

September  
2015

# CONNECTIONS

## From the Pastor

“School days, school days  
Dear old Golden Rule days  
'Reading and 'riting and 'rithmetic  
Taught to the tune of the hick'ry stick”  
*Gus Edwards/Will D. Cobb – 1907*

Wow! Where did summer go? Children have started school (sans the hick'ry stick... hopefully), and the first leaves to change color have begun to tease us with their early show.

Can Fall be far behind?

I hope that you and your family and friends spent some great days and evenings together over the past several weeks. Did you get a chance to get away? Visit someplace special, or new to you? Have some stories to tell?

If so, please consider sharing some of them at this year's **Homecoming Saturday at our Pot Luck supper and talent/open mic night!** – Mark your calendars for the Saturday evening program beginning at 5 pm.

Homecoming weekend events are just a part of a very busy early fall here at Cornerstone and in our community in general.

Through KBIC (the Killingly Brooklyn Interfaith Council) and the town of Killingly, our churches and synagogue have a wide variety of opportunities to offer that will uplift you spiritually and provide time for good clean fun!

Please mark your calendars for these great events:

**Sunday, September 6 is our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Creation Celebration in Davis Park.** This year's worship service is sponsored by several of our local faith communities; Temple Beth Israel Preservation Society, United Methodist Church, Westfield Congregational Church, The Federated Church of Brooklyn and of course, CBC. We will gather at 10:15 in Davis Park for a fun and creative worship experience. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, and be ready to be co-creators with God!

**Main St. Parade & Tomato Fest! Saturday, Sept. 12 in Davis Park.** This year's event will feature the first parade in Danielson in 7 years! Love a parade? Want to join a group of us behind the Cornerstone Baptist Church banner and walk the route? Be on the lookout for more information in our church bulletin and weekly CBCommunity weekly email. Our church's table will be set up under our awning and banner and be hosted by Melissa Card and friends, offering face painting and stenciling, information about our church and free lemon aid. See you there!

**The Annual Worship Service at the Howard Valley Christian Church** will be held Sunday,

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September 2015

### In Worship This Month

**Sunday, September 6**  
**10:15 am**— Outdoor  
Worship, Davis Park

**Sunday, September 13**  
**\*10:30 am**— Worship  
2:00 pm—Worship at  
Howard Valley Christian  
Church in Hampton, CT

**Sunday, September 20**  
**\*10:30 am**—Worship

**Sunday, September 27**  
**\*10:30 am**—Worship

\*Please note the time of the  
service as we change back  
to the regular worship hour  
of 10:30 am.

### September Birthdays

- 01, Howard Curry
- 03, Lois Brush
- 04, Ruth Hopkins
- 10, Lisa Gilbert
- 11, Scott Davagian, Jr.  
Chris Troup
- 13, Frank Brush  
Nicole LaRose
- 15, Ida Clarke
- 16, Gregory Davis  
Lynn Blanchard
- 17, Joe Clarke
- 25, Rick Rocheleau
- 30, Barbara Bazinet  
Bernie Davis



Pastor:  
Rev. Greg Thomas

Organist/Choir Director:  
Howard W. Curry

Administrative Secretary:  
Kris Useted

**Ladies Luncheon**

The next luncheon will be on Wednesday, **September 16th** (the **THIRD** Wednesday of the month) at the Ocean Palace in Willimantic .  
We will meet at the church at 11:30 for a ride-share.  
We are changing the date for this month because the 2nd Wednesday is close to Labor Day. Please sign up in the narthex!  
All ladies of the church are welcome!

### EVENTS!!

Is anyone out there motivated, organized, and excited about supporting a good cause? I would like to put together a few fundraising events during the coming year to support the Be Our Guest Dinners and other causes. If you are interested and enthusiastic, let me know! We will gather some time around the end of September to share ideas and start planning!

Dana Thayer  
danadonut@hotmail.com

### YOUTH GROUP NEWS!!!!

Grades 5th - 12th You are welcome to join us!  
Mark your calendars now with our meeting dates. Notice the change in dates and times.

- September 20th - 11:30 - 2:45
- October 18th - 11:30 - 2:45
- November 22nd - 11:30 - 2:45
- Dec. 19th & Dec. 20th - Overnight Event, 6:00pm - 9:00am
- December 30th - January 1st - CAMP ECHO - overnight event at Camp Wightman for New Years (We have financial help available)

We will also have small fundraiser events as we move thru the end of the year.

Can't wait to see everyone and hear about your summer news!!!!

Remember: The last person to leave the church building should be sure that all doors and windows are closed /locked. In addition, the Academy Street door into Fellowship Hall will be kept locked during the Sunday worship service. Thank you for helping us take care of our facilities.

Connections is published 11 times a year at The Cornerstone Baptist Church, and is put together by a host of valuable volunteers. Please try to have articles and information to the office by the 15th of the month, and no later than the 20th. If you no longer want to receive this newsletter via U.S. mail, please notify the church office. **The newsletter is available online at [www.cbctt.us](http://www.cbctt.us)**

# Connections

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## Sunday School News

Welcome Back Home!

Buying school supplies, school buses, first day of school, finding old friends and making new friends—all the signs that summer is coming to an end. Another sign is Sunday School is beginning again for another year. I can't wait to hear about all the adventures and fun everyone had during the summer!

We have lots of fun new activities planned.

**We hope to see you on Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 AM!**

Teachers this year are:

Kindergarten & 1st Grade—Robin Stone  
 2nd, 3rd & 4th—Kelly Corey  
 5th, 6th, & 7th—Heather Davagian, Gina Mills  
 8th through 12th— Rose Bertorelli



See you then!  
*Cindy*

## For the Family — (Don't remain in digital darkness!)

— Here is another app which is recommended for use with children\*

### **Chore Monster (Free)**

This app turns kids' chores and other offline activities into a game. Parents have their own app and account in which they can determine their kids' tasks and the points value for each. Children use the points to "buy" items, which might be money, a video game, or even a camping trip. The children's app shows the activities and rewards set by parents. It lets kids keep more the 100 interactive "monsters" they can earn to play with later. Note that the kids' version includes potty humor, kids love it but parents may want to review it first.

According to co-founder Chris Bergman, the app works for more than just chores. Parents are using it to encourage certain behaviors such as reading a book, playing outside, getting good grades, eating veggies, or taking a nap.

"We know of some teachers who are using ChoreMonster in their classroom to reinforce good behavior," adds Bergman. Likewise, churches can also use the app to encourage kids to bring their Bibles, learn Bible passages, bring friends, or participate in small and large group times.

When asked what's next on the Monster front, Bergman said, "We now have a partnership with Disney. You'll start seeing 'monsters' from them starting with Tinker Bell and the NeverBeast."

What's Great About It: This app offers a great and addicting way to develop good habits that endure offline.

\* From *Children's Ministry Magazine*, May/June 2015- Written by Matt McKee

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From the Pastor —*continued from page 1*

September 13 at that 'Little White Church in the Dell' at 2 pm. Please join us in a quiet country setting for this beautiful service.

**Rosh Hashanah, and introspective worship service that begins the celebration of the Jewish New Year** at 9:30am on Monday morning, September 14 at Temple Beth Israel. This morning service is the beginning of a 10 day celebration of the Jewish New Year which features a time of reflection on the deeds - both good and bad - that we have done in the past year in preparation for the Day of Atonement - Yom Kippur. This year I have been asked to be one of the speakers. If you would like to attend and need more information, please speak with me.

**What is the best way to respond to Bullying? It happens in schools, workplaces, and [gasp] even in our faith communities.**

On Sunday evening, September 27 at 5 pm, Cornerstone Baptist Church will be hosting **Dan Buttry**, who serves as our International Ministries global consultant for peace and justice. He will share with us what he has been up to around the world and **offer us a primer on how to respond to bullies**. For more information about Dan, either click here - <http://www.internationalministries.org/teams/110-buttry-dan> - or type this address into your browser.

Wow! September is going to be one busy month!

I hope that among this great variety of offerings, a few will catch you imagination and pull you in!

See you in September!

Pastor Greg

## Holy Gossip, Batman! - News from Dan Buttry

A troublesome peace training was held in Ukraine. Ukraine has its own problems with peace with a civil war spurred on by conflict with neighboring Russia. However Ukrainians opened a seminary and their hearts to participants from 11 countries who gathered there for an intensive 10-day Training of Conflict Transformation Trainers (TCTT). Most of the participants were from former Soviet Republics or from the Middle East. I was joined in facilitation by Lance Muteyo from Zimbabwe. We can share about some people and some photos, but we cannot say where many others are from or show them in our photos.

What we can say is that people learned skills in Bible-based peacemaking. People practiced tools in experiential education that they could put to use in workshops to equip people for bringing positive change to their societies. Many of the participants have already put their skills and tools to use in their home contexts. The participants bonded deeply, and many have continued to provide support for each other in their creative and courageous work, even at a distance.

Back in the 1960's the folk group Peter, Paul and Mary sang about laying the meaning "between the lines," as in those volatile days certain things just couldn't be said on the radio. Even as missionaries we sometimes have to lay our message between the lines. It's sad because what we are doing is good for people and good for communities. What we are doing empowers people to find the way forward toward justice, freedom, wholeness, reconciliation, and peace. But that is perceived as troublesome in some places.

It is sad, but hope grows even amid the sadness. The powers of fear, suspicion, and even outright hatred and oppression cannot ultimately win. Jesus has died and has risen. Hallelujah! As we learned the things that make for peace together we also worshiped and prayed together. We grounded ourselves in the hope that in anchored in Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. And one day what has to be kept secret will be shouted from the rooftops with joy. In the meantime, don't be surprised if I share with you a little "holy gossip," just not on the internet!

Peace,

Dan



# Connections

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## THE CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

### ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF June 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 by Moderator Jim Hilow. Pastor Greg led us in prayer. A devotional about "Smiling" was read by Molly Truesdale. Jim welcomed all new and old members to the Advisory Council and asked that everyone introduce themselves and what they do.

\*What Have You Heard? Cindy spoke about the reason for this segment of the meeting to dispell any rumors that might be around. Pastor Greg said that his computer was broke and Jim was helping him out. Jim stated that the two computers (Greg's & Office) were purchased in 08 and 09 and would need to be replaced soon. He thinks it will cost less than \$2000.00. Larry Southam said that he could get a good price from Tiger Direct.

Cindy Marcheterre moved to accept the Minutes of the May meeting as corrected. \*Jim Hilow's name is spelled with I L not 2. Seconded by Mike Lehoux. Passed.

Report of the Treasurer was put on file for the auditors. Cindy suggested that the new members of the board should get a copy of the Financial Budget. Larry asked about the Almond Paine endowment, and Mary and Cindy explained that it was given because of holding Sunday School 41 weeks.

Report of Investment Committee Larry reported the he was working on forms that needed to be filled out because of name differences on file with companies having to do with Danielson/Moosup Church and a name difference with Howard Valley. After finding more assets he estimates that we have One Million Ninety Thousand Dollars and that will give more flexibility to accounts.

<u>Dates to Remember</u>	Adult Book Study	Resume Wednesday
	Be Our Guest Dinner	July 3
	Peace Conference	July 6-11 (P. Greg & Kathy Hexter)
	Blueberry Festival	July 25
	Be Our Guest Dinner	Aug 7
	Outdoor Worship/Picnic	Aug 9

And we can't forget June 25 Diane's 60 birthday]

Pastor's Report nothing new to report since the last meeting 2 weeks ago. Mary wondered if the service on June 28 could be taped. Our Dignified Deacon of Technology (Jim) will look into it.

#### Deacon's Reports:

Connections- Nothing yet to report

Education & Discipleship – Rose reported the Children's Sunday would be this week and that the service would be a lot of singing. New Year would begin on Sept 13.

Sandra reported she would like to have an overnight function with the youth group this summer, but didn't know if schedule would allow. The youth raised \$437.00 at the Ag Days Fundraiser last weekend. Bringing the total raised

—continued from page 5

for camp this year to \$1700. The amount needed to send kids to camp is \$3300. So that means the rest will come out of the churches budget that was voted on at the annual meeting.

Events- Debra will be working with Dana to show her the “ropes” and Debra and Cindy will organize the blueberry festival.

Nominating- PAT IS HAPPY! (because there is a full board)

Mission & Outreach- Gina reported that after her talk and video on the “Compassion “ Group three people signed up to sponsor a child. She will be working with Florence to show her what to do.

Pastoral Relations- Mike reported that a committee has been formed which includes Pat and Carroll Marston and will schedule a meeting.

Property & Finance- Frank reported that there was ice damage this winter on the parsonage and the gutter on the back of Sunday school wing will need to come down. He will also be talking to Brad C. who does the mowing to give him better direction on what to do.

Safe Church-Kathy Hexter was not here, but there are a number of people needing keys. They are Jim Hilow, Dana, Rose, Oduro, Diane.

Sexton- Paul is back!!

Worship & Membership- Molly reported that she has worked on a core list for summer ushers and worship leaders and reminded that summer hours will begin on June 21.

Pastor Greg reported that the deacon’s fund was doing okay and then explained to new people what it was and said that he helped about 4 people this month and last year used about \$2200. Helping people in need. Usually the top amount to any one person for need is \$65.

Jim Hilow then explained that he and Kathy Hexter will be co-moderators this year and will keep each other apprised of happenings at the meetings. It was discussed if the meetings should move to another night, and it was decided to keep them as they are.

Mary moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rose. Meeting adjourned at 7:37.

MEMBERS PRESENT INCLUDE: Jim Hilow, Mary Grandelski, Sandra Rukstela, Cynthia Marcheterre, Barbara Holloway, Dana Thayer, Florence Ofori, Oduro Gyamfi, Frank Brush, P. Greg, Molly Truesdale, Pat Rocheleau, Mike Lehoux, Melissa Card, Larry Southam, Diane Spratley, Debra Grandelski, and Gina Mills.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Grandelski, Clerk

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## On the back page...

The revelation of God is whole,  
and pulls our lives together.  
The signposts of God are clear  
and point out the right road.  
The life-maps of God are right,  
showing the way to joy.  
The directions of God are plain  
and easy on the eyes.

- Psalm 19: 7-8, *The Message*

For God is at home—it is we who have  
gone out for a walk.

- Meister Eckhart

There is only one happiness in life,  
to love and be loved.

- George Sand

Good ideas need landing gear as well as  
wings.

- C.D. Jackson

The biggest mistake in religion in the  
modern era has been to confuse "the  
word of God" with human words or tex-  
tual words in a book. If "the word was in  
the beginning," then clearly the WORD  
is bigger than human words or textual  
words. It preceded all words by about 14  
billion years!

- Matthew Fox

Jesus said, "Really, what profit is there  
for you to gain the whole world and lose  
yourself in the process?"

- Mark 8:36 *The Voice New Testament*

To affirm God is also to believe that God  
is good. Anything else would be unrea-  
sonable.

- Daniel Helminiak