

LIGHT LINE

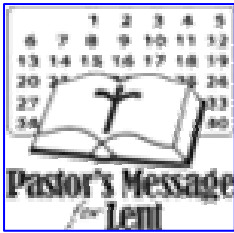
A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WALLINGFORD



FEBRUARY
2008



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



February 6 is Ash Wednesday. In the light of Lent, I offer the following from:

www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/t/f/tfountfb.htm,
“**There is a Fountain**” by William Cowper (pronounced Cooper).

“There Is a Fountain” is one of the first hymns Cowper wrote after his first attack of temporary madness. Cowper had been promised a post as Clerk of the Journal to the House of Lords, but he was troubled upon learning he would have to undergo a public examination in the House before beginning his duties.

William Cowper attempted to make up his mind to commit **suicide**, though his conscience bore stern testimony against it; he could not by any argument persuade himself that it was right, but this desperation prevailed, and he procured

from an apothecary the means of self-destruction as reported in the *North American Review*, January, 1834:

“On the day before his public appearance was to be made, he happened to notice a letter in the newspaper, which to his disordered mind seemed like a malignant libel on himself. He immediately threw down the paper and rushed into the fields, determined to die in a ditch, but the thought struck him that he might escape from the country.

With the same violence he proceeded to make hasty preparations for his flight; but while he was engaged in packing his portman-teau (suitcase) his mind changed, and he threw himself into a coach, ordering the man to drive to the Tower wharf, intending to throw himself into the river, and not reflecting that it would be impossible to accomplish his purpose in that public spot.

“On approaching the water, he found a porter seated upon some goods: he then returned to the coach and was conveyed to his lodgings at the Temple. On the

way he attempted to drink the laudanum (mixture of opium), but as often as he raised it, a convulsive agitation of his frame prevented it from reaching his lips; and thus, regretting the loss of the opportunity, but unable to avail himself of it, he arrived, half dead with anguish, at his apartment.

“He then shut the doors and threw himself upon the bed with the laudanum near him, trying to lash himself up to the deed; but a voice within seemed constantly to forbid it, and as often as he extended his hand to the poison, his fingers were contracted and held back by spasms.

“At this time one of the inmates of the place came in, but he concealed his agitation, and as soon as he was left alone, a change came over him, and so detestable did the deed appear, that he threw away the laudanum and dashed the vial to pieces. The rest of the day was spent in heavy insensibility, and at night he slept as usual; but on waking at three in the

Continued on page 8

Upcoming Special Events for February

Saturday, February 2
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
FBC Madden Super Bowl Video Game Tournament in Fellowship Hall
see page 3—Joe Sanders

Sunday, February 3
11:15 a.m.
Annual Chili Cook-Off Luncheon in Fellowship Hall—see page 5
2:15 p.m.
DR Team Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 6
7 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Service
see page 6

Friday, February 8-Saturday, February 9
Sr. BYG to Acquire the Fire in NJ

Sunday, February 17
Time TBA (afternoon)
Bowling Event at Colony Lanes in Wallingford—see page 3—Joe Sanders

First Baptist Church
of Wallingford
Church Calendar
February 2008

Go to:
<http://www.calsnet.com/fbcwlfld>

From Your Director of Discipleship, Susanne Jordan

Let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.....

As you all know, during the month of December, our Sunday School kids were crazy for missions – and what a wonderful job they did! I frequently referred to it as “Mission Mania!”

We collected food for our local *Manna from Heaven* food pantry

We supported a family in need during the holiday season, and we were able to provide them with many wonderful Christmas presents from their “wish list.”

We made a very generous donation to Project Heifer, with much of the money having been collected during last year’s Sunday School year.

And we bombarded our Seniors and Shut-ins with an array of Christmas cards and well wishes for the holiday season!

In addition to giving *Manna from Heaven* a \$250 donation from our Missions’ Fund, we also brought over all of the food that we had been collecting. Thank you again to Cindy Holland-Toftness for her help with this project! We will continue to keep the box out and as food accumulates, we will be sure to see that it gets delivered.

From Cheryl Avery, President of *Manna from Heaven* – “Dear First Baptist Church Family: Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. We are humbled by your acknowledgement and support of the work Master’s Manna is doing for our neighbors here at home. Your generous and timely gift of \$250.00 will help to impact and improve the lives of so many families. To God be the glory – great things HE has done!! (We have also been gifted with computers and will now be able to provide job training!!) God Bless you.....”

Jenni French shared with me that Hayden was very busy sending Christmas

cards out to our seniors and when “Hayden got cards back from Bompie (Dick Own) and Eva. (Post)he was **THRILLED!**” Praise God that this important ministry worked both ways!

The Visiting Nurse Association of Wallingford also sent us a very nice note. We sponsored our family through their assistance. “Thank you for your generous gifts and donations to families served by the Visiting Nurse Association of Wallingford. The families, children and individuals are extremely appreciative of your help. You have truly made a joyous time for so many people who could not afford food, clothing and toys.”

From Patricia Gray Stanley in the Heifer Northeast Office, located in Rutland, MA: “Thank you for your partnership with Heifer to eliminate hunger in the world. Your expression of kindness and compassion will travel far to generate abundant hope and goodwill. Your congregation’s generous gift of \$1000 will provide many families with the help they need to provide a sustainable means for self-reliance.”

Thank you to Pat Stearns:

I would like to thank Pat for her service as our Head Coach; and personally, I would like to thank her for the leadership, friendship and constant support that she provided to me in my position as your Director of Discipleship. I am sorry to see Pat step down from this important role, but I know that God is going to bless her and Dave with a better year and that He will provide Pat with new opportunities to serve her church and community - THANK YOU, PAT!

Welcome Sarah Sanford, our new

Coach of Discipleship. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions for Discipleship here at First Baptist, please do not hesitate to be in touch with either myself or Sarah. Sarah will also continue to coordinate our adult studies ministry. I look forward to working with Sarah and know that together we will be able to further the work of Discipleship here at FBC.

Save the date: Believe it or not, Sunday, February 3 is our Sunday School Winter Rally Day!

As part of this special morning, we will once again be holding our Annual Chili Cook-Off, and I will be inviting our Sunday School students to participate in a Discipleship Art Show! So....in preparation for this very special day, please encourage your son or daughter to submit a discipleship drawing, photograph, clay sculpture, a written reflection – anything that can be displayed as part of our art show. So that we can properly prepare for the show, I am asking that all submissions be handed in to me by Tuesday afternoon, January 29! Please see me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Discipleship Coffee and Conversation Returns Saturday morning February 9, 10:00 a.m. at Half Moon Café.

This is open to all in our church family. Come and enjoy a hot cup of coffee, a nice time of fellowship, and perhaps we could brainstorm an idea or two!

Lastly, as you celebrate Valentine’s Day this year, remember the peace with God that belongs to you in Jesus Christ. His blessings are for you, for your heart, and they are abundant. He loves us and we can look forward to living with him forever! Amen!


In His Service, Susanne



From Our Coach of Fellowship, Joe Sanders

Have you noticed the upcoming events posted regularly in the bulletin, and here in the Light Line? Oh – and they're also listed up on the church website (www.fbcwlfld.org). Our Church Administrator, Michele Smith, does a great job making all this information readily available. Thanks, Michele! There are many things going on, and we hope that at least one is something that you'll enjoy being part of! In addition to the "Lettuce Serve" dinner (January 26) and the Discipleship Art Show and Chili Cook-Off (February 3), there are two other special events coming up quickly. Both events are open to everyone, kids and adults. So, bring your family and invite your friends!



 Saturday February 2 is the inaugural **FBC "Madden" Super Bowl**. No, we're not going to go outside and battle the elements. We're going to skip chores for the day and play video games! We'll be playing Madden '08 on Playstation2 consoles. Teams will compete with each other in head-to-head games (using multi taps).

There will be two games going at a time, so there will be plenty of football and fun to enjoy even when you're not playing! We want to encourage everyone to participate, even if you're not an expert at video games. Players will be paired into two-player teams by random drawing on the day of the tournament. Rules are designed with easy game play for everyone in mind. You **DO NOT** have to play Madden 08 extensively to enjoy the tournament. If you'd like to practice for the big day, consider renting Madden 08 from your local video rental store!

Contact either Dave Bolles or Joe Sanders with questions. Tournament rules and sign-up sheet are in Fellowship Hall. We have a limit of 32 players, so sign up to reserve your spot.



We'll be going **bowling at Colony Lanes** (Route 5 in Wallingford) on Saturday afternoon, February 17. The cost will be \$10, payable to the bowling alley. The cost includes shoe rental and two hours of bowling. Mark the date on your calendar now and keep it free! We will announce the time shortly, and expect

that it will be midafternoon. Contact either Danielle Barnhart or Joe Sanders with questions. Sign up for both events are in Fellowship Hall (on the bulletin board at back end of hall).

Moving into 2008, my desire is to see the existing ministries strengthened and to create regular fellowship opportunities for FBC's adults. This is a big challenge, as we have a wide range of ages and interests. Your ideas on events geared to adults and your willingness to help coordinate have been very encouraging. I hope that each of you reading this has found an event of interest to you. If you didn't, please speak to me and let me know what would appeal to you. There are likely others that would have similar interests. We want to provide a way for all of our church members, regular attendees, and visitors to connect into our church family. You can always speak to me or drop a note on ideas that you have. They will be welcomed!

Finally, continue to remember our members that are sick with prayers, cards, calls, and visits.

Joe Sanders, Coach of Fellowship
Phone: (203) 294-4359
E-mail: jodoone@snet.net

From Our Directors of Children's Worship Chorus

Thank you to all the children who participated in singing at the Christmas Pageant and Christmas Eve Service. It was hard work learning those songs so quickly, and you all did an awesome job!

We are excited to announce that the children will have the opportunity to sing in this year's DR fundraiser concert on March 1. We announced this

to the kids at our last rehearsal and they have already picked the song they want to perform. In order to learn the song in time, we will be having some extra rehearsals. Again, they will be on Wednesday evenings starting February 6 from 6-7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will also be two Friday night rehearsals at Sheehan High School in February. More information will go home with the

kids on February 3 (our next regular Sunday rehearsal).

Finally, our group is in need of a name! We'd like all the children (and their parents) to think of a cool name for our group. We can share them and vote on the best one at our next rehearsal on February 3.

Blessings,
Stephanie Sanders and Matt Powers

Women's Guild - On February 14, at 1:00 p.m., the Women's Guild will meet in the Gold Room at the Church. Jean Lincoln will be hostess with Mary Atkinson and Ruth Brown as co-hostesses. Ruby Kary will lead devotions. Vera Farson will be our guest and she will be at the piano to entertain us with her talent at the keyboard. Do you like music? Then this is the place for you to be. Happy Valentine's Day.

Valentine Boutique at CT Baptist Homes - The Auxiliary of CT Baptist Homes will sponsor a Valentine Boutique from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 14 at the Home at 292 Thorpe Ave., Meriden. Available for purchase will be many items pertaining to Valentine's Day including stuffed animals, cards, roses, and candy.

Bulletin Inserts - If you have a last minute bulletin insert that needs to be inserted into the bulletin on Sunday morning, please be available by 9:30 a.m. to stuff the inserts in the bulletin before the Greeters hand them out. If you prefer, you can also be available to hand your inserts out instead of inserting them in the bulletin. Thank you so much for your help in this area.

Birthright Invites You To Volunteer - Friendship counselors (training provided), and clerical and clothing volunteers needed. Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling, and practical support to women in crisis pregnancies. Our office is located in Meriden. Please join us, and be blessed with the opportunity to help a mother and her child. Call 237-9887 for more information.

Dryer, Refrigerator, and Butcher Block Table for Sale - If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these items, please call Sarah Sanford at 634-8912.

Above-Ground Swimming Pool for Sale - Please call Michele Smith at the Church Office at 269-4796 if you are interested in this 4-foot pool which includes filter, hoses, vacuum, solar cover, liner, and other pool accessories. Cost is \$500 for all or best offer.

Update on Storm Church Closings - If we should experience severe weather, please check Channel 8 and Channel 3 on your television for the announcement of First Baptist Church closings. *You can also call the Church Office at 269-4796 and press 3 for a recorded message.*



Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Isabel Johnson, mother-in-law of Larry Chatfield, who passed away on January 16 at the Masonic Healthcare Center. Larry also recently lost his father-in-law, Isabel's husband, Wilbur. Please pray the Lord will comfort Larry and the family during this difficult time.

Missions

DR Drug of the Month Collection

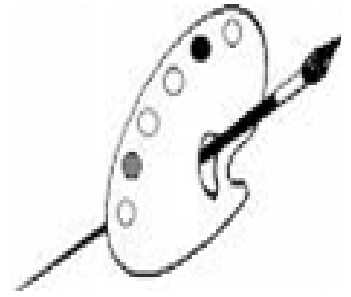
For the month of February, we will be collecting children's vitamins with iron and infant's liquid vitamins with iron. I recently spoke with one of the RNs that worked the medical clinics last year, and she said they used a lot of vitamins. Again, our goal is to provide a month's supply of vitamins to every patient seen in our clinics. PLEASE, PLEASE check the expiration dates on the medications that you donate. We CANNOT take medications that have an expiration date of 6/08 or earlier. We recently started sorting and organizing medications for the DR and many of the donations had expiration dates of 6/08 or earlier.

Remember that store brand or generic brands are great and usually cheaper. Please place your donations in the collection box on top of the storage cabinet in the Gold Room or give them to me directly. Medications have been found laying around in Fellowship Hall and we would hate to have little hands get a hold of these. Also we do NOT need soap (liquid or solid) or shampoo. Toothpaste and toothbrushes are great though. Please feel free to call me (203) 265-5043 or email me at sandydrozd@hotmail.com if you any questions. Thank you for your generosity. God bless.

Sandy Drozd



Mid-Winter
Chili Cook-Off
&
DISCIPLESHIP ART SHOW



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Featuring...

The art of our Sunday School students
Music by the Kids' Choir, and
World Class Chili prepared by...YOU?

All Chili should be cooked from scratch, no commercial chili mixes allowed (chili powder is fine, but no "just-add-meat" type mixes). Also, please identify kind(s) of meat used as well as any unusual ingredients, especially common allergens like nuts, chocolate or wheat products.

Chili should be brought to church fully prepared. A crockpot is ideal for keeping your dish warm. Limited heating space will be available on the stove, but you are responsible for heating your own dish. Cups, bowls, plates, utensils, etc. will be provided, as well as crackers/bread to go with the chili.

If you have not yet signed up to make chili and would like to, it's not too late. Contact Robyn Spinaci or Lisa Fekete.

Coming soon...

March 2.. **Leftovers!!** This is the day following the DR Fundraiser at Sheehan High School with a meal cooked by our own illustrious **Toni Wood**. Most of you will no doubt agree that in your own homes, getting two or more meals out of one night's worth of cooking is a really good thing. That is the theory behind March's Fellowship Luncheon. Toni and her team will have just worked really hard to cook for the hundreds of people attending the fundraiser event, and for almost no extra effort, we get to have a lunch with our church family. Naturally, we will supplement as needed to make sure there is enough to go around.

There is no set cost for Fellowship Meals; however, they do need to be self-supporting. It is our hope that those who can will contribute a few dollars; on average, a dollar or two per person should be enough! Where else can you eat for so little?!

Ash Wednesday Service

You are invited to join us on Wednesday, February 6 at 7 p.m. for this special service that launches Lent, the 40-day period prior to Easter. The season of Lent has traditionally been a time of self-examination as we prepare for the coming of Good Friday and Easter. For many, this is a time of fasting, self-denial, and personal discipline as we think of Jesus' admonition: "Take up your cross and follow me." Ashes are used throughout the Scripture to symbolize a spirit of repentance and turning to the Lord. While we will not use actual ashes, we will honor the attitudes they represent.



2008 - Lenten Sermons

Wallingford First Baptist Church

Pastor Bill Huegel

- February 10 – 1st Sunday of Lent. - **Jesus, the Calmer of Storms**, Mark 4:35-41
- February 17 – 2nd. Sunday of Lent. - **Jesus, the Sender**, Mark 6:6-12
- February 24 – 3rd. Sunday of Lent. - **Jesus, the Compassionate Friend**, Mark 8:1-13
- March 2 – 4th Sunday of Lent. - **Jesus, the Sent One**, Mark 12:1-12
- March 9 – 5th – Sunday of Lent – **Jesus, the prophet**, Mark 13: 1-13ff
- March 16 – Palm Sunday – **Jesus, the Purifier**, Mark 11: 1-12-19
- March 20 – Maundy Thursday – **Jesus, the Passover Lamb**, Mark 14: 12-26
- March 23– Easter. – **Jesus, the Resurrection**, Mark 16:1-8
- March 30 - **Baptism Sunday**, Acts 8:26-40

A Little Laughter

"A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones" Proverbs 17:22



February 1	Valerie Fekete
February 2	Eva Post
February 3	Elizabeth Lavigne
February 5	Lisa Herdan
February 6	Douglas Fekete
February 10	Abby Vose
February 10	Edward Lamb
February 10	Rachel Fowler
February 11	Holly Rule
February 12	Gregory Huegel
February 16	Toni Wood
February 16	Kaylee Powers
February 20	Tina Thorpe
February 20	Josh Russo
February 22	Leona Townsend
February 23	Stanley Durfee
February 23	Jeremy Blain
February 27	Katherine Kirschner
February 28	Michele Genest

**Happy
Valentine's
Day**

♥♥♥

(Continued from page 1)

morning, he took his penknife and lay with his weight upon it, the point toward his heart. It was broken and would not penetrate.

“At day break he arose, and passing a strong garter around his neck, fastened it to the frame of his bed: this gave way with his weight, but on securing it to the door, he was more successful, and remained suspended till he had lost all consciousness of existence. After a time the garter broke and he fell to the floor, so that his life was saved; but the conflict had been greater than his reason could endure.

“He felt for himself contempt not to be expressed or imagined; whenever he went into the street, it seemed as if every eye flashed upon him with indignation and scorn; he felt as if he had offended God so deeply that his guilt could never be forgiven, and his whole heart was filled with tumultuous pangs of despair. Madness was not far off; or rather madness was already come.”

After recovering, Cowper came to realize how God can erase the stain of any sin. He wrote: **“There Is a Fountain:”** The last lines are repeated as though in a sense of awe.

*There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.*

*The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.*

*Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.
Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.*

*E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.*

*Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy power to save,
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.*



It is almost Easter. The cross of Christ, from which this precious fountain flows, is the central message of Lent, of Easter, and of our Christian faith.

Pastor Bill