

Chepachet Union Church

Our Church Life

Volume 65 Issue 11

November 2023



Chepachet Union Church Has a New Minister!

We hope you will join us on Sunday mornings at 9 am as we begin a new chapter here at Chepachet Union Church.

We welcome Rev Michael Coburn and his family to our church. Pastor Mike, his wife Amelia, and their son, Keller, daughter, Liberty and son, Daniel are all a welcomed addition to our family.

We encourage everyone to come hear his message, to meet him and welcome he and his family to our church.

Welcome Pastor Mike!



Many thanks to all who helped make our Bake Sale on the Scarecrow Festival a success.

Special thanks to Mike Paolucci, Seth Williams, and Joe Goode for your help.

On Sunday, Nov. 26th, Adam Croft will be coming to speak during our service, updating us with his new accomplishments at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

Please watch for the fundraiser we are planning to have this month.

Trustees



Reminder: You will soon receive your new set of offering envelopes with three choices of where to spend your money. The “**Building Fund**” section is now called “**Building Expense**” to avoid confusion about construction of a new building.

The Trustees use the “Building Expense Fund” for capital improvements and repairs that pertain to the maintenance of the property such as furnaces, water tanks, electrical upgrades, painting, fire alarm systems, etc. – things that are not planned for in the church’s general budget. Please consider giving to the Building Expense Fund



Remember to set those clocks back 1 hour at 2:00 am **November 5th**

Christmas is Coming!

We will have many details for you in the upcoming month.

Looking forward **Thanksgiving Sunday, November 19**

Food Pantry is always in need of supplies especially at this time of year.

Advent begins November 26

Lighting of the Church Yard Sunday Dec 6 at 5:30 pm

We will have a special lighting that night with a big reveal, caroling, and refreshments.

Candlelight Shopping in Gloucester Dec 7

Candlelight Shopping in town is on 3 Thursday evenings before Christmas.

We will be serving meals 2 of the nights.

More Details to come.

Sunday School will share some Christmas joy with us on Sunday, Dec 17

Plus **Christmas** Sunday service, Dec 24, & Christmas Eve service, Dec 24



Keep an eye out for more details!

Rho Delta News



Rho Delta had their monthly meeting on October 10th and there were 11 ladies present. Devotions were read by Maureen Brown from her book, "Grace for the Moment," called "Help From the Holy Spirit."

The Baby Sale was a success, we made \$410.00. The Thrift Shop is going great and we have donations coming in every day.

We put up our scarecrow on October 13th. We will also be handing out candy for Trick or Treat on Main Street.

We voted to fill 10 Operation Christmas Child boxes.

We will be looking for a family to help at Christmas time.

We found a company to refurbish our outside church signs and we are awaiting an estimate.

The evening was hosted by Sue Coupe and Pat Smith. We had appetizers, candy corn and apple cider during the meeting with cake for dessert. We put our scarecrows together.

Thank you Sue and Pat for a fun evening.

P.S. Rho Delta would like to send out a BIG thank you to Nancy Hunt for helping us put up our scarecrow display



We have so much to be thankful for!

Thank you to our church family for the generous donations of Sunday School supplies and candy for Trick or Treat on Main Street! We are well stocked with markers, crayons, glue, paper, staplers, etc., and we were able to pass out candy and share information with the community about our Sunday School. Thank you to our teachers and teens for their hard work in building and erecting our Moses and the burning bush scarecrow. Last but not least, thank you to Jan and all who participated in Trunk or Treat on Halloween night. It is such a blessing to celebrate together!

What we are learning in Sunday School:

The younger classes started with the book of Genesis this year, first focusing on God's creation of the world, the animals, and people. These lessons highlighted our connection to all people as well as our responsibility to care for the world. We have moved into learning about Noah. By studying Noah, we are learning that we can trust God to take care of us.



Our teen class began the year learning about Moses and recently analyzed the Lord's Prayer.

November food collection

Sunday School is collecting non-perishable foods for the Food Pantry throughout the month of November. As we know, God loves a cheerful giver. Parents, get your children involved as much as possible. When you're at the market, why not allow your child to choose the food item(s) that will be donated? Let them carry the items into church and place them in the basket. Children learn so well by *doing*, so these little steps deepen their understanding.

Looking ahead:

Sunday School will be performing for the congregation during the service on December 17th!



I wish to have a Memorial Poinsettia in the sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

Given In Memory of: _____

plant cost: \$15

Given by: _____

During the Christmas Season (check one):

I will pick up the plant

I wish it to be taken to someone chosen by the Flower Committee.

Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____

(If different then Given by)

Please send your request into the church office at: Chepachet Union Church PO Box E Chepachet RI

Or place in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate on Sundays

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

Chepachet Union Is The Place! We are the drop off location for Northern Rhode Island again this year.

Time to start packing shoeboxes!! You can either shop for and pack them yourself or you can go to <https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/> and build your box online! As always, shoeboxes will be made available at church.

Our drop-off hours for collection week:

Monday, 11/13: 5-7

Tuesday, 11/14: 9-12

Wednesday, 11/15: 9-12

Thursday, 11/16: 5-7

Friday, 11/17: 5-7

Saturday, 11/18: 9-12

Sunday, 11/19: 10-12

Monday, 11/20: 10-12



There are boxes to be picked up outside the church office, as well as, in the Fellowship hall. Each box has a brochure in it with packing tips and shipping info.

Volunteers are always welcomed!! Please see Nicole Hartley with any questions.

Adult Bible Study



Sunday Morning Bible Study

This year the Sunday morning Bible study is looking into the books of Jonah and Nahum. We are finding Jonah is not a prophetic book even though it is listed among the Minor Prophets in the Bible, but it is full of personal guidance for us as Christians. In the first chapter of Jonah we see that our sin always has an impact on others around us. This is something the world tells us is not true, but that is a great lie. There is no sin which only impacts us. Jonah's sin was not doing what God had instructed him to do. The result of his sin caused severe damage to the boat he was on, the loss of livelihood of others (the sailors had to throw the cargo overboard), and the endangerment of the lives of others. While the storm of the consequences of Jonah's sin raged he was fast asleep deep in the ship. He was totally oblivious to and un-caring about the danger he had imposed on others. In commenting on this situation Pastor John Phillips writes in his commentary entitled **Exploring the Minor Prophets, The John Phillips Commentary Series**, about this sleeper:

“Jonah 1:6 records the shipmaster's question, ‘What meanest thou, O sleeper?’ What a text for a sleeping church! Today's world is being torn apart by drugs, drink, immorality, apostasy, and the menace of nuclear war- and the church sleeps. False religions and wicked philosophies are making giant strides- and the church sleeps. Abortion, pornography, syndicated crime, sodomy, and dreadful diseases threaten mankind- and the church sleeps. Friends, family, neighbors, and workmates grope in spiritual darkness- and the church sleeps. Two-thirds of the world's people will never hear the gospel- and the church sleeps. What a crime! A soldier caught sleeping on duty in a time of war faces a court martial and possibly death because his sleeping placed other men in peril.

This is a sobering thought. People we love, friends and family are in danger. It is why our church cannot be asleep in these days we live in. Jesus has called his church to be the light of the world. Maybe we should take that seriously. Each of us can start by simply attending church regularly, bring the kid and the grand-kids to church and Sunday school. It's not much but it is a big step forward.

There is one other step we can take and that is to start studying the bible ourselves to see what God wants of us. The adult class meet every Sunday morning at 10:30 am consider joining in our study of Jonah, it is more than a whale of a tale.

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*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.*

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Thrift Shop News

Thursday, November 19, 2020 – three years ago, the new thrift shop at the parsonage opened its doors to shoppers for the first time. We made \$4.00. Thanks to great donations, many customers, and lots of help, we have increased our profits and achieved a fulfilling community outreach. We've also gained wonderful new friendships and even learned to speak a little bit of Spanish.

The Thrift Shop will be closed on Thanksgiving and re-open on Friday, November 24th with a store full of Christmas merchandise.



Remember....

the 11th hour of
 the 11th day of
 the 11th month

PUZZLE

A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.

Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3	Hannah
"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47	David
"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2	Mary
"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1	Paul
"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30	Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David