



Chepachet Union Church Our Church Life



Volume 645 Issue 1

January 2023

*From the
Pastor*



MISSED OPPORTUNITY

Luke 2:7, "And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Had Mary and Joseph been Queen Mary and King Joseph, the innkeeper would have responded differently. But no trumpet sounded. No courier announced their arrival. There was only a knock...a knock at the door by a common couple...at a late hour.....when the inn was crowded. So the innkeeper missed the opportunity.

Many still do. They miss the chance to open the door. They let the birth of Jesus pass them by. The miracle of Bethlehem still happens. God speaks to us today through his word - the Scriptures. He sings to us through carols. He calls to us through Christmas sermons, through the love and kindness of a friend. He reaches out through the Christmas story. "Here I am," Jesus invites. "I stand at the door and knock (Revelation 3:20)

Will you let Him in?



Rho Delta News

Rho Delta had their meeting on December 13th and there were 18 ladies present. Devotions were read by Brenda Rene called *Peace in Jesus the Eternal Gift*, from her devotions book called *Be Still and Know*.

We received a thank you note from the Ronald McDonald House and the American Cancer Association and a thank you from the Gloucester Manton Library for their folding tables.

We purchased 10 one hundred dollar Walmart gift cards for 3 families to help them through the holiday season.

The Thrift Shop is thriving and we will be closed for two weeks during the

holidays so that our workers can have a well deserved rest and we can restock for the new year.

We also discussed purchasing a new nativity for the church for next year. The meeting was held at Jan Steere's home and we had a potluck (lots of good food) and a Yankee Swap and all the gifts were purchased from the Twice Blessed Thrift Shop so there was quite a variety.

The ladies of Rho Delta and the Twice Blessed Thrift Shop would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.



Adult Bible Study



So here it is January the heart of winter. During the prior two months the trees went dormant, and the animals either went into hibernation or migrated to warmer climates in preparation for this month. Many Christians today practice these same things even in our own church, either in their personal lives, spiritual lives, or in the church lives. Though the world is in a winter of misery and evil deeds, God tells us that all seasons are to be a time to grow the growth that produces fruit (not fruit of the plant kingdom) in our personal and spiritual lives, and in that of our church. We are to help each other by building up the other person, not tearing them down. Too often we in the church tend to tear people down, yet God tells us to do exactly the opposite. "*Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another.*" (Romans 12:10). Psalm 133 with its theme of rejoicing in the fellowship of believers

starts by telling us' "*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!*" (Psalm 133:1). As believers we are told to endeavor to "...*keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*" (Ephesians 4:3). Building something or someone up requires work and growth. Often hard work and with slow growth. You cannot do so if you and your faith are dormant, hibernating, or have fled to the warmer climate of avoidance, your small group or click, or gossip. January might be the cold heart of winter, but our personal, spiritual, and church life should not be.

The Bible Study Class meets every Sunday at 10:30 am. Why not join with us around the warmth of God's Word and find out how to build up others. Along the way you may find that you have made some good friends and yourself have been built up as well, no longer dormant or hibernating.

Chepachet Union Church
 1138 Putnam Pike
 PO Box E
 Chepachet, RI 02814

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 02830



CHEPACHET UNION CHURCH
 CHEPACHET, RHODE ISLAND 02814

*Our Vision: Chepachet Union Church
 brings glory to God in worship as we
 welcome, witness, and nurture each other.
 We share the joy of God's love as one
 family in Christ.*

Phone: 401-568-2518
 Email: chepunion@yahoo.com
 Web Page : chepachetunionchurch.org
 Office Hours: Mon—Fri, 9 am—12:00

In this new year, we ask that you make your commitment to support our ministry and keep up with your pledge weekly. It's not too late, if you need a pledge card they are available in the pew racks each Sunday. Also if you need weekly pledge envelopes, stop in the office any Sunday morning following the worship and speak with Pat or Villi about getting a box for the year.

Pledge envelopes available outside the church office for those who get them every year.



The Pastor is in...
 Rev Bisset will have office hours
 from 10 –12 Monday mornings.

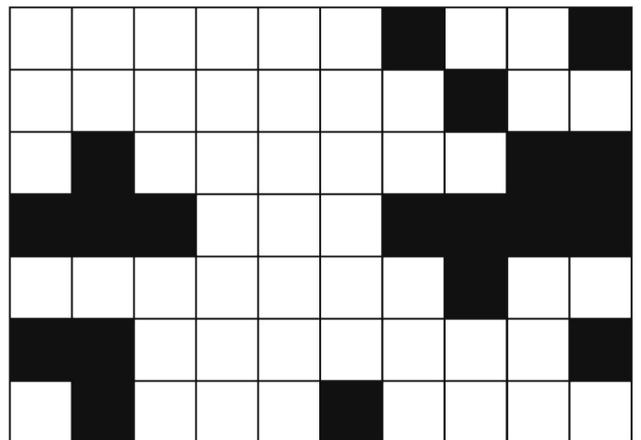


Annual Meeting
 Sunday, January 8, 2023
 10:15 am, following the
 morning worship

Puzzle!

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to complete an NIV Bible verse about an important commitment.

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Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:1