterinary School. Her note will be posted on the Mission Boards on the stairway in the Narthex along with the Thank you letters.



Ed Guerard invited us (and any one from our church who would enjoy it) to attend 2018 Mission Works, October 12-13 in Leominster. The Members of the Mission committee will not be able to attend this year but if anyone else is interested in attending please talk to Susanne Fleming, Missions Secretary. Meredith Christian will be attending and is offering rides. Register online or download a paper registration form at www.mmmm.org/missionworks-2018



Our next Meeting will be Monday, October 8. The Missions Committee welcomes new members!

Kitchen/Hospitality Committee

Ham & Bean Supper: A Special Thank You to all who helped to make the September 22 Ham & Bean Supper a success! We really appreciate those who stepped in to help! The dinner netted a total of \$752 (all food for this dinner was donated thanks to many who made the beans and purchased the ham.)

Coffee Time: We are recruiting more helpers by teaming up with and helping people who are willing to provide refreshments and set up for Coffee Time and clean-up. A sign-up sheet is available on the Clock Table. Please sign up to make this special fellowship to continue. Asking a friend or two to provide food with you makes things more fun and an easier task.

Next Meeting: We will have a meeting after Church October 7 to go over scheduling and supplies needed for Turkey Dinner Scheduled for October 20 at 5:30PM

Turkey Dinner October 20



Our **next public dinner** will be served Saturday evening, October 20 at 5:30 p.m. Our kitchen crew will be preparing a turkey dinner with stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, butternut squash, cranberry sauce, beverage and our famous dessert buffet.



We are looking for donations to help with the purchase of turkeys and other food for this event and people to help with set-up before and after the dinner. If you would like to help, please contact the church office.

Reservations are needed for this dinner as it is such a popular meal. If you plan to enjoy the turkey dinner, please call the church office and make your reservation with our church secretary [508-839-4911]. The donation is \$12 and the tables are filling fast!

As always, we thank the kitchen crew and those who make the many desserts. Together we have an evening of wonderful food and great fellowship.

Christian Education Report

- We are continuing with our Children's Program with hopes to grow it. If the older students keep attending, we will try to expand our activities for them.
- Donna will be starting an adult Sunday School class on Sunday October 7 at 9am. We will be using the video series "That the World May Know." These are short videos which last between 15-30 minutes. This will be followed by time for discussion. We will not meet monthly but email each other as needed or meet on a Sunday after church.
- **Children's message sign-up sheet** is available for those willing to share a story with our children and youth. The sheet will be circulated during coffee hour.
- **Bible Study Class** continues to meet under the direction of Meredith Christian. There is always room for more around the table for this discussion group. There will NOT be a meeting on Tuesday, October 30.
- We will meet November 15th to decide our program for Christmas.

Long Range Planning

Long Range planning committee is looking for new members especially with the need to fill many positions on the Annual Meeting Slate of Officers and Chairs. Please speak with Janice King if you can help this important committee. Presently there are 2 vacancies but more people would make the work of the committee easier.

Property Committee

Property Committee met on September 13 and discussed the following:

- Parsonage
 - Rental target date is December 1. Committee agreed to use a rental agent to screen the applicants



- Plumbing work has been completed by Gregg Jordan including new shut-off valves and some of the piping
- Joe Gandolfo is working on completing the electrical work
- Steve will gather quotes on having a professional remove the wall paper and painting the rooms in a neutral color. He will also check with the painting company regarding lead paint.
- Men's Bathroom
 - Alan Harvie is still on to do this work in the fall/winter
- David and Steve removed all the junk from behind the shed. A donation of \$100 was given to Ed and Morgan King for the use of their dumpster.
 - Thanks to the weeding crew of Diane and Janice who made the front of the church look better
 - Thanks to David Libbey and Randy Brooks who worked very hard to cut down the jungle on the south side of the church. Steve Reichle disposed of all the brush that was cut down.
 - Thanks to John Renaud for getting the wood and installing new boards on the handicap ramp and built a new set of steps from the Parlor to the outside.
- Building has been inspected and a few issues were discovered which will be addressed. **A reminder that nothing should be stored in the boiler room and that a clear access to the inside of the room is necessary for fire prevention.**
- Thanks to Peter Ballantyne for creating an Organ Blower Lubrication Kit and also installed a new power supply for the blower.
- Steve is working on a new rental agreement for church property and will have new numbers and forms in the near future.

Important Dates in October

2	Tuesday	~	5:15-6:15pm AA Reflections Group
			7:30pm Bible Study with Meredith Christian
4	Thursday	~	10:00am Prayer Time in the parlor
7	Sunday	~	10:00am Children's Day Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School classes for our children and youth.
8	Monday	~	10:00am Mission Committee with Garfield Atchue
9	Tuesday	~	5:15-6:15pm AA Reflections Group
11	Thursday	~	10:00am Prayer Time in the parlor
12	Friday	~	1 to 7pm Quilt show set-up
13	Saturday	~	10:00am-3:00pm Quilt Show



14	Sunday	~	10:00am Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School classes for our children. Good-bye gathering for Pastor Frank and Kristine during coffee fellowship.
16	Tuesday	~	5:15-6:15pm AA Reflections Group
		~	7:30pm Bible Study with Meredith Christian
17	Wednesday	~	3:00pm Crescent Manor worship service with Meredith
18	Thursday	~	10:00am Prayer Time in the parlor
		~	7:00pm Property Committee with Steve Reichle
20	Saturday	~	5:30pm Turkey Dinner
21	Sunday	~	10:00am Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School classes for our youth. Coffee Fellowship following meeting.
		~	11:30am Choir Rehearsal with Pat Knowlton
22	Monday	~	7:00pm Diaconate
23	Tuesday	~	5:15-6:15pm AA Reflections Group
25	Thursday	~	10:00am Prayer Time in the parlor
28	Sunday		10:00am Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School classes for our youth. Coffee Fellowship following meeting.
29	Monday		7:00pm Board of Directors with Diane Libbey
30	Tuesday		5:15-6:15pm AA Reflections Group

- **Worship Service to God's Glory, 10:00am**, with Childcare and Sunday School Classes for children in Nursery through High School. Church Family Fellowship Time with refreshments following the Worship Service.:
- **Deacons of the Month for October:** Donna Nichols and Chris Hoffman
- **Tellers for the Month for October:** Janice King and Wendell Barthelmes
- Church Office Hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 am–11:30 am.
- Call the Church office for the Pastor's hours.

Pie Making Team is Done!

Pat Knowlton lead our **Church Fair pie making team** again this year. Our pies are a huge reason why our food table is so popular with those who come to the Fair! There were four pie making sessions and by September 25 55+ pies were safely tucked into freezers to be baked on November 1. A big thank you to the people who organized the apples, did the peeling, rolled out the dough and made room in their freezers.

If anyone would like to purchase a FROZEN PIE to put in their freezer for the holidays, please speak with Pat prior to Tuesday October 30. If you have any questions, speak with Pat.



All Church Fair Is Almost Here

The **Annual All Church Fair** will be held on Saturday, **November 3** from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We will be looking for **help from everyone** to make this another successful effort. Our plan is to **set-up for the fair** directly after the Fellowship time on **Sunday, October 28**. Again we will be looking for young people and those who are strong to help with moving tables, chairs and other furniture and with retrieving things from the balcony.

We hope each family can donate two baked good items to the bake sale table.

Please be sure to:

- Make these items from scratch;
- Wrap items in plastic wrap so people can see what they are buying
- Clearly mark the name of the item on it as many breads/cookie/pies look the same. Also please indicate if nuts are included.
- **Please sign-in when you bring your donations so we know who brought what in case there are questions about the item. There will be a sign-in sheet on the table if you drop off items when no one is there.**
- If these are unusual items please suggest a price. Tags will be available on the table.
- Bring them to the church on Friday, November 2.

We will again be selling our **hot pepper jelly, homemade jams and other goodies.**

Chefs Marcia Kamilewicz and Everett Beaman will be serving up mouth watering food from the **snack bar**. They are looking for **monetary donations** to help defray the cost of this very successful part of our fair. They will buy the food, cook it **and** clean up – what a great deal!!

Garfield The Plant Man is looking for live plants to add to his table.



Our **Jewelry Table** sold most of its wares last year so we need all sorts of things to re-stock the table.

The **Craft Table** is looking for home-made crafts or gift items such as knitting projects, sewing, woodworking or whatever you do! Clean empty glass salad dressing bottles [or those of similar size] for our lavender water are also needed. We are also looking for Christmas ornaments and other small items to catch customers' attention

The **Attic Treasures** team is looking for your used household goods, tools and gadgets to offer to the bargain hunters. This is a wonderful opportunity to donate the unused treasures lurking in your attic or basement! We expanded our **Attic** last year and it was a tremendous success. Only you and your donations can make this another success! Please **bring your donations early in the week of October 28** so they can be priced for the sale. Please make sure items are clean and in good repair. **Toys and clothing should be saved for the Spring Indoor Yard Sale.**

We will be selling **books, CDs, videos and DVDs** so look through your collections to see if there is anything that might be added to this table. Please keep musty books and unmarked cds, dvds, magazines, textbooks and videos at home.

Our **Drawffle** is in its tenth year. You can buy a ticket for the opportunity to win one of several very special items. These include a lovely hand quilted wall hanging and a handmade lap throw. Please label items you think will be good for the Drawffle and leave them in Russell Hall. **The final decision of what is on the Drawffle table will be made by the fair committee.**

We need **set up and clean up help!** We will set up tables after church on October 28 and will be looking for help on November 3 to reset the Hall and pack away items that were not sold.

Please **invite your friends and neighbors** to come to the fair. They can enjoy a wonderful hot meal at the snack shack, buy some jams, jellies, pies and delicious Baptist baked goods, bring home a plant or a book to read, a treasure from the attic, or a Christmas craft. Encourage everyone to buy Drawffle tickets and get a treat in return! Don't forget that there will be a table for youngsters where they can decorate cookies while giving their parents an opportunity to shop.

Here are the key dates to mark in your calendar now!!!!

October 28	<u>Set-up for the fair, right after church!</u>
October 29, to Nov. 2	Fair table set up time!
November 1	Pie Baking Day at church
November 3	Fair Day!!!



Sign up to help at a table, for clean-up or to assist during lunch rush at the snack shack.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!!
November 3, 9 AM to 2:30 PM

