



# The Bridge

Sunday, May 7,  
10:00 a.m.  
**ONE SERVICE**

Please join us in  
Cleveland Hall for  
coffee and refreshments  
before the 10:00 service  
from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

## Inside this Issue

Musical Notes	2
Health Ministries	3
Making Choices	4
Stone Soup Thank you	5
Women's Spring Luncheon	5
Holy Week	5
BWF Scholarship	6
SAVE THE DATE—April 30	6
Calendar	7
In the Family	8
Easter Lilies	8

## Pastor's Perspective...

Pastor's Perspective: A Reflection on Words that Make Some Uncomfortable

There are several theologians and church leaders who think that the sin and guilt parts of the salvation paradigm need to be jettisoned. They still believe in personal and, by extension, corporate salvation; indeed they still believe in sin and in guilt. They just don't think using these words is useful to Christians attempting to share the gospel with their friends and neighbors in today's culture.

There are others who believe that these words will never outlive their usefulness in speaking about the human condition and human redemption. Though it's been sometime since I read it, I recall that in his book, *The Road to Character*, David Brooks gives compelling reasons for why our culture needs such words.

I am inclined to take a centrist position. Yes, sin and guilt are words that are still relevant to our culture, and words with which many people can identify. However, in today's world there are also a number of people who do not identify with these words at all; they do not feel sinful and they do not feel guilty. Trying to persuade them that they are is not only interpreted as presumptuous, but as accusatory and rude.

Not everyone has a deep sense of guilt or a clear view of their character flaws. This doesn't mean that we cannot still present compelling reasons for following Jesus to them. To put it crudely, Christ is a onetime antidote that searches out and destroys whatever disease ails you, whether it be the grip of shame and guilt, the search for belonging, the fear of death, trying to figure out life's meaning, a joyless existence, the search for acceptance and love. In other words, though God's forgiveness is a need that every person has, not every person recognizes this as a need. But everyone feels *some* compelling need that cannot quite be grasped on one's own. And these other needs can and often do serve as the catalyst for making a decision to follow Jesus.

Now, having briefly considered these matters, I believe that sin and guilt are words that are essential to the church and essential for Christian discipleship, especially as our understanding of these words grows more nuanced and sophisticated. In fact, I would further argue that it is actually by gaining a clearer recognition and awareness of darkness and evil that we can come to see and receive and rejoice in God's light. When you're reading by the lamp at 2 in the afternoon the last thing on your mind is a flashlight. But when the power goes out at 5:30 pm in January one of the first questions to enter your mind is where you last saw one. When testing out a cleaning product it's one thing to wipe down a shiny new countertop doing about as much good as a damp cloth could have done. It's something else to make an old countertop with layers of stains and filth shine again. The bad condition of the surface gives occasion to demonstrate the power and effectiveness of the cleaner. Or as Paul says in Romans, "...where sin increased, grace increased all the more..." (Romans 5:20). I'm reminded of the sinful woman in Luke 7 who comes to Jesus with an alabaster jar of perfume. She stands behind him and weeps, wiping her tears from his feet with her hair. After this, she kisses his feet and pours her perfume out on them. The host and the other guests in the house are scandalized by this, which prompts Jesus to use this as a teaching moment.

**CLOTHING  
DONATIONS**  
accepted at FBC  
April 23 – May 11  
8:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Clothing ~  
Purses ~ Shoes  
Belts ~ Linens ~  
Sheets  
Curtains ~  
Towels

**After you've**  
cleaned out your  
closets join us at  
FBC on

**Saturday, May 13**  
8 am-12:30 pm

and pick out your  
new Spring  
wardrobe!

Great Stuff with  
Good

*Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."*

*"Tell me, teacher," he said.*

*"Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"*

*Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."*

*"You have judged correctly," Jesus said (Luke 7:36:43).*

And so this is the great truth to remember: paradoxically and remarkably, when we talk about sin in the church we do so with great joy and gratitude. Why? Because God doesn't count our sins against us. Because some of us, most of us, have been forgiven much, and so we make much of him; we love him more. And even if a physician has only helped us get over a little cold or a sprained ankle, don't we still marvel and celebrate that he's given someone else a successful heart transplant or a spinal osteomyelitis surgery? We talk about sin, all sin, against the backdrop of God's grace and forgiveness. We talk about and acknowledge our deep character flaws in the context of God's deep love for flawed human beings. And it is out of this endless well of love that God approaches us much in the same way that Jesus approached the greedy, cheating, crook Zacchaeus, saying (I imagine with a smile), "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."

Invite him in, and watch the darkness flee. Confess your sin, knowing that grace abounds. Acknowledge your propensity to wander from the path, and rejoice in the God whose nature it is to seek and to save that which is lost.

With great joy,

Pastor Charles, Lent 2017

## *Musical Note*

The Easter season is quickly approaching, and we are planning to celebrate this year with some beautiful and diverse special music.

At our Maundy Thursday service (April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm), our Handbell Choir will perform "Wondrous Cross" with piano accompaniment, and our Church Choir will sing Mozart's "Ave Verum" as a meditation. The prelude will feature a solo by flutist Angela Tarleton.

Easter Sunday will begin with a sunrise service held at Kezar Lake at 5:45am. The music will be provided by our Gathering musicians. Then at 9am, the Northern New England Heritage Brass Association, along with Sarah Ressler on timpani, will provide festive music to enhance our Easter celebration. Our Church Choir and Handbell Choir will also be featured. We will all sing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" accompanied by the organ and brass, as is our tradition. The choir members and I invite you to sing with us at our 9am service on Easter Sunday. No experience is necessary and the music is not difficult to learn; we will learn it together at our Thursday night rehearsals at 7pm in the Chapel/Music Room.

We will celebrate yet again on Easter at 11am at The Gathering, our contemporary service, with music provided by our many talented Praise Band musicians. If you would like to join our group, please feel free to come to our rehearsals on Wednesdays at 5:30pm, also in the Chapel/Music Room.

Our Handbell Choir is always open to anyone with a desire to ring. Our rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Handbell Room (next to the Chapel/Music Room).

What a wonderful way to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord! Please speak to me or any choir member about joining us; we would love to have many voices lifted in joyful song!

Dave



*A Verse to Remember:* The first [commandment] is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second [commandment] is this, you shall love your neighbor as yourself” Mark 12:30 & 31

There are many ways to love our God, our neighbor and ourselves. April is designated “Distracted Driving Awareness Month.” In the interest of health and safety for our neighbors, our families and ourselves, we would all do well to consider the “Family Contract” which has been put out by the National Safety Council.

## **Distracted Driving Family Contract**

## **National Safety Council**

While we should be concerned about the safety of everyone on the roads, it's especially important to keep our families safe. Cell phone use while driving is dangerous. To keep my family safe, and to be considerate to those I share the road with, I pledge not to use my cell phone while driving and to discuss the following topics with my family:

- ◇ Why it's not safe to use a handheld or hands-free cell phone while driving.
- ◇ Why texting, emailing or updating social media while driving, even through a dashboard infotainment system, is dangerous.
- ◇ Why it's important to speak up if you're a passenger and the driver - a friend, family member, taxi driver or bus driver - is using a cell phone. You should ask the driver to hang up immediately or let you out of the vehicle if he or she will not disconnect.
- ◇ Why it's helpful to let your friends and family know what times of day you are most likely to be driving, and why you should ask them not to call you during those times. You can also find out when they are driving and avoid calling them as well.
- ◇ How changing your voicemail greeting to say you are either away from your phone or driving will help others understand why you may not be responding right away
- ◇ Why it's crucial to ask those who carpool with your loved ones to respect your wishes and drive cell-free, at least when your family is on board.
- ◇ Why you should ask someone who calls while driving to hang up and call back when they are parked in a safe place.
- ◇ How modeling this safe behavior for your family will encourage them to also not use their cell phones while driving.

The decisions we make behind the wheel can have lifelong consequences. No one ever thinks something bad could happen to them. Having conversations about cell phone distracted driving before tragedy strikes is the first step towards keeping each other safe.

My family needs to be aware of the dangers of cell phone use while driving and we will continue to discuss it together to make sure everyone drives cell-free.

### **Signatures:**

**Get the facts about why you should drive cell free at [distracteddriving.nsc.org](http://distracteddriving.nsc.org).**

# “Making Choices”

Free & Open to the Public

Wednesdays - April 12 & April 19

2:00-4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 12 — “From 9 to 90” a PBS Documentary**

Mounting health issues impact everyone from 9 to 90.

Come and bring a friend to view this award-winning PBS Documentary.

Participate in a round table discussion.

**Wednesday, April 19 — Serious Fun, Conversation Game**

Experience one of the most important discussions of your life!

What does it take to live, love, and die with dignity  
and grace in the modern age?



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW LONDON

461 Main Street

Registration - 526-6511

[A Collaboration of Health Ministries, FBC; Honoring Care Decisions, NLH;  
Partners for Community Wellness, D-H; and LSRVNA & Hospice]

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR THE SUCCESS OF STONE SOUP LUNCH & LEARN for 2017

Everyone who shopped, cleaned, chopped, stirred, baked, whisked, served, cleaned-up, etc. for Stone Soup has earned a most sincere "thank you!" The menus were creative and delicious ~ receiving well-deserved rave reviews! In addition, Cleveland Hall was beautifully decorated, warm and inviting every Tuesday during January, February and March. The Health Ministries Committee would also like to thank each of our speakers. They were all volunteers who willingly took time out of their already-busy schedules to prepare and deliver wonderful presentations on a wide variety of subjects. A very special "thank you!" goes to everyone who attended the lunches. Through out these three months, your donations enabled us to reimburse those who had shopped. And at the end of these three months, your generosity allowed us to have proceeds of just over \$2600 to contribute to Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice.

Believe it or not, there are several people who were involved in Stone Soup every week! When you see the following folks, please let them know you appreciate their part in making Stone Soup such a success: Kurt & Margrit Wunderli, Steph Barton, Kit Ross, Miles Makishi, Tom Cooper, Janet Ferraro and Joan Gould.



## WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON And Annual Meeting

Monday, May 1st at Noon  
The Millstone at 74 Main

Pam Sanborn will talk about her pilgrimage  
On the Camino de Santiago

Come and enjoy fellowship with old and new friends.

Please bring a non-perishable item for the  
KLS Community Food Pantry

Sign up by April 30<sup>th</sup> at coffee hour or with church office, 526-6511.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY

**Sunday, April 9**  
9:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

**PALM SUNDAY**  
Worship  
The Gathering

**Thurs, April 13**  
7:00 p.m.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
COMMUNION SERVICE

**Friday, April 14**  
12 Noon  
1-3 pm

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
Ecumenical Service at  
St. Andrew's Church  
FBC Sanctuary open

**Sunday, April 16**  
5:45 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
Sunrise Service at Kezar Lake  
(across from the parking lot)  
Worship  
The Gathering



### ***BWF SCHOLARSHIP FUND***

Each year the Baptist Women's Fellowship provides several scholarship awards to graduating seniors and students enrolled in a degree program. In addition to the scholarship grants that have been provided by individual church members, the BWF has its own award program, which is dependent upon donations from the membership at large. The enclosed "Scholarship" envelope is for your consideration and may be mailed, dropped in the offering plate, or brought to the church office. Your contribution is much appreciated. Checks should be payable to:

**BWF Scholarship Fund.**

Attention All High School Seniors (College-Bound),  
College and Graduate Students:

Applications for the 2017 Baptist Women's Fellowship Scholarships will be available in the church office or online at [www.fbcnlh.org](http://www.fbcnlh.org). The scholarships are the BWF Scholarship, Evie Welch Memorial Scholarship, Walter and Muriel Rhodes Scholarship, Emil Bochmann Memorial Award, Allene "Penny" Thurston Scholarship, the Edward and Ethel King Memorial Award, and the Wilma Warde Scholarship.

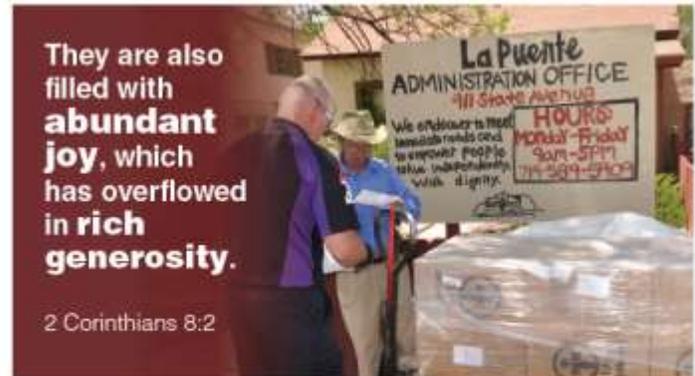
In order to be considered all applications **MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>** and sent to BWF Scholarship Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 336, New London, NH 03257.

Applicants must be members of The First Baptist Church or the FBC Senior High Youth Group demonstrating involvement for at least two or more years.

Please call or contact Joan Gould at 763-2178 or Dee Doheny at 526-7949 if you have questions.

### **Baptist Women's Fellowship News:**

On Mother's Day Sunday, May 14, 2017 we will collect donations for blankets for Church World Service during coffee hour. Blankets are \$10 and a great way to honor someone you love by donating in their name. Last year FBC donated 124 blankets which were part of thousands of blankets distributed throughout the United States and to our friends in the rest of the world. These blankets provide warmth and shelter in times of crisis. Look for inserts in upcoming bulletins or visit [cwsblankets.org](http://cwsblankets.org) to learn more.



### **CWS Blankets: because our neighbors deserve warmth and comfort**

For 35 years, the nonprofit organization La Puente has provided vital resources and services to people in crisis in Colorado's San Luis Valley.

Your support meant that we shipped CWS Blankets and CWS Kits to La Puente in 2016. The supplies were distributed to La Puente's homeless shelter and to residents in the San Juan Mountains living in the area known as the "flats." Many homes in the flats don't have running water or electricity. Most use firewood as their main heat source. In this high-altitude climate, winter temperatures can drop to life-threatening lows. Firewood can run out before winter ends.

Robert Lockwood, the Rural Outreach Initiative's Case Manager for La Puente, travels the flats and meets with the families living there. He provides resources when he can and always passes along essential information about where to access needed services. Last winter, Robert distributed all of the warm, wool Church World Service Blankets and Hygiene Kits he had on hand.

Jesus said, "**Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also**" (Matthew 6:21). God has blessed us with so much, and we have much to share. Share this love by providing CWS Blankets to those in need. Each blanket costs only \$10, but these blankets can be a vital resource for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement.

### **SAVE THE DATE - Mark Your Calendars - April 30!**

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, April 30th when we will be honoring Janice Cundey upon her retiring as Parish Nurse at FBC (effective May 1st). On April 30 Health Ministries will be hosting coffee hour between the two services. We also invite congregants and the local community to celebrate with Janice from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. on the 30th in Cleveland Hall. If you are unable to join us that day please feel free to drop a card/note off at the church office for us to present to Janice as we thank her for dedication and service to FBC and our community.

## APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
<b>2 Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> Choir Rehearsal 9:00 <i>One Worship Service 10:00</i> Sunday School (K-5) 10:00	<b>3</b> Tai Chi 11:30	<b>4</b> Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Prayer Ministry 1:30	<b>5</b> Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 <i>Deacons 5:00</i> Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	<b>6</b> Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00		
<b>9 Palm Sunday</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	<b>10</b> Tai Chi 11:30	<b>11</b> Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Prayer Ministry 1:30	<b>12</b> Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 <i>Trustees 5:00</i> Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	<b>13</b> Tai Chi 11:30 Health Ministries 3:00 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00		
<b>16 Easter Sunday</b> <i>Sunrise Service @ Kezar Lake 5:45 AM</i> Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Special Coffee Hour 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	<b>17</b> Tai Chi 11:30	<b>18</b> Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Prayer Ministry 1:30 Church Council 5:00	<b>19</b> Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 Prayer <i>Shawl Ministry</i> 1:00 Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	<b>20</b> Women's Mission Circle 9:30-1:00 Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00		
<b>23</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	<b>24</b> Tai Chi 11:30	<b>25</b> Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Prayer Ministry 1:30	<b>26</b> Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 <i>College Cram Night 8:30-1:00</i>	<b>27</b> Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 <i>College Cram Night 8:30-1:00</i>		
<b>30</b> Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 <i>Special Coffee Hour 10:00</i> Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00 <i>Janice Retirement Gathering 1:00 - 3:00</i>						

Weekly Meetings not listed

AA - Mon, Wed, Fri 12:15 pm

AA, Alanon, Alateen - Tues 7:00 pm

Boy Scouts - Wed 7:00 pm

Food Pantry - Wed 5:30-7 pm, Sat 10:00-11:30 am

Sunapee Singers - Monday 2:00 pm

# First Baptist Church

461 Main Street (next to the College)

Worship ~ 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Communion 1st Sunday One Service ~ 10:00 am

Nursery Available



Charles C. Glidewell, Pastor

Cindy Johnson, Associate Pastor

P.O. Box 336

New London, NH 03257

E-mail: fbc@fbcnlh.org

603.526.6511

Fax: 603.526.7845

www.fbcnlh.org

EDITOR: Stephanie Barton

PRODUCTION: Stephanie Barton, Kit Ross

WEB POSTING/E-MAILING: Stephanie Barton

## MAY ISSUE

NEXT DEADLINE:

THIRD THURSDAY OF APRIL

MAILING AND WEB POSTING:

FOURTH TUESDAY OF APRIL

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
Paid  
New London, NH  
Permit No. 6

## IN THE FAMILY

### IN THE FAMILY

#### April Birthdays

- 02 Malora Gundy
- 03 Charlene Baxter, Peter Hager
- 09 Jennifer Coverdale, Annie Durkin  
Steve Ensign, Cindy Johnson
- 13 Bethie Coverdale
- 14 Bill Pike
- 15 Norma Faccone
- 20 Kate Kozain
- 21 Kurt Wunderli
- 22 Howard Hoke
- 23 Elizabeth Gantner, Jo Woodward
- 25 Ann Holl, Pam Sanborn
- 27 Nancy Dutton
- 28 Carole Wood
- 29 Jack Akin



#### April Anniversaries

- 08 Betsy & Jerry Shelby (56years)
- 16 Joan & Al Lamont (62 years)
- 17 Judy & Verne Barrett (60 years)
- 21 Ellie & Walt Anderson (55years)



### MEMORIAL EASTER LILIES

If you would like to have a memorial lily or plant in the Meeting House during the Easter season, please contact **The Church Office at 526-6511, by Thursday, April 13**. We will need the following information for the Easter bulletin: name of the donor(s) and the name of the person(s) being remembered.



When you order your plant from your florist, please ask that it be delivered to the church on **Friday, April 14**. If you prefer to choose your own plant, please see that it is at the church **by 8:30 a.m. on April 14**, marked with the information above and wrapped in dark purple foil.

The office will also need to know whether you want your plant delivered to a shut-in or prefer to pick it up yourself **after the Easter Service** on Sunday, April 16.