



THE HARBOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

-Connect - Grow - Serve - Reach Out-

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June 27 ~ July 4, 2018

From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Church Family and Friends,

Every time that I celebrate the July 4th holiday, I am reminded of how blessed we are to be Americans. Our country guarantees us more freedoms than *many* of the countries on the face of the earth. One of the freedoms we have is the freedom of speech. It allows us to hold opinions and express them without any interference or restrictions from the government. In this country, one can speak against the president or criticize the government and not be prosecuted. Nevertheless, the Constitution does not give us the right or freedom to say things that are vile and indecent. The problem is that many of us have forgotten that true freedom is not based only on the Constitution ~ but also on Christ. When people have no Christ in their lives, the Constitution becomes meaningless. Christ is the only one who is able to do what a perfect Constitution cannot. The Constitution cannot change the human heart ~ but Christ can. He makes us spiritually alive to our Constitution and gives us a new heart that is ready to accept all people as God's children.

Perhaps this is why the Apostle Paul had this to say to the Galatians in Galatians 6: 14-16: *"May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision mean anything; what counts is the new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule ~ to the God of Israel."* The apostle Paul seems to believe that there are restrictions posed on our freedom of speech as Christians. If someone has ever said something judgmental and negative behind your back, which questions your motive, integrity or character, you understand what I mean. Nothing is more painful than when someone says something about you that is blatantly untrue in the name of freedom of speech. In fact, few things have the power to ruin a relationship. These include critical accusations, defaming, hostile and inaccurate or even slanderous words. Hence, it is important that we use our freedom of speech to build others up rather than tearing them down. All of us can probably think of a time when we were hurt by someone's words. We also probably know of at least one good relationship that was destroyed, a church that was split, or a family member who does not communicate anymore because of hurtful words. Therefore, we can understand why the Apostle Paul seems to be advocating for the bridling of the tongue, so we avoid "tearing one another down by our slanderous speech." We are to boast not of ourselves, our accomplishments, our children, even our church, but we are only to boast in the cross of Jesus Christ. When you think about
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it, what else is there to talk about? What else is there to boast about? The love of Christ is what frees us from shallow, empty speech in order to speak of things that really matter in life. Our words have the potential to deeply injure others or to build up their faith. Let us be the kind of people who honor one another with our words. I hope to see you in church on the first day of July. Happy Fourth of July 2018 to you all.



Love in Him,
Pastor Abi

Called to Serve ~ not to be Served (Matthew 20:28)



Announcements

1. **Women's Bible Study** is on vacation for the summer. For fall series suggestions or for more information, contact Chris Longman at (clong350@yahoo.com) or (text or call) 517-404-6816.

2. **Scituate Food Pantry:** is open!



Food Pantry hours: TUESDAY: 10am-12:45pm for clients (9am-1pm for donations)
THURSDAY: 3:30-5:30pm for clients (3:30-6pm for donations)

The immediate needs are: **Mayonnaise Mustard Ketchup**
Canned Pasta (Spaghettios, Ravioli, etc.)

Any and all sizes of donated items are needed; larger sizes are appreciated by larger families.
Isaiah 58:10-12 Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.



June 27	Siobhan Sweeney	July 1	Christina Longman
29	Ian Crovella		Tom Gunther
	Colin Crovella	7	Erin Crowell
			Max Pretzer
July 1	Hamer's 55th Anniversary	11	Alice Hamer
			Nancy Antonello

Please let me know your birthday. We'd love to celebrate YOUR day!

From the Missions Corner: Francina's Sewing Mission

Next Sunday morning we look forward to hearing from Francina about the clothing she sews for needy mission children.

Thanks to those of you who have donated fabric and a sewing machine! She is in good shape with those supplies. Now both ribbon and thread are items for which she is looking. Can you help? Is there some thread or ribbon that has been in your sewing box not being used? Please consider sharing for the cause.

Also, if you are a sewer, your time and talents are needed for this mission! Please talk to Francina, Dianne, Nancy (545-7031 or nantoniell@comcast.net) or Pastor Abi for the scoop.

Blessings from our Missions Committee
Nancy Antonello





PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Please lift the following in prayer, that they may be strengthened, guided, and healed.

If there are other prayer concerns that you wish to have on the Prayer Chain,

please contact Alice Hamer at 781-545-4112 or

Kerry Renzi at 508-513-7193 or kerryrenzi@yahoo.com or Mary Voelger at 781-545-9000 or at zackzipp@aol.com Updated information is appreciated..

*"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests
With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18)*

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving: That Alice Hamer was able to be with us in worship on Sunday ... God is Good! * That Lee Harms and family have found a house to rent in the Wampatuck School district for the summer. * That Gracie Longman will be home on July 2. * That Bill Wood, an old friend, was with us in worship on Sunday too. * Praise be to you, Lord Jesus!

Prayers for those fighting cancer: For James Grande who has esophageal cancer ... prayers for strength and comfort. For Cindy McCall For Ellen Hayes For Barbara Crowley who is in treatment for lymphoma For Gary Thompson ... fighting colon cancer ... is having a break from chemo ... testing soon to see where he stands ... prayers for good news. For Lila Sparrell who has just completed her 2nd course of treatment for bone cancer ~ prayers for good results. For Joanne M. for strength in dealing with lung cancer and finding a new treatment that may work. Prayers please for Brian who is in the midst of 8 months of daily chemotherapy and weekly injections. Dan, fighting prostate cancer Dianne ... friend of Jan Hawver For Paul Finnigan ... prostate cancer Parker Sullivan, a young boy who is responding well to treatment in his fight against leukemia George Neat ... prostate cancer in remission ~ now having lung issues

Prayers of the People: Prayers for Carolyn Harbour who's back home in Scituate, but now in the hospital with pneumonia ... prayers for comfort and recovery. * Prayers for Gracie Longman that ~ as she is released from the recovery center and begins school in Braintree on July 5 ~ she finds peace and healing. * Prayers for Harvey who has suffered three strokes and has a blocked carotid artery ~ that he has restoration to health. * Prayers for Janet Mills who fell on May 23rd and broke her femur. She's at LifeCare Center. Her daughter was with her when she fell. * Prayers for travel mercies for Gretchen Voelger-Swain as she left early this morning for Dallas, TX with others from Sanctuary, Marshfield to learn about mission work ~ and for all to return home safely. * For Mike Davies, Mary's nephew: doctors cancelled his angioplasty last week. Prayers that they find a way to treat him that will not compromise his kidney condition. * Prayers for Frank Longman who has had a fall, broken his right arm, had surgery ... not an easy break ... prayers for his comfort during a long recovery period. * Prayers for Denise who has suffered a heart attack, for complete healing. * Prayers of healing for William who's in rehab, for God's healing touch. * Prayers of healing for David, especially his back and foot pain and that the pain pills he takes will have no ill side effects. * Prayers for John S. as he continues to see doctors regarding the treatment protocol and all he will be dealing with. * Prayers for Tom Watson who was transferred to a long-term acute care facility in Sarasota. Liz's goal is to have Tom transferred to a Boston facility which is a 25-hour ambulance ride. Liz thanks all who have been in touch and appreciates all the prayers too. Praise God! Cards can be sent to: Tom Watson, c/o Mary L. Murphy, 4080 Ironwood Circle #207C, Bradenton, FL 34209. Prayers for healing, comfort, and strength for Tom and prayers for Liz as she watches over Tom. * For Jane Hollis's sister, Lorrie who is still fighting C-diff. Pray that a change in medication will help. Lorrie has had a bad fall, broken pelvis. She is now in rehab and will have a long difficult recovery. Prayers for healing, strength and comfort. * For the peace of Jerusalem. * Prayers of healing for Harvey after his surgery. * Prayers for Charlotte's grandson Declan who is ill.

Please continue to keep the following in your prayers for healing and strength as they continue to recover at home or in a facility: Alice Hamer, Shirley Lynam, Joey Renzi, Ann's friend Peg McDonald, Ann's CA cousin Tommy, Wendy Murphy, and Sue Hands.

For all in nursing care: Peggy's sister Claire, Lucy Morris, Evelyn Murphy, and all others. Please bless them with comfort and peace. Grant that their caregivers are kind, compassionate, and very well trained.

