



# The West Hampden Baptist Church

## MESSENGER

*"Behold, I will send my messenger..." Malachi 3:1*

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Pastor Michael W. Lynn

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SUMMER MESSENGER

SUMMER 2022

### Pastor's Corner

By Michael Lynn

#### Are You a Saint? Psalm 89:7

How would you define the word "saint"? The Catholic Church officially recognizes certain individuals who have lived exceptionally holy lives, and thus as being in heaven and capable of interceding for sinners. The official recognition process is called canonization. But how does the Bible define the word "saint"? The O.T. word translated "saint" in our English Bibles comes from two different Hebrew words. One word is from the verb, "to be clean" ("make, pronounce, or observe, as clean"). The emphasis is upon one's inward condition (or character). The other word is from the verb, "to bow, to be kind." It emphasizes the outward conduct of the individual. In the N.T., the word is *agios*, literally, "sanctified one" and is used some 40 times. This word speaks of separation, those who are separated from sin and consecrated to God.

Consider with me first of all the calling of saints (or the who? of sainthood). The call of saints is found in Romans 1:7 (and cf. 1:1); I

Corinthians 1:2; and Philipians 1:1. This calling involves to be set apart from the world, as seen in John 17:14-16, as well as to be set apart unto God, as seen in John 17:17 and Romans 1:1. The cause of the calling is God's grace (II Timothy 1:9) and man's faith (II Thessalonians 1:10). Note the contrast between what we were in Ephesians 2:12 and what we are in Ephesians 2:19.

Consider second, the conduct of saints (or the what? of sainthood). Saints are identified by their holiness in I Peter 1:14-16 and they are identified by their helpfulness in Romans 12:13 (see 12:9-16).

Third, compare the character of saints (or the why? of sainthood). They are characterized by their praise (and prayer) to the Lord (Psalm 30:4; Revelation 5:8). Saints are also characterized by their love for the Lord (Psalm 31:23). This should result in a love for the saints (Colossians 1:4). And saints are also characterized by their fear of the Lord (Psalm 34:9; Proverbs 9:10).

Lastly, consider the consequence of saints (the when? of sainthood). Their duty is revealed in Ephesians 4:12 where we see them equipped to do the ministry. In Jude verse 3 they are exhorted to earnestly contend for

the faith. And in Ephesians 4:29 saints are edified to build up one another. Another consequence is their death. Theirs is a preserved life (I Samuel 2:9; Psalm 37:28) as well as a precious death (Psalm 116:15). A third consequence revealed in Scripture is their destiny. The realm of saints is seen in Daniel 7:18; the reign of saints found in I Corinthians 6:2; and the reunion of saints is described in I Thessalonians 3:13 (and cf. I Thess. 4:11-16).

The question is: Are you a saint? True saints are simply those who have trusted the finished sacrifice of Christ as their only hope and means of salvation, thus receiving Him as their personal Lord and Savior. Are you living a saintly life? Those called saints should conduct themselves as such. Could you be identified as one of His saints by your praise to the Lord, your love for the Lord, and your fear of the Lord? A saint is one who is to be physically pure, morally blameless, and spiritually consecrated to God. Does that describe you?



### MEETING SCHEDULE

#### July Meetings

TBA—Deacon's Meeting  
 13 Missions Committee Meeting  
 17 Service at Stillwater Health Care  
 28 Service at Westgate Rehab  
 30 Church Annual Meeting  
 31 Fifth Sunday Singpiration

#### August Meetings

TBA—Deacon's Meeting  
 10 Missions Committee Meeting  
 21 Service at Stillwater Health Care  
 21 Youth-Led Service  
 25 Service at Westgate Rehab

#### September Meetings

5 Labor Day Holiday (Monday)  
 TBA—Deacon's Meeting  
 7 Missions Conference Starts  
 14 Missions Committee Meeting  
 18 Service at Stillwater Health Care  
 22 Service at Westgate Rehab

**Vacation Bible School Recap**  
 By Michael Payne

This year, we tried something different, we held our annual Vacation Bible School in April, during the students' Spring Break. Under the direction of Tanya Burns, a staff was assembled to teach, to manage registrations, canvassing, and the artwork for the sets and backdrops.

The Missionaries this year were James and Susie LeJeune, who are with Heartland Baptist Missions. They are missionaries to Honduras and work closely with Joseph and Abigail Hodges, missionaries that we currently support.

The theme this year was Mystery Island, with adventures to track the one true God. With Bible and science lessons, the students learned how great is our God. They learned the life of a Missionary through daily lessons given by the LeJeunes.

God blessed us with numerous children over the five day event. We were happy to see some faces from last year, while we were excited to have some new children from the neighborhood.

Many hands make light work, and we need to thank the many volunteers that helped to make this a success.

It began months ago with the sets and backdrops. Under Tanya's direction, Lynn Reeves and Tanya built a "ship", the home of some creative puppets. These puppets were managed by Ethan and Ryan Burns. For teachers and assistants, we had Sharon Pedersen, Nancy Frost, Rachel Frost, and Pastor and Mrs. Lynn. For the daily Science lesson, Alison Carter and Ryan Burns provided some interesting "experiments" for our young people. The Crafts took lots of hands, starting with Maida Robichaud and Sandi Parise and backed up by Kayla and Theresa Wilson, Ian Robichaud, and a parent, Karen Partridge. Then providing creative snacks for the children were our kitchen staff, Hattie Stickney and Candace Payne. In our music program, Jerry and Gail Burns had many of the children wound up and excited to sing. Finally, it all begins with registration, with Lois Thew along with the staff to get our children signed in and off to a good day of Vacation Bible School.

**Missions Committee Report**  
 By Hattie Stickney

As we start another quarter of this year, the Missions Committee of the West Hampden Baptist Church is very appreciative of your continued giving to the Missions Program. Without your support, we would not have a Missions Program at our church.

We ask that you continue to pray for all of our missionaries that we currently support, and especially for those that we may not support in Ukraine.

For Upcoming Events, on August 24th, we will host Olivia West, a single missionary on her way to Romania with PMI Missions. It is a Wednesday evening, and we will be hosting a potluck meal at 5:30 with her. This will be followed by a presentation on her ministry.

We ask for your prayers as the Committee finalizes the 2022 Missions Conference. As we have done in the past, it will be a mix of in-person visits and Zoom calls. Thus far, we have confirmation from three in-person, starting with Travis Pelletier on Wednesday, September 7. We currently support him and his work at the University of Maine with Ratio Christi. Again, we will have a potluck meal before his presentation. On Sunday, September 11th, we have Kevin Brown with us for all three services that day. He is with Armed Forces Baptist Mission. His presentation will be of keen interest to us veterans and retirees, and we look forward to it. On Sunday, September 18th, we will be hosting Dan Schiffbauer, who is on his way to Bulgaria. He will be with us all three services that day. We continue to work on the schedule and will provide a full listing by the time we begin the Conference.

Your Committee members are Pastor Lynn, Peter Corey, Angela Lundquist, Sharon Pedersen and Hattie Stickney. We ask that you pray for wisdom as we manage the Missions Program of the West Hampden Baptist Church as we support those who are spreading the Gospel around the world.



**Appreciation**

By Mark Frost

Ten years is a very long time  
For one to focus attention,  
And Pastor has accomplished that,  
He's earned this honorable mention.

He's almost a doctor, believe it or not,  
He nearly has the degree.  
But he won't be cutting any time soon,  
What he's going for is his DD.

"How is your heart?" a physician may ask,  
"I'd like to hear how it is thumping.  
I need to check for a murmur and such,  
We need to know how it is pumping."

But our future doctor's thoughts will differ  
If he asks "How is your heart?"  
He wants to know you're a Christian  
And to the Lord you're set apart.

The focus of some docs is ear, nose and throat,  
And the maladies afflicting those.  
The plumbing perhaps, the clearing away,  
The connections and how it all flows.

But higher than that is the emphasis,  
though,

Of our eventual DD to be,  
Consider the role of a pastor instead,  
In all matters concerning these three.



How are the ears, the noses, and throats  
Being used in the work of the Lord?  
Is the flock being mindful to guard their ears  
From harmful words sowing discord?

Are the sheep of the flock being diligent,  
too,  
To be careful where they stick their noses?  
To mind their own business and respect  
their neighbors,  
And just smell the lilacs and roses?

The throat and the tongue, what's said  
and what's sung,  
Is the region of our doctor's action.  
Are hurtful words flying like bullets  
about?  
Is there gossip or overreaction?

The podiatrist tends to the health of the feet,  
The heel, the arches, each toe.  
Our foot doctor is likely to sing, Oh be  
Careful, little feet, where you go.

While bodily health is important,  
And should not be ignored,  
The physical condition is prime  
But the state of the soul all the more.

We're thankful our pastor is active  
And concerned for our walk with the Lord  
He's given his life to endeavor  
To bring folks to Heavenly accord.

**Ladies Lace**

By Gwen Lynn

**LESSON PLANS**

What an interesting school year we have had! Between Covid, Covid exposures, quarantine times, masks, remote teaching, in-person instruction, and short staffing, sometimes it seemed as if I was on a roller coaster ride. This year was definitely better than last year with in-person instruction five days a week. But that meant more lesson planning!

Lesson plans include my target or the goal of my instruction and then how I am going to instruct my student concerning that concept. Sometimes the goal and the plan were simple to write and accomplish; other times it was more challenging for me. Either way my stu-

dent must become engaged in understanding so that acquiring that skill may be accomplished. However, sometimes other things such as a home, peer, or physical issue, or medication, or even hunger might cause failure to comprehend the instruction that day. Later, I must revisit that skill as it is foundational to future skills. That process of instruction for innumerable skills is my focus as a teacher; I want to see my students grow academically.

Just as I formulate lesson plans, my Lord, the Master teacher, has a plan for my life. He is seeking to teach me the way that I should go (Psalm 37:23). He wants to guide each step I take. Just like my students, I may get distracted by other things going on around me or think I already know what to do. Other things might tantalize my senses and thus dis-

tract me from my teacher. I miss the direction from the Lord and don't learn my lesson. Do I really want the Lord to guide my steps? Do I really want to walk on His path? He has promised he will guide me with His eye (Psalm 32:18), but am I looking to Him for direction? What about you? What about me? Are we wise students looking to and following our Master teacher? Or are we distracted students to whom He must repeat the lesson again and again? "**But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.**" His way is best! I need to keep my eye on Him, so that I know the way I ought to go!

## THE WEST HAMPDEN BAPTIST CHURCH MESSENGER

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### *Calendar Highlights*

**The Annual Meeting of the Church:** On July 30, 2022., the Annual Meeting will commence at 7:00 pm following a Potluck Supper at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the West Hampden Baptist Church. Meeting materials will be provided prior to the Annual Meeting. All Church Members are encouraged to attend.

**Hampden Children's Day Parade**—

August 13, 2022. We have participated in this event before Covid hit. If you are interested in participating, contact Theresa Wilson. There will be more details as we get closer

#### **Missions Events**

Olivia West—Missionary candidate to Romania—Wednesday night, August 24, 2022.. Potluck dinner at 5:30 PM.

2022 Missions Conference starts on September 7, 2022, and at the time of printing, we have Travis Pelletier, Ratio Christi, min-

istering at the University of Maine, Orono, opening the Conference. The first weekend, we have Kevin Brown with Armed Forces Baptist Mission, speaking on September 11, 2022 for the day. On September 18, 2022, we will host Dan Schiffbauer, with BIMJ, who is on deputation to go to Bulgaria. More news to come as the schedule gets finalized.

### ***Social Calendar***

#### **July**

4	Fourth of July Holiday (Sunday)		21	Youth-Led Service	6:00 PM
	TBA Bangor State Fair		24	Olivia West—Missionary to Romania	7:00 PM
13	Missions Committee Meeting	6:00 PM	25	Westgate Rehab Service	9:45 AM
17	Stillwater Health Care Service	2:30 PM	27	Men's Prayer Breakfast	7:30 AM
28	Westgate Rehab Service	9:45 AM			
30	Men's Prayer Breakfast	7:30 AM			
30	Potluck Supper and Annual Meeting of the Church	6:00 PM			
31	Fifth Sunday Singspiration	6:00 PM			

#### **August**

10	Missions Committee Meeting	6:00 PM			
13	Hampden Children's Day Parade	10:00 AM			
21	Stillwater Health Care Service	2:30 PM			

#### **September**

5	Labor Day (Monday)				
7	Missions Conference Starts				
14	Missions Committee Meeting	6:00 PM			
18	Stillwater Health Care Service	2:30 PM			
	TBA Youth Event with a Missionary				
22	Westgate Rehab Service	9:45 AM			
	TBA Ladies Event with a Missionary				
24	Men's Prayer Breakfast w/Missionary	7:30 AM			