

Good News!

The Quarterly Newsletter of
South Chatham Community Church
Standing together with one spirit and one purpose



Summer 2012

Volume 3 Issue 2

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



Those SCCC Men!

Rick Vachon and his team put together an amazing Mother's Day brunch. A very special way to start a special day.

Thank you !


A Message from Our Pastor

Sinner to Overcomer

In Christendom we have a tendency not to talk about issues that hinder us in the faith. Instead many times we enjoy talking about God's love, mercy, and compassion while leaving out sin and judgment because they seem brash and harsh. After much prayer SCCC is currently discussing the seven deadly sins of pride, greed, anger, envy, gluttony, lust, and sloth. We need to have open dialog about depravity because if we don't we will not move closer to holiness. Conversing about the baggage we carry can become messy and difficult. However, it is essential that we dialog about sin and work together to overcome our struggles.

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (Romans 3:23). Most of us reading this article recognize that we are not perfect; however, many of us don't realize that we need to be cleansed, renewed and revitalized in our faith. We have embraced a false sense of our own reality. We compare ourselves to others instead of being refined by the purification of the refiner's fire. Our heart's desire should be holiness (being set apart). This will enable us to discover God's beautiful purposes for our lives.

We are sinners in need of God's grace and the Spirit's filling. It seems to me that we are not living the abundant life that God has for us. We have disappointments and refuse to turn them into humbling life-changing moments that make us grow in our relationship with Jesus.

(Cont'd on Page 3) 

Summer Celebrations

Birthdays

*Let them praise the name
of the Lord, for he
commanded and they
were created.
Psalm 148:5*



June

- 6 Christopher Leach
- 7 Charlie Goble
June Herold
- 19 Ryan Leach
- 23 Herb Olson
- 27 Ann Eldredge
Phyllis Henrikson

July

- 1 Karen Williams
- 4 Bret Saylor
- 6 Dennis Ryan
- 8 Judy Johansen
- 10 Katie Waters
- 15 Armando Luna
- 20 Mark Farnham
- 22 Katherine Emery
- 29 Harriet Chandler
- 30 Carl Johansen

August

- 3 Diane Zinnanti
- 11 Ted Sandy
- 14 Troy Olson
- 17 Elizabeth Baker
- 20 Irene Hamjian

We Mourn the Loss of our Brother in Christ

Murrell Dilts on December 17, 2011

Our sincere condolences to
his wife Dorothy and his family.

**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

Praying Is Easier Than You Think.

by Mary Catherine Stebner
(As remembered by Dennis Ryan)

“When you pray,
speak to God from your heart.
There are those who use all the
flowery words and seem to know
just what to say – Those are the
ones you must watch!”

*At 91, Mary Catherine's
humor and love for her
Lord remain true.
She still touches hearts
when she prays.*



She misses her church!

Write or visit if you can:

*Mary Catherine Stebner
% Epoch of Brewster
855 Harwich Road (Route 124)
Brewster, MA 02631*

A Child's Letter to God

submitted by Judy Johansen

**DEAR GOD,
I THINK ABOUT YOU SOMETIMES
EVEN WHEN I'M NOT PRAYING**

ELLIOTT

A Message From Our Pastor (“Sinner to Overcomer” continued from page 1)

We are often staying so busy with all of the daily jobs and duties that life throws our way that we fail to understand the importance of being filled daily. Believing and following Jesus is discovering abundant life. It is an interactive experience of all of our senses, and the filling of the Holy Spirit will daily transform the believer. We are privileged as believers and the problem is many of us do not comprehend the most amazing privilege...We can be filled with the Holy Spirit!

There are some conditions for receiving the filling of the Holy Spirit.

- 1) Salvation
- 2) Know about it
- 3) Thirst
- 4) See ones privilege and duty to “be free from the law of sin” (Romans 8:2)
- 5) Obedience
- 6) Ask (Luke 11:13)
- 7) Receive
- 8) Have the assurance
- 9) Accept the filling
- 10) Trust Him to do the work, and let Him work unhindered.

We are so diverted by family, friends, money, cars, television, music, and so much more that we have lost the Holy Spirit. To be a sincere follower of Jesus we need to reevaluate ourselves.

In our society the word “surrender” means that a person has given up and may be seen as weak. However, being a Jesus follower, this is what makes us most powerful.

It is only when the Holy Spirit is able to work unhindered do we truly realize our purpose. It is at this point that we finally comprehend our existence.

We are not here for our own selfish, self-centered ideas; we are here to live an abundant life through the filling of the Holy Spirit. It is time for all of us to take a reality check. It is not those who come to the church building that are saved or those who do good deeds, it is those who believe fully in Jesus as their Savior and surrender their lives to Him. It is those who ask to be filled initially and daily. If you believe in Jesus as your Savior, ask to be filled by the Spirit. If you truly believe you will be filled.

Questions:

Do you really love Jesus or are you paying lip service to Him?
Are you following Him or are you going through the motions?

It is time to change and the only way to change is by first believing and next being filled.

Are you filled?



Rev. Colby Olson



Wednesday June 6 - Discussing "Anger"

Thirsting for God's Word

by Kay Paff

Our mid-week gathering to study and discuss scripture (Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.) has covered many inspiring topics in the last several months. Pastor Colby led a series in February, taking us through scripture to discover the different types of biblical love. For example: Agape: the sacrificial love of God. Phileo: friendship. Eros: sexual love, etc. We also explored scripture to learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, cited in several places in the New Testament. Colby ordered some spiritual gifts inventories for us to take. He is meeting with individuals to talk with them about their spiritual gifts and how best to utilize them in the Body of Christ at our church. ***We are currently following up Sunday's sermon themes on the Seven Deadly Sins with a more in-depth look into them at our Wednesday night gathering time.***

The formation of the **Women's Bible Study** group (Tuesday @ 11:00 A.M.) adds another opportunity to delve into the Word. Led by Josephine Wilburn, we are currently examining *the Nature of Jesus* and seeking answers to the question: ***How do we know that Jesus is God?***

For those of you who haven't been to either Study, you are missing something both educational and spiritually edifying. Please feel free to come whenever you can and join in – you will find it rewarding, interesting... and fun!

Studying His Word is one of God's greatest blessings!

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

~Hebrews 4: 12

The Children's Hour

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Lou Zinnanti's favorite poem!

He knows it by heart. Just as he knows that children are a blessing from God.

Between the dark and the daylight,
When the night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,
That is known as the Children's Hour.

I hear in the chamber above me
The patter of little feet,
The sound of a door that is opened,
And voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight,
Descending the broad hall stair,
Grave Alice, and laughing Allegra,
And Edith with golden hair.

A whisper, and then a silence:
Yet I know by their merry eyes
They are plotting and planning together
To take me by surprise.

A sudden rush from the stairway,
A sudden raid from the hall!
By three doors left unguarded
They enter my castle wall!

They climb up into my turret
O'er the arms and back of my chair;
If I try to escape, they surround me;
They seem to be everywhere.

They almost devour me with kisses,
Their arms about me entwine,
Till I think of the Bishop of Bingen
In his Mouse-Tower on the Rhine!

Do you think, O blue-eyed banditti,
Because you have scaled the wall,
Such an old mustache as I am
Is not a match for you all!

I have you fast in my fortress,
And will not let you depart,
But put you down into the dungeon
In the round-tower of my heart.

And there will I keep you forever,
Yes, forever and a day,
Till the walls shall crumble to ruin,
And moulder in dust away!



*Joshua, Growing in Jesus,
before our very eyes!*



A Joyous Noel

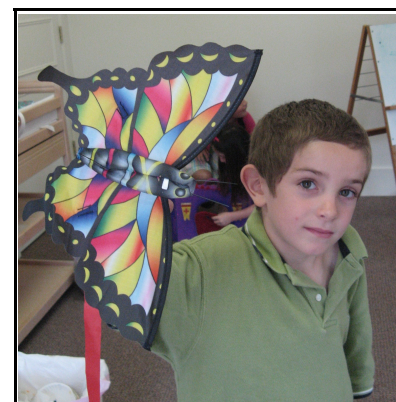
***"Let the children come to me...
Don't stop them!"***

*...Then he took the children in his arms
and placed his hands on their heads and
blessed them.*

-From Mark 10:13-16



*Carmen joined the
Spring cleaning team
and did a great job
washing windows.*



*We're so happy
to have Caleb with us.*

Neighbor

by Joanne Leach



God says to "Love your neighbor as yourself." First you need to Love yourself. How is this going to happen? It is really easy for some people, yet hard for others.

First of all, God loves us all no matter what we do or how we come out so we don't have that to worry about! But this lesson, loving our neighbor, is important for all of us to learn. I am at a different point in my journey with Christ than you and maybe the person next to you. We as neighbors in Christ have to help each other in our journey to grow. By reading the Bible and encouraging one another we each can thrive in the Spirit of the Lord. We will then have loved our neighbor and, in retrospect, learned to love ourselves.

Pride

During the month of May, Pastor Colby spoke about the first of the Seven Deadly Sins. He told this story:

A minister received a Christmas card with a note in it from a lady in his congregation. She was very complimentary about his preaching and compared him to Billy Graham. She finished by writing, "I think you are one of the really great preachers of all time." Later that day, when he showed the note to his wife, she asked, "Who is that woman?"

He replied, "She is a very intelligent woman in the congregation who loves great preaching." He then asked his wife, "How many great preachers do you suppose there really are in the world?" She replied, "One less than you think."



Proverbs 16:18 says: "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

If this means that the next step after being all puffed up with arrogance could be falling flat on our faces, then this lucky minister was saved from going "flat faced" by his wise wife!

My Favorite Church

by Irene Hamjian

I awake at five.
 Thank you God, I'm alive!
 Time to pray
 And organize my day
 What to wear?
 Church day, choose with care
 Read some newspaper liable
 Better yet, passages from the Bible.
 It's time now to eat
 Then off to greet
 Some of the congregation
 At my favorite church in the nation.



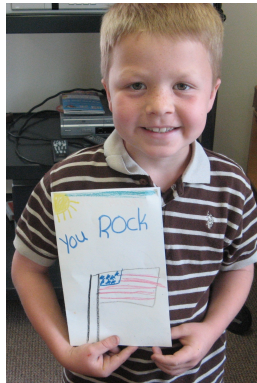
The Favorite Scripture of Christopher Leach

Jesus said,
 "This is my
 commandment:
 Love each other as
 I have loved you."
 John 15:12



Memorial Day 2012

The Children sent thank you cards to our soldiers.



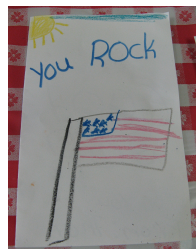
Troy



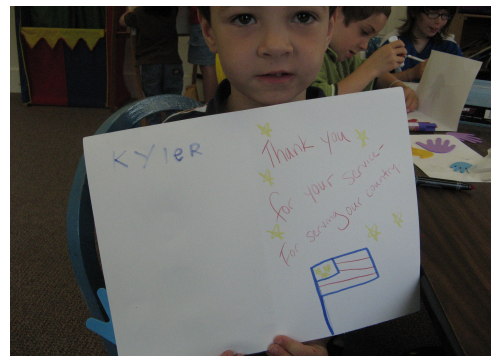
Carmen!



Hayden



Kelsey & Joey



Kyler

2555 Main Street is Not The Church. We Are!

Like so many New England church buildings, ours is beautiful in its simplicity; but, as much as we love it (missing cross atop the steeple and all), it is not God's church.

“Churches come in all styles and shapes – secret meetings in homes; wide open gatherings in amphitheatres; worship services packing thousands into a sanctuary while an overflow crowd watches on close circuit television; handfuls who kneel in urban storefronts.

Buildings will vary but the church is not confined to four walls. The church of Jesus Christ is people, his people, of every race or nation, who love Christ and are committed to serving him.”

- Life Application Study Bible pg 1997



Alanna Caputummino, her daughter, Cierra and Pastor Colby continue the Wednesday night discussion.



Mary Belyea, looking as beautiful as ever, worshiped with us on Memorial Day. A wonderful surprise!



Margaret & Stephen Hecht return from their winter home in Savannah. We're happy you are back with us!



A warm welcome back to Kitty and Paul Emery.

Looking Back...

Much has happened since the Spring Newsletter was published... **We celebrated** the life of our dear Janet Gage at a service and reception...**We learned** about Believer's Baptism in a special meeting – and a week later, five sisters in Christ were baptized in the manner of Jesus... **We kicked back** at Saturday Night at the Movies with the kids – popcorn, lemonade and all...**We were treated** to a Pancake Breakfast... and A Mother's Day Brunch... **We discussed**, at two special conversations, (well attended by “old timers” and new comers), what it means to partner with this church community...And, **We began to grow in numbers!**




Going Forward...

As our community of believers continues to grow in numbers and faith, we will go where our Mighty God takes us. As more of us begin to ask the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts...as more of us decide to follow after Jesus – the more exciting this wonder-filled adventure becomes! Stay tuned.

Our Writers & Contributors This Issue;

**Mary Catherine Stebner, Judy Johansen,
Dennis Ryan, Colby Olson
Kay Paff, Lou Zinnanti, Joanne Leach, Irene Hamjian,
Christopher Leach, Pam Ryan**

The deadline for the Fall issue is
August, 31, 2012 
(It's never too soon to start thinking about it!)

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South Chatham Community Church
P.O. Box 52
2555 Main Street
South Chatham, MA 02659

Attention: Pam Ryan

Place
Stamp
Here

To:



View our newsletter in full color
on our new website: 
www.chatham-church.com



You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism. ~Erma Bombeck