



## **Gabriel's Horn Newsletter**

...Heralding the Good News to our neighbors...

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

E-mail: [1st.Cong.Church@gmail.com](mailto:1st.Cong.Church@gmail.com)

**September/October 2022**

**\* Our Sunday worship service begins at 10 a.m. \***

### **CHURCH STAFF**

#### **Interim Pastor:**

Sue Walters

(716) 983-5760

[revst88@gmail.com](mailto:revst88@gmail.com)

#### **Office Hours:**

Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### **Choir Director:**

Bethyn Boni

(585) 396-2788

[Bethyn.Boni@gmail.com](mailto:Bethyn.Boni@gmail.com)

#### **Organist:**

Donna Messner

(585) 657-6579

[dlmessner3169@gmail.com](mailto:dlmessner3169@gmail.com)

#### **Sexton**

Robin Stewart

(585) 657-7574

#### **Newsletter Editor & Web Master**

Marilyn R. Shafer

(585) 935-1538

[mshafer5@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mshafer5@rochester.rr.com)

*Redeeming Sustainer, visit your people and pour out your strength and courage upon us, that we may hurry to make you welcome not only in our concern for others, but by serving them generously and faithfully in your name. Amen.*

## **From the Pastor**

*"And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And he said, "Write this, For these words are trustworthy and true."*

*Revelation 21:5 RSV*



I heard these words read and preached at a funeral I attended this week. Rev. Rachel Erin Stuart, the new pastor of the East Bloomfield United Methodist Church, did an excellent job applying them to the new life that follows mortal death. It occurred to me since hearing them that they can also be applied to each day of our lives. With each sunrise, God is making all things new. There is new light; it will not be exactly the same as the previous day's light because the earth has shifted ever so slightly from its position the previous day, and the amount and type of clouds (or lack of them) has changed as well. Perhaps the humidity and the temperatures have fluctuated. Whatever has happened, we can be sure today is not the same as yesterday.

That also means we have the capacity to change from what we were yesterday. We can be made new as well. We can pray deeply, fervently that God will help us be a new creation. This applies if you have said or done things of which you are ashamed. This applies if you have said words in anger that you wish you take back. This applies if your actions have not followed Christ's model. This applies if you have done less than your best. With each day, we have the opportunity to be fully forgiven, and move forward. We are part of all those things that God can make new. Let us yield our wills, our lives to God, so we can be His new creations. Amen.

Blessings,  
Sue

## **Prayer Requests**

As we go through the next couple of months, please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers: Nick \* Bev \* Al & Patty \* Nancy & Carl \* Richard & Bessie \* Donna &

Larry \* Dean & Joanne \* Wilma \* Phyllis & Jim \* Scott \* Shannon Autumn Jay Jacquie Nancy  
& Rich Ann Chris Connor B Bonnie

## **Birthdays**

These people are celebrating birthdays during these two months. When you see them, please wish them a Happy Birthday!



### **September**

9 Mary Martin  
18 Alice McConnell  
27 Donna Messner

### **October**

5 Rich Walters  
6 Lynn Tyler  
14 Phyllis Rehtin  
26 Jim Rehtin  
30 Bruce Walters

## **Church News & Updates**

### **● Red Cross Blood Drive**

The First Congregational Church no longer sponsors or hosts Red Cross Blood Drives. Many thanks to all the volunteers and donors who came to help in such a worthwhile cause. We regret not being an official participant in the blood drives but we do encourage those who still wish to volunteer their time, service or blood to continue to do so by working with the Red Cross directly. Thank you all for everything.

### **● Fundraising**

Thanks to Nick Glamack and all the volunteers who help sell the BBQ chicken, our two fundraisers this year were a rousing success; both were sold out. And our thanks to the community who continues to support these BBQ sales. They really are a great way to enjoy fellowship and make money to help support the church and its mission. God willing, we will see you next year for more of the same!

### **● Roof Repair (Update)**

The church's Board of Trustees has been planning for a new church roof for some time now. While the current 30+ year old roof remains in good condition, the trustees have been thinking and planning ahead for its replacement. This includes the replacement of the

shingles on the two peak roofs (the main building housing the sanctuary plus the one over fellowship hall).

In 2021, the trustees applied for and received a \$15,000 grant from the Landmark Conservancy's Sacred Sites Program. This is a matching grant, and must be used by spring, 2023. So far, the generous church members and friends have donated over \$8500. The trustees are deeply grateful for your willingness to help with this project. If you have not had the opportunity to make such a donation, and would like to do that, or would like to make another gift, the trustees will gladly, and, again, gratefully, accept it. What has not been given will come from the undesignated funds in the church's savings account.

The trustees have gotten estimates from three roofers and decided to go with Cameron Roofing from Penfield. They will be beginning the work this fall.

- **All Saints Day (Observed Sunday, November 6)**

This day is to commemorate all Christians. It is held, not only to remember saints, but also to remember all those who have died who were members of the church congregation.

We will celebrate the memories of our loved ones on Sunday, November 6. Please plan to bring in a picture of your departed ones (or a candle if you've no picture) to place on the altar.

- **Worship Services**

Remember, for those who cannot attend, or who are still not yet comfortable attending public services, we are continuing to tape and post Sunday's service that afternoon on our Facebook page. Please note the posts are audio only (similar to a podcast) and we are recording only the scripture readings and Pastor Sue's sermon. The podcasts can be listened to at any time (along with all the other videos we've posted) by accessing the Video tab on our Facebook page (link: <https://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-Bloomfield-NY-357770224341588/>).

- **Food Cupboard**

As a continuing reminder, the food cupboard's most needed items are toilet paper, hand soap, detergent, dish soap and hearty soups. Please buy extra items on your next shopping trip and leave it in the box in the church entryway. Your donations are always welcome.

### **Reoccurring Calendar Events (Monthly)**

- **Woman's Breakfast:** meets the first Sunday of every month at **Brady Js** restaurant (24 Maple Avenue, Bloomfield) at 8 a.m. All interested women are invited; being a member of the church is not a requirement. For this period, the group meets **September 4th** and **October 2nd**.

- **Special Offering:** An extra offering plate is passed on the first Sunday of every month. This is a special offering to support church outreach to the local community and local



missions and is kept in the Benevolence Fund for future distributions. For this period, the offerings are on Sunday, **September 4th** and **October 2nd**. The offering basket will be available at our live service. However, if you are unable to attend, please contact Janice Kelly, our Benevolence Secretary, to make arrangements for your gift.

Please note that if you are unable to attend worship service yet you wish to make a donation to the church (pledge, benevolence or faith), you can mail your donation to Marilyn Shafer at 12 Howard Avenue, Bloomfield, NY, 14469.

- **Church Council:** The church council is back from summer break and will begin meeting the first Sunday of each month after regular church services. For this time, council meetings are **September 4th** and **October 2nd**.

- **Choir Practice:** The choir is returning from summer break and will re-start Wednesday evening rehearsals on September 7th (the first Wednesday after Labor Day) at 7:30 p.m. In addition, the choir meets on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. for rehearsal. As always, they are looking for singers and all are welcome.

- **Men's Breakfast:** The men meet the last Sunday of every month at **Brady Js** restaurant (24 Maple Avenue, Bloomfield) at 8 a.m. All interested men are invited; being a member of the church is not a requirement. For this period, the group meets **September 21st** and **October 30th**.

### **July & August Specific Calendar Events**

- **Sunday, September 1:** Labor Day



- **Sunday, September 4 (8 a.m.):** Women's breakfast at Brady Js

- **Sunday, September 11: Patriot Day**

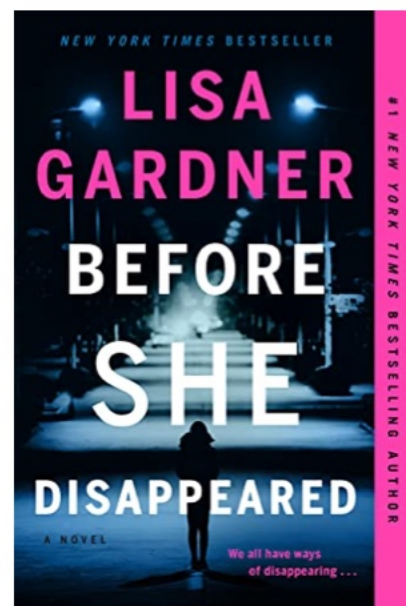


- **Thursday, September 15, (9:30 a.m.):** The church book club meets in Pastor Sue's office; they will discuss the novel *Before She Disappeared* by Lisa Gardner.

### ***Amazon synopsis***

Frankie Elkin is an average middle-aged woman, a recovering alcoholic with more regrets than belongings. But she spends her life doing what no one else will--searching for missing people the world has stopped looking for. When the police have given up, when the public no longer remembers, when the media has never paid attention, Frankie starts looking.

A new case brings her to Mattapan, a Boston neighborhood with a rough reputation. She is searching for Angelique Badeau, a Haitian teenager who vanished from her high school months earlier. Resistance from the Boston PD and the victim's wary family tells Frankie she's on her own--and she soon learns she's asking questions someone doesn't want answered. But Frankie will stop at nothing to discover the truth, even if it means the next person to go missing could be her.



- **Sunday, September 21 (8 a.m.):** Men's breakfast at Brady Js
- **Sunday, October 2 (8 a.m.):** Women's breakfast at Brady J's
- **Thursday, October 10:** Columbus Day



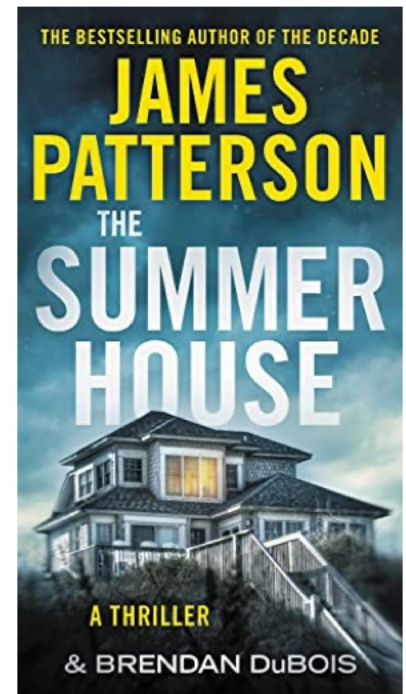


● **Thursday, October 20 (9:30 a.m.):** The church book club meets in Pastor Sue's office; they will discuss the book *The Summer House* by James Patterson.

**Amazon synopsis:**

Once a luxurious southern getaway on a rustic lake, then reduced to a dilapidated crash pad, the Summer House is now the grisly scene of a nighttime mass murder. Eyewitnesses point to four Army Rangers -- known as the Night Ninjas -- recently returned from Afghanistan.

To ensure that justice is done, the Army sends Major Jeremiah Cook, a veteran and former NYPD cop, to investigate. But the major and his elite team arrive in sweltering Georgia with no idea their grim jobs will be made exponentially more challenging by local law enforcement, who resists the Army's intrusion and stonewall them at every turn.



As Cook and his squad struggle to uncover the truth behind the condemning evidence, the pieces just won't fit -- and forces are rallying to make certain damning secrets die alongside the victims in the murder house. With his own people in the cross-hairs, Cook takes a desperate gamble to find answers -- even if it means returning to a hell of his own worst nightmares . . .

● **Sunday, October 30 (8 a.m.):** Men's breakfast at Brady J's

-----

● **Pastor Morning Prayer & Office Hours**

Pastor Sue has open door office hours every Thursday. She leads morning prayer from the office beginning at 9 a.m. (which is streamed live on the church's Facebook page) and will remain in the office until 1 p.m. As always, drop-ins for a cup of coffee or tea are welcome. In addition, Sue is also available at other times by appointment; please call her on her cellphone at 716-983-5760 to make arrangements.

● **Church Membership**

Please call Pastor Sue Walters at (716) 983-5760 or e-mail her at [revst88@gmail.com](mailto:revst88@gmail.com) for information on joining the First Congregational Church of East Bloomfield or to arrange Home Communion for a shut in.

● **Advertising A Church Event**

To advertise any church event, please contact Alice McConnell, 8291 Wesley Road, Bloomfield, 14469; (585) 402-5397 or e-mail her at [beehive270@gmail.com](mailto:beehive270@gmail.com). Please ensure you get the written details of the event to Alice 4 weeks before the date of the event.



## ~ ~ ~ Picture Us ~ ~ ~

### ● Choir Picnic

The choir celebrated the start of summer with pizza and ice cream sundaes.



### ● Take Me Out to the Ball Game



The church sponsored a night at the ball field.

It ended up being a close game and although Rochester didn't win, it was a good game. Everyone enjoyed the evening of fun, fellowship, games and fireworks.

Our thanks to Val and Phyllis for coordinating this event.



## Lectionary Readings for November & December

	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
September 4, 2022	Jeremiah 18:1-11  Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Deuteronomy 30:15-20  Psalm 1	Philemon 1:1-21	Luke 14:25-33
September 11, 2022	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28  Psalm 14	Exodus 32:7-14  Psalm 51:1-10	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10
September 18, 2022	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1  Psalm 79:1-9	Amos 8:4-7  Psalm 113	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13
September 25, 2022	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15  Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	Amos 6:1a, 4-7  Psalm 146	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31
October 2, 2022	Lamentations 1:1-6  Lamentations 3:19-26 <i>or</i> <i>Psalm 137</i>	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4  Psalm 37:1-9	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
October 9, 2022	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7  Psalm 66:1-12	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c  Psalm 111	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
October 16, 2022	Jeremiah 31:27-34  Psalm 119:97-104	Genesis 32:22-31  Psalm 121	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8
October 23, 2022	Joel 2:23-32  Psalm 65	Sirach 35:12-17 <i>or</i> <i>Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22</i>  Psalm 84:1-7	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14
October 30, 2022	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4  Psalm 119:137-144	Isaiah 1:10-18  Psalm 32:1-7	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19:1-10
"First" OT readings, read semi-continuously, follow major stories/themes, beginning in Year A with Genesis and ending in Year C with the later prophets. <i>Italicized readings may be used with, or in place of it.</i>				
* "Alternate First" OT readings follow the complementary historical tradition of thematically pairing the OT reading with the Gospel reading. <i>Italicized readings may be used with, or in place of it.</i>				

*In your Son you seek out and save the lost, O God, and invite us to the banquet of your eternal home. Visit your people with the joy of salvation that we may rejoice in the riches of your forgiveness and reach out in welcome to share with others the fest of your love. Amen.*

First Congregational Church  
of East Bloomfield  
Post Office Box 5  
East Bloomfield, NY 14443



*Gabriel's Horn Newsletter*

*Gabriel's Horn Newsletter*

