

Good News!

The Quarterly Newsletter of South Chatham Community Church

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path



Fall 2012



Volume 3 Issue 3

www.chatham-church.com



Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Wed Bible Study: 6:30 pm

2555 Main Street

South Chatham, MA 02659

Office: 508.432.4248

Benefit Shop: 508.432-3719

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Monday through Saturday



Maya-Lou Neal
ready to come
to the rescue
at Harding's Beach.

See page 5

A Message from Our Pastor

Sacrifice and Commitment

The Summer Olympics recently concluded. I am a huge fan of watching the USA win medals. All of those athletes don't just arrive at the Olympics in amazing shape ready to win gold; they train incredibly hard for the majority of their lives. Most spend many hours a day training and eating healthfully to keep their bodies in peak condition.

That's commitment and that's sacrifice.

I have been thinking about the importance of these two words and what they mean to us as followers of "The Way". These are the definitions I'll use as I write about the words and the implications on our faith:

Commitment – A pledge or promise – an obligation.

Sacrifice -The surrender or destruction of something prized for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim.

Many of us have not truly implemented these actions when it comes to our faith. We have a tendency to be more committed and sacrificial to a career, family, friends, fitness, food, television, pornography, drugs, alcohol, or whatever it may be. The question we need to ask is, "How committed and sacrificial is my spiritual life?"

(Cont'd on Page 3)



Fall Celebrations

Birthdays

*Let them praise the name
of the Lord, for he
commanded and they
were created.*

Psalm 148:5



September

8 Lou Zinnanti
7 Carol Ames
12 Evelyn Baker
13 Moraiah Luna
21 Joey Vachon
23 Hildred (Moe) Olson
25 Steven Leach
28 Gary Leach

October

3 Sienna Towns
10 Kelsey Olson
11 Joshua Leach
13 Andy Paff
16 Josh Neal

November

7 Rod Henrikson
11 Margaret Hecht
 Nicole Towns
13 Cierra Capitulo
17 David Farnham
22 John Burgio
 James Eldredge
27 Sally Powles

We celebrate the memory of
Rev. William (Bill) P. Barker

our pastor and shepherd
who was called into the presence of
the Lord on Sunday July 8th, 2012

*Precious in the sight of Lord is the
death of his saints. Psalm 116:15*



Partying With Our Charlie on June 10th

With Sr. Deacon Kay Paff looking on, Diane Zinnanti tells the crowd during Fellowship Hour all that Charlie Goble has meant to our church over these many years. Her love for this amazing man, her mentor, was evident as she gave this very touching tribute on the occasion of his 98th birthday. Charlie has since moved to New Jersey to be closer to his daughter, Sue. Though we miss him, we continue to feel his presence in our hearts. Please write to him so that he knows he will never be forgotten.

Mr. Charlie Goble,
c/o Susan Germaine
242 Beech Terrace,
Wayne, NJ 07470

“Message” Cont'd from page 1

If we were able to truly step back and observe our thoughts, attitudes, actions, and choices many of us would find we are not committed, sacrificial people of faith. It is so important to reflect on these two words daily. The question we need to ask is, “How committed and sacrificial is my spiritual life style?”

If we were able to truly step back and observe our thoughts, attitudes, actions, and choices many of us would find we are not committed, sacrificial people of faith. It is so important to reflect on these two words daily.

It is important to ponder like this. If I am half committed to my wife or husband and only willing to sacrifice what I feel like sacrificing, it is not commitment nor is it sacrifice. However, often I approach God in this manner. I think I have it all figured out. I know I'm saved so I don't pursue holiness and righteousness. I claim to be someone that follows after God when in fact God is not my top priority. I can talk about God because I've memorized some text, but God is not the most influential part of my life. I am the decision maker; I am the one that really matters. I don't want to admit it, however, I am not willing to commit to God nor sacrifice my most prized possessions or other non-material aspects of my personality that are not God honoring. I cling onto my attributes that are not Christ like because the world believes they are good, yet they are hindering me from true faith.

We find ourselves at a crossroads. What is our response? How can we discover true sacrifice? Exodus 22:20 says, “Whoever sacrifices to any god other than the Lord must be destroyed.” The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the Lord, often by totally destroying them.

We need to allow the debris from our past, the reasons we cannot surrender, to no longer hinder us from being fully committed sacrificial followers of our God.

No more compromise.



Rev. Colby Olson

*I delight greatly in the
Lord;
my **soul** rejoices in my
God.
Isaiah 61:10*

I Thought of My Mother Today

by Pam Ryan

I was startled when I looked in the mirror this morning. I don't know why but I wasn't expecting the current me. My Mom told me at age 89 that inside she still felt like her 18 year old self. I didn't understand as fully then as I do now. Time has taken its toll on the physical me. First came the eye glasses then the wrinkles (crow's feet and beyond), the gray hair and the creaky bones. It has been a mercifully slow, but steady adventure.

Pastor Colby has twice remarked recently that we are "not a body with a soul, but rather a soul with a body." That was an "ah ha!" moment for me. It explained my momentary confusion this morning and why Mother felt young and vital toward the end of her earthly life. Bodies deteriorate, but I've learned from pulpit and bible study teachings that souls can grow, even thrive. Jesus can make that happen. Following Him, connecting with Him each day is the antidote to aging, even affliction. More and more I understand that it is the way to thrive. The one and only way.

Because of the Lord's great love
we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him
Lamentations 3: 22-24

A Trip to the Beach

photos by Emily Sosa



We ate.

Our church family came together on a mid-August afternoon at Harding's Beach in Chatham. Pastor Colby led the grace. He thanked God for this church community, for the food so lovingly prepared and, most especially, for holding off the rain.



We enjoyed each others company



We laughed.



We giggled.



We played...



...and played.



Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.

~Helen Keller

13 and Counting!

In December of 2011, God sent us a messenger who is filled with the energy and excitement of the Holy Spirit. And we've begun to grow – in numbers and in faith!

On two Sundays in August,
13 new partners were received into our church family:

**Cierra Capitemmino; Alanna Capitemmino,
Elaine Creighton; Josephine Wilburn: Brian Deveau;
Rick Vachon; Laureanne Horne; Bill Horne;
Pauline Sullivan, Carol Ames: Katie Mabile;
Sandy Burgio and John Burgio**

Living Sacrifices

Romans 12:4-7

Just as each of us has one body with many members,
and these members do not have the same function,
so in Christ we who are many form one body,
and each member belongs to all others.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.
If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.

If it is serving, let him serve;
if it is teaching, let him teach;
if it is encouraging, let him encourage;
if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously;
if it is leadership, let him govern diligently;
if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

100 years from now...It will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much I had in my bank account, or what my clothes looked like. But the world may be a little better because I was important in the life of a child.



The Bowers Family

Photo by Emily Sosa

A Parent's Prayer

submitted by Lou Zinnanti

Oh heavenly Father, make me a better parent. Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say, and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes, or resort to shame or ridicule when they displease me. May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power.

Let me not tempt my child to lie or steal. And guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me. And when I am out of sorts, help me, oh Lord, to hold my tongue.

May I ever be mindful that my children are children and I should not expect of them the judgment of adults.

Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and to make decisions.

Bless me with the bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests, and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm.

Make me fair and just and kind. And fit me, Oh Lord, to be loved and respected and imitated by my children. Amen

June 2012

To Our Church Family,

I can't possibly put into words the gratitude we have for all of your generosity during this time! Your gifts have superseded anything ever imaginable to us.

Thank you for for all of
your love!

The Leach Family

The Love Chapter

1 Corinthians 13: 1-7

If I speak in the languages of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres

Vanished Friend

submitted by Sally Powles

Around the corner I have a friend
In this great city that has no end,
yet the days go by, and weeks
rush on,

And before I know it, a year is gone.
And I never see my old friend's face.
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I love him just as well,
As in the days when I rang his bell,
But we were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men,
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.

"Tomorrow," I say, "I will call on Jim
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow
goes,

And distance between us grows and
grows.

Around the corner – yet miles away,
Comes word that Jim has died today.
And that's what we get and deserve in
the end –

Around the corner,
a vanished friend.



Laureanne Horne holds our church baby, **Lydia Neal**, who was born in June to parents **Shannon and Josh Neal**.

Lydia is comfortable being with us as you can see. She has attended church every Sunday of her life except for the Sunday she was born.



On a Sunday in July, before the SCCC service, **Pastor Olson** delivered the message "Undoing Doubt" based on the Scripture John 20:24-31 to a crowd of 75 people gathered on the beach at Oyster Pond.

~Photo by Charlie Huntington

Our Writers & Contributors This Issue;

**Sally Powles, Joanne Leach, Emily Sosa,
Charlie Huntington, Lou Zinnanti, Colby Olson,
Laurie Bonin, Pam Ryan**

The deadline for the Winter issue is
November 25, 2012
(It's never too soon to start thinking about it!)



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Attention: Pam Ryan

Place
Stamp
Here

To:



Philippians

1:3

View our newsletter
on our web site
www.chatham-church.com



A Benediction for Our Snowbirds and Summer Guests

Submitted by Laurie Bonin

*"You go nowhere by accident,
Wherever you go God is sending you,
Wherever you are God has put you there,
He has a purpose in your being there.
Christ who indwells you has something
He wants to do through you, where you are.
Believe this and go in His grace,
and love, and power. Amen"*

-Dr. Richard Halverson, U.S. Senate Chaplain from 1981 to 1994