

# Good News!

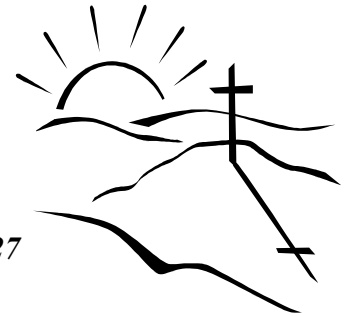
The Quarterly Newsletter of

## South Chatham Community Church

*Standing together with one spirit and one purpose Phil 1:27*



Winter 2011



Volume 2 Issue 4



**Sunday 10:00**

**A.M.**

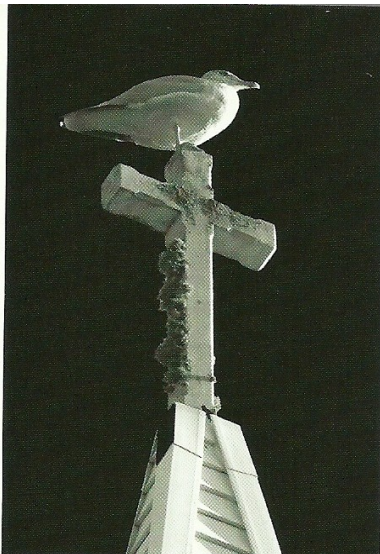
Bible Study: Wed. 6:30 P.M.

2555 Main Street,

South Chatham

508.432.4248

[www.southchathamcommunitychurch.org](http://www.southchathamcommunitychurch.org)



Atop SCCC

Photograph by Bill Lyons

## New Pastor. New Worship Time. New Beginnings!

*On Sunday November 20, 2011 the church membership voted to call Reverend Colby Olson to be our permanent pastor. Those present also voted to change the time of Sunday worship to 10:00 A.M.*

Dear SCCC Family,

Our family is looking forward to seeing God's Spirit move powerfully within the church body, the town of Chatham and its surrounding communities. We are anticipating the refiner's fire to purify all of us and truly enable us to be people after His heart. Our desire is to see God's Kingdom come and will be done as we follow faithfully after Jesus. I am excited to become the next pastor of SCCC and I look forward to what is in store.

May all of us anticipate a mighty move of our God!

Much love to you,

**Pastor Colby Olson  
(Stacey, Kelsey, and Troy)**

11-27-11





## Different Shoes!



*Our new pastor arrives.*

### His first sermon...

It was fitting that Rev. Colby Olson's first sermon as the permanent pastor of SCCC was entitled "Different Shoes – Coping with Change." He borrowed a few pairs of shoes from the Benefit Shop and lined them up in front of the church on a small table before the service began. The shoes represented the pastors who have preceded him during our first 100 years. And, as he noted, no two pairs were the same. Each pastor was different from the next – just as he is unlike any who have gone before.

Colby Olson is definitely one of a kind: He hasn't yet reached his fortieth birthday; he is young, bold and Spirit-filled. His energy, excitement and love for the Lord are catching. We expect that our church community will awaken with a renewed commitment to Jesus – and that we will spring into action for the Lord as the Holy Spirit pours down on us!

### Where did he come from?

Colby Olson came to us from God – with a few stops along the way. Over the past 13 years, he has been led to serve the Lord in various capacities in both established and new churches. He has been a youth pastor and/or a pastor in four churches. Most recently in 2010, he and his wife Stacey started a new church, Renewal Church, in East Providence, RI, where Colby is the pastor and Stacey serves the children's ministry. Stacey has a B.S. in Early Childhood Education.

Colby's educational background includes: An A.S., a B.A., and a Master in Divinity from Alliance Theological Seminary in Rockland, N.Y. He was ordained in 2003 by The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

### His family...

The Olson's have two children Kelsey (10) and Troy (8). Born and raised in Massachusetts, Colby has both New England and Cape Cod roots: Colby's mother, Pamela Olson, resides in Dennisport; his cousin, Ryan Scanlon, lives in Orleans; And his Grandfather and wife, Warren and Verna Stauffer, make their home in Bourne.



The family currently resides in East Providence and will be relocating at some point in the future. In the meantime, in addition to Sunday worship, Colby, currently a parttime pastor, will be here on Wednesdays to conduct church business, pastoral care (more often, as needed) and bible study.

### About change ...

As Colby preached on his first Sunday, change is a constant in our earthly lives. We can count on it.

But, as the Bible tells us there are three things that will not change: God's love, His Word and His purpose for our lives. That we can count on, too.

***"I the Lord do not change..." Malachi 3:6***

## The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1: 3-11

And it came to pass in those days,  
that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus,  
that all the world should be taxed.  
And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee,  
out of the city of Nazareth into Judea,  
unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem;  
(because he was of the house and lineage of David):  
To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife,  
being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there,  
the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And, she brought forth her firstborn son;  
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes,  
and laid him in a manger;



because there was no room for them in the inn.  
And there were in the same country shepherds abiding  
in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,  
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:  
and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not:  
for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,  
which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David  
a savior, which is Christ the Lord.

## Farewell to Rob and Heather

On Sunday November 27, Pastor Rob Swanson led the worship service for the last time as our interim pastor. **Kay Paff**, Senior Deacon, delivered a heart felt thank you from our congregation during Fellowship Hour. Rob had been our spiritual leader for 17 months, stepping in to fill a void with his warmth and wisdom. He taught and guided our leadership. He prepared them to take on the responsibilities of leadership, both present and future. Rob has been a very important part of this church as it moves forward into its second century and for that we will always be grateful. We will miss him and his beautiful Heather who brought such caring and insight and wonderful music to us. This note arrived shortly after his departure:



*Last Sunday Heather and I received a lot of love, above and beyond...We thank God for you and this past chapter of life we have shared.*

*It has been my pleasure.*

*Thank you for your card and generous gift.*

*Well beyond all the leadership stuff of the past 17 months, friendships formed... and they shall continue.*

*May God bless you and keep you.*

*Thanks again for receiving and blessing us - all 3 of us!*

*Sincerely in Christ,*

*Pastor Rob Swanson  
November 29, 2011*

*Dear Friends at  
South Chatham Community Church,*

*On behalf of the Chatham Food Pantry, I wish to thank you for your continued generous donations of food to the pantry.*

*Your support, as always, is most appreciated.*

*Sincerely,  
Sandra Kaski  
For the Chatham Food Pantry  
10/26/11*



Thank you  
***Evelyn and Gordon Baker***  
*for faithfully transporting our donations  
to the Pantry!*

## Santa Lou and the Mrs.

It was the day after Thanksgiving. Lou Zinnanti had been preparing for this day all year long. He began growing his beard in June; he had been collecting unwanted toys most of the year; taking them back to his basement workshop to clean and repair. He kept at it until there was no more room in the basement; he had gathered hundreds of toys.

Now, it was time. He donned the suit that Diane had fashioned for him, and the transformation was complete. He was Santa Claus. And, he had an important date with the children of South Chatham.

With the help of **Stephen Hart** and **Karen Williams**, he and Diane (Mrs. Claus) loaded all the toys into Stephen's truck; and when the last toy had cleared the basement, he turned off the light and heard the fuzzy bear snore one more time. It made him smile. He had connected that bear to the light. Our Santa is a kid at heart.

At 11:00 A.M., the doors of the church were thrown open and in came the children. More than 65 in all! They delighted in the mountains of toys and set about the business of choosing just the right ones. They were professionally photographed with Santa by **Andy Paff**. They and their parents and grandparents were treated to home made cookies baked by the many wonderful bakers at SCCC. And most importantly, they heard about the birth of Jesus from Diane.

When 2:00 P.M. rolled around and the last child had hunted and found his treasure and left the church, the clean up crew got into gear and within an hour all evidence of Santa's visit to SCCC was gone. Tired, but happy Lou and Diane headed home.



## **To A Beautiful Person**

Submitted by Sally Powles

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.  
If He had a wallet, your photo would be in it.  
He sends you flowers in the spring.  
He sends you a sunrise every morning.  
Whenever you want to talk, he listens.  
He can live anywhere in the universe, but he chose your heart.  
Face it, friend – He is crazy about you!

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow,  
sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day,  
comfort for the tears,  
and light for the way. ♥

### **The Smile**

by Pam Ryan

Earlier that morning, as directed, she had walked to the back of the shop to take up her post behind the jewelry counter while the three other volunteers stayed up front and chatted. It was her first day of work for her beloved church. It was also her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. She could not think of a better way to celebrate. For the next three hours, she would have what she missed at home – people to be with and a job to do. She had woken up that day filled with hope and anticipation. She had thanked her Lord for this special day.

But as the time passed so did the customers. She ask if she could assist them, but they barely looked at her, shook their heads and continued on. She was small in stature and began to wonder if she was invisible. She listened to the three other workers laughing together up front and despite her best effort, a cloud of disappointment began to settle down around her. She prayed silently for the strength to continue and it came. She was doing the Lord's work and that would be her payment.

She watched as a younger woman made her rounds inspecting the merchandise, hunting for that one treasure that would make her morning of thrifting worthwhile. As the customer approached the jewelry counter, she looked directly at the older woman and smiled. It was a warm and heartfelt smile and it took the older woman by such surprise that she almost giggled aloud. It was a smile that touched her soul. A smile that came from Jesus. And, it filled the older woman with great happiness.

## Mary's Hat

by Irene Hamjian



I looked through the door and  
thought it was a department store!  
Such treasures to behold,  
Some new and some very old –  
All the love in the house  
that she had shared with her spouse.

Children and grandchildren  
came with their love to give,  
helping her each day to live.  
But finally, let her be at peace as she died  
All praying around her side

“I like your hat,” she had said  
One day when I sat by her bed  
“I’ll make one for you  
Perhaps navy and light blue.”

As the last stitch was finished, quite late  
The phone rang telling me of dear Mary's fate

### **Editors Note:**

*Irene wrote this poem in the 80's while she was a hospice nurse.  
Although Irene was not able to deliver the promised gift,  
she gave the very special gift of herself during those final days –  
up to the moment Mary was called home to her Lord,  
Irene's hands worked the yarn and  
the prayers for her friend flowed from her heart.*

## Bible Study, Colby style.



The first study conducted by our new pastor was held on December 7. The hour flew as we studied the role of the Holy Spirit in our own lives and in our church. The Spirit dwells in us and in the church as His temple; unites the church; creates fellowship; empowers preachers; promotes righteousness; glorifies Christ... and more!

These sessions should not be missed.

They are lively, spirit-filled and fun – Just like our new pastor!

**Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Church Office**

## A Quiet Moment Together

by Eleanor Sass in "Best Friends," a Guideposts book



My new Terrier Wally doesn't hesitate to let me know when he needs something. By a persistent bark or a cold-nose nudge, he tells me when he wants to eat, go outside or play.

Recently, I was sitting in my bedroom chair reading. Wally raised himself on his hind legs, his forepaws touching my lap. It wasn't his mealtime. He'd just come in from being outside. "Do you want to play?" I asked, reaching down for his yellow rubber ball. But when I threw it, Wally didn't run. Instead, he gave another nudge with his nose.

"Do you want to come up here?" The answer seemed to be yes, because he attempted to jump. But he didn't make it. His legs were too short. So I lifted him up into my lap. After some turning and shifting, he settled down. When I heard him give a big sigh, a warm feeling of contentment enfolded me.

This is how God must feel, I thought, when one of His children comes to Him, not with a need but simply wanting to be with Him, to have a quiet time in His lap.



### Season's Greetings

by Eleanor C. Gilson  
(Judy Johansen's mom)  
in her weekly newspaper column:  
"Sense and Nonsense"  
6/23/86

No Nonsense in my column this week,  
Just Sense, the old fashioned kind:  
Greetings sincere, for this time of year,  
Is what I have in mind.  
May your Christmas be Merry,  
And your New Year Bright,  
May all your troubles  
Vanish from sight.  
May Santa bring blessings  
Packed in his sleigh,  
Enough to brighten  
Your every day.  
And now, on the brink  
Of a brand new year,  
My wish, as I said,  
Is truly sincere.  
May the Lord bring happiness To all of you,  
With Joy and Peace  
The whole year through.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



### Our Writers and Contributors

**Sandy Burgio, Sally Powles, Judy Johansen,  
Irene Hamjian, Colby Olson, Pam Ryan**

The deadline for the Spring issue is  
**February 28th, 2012**

(It's never too soon to start thinking about it!)

## Winter Celebrations

### Birthdays

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

#### December

2 Dallas Jones

#### January

5 Jean Small

6 Liz Jones

11 Stephen Hecht

13 Mary Belyea

24 Kay Paff

26 Mary Catherine


30 Pam Ryan

#### February

18 Dorothy Dilts

22 Cathy Batcheller






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

**Attention: Pam Ryan**

Place Stamp Here

To:



**Philippians**  
**1:3**

**Silent Night.**



**Water color in shades of blue and green**  
**by Sandy Burgio**