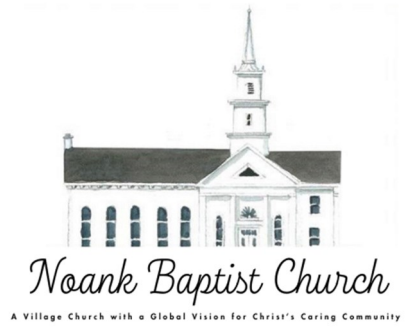


he NBC Anchor

Newsletter of the Noank Baptist Church, Noank CT
860.536.7129 www.noankbaptistchurch.org



May 2024

Celebrating Nurses Sunday, May 5

The American Nurses Association is celebrating National Nurses Week. This year's theme, "Nurses Make the Difference," honors the incredible nurses who embody the spirit of compassion and care in every health care setting.

A nurse is a superhero in scrubs!



Photo by Monica White

NBC Parlor Renovation

Closed for Painting Starting Monday, May 6

Beginning Monday, May 6, the parlor will be closed for repainting, a task made more complicated because it was most recently painted with latex paint over oil. During this time, we will meet for fellowship and other activities in the chapel.

Thank you to the Evening Circle for funding this project and keeping our meetinghouse beautiful and welcoming!

Blanket Sunday, May 5

We are offering Mother's Day cards this year to benefit Church World Service and their donations of blankets to refugees and people suffering from natural disasters around the world. The cards will be available after worship in the narthex for \$5. Bring a smile to a mother's face and provide a warm blanket to someone in need. Thank you for your generosity.

The Mission Team



Sunday, May 19

Guest Preacher Rev. Victoria Burdick Followed by our Quarterly Business Meeting

The quarterly business meeting of the church will be held after worship on Sunday, May 19 in the sanctuary. We will gather together as a community and hear about the important news and activities of the church. All are encouraged to attend.

Noank Village Preschool

Noank Village Preschool is moving towards reopening in September, welcoming 2 and 3 year old students for a morning program. We are also hiring a head teacher!

Please visit www.noankpreschool.com to see what we offer, and email noankvillagepreschool@gmail.com for more information.

How Does Your Garden Grow?



“Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” (Luke 12:27)

It’s almost perfect outside, so I find my place among the elegance of the memorial garden. How could I not? The air is cool, and for a change, gently blowing with only a moment’s pause. Birds are building shelters in the bushes while chirping melodious sounds that foster a sense of divine harmony. The azaleas and daffodils are bursting with color illuminating their surroundings with nature’s beauty. Several individuals pass on foot experiencing for themselves the seasonal delight of this day. As the sun plays peekaboo in the clouds, I cannot help but think what role we all play in this garden of life. Each of us unique with our own individual glory reflecting the image of God and surveying together how we might enrich the lives of those around us.

April came and went like many other months before, but not without it’s own memoir. With life also comes death, and saying goodbye to several of our congregants proved challenging. For many, grief was no stranger to Noank. Now being a fully vested “Noank-er,” I can say with certainty that the village has a way of growing on you. It is a place to find peace and tranquility, all the while adamantly pursuing hope for a world in need. Whether it be environmental and/or social, justice is a path worthy of investment for many within this beloved community. What a Village!



Sundays have been filled with resurrectional insights. Even in my absence, Val Gordon took to the pulpit reminding the collect of the seven weeks of celebration. As we near Pentecost, I hope this time has brought a sense of renewal for NBC. From the lips of lay readers to the tickled ivory on the piano, surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. Watching the children play outside during the preschool open house had its own way of hinting at resurrection. Just wait and see, those precious classrooms will once again have little hands and feet navigating our space. Whatever the future holds, we cling to the One who holds it. Besides, isn’t that the point of the verse mentioned above?

With May will come its own observances. Being mental health awareness month, let us foster relationships that encourage vulnerability and connection. Take time to invest in ways of self care. Whatever floats your boat, whether it be taking a walk or reading a novel, just make sure to invest in you. With so much happening globally, how can anyone find rest? The list of concerns is so daunting that many do not even have the head space to switch on the news. Still, we must find a way to participate in these affairs. So, when you have space, open yourself up to how you can get involved in the things that speak to you.

We are all in this garden together...

Blessings of Peace,

Rev. Junior White

Children and Family



Volunteers Needed!!!

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 15-19 from 9am-12.

If you would like to serve at VBS, please contact Monica White at noankfamily@gmail.com

We will NEED teachers, youth guides, decorators, and snack makers!

Camp Wightman 2024 Registration is open! www.campwightman.org

It's time to register for Camp Wightman! Offering five sessions, the summer program is divided into cabins based on age. Campers will spend the week with their age groups participating in activities like fishing, boating, archery, crafts, and more while making new friends.

Noank Baptist Church supports Camp Wightman and can assist families to offset the price of the programs. If you have questions about Camp Wightman, need assistance with registration, or want a NBC camp scholarship application, please contact Monica White.





Children's Sunday, June 9th!

You are invited to a worship service presented by our youngest members! This is one of the best services of year so don't miss it!

Kenya Mission Fundraiser

There will be a taco/nacho bar on Sunday, June 9 after Morning Worship. Donations will fund a block press and new Kitchen at Osewan School in Malitisa, Kenya.



Deacon of the Month

May's deacon of the month is Melanie Reas. If you are in need of prayer or any other assistance, she will be happy to assist you.



In Loving Memory of

Maureen Block, March 26

Mary Brodhead, April 1

Orin "Robbie" Pomeroy Robinson, April 4

After Work/School Prayer Shawl Ministry - First Mondays

The Prayer Shawl Ministry knitters and crocheters meet at 10:30 every Tuesday for lively discussion and shared creativity. All are welcome! To include participants who go to school or work all day, an additional meeting time will be at 5:00 p.m. on the first MONDAY of every month For now, they will be meeting in the chapel.

All are welcome!

♪ Musical Notes by Jac Harris-Stone, Music Director ♪

We have some music events to look forwards to - and back on - at NBC.



We have really enjoyed having the Mystic Chamber music festival here for the concert “Sound of Four.”

For me, it was wonderful to hear someone else play “my piano” and hear what it was capable of, and to hear how music sounds to the congregation. I hear using the sanctuary for outside music groups used to be a regular thing, and with acoustics like we have, I can see why!

The next chamber concert is in May 17, and will feature not only the quartet but their mentors - the world renowned American String Quartet.

A big treat - On May 12, we will have members from the Sound of Four concert join our service again!

Choir is working on a hymn request - Ride the Chariot - not available as a hymn we can sing but is a staple of the choral world. I hope you will enjoy it when we eventually sing it for you as prelude!

NBC Gardeners - Now is the Time!

It’s never too early to think about our next Holiday Bazaar! Jane Templeton is in charge of the ever-popular pickle and jam table. Now is the time to plant Roma tomatoes and cucumbers, both pickling and regular.



Please contact Jane if you are interested in picking fruit in season and making pickles or jams.

SAVE THE DATE August 4, 2024 Summer Baptism in the Mystic River

♪ *Shall We Gather at the River* ♪

Whether you’re interested in baptism or already on the schedule, please save the date for our next celebration of renewal. For more information, please contact the Pastor.

Chili Cookoff Sunday, June 2

Get ready for the spiciest day of the year – our annual Chili Cookoff! Come to taste them all and vote for your favorite. The competition will be fierce as challengers compete to unseat reigning champion, Paul Weigle and win the coveted NBC Chili Champ Apron. Bring your favorite chili, salad, cornbread, or condiments. If you plan to bring food, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Questions? Contact Paul or Betsy Goetsch.



Honoring 2024 Graduates

High school and college graduations are almost here. If you know of any graduates to include in the June *Anchor*, please contact the church office at noankbaptistchurch@gmail.com. Please indicate the name of the high school, college or other program, as well as information pertaining to the degrees earned and future plans.

Sermon Podcasts

If you are traveling or not able to make it to NBC on a Sunday morning, you can still listen to Pastor Junior's sermons on your smartphone or computer. Each Tuesday we will add audio files of the most recent sermon to the NBC website,

www.noankbaptistchurch.org/sermons.

Search for Noank Baptist Church on the Podbean app and LIKE and SUBSCRIBE!



Springtime at the Corner Closet

Newly donated spring clothing for men, women and children

Open Wednesday - Saturday 10-1

Encore! Mystic Chamber Music Series Concert Friday, May 17 at 5PM at NBC

A Night of Sextets featuring the American String Quartet

The concert *Sound of Four* on April 20 was a great success and the musicians will be back, this time with their mentors in the American String Quartet.



Friday at NBC



Saturday at UBC

Tickets are for sale through their website, www.mysticchambermusicseries.com.

They will also perform at Union Baptist Church on Saturday, May 18.

For a YouTube preview, click [here](#).



Mystic Chamber Music Series

Support Church Street House's Affiliate program, TRFP

NBC's Church Street House is an important mission of our church and partners with Thames River Family Program to provide housing for a family with reduced rent and enhanced social support services so they can buy a house at the end of the five years here. The Charles family is now in their third year and taking the first steps towards accessing a first-time home-buyer's program with the continued support of TRFP.

Thames River Community Service also provides housing and support services to formerly homeless residents, primarily of New London County. Their mission is accomplished by promoting family and individual wellness, by empowering an achievable plan for successful independent living, to pursue significant employment, to acquire life skills and to maintain stability. Come and see comedian Dave Reilly and help support this worthy organization! For tickets, check out www.trfp.org.

