

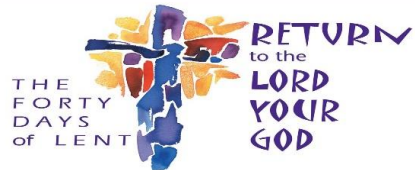
Christ Community Church of Blackstone
Proclaiming Hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1822

March 2023 Newsletter



A Message from Pastor Marc

"Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry". - Luke 4:1-2 NIV



It is hard to believe that Winter is fleeting and Spring is a mere three weeks away. We long for longer and warmer days that the new season promises. We have now entered the season of Lent, that time commemorating the inauguration of Jesus' earthly ministry. We remember how Jesus was in the wilderness, led by the Holy Spirit, where He went without food or water. And being tempted by Satan, rebuked the tempter three times by quoting Scripture and for which Satan had no reply.

While traditions vary among the various denominations, the central focus is one of introspection upon one's relationship to our risen Savior. There may be personal signs of reverence to our Lord. Some periodically fast during this time, others deny certain foods or activities as a sign of personal sacrifice. Others may make daily prayer a priority during this time or read a devotional that focuses on Christ's passion. If these activities help you focus on Jesus and what He has done for us, then I believe they are excellent activities.

One of the most interesting activities of the early church was the process of instructing the prospective converts or Catechumen to Christianity. While these prospective converts could attend the local community's Christian service they were asked to leave when Communion was being offered. During the period of Lent, the individuals would receive instruction about what it meant to follow Jesus. On Easter morning they were baptized by the local community, welcomed into it and received Communion as a full participating member. It was an exciting time as the local believers fulfilled their call of the Great Commission.

Today, there is so much in our society that calls us to minimize the importance of Lent. Do we take for granted what the Lord has done on our behalf? Are we taking time everyday to be with Jesus and to thank Him for the blessings we get daily? During this time of introspection, I ask that you make it personal. Remember what the Lord our God did for us and on our behalf. We are a broken people who live within a broken world, but thanks be to God through the blood of Jesus He has made us whole. He has cleansed us of all unrighteousness, and He now calls us His own. Think about that daily, read Deuteronomy. 6:4-9 as a focal point. Never forget what the Lord has done for us.

God bless you all this Lenten season.

-Pastor Marc



Please pray for:

All those with Cancer
Karen, Marie, Martha, Cindy, Donna,
Vicky, Lorraine

Pastoral Search Committee

Those who need healing
Bruce, Aubrielle, Kayden, Hope, Ron & Jackie,
Miss Vickey, Jocelyn, Pastor Warren, Judy,
Jessica, Rita, Sandy, Robin, Anthony, Jean, Lillian

Other Needs
Lynne, Chuck – a job

Christine, Joe, Trista – need to find housing
Andrea – needs hospitalization for seizure tests and
needs a sitter for her autistic child during that time.

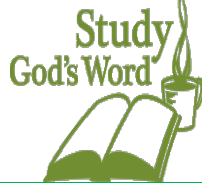
Those who are mourning; Those with anxiety or
addictions; Our **Unsaved** Loved Ones; Our
church; Our **Country**; Wisdom for our **Leaders**;
Revival in this country.

Bible Study
Tuesday Mornings @ 10am
via Zoom.com

Come join us as we study the Names of God,
Glimpses of His Character by Douglas Connelly.
There are eight chapters in this study and we plan
to cover one chapter per week.

All are welcomed

Please contact Lynne @ LynnePJ36@aol.com
for a link to the Zoom Meeting.



PRAYER
MEETING

March 8
at 7pm via Zoom.com

Through our prayers, especially with one another,
we are demonstrating and validating the faith we
have in Jesus Christ. It is through the discipline of
prayer with one another that we develop a growing
intimacy with God and create a spiritual bond with
one another.

ALL ARE INVITED!

Please contact Lynne @ LynnePJ36@aol.com
for a link to the Zoom Meeting

Received as Members
Anniversary

Nancy Mandeville – 03/26/1964
Joyce St. Jean – 03/26/1964
Lynne Cignarella – 03/29/2015
Leigh Gardner – 03/29/2015
Beth Hoyle – 03/29/2015

March Birthdays

Jim Hagan – 03/5
Sheila Robeau – 03/17



*Happy
Birthday!*



Marriage Anniversary

Marc & Amanda
Guilbeault
March 26, 2012

All-Church
Meeting

Tuesday, March 28th
at 7pm via Zoom.com

Please contact Lynne @ LynnePJ36@aol.com
for a link to the Zoom Meeting



**Don't forget to set all
of your clocks one
hour ahead!**

**Daylight Savings
Time
begins March 12th**



**POT LUCK SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPER
Sunday, March 12th**

We will hold a Hymn Sing on March 12 at 4pm. Rev. Gil Bourquin, our singing pastor, will lead the singing and play his guitar. The event will be followed with a Potluck Soup and Sandwich supper. All are welcome.

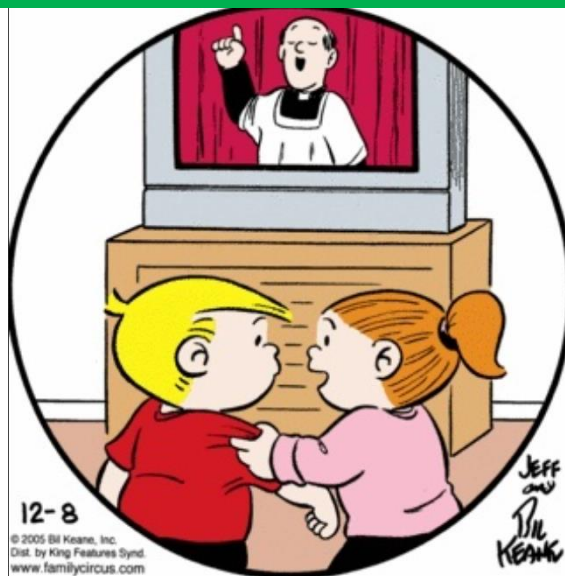


On March 6 at 8:30 am, we are expecting a visit from Sen. Fattman who is coming to view our historic church.

The Events' Committee is working on applying for Grants and his department has agreed to come, check the church and help us get some state funding.

We will serve refreshments after the meeting.

**All church members and associates
are invited to attend.**



**"Hear that? People in heaven have
ever-laughing life."**

Salvation by Grace

God's salvation comes by grace through faith: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Eph 2:8-9). Both grace and faith are needed for salvation.

Salvation saves us from the penalty of sin and guarantees us eternal life in heaven with God (John 3:16-18). Many religions teach that salvation is achieved by things that we can do; they imply that we can be good enough to earn it, or that if we are sorry enough for our bad actions everything will be okay. No matter how good our intentions or actions are, they are not enough on their own. While we should do good works and have contrition over our shortcomings, this is not enough to free us from the curse of sin we

inherited from Adam in the Garden of Eden. We need to be delivered from the curse of sin. God's grace provides the deliverance we need.

Grace is God's unmerited favor which He freely bestows on us (Romans 3:24). He loves us so He provides grace that enables us to receive the gift of salvation through Christ: "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:4-5).

When we accept His gift of grace, it vindicates us and frees us from the power of sin. We are no longer separated from God or sentenced to hell, because His grace covers us and makes us sinless in His sight. We accept the gift of His eternal salvation by grace through faith.

February 19, 2023



Christ Community Church of Blackstone

2h · 🌐



We were so blessed yesterday when our former pastor, Pastor Ruth Blais, conducted our worship service. Thank you Pastor Ruth for another inspiring message and joining us for breakfast to complete a wonderful visit!!!



After the service, we continued our fellowship at Betty's Donuts for Breakfast.



L-R: Jason & Jen Dickey, Lynne Cignarella, Sandy MacLennan, Hope & Sheila Robeau, Pastor Ruth Blais and Bunny Roy



Beth Hoyle

Pastor Warren Blais

February 24, 2023



It's been three years since we were able to get together to have lunch at Cracker Barrel. Long overdue from Covid, weather, schedules, health challenges - a happy group of our Congregation gathered at Cracker Barrel Restaurant in Wrentham, MA, for a delightful lunch and fellowship. Pastors Ruth and Warren Blais were able to join us from the Cape, along with Jan MacKay from Marshfield.



L to R: Julie White, Debbie Butero, Barbara Greenwald, Joyce St. Jean, Jan McKay, Pastors Warren & Ruth, Nancy Mandeville and Beth Hoyle



Jennifer Dickey, Lynne Cignarella, Bunny Roy, David Baisley and Sheila Robeau
Unfortunately ... we neglected to snap a photo of Jackie St. Jean - who was snapping the photos!!!

**Good
Food
Friends
Fellowship**

About us: We are a bible-based, Christ-centered Christian church, located on the corner of Church and School Streets in Blackstone, MA. We are affiliated with the 4Cs – Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Pastor: We are presently searching for a new pastor.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Marc Greenwald

Zoom.com Meetings: Lynne Cignarella – LynnePJ36@aol.com

Be sure to visit our website at www.cccob.org to listen to our sermons and to find out more about us. You can also visit our Facebook page at Christ Community Church of Blackstone.



~ March 2023 ~
Christ Community Church of Blackstone
 (508) 883-7885



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	6 Sen. Fattman Mtg @ 8:30 am Tres Dias Reunion Group @ 7pm	7 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	8 7pm Prayer Mtg via Zoom	9	10	11
12 Service @ 9:30 am HYMN SING & POTLUCK SOUP SUPPER – 4PM	13	14 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	15	16	17 HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY	18
19 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	20 HELLO SPRING	21 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am All-Church Meeting @ 7pm on Zoom	22	23	24	25
26 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	27	28	29	30	31	