

Church News

Local pastors offer sermons

Divine Materials Part 4

The following prayer was penned by Scottish minister and theologian, John Baillie (1886-1960). It is worthy of deliberation:

“Teach me, O God, so to use all the circumstances of my life today that they may bring forth in me the fruits of holiness rather than the fruits of sin.”

This prayer is impacting, revealing that the circumstances of our lives serve as vehicles for spiritual growth or regression. Ultimately, we choose what we will make with the material God allows. Of course, and as we have noted in recent editions, Baillie expounds upon his plea with a series of specific requests. This week, let us explore the following elements in kind: a) “Let me use suspense as material for perseverance” and b) “Let me use danger as material for courage.” Let’s delve in.

We have the potential to react poorly to challenging situations. In the midst of trial and affliction, we all-too-easily segue from faith to fear, crippled by cowardice and concern. This is displeasing to God and, quite frankly, rather unhelpful for us. Yet what if we seized such moments and made them occasions for God-honoring growth and the demonstration of virtue?

The prophet Daniel was a man who seized such a moment. In a season of real opposition, threat and soul-crushing crisis, Daniel demonstrated persistent faith and valor-the type of faith and valor John Baillie cried out for many decades ago. Please take a moment to read Daniel 6 separately and in its entirety, for it is too voluminous to print in this publication. Once you have done so, come back and let us consider a timeless yet timely account. Go ahead, I’ll wait...and no cheating.

1) Daniel 6:1-10. Daniel is faced with a dire choice: a) obey the decree of king Darius and pray only to him for one month; or b) pray to the Lord and face death in the lions’ den. What did he do? Did he waver in his faith or in the practice thereof? Did he wither under pressure, yielding to the power of fear? No, Daniel maximized the opportunity afforded him by God and sought Him as he had always done. This scene showcased a sense of heroism and endurance seldom seen in the earth.

2) Daniel 6:11-18. Herein we realize that such virtues before heaven may come with corresponding earthly consequence. What happened? This selection records that-in accord with the edict of the king-Daniel was placed into a den of lions. Thus, it would appear that the prophet’s commitment to and courage before God would culminate with the loss of his life.

3) Daniel 6:19-28. However, Daniel is preserved by the power of God from certain death. The king, moved by the scene, has Daniel lifted from the pit. Scripture records that “no wound was on him, because he had trusted in his God” (v. 23b). The king, impacted by what he had witnessed, issued a new decree: that the whole of his kingdom must recognize and reverence the God of Daniel-the One True God. Therefore, the courage and perseverant faith of the one man, Daniel, came to have large-scale impact for both time and eternity. Consider that you and I are still speaking of these happenings.

There is application herein. Dear reader, do not give in to fear, and do not quit. Do not let the circumstances of your life, as difficult as they may be, move you to a place of cowardice or

retreat. Stay the course, moving onward and upward. Embrace the opportunity before you to practice the attributes noted in this writing. You never know the impact such a one as you may have.

Remember the example of Daniel! It has been recorded in the Bible for all time and for our benefit. Moreover, let us lift our voices with that of Baillie: Teach us, O God, so to use all the circumstances of our lives today that they may bring forth in us the fruits of holiness rather than the fruits of sin. Let us use suspense as material for earnest perseverance, and danger as material for courage.

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me using the information below. Also, check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us each Sunday at 10:30 am.

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

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

New Members’ Sunday
“Here I am Lord...
Send Me.”

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 65 v 17 -25 and Matthew 9 v 35 - 38

I. Introduction
As we approach Thanksgiving and the Christmas period, we look forward to being together with those close to us.

Coming together is about sharing, listening to each other’s stories, and offering support to the ones who need it. This is a period of renewal, inner joy, and peace. For some, it is revisiting the places that feed our souls. For others, it is about finding comfort with new friends and loved ones.

This is what God’s purpose is with us and our world, renewal and healing, love and care, as we see in our passages. That renewal happens also when we as God’s disciples reach out, invite and bring in those who need love, compassion and a place to share in the healing presence of God.

II. Here I am Lord...send me

In Isaiah Chapter 65 we see the transformation of Jerusalem from a city in ruins and the people of Israel in pain and sorrow, to a new creation, free from weeping... crying will be heard no more. The dying of young babies too soon after their birth will not happen anymore. Growing old will be common and prosperity will return to their lives.

There will be no more fear of an invasion. They will hear the voice of God again, and God will create a new heaven and a new earth, after they, the rebellious nation will return from exile, with the promise from God to forgive their sins, and rebuild them into a new creation.

This Chapter is also speaking about the hope of God for the nations of the future. God is a God of forgiveness who will redeem the world into a new creation after the passing of the earth as we know it. God will bring peace and the pain from the past will be forgotten.

The Son of God played a central role in God’s plan for salvation and in the ongoing new creation that God seeks to bring about. God continually seeks to forgive and restore both

God’s people and all of creation, in accordance with divine will, a vision of unity and peace rather than con-

flict and division. When Jesus walked around in the villages and towns around Galilee, His purpose was to bring the good news to a wider area of Galilee.

At the same time Jesus was preparing His disciples for their mission in those villages. He brought them along to see what they needed to do and how they had to go about it. He was their teacher and He was the embodiment of God’s will for the people of the Holy Land. Jesus displayed the same compassion that God had for the Israelites. Matthew describes how He was filled with compassion when He saw the crowds, who were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd, without a leader.

The Greek word for compassion, *spanschnizomai* translates into “His heart that went out to them” and He followed it up with caring and effective action, says R.T. France in his commentary on Matthew. Jesus’ compassion and action led to the transformation and renewal of their lives, in the same way God transformed and renewed the lives of the Israelites upon their return from exile.

Then in verse 37 He explains to His disciples that these people have become their harvest, waiting to be reaped. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. And in verse 38 He instructs them to pray to God of the harvest to send out workers into the harvest field. He describes the process in a very systematic way.

They must look around in these villages, see the suffering of those in the crowds, then they must have compassion with them and help them change their circumstances, heal them and bring the good news of salvation. The crowds needed renewal of hearts and minds, and in their difficult circumstances, and they, the disciples were being commissioned to go and do this and pray to God for more workers in God’s harvest fields.

III. Conclusion

Dear new members of Barre Congregational Church, and all of us this morning. God has called us all to hear from God what our purpose is, to look within and recognize the gifts we have and bring to the Body of Christ. We have been called by God to be filled with compassion, and for our hearts to go out to the crowds around us. We have been sent by God to love, care, and to bring the Good News from God to those who need it and invite them to worship with us, or where they find a place of worship, comfortable to them.

We are called to be partners with God in the renewal of our creation through our love and service and reaching out to those in need here in Barre and surrounding towns and beyond. When we hear the call, may we all respond, saying here I am, Lord...send me.

Amen.
Pastor Margaret Keyser
Barre congregational Church
30 Park St., Barre

Carolyn J. (Waite) Caille

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Carolyn J. (Waite) Caille, 85, a long-time resident of North Brookfield, passed away on Friday, Nov. 14, 2025.

She was born on July 7, 1940, in Quincy, Carolyn was the daughter of the late Stanley and Priscilla (Kendall) Waite. After graduating from North Brookfield High School with the class of 1958, Carolyn went to work for the Paul Revere Life Insurance Company in the legal department.

She left the corporate world to raise her three children, actively involved in their school and extracurricular activities. After dedicating herself to raising her family, she worked as a home health aide for Medical Resources Home Health before retiring. She remained deeply involved in her community, serving for many years on the North Brookfield High School Alumni Association and was a member of the Tri-Parish Community Church.

Carolyn loved music and dancing with all her heart and had many other interests ranging from genealogical research, spending time with her family, playing board games and cards, tole painting, quilting, knitting, crocheting and walking,

to name a few. One of the more impressionable experiences she had as a young woman was a cross-country trip taken with three close friends.

Although she remained closer to home in adulthood, she passed on her playful, adventurous spirit to her grandchildren, filling their lives with cherished moments of joy and imagination. Carolyn was a generous and kind soul, who always tried to make people feel wanted and welcome.

Preceded in death by the love of her life, Eugene V. “Gene” Caille Jr., their affection, kindness, and companionship reflected a truly lasting partnership. Her memory lives on through her three children, Laura, Jeffrey with his wife Emily and Gregory with his wife Kathryn and through her four beloved grandchildren: James, Mary, Timothy and Matthew. She also leaves a much-loved sister, Virginia (Waite) Poirier-Skoczulek, a nephew Christopher Poirier with his wife Renee and their son Devin, many Waite and Kendall cousins and a larger circle of family and friends who she loved



DEATH NOTICE

Caille, Carolyn J. (Waite)

Died Nov. 14, 2025

Calling hour on

Nov. 22 10- 11 a.m. and

Funeral 11 a.m. in

Pillsbury Funeral Home,

44 Gilbert St.,

North Brookfield

with all her heart. She will be greatly missed by all.

The family is very thankful for and would like to express its deepest appreciation to the people at Harbor House Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and AccentCare Hospice and Palliative Care for their loving care over the last few years.

The funeral for Carolyn will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025 at 11a.m. in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 44 Gilbert St., North Brookfield. A calling hour will be held from 10-11am. prior to the service in the funeral home. Burial will be in Walnut Grove Cemetery in North Brookfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the NBHS Alumni Association, Inc., c/o Maryellen Brunelle, Treasurer, P.O. Box 520, East Brookfield, MA 01515 or a charity of your choosing.

If you wish to share your memories or offer a condolence, please visit: pillsburyfuneralhome.com

Public Notices

Barre Conservation Commission

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40, The Wetlands Protection Act, that a public hearing will be held on a **Notice of Intent** for the construction of an inclusive retreat center building with dormitories, kitchen, and meditation area. Three duplex cottages along with supporting driveways, parking area, and stormwater management at property located at Pleasant Street and 183 Mill Road, Assessors Map B, Lots 107A and 90 and recorded with Books 54612 and 18293, Pages 48, 157 consecutively.

From: Insight Meditation Society
1230 Pleasant Street
Barre, MA 01005
To be held on **Tuesday, November 25, 2025 7:00 p.m.** in the Conservation Commission Office on the 3rd floor of the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005.
Ronald Rich, Chairman
11/20/2025

**PUBLIC AUCTION
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN PURSUANT TO
THE PROVISIONS OF
M.L.C. 225 SEC.39A
THE FOLLOWING
VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD
ON November 22, 2025
AT A SALE TO
SATISFY OUR GARAGE
LIEN THEREON
FOR TOWING & STORAGE
CHARGES AND EXPENSES
OF SALE AND NOTICE:**

2012 Nissan Pathfinder
VIN: 5N1AR1NB9CC609886
2004 GMC Sierra 1500
VIN: 1GTEK14T14Z173876

2008 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE46K48U779834
2021 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 5YFP4MCE0MP061488
2009 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T4BE46K49R137072
2012 Ford Explorer
VIN: 1FMDH8D86CGA58519

2008 Dodge Durango
VIN: 1D8HB58N28F149563
2007 Honda Civic
VIN: 1HGFA16567L031277
2005 Ford F-350 Super Duty
VIN: 1FTWX31515EC34207

2023 Yamaha R1
VIN: JYARN66E5PA003233
**The sale will be held at
Early's on Park Avenue
536 Park Ave.
Worcester MA 0160
11/06, 11/13, 11/20/2025**

TOWN OF BARRE

Board of Water Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Water Commissioners relative to increasing Water User Fees. **This hearing will take place on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 5:30PM at the Department of Public Works Building, 441 Wheelwright**

Road, Barre, Massachusetts.

Any person wishing to comment may do so at that time. Any questions may be directed to the DPW by phone: 978-355-5013 or email: dpw@townofbarre.com
11/20, 11/27/2025

TOWN OF NEW BRAINTREE CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

New Braintree Conservation Commission will review a Notice of Intent for Ecological Restoration filed by Chris Beulow from MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Project location: 95 McEvoy Rd., New Braintree. The public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 7:15 pm** in the meeting room at the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive. The public is invited to attend.
11/20/2025



Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

**We invite you to join us
Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm
to explore these topics and more.**

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

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 Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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 \$275, 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.