

The Bellringer

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Rally Day 2012

Members and friends of FBCM gathered after worship on Sunday, September 9th to usher in the fall with some favorite chili recipes!!

Rally day marks the transition from the summer to fall schedule which includes Sunday School, Youth Choir and 10:45 worship time.



offer classes for people of all ages—Kindergarten through Adults. Pete Bradshaw will be leading a Bible Study with the adults. Pastor Ron will teach the Youth class. Tricia Baker is teaching the Middler-Junior High class and Laura Austin will be teaching the Primary age class. Your never too old for Sunday School and it's never too late to begin.

It was a great time to taste some delicious chili, cornbread and homemade desserts as well as have time to relax and visit! Thank you to all who helped!

We are looking forward to an exciting new Sunday School year. We will



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First Baptist Church of Mansfield
- Established 1809 -
A Word from the Pastor

The first day of Fall is always September 22, but once Labor Day comes and goes, and the school buses start rolling, it feels like Fall. We love the crisp days, but we know this is the time of year when nature begins shutting down and preparing to survive through the winter.

This is the opposite of what is going on in our church calendar. During the Fall we begin to come alive after slowing down a little bit in the summer months. Our Rally Day kickoff was a great start to the Sunday School season. Thank you to all who cooked chili and cornbread and dessert, and thank you to all who helped clean up.

We will be starting up Youth Group on Friday nights this month. Now, you talk about a boost of energy in the Fall, that's Youth Group! I want to take this opportunity to thank Pete and Jenn Bradshaw for hosting our Youth Group camp out a few weeks ago. There were 15 of us that camped out that night. We played volleyball and Capture the Flag, and Scattegories and other games around the campfire. Of course we also ate well. We were in the tents by 12:30, but I don't think any youth fell asleep until 2:00 or so. It was a great way to have one last "fling" before heading back to school.

We will also start up activities for Senior folks this month. There is another ABCONN Senior Adult day planned for October 30th at the First Baptist Church of Southington. Hopefully we can get together another car or even van load of people to attend. We will also try to start up the mid-week Bible study in some form or another.

There will be many other things for you to be involved in. If you have any ideas for ways

to use your gifts, or if there is a ministry or activity you are passionate about, please let me know.

Personally I really enjoy the Fall season. I love the changing leaves, the cooler weather, apple cider and pumpkins. Fall always seems to be a reminder of how important it is to live in the moment. We need to enjoy the gift of one moment and one day at a time. We look back to the fun we had in the summer, but we cannot live in the past. We glance forward towards the coming winter, but we can't worry about that too much today. It will be here soon enough. Just enjoy this day as a gift from God. Enjoy the people that you meet, and the food that you eat.

Proverbs 27:1 reminds us "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth."

James 4:13 says "Now listen, you who say today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business, make money. Why you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

And Jesus said in Matthew 6:34 "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

May you experience God in this day. May your heart and mind be open to God's gifts in this moment.



Board of Trustees

The Trustees have met throughout the summer with the exception of August. We are very pleased to report that the Fall Workday was a great success with help from 8 scouts from Troop 56 and 12 people from our congregation. Many jobs got done, such as weeding the foundation plantings, edging the lawn, blowing leaves, removing the rotted wood from the old sandbox in the



playground, replacing basement window covers, trimming and adjusting the sanctuary storm windows, scrubbing walls, cleaning windows, cleaning and ScotchGuard treating the cushioned chairs in the conference room, organizing and labeling the kitchen cabinets, sorting and organizing some of the conference room closets, painting the trim of the shed, and cleaning Sunday school rooms to name a few. Many many thanks to all those who helped! The handicapped ramp was renovated during the summer by Nils Setterberg and Prescott Spencer. They were able to use carpet donated by Lee Salina. Thanks to all those who helped with tasks large and small throughout the summer. We as a Church are blessed with many helpful volunteers who contribute to our Church programs in many ways and we are very grateful to have them.



The Trustees continue to be very concerned about our budget. As of 8/05/2012 donations to the church were up by \$362.15 compared to last year, but **down by \$4,451.85 compared with 2010** and we had spent \$18,935.11 more than we received year-to-date. (While some deficit is expected at this time of year, this is much more than we should see if we are to end the year in the black.) All boards and committees should have their budget requests into the Trustees by the first Sunday in October. Please keep our financial status in mind as you prepare your budgets.

Trustee on Lock-up:

September—Karen Hocking

October—Nancy Flynn

November—John Riesen

December—Meradith McMunn

Nominating Committee

Fall is approaching and that signals the time for the Nominating Committee to begin its work for next year. This year's committee members are Patty Geissler, Bill Hocking and Susan Figueroa. We would ask you to prayerfully consider how you can help the church. What are your interests? What do you like to do? Would you like to try something new? Our church functions best when everyone contributes. Please let a member of the committee know if you feel led to join a committee or board next year. We will be meeting shortly and will be speaking with you soon.

Thank you.

Patty, Bill and Susan

Board of Deacon News

We hope you all had a wonderful summer of activities and refreshment. Thank you to Tricia Baker and Jonathan Scott, Chaplain from Day Kimball Hospital, who preached for us while the Pastor was away this summer. We are looking forward to the excitement and energy of the start of a new Sunday School year!

Deacons of the month for the next few months will be:

September – Terry Yanaway
 October – David Stevens
 November – Jennifer Bradshaw
 December – Tricia Baker

Please let a Deacon know if you would like to volunteer to be a greeter for an upcoming service. We always like to have a warm and friendly smile and handshake ready for those who enter our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. We would also love to hear from you if you would be interested in being a Visitation Volunteer. Visitation Volunteers may be called upon by the Pastor or the Deacons to visit those in our church family who may enjoy a home visit.

MEET THE CHARRON FAMILY!

For the past year or so, we have been thrilled to welcome the Charron family to our congregation. Jason and Sue are parents to Bethie and Josh and make their home in Mansfield Center. Tricia and Olivia Baker first met them eleven years ago when Olivia was 3 and Bethie was 4 at a dance class for preschoolers. As both families were in the Southeast Elementary School district, Pastor Ron got to know (and thoroughly enjoy) Sue at PTO meetings. Therefore when they all started coming to worship with us at FBCM, the Bakers were delighted!

Jason and Sue are High School sweethearts who both attended Windham Tech and married a couple of years after graduating. Most of their family on both sides live nearby in our Quiet Corner of CT. Jason works in construc-

tion as a supervisor for Manafort Brothers Company, and currently is on a job at Danbury Hospital. He finds the 2 hour commute much more tiring than the actual job! Sue has been doing childcare in her home for the past 10 years, and has been a godsend to many area families!

Bethie, a sophomore at E.O. Smith High School loves photography and being with friends. She was the Peer Natural Helper (Orientation guide) for several of our youth starting High School this year. Josh, a 7th grader at Mansfield Middle School loves basketball and has played in Mansfield Rec. leagues since he was old enough. Sue loves reading, but always having a houseful of kids doesn't leave much time to sit with a book! Both Jason and Sue agree that their favorite hobby is spending time with their kids.

Jason and Josh were baptized this year at our Church Family Picnic in June. It was such a privilege to share in this life changing event and all who attended were touched by the Spirit of God so evident in Josh and Jason's lives.

The most notable thing about this lovely family is their sense of humor. They enjoy each other and always seem to be able to laugh at themselves and use humor to keep life in perspective. We hope many FBCM people will take time to chat with these new friends. **In fact, there is a prize to be awarded to the first 2 people (adults) who discover something they have in common with the Charrons and report this to Pastor Ron or Tricia.** For instance, at the Rally Day Chili lunch, Tricia Baker discovered that she and Josh share a love for popcorn, and a mutual "popcorn-fest" is in the works! What do **YOU** have in common with the Charrons, and WHO will be first to win the PRIZE??

The Fellowship Fund offering that is taken each month during communion Sunday is of-

(Continued from page 4)

ten used by the Pastor to provide folks in immediate need with grocery cards, gas cards or funding for medical or utility expenses. This summer the deacons chose to send one hundred dollars with the Youth who traveled to West Virginia on the Mission trip. They youth were charged with finding a need or needs in the community they visited that could be helped through a donation. During their work at the World Vision Center they saw a ministry that provides school supplies to classrooms in less fortunate schools and chose to support that ministry. We also recently made a donation of two hundred dollars to the Holy Family Shelter to help purchase school uniform shirts. We are able to help because of the generosity of our congregation. Thank you.

You are invited to **Know your Neighbor Sunday** on **October 14**. Please join us for a pot luck luncheon right after church. We will enjoy a meal together and have fun with a short activity that will allow us to get to know each other better and be a resource for new members and visitors to our congregation. Look for a sign-up sheet on the Christian Education bulletin board.

Vacation Bible School

Our Vacation Bible School theme this year was Operation Overboard where each night we dove deep into the ocean, into God's word, into science experiments, and into crafts, games, fun and fellowship. We were led each night into these adventures by Ocho the Octopus and the Dive Captain, also known as D.C. One of the main lessons we learned was that we can depend on God. A great time was had by all. I want to thank each and everyone who was involved in putting this VBS together; Laura, Joy, Susan, Pete, Tricia, Becca, Amanda, Olivia, Morgan, Sierra, Lyrica, Jonas, Alyssa, Samantha, and maybe someone else I didn't mean to forget.

To you all I dedicate the following poem;

*God is great,
the ocean is blue.
We never could
have had VBS...
without you!*

Thank you
Pastor Ron



♪ Music Notes ♪

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Music Program this summer.

Rehearsal Reminder:

Youth Choir – Sundays at 9:00 AM – Director, Grace Riesen

Adult Choir – Thursdays at 7:30 PM – Director, Melissa Rood

Come and join us as we begin a new choir year. Everyone is welcome!



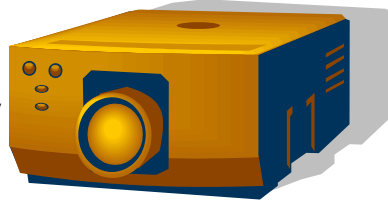
Youth Choir:

The Youth Choir meets regularly on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM at the Church. The Choir had a get together this summer playing mini-golf at Somers, CT followed by a time of fellowship and make-your-own ice cream sundaes at the home of the Hockings.

Grace Riesen
Youth Choir Director
Grace.Riesen@charter.net

Report on Projector

The sanctuary projector system has been in use since late August. Representatives from the Deacons, Music Committee, Christian Education, Projector Committee and Trustees met in late August to discuss policy and procedure for using the projector. It was decided that material to be projected during the Sunday morning service (such as a Mission Moment video or a special announcement) must be into the Pastor by Wednesday evening and that he needs to approve all material to be projected. The Pastor will be responsible for enlisting help for creating and assembling the materials he wishes to be projected each Sunday morning. If you are creative and would like to be involved in this process, please talk to Pastor Ron. A group of projectionists will be identified and coordinated by the Deacons so that several people familiar with the system will take turns and all Sundays will be covered. If you are interested in being a projectionist, please contact John Riesen. Our projection system, while functional, is still not quite complete and our projectionists are still learning the system, so we ask your patience as we learn. However, do feel free to let any of us know what you find enhances your worship experience and what you feel could be improved. We will be sure to pass suggestions along to the appropriate person(s).



Emma Gardiner Missionary Society

The Emma Gardiner Missionary Society generally **meets the first Tuesday of the month** (except January) in the afternoon at the Church. Programs vary from month to month, using American Baptist Women's Ministries program materials for some meetings, and also having guest speakers on topics of interest. We were delighted to have Karen Allen, Director of Volunteering and Family Outreach Programs at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford come and speak this past spring. The group also joined others in April for a lunch and presentation on internet and electronic fraud and how to prevent it.

American Baptists have missionaries in many countries around the globe. Specific geographical areas are selected each year or two by American Baptist Women's Ministries for more in-depth study. For 2012-2013 the focus will be on Japan and Okinawa. The AB Women's Ministries national mission project "Break the Chains and Stop the Pain" continues with the general study of the issues of prison aftercare and healing communities.

Also, the work of White Cross goes on. Thank you for your generous Church-wide contributions for our White Cross requests for socks, towels, washcloths, and many other items which were given to the Baptist Children's Services in Pennsylvania this past year.

Come and join us at Emma Gardiner Missionary Society. We would love to see you.

Ladies Aid Society

After a quiet summer, the Ladies Aid held a meeting on Friday, August 31. We shared a delicious pot luck dinner and reviewed our old and new business as well as upcoming goals.

A new refrigerator was purchased and installed in the kitchen thanks to fundraising events and donations from the past year. It is a beauty! We ask that it be used with care. Please label any food items that are left in the refrigerator and do not leave any items unless you know they will be used in a timely fashion. Items that are not labeled will be disposed of.

Thanks to the Lackman/Flynn family, there is a very nice new-to-us refrigerator in the Nursery. This replaces the one that was broken and removed some time ago. We are very appreciative of the donation to our church ministry.

There were ladies busy at church on the recent work day. Jill Stedman-Myette cleaned the fabric on the chairs in the Conference room and applied a stain resistant spray to them as well. Job well done Jill! Work also began on labeling the drawers and cabinets in the kitchen. We feel this will make kitchen work easier for all who use the kitchen. Charlotte Hebert led the labeling effort and we thank her for her good work.



Several ladies will be supporting the upcoming memorial service for Harold Mattern by baking and delivering cookies to Camp Wightman.

Watch for announcements about our upcoming annual fundraisers; ButterBraid Sale and Rada Sale. The ButterBraid sale start date is October 7th. You may purchase the pastries for yourself and sell them to family, friends and neighbors. There will be an order sheet on the conference room bulletin board for individual orders. If you are able to sell, order forms will be available. Your orders must be to Patty Geissler by October 31st and orders can be picked up at the church on November 10th at 10am.

Our fundraising efforts may be used in the future for new conference room tables. We are also interested in assisting with the sanctuary renovations and may begin fundraising for new carpeting. There are always many good projects to work on at FBCM!

Flower Committee

We thank everyone who brought flowers during the summer months! We do need your help again during these next four months! Please sign the Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the education wing if this would be something you might enjoy doing and talk to a member of this committee. Committee members are Patricia Geissler, Charlotte Hebert and Lena Barry. Special thanks to Bob and Sue Bauer for looking after the potted arrangements at the church's entrance and the tender loving care given to nurture the plants about the memorial bench!

Church Women United

***Greater Willimantic Unit of Church
Women United
Presents World Community Day 2012
and our Annual Meeting***

***Saturday September 29th, 2012
Storrs Congregational Church, North
Eagleville Rd. in Storrs.***

***9:30 A.M.
Gathering and Breakfast***

***10:15
World Community Day Abiding in Com-
munity Program
Followed by the Annual Meeting***

Please join us at our World Community Day Celebration! Church Women United World has held this celebration annually for 70 years, working ecumenically for peace and justice throughout our communities and the world. It is an ecumenical service that brings us together to share aspirations and challenges on that road. Let us join together in peace and justice as we strive to better our communities.

Following the celebration, we will have our annual meeting. At this time we will present the slate of officers for the year and look at our budget and upcoming celebrations. And, speaking of Abiding in Community, we will recognize those women who have been instrumental in the success of our scholarship program.

At this celebration we will be collecting men's and woman's new underwear and socks for the No Freeze Center along with sample size toiletries.

Communications Committee Updates

New and Improved Church Website

The Communications Committee will be creating a new website over the next few weeks. It will contain fresh, current info and a snazzy new look. **Attention Boards and Committees:** We need **YOU** to submit info and to help us keep the site up to date! We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to discuss ideas.

Church Calendar

It has come to the attention of the Communications Committee that there has been some confusion about the correct protocol for entering events and meetings onto the church calendar. There is a binder and a wall calendar located outside the church office and the process is as follows:

1. Take church calendar binder to meetings (at church only)
2. Enter dates in the binder and return
3. The Communications Committee will be responsible for copying the info from the binder to the wall calendar
4. The Communications Committee will be responsible for updating the church website with new events

Thank you for helping to keep the calendar organized!

Student Addresses

Please check the online church directory for current addresses of college students. For privacy reasons, we do not publish addresses in the newsletter. If you need the password for the directory, please contact the church office.

Top Ten Reasons to Access Your Newsletter Online...

10. The church will save \$\$ on printing and mailing expenses
9. Someone will be saved hours of collating, folding, stapling and labeling
8. The photos are in color
7. It can contain nifty links to useful stuff
6. You cannot accidentally misplace it
5. You can refer back to it at any time
4. You can read it at home; you can read it at work
3. You can read it on the train or plane or at the game!
2. You can forward it to anyone who might like to read it
1. **It's super cool and fun!**

The Communications Committee will be changing over to online distribution of the newsletter to everyone except those who specifically request a printed copy. This will save on printing and mailing cost as well as the time involved in the newsletter assembly. You will be able to access the newsletter by simply clicking on the email link that we send or you can go to the church website at fbcmansfieldct.com and click on "Newsletter". You can also find an archive of previous issues on the website.

If you are not currently receiving your newsletter via e-mail, please confirm your address for the next issue in November by e-mailing office@fbcmansfieldct.com. Please include your name and the mailing address where you have been receiving your newsletter. So we can remove you from the list

If you would like to continue to receive a printed copy, please fill out the following form and hand it to a Communications Committee member or mail it to:

First Baptist Church of Mansfield
945 Storrs Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Thank you,

The Communications Committee: *Carol Bigl, Nancy Flynn, Bill McMunn, Susan Figueroa, Charlotte Hebert*

*I would like to receive a **printed** copy of the newsletter instead of accessing it online.*

Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Street Address: _____

Town: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone Number: _____

Lady Luck

A pastor who had been a missionary in Japan showed me a Daruma doll, otherwise known as a Dharma doll and is modeled after the founder of Zen Buddhism. In Japan, people would procure such a doll when starting a business or seeking to be elected to an office (or just hoping for a good start to a new year) in hopes that it would bring them good fortune. The doll comes with blank eyes and the owner of the doll would paint one eye in and if good fortune did come his way, he would paint in the other eye. If he met with bad fortune, he would smash the doll.

I have come across similar things in Africa, and in fact most every culture. In ours, we have had rabbit's feet or even good luck coins. Some might disdainfully reject them as tokens of ignorance, even though modern science would have us believe that all change is related to mere chance. In the end, it is an unusual person who does not consider a string of unfortunate events in their lives to be related, at least in part, to bad luck.

Yet, the Christian perspective is decidedly different from this. The Christian believes in a God who is creator of a universe with consummate order. In fact, the birth of science took place in the minds of believers who had a deep faith in the resulting predictability of the order of the universe. Only with this faith in a God who has revealed His nature and the order of His creation would anyone persevere in the testing necessary to prove a scientific hypothesis. It is no accident that the revolution in science and technology took place in the Christian world. And it is ironic that a science that could only exist through faith in God is now in our day so commonly the platform for disproving His existence.

On an individual level, the believer can know

that there is no luck, good or bad, when it comes to how his life plays out. Our lives are not lived out with scientific predictability, but we can remain assured that our lives and everything else rest in the hands of God. Proverbs 16 states "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Actually, all of scripture is a story of God working His will in both individual lives as well as humanity as a whole. And this is reassuring to us for "in ALL things, God works for the good of those who love Him." It is only good (despite how it seems at the time); there is no good or bad luck.

It is truly good news that the missionary (and all of us) can spread to the world that "blessed are those who take refuge in Him." No more panic or worry—this is a real spiritual promise and blessing. We only need to grasp it. In our everyday lives, we can sometimes overlook how dramatically different life is that is offered to us in Christ. Jesus was the picture of perfect peace in the midst of his tortured life. But if the story of Christ looms too large to refer to our own daily existence, we have the picture of the missionary Paul, who met one disaster after another, but as he sat in a dark prison at the end of his life before the execution he suspected was coming what came forth was a stream of letters expressing praise for God and the peace that was in his heart. It is not just words and theology—this is real history and real experience meant for us, and everyone else who accepts Christ as Lord and Savior.

Doug Whittemore

Twenty First Annual Steeple Chase

The Twenty First Annual Steeple Chase held on August 18, 2012 raised nearly \$60,000 dollars for WAIM and Perception Programs. Although it rained in the morning the efforts of hundreds of volunteers and riders made this another successful event.

Members and friends of the First Baptist Church of Mansfield were very influential in the good outcome of this year's event. We want to recognize those that helped as best we can...

First, thanks to the church family for letting us use the church kitchen to make the pasta on the Friday before the event and thanks to Ginny Shepardson for leading the effort.

Thanks to the riders from our church Kerry Landeck and Denise Keane who raised funds for the event and thanks to those that wrote checks supporting them.

Thanks to Morgan Baker, Prescott Spencer, Annette Knowlton and her granddaughter Ashley and Ally Austin for painting the bike routes this year.

Thanks to those helping run the rest stops -- Bassetts Bridge—David and Sandy Stevens led a crew of the following —Ellie Trainer, Joy Erickson, Susan and Samantha Figueroa, Faith Austin and all others that supplied food for the Rest Stop.

Rest Stop at the Annie Vinton School — Thanks to Ron and Trish Baker for heading it up and the following —Laura Blum, Anna Martineau, Jay, Sue, Bethie, and Josh Charon, Morgan Baker, and Olivia Baker, served as the crew for the 10 mile ride.

Thanks to Phil and Lena Barry for their continued support of the Steeple Chase Bike Tour.

Thanks to Sandy Stevens for working with the 14 towns we ride through and the State of Connecticut (D.O.T.) to get our permit for the tour.

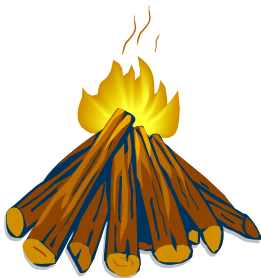
Thanks to Lee Salina for coordinating the 12 Rest Stops on the tour and seeing that the finish line crew was in place and helping by coordinating between the Rest Stops and the S.A.G. drivers the day of the tour.

Thanks to Lisa Reas for coordinating the 10 S.A.G. Wagon drivers on their routes and seeing to the safety of the riders. Working all day to assure all went well.

Thanks to Prescott Spencer and Gail Esty for driving S.A.G. wagons the day of the tour ensuring rider safety.

For the Steeple Chase Bike Tour Planning Committee. *Ed Austin*

Youth Group Camp Out



Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Glow Sticks, Marshmallows, and Capture the Flag. What does that spell? The Youth Group Camp Out! The youth group had loads of fun at the Camp Out held at the Bradshaw's house on the 23rd of August into the 24th. We sang songs, played group games, roasted Marshmallows, and stayed up late into the night! There was a big turn out and it was a huge success! A big thank you to the Bradshaw's for allowing us to hold it at their house. We hope to do it next year as well!

Olivia Baker

Obituary for Harold Everett Mattern May 10, 1915 - June 8, 2012



Harold Everett Mattern, fondly known as "Matt", 97, of 35 Ellise Road, Storrs died peacefully at home on Friday, June 8, 2012, with his daughter and granddaughters at his side. He was born May 10, 1915, at home in Chaplin, CT, to August H. Mattern and Mabel

(Spooner) Mattern. He spent most of his childhood in Mansfield, where he attended Grammar School and was a Life Scout and Assistant Scout Master in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 32. He was a member of the 4H Sheep Club and Forestry Club. He attended Willimantic Trade School and graduated as a plumber.

In 1933, he joined the Spring Hill Baptist Church in Mansfield. At the encouragement of his Boy Scout leader, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934, serving in seven camps in CT until April 1941. In May 1941, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Australia and New Guinea as a search light operator during World War II with the 208th Coast Artillery, Anti-Aircraft Battalion. He received an honorable discharge in June 1943. On October 23, 1943, he married Virginia James of Willimantic.

In September 1943, he began a life-long career with the CT Park & Forest Commission, which later became the Department of Environmental Protection. From a skilled tradesman to a Forest Ranger, he retired as a Forester II in 1987 having worked in sixteen state forests and parks. The forest road at Nathan Hale Forest in Coventry is named "Matt Road" in his honor. He had a passion for his work in the forests and enjoyed great camaraderie with his co-workers. He was a member of the CT Forest & Park Association since 1948. He

worked with the "Earth Team" at the Big E as a member for the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

When he retired from State Service at age seventy-two, he began a new career – volunteering. And volunteer he did! He and his red truck could often be seen at the Windham Area Interfaith Ministries (WAIM) office, where he served as a delegate from the First Baptist Church of Mansfield. A former Executive Director of WAIM recalled how many times he arrived with his cheerful face and usual question, "Anything I can do to help?" In 1993, he received WAIM's Life-Time Volunteer Award for serving over 1,000 hours. He served on the Steeple Chase Bike Tour Planning Committee, lending his support, helping to mark the routes, and serving as a sag wagon driver. He served the American Cancer Society as a driver delivery coordinator for several Daffodil Festivals and Jail 'N Bails and logged over 10,000 miles as a volunteer driver for the Road to Recovery Program. He participated in numerous Relay for Life events as a bladder cancer survivor and understood the importance of helping others who were undergoing treatment. In his red truck, he could be seen transporting vegetables from his neighbor's garden in Eastford, and loads of bread from the Eastford Baptist Church to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic. On October 25, 2001, after being nominated by a member of the Eastford Senior Citizens, Harold received the John E. Peck Community Service Award presented by the Senior Resources Agency on Aging "With sincere thanks for his exceptional dedication to his community by performing continued outstanding service to the elderly."

In 1997, he was part of CPTV's documentary "When Disaster Struck Connecticut", sharing his knowledge of the hurricane of 1938 and the flood of 1955. He joined the CT State Employees Association in 1947 and served as a recruiter for the Retirees Chapter 408 of Counsel

400 from 1992 to 1997. He was a sixty-three-year member of the Masonic Fraternity, Eastern Star Lodge #44 A.F. & A.M., where he was raised in 1949. He was a Charter Member of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni (NACCCA), Chapter 147, Northeastern CT and a member of Chapter 130, North Central CT. He served as President of Chapter 170, North East States Museum in Stafford, CT, in 1995. Many of the items on display at the Museum in Stafford came from his own personal collection. He rejoined the First Baptist Church of Mansfield on Spring Hill in 1981, where he served as a deacon, usher, delegate to WAIM, and poured coffee for many church suppers.

In 1965, he, his wife, and his daughter moved to a home on the Natchaug State Forest in Eastford. He lived there for forty years before returning to Mansfield to live with his daughter for the last seven years of his life. Grampy Matt was devoted to his family and a true gentle man. In his later years, he enjoyed spending time with his great-grandsons. He attended three Adult Day Care Centers: Woodlake at Tolland, Senior Care in East Hartford, and, most recently, Senior Moments in Tolland. His family is very appreciative and thankful for the care that he received from Mansfield Family Practice, especially Dr. Ken Dardick; his caregivers from Visiting Angels, in particular Karen Gokey and Heather Varle; from VNA East and from Hospice of Eastern CT, especially Tom Bergeron.

He is survived by his daughter, Lee (Mattern) Edwards-Salina, his two granddaughters and grandsons-in-law, Lisa (Edwards) and Brian Reas of Colchester, and Wendy (Edwards) and Oliver Green of East Greenwich, R.I.; three great-grandsons, Brendan Everett Reas, Kevin James Reas, and Zachary Everett Green; two sisters-in-law, Hazel Rubins of Storrs, and Dorcas Mattern of Branford, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife of forty-nine years, Virginia (James) Mattern; his brothers, Kenneth Mattern and Wilfred Mattern; his sisters, Florence Gottier and Alice Hardy; and his two

sons-in-law, Alfred N. Edwards, Jr. and Carl J. Salina.

In the early 1950's, he helped to break ground for what would become Camp Wightman, a ministry of the American Baptist Churches of CT. Since then, four generations of his family have enjoyed Camp Wightman both as campers and as staff. He, himself, led many nature walks at Camp. A Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Harold E. Mattern will be held at Camp Wightman on Saturday, September 15th at 10:00AM. Memorial donations may be made to the American Baptist Churches of CT (marked in memory of Harold Mattern) and sent to Camp Wightman, 207 Coal Pit Hill Road, Griswold, CT, 06351. A private graveside service at the Storrs Cemetery will be held at the discretion of his family.

Church News

The close of summer this year also brings to a close our secretary Lisa Licata's time with us. Lisa has worked with our church for eight years and has done a fantastic job. She has taken a new position with St Mark's Episcopal Church in Storrs as their office administrator. We will miss Lisa and it is with joy and sorrow that we say goodbye and God bless you in this new endeavor . . .

Lee Salina has a pressure-treated wood, handicapped ramp (without rails) that is 2 years old, and is in excellent condition. This ramp was built to specifications of 1' for every 1". This is the ramp that Harold Mattern used and Lee no longer needs it. Please contact Lee at [860-487-0689](tel:860-487-0689) if you or someone you know needs this ramp. There is no cost, but you will need to remove it. The deadline is October 31, 2012.

Morgan Baker new address—

Call the Church Office for Morgan's new address

Coming Events in April and May of 2012

September 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4 Emma Gardiner Mission Society	5	5	6	7
9 Newsletter Deadline	10	11	12	13	14 Youth Group 6:30-8:30	15
16 Trustees Meeting	17	18	19	20	21 Soup Kitchen Youth Group 6:30-8:30	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 WAIM Workday Church Women United
30						

October 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Emma Gardiner Mission Society	3	4	5	6
7 ButterBraid Sale Starts	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Know your Neighbor Pot Luck	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Fall Business Meeting	29	30	31 Halloween ButterBraid Sale Ends			

Coming Events in June of 2012

November 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Daylight Sav- ings Time Ends	5	6 Election Day Emma Gardi- ner Mission Society	7	8	9	10 Pick-up ButterBraids
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Walk for Warmth	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27	28	29	30	

WEEKLY MEETINGS:

Youth Choir—Sundays at 9:00 am Adult Choir—Thursdays at 7:30 pm

September Birthdays

Sep 1 – Farida Mama
 Sep 3 – William Hocking
 Sep 4 – Frances Nichols
 Sep 4 – Maggie Watson
 Sep 6 – Meredith Lindsey
 Sep 8 – Kolby Haggan
 Sep 10 – Ed Austin
 Sep 10 – Rebecca Figueroa
 Sep 13 – Lena Barry
 Sep 19 – Tricia Baker
 Sep 19 – Randy Gilliam
 Sep 19 – Dellon Myette
 Sep 24 – Jan Barry
 Sep 26 – Grace Riesen
 Sep 29 – Mary Jo Chisler
 Sep 30 – Patty Geissler

October Birthdays

Oct 2 – Amanda Figueroa
 Oct 2 – Samantha Figueroa
 Oct 4 – Daniel Parker
 Oct 14 – Walter Palmer Jr.
 Oct 19 – Mary Ann Sheehan
 Oct 22 – Laura Austin
 Oct 22 – Jessica Figueroa
Oct 28 – Charles Woody

November Birthdays

Nov 2 – Peg Barlow
 Nov 9 – Ashley Hooper
 Nov 10 – Andrew Noznick
 Nov 10 – Kyle Whitehead
 Nov 11 – Hazel Rubins
 Nov 12 – Kyra Whitehead
 Nov 13 – Clare Flynn
 Nov 15 – Allyson Austin
 Nov 15 – Dottie Rose Gilliam
 Nov 18 – Prescott Spencer
 Nov 20 – Matthew Hocking
 Nov 20 – Sarah Hocking
 Nov 26 – Becky Parton





Dates to Remember

September 14—Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm October 28—Fall Business Meeting

September 21—Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm November 6—EGMS

September 21—Soup Kitchen

November 10—ButterBraid Pick-up

September 29—WAIM Workday

November 18—Walk for Warmth

September 29—Church Women United

November 25—Newsletter Deadline

October 2—EGMS

December 2—Advent Event

October 7-31—ButterBraid Sale

October 14—Know Your Neighbor Pot Luck



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANSFIELD

945 Storrs Road, Storrs, CT 06268

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.fbcmansfieldct.com

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Church School – 9:30 a.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sun. 9:00 a.m.

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Thur. 7:30 p.m.

Youth Group, Fri. 6:30-8:30 p.m.



An American Baptist Church