

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Christian Growth Part 4

Those who would walk with the Lord do well to consider this classic text on the matters of Christian growth and renewal.

Galatians 5:16b-17, 19-25 (NIV)

16 . . . I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

What are the varying aspects of the fruit of the Spirit? Let us continue our exploration of said fruit with the theme of joy.

What is joy? The underlying term is defined as a deep and abiding inner rejoicing uniquely belonging to those in Christ. We do well to realize that joy, biblically, is in no way contingent upon outward circumstances. In this sense, there is a sharp distinction between joy and what we would call happiness. Whereas happiness is founded upon ever-changing circumstance and event, joy is founded upon the unchanging God (Mal. 3:6).

Men and women have searched for joy in every conceivable way, only to be let down and disappointed by the end result(s).

a) Joy Cannot Be Found in Disbelief. Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. In the end he wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

b) Joy Cannot Be Found in Pleasure. Lord Byron lived a life of indulgence. In the end he wrote the following: "The worm, the canker and grief are mine alone."

c) Joy Cannot Be Found in Prosperity. Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of money. Ultimately he penned: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

d) Joy Cannot Be Found in Power. Lord Beaconsfield, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, found this to be true: "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret."

Genuine joy can only be found in Jesus, for He alone never changes. He is immutable and beyond the capacities of creation to amend. You see, the only way to secure joy is to find union with something beyond both death and the passing of time. Only as we abide in the eternal Christ (John 15) and walk with His eternal Spirit (Gal. 5) will we tap into joy beyond measure.

Let us never underestimate the power of possessing joy in life. What does Scripture say concerning the believer and joy?

Nehemiah 8:10b (Emphasis Mine)

"10 . . . The joy of the Lord is your strength."

Also, let us never underesti-

mate the power that joy might have upon others. Consider the following excerpt:

"As a third-century man was anticipating death, he penned these last words to a friend: 'It's a bad world, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered in the midst of it a quiet and holy people who have learned a great secret. They have found a joy which is a thousand times better than any pleasure of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They have overcome the world. These people are the Christians-and I am one of them.'"

Will you come to Christ today, that you might know joy for time and eternity? Jesus is a source of joy waiting to be found.

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience using the information below.

Also, feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you soon.

Pastor James Foley
New Life Assembly of God
60 Main St. South Barre
jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org
978-355-6407

Second Sunday of Easter

"I bring you peace, and forgiveness, Jesus says."

Our services can be found on our website at www.barrechurch.com and our Facebook page.

Scripture Reading: John 20 v 19 - 31

I. Introduction

The way we greet one another can take many forms. We say hi, how are you? Sometimes we may or may not get a response back, right? We also say, good morning, or good afternoon or evening and we may add, it is good to see you.

I do not recall anyone saying to me, "Peace be with you," when they see me and I am wondering whether you've had that experience? I do not talk that way myself, but may send a written message beginning or ending in a greeting of peace and blessings. To greet someone with a peace greeting, means it must come from within oneself and the self needs to represent the goodness of what peace is and what it means to oneself and to another. To give peace means we must be at peace...

II. "Peace be with you," Jesus said.

In the Gospel of John, on this Resurrection Day, we see Jesus entering the space of His disciples, like He did with Mary Magdalene and to the two disciples on their way to Emmaus. He enters the room miraculously, where the disciples had locked themselves in, still afraid after Jesus' crucifixion just two days before. His appearance is marked by the words, "Peace be with you," and then He showed them His hands, which still bore the marks of the crucifixion.

Leon Morris, in his commentary on the Gospel of John, asserts that He still brought them a message of peace after what they had done to Him. Peter denied Him, Judas betrayed Him and the rest fled the scene. He continued to visit them and brought them a message of peace. What kind of person is He?

This says a lot about Jesus' understanding of peace, because while the peace greeting was a usual greeting during His time, it is unimaginable for someone who had gone through what He did, to

return to those who abandoned Him during such a trying time and gruesome experience.

Earlier in John Chapter 14 v 27, Jesus describes the peace He gives His disciples. It is a peace not like the world gives, but a peace coming from inside Himself as the Son of God. It is a peace from inside His Being, a being of love, forgiveness, acceptance, and compassion.

His full being is that of God and He gives them that which belongs to God, not what the world gives, which is not a lasting peace. The peace He gives, overcomes any feeling of abandonment He must have felt when they left Him to die on His own on the cross. It is a peace from God in the middle of a violent experience He just had, but a violent experience that was overcome by the powerful and victorious resurrection of the Son of God by God Almighty.

III. "Forgive anyone for their sins," He says.

Jesus' message of peace also carries with it a message of forgiveness, which He now gives to them by breathing upon them the Holy Spirit, so they could go and spread the good news about Him. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, they would be at peace, and forgive everyone. Forgive anyone, He says. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.

Again, it is exceedingly difficult to comprehend how He could speak about forgiveness like this. The answer is in Himself, how He prayed for forgiveness for those who crucified Him as He was hanging on the cross. That speaks volumes of the being of the Son of God and of Godself.

From the research I conducted, Jesus is giving the authority to the church to speak to those who come to seek forgiveness. The duty of the church is to proclaim forgiveness to the ones who have sorrow in their hearts for what they have done. Those who do not seek God's forgiveness are forfeiting the mercy of God.

The disciples who were gathered there were now all spirit-filled and as a group they would represent the church in the future and will still receive the Holy Spirit in a fuller way on the day of Pentecost. But here Christ is empowering them already to go and preach the Good News and to be filled with the Spirit and to teach forgiveness and encourage those who hear this message to be forgiven.

IV. The Imperfect peace of this world

As I am writing this sermon, I am thinking of the work I have done through the years, of peace, forgiveness and reconciliation, in South Africa, here in the US and other parts of the world. I am thinking of all the churches I worked with across the country, the police officers in Hartford, Connecticut, the social workers in the Department of Children and Families, the groups of Israelis and Palestinians who came to the U.S. years ago for help to coexist with one another.

All these groups and more needed assistance to understand each other's stories of hurt and anger and being misunderstood and more. They came to see whether forgiveness was possible because their experiences showed otherwise. The power of this earthly work of forgiveness and reconciliation showed me the power of the human heart to take the courage to forgive the other. I have seen miracles happen and the work of listening and forgiveness continued without me. But I also saw how imperfect

See **SERMONS**, page 13

Public Notices

TOWN OF OAKHAM Zoning Board of Appeals

The Oakham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a regular business meeting on **May 9, 2024** in Memorial Hall (Oakham Town Hall), 2 Coldbrook Rd., Oakham, MA. There will be a public hearing scheduled on the following items **starting at 6:00 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

VARIANCE: Owner/Applicant: Chris Stark and Bryne Stark

Location: 680 Spencer Rd., Oakham, MA 01068
Map: 411 Parcel 10

The applicants are requesting a Variance from Section: 5 Item: 3 of the Oakham Town By-Laws, setback requirements. The applicants may bring all pertinent information and plans with them and may bring a consultant/attorney to answer questions and to represent them at the hearing.

Interested Parties/Abutors may review the application by calling 508-882-3358 and making an appointment to view the application at the Town Hall.

Lucy Tessnau, Clerk
Zoning Board of Appeals
4/11, 4/18/2024

FY 2025 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN UPDATE PROGRAM TO MAINTAIN EQUITABLE ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS

The Town of Barre invites all interested companies to submit sealed proposals for undertaking a program to update all real and personal property values within the Town of Barre for Fiscal Year 2025.

Specifications for the proposed program may be obtained at the office of the Board of Assessors, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005 Mondays through Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Specifications will be available until Monday, February 26th, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

Proposals are to be submitted to the Board of Assessors, Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005. Proposals will be accepted Monday through Thursdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. until Monday, February 26th, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

It is the specific intent of the Town to contract through its Board of Assessors for a complete update of property valuations effective January 1, 2024 consistent with Massachusetts Department of Revenue requirements using an in-house CAMA appraisal system. The program is to commence on or about July 2, 2024, and to be completed by October 15, 2024. The program is to result in the approval of property values by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

The Town of Barre reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or any part thereof, or to select a bidder whose proposal is not the lowest, as deemed to

be in the best interest of the Town.

The awarding of the contract shall be subject to the availability of funds.

Board of Assessors
Christopher Jenkins
Michael G. Landry
Robert W.A. Leroux
04/04, 04/11/2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 63 Pine Tree Terrace, South Barre, MA 01074

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by James E. Tyler to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., and now held by **US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust**, said mortgage dated April 10, 2013 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50780, Page 1, as affected by Partial Release dated February 21, 2024 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 70221, Page 307, said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment dated July 11, 2017 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 57424, Page 384; said mortgage was assigned from Community Loan Servicing, LLC F/K/A Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC to Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment dated May 13, 2021 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 65172, Page 337; said mortgage was assigned from Federal National Mortgage Association to MCLP Asset Company, Inc. by assignment dated March 30, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68965, Page 118; said mortgage was assigned from MCLP Asset Company, Inc. to US Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust by assignment dated May 2, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69181, Page 388; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on **May 30, 2024 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Tax Id Number(s): BARR-000043-000000-H00000, H 43, H-43

Land Situated in the County of Worcester in the State of MA
THE LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON SITUATED ON THE SOUTHEASTERLY SIDE OF PINE TREE TERRACE IN THAT PART OF BARRE KNOWN AS SOUTH BARRE, BEING SHOWN AS LOT C ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION OF PROPERTY IN SOUTH BARRE, MASS. BELONGING TO BARRE WOOL COMBING CO. LTD. DATED DECEMBER

10, 1953, MADE BY ROWLAND H. BARNES & CO., CIVIL ENGINEERS, RECORDED WITH WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS, PLAN BOOK 195, PLAN 9, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE WHICH IS 135.8 FEET S. 23 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 35 SECONDS W. MEASURED ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE FROM A POINT WHICH IS 225.95 FEET S. 57 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 20 SECONDS W. FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERLY LINE OF NELSON STREET WITH THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF TRAFALGAR SQUARE, SAID POINT OF BEGINNING BEING ALSO THE WESTERLY CORNER OF LOT D ON SAID PLAN; THENCE FROM THE AFORESAID POINT OF BEGINNING RUNNING S. 23 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 35 SECONDS W. BY THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND FIVE TENTHS (156.5) FEET TO LAND OF THE BOSTON & ALBANY RAILROAD;

THENCE N. 66 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 58 SECONDS E. EIGHTY-FIVE AND SIX TENTHS (85.6) FEET;
THENCE N. 59 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 58 SECONDS E. ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN AND ONE HUNDREDTH (115.01) FEET; (THESE TWO COURSES BEING BY SAID BOSTON & ALBANY RAILROAD LAND) TO THE SOUTHERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT D;
THENCE N. 65 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 25 SECONDS W. BY SAID LOT D, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX AND THIRTY-ONE HUNDREDTHS (126.31) FEET TO THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF PINE TREE TERRACE AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

C O N T A I N I N G APPROXIMATELY 10,485 SQUARE FEET.
NOTE: The Company is prohibited from insuring the area or quantity of the land. The Company does not represent that any acreage or footage calculations are correct. References to quantity are for identification purposes only.
Being the same property conveyed to James E. Tyler, by deed dated October 16, 1995 of record in Deed Book 17425, Page 152, in the County Clerk's Office.
Commonly known as: 63 Pine Tree Ter, South Barre, MA 01074

EXCEPTING THEREFROM that certain land described in a partial release of mortgage dated February 21, 2024 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 70221, Page 307, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: the land in said Barre

located off the easterly side of Pine Tree Terrace being shown as Lot C-2 on Plan of Subdivision of property in South Barre, Mass. for Barre Wool Combing Company, Ltd., dated April 25, 1960 by Barnes Engineering Co., Inc., recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 250, Plan 93, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point at the northwesterly corner of the tract to be conveyed which point is S. 65° 48' 25" E. 18.10 feet from the easterly line of Pine Tree Terrace; THENCE S. 65° 48' 25" E. eight and twenty-one hundredths (8.21) feet to a point, said point being the most easterly corner of land conveyed to Harry R. Stevenson et ux by deed of Bachmann-Uxbridge Worsted Corporation d/b/a The Barre Wool Combing Company, Limited, dated January 2, 1954 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 3563, Page 509;

THENCE S. 59° 47' 58", thirteen and fifty-six hundredths (13.56) feet to a point at said Stevenson's land;

THENCE N. 22° 33' 31" E. eleven and three hundredths (11.03) feet by said Stevenson's land to the point of beginning.

Containing 45 square feet of land more or less.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 18, 1995 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 17425, Page 152.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2024

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ASSE seeks host families for exchanges students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a nonprofit, public benefit organization, is inviting local families to discover the many rewards of hosting a foreign exchange student.

ASSE students come from more than 50 countries worldwide: France, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Japan and Australia, to name a few. They are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, and they are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture, family life, school, sports, etc.

Students also love to share

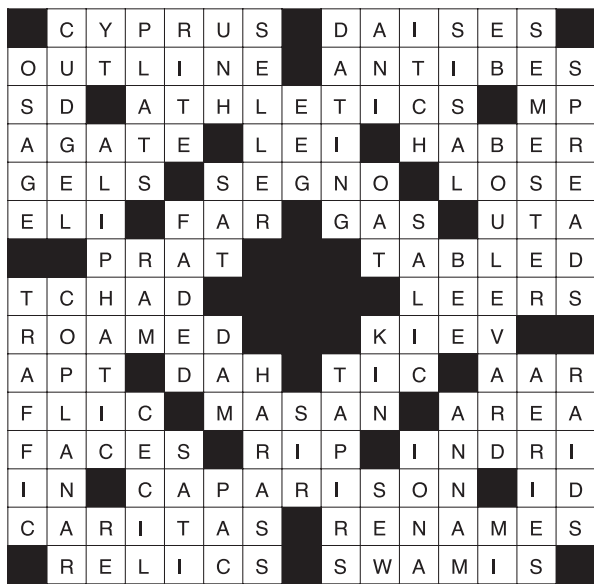
their own culture and language with their host families, who welcome the students into their home, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience. Host families may be single parents, couples and single persons.

The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are carefully selected based upon academics and personality, and host families choose their student from a wide variety of back-

grounds, countries and personal interests.

ASSE also offers qualified American students the opportunity to learn another language and culture by spending a school year, semester or a summer with a host family in another country.

Those interested in hosting an exchange student or becoming an exchange student abroad should call Alina at 1-800-677-2773, visit www.asse.com or send an email to asse@south@asse.com to request more information or start the application process.



Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE
PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE
1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.
Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.
visit www.publicnotices.turley.com