

THE JOYBELL

of the

The Baptist Church of Grafton

An American Baptist Church

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October 2011

Message from Pastor Phil

This month we begin the annual cycle of special offerings for our denomination; in October we focus upon our international missionaries. As we do so, the offering ought to give us pause to do two things.

The first is to say a prayer for all our missionaries around the world whether they serve in international or homeland missions. The second thought ought to take the form of a question: how do I serve as a missionary; as I live out each day what is my mission on behalf of my Lord?

Mission work is not just what someone else does in the name of our Lord; we are all, without exception, missionaries because when we accept Jesus as our Savior we volunteer to serve Him by living our faith and sharing His love for the world.

As we acknowledge our world missionaries this month, may we do so mindful that we are also missionaries to one another, to our families and to our community.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Phil

An excerpt from an e-mail from Phil and May as they visit Scotland: "Having a great time. Been to some old places as well as new. Phil is preaching at the Mission for the next two Sundays...Hope all is going well at the Church."

World Mission Offering

Throughout this month, we participate in one of our denomination's annual offerings, The World Mission Offering. The funds raised by this offering help support our missionaries throughout the world sponsored by our American Baptist International Ministries. Thanks to this offering, 100 long-term missionaries and 1,500 short-term missionaries and volunteers are able to be stationed in 70 countries throughout our world.

In a world challenged by wars, natural disasters and terrorism, our missionaries lift up and live the message of the Prince of Peace; thanks to our missionaries in some of the darkest places upon the earth, there are people lifting up the light of love and grace of Jesus Christ.

Special World Mission Offering envelopes have been placed in the pew racks of our Sanctuary. Thank you for your vital contribution that will support our missionaries as they carry out the work of our Lord.

Christian Education Committee

- **Worcester Fellowship Program:** Our sandwich making continues this year with the help of the youth class. In September **Caitlyn Eastman** was our leader. The next scheduled date is October 2. If you would like to help we always need someone to deliver the sandwiches to St. Andrews or purchase the bread, jelly, peanut butter or snacks for the project.
- We are pleased to report that our Sunday School had a great summer with lots of different activities, good attendance and some lively discussions. We are actively looking for additional teachers to help out during the regular year and thank Shirley Anderson, Kara Deans, Dawn Wentworth and Theresa Gagnon for their help this summer.
- The Committee would like to thank **Emily Christian** for folding the paper cranes that were given to the Firemen during coffee hour on 9/11. Also thanks to **Caitlyn Eastman** for the shirt that she decorated and then had the Sunday School members sign and to give to the Grafton Fire Department. The **Christian family** helped with the decorations on our bulletin board. The **9/11 flag** that was on display has been donated to the GFD for its permanent memorial.

Our Sunday School Teaching Team:

- Cathi Gandolfo--Beginners,
- Susanne Fleming—Primary/Junior,
- Diane Libbey—Teens

- Linda Rioux—Team Teacher

Our curriculum this year is from *The Whole People of God*. It provides lessons, crafts, devotions and an opportunity for children to learn about their faith in a modern day world.

We have new Registration Forms for parents to fill out with up-to-date information on their family for the 2011-2012 Sunday School year. This ensures that we have up-to-date information on allergies.

The *Sunday School Family Newsletter* and the *At Home Leaflet #2* for Unit 2 which contains additional weekly family study guides will be mailed out in early October. Our hope is that each family will make use of these lessons and be blessed by them. Extra copies are available on the table in RFH.

Youth Events

- **Grotonwood Day:** October 10 – This is a Youth and Family event held at Grotonwood from 9am through 4pm. There are games, Hay Boat & Horse Rides, Dodge Ball Tournament, Grotonwood Idol Music Contest, Chili Cook-Off and much more. Information is available on the Bulletin Board in RFH or at the Grotonwood.org website. The camp is located in Groton, Massachusetts on Rte. 119.
- **Word of Life Superbowl:** November 11-12, All-Night Event for Youth held in Providence, Rhode Island. Speak to Susanne Fleming to register.

Tuesday evening Bible Study Group meets on the odd Tuesdays of each month at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome at any and all of these studies. Our next meeting will be October 18 at 7:30pm.

We welcome new members who would like to join us. If you feel that God is calling you to be part of the Sunday School Team and or a Christian Education Committee member and you have any questions about how to join, speak to Susanne Fleming or Diane Libbey.

News from the Deacons

Welcome to **Merideth Christian** who was baptized at the All Church Picnic held at Corey's camp on September 1. She will receive the Right Hand of Fellowship October 9. Deacon **Robert Deans** was also baptized by immersion during this service.

The Deacons are looking for a few people who would be interested in running the sound system now that the components are repositioned in the closet at the rear of the Sanctuary. No prior knowledge of running sound systems is needed, as we will pro-

vide training. If you are interested in helping with this important Sunday ministry, please speak to Janice King.

Turkey Dinner October 22

Our next public dinner will be served Saturday evening, October 22 at 5:30 p.m. Judy Schoenfeldt will lead our kitchen crew in 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 Judy.

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.

Though not required, reservations are requested. It is very helpful to those preparing the food and setting up Russell Hall to know approximately how many will be attending. If you plan to enjoy the turkey dinner, please call the church office and make your reservation with Janice King [508-839-4911]. The cost is \$10.

Finance Committee

Our 2011-2012 fund raising effort began with a wonderful start as Judy Schoenfeldt and Pastor Phil led the team serving Swedish meatballs to about 70 hungry people on September 17. Proceeds from the dinner [\$609] are posted on the Fund Raiser Thermometer in Russell Fellowship Hall.

Our church's finances ended the summer in good condition. A big "thank you" goes to the large number of people who organize and work on the fund-raising events as well as to those who support the events. Also, "thank you" to the people who are ahead in their pledging.

Again, thanks to all who are making this positive financial picture possible, particularly in these very challenging economic times.

Property Committee Report

At the Church meeting held after Worship on September 25, the Property Committee recommended the following repairs to the Church building be funded:

- Repair and re-pointing of the main chimney
- Repair of the steeple siding damaged in the 2009 hail storm
- Replacement of damaged shingles on the Church roof
- Repair of the handicap ramp damaged by ice last winter
- Replacement and repair of the gutters on the south side of the Church also damaged by ice last winter.

The estimated cost of these repairs totaled \$18,026. After a report from the Finance Committee, the Church members voted to do the repairs and to pay for them using insurance money (\$5,493) and Roof Fund money (\$5,000) with the remainder borrowed from the Russell Fund. Our plan is to repay the money borrowed from the Russell Fund and Roof Fund through on-going contributions.

Important Dates in October

2	Sunday	~	10:00 Worship Service to God's Glory, Holy Communion, child care and Sunday School classes for Youth. Coffee Fellowship following Services. Equal Exchange Sunday
3	Monday	~	6:00-8:00 Girl Scouts with May Docekal
		~	7:30 Property Committee with Ed King
4	Tuesday	~	5:15 – 6:15 AA Reflections Group
5	Wednesday	~	10:00 Choir Rehearsal
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
6	Thursday	~	9:30-noon Pie making for the Fair with Pat Knowlton
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
		~	7:30- Boy Scout Troop 107 Committee Meeting
8	Saturday	~	8:00-3:00 Quilt Class with Paula Moore
9	Sunday	~	10:00 Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School classes for Children and Youth, Coffee Fellowship, Cub Scout Popcorn sale
11	Tuesday	~	10:00 Mission Committee-Garfield Atchue, note change of date
		~	5:15- AA Reflections Group
		~	7:30 Knit One, Crochet, Too with Jane and Gloria
12	Wednesday	~	10:00 Choir Rehearsal
		~	6:30-7:30- Cub Scouts
		~	7:30 Board of Directors with Dave Libbey
13	Thursday	~	9:30-noon, Pie Making with Pat Knowlton
		~	6:30-7:30- Cub Scouts
		~	7:00 Jelly Making night with Diane and Janice
15	Saturday	~	Brownie Troop Overnighter till Sunday 8:00 am
16	Sunday	~	10:00 Worship Service to God's Glory, Laymen's Sunday-

			Message by Garfield Atchue, Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth. Coffee Fellowship following services
17	Monday	~	6:00-8:00- Girl Scouts with May Docekal
		~	7:30 Long Range Planning Committee with Janice King
18	Tuesday	~	5:15-6:15 AA Reflections Group
		~	7:30 Bible Study with Pastor Phil
19	Wednesday	~	10:00 Choir Rehearsal
		~	3:00 Worship Service at Crescent Manor
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
20	Thursday	~	9:30-noon, Pie Making with Pat Knowlton
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
22	Saturday	~	5:30- Turkey Dinner
23	Sunday	~	10:00 Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School Classes for Youth. Coffee Fellowship following the service
		~	11:15 Christian Education Committee with Diane Libbey
		~	Central Association Fall Meeting
24	Monday	~	7:30 Deacons with Charlotte Budge
		~	Girl Scouts 6:00-8:00
25	Tuesday	~	5:15 AA Reflections Group
		~	7:30 Knit One, Crochet Too with Jane and Gloria
26	Wednesday	~	10:00 Choir Rehearsal
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
27	Thursday	~	9:30-noon, Pie Making with Pat Knowlton
		~	6:30-7:30 Cub Scouts
30	Sunday	~	10:00 Worship Service to God's Glory, Sunday School Classes for Youth. Coffee Fellowship following will not be held today so we can set up for the fair. Plan to stay and help if you can.

Every Week in September

- **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 for the Month of September**-Wayne Hutchinson-Fontana and Robert Deans
- **Tellers for the Month of September**- The Libbey and King Families
- Church Office Hours are Monday – Friday with the Church Secretary 9:00 am–11:30 am. The Pastor is in most mornings (except Saturdays).

All Church Fair

The **Annual All Church Fair** will be held on Saturday, **November 5** from 9 a.m. to 3 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 30**. Again we will be looking for young people and those who are strong to help with moving tables, chairs and other furniture.

Pat Knowlton has offered to be the **Pie Night Chairperson**. She will need helpers to mix spices and peel apples and to finish the peeling, assemble the pies and either take or bake. **If you can donate ingredients, already-made dough from our secret recipe, or apples, please let her know.** There will be a sign-up sheet on the clock table for the donation of all the ingredients. **Pie making dates every Thursday morning** starting October 6. This year, besides apple pies, we will be making blueberry pies. If you froze some blueberries while they are still in the supermarkets the committee would love to use them for church pies. **Please see accompanying story on Pie Making!**

We hope each family can donate one or more baked good items to the bake sale table. Please be sure to make these items from scratch and bring them to the church on Friday, November 4. We will again be selling our **hot pepper jelly, homemade jams, beans and baked goods.**

New items, services or special items are needed for our **Silent Auction**. *Please contact Cyndy Engvall if you have a donation.* Also remember to save items for the **Attic Treasures** table, save your unwanted but good jewelry for the **Jewelry Table**, plant pots for the **Plant Table**, your kitchen's specialty for the Bake Table, and lots of energy to be an active part of this year's fair.

Chefs Bert Engvall, May Goff, and Roma Dearness 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 addition to our fair. They will buy the food, cook it **and** clean up – what a great deal!!

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 will be selling **books, videos and toys** and children. Adults will find a good selection of reading material in this area as well.

Our **Drawffle** is in its fourth year. You can buy a ticket for the opportunity to win one of several very special items. These include a tree from the Engvall Tree Farm, a hanging quilt, and several other outstanding items. When you purchase a ticket you will also be buying a treat so even if you don't win one of these items you'll still have something for your money.

Please remember to **invite your friends and neighbors** to come to the fair. They can enjoy a wonderful hot meal at the snack shack, get some unique dried flower arrange-

ments, buy some jams, jellies, pies and delicious Baptist Baked goods, bid on an item in the silent auction, bring home a plant or a book to read, a treasure from the attic, a warm sweater, or Christmas craft. Encourage everyone to buy a drawffle ticket and get a treat in return! Don't forget that there will be a table for youngsters where they can decorate cookies with or purchase a gently used toy.

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

Sunday October 30	<u>Set-up for the fair, right after church!</u>
October 6,13, 20, 27	Pie Making at the church 9:30 to noon
	Supplies are needed for pies – check the sign-up sheet
October 13	Hot Pepper Jelly Night
	Supplies are needed for jelly – check the sign-up sheet
November 3 & 4	Fair table set up!!
November 5	Fair from 9 am to 3 pm

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 5, 2011
9 AM to 3 PM

Join The Pie Making Team!

Pat Knowlton is leading our **Church Fair pie making team** again this year. This year we will be making apple, blueberry and sugar-free pies. These pies are a huge reason why our food table is so popular with those who come to the Fair!

She is looking for your help with this effort. These ingredients are needed:

- Apples and blueberries
- Sugar, flour, eggs, white vinegar, shortening
- Sandwich-sized plastic bags

Workers are needed to help make our special pie dough and to put together pies. We will be gathering every Thursday morning (9:30-noon) starting October 6. Our last session will be November 3. This is also an opportunity for fun and fellowship!

Sign-up sheets are on the Clock Table in Russell Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to lend a hand.

Can The Joybell 'Go Green'? We Need YOUR Input!

The costs to print and mail *The Joybell* continue to rise, prompting us to consider ways to better manage our publishing costs. At the same time, we are consuming paper and toner every month as we publish this important part of our fellowship.

Many churches are going to electronic mailing of their publications because of huge savings to be had with paper, toner and postage and to help conserve natural resources. Understanding that an electronic newsletter is not for everyone, we are asking all readers of *The Joybell* to let us know if they would like to receive it via e-mail or if they need to continue to receive a hardcopy. If enough people are able to switch to e-mail, we will be able to considerably lower our monthly publishing cost. And electronic distribution would significantly reduce the environmental footprint of publishing *The Joybell*.

In order to evaluate this idea, we need to know whether you are interested in getting this newsletter by e-mail – or not.

- If you YES, please send an e-mail to the church at secybcg@verizon.net. Include your email address.
- If you NO, please call the office at 508-839-4911 and leave a message with our secretary.

We need to hear from all readers so we can determine how best to proceed. Thank you for your input!