

In the Interim:

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Beginning in June and then through the summer months, our Transition Team will be leading us in some interactive history. You'll see in these pages an invitation to locate yourself in the history of this church, as well as in other aspects of this church's life which have been important to you. If you are reading this, your faith journey has intersected with the journey of Cornerstone Baptist Church, and that is important, particularly as we begin to look to the future.

It has been said that Jesus came preaching that the Kingdom of God is at hand, and what came was...the church! We've had 2000 years of church since he walked the earth. Don't confuse your local church for the kingdom of God. It isn't. Obviously. But it is important, in fact it's a genius institution, intended to be provisional by its nature. Democratically organized, accountable to the people who serve it, a deeply rooted local presence and program of ministries. It embodies the best of the bumper sticker philosophy: "Think global, act local." Local churches are often the best suited and organized to be the transforming institutions in their communities, everything from beginning community hospitals to soup kitchens, they are often on the front lines of witnessing who is falling through the cracks and what programs need to be organized to assist them. "Occupy Sandy" was a local church initiative, only possible because God had placed the support of those churches on the hearts of the people in those communities long before there was a hurricane or the need for a response to it. It introduced a whole new generation of activists to the genius of the local church. In this sense, church's ministries change all the time.

Local churches are inherently countercultural because they are made stronger and more effective as their diversity increases and as their members take the task of encouraging one another's unique discipleship seriously. Paul said, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." (Gal 3:28) The significance of our unity in Christ is only really evident when those who are different from us are present. Paul's backstory was that he was accustomed to working with free Jewish men...he came to appreciate, and even value, the presence of Greeks, women and slaves in the early church – it is in our very real differences that we complete each other in the body of Christ.

In the Interim, continued on page 5



247 Broad Street, Danielson CT 06239

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www.cbct.us



In Worship This Month

Sunday, June 5
10:30 am—Worship &
Communion
Music Sunday

Sunday, June 12
10:30 am—Worship
Children's Sunday

Sunday, June 19
***10:00 am—Worship**

Sunday, June 26
***10:00 am—Worship**

* Please note time change
for our Summer Worship
Schedule!

June BIRTHDAYS

Cheryl Thomas
Larry Southam
Wil DeCoursey
Carol Curry
Greg Thomas
Linda Charron
Roberta Davis
Roland Tourangeau
Linda Bernier
Abigail Thayer
Chris Southam



*Please let the church office
know of any additions or
deletions for this list.*

Interim Pastor:
Rev. Erica Wimber Avena
Organist/Choir Director:
Howard W. Curry
Director of Christian Education:
Cindy Marcheterre
Administrative Secretary:
Kris Useted

Ladies Luncheon

Our next Luncheon will be on Tuesday, June 14 at 12 noon at Thai Basil Restaurant, 187 North Street, Danielson. Please sign-up in the narthex.
All ladies of the church are welcome!

Cornerstone needs a church Historian!

Here are some resources to get started:

As American Baptists in Connecticut, we have a rich and diverse history from 1705 to present. Your ABCCONN Historical Committee would love to have local church histories for 100% of our churches. Sadly, we don't.

Also, if your church doesn't have a Historical Committee or Team, please consider starting one using the downloadable Starter Kit on ABCCONN's website <http://www.abcconn.org/history.html>

We are also looking for old postcards, photos and drawings of Baptist Churches in CT. would you be willing to share an extra copy or a scanned image with us? Contact us through the ABCCONN office.

abcconn@abcconn.org or 1-860-521-5421 or
ABCCONN Historical Committee
90A North Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06107-1924

We are short on Campership Money:

At our most recent Advisory Council meeting it was announced that we are \$1000 short in our money to provide Camperships to the kids from our church family who will be attending camp. The churches who send the most kids to camp all do the same thing: they subsidize everyone who goes to camp from that church. It is a way to tell our children and families that we want to invest in and support their week at camp and their spiritual growth. Please give directly to Cornerstone Baptist Church's Deacon's Fund. (It is the white envelope if you use the giving envelopes.)

The kids are seeking to raise \$500, I'd like to match their \$500 from the Deacon's Fund. And a HUGE thank you to those of you who have already given!

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 send next month's articles and information to the office by the 15th of the month, 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.cbccct.us

Camp News!

Campership Bake Sale! - June 12

We are still approximately \$500 short in our goal to help our campers.

Help us with raising funds and enjoy some delicious goodies.

Tables will be set up before church so you can have the best selection, or come see us after worship.



Sunday School News

Don't Miss it!

Children's Sunday is **June 12th**.

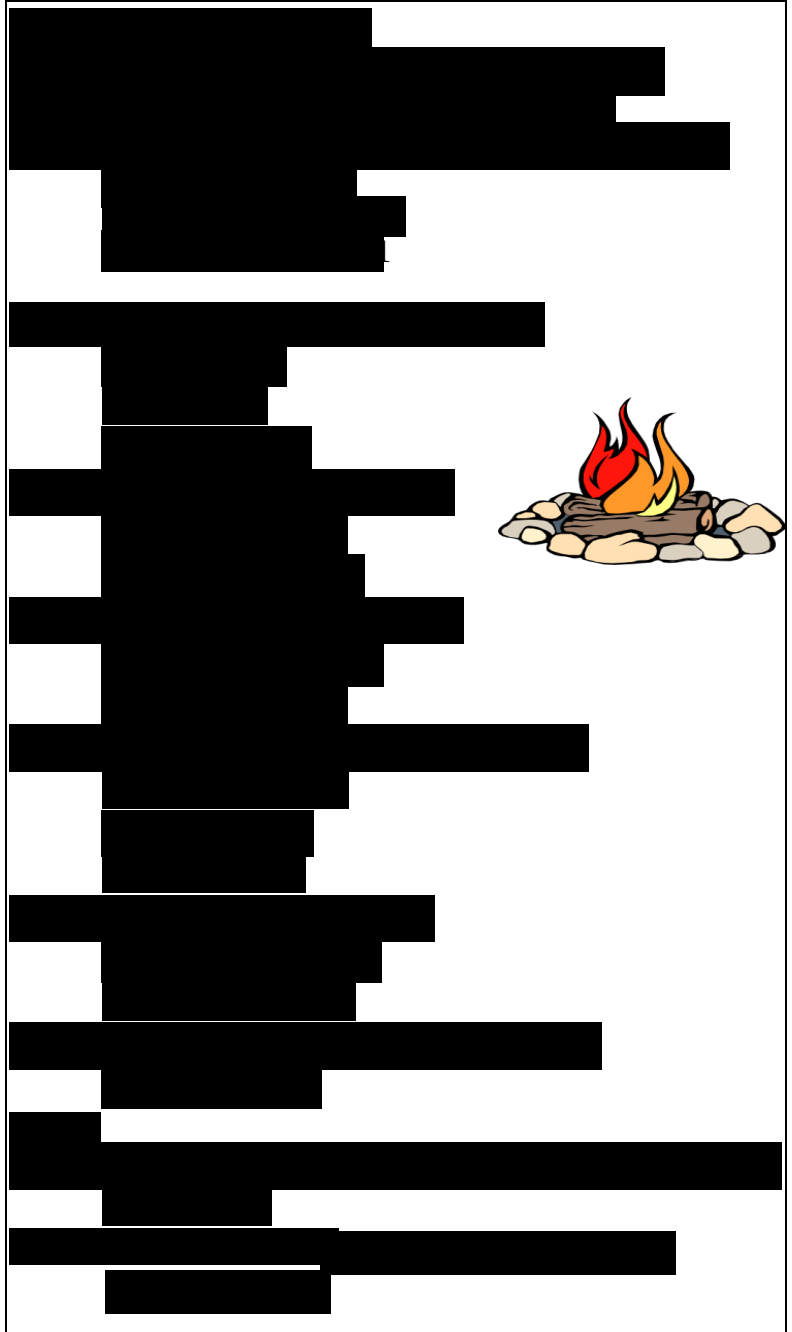
We have been practicing:

- a skit called "Stuff"
- Jr. Bell Choir
- Youth Group

Please join us as we end our school year, and enjoy ice cream and cookies after the service.



Some of our kids made flame hats for Pentecost!



SHOES!! Camp Wightman's Summer Mission Project is all about SHOES! (work boots, winter boots, flip flops, sneakers, whatever you have that you are no longer wearing, as long as they come in pairs!) Individual campers have been challenged to collect and donate 25 pairs of shoes each.

Could our church help with this mission? Yes!!
Donations of shoes can be left in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions?—please speak to Sandra or Cindy



Vacation Bible School—2016

- When:** July 18-22
Drop off at 8:30 AM, Begins at 9:00 AM
Ends at 11:30 AM
- Where:** Cornerstone Baptist Church
247 Broad St
Danielson, CT
860 774-3907
- Who:** For children ages 4 (and potty trained!) through 12
Coordinated by churches in Killingly & Brooklyn
- How:** This program is free!
Register online at www.WestfieldUCC.org/VBS
or call **CBC** at 860 774-3907
- Why:** We want you to learn about God's amazing love, and
that God is with you wherever you go!

**This Vacation Bible School is a joint program of churches in the
Killingly-Brooklyn Interfaith Council**

Likewise, Paul's other big metaphor for the local church was that the church is like a human body, and we are like members of that body. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Cor. 12:12) He exhorts us to seek to be who you are in the body and to be the best version of yourself that you can be, because when the body functions well all the members are functioning well and not trying to do their own jobs in addition to compensating for one another's weaknesses. If you have lost the use of one hand for even a day, you will understand that having the two hands, right and left, is far better than just one...although you can certainly survive with just one... the church is like that. It is best with all its parts working well and in good health. Moreover, it is in the Providence of God to decide the birth and growth patterns of this body.

What part of this body are you? What roles have you played, who do you remember, and who do you pray for now? Every church has stories to tell, stories of success and failure, stories of joy and grief, stories of faithfulness to the voice of our living Lord.

In Ministry with You,

Pastor Erica

A Word from the Transition Team: Hands on History!

In June we will be putting up a timeline of our church's history, which really includes two histories: that of the Moosup Baptist Church and the Baptist Church of Danielson, as well as the 11 years since the merger. We would like to invite everyone to think about your important dates with this church and to add them to our history on sticky notes. Any special worship service, like when you joined, were baptized, were married, etc. are welcome. If a special service or speaker really stands out for you, we'd like to add that too. Additionally, if you have a photograph of your event that you could lend while we have the timeline up, that would help to illustrate it.

On Homecoming Sunday this fall we would like to host a breakfast that gives us an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on this timeline together.

As a preview for the Fall, think about these questions:

- What brought you here?
- What has this church (or these churches) been known for in the community? (What do people say about us?)
- How do you describe our church to your friends outside the church?
- What ministries have been robust and successful?
- What have we tried and failed?
- What made the Pastoral leader a good fit for the church at that time?

Members of the Transition Team are: Bethany Duval, Rose Bertorelli, Bob Hardy, Diane Spratley, and Pastor Erica, *ex officio*

THE CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES, edited for this newsletter
APRIL 12, 2016—Approved, May 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm by Moderator, Jim Hilow. Pastor Erica led us in prayer, followed by a devotional read by Molly Truesdale.

New Business: It was stated that deacons need to submit annual reports to Kris no later than April 25. Larry and Chris Southam have donated a computer to the church for the office and it will need an upgraded program to run it. Jim can get what we need for \$159.00 which would be a new version of Power Church Software. It was agreed this would be a good idea.

There is still quite a bit of “Stuff” in the parsonage. Frank has talked to P.Greg and he will be back to get some of it, but not all. It was suggested that we could call the “BigBrotherBig Sister Organization and they come and pick up donations. Frank stated that if we need Greg’s stuff out before he comes, he (Frank) could put it on a trailer that he owns.

Discussion was held on streamlining the voucher system in place for paying bills of the church. Cindy moved that we do away with the Property/Finance deacon having to sign off on the vouchers for normal reoccurring expenses for regular budget items under \$500.00 with the exception of Gas & Oil. Seconded by Mike Lehoux. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report: Mary is working with the bank to transfer funds to the Ghana Church. They do not have a rural address, only a PO Box. The bank is working on this with Mary. Pat spoke about not being able to set up line item accounts for all of the different fundraisers that we have. IT was decided that she could set up a line item for Sunday School missions, which would cover the current project they would be working on. The treasurer’s report will be put on file for the auditors. There was also discussion about financial figures in the weekly bulletin. It was decided that the general fund contributions would be put in (monthly and year to date) as well as missions giving.

Report of the Clerk: Mike Lehoux moved to accept the minutes from the March meeting as corrected. Molly Truesdale seconded. Motion passed.

Investment Committee: Larry Southam reported that the market is up. He is looking for a more comprehensive recommendation from Justin (the agent for our accounts) the investment committee will begin to meet quarterly instead of monthly.

DATES TO REMEMBER: June 12—Children’s Sunday, July 18-22—VBS@ Cornerstone

Pastors Report: P. Erica reported that she edited the minutes of the last meeting to put them in the newsletter. She is serving as Program Chairperson for the ABCConn Annual Gathering. Should we have leadership training for incoming church leaders? The transition team held its first meeting. It would be a good idea to keep track of attendance in church on Sunday. This info will be useful for the search committee when it is set up.

Deacon Reports:

Connections- Diane had nothing to report.

Education –Rose reported that Brittany will accept the nursery position for the summer.

Nominating- Priscilla will get papers from Pat and begin to fill spots

Property & Finance- Frank has made an inventory list of everything that is still in parsonage and barn. He has switched our electric supplier to Levco Energy for both the church and parsonage. Jeff Page will be taking down a tree behind the parsonage.

Safe Church- Kathy reported no key changes.

Sexton- Debra reported that Paul had fixed the upstairs vacuum. He also made a shelf to hold the DVD player in high school room, which Cindy requested. There are lights out in men’s bathroom.

Worship & Membership- Molly is working on filling spots for May.

Pastoral Relations- It was discussed that we need to get the sign out front to have Pastor Erica’s name on it. Up to \$100.00 was a safe figure that everyone agreed to spend.

Transitions Team- Rose reported that they had held their first meeting. They will be looking at where have we been as a church, and where do we want to go. They are thinking of having a coffee hour and putting together a church history time line.

OLD BUSINESS: It was discovered that we had neglected to put into the minutes the housing allowance figure for our interim minister. This was voted on at the December 2015 meeting. The entire Covenant was attached to the December 2015 minutes to clarify the Housing Allowance question.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm

Respectfully submitted, Debra Grandelski, Clerk

Attendants: Diane Spratley, Molly Truesdale, Cynthia Marcheterre, Mary Grandelski, Larry Southam, Barbara Holloway, Frank Brush, Pat Rocheleau, Priscilla Lehoux, Mike Lehoux, Rose Bertorelli, Pastor Erica, Jim Hilow, Kathy Hexter, Debra Grandelski



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The Connection June 2016



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