



First Baptist Church in Wickford

THE GOOD NEWS

August 2005 - Mini Newsletter



MISSIONS SUPPORT NEWS

Bacone Indian College has expressed "heartfelt thanks" for our recent gift of \$550. They advise that they are now in process of college accreditation and ask for prayers for their success. A Native American scholarship in the nursing program is a priority being achieved.

Mike and Adrienne Bucklin report from Indonesia that the second plane has arrived, has been assembled, and is now awaiting the Indonesian Aviation Inspector for approval to fly. Mike asks for prayers that the inspector understand the need and expedite the paperwork. The children have had a round of malaria again, and continuing prayers are requested for the family's health.

The Kodiak Baptist Mission expresses gratitude for our recent gift of \$550. They reaffirm their main objective of supporting and bringing the love of Christ to the children of Kodiak Island. A good very informative website to see their location and programs is www.kodiakbaptistmission.org.

A WORD FROM OUTREACH

Did you know that our church tapes the service every week? These tapes are distributed to shut-ins and to others who request it. Lyman Davenport is often the one up in the balcony taping and if he is not able to be there, Bill Johnson is the one who takes over. This is one of those jobs that is a weekly task and often taken for granted. The job is getting done and these are the guys who are doing it. Thank you to both Lyman and Bill for their willingness to be faithful to this task.

There is another step in the process. We need to copy the master tape and then mail the tapes out. This involves copying the tape (a very simple process), erasing old tapes (an even easier process), addressing, stamping, and mailing (we all know how to do that!)

The Outreach committee is in charge of this Tape Ministry. We need your help! Without your help this valuable ministry may not be able to continue. We need people who are willing to be part of the second step - copying, erasing, addressing, stamping and mailing. Join us at the Outreach table in Fellowship Hall to volunteer and get immediate hands-on training! It's a simple task with far-reaching benefits!

The Outreach Committee is also in charge of publicity. Over the next few months we will be considering ways to improve our outreach, specifically ways to make our presence more visible in the community and invite people to come join us. If you are interested in helping us develop an outreach plan, please talk to Carol Hockensmith at church, by phone, 667-2705 or by email at carol.hockensmith@gmail.com. There are exciting possibilities - wait and see!

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Members: Mary Jean Johnson, Rick Gurnon, Libby Urish and Beth Blink.

We would like to invite anyone else who would like to be on this committee to come to our next meeting on August 9th, 7PM in the Stafford Building.

Our first meeting was very productive and highlights include:

1. Responsibilities of the chair
2. Time line adjustments for the Time and Talents and Pledge Campaign
3. Updating the directory

I know I am excited about the new church year and I hope this condition is contagious. I am praying that it will contain many fun filled opportunities for us to build our church family.

-Beth Blink



CONGRATULATIONS !!

*Congratulations to
Jessica Horridge & Jason DeLorenzo upon
their wedding on August 5th!!
May God richly bless your new life together!!*



Ladies Guild News

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the Guild's part of the Art Festival a terrific success!!

The Guild will resume meetings with a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 14th.

THE ANXIETY VIRUS

(taken from the ABCORI Quarterly Resource Packet)

What can we learn from viral infections that will assist us in dealing with their counterpart, murmuring, in a congregation? What generally happens when a virus enters the body of Christ, threatening to infect it?

In relationships, if murmuring is encouraged (finds a host cell), there will be infection. Anxiety flares up. Reactive behaviors take hold. In fact, reaction on the cellular level within an organism closely reflects reactive functioning between anxious people and groups.

Similar to a virus, anxiety needs a host cell in order to replicate itself. All forms of murmuring require the reinforcement of a host cell (cells) to continue to grow.

Four viruses are potentially virulent and can turn a congregation into a virtual "hot zone" - an anxiety pit.

- The viruses are : **Secrets** (gossiping, whispering)
- Accusations** (blaming, faultfinding)
- Lies** (deceiving)
- Triangulation** (shifting burdens elsewhere)

They are all expressions of the virus of anxiety. The presence of secrets or triangles are not themselves the disease. Rather, secrets and triangles enable the disease process. The disease requires a combination of the secrecy and the host cells (people who permit secrets to exist).

When anxiety becomes infectious, any of the following might be true of a system:

- Polarization, right opposition
- All-or-nothing thinking
- Serious tone, tense mood
- Scapegoating, blaming, criticizing
- Yearning for quick fixes, impatience
- Withdrawal, cut-offs, distancing
- Crisis orientation
- Indecisiveness
- Unbelievably selfish behavior
- Diagnosis of others
- Looking for clear causes
- Black-and-white, either/or thinking
- Group think, being stuck together
- Lack of curiosity
- Magical thinking (everything will be all right)
- Leaders don't take stands
- Increases in attacks, sense of urgency
- Vague, nebulous complaints
- Loss of broad perspective
- Magnification of differences
- Unwillingness to learn

Circle the characteristics present in your congregation. How can these be dealt with?

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS (Dates taken from the Membership Forms)



9th	Linda Brayman	13th	Hayley Fraser	22nd	Pastor Cliff
25th	Kevin Burnham	26th	Gladys Sherman	27th	Ginny Soderland & Clayton Foster

CHURCH STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Dr. Clifford R. Hockensmith, Pastor • Cricket Genest, Administrative Assistant • Elaine Alexander, Dir. of Music Ministry
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THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE GOOD NEWS IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24TH