



The Bridge

Sunday, March 5,
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.



March 12
Daylight Saving begins
Don't forget to turn your
clocks ahead!

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FISCAL DIRECTIVE MEETING

At the direction of Church Council, the Trustees invite you to a hands-on meeting on **Sunday, April 2** to discuss our future fiscal direction. Following the 10:00 a.m. service, we will gather at 11:30 in the Meetinghouse eventually breaking into small groups and coming back together before we adjourn around 1:00 p.m

Pastor's Perspective...

On Giving Up

In Mark 5 we read about a synagogue official named Jairus who publicly falls at Jesus' feet and begs him to come to his house. His little daughter of about 12 years old lies deathly ill, and Jairus hopes that Jesus will lay his hands on her and heal her.

As a leader in the local synagogue this may very well have been a somewhat dangerous thing for Jairus to do. Word had likely spread about Jesus, both the good and "bad". He had already said and done several things that drew the ire of the religions elite, including healing a man in a Synagogue on the Sabbath, prompting two unlikely business partners, the Pharisees and the Herodians, to plot about how to kill him. But when you're in danger of losing something as precious as your only daughter, public opinion tends to fly out the window.

Jesus, with a great crowd pressing in around him, agrees to accompany Jairus to his home. On their way there, however, they're interrupted by another needy soul. An impoverished woman who has suffered from an ailment for 12 years secretly touches Jesus and is healed. Jesus feels power go out of him, and stops in order to get to the bottom of who touched him. When the woman finally admits that she was the one who touched him, he takes the time to speak with her and confirm her healing.

While all of this is happening, I can only imagine that poor Jairus is at the end of his patience, wanting desperately to get home to his dying daughter. Soon enough his worst fear comes true. Some people come from Jairus' home, telling him that his daughter has died, and that there's no need to bother Jesus about it anymore.

But Jesus isn't deterred. Having heard the same thing that Jairus has heard, he turns to him and says, *Don't be afraid, only believe*. In that moment, who knows if Jesus' confidence enabled Jairus to do this or not. What we do know is that Jesus walked into the home with Peter, James and John; he told the grief-stricken people in the house that the girl had not died, but was only asleep (at which point they mocked him); he then said some very ordinary words, likely with little drama or flair- *little girl, get up*. And she did. Jairus had no reason to fear after all.

Do not fear, only believe. There is so much to fear, so much to worry about; there are so many reasons for sorrow and despair. Often the cumulative effect of this emotional roller-coaster is a combination of fatigue, frustration, and fatalism. But what if we accepted Jesus' invitation, and traded the fear, worry, and despair in for belief. How would your life be different if you could finally give up on your fear, on your worry?

How would your life be different if you could give up on your need for control?

I imagine Jesus saying, "Fear not, worry not, despair not- only believe! Let your faith in me and my power crowd out everything else that saps your quality of life, your peace of mind, your assurance. Start living in my peace and joy and love and faith. Only believe." He says it with such assurance and confidence, as if the entire universe, right down to the details of my little life, were under his command. He says it as if he's the end all, be all, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. And that's the good news; that's the reason for giving everything else up, and only believing. They are and he is.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Charles, Lent 2017

Musical Note

Four times a year, the New London community celebrates ecumenical services: Ash Wednesday, traditionally at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church; Good Friday at St. Andrews Episcopal Church; a memorial service for September 11th at Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church; and a service of Lessons and Carols here at First Baptist Church in December.

On March 1st, our community will celebrate Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, at the Presbyterian Church. Many members of our own choir will participate in the ecumenical choir, singing an introit, an anthem and a benediction. The ashes imposed in the shape of a cross on foreheads at this service is an outward symbol of repentance, and are the ashes of palms that were blessed last year on Palm Sunday.

As the Baptist Church does not traditionally celebrate Ash Wednesday (except at our community ecumenical service), there are no Ash Wednesday hymns in our hymnbook. However, there is a beautiful hymn that we sang every year while I was Music Director at St. Patrick/St. Joachim Parish in Newport/Sunapee. "Ashes" was written by Tom Conry in 1978. Here is some of the text:

*We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do.
We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew.
If all our world is ashes, then must our lives be true,
An offering of ashes, an offering to you.*

*We offer you our failures, we offer you attempts,
The gifts not fully given, the dreams not fully dreamt.
Give our stumblings direction, give our visions wider view,
An offering of ashes, an offering to you.*

*Then rise again from ashes, let healing come to pain,
Though spring has turned to winter, and sunshine turned to rain.
The rain we'll use for growing, and create the world anew
From an offering of ashes, an offering to you.*

We look forward to the end of these forty days of Lent, when Christ rises anew. May your Lent be meaningful, and blessed.

Dave



Friday, March 3, 2017
Saturday, March 4, 2017

Camp Wilmot

ALL ARE INVITED...FAMILY AND FRIENDS...

Come for the day.

Come for the dinner.

Spend an afternoon or an overnight.

Join us for breakfast the next morning.

Join this "off-campus play-date" with the whole church family.

Sign up in Cleveland Hall to reserve a sleeping space and to offer your favorite crock-pot dish.

fbc@fbcnlh.org

526-6511

FAMILY MINISTRIES INVITES
YOU TO THE 4th Annual



A Verse to Remember: *“How beautiful upon the mountains are the **feet** of those who bring the happy news of peace and salvation.”*
Isaiah 52:7

IT'S LENT; HOW ARE YOU PLANNING TO RECOGNIZE IT?

Are you someone who gives-up something to help you remember and appreciate this special season on the church calendar? Or are you someone who intentionally adds something to your daily routine? With the promise of spring arriving before the end of March, we can expect that snow and ice will soon be a thing of the past. It will once again be safe to start a walking routine. However, that means an increased work load for your feet. Are they ready?

When your feet are healthy, strong and happy, it's easy to take them for granted. But when they hurt, it's hard to concentrate on anything else!

Hints for Happy Feet:

- + Look at them ~ Look for cuts, sores, swelling, and loose or discolored nails. Do not let small problems become big problems.
- + Wash them ~ Remember to wash between the toes; it is a warm, moist place for infection to invade. Then dry them well, tops, bottoms and between the toes.
- + Powder them ~ Sprinkle talcum powder, corn starch or if you have itchy feet, try a medicated powder.
- + Keep them soft ~ Massage the tops and bottoms of your feet with lotion, cream or vaseline; it's up to you. Just do **not** use it between the toes.
- + Trim Toenails ~ Cut the nails straight across; smooth the edges with an emery board or nail file. If you find it difficult to see, reach or feel your feet, have a foot care specialist trim the nails.
- + Keep the Blood Flowing ~ If you are sitting for an extended period of time, remember to periodically wiggle your toes and move your ankles. Do not cross your legs or wear restrictive socks that interfere with circulation.
- + Stretch Your Feet ~ Use a ball or a foot roller. If you have a foot injury, check first with your doctor or physical therapist for the stretches appropriate for your situations.
- + Smooth Corns and Calluses ~ After a bath or shower, gently rub a pumice stone over these areas and dry thoroughly.
- + Be Active ~ Walking, biking, swimming, dancing, gardening all lead to helping blood flow which in turn leads to healthy, happy feet. Be sure to wear shoes that fit the activity.
- + Right Shoes ~ When buying shoes, do it late in the day when your feet are somewhat swollen. Make sure the shoes fit comfortably; do not expect they will “stretch to fit” once you “break them in”.
- + Protect Your Feet in All Seasons ~ Summer: Protect the bottoms of your feet by wearing shoes/sandals on hot pavement. Protect the tops of your feet with sunscreen. Winter: Wear warm, lined, waterproof shoes or boots to prevent frostbite.
- + Diabetes Special Care ~ Diabetes can lower blood flow and can damage nerves in the feet. Check with your health care provider to be sure you are doing everything you can to care for your feet especially if you have pain, numbness, any change in shape of your feet or sores that do not heal.

SAVE THE DATES: Wednesday, April 12 and Wednesday, April 19 from 2:00 – 4:00

“MAKING CHOICES”

Wednesday, April 12 (2:00pm – 4:00pm)

“From 9 to 90” a PBS Documentary

Joe, 90, and Phyllis, 89, lived with their daughter, son-in-law and 9 year old granddaughter. Phyllis saw how their mounting health issues were impacting everyone “from 9 to 90” and she had an out-of-the-box solution. Come and bring a friend to view the film and participate in a facilitated round table discussion afterwards.

Wednesday, April 19 (2:00pm – 4:00pm)

“Hello!” Come to experience one of the most important discussions of your life! Participate in a serious-fun conversation-game dealing with end-of-life-care. What does it take to live, love, and die with dignity and grace in the modern age?

[A Collaboration of Health Ministries, FBC; Honoring Care Decisions, NLH; Partners in Community Wellness, DHMC; and LSRVNA & Hospice]



“TELLING OUR STORY”

FBC was fortunate to receive a generous bequest from Patricia ‘Pat’ D. Kelsey in 2015. Trustees decided to tithe a portion of this gift in order to give back to the community Pat dearly loved. One project to be supported by this tithe, is a collaborative course of study at Colby-Sawyer College.

To be true to Pat’s devotion to young people, education and this community an Integrative Studies course entitled, “Narrative and Community: Telling Our Story”, was created by Colby-Sawyer. Members of FBC will be working with the College to develop, present and celebrate the lives of our elder members.

For more information about the life of Pat Kelsey, please use this link: <http://colby-sawyer.edu/news-archive/patkelsey.html>



CLASSROOM CLIPBOARD

Winter 2017

The Sunday School finishes up a unit on **Joseph** at the end of February. We’ve been focusing on Joseph’s dependence on and faith in God throughout his life-long saga. We have explored the many ways God was able to use Joseph regardless of his circumstances, along with powerful lessons about love and forgiveness. The children hosted a special Joseph Coffee Hour on Feb. 12, sharing about their unit and leading the congregation in “Stand Firm,” the song and hand motions they’ve been learning. The congregation is invited to deliver the students’ handmade cards and fleece lap blankets to some of the FBC older folks who can’t get out as often as they would like to. We finish off the unit with a giant game of Jeopardy on Feb. 26.

Throughout March and April, we’ll delve into “**Becoming Easter People.**” We’ll be learning about Lent, living under the Roman Empire, the Fruits of the Spirit, and having a little Passover Seder dinner. We’ll be discovering how Easter changes us as followers of a very different kind of king. If you’ve been away from Sunday School for a while, please join us on March 5 for the beginning of this wonderful spring unit!

Christian Education Opportunities at FBC

In addition to our Sunday School and Youth programs, we offer a variety of opportunities for adult learning throughout the week. Please check your bulletin or call the church office for details of times and location.

Sundays at 10:00

The Power of the Holy Spirit (led by Stuart Nutter) First class: February 26th

The purpose of this class is to encourage participants in their spiritual formation and to promote their use of spiritual gifts. You are invited to attend one or all of the sessions. The class will be reading *The Essential Guide to the Power of the Holy Spirit* by Randy Clark.

Romans, Part 2 (led by Conrad Boulton)

The class is reading N.T. Wright's *Paul for Everyone*. The book of Romans has long been viewed as the foremost book in which Paul puts forth the basic doctrines of the faith and the picture of God's life for us: the classic setting-out of the gospel.

The Women of Easter (led by Lisa Glidewell) First class: March 11th

The Women's Class will be starting a new book to coincide with the upcoming season of Lent. *The Women of Easter* by Liz Curtis Higgs studies three women named Mary from the New Testament: Mary of Bethany who prepares the way for the Lord's burial when she anoints His feet and fills the air with her perfume, Mary of Nazareth, mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene, who was able to deliver the news of Christ's resurrection! We will start the first chapter on March 11th!

Saving Jesus from the Church (led by Bob Wright) First Class March 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Taking the best of biblical scholarship, Meyers recasts core Christian concepts in an effort to encourage the church to turn our beliefs into action. Not a plea to try something brand new, but rather the recovery of something very old, *Saving Jesus from the Church* shows us what it means to follow Jesus's teachings today.

Bible Study with Pastor Charles

Every Wednesday morning at 10am in the Reney Room. Join us in our reading, discussion, and application of scripture.

Small Groups

Small Group: Marriage Enrichment

Charles and Lisa Glidewell invite you to join them for their small group kicking off on Wednesday, March 15th from 6:30 to 8:00. The group will spend time discussing the blessings and challenges of marriage from a Christian perspective. Come prepared to learn, to laugh, and to grow. Space is limited; please contact one of the Glidewells if you think you would like to attend.

Small Group Book Study: *In His Steps*, by Charles Sheldon

On Wednesday, March 15th Mark and Marilyn Wendling will begin hosting a small group in their home. Meeting time is from 6:30 to 8:00, and the time will spent in study and in prayer. The group will study the Christian classic, *In His Steps* by Charles Sheldon. The study will explore how Christians can make decisions that honor Christ and put their faith into practice in their daily lives. The book will be available, but keep in mind that you do not have to have the book to participate in the study. This small group study will last for 6 to eight weeks.

Small Group Book Study: *The Tangible Kingdom: Creating Incarnational Community* (Hugh Halter and Matt Smay)

The Tangible Kingdom offers theological answers and real-life stories that demonstrate how the best ancient church practices can re-emerge in today's culture, through any church of any size. In this remarkable book the authors outline an innovative model for creating thriving grass-roots faith

REFUGEE AWARENESS PROJECT



When an alien lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him. The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

— *Leviticus 19:34 (NIV)*

This year, our middle school youth group again joined with the youth group from St. Andrews to focus awareness on the words of Jesus asking us “who is my neighbor?” Last year we came together to initiate the Homeless Awareness Project. This year both groups independently chose Refugees as their focus.

Twenty-some students have enjoyed working together these past months to understand, in some small way, the challenges of refugee families. We’ve engaged in team exercises to identify what it may be like to be trapped in bombed houses, to live in camps or to flee danger over treacherous terrain. We’ve invited refugees to tell us their stories and spoken with refugee advocates to learn how we can help. We’ve even eaten only rice and beans at all our youth gatherings to recognize the scarcity of the refugees’ food supply!

On March 11th, the FBC and St. Andrews Youth Groups will be participating in our Refugee Awareness Project: hiking from Cricenti Bog to the First Baptist Church with all their gear on their backs. Each youth will be given \$1 to pool and shop at Hannaford’s along the way and then set up “camp” under large tents on the front lawn of the FBC church.

We invite your participation:

Join our Refugee Awareness Prayer Vigil on the front lawn of the church at 8:00 p.m. March 11th. Together with the students we will be offering prayer, readings and music to remember and lift up our “brothers and sisters” who live as refugees in this world.

Support our youth by sponsoring a student who will be hiking and sleeping out that night. Information will be available in Cleveland Hall. All donated money will be used to support refugees. Please make checks out to FBC and in the memo line write “Refugee Awareness Project”.

Thank you for partnering with us to support our students in their endeavor to support “our neighbors”!

Steve Allenby, Pastor Cindy Johnson, Jeff Maguire

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. Scholarship envelopes are available in the church office 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. 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 5TH** 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, 763-2178 or Dee Doheny, 526-7949 if you have questions.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 9	PALM SUNDAY
9:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	The Gathering
Thurs, April 13	MAUNDY THURSDAY
7:00 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Friday, April 14	GOOD FRIDAY
12 Noon	Ecumenical Service at St. Andrew's Church
1-3 pm	FBC Sanctuary open for Meditation
Sunday, April 16	EASTER SUNDAY
6:15 a.m.	Sunrise Service at Kezar Lake (across from the parking lot)
9:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	The Gathering

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, March 1, is the beginning of the Lenten season. This year the ecumenical Ash Wednesday service will be held at Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church (KCPC) at 7:00 p.m.

Several weeks ago Tom Coverdale sent around one of the devotional/thought pieces that he occasionally writes. As I have gotten to know Tom, like many of you, I have discovered that he is a man of deep faith with a probing mind and a flair for language. When I read this thought provoking piece I was inspired by it. We share it with you in hopes that you will be inspired too.

Pastor Charles

Ever since I was a kid, air-jamming in front of my bedroom mirror, I wanted to be in a rock band. But because three or four guys at FBC play rhythm guitar a lot better than I do, if I were to play in The Gathering, it was going to either be tambourine or to find a bass and use the bass amp that Ken Higgins left to the church.

After six or seven months of playing, I gained the verve to actually turn on the amp during a service.

The last twenty months have seen me creep the amp volume up to the place where the front three pews might hear anything.

Needless to say, *The Gathering* is a pretty tame and non-committal gig--at least as far as the bass playing goes. Actually, it's important to mention here that *The Gathering* is truly witness to some pretty good music, and that's because there is more than sufficient talent among the band and vocalists to make up for this fledging bassist whom most might *want* to push from the Euterpean nest. Other members don't *have* to use sheet music, and often I hear them say magical things like, "We'll play this in E-minor--play an instrumental between the bridge and the coda, starting in the third measure. Let's do this 6/8."

When that happens, I turn the amp from 3 down to 1.5.

Dave Chaves keeps me and my half-volume amp close to the back of his upright piano so his masterful playing can provide sufficient cover for my dropped beats and scattered note-playing.

"Bb, Tom; *B-flat*," Dave will whisper from his bench seat through an otherwise moving rendition of *Take Me In*. I nod knowingly and turn the dial on my guitar from 1.5 down to 0.35.

Some of the times when the band is doing a pre-service rehearsal, I slip down (none of the band seems to notice) to the adult Sunday school class, named "The Seekers," where we discuss some of the more bristly questions of 21st-century Christian living. I should probably add here for those of you who have never attended the Adult Class, the discussion is wide open, and the group hosts a garden of perspectives, everything from Calvinistic TULIPs grown in unerring rows, to a self-actualizing transcendentalistic Unitarianesque Emersonianisms that populate our discussions like a verge of scattered wildflowers. To wit: some of my classmates look at Paul as a hero of faith and doctrine, who passionately and

consistently describes the narrow way to God; while others suspect that Paul is a misogynistic slave monger, whose icy Romans Road should be sprinkled with a heavy dose of good ol' Yankee rock salt.

Regardless of some members' Pauline denigration, the class has taken on the task of plowing through his book to the Romans under the careful guidance of Conrad Boulton. As you might imagine, there have been all kinds of asides and commentaries as the class has stepped through the book. I remember way back in chapter 1 and chapter 2 where Paul discusses the apparently counterproductive value of the law (in our times, easily described as *Scripture*):

¹² All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. ¹⁴ (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.) ¹⁶ This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

Howard asked, "So why would anyone read the Bible--and thereby curse himself--if all that matters is how you live?"

Good question.

It just so happened that the morning's sermon was about what the traditional, Baptist word of "salvation" meant, and how that the Gospel of Jesus was one that actually brought about the concept of sin and repentance from that sin. These two ideas seem to be kindualong the same trains of thought. As you know, a common neo-pan-social interpretation of the Bible says that all this Jesus stuff should all be about loving each other and accepting everything-everywhere in the name of "let's just everybody get along." Why do some strains of religious tradition--*especially them evangelical types*--spend so much of their effort and identity to talk about studying the black and white of Scripture and nuancing some very harsh gospel interpretations?

These thoughts and questions have been my own throughout the years. Yet I still carry my childhood belief that Scripture is sacred, even to the extent that I take thirty to forty-five minutes of most of my very busy mornings to (re)read its familiar texts--even when some of those sections sear me to a place of disgruntled insistence that the author/Author really didn't have my life in mind when words were put to papyrus or calfskin thousands of years ago in some dusty Palestinian desert.

Yeah, who needs this ol' Bible anyway, with its rules and regulations on how to live and think? Who would

ever want to be told that he's wrong when all he's trying to do is do things right?

"Bb, Tom; *B-flat*," Dave will whisper...."

Why would someone even need--or want--to know about all these things when all he wants to do is live freely and be happy?

"We'll play this in E-minor--play an instrumental between the bridge and the coda, starting in the third measure. Let's do this 6/8."

Look, I just wanna believe in things that encourage me to do things *my* way, I mean, after all, God loves me and made me the way I am, so I shouldn't be afraid to live according to my convictions.

I nod knowingly and turn the dial on my guitar from 1.5 down to 0.35.

What if true meaning in life could be compared to being part of a band? In my 53 years, I feel as though there is a grand scheme, an opus of some monument that courses through the universe(s). And, of course, such an orchestration has melody and harmony because, that is what gives music its character, its substance. The Composer organized things to fit with naturals and flats and sharps, allegros and fermatas, keys and notations that are all prescribed in order for the *effect*; such rigid *prescription* allows for flexible *descriptions* by various conductors and by musicians in their respective orchestras which ultimately, produce the living *affect*.

The notes on the page are not in and of themselves the music--it's not why concert-goers attend. As a matter of fact, the actual music may have been written hundreds of years ago in a certain dusty time and place. But you gotta have the musical score to get the tune. If the players are not listening or watching *and reading*, you move pretty quickly from what is supposed to be euphony, to something else that is out-and-out cacophony.

So, if it hasn't dawned on you let me just be right out with it: I am a beginning bass player. I really don't know two hoots about musical theory. To that extent, I am absolutely tied to the sheet music--actually Director Dave Chaves has conveniently provided which letters (notes A-G) are played with which *words* because I don't even read music--they all look like a buncha black dots to me. When I get up there to play in front of people, I am absolutely tied to that sheet of paper, and the single-dimensional rules of notation absolutely control what finger plays which string at its place on the fretboard. Ironic, isn't it, that the less I know the prescriptives of music, the more I am actually tied to them? Conversely, the more I know and study them, the less I need them. I can improvise--add my little riff or personhood to what I am doing: Only then can I really jam.

Isn't that what music is for? Isn't that the joy the true musician feels when he can leave the notes on the page where they belong and--though still tied to the rules and regulations of the melody--add his own instrumental interpretation? The music sheet is no more the reason that

concert goers go to a concert than church goers go to church to read how Hezekiah was the son of Ahaz, the 13th king of Judah. Rather, when I attend First Baptist Church of New London, I like to mix and mingle, love and laugh with others in the church "band," to revel in the affect of meaning that has been infused into the opus from the beginning.

But some of us need to be corrected. For the music to happen--real music rather than just noise--I need to hear the correction from Dave on his piano bench that a B is not the same as a B-flat, just because they start with the same letter. Imagine if an orchestra played a piece according to each musician's diverse inclinations, all at the same time. Chaos.

Maybe that's closer to what The Creator was up to when He formed something from the void, way back in the beginning--making music from chaos. Really, what He was hoping for was a great big Cosmic Jam. So, He got busy writing the score, a score that is inherent in the pulse and beat of his Universal Opus, which transcends culture, era, gender, language, denomination. *There is neither Greek, nor Jew....*

Perhaps Romans 2 speaks about how there are those who can play the music by ear. They can hear *with listening ears* as Jesus was so prone to say, and tune how they live to be in a harmony with the cosmic coursing. Others, like this struggling bassist, understand that there are laws and rules, but still need their chord sheets and have to practice their progressions. But still others need the theory, the need to understand the prescriptives of the way things work, before we can really begin to augment or individualize descriptives. (I *sense* this is true in things like mathematics whose precise systems produce genius rule-benders like Einsteins--I *know* it's true in grammar and composition with its Shakespeares and Steinbecks.)

It's easy to get it backward. It's easy to relish in the freedoms and emotives that music brings--that Jesus seems to major in--without recognizing that things like harmony and melody are actually governed--in the *words* of Jesus--by lotsa *jots and tittles*. That's how the law can actually become the means of my freedom--*the law of liberty* I think James, the brother of Jesus, calls it.

And so, I find that I have been "given all things" like an amp, a cool guitar, and even a merciful and supportive music director who understands the big picture. If I keep studying, maybe someday I can don some Bono glasses with confidence, turn my amp up to ten, and really rock da house.

Written by: Tom Coverdale



STONE SOUP 2017



Come to feed
your body...
Stay to feed
your mind and spirit...

The Community Is Invited
to gather at First Baptist Church
every Tuesday in
Jan, Feb and March
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Choice of soup, bread, salad, dessert and beverage

Cost: A free will offering will be accepted. After expenses are paid, the proceeds will be designated for LSRVNA & Hospice. For over 40 years, this organization has been providing health care and hospice services to over 25 towns in the Lake Sunapee and Upper Valley regions of NH, fostering continuity of care & enabling people to stay in their own homes as long as possible.

DATE

March 7

MARCH SPEAKERS

Dr. Amanda Hegnauer, Naturopathic Doctor

"Naturopathic Medicine and the Treatment of Lyme Disease"

March 14

Pam Sanborn, Fitness Trainer, ACSM, NSCA, ACE Certified

*"Traveling Through Life's Transitions One Step at a Time
on the Camino de Santiago"*

March 21

Sunapee Singers

"Irish Songs, Plus a Little Irving Berlin & Duke Ellington"

March 28

Pastor Charles Glidewell, First Baptist Church

"Christianity ~ Good for the Soul and Good for the Body"

Cancellation Policy: In the event the Governor declares a "State of Emergency" and everyone should stay off the roads, Stone Soup will be cancelled.

461 MAIN STREET, NEW LONDON
NEXT TO THE COLLEGE

www.fbclnh.org
526-6511

MARCH 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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						
5 First Sunday in Lent Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Coffee & Fellowship 9-9:45 <i>One Worship Service 10:00</i> <i>Sunday School 10:00</i> (Grades 1-5)	6 Tai Chi 11:30	7 Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Stone Soup 11:30-1 Prayer Ministry 1:30	8 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 <i>Trustees 5:00</i> <i>BSA Troop 71</i> <i>Spaghetti Dinner 5:00-7:00</i> The Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	9 Tai Chi 11:30 <i>Health Ministries 3:00</i> Choir Rehearsal 7:00	10	11 Refugee Awareness Project 8:00 pm service
12 Second Sunday in Lent Daylight Saving Time Begins Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	13 Tai Chi 11:30	14 Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Stone Soup 11:30-1 Prayer Ministry 1:30	15 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 Prayer <i>Shawl Ministry 1:00</i> The Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	16 Women's Mission Circle 9:30-1:00 Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	17	18
19 Third Sunday in Lent Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	20 Tai Chi 11:30 KREM	21 Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Stone Soup 11:30-1 Prayer Ministry 1:30 <i>Church Council 5:00</i>	22 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 The Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	23 Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	24	25
26 Fourth Sunday in Lent Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 The Gathering 11:00	27 Tai Chi 11:30	28 Staff Meeting 9:00 Ladies Book Study 9:15 Stone Soup 11:30-1 Prayer Ministry 1:30	29 Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 The Gathering Rehearsal 5:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00	30 Tai Chi 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	31	

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

APRIL ISSUE

NEXT DEADLINE:

THIRD THURSDAY OF MARCH

MAILING AND WEB POSTING:

FOURTH TUESDAY OF MARCH

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IN THE FAMILY

March Birthdays

- 1 Walt Anderson
- 5 David Kidder
- 6 Dick Dutton
- 10 Sarah Hoke
- 17 Janet Lovely
- 20 Donald Clark
- 21 Nancy Allenby
- 23 Judy Evans, Carole Parsons
- 24 Robin Cottrill
- 26 Chuck Curtis
- 28 Dan Hafner



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 deliver to 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.

Hosted by
Boy Scout Troop 71

Wednesday, March 8
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church
461 Main Street, New London

Cost: Donation

A collection box will also be available for donations to the
KLS Community Food Pantry.



Tom DeMille passed away on Friday, February 24th. Please keep Wynne and their family in your prayers. A service will be held on Saturday, March 18th at 12:00 noon at FBC, followed by refreshments at Lake Sunapee Country Club.

Also, Laura Stirling (Mackenna) passed away on Friday the 24th. A service will be held here at FBC this Saturday, March 4, at 2:00 p.m. Please keep her family in your prayers.