



First Edition

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Spring 2018

A joyful noise!

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Sunday Worship
 8:30 and 10 AM

Church Office Hours
 Mon-Thurs, 9 AM to 12 Noon

Church Council
 Mike Lymburner (Chair), Andy Mako
 (Co-Chair), Bob Kline, Don Leavitt,
 Patricia Johnson, Karen Heidebrink,
 Pastor Thom Christian (ex-officio)

First Edition

is published quarterly.
 Articles and photos for the
 summer issue, to be published
 in June 2018, are due in the
 church office by May 21st.

Spring is on the way—yes!! I don't know about you, but I can't think of spring without the word "joy" jumping to the forefront! I think of patches of grass being revealed, crocuses popping through the ground, birds singing just a little louder, and many of their hatchlings adding in a peep or two to the awakening symphony, not to mention the sun feeling just a little warmer on our faces! Spring is a magical time of newness! And as we see the joy as creation seems to break forth anew, so the feeling is in our minds and our hearts.

And so it is in the life of the church! There is an air of excitement as we prepare our minds and hearts for Lent, think in gratitude of what Jesus did for us at Calvary, and prepare for the celebration of a Savior Who arose and became the way of salvation for all mankind. There's joy in the newness of creation, joy in the newness of life!

Personally, I can't think of the word "joy" without thinking of the Book of Philippians! Did you know that nine times in only four short chapters the Apostle Paul uses the words "joy" or "rejoice" (1:4; 1:25; 1:26; 2:2; 2:17; 2:29; 3:1; 4:1; 4:4)? It's a book that is just permeated with love and joy and grace and peace and encouragement!

He says things like, "I thank my God every time I remember you," "be confident that He Who began a good work in you will continue it to the day of Christ Jesus," and that we should "shine like stars in the universe as we hold out the Word of life!" He tells us to keep

"pressing on to the goal," "learn to be content whatever the circumstances," and that "we can do all things through Jesus Who strengthens us!"

I particularly love the call to humility and unity Paul issues in chapter two: "If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus" (2:1-5).

I share all this to encourage us to read the Book of Philippians as we move into summer, and to glean from it what God is saying to us personally, as well as what we need to be about as a congregation—our unity, humility, and pure concern for one another and all who will visit us here in our church and our town—and how to "rejoice" in the process!

▪ *Til next time, I remain Unworthy, but His, Thom*



YOU'RE INVITED!

Please join us for an

Easter Celebration



GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS

March 30th, 8 AM to 6 PM

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

April 1, 6 AM (Wolfeboro Inn's dock)

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

April 1, 8:30 and 10 AM

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
83 NORTH MAIN STREET
WOLFEBORO**

It's time to once again share His story...the story of His cross and His resurrection. It's the story of who Jesus is, what He did, and how He penetrated our hearts and changed our lives forever. Through His death and resurrection, the sacrifice has been made. The debt has been satisfied. Our redemption has been secured. Christ has been raised. Our hope is real. Our future with Him is certain. That's cause to celebrate!

Ladies' Valentine Dessert huge success!

Thirty-one women from First Christian Church and a few invited guests gathered at Bette Frazier's home for the 11th Annual Valentine Dessert party on Valentine's Day, February 14th. New church friends got acquainted with one another while they nibbled on sweet treats, fresh fruit, and chocolates...all with no calories, of course! Bette read a devotional for the day, and after the group photo, she passed out favors, which were angel ornaments holding a heart. It was a lovely gathering of women who love the Lord and want to support one another in our walk with Him.



▪ Bette Frazier

Check it out!

As we prepare ourselves for Easter we have several new DVDs pertaining to that subject. Added to our collection in the library are the following: "The Easter Experience" and "The Bad Boys of Easter," a series of messages by Andy Stanley on DVD. We also have other materials in book and pamphlet form, including Lee Strobel's, THE CASE FOR EASTER.

To dovetail with Pastor Thom's sermon series on Joseph, we have acquired the Sight and Sound's version of Joseph on DVD. This is well worth the watch.

Please come and check out these and other materials we have in our library. A complete listing of what is available is posted on the bulletin board.

▪ Ali Nelson

Scout Sunday recognized at FCC

On Scout Sunday, February 4th, First Christian Church was honored to have Daniel Pack and Sam Frazier, along with Assistant Scout Master Richard Frazier, pass out bulletins and help with ushering.

One of the twelve points of the Scout law is, "A Scout is reverent." A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others. The Boy Scout promise is, "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." Richard Frazier is Assistant Scout Master of Troop 165. Samuel Frazier is a Tenderfoot Scout, and Daniel Pack is a second year Webelo in Pack 165 Cub Scouts.



Spring forward!

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th. Don't forget to set your clocks an hour AHEAD!

"Sew Blessed" begins in March!

Twenty-five lap quilt kits are assembled, ready to make for children staying at David's House in Lebanon, New Hampshire. If you like to machine sew, iron, or use a rotary cutter, we would love to have you join us on Tuesdays, from 12:30 to 2 PM, at Bette Frazier's home, starting March 6th. Please come empty handed. Everything is provided.



Compassionate Knitters welcome new participants

Coordinator Heather Wingate presented the ministry of Compassionate Knitters to the FCC congregation on Sunday morning, February 11th. This ministry has an amazing world-wide outreach through knitting and crocheting. They meet the second Thursday of the month, at 1 PM, at the home of Bette Frazier. They welcome all who would like to participate.



Bible Study Corner

A Book Worth Reading

The Bible. It's the book that everyone quotes from, most people say they respect as the Word of God, and few people actually read. It's the source of much of our law, our art, and, of course, our faith. It isn't always an easy book to read and understand, but it is *a book worth reading*.

Sure, it's long. And much of it seems foreign to us. Some of it is kind of confusing. Some of it is hard to understand. Some of it frankly seems a little weird to the modern reader. The events recorded in it took place a long time ago, and it was originally written in languages that few speak or write today. But, *it is a book worth reading*.

Countless people through many generations have found it to be a life-giving book, filled with hope, help, and strength for dark times. I know that I have! In its pages we glimpse the majestic glory and tender heart of its main character – God. And, in its pages we are offered the promise of salvation through Jesus Christ, His Son. So, yes, *it is a book worth reading*.

But maybe you need a little help getting started. If so, Please call Jan Hawes (569-0327) or email jan.hawes47@gmail.com. Your request will remain confidential.

▪ Jan Hawes
(from *Bible Basics for Everyone*,
Glaspey, 2013)

Keeping up with our church family

Mission Motion adds new member, new missionary family

Mission Motion welcomes Dayna Hannon! She joins Patricia Johnson, Sue Christian, Dan Bisson and Shirley Lymburner as our new team member. We are thrilled to have her!

In January we voted to choose Charles and Heather Badiane as our replacement team for the Laubachers, who are no longer on the mission field. The Badianes are in Senegal, West Africa, and are strong believers in reaching the THUMB people (Tribal, Hindu, Unreached, Muslim and Buddhist) for Christ.

Charles and Heather are involved in a small church planting. They work assisting others to hear of God's Word and to create a Bible in their own language, which they have never had! Charles, a national, and Heather, originally from Georgia, USA, have four children.

Please stop by the mission table at church and read more about them. Copies of their story are in the yellow box. Take one!



■ Shirley Lymburner

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