

*The Second Congregational Church  
289 Main Street  
P.O. Box 492  
Douglas, Massachusetts 01516  
www.2ndcongo.com*



## *Congregational Chatter*

October 2011

Volume 39, Issue 10

### *A Note from our Pastor*

Orthodoxy is how we think. Orthopraxy is what we do because of how we think. These are terms that you will often hear me use in the sermons. To grow with God, like much in life, requires balance. A plant needs water, nutrients and sunlight. Too much of one at the expense of the other will kill the plant. A good thing can easily become a bad thing once it is out of balance. I have met those that have had an incredible head for the Lord but did not have a whole lot of human service and others that sure could work but would not study to know the Lord. How about you? Do you have a biblically well developed understanding of God but without much service or do you have a wonderful attitude about service but feel “theology divides”? May I suggest that you rethink what you think you are good at? A theologian without service is not a theologian because the study of God forces the desire to serve, ‘show me your faith without works and I will show you my faith by my works.’ Service without the desire to know (intellectually) God is motivated by something other than God and is therefore self-serving. If we want to see God more is requires that we approach him intellectually (soul and mind) and physically (through humanity which we are called to serve).

Blessings,

Pastor Bill

**Prayer for October** (from TODAY, The Family Altar, Sept./Oct., 2011)

Dear God, forgive me when I seek to put myself first. Help me to point others to you - in word and deed - day by day. May the name of Jesus be lifted up, I pray. Amen.

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***Important Dates and Events***

- October 4** - 7:00 p.m. - Elder's meeting
- October 11** - 7:00 p.m. - Deacon's meeting
- October 25** - 7:00 p.m. - Deacon's Bible Study
- October 29** - Missions Pizza Fundraiser



October Sunday School Birthdays

Erica Remillard	10/11/94
Brendan L'Italien	10/17/04
Caleb Benoit	10/31/05



Greeter's Schedule

Bonnie & Charlie Crouch	2
Joan & Hennie Pretorius	9
Pam Stewart, Michelle Broderick	16
Derek & Cheryl Stienstra	23
Volunteers needed	30



October Nursery Schedule

Pam Stewart, Jen Klenk	2
Deborah Speckhard	9
Melissa Asselin, Jessica Hall	16
Volunteers needed	23
Volunteers needed	30



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**Daily Wisdom/Daily Quote** (from heartlight.org)

***“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”***

— James 1:22, NIV

***“Unless the gospel is preached with contemporary relevance it has not been preached.”***

— Martin Luther

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Morning Worship	3 7:00pm - AA Meeting	4 3:00-6:00pm - People's pantry 7:00pm - Elder's meeting	5 7:00pm - Choir rehearsal 8:00pm - Praise band rehearsal	6 6:30am - Men's prayer group	7	8
9 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Morning Worship	10 7:00pm - AA Meeting	11 9:15-10:30am-Women's Study/Little Lambs 3:00-6:00pm - People's pantry 7:00pm - Deacon's meeting	12 7:00pm - Choir rehearsal 8:00pm - Praise band rehearsal	13 6:30am - Men's prayer group	14 6-7:30pm - TGIF	15
16 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Morning Worship	17 7:00pm - AA Meeting	18 9:15-10:30am-Women's Study/Little Lambs 3:00-6:00pm - People's pantry	19 7:00pm - Choir rehearsal 8:00pm - Praise band rehearsal	20 6:30am - Men's prayer group	21 6-7:30pm - TGIF	22
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30 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Morning Worship	31 7:00pm - AA Meeting					

# Peoples Pantry

## PANTRY NEWS

New People's Pantry Hours: The pantry is now open Tuesdays from 3:00 - 6:00. The pantry is open to anyone living within the Blackstone Valley or its surrounding communities. If you know of someone who could use a hand during these hard economic times please tell them about the pantry. If you need more information please speak with Brenda Roy or call her at 508-476-1880.

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### *Announcements*

- **Our Sunday Morning worship time will be changing to 10:00am on Sunday, November 6th. At that time Sunday School will be changing to 9:00am.**
- We need everyone to be aware that when they bring in food for the coffee hour, for snacks for their children or for any other event at the church everything needs to be peanut free. We need to make sure that there are no peanuts or peanut butter in any food at the church at all because there are some people who are very allergic. We need to keep this a safe environment for all. In addition food / monetary donations are needed throughout the year. Please see Joyce Martinsen with any questions. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **We are looking for volunteers to help staff the nursery during worship service on Sunday mornings.** We need two adult volunteers for each Sunday. All volunteers need to fill out a Cori form and return it to the church office with a copy of their picture I.D. The sign up sheet is on the nursery door. The speaker is working so all nursery volunteers will be able to listen to the worship service. Thank You.



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### *Letters to the Congregation*

Rev. Dr. William Broderick, Pastor T.J. Turner, who visited me and prayed at my bed-side, members of the Second Congregational Church, who were so kind to pray for my health when we needed Gods help,

We know that water is the most powerful on earth, and God is the most powerful in the universe and the power of prayer is beyond all understanding, we do believe!! And rightfully so!! Two small words, "Thank You"!!

Written in all sincerity!!

Adeline Bek & family

Friends and family at Second Congregational Church,

First, thank you for all your prayers over the last year. God has been so good to us! Also, thank you for the beautiful flowers to celebrate the birth of the twins. It serves as a beautiful reminder of all of you!

With all our love,

Adam & Trudi Wagner

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### *Invitation*

Welcome to the Family 'Shower' for Zachariah & Nathaniel Wagner

This is a time for our family and friends to come and meet our boys. Feel free to come and go as you want and no gifts are necessary. We just want to share our little miracles. Hope to see you there.

Place: Second Congregational Church, 289 Main St., Douglas, MA 01516

Date: October 23, 2011

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

HEROES NEED ONE OTHER

October 9, 2011

**Scripture Reading:** Ruth 1:15-22

*“Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”*

*Ruth 1:16*

Naomi has urged her two daughters-in-law to return to their homes. In the middle of a circle of tears, Orpah says goodbye and turns toward home. At the same time, Ruth clings to Naomi and refuses to turn away, promising to go where Naomi goes and to trust in her God.

People in sorrow and loss sometimes just want to be alone. They may even have a view that everyone would be better off if they just were not around. But isolation can be a tool of Satan that leads to even more trouble and sorrow.

Naomi is wrestling with God, but she will not wrestle alone. God doesn't mean for the journey of faith to be a solitary walk. Even Jesus wanted his disciples with him when he struggled in the garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:32-34).

As Naomi returns home, she says to others, “I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty.” Sorrow and loss can distort our view of the world and even our view of God. Naomi is not really returning empty.

The harvest time is just beginning, and God has given Naomi a gift in calling Ruth to stand by her side. In the midst of loss, God provides Naomi a family.

**Prayer**

Dear God, help me to see today anyone who needs me to stand by their side. May you move me from my comfort zone to be of comfort to another. May the Comforter direct me, I pray. Amen.

Julius T. Medenblik

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**TGIF**

T.G.I.F.

Thank God  
It's Friday



T.G.I.F. is held every Friday night from 6:00 - 7:30 pm (except during school vacations). This program is for kids from ages 5 - 12 and includes games, crafts, prizes, Bible time and snacks. It is free and open to the public. Hope to see you there.

If you have any questions please contact Jeanie Haggstrom. In addition, we are looking for volunteers to help out during TGIF this year, please contact Jeanie if you are able to donate some time to helping out.



The schedule for the month of October is as follows:

October 7th - No TGIF

October 14th - Movie night

October 21 - TGIF

October 28th - People's Pantry Fall Festival Party

# Off the Shelf

'Bible Study; Following the Ways of the Word' by Kathleen Buswell Nielson  
P&R Publishing Co., 2011

We have been introduced to this author through our women's Tuesday morning Bible study. We are currently doing her study of Colossians and Philemon which uses the study principles so insightfully put forward in this book.

Kathleen's book is not gender oriented, it is what the title indicates, Bible study. It comes highly recommended by stalwarts such as D.A. Carson; Stephen Smallman and Leland Ryken who writes "Kathleen Nielson's book belongs to a very elite circle of books: it covers all the right topics in exactly the right order! As Kathleen pursues the successive topics, a momentum builds up that is akin to the unfolding of the plot line of a novel."

The plot: "God redeeming a people through Jesus Christ for his own glory." From beginning to end it's a unified story, an unfolding story. We are in the story. How do we connect with this story?

If this book about Bible study is important or beneficial how does she in a few short chapters communicate the longing that resounds in every Christian's heart to truly know and love the word of God? Her starting point is, quote "The Bible is not a book about God; it is God speaking to us". Three simple truths form the basis of this book: 1. The Bible is God speaking, 2. The Bible is powerful and 3. The Bible is understandable.

This book will help you see that "yes I can" actually personally study Gods Book. That Bible study is relational, you and me and our Lord Jesus. That this relationship is foundational to all other relationships, and through this relationship only, YES, He and we can "transform" our lives, our homes, and our world.

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If anyone has a book they have read that they would like to share, we encourage and ask you to send a brief review to the church. We will try to include one such review (approved by Pastor Bill) each month in the newsletter.

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## Healthy Hearts

### Pumpkin Squares

4 eggs  
1 2/3 C. sugar  
1 C. oil  
1 (15 oz) can of pumpkin  
1 tsp. guar or xanthan gum  
2 GF flour  
2 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. salt  
2 tsp. cinnamon  
1 tsp. baking soda



Pre-heat the oven to 350. Beat the eggs, sugar and oil together until fluffy. In a separate bowl combine flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and baking soda and add to egg mixture. Add can of pumpkin and mix well. Bake in a 9x13 or 11x13 size pan for 25 to 30 minutes.

# Operation Christmas Child



The Sunday School is now looking for donations to fill the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Some gift ideas include: small toys (small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, Slinky®, etc.), school supplies (pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, coloring and picture books, etc.), personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.), and other small items such as hard candy, gum, hats, socks, toy jewelry, sunglasses, hair clips, etc. The Sunday School kids need your help to bring a little happiness and help demonstrate God's love to children in need around the world. A box will be placed in the back of the sanctuary for donations. Monetary donations are also needed as it costs \$7.00 to ship each shoe box. You can write a check to Samaritan's Purse (note "OCC" on memo line) or make a cash donation. All donations are needed by November 6th.



Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. It is the world's largest children's Christmas appeal with a heritage of over 20 years. Every year Operation Christmas Child is made possible through the amazing support of thousands of children and adults. Last year alone we had the joy of sending 1.2 million shoeboxes bursting with joy to children in parts of Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

### From you to a child in need

Operation Christmas Child works by taking [your gift-filled shoebox](#) - packed, wrapped and taken to one of local drop off points - and hand delivering it to a child in need, asking nothing from them in return.

All shoeboxes are given to children in need, with no regard to their background or beliefs. We work with local partners on the ground to ensure that your gift-filled shoebox is delivered with integrity and with respect to the local culture. Where culturally appropriate, our overseas partners make available a booklet of Bible stories, which gives a message of hope and an explanation of the true meaning of Christmas - God's gift of His Son, Jesus. Thank you again for all of your support.

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## Missions

### Community Chaplain Service

Dear Friends and Prayer Supporters,

I know from my farmer friends that preparing the land for new crops is a hard job! Getting out the roots and undergrowth is so painstaking and backbreaking. But when the tomatoes and cucumbers and all your crops come out, oh! All the work is forgotten in the joy of eating the fresh vegetables. In a similar way we CCS chaplains are working hard in hopes of getting a rich harvest too.

We have to clear away the undergrowth that has built up over the past years. The bitterness, hostilities buried until Christ is talked of, memories dormant till something stirs them up - all this comes out when the chaplain visits. He has to get them out and deal with them. Some years ago a widow told me her son drove her around the Sunday he gave her a ride, and then brought her to the nursing home where he told her, "Mom, here is your new home." He never came to visit her after he left. She said to me, "I hate my son!"

The nursing home tries to be a calming influence over them. Nurses attempt to love them if they are able and have time. The chaplains, however, are best able to deal with these needs for they represent God and justice. It is so important that he/she realizes they have no authority in the Home; they are simply volunteers and have no rights to demand things of anyone. So we pray!

A woman I recently led to the Lord had gone to the local hospital a short time ago. When I arrived at the Home she was just being re-admitted to her room. When I got to her room and said "Virginia", she leapt up, gave me a long hug, greeted me and talked until she could not talk any more. She was lonesome and nothing mattered but seeing me. You see, being a chaplain is more than bringing others to Christ. It is simply being there when he is needed. After all, who else even cares?

Sincerely in Christ,

David Schaffer



Organized in 1834

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*Pastor William Broderick  
Associate Pastor T.J. Turner*

*October 2011*

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**To:**

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**Note:**

Items for the church bulletin should be in to the office by Wednesday.

All items for the November Parish Visitor are due by October 21<sup>st</sup>. Items may be dropped off at the office or emailed to [2ndcongregationalchurch@verizon.net](mailto:2ndcongregationalchurch@verizon.net). We encourage your articles, thoughts, book reviews, etc.

Please visit our website at [www.2ndcongo.com](http://www.2ndcongo.com)