



Cape Neddick Tide

What's Coming and Going at the Cape Neddick Baptist Church February 2018

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Pastoral Ponderings

On the way home from the annual meeting my wife Cyndi said, "That was a pretty good meeting." I agreed. The proposal that the church consider a strategic plan for the interim was not met adversely. During the meeting a number of people voiced issues that need attention. That is good. But a strategic plan is about looking at the church holistically, as a system and addressing various issues as part of the system.

May we talk business? A good business operates on current information but churches often do not. Most churches operate with the cultural mindset of the post war era of 1945 to 1975, although their members do not. That was the time when the nation wanted to return to normalcy, families were growing, suburbs were burgeoning, and Society was

conducive to church life. As a child of the fifties I remember Tennessee Ernie Ford had a TV program that always concluded when he sang a hymn. Not so any more. American culture has changed. Church attendance reached its peak in 1960 and has been in decline ever since.

A business that would face such a situation would seriously look at how its product could be updated to meet present needs. It would invest in new equipment. It would be user friendly. (Interestingly, user friendly is a business term not a church term, as is obvious in the way many churches operate). A business would make sure its location and facility were easily accessible. If it were in retail or food service it would make sure that the décor was attractive, up to date, and comfortable, ensuring that its product would attract new customers, hopefully keeping

up if not surpassing the competition.

Our competition is not the church down the road. Youth sports, trips to Home Depot or the outlets, or any other enjoyable activity are where the folks, that two generations ago may have been in church, are now found. So how do we compete? If we treated our church like a business, what would we be doing?

Investing in the future if we want to have a future. This church is blessed with a very healthy endowment that many churches ten times our size would envy. If we arrive at a holistic, systemic plan, not a piecemeal patch of here and there, we should not hesitate to invest it in whom we are and the mission to which God calls us.

Luke 12:16-21 is a parable about a farmer who accumulates his wealth and dies. Then the Lord asks him who is going to enjoy is wealth now? That's something to ponder.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave



News from the Pulpit Committee

In January, we reviewed our second group of potential pastoral candidates' profiles. Our area minister Rev. Scott McPhedran is inquiring as to which of the potential candidates are still "open to move". An initial letter will be sent to those "open to move" asking if they would like additional information about our church and facilities. Those who respond will receive our Church Profile, copies of our annual reports, our bylaws and sample worship bulletins; along with a request for addition information from the potential candidate.

During our annual meeting, held on January 28th, the topic of developing a strategic plan for updating our church's facilities was discussed. It was suggested that each board and committee should develop a list of ideas for updating our facilities and present their

ideas at a fellowship meeting to be held after a worship service in March. Once the strategic plan is approved it will be implemented in a timely fashion.

We ask you to join us in praying that God will clearly reveal the person He has prepared to call to lead the ministry of our church family.



Snow Pal Reveal and Valentine Luncheon

On Sunday, February 11th after the worship service secret snow pals will reveal themselves by giving a signed card to their snow pal. A Valentine Luncheon will follow the worship service on Sunday, February 11th. Please join us for refreshments and a time of fellowship.



Living the Gospel Life, The Season of Lent

The daily devotions in this booklet highlight the concepts of being sent, demonstrating faith in action, and being mission-minded each day of Lent.

These devotional booklets will



be available on Sunday, February 11th on the table at the rear of our sanctuary.

Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference May 5th

The men's Iron Sharpens Iron Conference will be held this year on Saturday, May 5th at the First Baptist Church in Portland, ME. This conference will feature nationally known keynote speakers, a host of breakout seminars and a spirit-filled praise band. If you would like to attend this conference please contact Rev. David Strosahl or Frank Hludik as we will be registering as a group. Early registration ends on April 24th. We will car pool from the Church parking lot on May 5th. Please join us; the conference will change your life!



Cap
e Neddick Baptist Church has been asked by Christian Education at First Parish Church if we would like to join together with other York churches to present a week of Vacation Bible School this summer for children of our community and beyond. This is an exciting invitation which the members of our CE board and Pastor Dave have decided to look into. We will be meeting soon to dream about and then perhaps actually plan for this VBS. We are hoping that this could be the first of many church community events. Please let Sheri, Sue, Dianne or Pastor Dave know your thoughts and ideas about such a venture! We would love your input. Please uphold this in prayer.



Birthday and Anniversary sheets are on the back table. If there is anyone interested in having their name added to the sheets, please call. Betty Loving. [207 363 8009](tel:2073638009)

February Birthday's:

- 16th – Evan Thompson
- 23rd – Anneilia Ottey
- 23rd – Betty Loving
- 27th – Leah Nowell

February Anniversaries:

- 6th – Frank & Dianne Hludik



Encouraged by the discussion at the Church Annual Meeting, the members of the Board of Christian Education are preparing input for CNBC's strategic plan!



As we continue in this time of seeking a new pastor we would like to reflect on where we want to go and come up with a plan. We are asking all of you who attend or have attended CNBC to offer any suggestions, whether it be regarding the sermons, the style of service, music ideas, community service, Christian education, the aesthetics of our church, etc. We are a family that needs to work together and come up with our goals and how we want to continue in our role as a Baptist Church in this community. We welcome all Suggestions & Ideas. There is a box at the back of the church or feel free to contact any of the pulpit committee members:

- Frank & Dianne Hludik,
- Crystal & Dave Butler, Henry Warner, Sue Norton, Sheri Nadeau, Louise Todd



Food Pantry We continue to collect donations for the Food Pantry. The collection box is located in the back of the sanctuary Here is a shopping list of some items you can pick up when you are at the grocery store.

- White tuna in water
- Canned & dry beans
- Peanut butter (18 oz)
- Cooking oils
- Healthy snack bars
- Small condiments
- Sugar / Flour (2 lb)
- Canned tomatoes
- Whole grain rice
- Pasta sauce can
- Toilet paper
- Plastic Squeeze Jelly (no sugar)
- Canned fruit (no sugar added)
- Pasta / Spaghetti
- Tomato sauce
- Broth Low sodium vegetables
- Low sodium soups
- Healthy bran cereal
- Baking items
- Shampoo, Deodorant, Toothpaste