**Central Baptist Church**

 **October 2018**

 **CBC Courier**

**Pastor’s Pen**

***Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. ~2 Corinthians 5:17 KJB***

If I were to choose a favorite month it would be October. Each month has its own special features yet perhaps we all have a favored month of the year. It may be because of a special holiday, your birthday, the weather, or an annual vacation. October is special for me on many levels with the cooling temperatures, the colorful leaves, the wonderful smells, and my favorite pie is pumpkin!

Yet I remember one October I was not feeling a skip in my step. It was my second month in seminary and on a beautiful fall day in October I was feeling uneasy, disheartened and fearful. I was aware of the reasons why yet still hoped that my favorite month would gently assuage the nervousness I was experiencing.

I had recently retired from law enforcement merely two months before and entered the beautiful, albeit daunting halls and classrooms of Yale Divinity School. I soon learned most new students at this Ivy League university felt very similar. Was this the right choice? Would I be successful in a highly academic arena? Is this what God really had in mind for me with four little boys at home and a mom who worked full time?

A little over a month since classes started and I continued to feel this pressure. I entered seminary with a simple yet very strong faith but was that enough for what lay ahead? My ‘simple’ faith was being tested! On this beautiful autumn day between classes, I met up with a friend I had made during our weekend introduction to the university who introduced me to a third-year student. He asked me how things were going and normally the answer would be great, OK, hanging in there. But what came out (still not sure why to this unknown person) was something like, “I’m simply overwhelmed. I feel very confused.” He smiled and said he felt the same when he came to YDS and wanted to share some advice given to him. He held out his two hands and formed the shape of a sphere. “Picture this being your life now, a clear, fragile, glass ball.” With his hands over his head, he threw the imaginary ball (my life) on the common room floor. He said “this is your life now, like most who come here. Broken, shattered, future unknown, pieces scattered everywhere confusing your thoughts. And day by day, studying and learning about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and the Bible in depth will deepen your understanding slowly placing each piece back together. You will see at graduation that the ball (my life) will look different. There may be areas where the glass did not meld together, scars you might say, yet with all the imperfections, saturated with God’s word and love, you will be a new person.” He smiled and slowed walked away.

We all come to crossroads in our lives, some with clouds and darkness that take us time to adjust so we can see the right path to take. Others are clear and seem straightforward. Some, like this crossroad in my life, came with an angel, one whom I never saw again. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 3:17, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

I left New Haven, CT that afternoon for my two-hour trek home witnessing the sun setting in a bright blue sky and a peace that I pray will envelop all of you during this autumn month of October.

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Kurt

**Communion Sunday Collection**

Today and running thru every Sunday during the month of October we will be collecting canned tuna, canned meats and peanut butter for the Jamestown Pantry.

**Little Dresses for Africa**

The mission of “Little Dresses for Africa” is to provide relief to children of Africa, by distributing home-made dresses to little girls, primarily in African villages, but also other countries in crisis. These meetings will be on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Clarke Hall. The meetings for October will be Oct. 1st & Oct. 15th.

**Ladies’ Breakfast**

Ladies Breakfast will be held Thursday October 11th at 9 a.m. at Slice of Heaven.

All CBC ladies welcome!

**Simple Blessings**

"***Simple Blessings:*** *Centering Prayer and Discussion****:***" will be held Monday, October 22nd from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. in Clarke Hall. If anyone is interested there is a flyer and Sign-up sheet in church parlor or you can contact Janet Larson for questions.

**CBC Walking Party**

Please join us as we walk to up-beat music in Clarke Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00a.m. to approximately 8:45a.m.  We do a warm-up, walk a couple miles, and do a cool down, then a few floor exercises to tone arms, legs, abs, chest and back.  We are a fun bunch! Collectively, we’ve walked thousands of miles together!  Please join us! Please contact Peggy Burse for questions.

**Central Baptist Church Harvest Crafts Fair Volunteers**

Rev. Kurt, Jenn, and Tammy have put together a Crafts Fair from 9 a.m. to 2p.m. on Saturday, November 10th for Artisans/Vendors/Craftspeople.  We are asking the congregation to volunteer on this day if you are willing and available. We will also hold a bake sale with our own table and we again are hoping people will help with baked goods. There will be a sign-up sheet in the parlor. All proceeds will be going to our CBC general fund.

**We Noticed Some Nice Things Happening at CBC**

\*\* Thank you to everyone donated money for the fall decorations for CBC!!!

\*\* Our grounds have been looking so beautiful!!... Thank you!!

\*\*If you see someone “doing something nice for CBC or to thank someone". Please call the church office 423-1651 or by e-mail to tanya@cbcjamestown.com your input is always appreciated…Thanks!!\*\*

**MissionWorks 2018—*Embracing Hospitality***

MissionWorks 2018 in partnership with: American Baptist Churches of MA,

American Baptist Churches of RI… Center for Career Development and Ministry, Conference of Baptist Ministers of MA… Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries… Northern Baptist Education Society,

**Event Overview**

Thursday, October 11th: Theological discussions on Hospitality, evening worship.

Friday, October 12th: Workshops, panel discussions, immigrant and refugee stories, cafe style conversation on Hospitality, hands on service project, evening worship.

Saturday, October 13th: Embracing Hospitality from Mission Fields, banquet and worship.

How can we co-create places of: refuge and respect for strangers by building bridges across racial, theological and religious divides?

This three day conference is focused on theological, intercultural and practical considerations to welcoming strangers. Numerous tracks include panel discussions, facilitated conversations, workshops on topics including Cross Cultural Hospitality, Settlement/Resettlement, Incarceration, Faith journey of Strangers, as well as a youth track.

**2018 KEYNOTE Speakers**

**Rev. Mariama White-Hammond** serves as Minister for Ecological Justice at Bethel AME Church in Boston, is a fellow with the Green Justice Coalition, and was recently named a “transformational leader” by Boston Magazine.

**Miroslav Volf** is a celebrated author, Professor of Theology and Director of the Yale Center for Faith & Culture. Volf is a “theologian of the bridge” exploring diversity and inclusion.

**Kaia Stern** is co-founder and Director of the Prison Studies Project at Harvard University, her published works focus on transformative justice, dignity, and education in prison.

**Ray Schellinger** is an International Ministries Global Consultant, hosting international cross-cultural teams to learn about migrant struggles, realities of immigration and border policies.

**David Reed** is a regional missionary with International Ministries in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean with a focus on spiritual renewal, spiritual formation and vocational calling.

**Walt White** is an International Ministries Global Consultant, training under-served international development workers, pastors and leaders to be more effective. White’s goal is to increase the longevity of cross-cultural workers and to strengthen the effectiveness and length of service of these workers in transforming lives.

QUESTIONS? Email to mbmm@mbmm.org or call the MBMM ofﬁce at (781) 457-8058 Call (978) 534-9000 to reserve a room at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster, MA 01453. Deadline: To guarantee availability of meals, your registration form must be received by October 1, 2018.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address/City/State/ZIP**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Church/Ministry Town & Name** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Special Dietary Needs**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_**Check if this is your ﬁrst time at MissionWorks**

\_\_\_**Check if your preference is vegetarian**

**REGISTRATION**

**Registration**

 Specify Your Day(s) No. Price Amount

1-Day □ Thursday □ Friday □Saturday \_\_\_ ☓ $25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2-Day □ Thursday □ Friday □Saturday \_\_\_ ☓ $50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full (3-Day) \_\_\_ ☓ $60.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Meals**

Thursday Lunch □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □Meat or □Fish \_\_\_ ☓ $18.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thursday Dinner □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □Meat or □Fish \_\_\_ ☓ $30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Friday Lunch □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □Meat or □Fish \_\_\_ ☓ $18.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Friday Dinner □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □Meat or □Fish \_\_\_ ☓ $30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Banquet □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □Meat or □Fish \_\_\_ ☓ $30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 TOTAL $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT**

\_\_\_Full Payment Enclosed   \_\_\_Names below who are paying separately

\_\_\_Credit Card ($10 min.)   \_\_\_Church Will Send \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CARD TYPE \_\_\_VISA \_\_\_MASTERCARD \_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_DISCOVER

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NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRES ON \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BILLING ZIP CODE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CSV \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Checks Payable To: “MBMM” with “MissionWorks” in the memo ﬁeld**

**Mail to: MBMM, 1580 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA 02420**

**\*\*\*** As we appreciate all volunteers who take the tablecloths home to be laundered…. if it is possible, could you bring them back to CBC as we need them to cover or tables for Sunday morning coffee hour and for other events…Thank You! **\*\*\***

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**Central Baptist Church**
*A church with open doors A congregation with open minds A community with open hearts*

99 Narragansett Avenue
(Mail: P.O. Box 295)
Jamestown, RI 02835
(401) 423-1651
cbc@cbcjamestown.com
www.cbcjamestown.com

**Pastor Administrative Assistant Organist Custodians**
Kurt Satherlie Tanya Crowley Walter Sage John & Jim Page