



The NBC Anchor

Newsletter of the Noank Baptist Church, Noank CT

860.536.7129 www.noankbaptistchurch.org



JULY/AUGUST 2017



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017

July 31-August 4, 9:00 am to Noon

REGISTER NOW!!!!!!

Please see page 5 for more details

Native Voices A Traveling Encampment

An informal gathering around a Native American Tipi and a Bedouin Tent set up in the NBC Memorial Garden. Hear the music, stories and a historical portrait of Native American, Palestinian and Bedouin cultures.



Noank Baptist Church
Sunday, July 23 @ 6:30 pm



Travis Harden—Native American (Lakota) storyteller and drummer
Alber Basseel—Palestinian percussionist from Bethlehem
Khalil Alamour—Bedouin lawyer and historian from the Negev
Alaa Shehada & Saber Shreim—Palestinian actors from Jenin



Baptism Down by the River & Church Picnic



Sunday, August 6

8:00 am— The Rev. Ken Sehested, leading

10:00 am— The Rev. Nancy Sehested, preaching

11:30 am following worship Baptism in the Mystic River and Church Picnic, 19 Latham Lane (Chip & Mary Anderson's home)

Everyone is welcome





Over the next month, a couple of very special occasions will be held at Noank Baptist. On Sunday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m. we will host a presentation from three native populations: Native American (Lakota/Cheyenne tribes), Palestinian, and Bedouin. Travis Harden, an artist and musical performer, will introduce us to native spirituality—all from his Tipi, which will be set up outside in the Memorial Garden. Adjacent to that will be a small Bedouin tent, where we will hear from Alber Basseel and Khalil Alamour the stories and music of both Palestinians and the nomadic Bedouins of the Middle East (we also hope to have Palestinian actors, Alaa Shehada and Saber Shreim). This is an opportunity for us to learn about their native cultures, settings, music, and stories and also the hardships and challenges faced as communities that are often oppressed in our current world. “Native Voices” will give us a sense of spirituality that is closely tied to nature and to the rhythms of earth. The event will be open to the public with free admission, through our church’s donation to the Tree of Life Educational Fund of Old Lyme. It will be a memorable experience for all ages.

Two weeks later on Sunday, August 6, we will be blessed with another very special treat! Two of my favorite people on earth will be here to lead us in our morning services—the Rev. Ken Sehested at the 8:00 a.m. service in the Parlor, and the Rev. Nancy Hastings Sehested will preach at the 10:00 a.m. worship. Ken is the founding director of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, and a leading writer, theologian, poet, and activist in Christian peace and justice circles around the globe. His accomplishments and recognitions are too many to list, but his wisdom and insights have guided an entire generation of Baptist peacemakers. He is one of the founding pastors of Circle of Mercy congregation in Asheville NC and his blog, “Prayer&Politiks,” is a valued resource for progressive people of faith.



Nancy is one of the outstanding preachers of our time. She has been a featured speaker at many conferences I have attended over the past thirty years, including the 2009 Global Baptist Peace Conference in Rome (where Ken, as well, was a keynote preacher). In 1987, Nancy received international attention when she was the first female to be called to lead a Southern Baptist church, which consequently earned the congregation the distinction of being “disfellowshipped” from the convention. Then, along with our former pastor, the Rev. Susan Lockwood Landis, and others, Nancy helped to create the Alliance of Baptists, where no exclusion based on gender or sexual orientation would be made, which has come to be one of our own important denominational affiliations. Nancy also is one of the pastors at Circle of Mercy and a retired chaplain from a maximum-security prison in North Carolina.

Immediately after worship, we will head down to the river to the home of Chip and Mary Anderson (19 Latham Lane), where I will baptize several candidates in the waters of the Mystic River. This will be a very meaningful time for those who will be expressing their faith in Christ and it will reflect the old-fashioned manner of baptism from times past. If you would like to experience being baptized in the river as an expression of your own faith, let me know (youth or adult) and I will include you in this special occasion. It is a binding of our lives with God and with each other as a community of faith. To complete the day, following the baptisms we will enjoy each other’s company and some good food with a churchwide picnic on the Anderson’s lawn. It will be a day to remember in the summer of 2017!

Plan on being with us for these extraordinary occasions planned for two mid-Summer Sundays in Noank. It will renew your life in spirit and with truth.



Our Church Family

News from around the Church Family

Our prayers and thoughts are with those who have had recent surgery, been in the hospital, received treatment, in rehabilitative care, or are recuperating at home: **Kent LaGasse, Mary Brodhead, Bob Douglass, Ken Knobloch, Ed Eckelmeyer, Russ Leonard, Tom Lewis, Dianna and Cecil Miller, Lori Lewis, Arlene Stamm, Brian Thorp, Joan Thorp, Bill Borden, Charles Dick (Jennifer O'Donnell's father), and Joyce Adamcewicz.**

We congratulate **Lizzie Lewis**, who will be a counselor at Camp Wightman this summer aside from the two weeks she will be spending at Harvard University in the college preparatory program, where she will be studying the history of ethics. Good for you, Lizzie! Nothing like an Ivy League education—even for two weeks during summer vacation!

Congratulations to **Ben Williams** and **Antje Stender**, who were married on Sunday, June 25. Ben is the son of **Dave and Barbara Williams**.

Congratulations as well to **David Thompson** and **Kathleen Higgins**, who will be married at NBC on July 8. David is the adopted son of the **Rev. James & Nancy Pratt**.

Noank Baptist also hosted the wedding of **Abigail Johnston & Sam McGrath** on June 24. Abby was the top U.S. female diver at the 2016 Olympics in Brazil and Silver Medalist at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Sam is the Assistant Coach for the Duke University football team. The McGrath family has a summer home on Groton Long Point.

Please remember our homebound and those in rehab/nursing care: **Ruth Hodgson** (Pendleton), **Errol and Alicia Crossman** (at home), **Betty Brustolon** (Bayview, Waterford), **Ken Knobloch** (at home), **Betty Guhl** (Fairview), **Millie Jensen** (Fairview), and **Cindy Booth** (Sunny Lodge, New London).

Singing A New Song to the Lord

Every summer Sunday during our traditional 10:00 am worship, the congregation will be introduced to a new song from our Chalice hymnal. This will be an opportunity to enjoy some beautiful, but often unknown or undersung, music that will be easy to learn and inspiring to sing. Come as often as you can to sing a new song to the Lord!!

Summer Worship Schedule at Noank Baptist

Early Service @ 8:00 am in the Parlor
 Traditional Service @ 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
 Summer Friendship Gathering for Children K-4th Grade in the Vestry
 Fellowship Hour @ 11:00 am in the Parlor

Summer Congregational Meeting
 Wednesday, July 26
 6:00 pm—Potluck Supper in Vestry
 7:00 pm—Business Meeting

WELCOME

To Our New Director for the Co-Op Youth Program

Courtney Assad

On July 1, Courtney will begin her tenure with the Co-Op Youth Program for Middle School and High School youth from Noank Baptist, Union Baptist of Mystic, and Poquonnock Bridge Baptist Churches. During the summer months she will work on building a leadership team to assist her in the programming and to serve as liaisons to each of the three churches. We will have several opportunities to get to know her and for her to know our congregation. Welcome her to our staff!



Courtney Assad is a native of Mystic, CT, now living in Pawcatuck. Courtney has grown up attending Union Baptist Church since she was ten years old, shortly after she was baptized and became a member of the church. She participated in the youth group at UBC throughout middle and high school. Courtney currently is the Ministry Team Coordinator for Union Baptist Church's recurring 'Breakfast on Baptist Hill' program, for which she is responsible for coordinating volunteers and purchasing supplies. Additionally, Courtney serves as the Ministry Team Coordinator for Union Baptist Church's participation in the annual Mystic Irish Parade and coordinates the Church's First Responders Sunday & Chili Cook-Off events annually. In her full time profession, she is the Administrative Assistant at the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT, for which she manages the Chamber's membership database, assists in membership recruitment efforts and event planning, and helps ensure that the Chamber office runs smoothly and efficiently. In addition to her work at the Chamber, Courtney is an active member of the Young Professionals of Eastern CT, participating in and staffing events; and was recently elected to the Board of Directors for Groton Community Meals. Courtney earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management with a specialization in Accounting from Stony Brook University in 2014.

Vacation Bible School 2017
at
Noank Baptist Church
Co-hosted with Union Baptist Church



Monday, July 31 thru Friday, August 4
9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Ages 4-14 (includes Middle Schoolers!)



For registration forms and information go to:
www.noankbaptistchurch.org
or
www.ubcmystic.org

Register early!! (cut-off date July 17)



Children and Family Ministries

Vacation Bible School

July 31—August 4

Ages 4-14 (middle schoolers included)

It is time to register for NBC/UBS's 2017 VBS Maker Fun Factory! Come join us July 31 to August 4 from 9 am to noon. We are once again co-hosting with Union Baptist Church and are including middle schoolers in our VBS activities.

Kids will discover that they are lovingly crafted by God. On this interactive adventure, curious kids become hands-on inventors and experience God, the ultimate Maker, in new and wildly creative ways!

Kids discover important truths and dive right into the Bible. Kids will learn one important Bible point each day and it is reinforced often through Bible adventures, key Bible verses, songs, snacks and hands-on explorations that help children know they were created by God and built for a purpose!

Each day we will be providing snacks for possibly as many as 100 kids, youth and adults. Any snack donations are welcome, but especially fresh fruit, **fruit juice**, **bottled water** and other healthy snacks. Items can be dropped off anytime and put in the kitchen downstairs. Please mark them VBS.

On Friday, August 4 at 6:00 pm, the children will show the parents, grandparents and friends what they have learned through songs and skits. Everyone is welcome!!!

Summer Friendship Gatherings

June 18-July 30

Kids K-4th Grades



Our Summer Friendship Gathering has begun and will continue through July. We would like to invite the children in your lives to participate in a great opportunity to make new friends and grow in faith. Bring your kids, neighbor's kids, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and out-of-town visiting kids for a short Bible story, crafts and games to our Summer Friendship Gathering for children K-4th grades. They won't be disappointed!

Nursery care will be provided for children up to four years of age in the Day Nursery School rooms. If you would like to help with a class or volunteer in the Gatherings, contact Sue Robinson at 860-536-7129. **Thank you to all the volunteers who make this program possible.**

Children & Co-Op Youth Sunday

God's love, butterflies and balloons filled the sanctuary on Children & Co-Op Youth Sunday. The Call to Worship was a reminder that "Jesus is the Light of the World". The Children shared the understanding of praising God with music and skits. We recognized our graduates, Amelia Anderson, Aine O'Donnell, Desirae Rinkes, Noah Straub and Christopher Wilbur and our volunteer teachers. A slideshow, created by Shannon Weigle, shared our times of learning & fun throughout the year and reminded us of the memories we made over the year.

CHILDREN & CO-OP YOUTH SUNDAY 2017



PLEASE HELP FILL GROTON'S FOOD LOCKER

The Food Locker is available Year Round to help Groton households in need of emergency food, especially now that summer is here and children are not in school. Suggested donations include: canned fruit and vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna and chicken, macaroni and cheese, soup, baked beans, rice and instant potatoes. Donations can either be brought to the church Narthex (blue bin) or Groton Human Services at 2 Fort Hill Road Groton.



If you have fresh vegetables from your garden that you are willing to donate, bring them directly to Groton Human Services.



Not too early to be thinking about **THE HOLIDAY BAZAAR** NOVEMBER 18

The Holiday Bazaar will be held on **November 18**. It is time to begin collecting ideas and start working on items for the Bazaar.

Some suggestions:

- Now is the time to make jams, jellies and preserves from summer fruit
- Save and dry flowers to be used in our arrangements
- Collect any pine cones that you see and contact Jane Templeton
- Knit, crochet, sew or bake for the homemade craft and bake tables
- Donate to the silent auction (contact Shirley Sebastian or Carol Spunar)
- Contribute to fine gifts
- Contribute jewelry you no longer wear

All gardeners:

Please feel free to call Jane Templeton at 860-691-2004 if you have extra produce that can be turned into a delicious item for the Holiday Bazaar, such as cucumbers, peppers, hot peppers, zucchini, fruit, herbs and anything else you may have. Thanks for all the returned jars—keep them coming! If you have extra jelly jars, please either bring them into the church office or contact Jane Templeton.

Volunteers:

We need volunteers to make this event a success. We need your time, services, silent auction items, making jam, pickles, candy, baked goods. If you can help, please contact Betsey Goetsch and she will connect you with the chairperson of that table.

If you have any questions, please contact Betsey Goetsch @ 860-235-2729

<i>Noank-Mystic Community Band Concert</i> <i>Schedule for July and August</i>				
July 4	Fourth of July	2:00 pm	Noank Park	
July 8	Sailfest Fireworks	8:00 pm	Eastern Point Beach, Groton	
Aug. 15	Summer Sounds	7:00 pm	Mystic River Park	



NBC Day Nursery School
Happy Summer to Everyone

Tina Ellis and Gen Kueter will be returning for the 2017-2018 school year and an exciting year it will be!!! The number of children who have signed up for the school year has gone up to the point that we may be in need of starting a waiting list which we have not had in years!

Parent Orientation for the school year will be held on **Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 pm** in the nursery school classroom. This is a great opportunity for parents to tour the classroom, get information on curriculum and ask any last minute questions of the teachers. **School will begin for the children on Wednesday, September 13 at 9:00 am.**

If you know of anyone looking for a preschool program, please encourage them to call the church office at 860-536-7129.

Summer Sunday 8:00 am Gatherings
In the Parlor

Thank you all for volunteering to lead us in song, reflection, Bible study, prayer and discussion. There is only one opening left, July 23, so if you are interested in being a lead on that date, please sign your name and topic on the sign-up sheet that is available on the card table in the Narthex or give Gloria a call in the church office at 860-536-7129.

July 2	Ray Wilbur	Hymn Sing
July 9	Jim Pratt	NBC Saints—Dorothy Steel
July 16	Vince Spunar	Bible Jeopardy III
July 23	OPEN	
July 30	Tim Bates	TBD
August 6	Ken Sehested/Paul Hayes	TBD
August 13	Frank Murdock	TBD
August 20	Patty Borden O'Brien	Habits of Their Lifetime
August 27	Jim Pratt	NBC Saints—Syd Butson/Lois Butson Shandeor
September 3	Katy Nelsen/Nora Andrews	Angry Conversations with God from book by Susan E. Isaacs

REMINDERS FOR LATE AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER

Friday, Aug. 25	Deadline for submission of September newsletter articles
Thursday, Sept. 7	Senior Choir practice begins
Sunday, Sept. 10	Youth Choir practice begins
Sunday, Sept. 10	Homecoming Sunday/Sunday School begins
Sunday, Sept. 17	Jazz Sunday

Summer Guest Preachers

Over the summer, we will be blessed with the presence of guest preachers while Pastor Hayes is leading worship from the lectern side of the Chancel or away on vacation (in late August).

July 23	CT Superior Judge Timothy Bates
Aug. 6	The Rev. Nancy Hastings Schested
Aug. 20	The Rev. Peg Nowling Williams
Aug. 27	The Rev. Valerie King

Summer Music at Noank Baptist

We have a variety of music during our 10:00 worship service for the summer months. For the month of **July**: on **July 2**, we welcome Paul and Wendy Hayes; on **July 9**, Josh Thomas, saxophone; on **July 16**, Aariah and Learra Ruggeri, voice and violin; on **July 23**, Ken Holton, baritone; on **July 30**, Eric Hughes, clarinet. For the month of **August**: on **August 6** we welcome The Puffins, Mary, Clare, Charlie, Justin; on **August 13**, Brynn and Hayden, piano and cello; on **August 20 & 27**, Brian and Kate Straub. The summer music will conclude with the Wymans on **September 3**.

Camp Wightman Bluegrass Festival

August 26-27, 2017

Camp Wightman is an alcohol and drug free property. The festival is a rain or shine event. Sheltered spaces are available for inclement weather. Lodging options include Retreat Centers (semi-private rooms with two, three or four twin beds per room; shared bathrooms; perfect for married couples or individual adults) and spacious summer cabins (bunk bed accommodations for 10 and shared bathrooms; perfect for families or groups of friends). Camp Wightman's food service continues to get rave reviews—you will enjoy hearty meals and might take home a new recipe or two.



Come for the weekend or just one day. All ages are welcome, though minors **must** be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian.

There are full access weekend passes, Saturday day passes and Sunday day passes available. For prices on lodging and meal packages, please contact Camp Wightman at 860-376-2179 or www.campwightman.org.



MYSTIC AREA SHELTER AND HOSPITALITY (MASH)



Wheels to Work—A Driving Force in Preventing Family Homelessness

There are many factors that contribute to a family's housing instability, but the most common cause is lack of transportation. When getting to work becomes a daily challenge, it is hard to earn a steady income

Catrice is a recent MASH client and just one of many hard-working parents trying to create a stable home for her children. She has worked for the past five years as a Recovery Support Specialist, providing substance abuse counseling for those trying to beat their addictions. The high rental market has prevent Catrice from finding housing she can afford on her own. She and her four children (a 13-year old, 9-year old and 1-year old twins) share rent of a 3-bedroom apartment with a friend. They were managing until Catrice's car broke down and she learned that it was beyond repair. Without transportation, Catrice was forced to rely on family and friends to get her to and from her job. It became harder for her to work the additional shifts she needed to financially make it through each month. She turned to MASH for help.

MASH's Wheels to Work program resolves transportation crises for struggling families like Catrice's. By providing a reliable vehicle, Catrice is now able to earn the income she needs to pay the rent. Catrice expressed her thanks, saying, "Oh my! I am beyond grateful and warmed with joy. Words can't express my gratitude. I thank God for putting people like yourself and this great program in my path".

Wheels to Work is an effective homelessness prevention strategy. When families have dependable transportation, employment potential increases and family economic security advances. To support MASH's Wheels to Work program or to donate a car in good working condition, contact David Cruther, MASH's Transportation Coordinator at w2w@mashshelter.org.

Corner Closet Mission of Noank Baptist Church

The Corner Closet is a mission of Noank Baptist Church and is celebrating its 51st year in existence. We are located on the corner of Main and Pearl Streets in Noank.

We accept donations of clothes, books, shoes and small household items which will, in turn, be sold and the proceeds be used to help needy people in the community.

Come and see the sales on: Wednesday and Saturday from 10 am to noon and Friday from 1-4 pm.

CORNER CLOSET



Thrift
Store

Thank you to all who have made donations or stop by to buy!



Church Council

June Council News

The Council held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 with 16 members present. Pastor Hayes offered an opening prayer. The revised minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Council Members

Moderator: *Charles Anderson*
 Clerk: *Bonnie Banks*
 Treasurer: *Jane Templeton*
 Asst Treas: *Debbie Bates*
 Finance: *Nancy Gilmore*
 Carol Spunar
 Property: *Adrian Johnson*
 Jonathan Lane
 Spiritual Life: *Valerie King*
 Mary Harris
 Comm Life: *Betsey Goetsch*
 Steve Gordon
 Staff Relations: *Jennifer Johnson*
 At Large: *Nora Andrews*
 Katy Nelsen
 Oliver Porter
 Heather Galouzis

An invitation has been received to host one of two summer events sponsored by Tree of Life Educational Fund from First Congregational Church of Old Lyme. The first is "Native Voices: A Traveling Encampment" in July and the second "Enclaves of Beauty Concert" in August. Both events were of interest to the council with the July event of greatest interest. There is money in the budget to cover any expenses. Further information about the event will be forthcoming.

The majority of the meeting involved a discussion regarding the Main Street House lease and proposed use by Noank Community Support Services. The Director of NCSS reviewed the historic program runout of the program and the proposed continued use of the property for short-term housing of homeless young adults, a great need that has been identified. The program will work with other area agencies, including the Community Housing Assistance Program, Thames River Support Services and MASH to help individuals find an appropriate long-term solution to their housing problems, as well as guidance with job training and finding a job. After much discussion it was felt to fit well

within the mission of the church for the property and approval of the motion to enter a one year lease agreement with Noank Community Support Services to assist with their homeless program.

Pastor Hayes provided a written report of his many activities. It was noted that in addition to many pastoral care needs in the congregation, a memorial service for Gene Brustolon was held on May 13 and on June 4th four new members were received: Steve and Deb Garmon, Tylene Langslet, and Kate Straub. Looking forward, four of our youth will be baptized in the Mystic River on Sunday, August 6, at which time we will also have a church picnic on the waterfront lawn of Mary and Chip Anderson. The "CREDO: This I Believe" series continues on the second Sunday of the month with lively discussions.

Children and Youth Sunday on June 11th reminds us of the outstanding leadership of Sue Robinson and her team, complimented by Erin and Rick Wyman in the music program as evidenced by the growing number of participants.

The Co-Op Youth Director search committee is very pleased to announce the selection of Courtney Assad as the new Co-Op Youth Director. Courtney grew up in Mystic's Union Baptist Church and serves on their council. She is said to be capable and well prepared to direct the program among all three churches.

Finance reported there were no major or unexpected expenses during the month of May, so the budget continues on target.

The summer schedule will begin on June 18th with volunteers needed to lead the 8 am service.

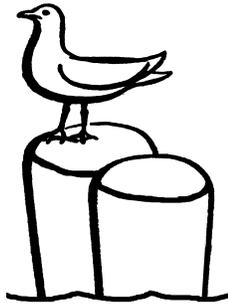
A motion was approved to award three scholarships from the Brodhead Scholarship Fund and Noank Baptist Church Scholarship Fund to Noelle Butler, Desirae Rinkes, and Noah Straub.

The persistent leaks on the east side of the meeting house have continued to be monitored with a likely resolution accomplished, partially due to the discovery of damage hiding under the aluminum siding that was in place at the time of the fire nearly 60 years ago. The steeple is presently the focus of on-going maintenance and repairs as needed. A steeplejack will be taking pictures with a drone to assess the condition of the steeple from above.

The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Full council meeting minutes are available upon request.

Respectfully Submitted
Bonnie Banks, Clerk



Our Shoreline Community Association

P. O. Box 287
West Mystic, CT 06388-0287
(860) 271-1681 OSCAforSeniors@gmail.com

OSCA BENEFITS!

OSCA is a community of people 55+ along the Mystic Shoreline who prosper from directing our lives and creating our own future. We are trendsetters for a new generation and invite you to join us in this exciting venture. Benefits of OSCA Membership include:

Social Activities

Our members enjoy an array of member-defined social & educational activities. The limit is your imagination when it comes to having fun! Whether you would like to arrange a walking group or attend a concert, this is your opportunity to do that with a group of your peers. Recent activities included: Game Playing Gatherings, Play Readings, Lunches, Group Talks, Museum Visits and more! At OSCA, you connect with your peers & remain active in a positive growing environment!

Services

Through the help of our volunteers we are able to provide our members with assistance for daily activities, including: household challenges; transportation to & from appointments, grocery stores & pharmacies; and access to a directory of member-recommended services. These services have become invaluable to our members who may be less mobile or whose grown children are too far to help.

Program Coordinator

Our Coordinator is a personal link to practical services and social programs that make living at home, safer & easier. With a phone call to (860) 271-1681, OSCA members get assistance with: rides to appointments and OSCA events; help with odd jobs; reassurance for you and your family; warm personalized service and assistance.

Submitted By

Stephanie Panagos, OSCA Coordinator

Mystic Area Habitat Project
234 Yetter Road, Mystic



Volunteer to help out at the Mystic Area Habitat project this summer! We need to staff crews to work on rehabbing this house or helping in other non-construction tasks. Contact the Habitat office directly to offer your time or services. E-mail: mission@habitatect.org

Telephone: 860-442-7890

