



Gabriel's Horn Newsletter

Heralding the Good News to our neighbors

Sunday Service @ 10:00 A.M.
July/August 2017

<http://www.eastbloomfieldcongregationalchurch.org>

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A note from the editor...

Welcome sweet summertime! What will these summer months bring to you? Where will they take you? Wherever you go, always go with God as your guide. Do not forget His call to be His messenger wherever you travel!

Just before this newsletter many of us enjoyed an evening at the Red Wings Baseball game! Here's a story about life-long friendships and baseball! "Two elderly baseball fans, Joe and Wally, have known each other since they were kids. One day Wally learns he's got an incurable disease and doesn't have much time left. He calls Joe to tell him the news. Joe says, "Wally, I'm so sorry. We've been friends forever, playing minor-league ball together and loving the game so much, and man, I'm really going to miss you. Hey, you know what, when you get to heaven, will you try and let me know if there's baseball up there?"

Wally replies, "Joe, you've been my best pal since we were kids. If there's any way, I'll be in touch and let you know if there's baseball in heaven."

A few days later, Wally died.

A week goes by. One night, very late, Joe is in a deep sleep. Suddenly he's wide awake and hears a voice saying, "Joe.... Joe....wake up."

Joe sits up straight. "Who's that?" he asks. "Joe, it's me, your old friend Wally."

"You can't be Wally. Wally just passed away." (Continued page 4)



PASTORS' COLUMN



Rev. Sandy Porrey

Just A Thought...

Mary Martin recently shared with me a church newsletter from February 1962 she found while looking through some papers. It contained several notices, birthdays, church attendance, a calendar and some prayers. There was one article I would like to share with you because I think its message transcends time. It was titled, "10 Rules For Building a Christian Home" and the author is unknown. (I have copied it as it was printed).

"10 Rules for Building a Christian Home"

1. Have fun together. Home is a place to have a good time, for the members of the family to laugh and play and enjoy each other.
2. Celebrate special days. Birthdays, anniversaries, holidays offer a wonderful chance for the "glow" from a simple observance.
3. Share experiences. Family togetherness grows as we share, perhaps at the supper table, what happens each day.
4. Sing together. Camp songs, fun songs, Negro spirituals, favorite hymns. (Maybe you can't sing but join in anyway).
5. Work together. Even washing dishes or planting carrots, if done together, can bring rare fellowship.
6. Understand each other. Perhaps Dad has business worries, Mary too few dates, etc. Let's watch, listen, ponder, care.
7. Have people in. Not formal dinners, but to be with the family and to open windows to the world.

8. Go to church together. It will deepen home life, give courage and strength, quiet jumpy nerves.
9. Worship together. Grace at table, "tucking in" the children with a verse of Scripture and hymn and prayer, talking over the day – all build comradeship.
10. Give sacrificially, so that the home is blessed by being useful and interested in others.

May God bless you with a peaceful and relaxing summer.

*See you in church,
Sandy*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER, MINISTRY AND HUMOR

Church Membership

Please contact Rev. Sandy Porrey at (585) 773-8512 or Sanders74@juno.com for information on joining the First Congregational Church of East Bloomfield or arranging for Home Communion for a shut-in.

Help Needed—Help Needed
Check out the sign up sheets
in Fellowship Hall






July Birthdays

7 Nick Glamack
15 Chris Bartos
17 Rich Townsend

Aug. Birthdays

24 Bev Clark

Upcoming Events

Choir Everyone is welcome to sing.	Rehearsal, Wednesday evenings: 7:30-9:00. (Sept. through June)
July 2	-Women's Breakfast, 8:00 @ Brady J's -First Sunday Food Basket & special offering.
July 4 	Happy Independence Day!
July 12	Choir Picnic, 6:00 at Marilyn Shafer's
7-16 	Contemporary service at 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall
7-27	Book Club, 2:30-4:00. The Paying Guests, Sarah Waters
7-30	Men's Breakfast 8:00 @ Brady J's.
8-6	-Women's Breakfast, 8:00 @ Brady J's -First Sunday Food Basket & special offering.
8-15	Newsletter Deadline for Sept/Oct 2017
8-20 	Contemporary service at 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall
8-17	Book Club 2:30-4:00, Rock with Wings, Anne Hillerman
8-27	Men's Breakfast 8:00 @ Brady J's.

PEWPOINTS

Lectionary Readings July/August 2017

July 2 Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67, Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16 Genesis 25:19-34, Psalm 119:105-112, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 6 Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7, 15, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

August 13 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

August 20 Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

August 27 Exodus 1:8-2:10, Psalm 124, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

How to advertise your church event

To advertise any church event contact Alice McConnell, 8291 Wesley Road, Bloomfield, 14469; 703-1449 or beehive270@gmail.com. Please give the written details to Alice 4 weeks before the date of the event.

Phyllis Rehtin will handle information for the Newsletter, the website and Bloomfield Buzz. Keep in mind our issues are published every 2 months so you should think ahead to have the event included in the correct newsletter. (Phyllis Rehtin, 6700 Rice Rd., Victor, NY 14564; rehtin@rochester.rr.com or 657-7018).

The Ties That Bind



"Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night."

During July and August, the congregation prays for Rich & Nancy Walters, the Boni Family, Larry & Donna Messner, the Mitchell family, and Diane & Bob Sickmond.

Remember our members and friends who cannot be with us on Sunday morning: Terry Silvernail, Dorothy and Bob Hodges and Doris Virkus.

A Note from the Editor

(continued from page 1)

"Well it's me, Wally! Joe, I'm in heaven, and they told me I could get in touch with you and let you know about baseball in heaven."

"Wally! It's really you?"

"It's me, Joe" says Wally, "and I've got some good news and some not-so-good news."

"I can't believe it!" says Joe. "This is amazing. Well, what's the good news?"

Wally says, "The good news is yes, we have baseball here in heaven. Even better is all our old pals are here too, we're all young again, we play like we did on our best days and we never get tired. Even better, the weather's always perfect and we can play all we want!"

Joe is ecstatic. "Wally, that's great, I'm so happy for you. So what's the not-so-good news?"

Wally says, "Joe, you're pitching tomorrow."

Book Club

July 27 The Paying Guests, Sarah Waters

An Amazon Best Book of the Month, September 2014: It is 1922, in a genteel house in a genteel neighborhood just outside of London. Here, the widowed Mrs. Wray and her 26-year-old daughter, Frances, pass each day very much like the day before--with

Frances busying herself with household chores, maybe a bit of needlepoint, and her mother nibbling on a lunch of cauliflower cheese while making notes for the parish newsletter. In less skilled hands, such prolonged stage-setting would test even the most patient reader. But in Waters', it's mesmerizing, with every small but evocative detail serving to transport you further into this place and time. Take a deep breath as you're reading, because as soon as you are you lulled into the calm cadence of these lives, the Wray's tenants--the "paying guests" they have taken in to help with the bills--turn everything topsy-turvy, and by the novel's conclusion, you have gone from straight-up period piece, to love story, to edge-of-your-seat crime thriller (and not the American kind "with a plot full of holes" that the Wrays suffer through on picture-house Wednesdays). For a story set just after WWI, some of the themes Waters touches on are surprisingly contemporary. History does repeat itself sometimes, and so it goes for Sarah Waters, with yet another masterful novel. --Erin Kodicek

Aug 17 Rock with Wings, Anne Hillerman

From the Back Cover

Amazon Best Mystery of 2015

Navajo Tribal cops Jim Chee and Bernadette Manuelito, and their mentor, the legendary Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn, investigate two perplexing cases in this exciting Southwestern mystery from the New York Times bestselling author of Spider Woman's Daughter.

Doing a good deed for a relative offers the perfect opportunity for Sergeant Jim Chee and his wife, Officer Bernie Manuelito, to get away from the daily grind of police work. But two cases will call them back from their short vacation and separate them—one near Shiprock, and the other at iconic Monument Valley.

Chee follows a series of seemingly random and cryptic clues that lead to a missing woman, a coldblooded thug, and a mysterious mound of dirt and rocks that could be a gravesite. Bernie has her hands

full managing the fallout from a drug bust gone wrong, uncovering the origins of a fire in the middle of nowhere, and looking into an ambitious solar energy development with long-ranging consequences for Navajo land. Under the guidance of their mentor, retired Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn, Bernie and Chee will navigate unexpected obstacles and confront the greatest challenge yet to their skills, commitment, and courage.

Independence Day lessons for church life

—Heidi Mann

- Return to the basics — On July 4 we commemorate the origins of our country. In terms of faith, we also periodically need to hear again the foundational stories of Creation, the Israelites and, of course, Jesus.
- Honor the gift of freedom — “For freedom Christ has set us free ... do not submit again to a yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5:1, ESV). We strive as citizens to preserve and live out our national freedom. Likewise, as citizens of God’s kingdom we live gladly in the freedom of salvation and share that gift with others.
- Enjoy community — July 4 is known for picnics, parades and other community gatherings. Similarly, the church is nourished by coming together for worship, meals and other special events.
- Be light in the darkness — As fireworks brighten the sky with light and color, the church is called to display the Gospel’s unique light in a dark world. Our word dynamite and the Greek word for power — as in, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you” (Acts 1:8) — share a root. Through God’s power in us, we share Jesus — dynamically! — with others.

The pastor is in

Every Tuesday morning on New York City’s Upper East Side, Gregory Fryer sits in a Peanuts-style booth offering prayer and a listening ear to passersby. Initially the pastor wanted to draw attention to his church, but instead he ended up noticing all the “hungry

hearts” in the neighborhood. Fryer has been pleasantly surprised by all the people who open up to him. “I think they like the idea of a pastor being on the sidewalk,” he says.

Although a sign on the booth reads “Spiritual advice 5¢,” the pastor keeps a plate of nickels handy if people want to put one in his jar. Some people donate much more — and some even pray for Fryer.

The pastor says he was inspired by Peanuts character Lucy van Pelt, who has the “audacity, the courage to brazenly sit there out in public and offer to deal with important matters.”

Your ticket is stamped

On a train trip, a pastor struck up a conversation with a seatmate who thought character and good works led to salvation. The pastor wasn’t making progress but had a realization when the conductor collected tickets, quickly checking the date before stamping each one.

After the conductor passed by, the pastor told his fellow passenger: “All the conductor looked at was your ticket. He did not inquire about your character. He didn’t care who you were — whether you were a good or moral man or a criminal. So it is with salvation. You need only God’s ‘ticket to heaven’ stamped by the blood of Jesus Christ.”

Why Grandma gave

One Sunday as she was getting ready for church, a grandmother received a call from her daughter. “Can you watch the kids while we’re out of town next week?” the daughter asked.

Grandma was so thrilled she put an extra \$5 into the offering plate that morning.

The next Sunday, after her three young grandchildren had returned home, she put in an extra \$20.

The heart of Jesus

The idea of a spiritual heart transplant is a vivid image to me; once you have the heart of somebody else inside you, then that heart is there. Jesus' heart is inside me, and my heart is gone. So if God were to place a stethoscope against my chest, he would hear the heart of Jesus Christ beating.

—Max Lucado

Christ's hands

In World War II, bombs destroyed a church in Strasbourg, France. As parishioners cleared the rubble, they discovered a statue of Jesus that was now missing both hands.

A visiting sculptor later offered to make repairs, but church members declined, saying Christ “has no hands to minister to the needy or feed the hungry or enrich the poor — except our hands. He inspires. We perform.”

St. Teresa of Avila wrote:

Christ has no body but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do
good.
Yours are the hands with which he blesses
all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours.

Know your target

Businesses must know their target market. Writers must know their target audience. And we all make better decisions when we consider the target of our actions.

A college religion teacher set up a cardboard target in his classroom. “Draw someone who has upset you,” he instructed. Students sketched ex-boyfriends or -girlfriends, coworkers who'd mistreated them, childhood bullies. Each, in turn, then placed their drawing over the bull's-eye and

took aim with a bow and arrow. Afterward, the bull's-eye was riddled with holes. The students congratulated one another ... until the teacher pulled back the target, revealing Jesus' scarred, torn face.

Silence fell as he read: “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these ... you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40, NRSV).

In choosing actions — no matter the human target — remember who else will be struck by your arrows. Let's take aim with love, not hurt. (editor's note: In this day of political unrest of hateful things being said from both the left and the right let's remember to love each other as Christ loves us!)

Expanding our view of service

We often think of serving in terms of Matthew 25: supplying food and clothing; caring for the sick, incarcerated and other “least of these” members of society — serving Jesus in the process. But we also can serve him with our unique talents and by doing things we love.

For example, Ged King, a barber in England, devotes some of his time off to giving homeless people free haircuts. Imagine Jesus saying, “For my hair was long and scraggly, and you cut it” — or “My heart was lonely, and you played music to lift my spirits. I could no longer read small print, and you read to me. I have to work two jobs, and you invited my child to spend afternoons crafting with you. My car broke down, and you repaired it.” Then the King will say, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father ... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:34, 40, NIV; emphasis added).

Picture Us

Puppets and people!

Our puppets joined us recently lifting their voices to God! We learned firsthand how hard it is to make that puppet work! But we noticed that all the puppets always looked up from their music and opened their mouths wide! That was a fun thing to do!



Morgan-Scott Backpack project

The Deacons spearheaded a collection for The Morgan-Scott Project for Cooperative Christian Concerns (MSP) We have supported this project for several years.

This year we collected school supplies to be put in backpacks for the area school children



At other times, we have collected gently used clothing, seeds for the Good Earth project as well as money to be used as it is needed.

It has been rewarding to support the Morgan Scott Project! We are so happy to be a part of this wonderful group!

To learn more about the work of this project, click here:

<http://www.morganscottproject.org/>

Handrail project

Thank you to the Trustees who undertook a project to make the stairs to the pulpit safer. Thank you also to Larry Messner who stained the new railings. The whole project looks wonderful. Looks like it has always been there and we feel much safer now!



From the front, they are barely noticeable.

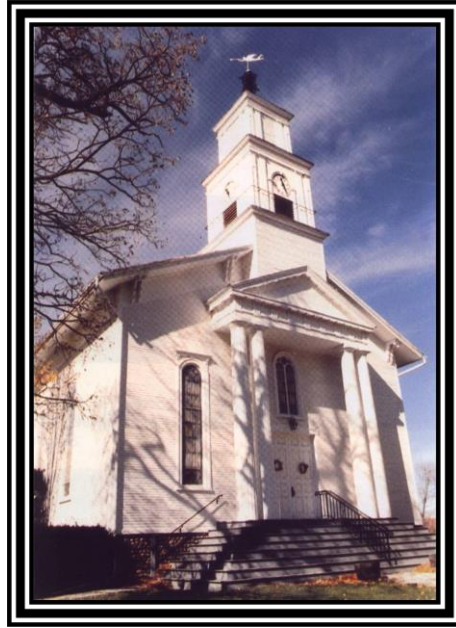


Looking from the side, you can see how helpful they are!





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