



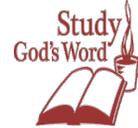
*Christ Community Church of Blackstone  
Proclaiming Hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ*

# *July 2022 - Newsletter*



### *A Message from Pastor Marc*

*“But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.” -Romans 6:22 NIV*



*Studying  
Revelations*

*Tuesday morning  
study at  
10 am via Zoom.com  
If you are interested,  
contact  
LynnePJ36@aol.com  
for a link.*

Hooray for Summer! God has blessed us with warm temperatures, sunny days, light well into the evening to enjoy and His painting of the landscapes with an array of colors. We look forward to the upcoming July 4th holiday. Perhaps a day off from one’s labors or enjoying a cookout with family and friends or just a chance to unwind from a hectic daily schedule.

On this upcoming July 4th we will celebrate the 215th year of our Republic. It has been a remarkable experiment in democracy producing the most unique and successful country this world has ever known. Yet our country has not been without its challenges and costs. Airforce Colonel Walter Hickock reminded us that Freedom isn’t free. As a notion we have seen such costs in blood and treasure through numerous wars and internal conflict. Through the sacrifices of many we can state with confidence that America is the land of the free and home of the brave.

But sometimes it doesn’t always seem like we may be free. We live within a nation of conflict and division. We seem to have lost our ability to disagree with one another without being disagreeable. Disagreements can often turn into hostile confrontations. Some may feel that their freedoms are being eroded. Such is the natural pull within a democratic Republic such as ours.

And yet for we who believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the power of His resurrection, we have a freedom that transcends the law and the shifting sands of society’s relativistic morality. Paul reminds us that we are no longer bound by sin and death. We are no longer slaves to the law but now we belong to Jesus. We are His and His alone. Through Jesus we have overcome sin and death and live with the promise and hope of eternal life. Unlike the whims of politicians, our God remains constant and unchanging, and His promises are always true.

We can celebrate the 4th of July knowing that come what may, God is with us and for us. We are His and He will never let us go. God loves us with an everlasting love. How do we know this? Because the Bible tells us that our image is engraved on the palms of His hands. I believe He is head over heels in love with us and if He had a refrigerator, our pictures would adorn it.

Enjoy the 4th knowing that in Christ we are free indeed!

God bless.  
-Pastor Marc

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Two one-week Camperships to be Given away  
Deadline to submit is July 8**

### Christ Community Church of Blackstone announces camp sponsorship opportunity

BLACKSTONE – Christ Community Church of Blackstone, 31 Church St., in commemoration of its 200th anniversary, seeks to sponsor one child age 10-13 and one child age 14-17 to a week-long overnight traditional camping adventure at Camp Wightman Camping, Retreat and Conference Center located at 207 Coal Pit Hill Road, Griswold, Conn.

Campers can enjoy boating, swimming, fishing, and waterfront games and activities everyday on Lake Billings. Also available are art projects, nature, archery, campfires, s'mores and more. Sessions are available on the following weeks to be selected by each child: July 24-30 or Aug. 14-20.

To be considered for the sponsorship, each child should submit an essay of no less than 250 words as to why he/she would like to attend Camp Wightman and send it to Christ Community Church of Blackstone, Summer Camp Sponsorship, P.O. Box 487, Blackstone, MA 01504, by the deadline of July 8 with their name, and parent(s) or guardian's name, address and telephone number.

The winner will be selected the week of July 11 and a formal presentation of the sponsorship will be made immediately following the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service on July 17.

For more information, call 401-767-0800.



**Come and be part of our Day of Planning to be held Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am to discuss our plans for the next year! We will meet in the Fellowship Room at the church. Anyone who cannot attend in person, can join us via zoom.com.**

**Please email Lynne for a link at [Lynnepj36@aol.com](mailto:Lynnepj36@aol.com)**

## BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

This year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the date that our ancestors organized as people of God!

Back on October 30, 1822, the roots of our church were planted in Blackstone and for the next two centuries, the Word of God would be preached from this place.

As a tribute, we are planning some great events to celebrate this bicentennial. Some of them are:

**September 11  
Jonas & Becky Woods Concert  
at 2pm at the church**



### Jonas & Becky Woods

Jonas Woods, a Christian Contemporary Performer, found his calling of God through music. Delving deeper into the words of the Almighty and venturing around the country, he introduced his music to people and consequently captured them with his talent.

He is a full-time touring recording artist, Worship Leader, Speaker, Artist, Consultant, Producer, Worship Team Developer, Father, Husband and Jesus Follower. He has worked with various artists such as Paul Colman, and has shared stage with Audio Adrenaline, Mercy Me, Jars of Clay, Bethany Dillon, Michael W. Smith, Casting Crowns and many more. Website [www.jonaswoods.net](http://www.jonaswoods.net)

**Mark your Calendars**

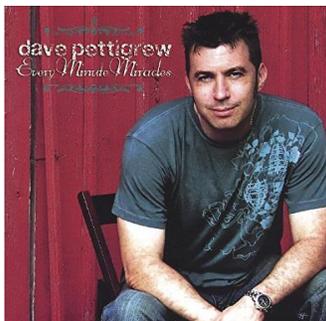
**October 2  
Dave Pettigrew Concert  
at 2pm at the church**

Dave is a worship leader, recording artist, author and child sponsorship advocate from New Jersey.

He has opened for and/or toured with Big Daddy Weave, Unspoken, Sidewalk Prophets, For King & Country, Jeremy Camp, MercyMe, Paul Baloche, Michael W. Smith, Brandon Heath, Rend Collective and more.

His music, message & mission are clear, to bring people closer to Jesus and the hope that He brings.

Check him out at his website <http://www.davepettigrew.net>



Dave Pettigrew



## A STATUE OF LIBERTY

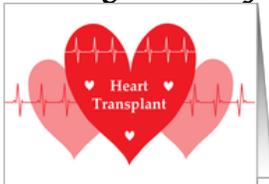


During the national observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor, I was struck by the great emphasis on the number of immigrants who had often left everything behind. Coming to America with nothing but the clothes on their backs, they risked their lives for something they valued more highly than everything they had left behind: freedom. They did not take their adopted country's hard-won freedom for granted – and neither must we.

Their experience is a picture of what we must do when we come to Christ. We must forsake our allegiance to this world, leave behind all that it offers, and become citizens of a new kingdom – the kingdom of God. His statue of liberty is in the form of the Cross.

The statue in New York Harbor lifts her lamp “beside the golden door.” The statue of liberty on that hill outside Jerusalem lights the way into eternal life. By Billy Graham

*Happy Birthday to*  
**Bob St. Jean - July 2**  
**Abby Lenahan - July 3**  
**Iarc Greenwald - July 16**  
**Sara Hagan - July 29**



*Happy Anniversary to*  
**Maddy Guilbeault**  
**July 6, 2013**

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here."  
 ~Patrick Henry



**Mary's Closet** -With school in recess, there are several families who will need help during the summer months. The items needed are canned vegetables, macaroni and cheese, soups, personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, and deodorant. Just bring these items into church on Sunday morning.

**Sweet Dreams** - providing a pillow and a blanket for homeless children in shelters. If you would like to donate and/or participate in the packaging and delivery, contact Nancy.

**Dollars for Deb** - We continue to raise money to feed the homeless. Betty's Restaurant provides lunches for the Homeless in Woonsocket twice a week and your dollars go directly to Debbie to help defray the cost.

THERE IS *Nothing* TOO GREAT OR TOO SMALL FOR PRAYER

- Dawn H.- healing from stroke
- Jodie – healing
- Jackie - vertigo
- Andrea – suffers from seizures
- Ed, Mary – in hospice care
- Martha, Frank, Ben – Cancer
- Nancy and Sheila who are having surgery
- Eileen S. – recuperating from cardiac surgery
- Joyce – recuperating from surgery
- Tres Dias
- Pastoral Search Committee
- To find a Grant Writer
- Division in this country
- Our President
- Our Leaders
- Our Country

*Note: Some of this information was given in the February Church History documentation that was taken from the Meeting Minutes. This is an account from a former pastor with more detailed information 60 years later.*

## **CHURCH HISTORY PART 6 - THE EVENING REPORTER – APRIL 27, 1885**

**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1885**

### **BLACKSTONE BAPTISTS**

Sketch of the Early History of the  
Free Will Church.

Rev. Lewis Dexter, pastor of the Free Baptist church at Blackstone, yesterday afternoon preached a sermon on the early history of the church. He first referred to the conversion of Benjamin Randall of New Castle, NH, the founder of the denomination, which occurred Sept. 30, 1770, the day of George Whitfield's death. The announcement of that death was the means of his conversion. Soon after he and his wife became members of the Congregational church in his native town, an island of about 500 acres at the entrance of Portsmouth harbor. On the occasion of the sprinkling of one of his children, he was led to search the New Testament for authority, which he could not find. As the result of his study he concluded that only the immersion of believers is valid baptism. Hence he was baptized and united with the Baptist church in Berwick, ME. Like Luther, he now determined to turn from the traditions of men and depend upon God's word for instruction. He was thus led to proclaim the free moral agency of man and to reject the dogmas of pre-destination and election as they were then held and taught. For these "errors in faith" he was tried and disfellowshipped in 1770. The next year he organized a church of seven members in New Durham, NH, which is called the mother church of the denomination. For about twenty years they took only the name of Baptist churches and recognized no other. They were called Freewillers by others, in derision, and after a time accepted the title and were incorporated

Freewill Baptists. Their labors were confined almost exclusively to New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont for a third of a century. In 1812 John Colby of Vermont, a young man of deep piety and great spiritual power, though frail in body, made an evangelistic tour on horseback through Massachusetts, Rhode Island and part of Connecticut. December 15 of that year a church of nine members was organized in Burrillville, RI. For nearly eight years this was the only church of this order in this part of New England. For this reason it came to be designated as the "Lone Star" church. In 1819 and 1820 there was quite an extensive revival interest which resulted in the organization of several churches in Rhode Island and vicinity. Miss Clarissa Danforth, who preached her first sermon in Burrillville then the preceding autumn, began her labors in this place in the fall of 1819. She was highly gifted with revivalistic powers and her labors resulted in many conversions. December 26, Ahab Read and his wife Ruth were baptized. The next spring nineteen others were baptized and organized as a branch of the First Smithfield church of Greenville, RI, which was organized that spring. They continued thus until Oct. 30, 1822, when they were organized as the Mendon Freewill Baptist Church of Christ, with thirty-six members, one-third of whom were males, Reubs. Allen and David Swett being the officiating clergymen of the council. Rev. Joseph White, pastor of the Smithfield church, was chosen pastor, Reuben Thayer clerk and Ahab Read deacon. The next day two others were baptized and united with the church. In the

early part of the next year the church was admitted to the Rhode Island quarterly meeting, and Benjamin Arnold was elected as second deacon, who was afterwards publicly ordained as deacon at the quarterly meeting. In the fall of 1823 they arranged with Rev. Daniel Williams to be with them the fourth Sunday of each month and Rev. Joseph White, the pastor, to be with them on every fifth Sunday. Prior to this they had a preacher with them only occasionally. In the spring of 1824 they arranged to hold their Sabbath services as follows: First Sunday of each month at Dea. Arnold's, second at Dea. Read's, third at Joseph Thayer's and the fourth and fifth at Blackstone schoolhouse. The next year several members were dismissed to join with others in forming a second Smithfield church. Soon after this Dea. Read was ordained as a minister of the Gospel. The following December and January he and Rev. Mr. White, on five different Sabbaths baptized and welcomed to the church twenty-five persons.

October 7, 1826, four years from the date of the organization of the church, and nearly six and one half from its reception as a branch of the First Smithfield church, Rev. Mr. White's request to be released from the pastoral care of the church was reluctantly granted. During his pastorate ninety-six persons, one-fourth of them males, had been received into its membership. Meanwhile eleven were dismissed, six excluded and three died, leaving a membership of seventy-six persons.

Here the speaker closed his sketch with a promise of continuation of the subject at some future time.



~ July 2022 ~  
 Christ Community Church of Blackstone  
 (508) 883-7885



*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Psalms 33:12*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am		5 Bible Study 10 am via Zoom.com	6 Wednesday night Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom.com	7	8	9
10 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	11	12 Bible Study 10 am via Zoom.com	13	14	15	16 DAY OF PLANNING @10 am At the church Also on Zoom.com Contact Lynne for link <a href="mailto:Lynnepi39@aol.com">Lynnepi39@aol.com</a> All church welcome
17 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	18 All Church Mtg 7 pm	19 Bible Study 10 am via Zoom.com	20	21	22	23
24 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am	25	26 Bible Study 10 am via Zoom.com	27	28	29	30
31			No one braves the treacherous journey to America in order to live as they would in their homeland. Likewise, Christ did not leave glory and suffer an agonizing death so that you could live in anything less than absolute freedom. Billy Graham			