

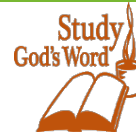


*Christ Community Church of Blackstone
Proclaiming Hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ
September 2024 Newsletter*



A Message from Pastor Joe

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens" Ecclesiastes 3:1 -NIV



*Tuesday morning
study at 10: am via
zoom.com
Opened to all!*

Hello everyone,
September, a month of transition from summer to fall, can be likened to the theme of "New Beginnings" found in the NIV translation of the Bible. Just as the changing seasons bring new opportunities for growth and transformation, we who are the followers of Jesus Christ, can embrace September as a time to reflect on our spiritual journey and seek renewal in our faith.

Embracing Change and Growth

In the Book of Isaiah 43:19, God promises to do a new thing, making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Similarly, the month of September can serve as a reminder for all Christians to embrace change and growth in their walk with Christ. Just as the autumn leaves change color and fall to make way for new growth, believers can let go of old habits and attitudes that hinder their spiritual progress, allowing God to bring forth new blessings and opportunities.

Harvesting Spiritual Fruits

As September marks the beginning of the harvest season, followers of Jesus Christ can reflect on the theme of "Fruitfulness" found in the Bible. In Galatians 5:22-23, the fruits of the Spirit are listed as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. This month, believers can strive to cultivate these spiritual fruits in their lives, bearing witness to the transformative power of Christ's love and grace.

In conclusion, as September unfolds with its promise of new beginnings and abundant harvests, followers of Jesus Christ can apply the themes of change, growth, and fruitfulness to their own spiritual journey. Let us embrace this month as an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God, seek renewal in our faith, and bear witness to the transformative work of Christ in our lives. May September be a season of spiritual growth and blessings for all who walk in the footsteps of Jesus. God bless you all.

Pastor Joe

Joshua 1:9

**Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."**

Please pray for...

- Beth - needs senior help*
- Andrea - seizures & Jeff - migraines*
- Bunny - help with move*
- Lynne - healing*
- Pastor Ruth - bursitis in hip*
- Norma, Susan - cancer*
- Barbara - continued healing*
- Young David - continued healing*
- Kayden - pneumonia and line infection*
- Upcoming presidential elections*
- Our Country*
- World Leaders*
- People in war-torn countries*
- Our church*
- Unsaved Loved Ones*



1 Million Muslims in Iran Have Turned to Christ as 50,000 Mosques Closed

Excerpt from an article written by Michael Frost
Crosswalk Headlines Contributor

A million Muslims have accepted Christ in Iran as tens of thousands of mosques in the Islamic country have closed, according to reports on the ground and multiple ministries in the region. In February, Mohammad Abolghassem Doulabi, a senior cleric in Iran, revealed that 50,000 of the nation's 75,000 mosques had closed because of a substantial drop in attendance.

At the same time, Muslims are finding Jesus, with approximately 1 million Muslims in Iran coming to Christ, according to the international radio ministry The Tide and a new report from CBN. Todd Nettleton, vice president of message for The Voice of the Martyrs, said many Iranians are searching for hope.

"The government views conversion as an attempt by the West to undermine Islam and the Islamic government of Iran," Open Doors reported. "This means that anyone who is discovered to be a member of a house church can be charged with a crime against national security, which can lead to long prison sentences. Anyone arrested or detained can be tortured and abused while in jail. Some Christians are released and monitored -- and know a second arrest would mean a long prison sentence."

Shenk's ministry, The Tide, reported that "what is happening in Iran is just the tip of the iceberg, as similar movements to Christ are happening across the Muslim world."



ARE YOU EVER TROUBLED?

by Oswald Chambers

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you... —John 14:27

There are times in our lives when our peace is based simply on our own ignorance. But when we are awakened to the realities of life, true inner peace is impossible unless it is received from Jesus. When our Lord speaks peace, He creates peace, because the words that He speaks are always "Spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). Have I ever received what Jesus speaks? "...*My peace I give to you...*"— a peace that comes from looking into His face and fully understanding and receiving His quiet contentment.

Are you severely troubled right now? Are you afraid and confused by the waves and the turbulence God sovereignly allows to enter your life? Have you left no stone of your faith unturned, yet still not found any well of peace, joy, or comfort? Does your life seem completely barren to you? Then look up and receive the quiet contentment of the Lord Jesus. Reflecting His peace is proof that you are right with God, because you are exhibiting the freedom to turn your mind to Him. If you are not right with God, you can never turn your mind anywhere but on yourself. Allowing anything to hide the face of Jesus Christ from you either causes you to become troubled or gives you a false sense of security.

With regard to the problem that is pressing in on you right now, are you "looking unto Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2) and receiving peace from Him? If so, He will be a gracious blessing of peace exhibited in and through you. But if you only try to worry your way out of the problem, you destroy His effectiveness in you, and you deserve whatever you get. We become troubled because we have not been taking Him into account. When a person confers with Jesus Christ, the confusion stops, because there is no confusion in Him. Lay everything out before Him, and when you are faced with difficulty, bereavement, and sorrow, listen to Him say, "Let not your heart be troubled..." (John 14:27).

NEW ROOF FOR OUR CHURCH

At a Special Meeting in July, our Congregation voted to hire New England Chimney & Roofing to replace the 27-year old roof on our meeting house.

Before the roof is started, we asked the roofer if he could give us a quote on removing the Bell Tower. With this information, the Congregation will meet in a special meeting on September 8th, to discuss our options.

We ask for your prayers for guidance in making these decisions.



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

There will be two meetings for all church members, each one held after the Sunday Service, concerning the possibility of removing the Bell Tower.

Meeting to Discuss – September 8, 2024

Before we have the roof replaced, we would like to meet with the Congregation to review and discuss the bell tower maintenance, safety, and options for removal. This will be the time for you to voice your opinion on the options that are presented.

Meeting to Vote – September 15, 2024

A second Special Meeting will be held the following Sunday, after the service, to make a final decision and vote on whether to remove the bell tower or not.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joyce St. Jean at 508-883-1148.

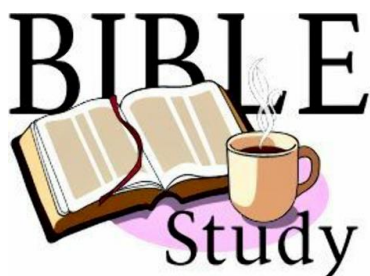
Yours in Christ,
Jackie St. Jean
Church Clerk & Historian.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We are studying “Romans, Becoming New in Christ” in our Bible study.

It’s been a very interesting study covering subjects like; The Wrath of God, The Judgement of God, The Righteousness of God, Reasons to Rejoice, and New Life-New Lifestyle. This week we will be on Chapter 10, The Spirit Brings Life.

So, come and join us at 10 am this Tuesday via Zoom.com. If you need a link to get in, just send Lynne an email and she’ll send you the link.



ALL-CHURCH MEETINGS

It was suggested at our August Business Meeting to change our All-Church Meetings from the last Tuesday of the month to the last Wednesday. All agreed, so our next Business Meeting will be Wednesday, September 25.

Happy Birthday to
Jackie St. Jean Sept. 5th
Chi Salvatore Sept. 7th

Date Received as Members
Marc & Barbara Greenwald - Sept. 1990

Baptism
Jackie St. Jean - Sept. 12, 1982

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

to

Paul & Nancy Mandeville Sept. 17th

Bill & Julie Wronski Sept. 28th



HILLBILLY 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. Ain't but one God
2. Honor yer Ma and Pa
3. No tellin' tales or gossipin'
4. Git yer hide ta Sunday meetin'
5. Ain't nothin' come before the Lord
6. No foolin with another fellers gal
7. No killin', cept for critters
8. Quit yer foul mouthin'
9. No swipin' yer kin folks stuff
10. Don't be hankerin' for it neither



Our Outreach/Missions and Fund Raisers

Mary's Closet -We continue to provide teens at a local charter high school in need of clothing, personal items and food snacks. Please leave items in the church cart marked "Mary's Closet."
Due to allergies, no nuts please!

Straight Ahead Ministry – Serves incarcerated youths, helping them to move from lock-up to leadership. As a church we give an annual donation and at Christmas, we provide them with a gift of clothing, hygiene products and games.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

2024 HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH – 10 am TO 3 pm
Elks Lodge, 380 Social St., Woonsocket, RI

Over 25 Local Artisans. All Items Handmade

Quilts, Diamond Dot items, Coasters, Wreaths, Painted Shopping Bags, Greeting Cards, Candles, Soaps, Jewelry, Indian Festival Décor, Dog items, Scenic Paintings, Macrame, Knitted & Crocheted items, Dolls, 3-D Critters, Henna Tattoos and a Silent Auction!

All our proceeds to benefit the Restoration of Christ Community Church of Blackstone's Historic Meeting House built in 1836.



~ *September 2024* ~
Christ Community Church of Blackstone
 (508) 883-7885



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday Service 9:30 am 	2	3 Bible Study 9:30 am at the Church	4 Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Via Zoom.com	5	6	7
8 Sunday Service 9:30 am Special Mtg. 10:45	9	10 Bible Study 9:30 am at the Church	11	12	13	14
15 Sunday Service 9:30 am Special Mtg. 10:45	16	17 Bible Study 9:30 am at the Church	18	19	20	21
22 Sunday Service 9:30 am	23	24 Bible Study 9:30 am at the Church	25 All-Church Mtg 7pm via Zoom	26	27	28
29 Sunday Service 9:30 am	30					