

**Mariners: No meetings until further notice**

**Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30am**

**EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE**

Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	Sunday	10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Commissions	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday Fellowship	Friday	5:00 p.m.
Mariners	2nd Friday	5:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	9:30 a.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

Friday Fellowship gathers at 5:00 p.m. every Friday for dinner. Mariner's meet at 5:00p.m. on the second Friday of every month. Everyone is welcome to both. Please join us!

**The Mirror - July 2020**

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church  
of the Brethren

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He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty,  
 will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”  
 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;  
 he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge;  
 his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,  
 nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

### IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
 this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
 What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
 My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.



### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Pat Benton** – Health Issues  
**Helen Campbell** – Waiting for Skin Cancer Treatment  
**Kerby Frantz** – Cancer Treatment  
**Jeff Qualls** – Cancer Treatment  
**Larry Ward** – Health Issues



## WALKING IN THE FAVOR OF GOD – PART TWO

What we see in the story of **Noah** is still applicable to our lives today. *Genesis: 6:8*

Noah lived in a wicked time but he “found favor in the eyes of the Lord”. This is the kind of affirmation from **God** that we should all desire and pursue in order to honor and please Yahweh, our Living God. The favor of God is His acceptance, approval, provision, divine energy, and joy given to us. To have His favor we must learn to listen to God and to trust in Him. Then we must believe Him, receive the forgiveness of our sins through **Christ**, and trust Him to be our Savior and Lord. Listening and trusting the Lord are also essential in the Christian life in order to follow His guidance and walk in His will. Our prayer lives will show us if we are truly trusting God.

*Proverbs 3:5-7* shows us how to walk with God as Noah did. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Noah lived in a time of great wickedness. All was corrupt and God decided to wipe all living creatures from the earth, but Noah was different from everyone else. He was a righteous man, blameless in his time, and he walked with God. He had a relationship with Yahweh the Living God of creation. In this relationship God instructed him to build an ark. And Noah started building. We do not have to understand all that God is doing to be obedient to His instruction. Our human nature wants to understand how it will all work out. But such knowledge is not a requirement of obedience. God wants us to believe, trust him, and do what he instructs. If we will trust Him enough to take the first step, we can be sure that God will lead us on. Noah kept on building while those around him thought he was crazy. We, also, find ourselves counter to society when we are doing the will of the Lord God Almighty. Noah trusted God, obeyed and followed God’s instructions on what and how to build what saved him and the animals from dying. Trust is also essential in our lives as we walk with the Lord. Without it we would be like a car without wheels going nowhere. Noah shows us how to live for God. Listen to the Lord, trust Him, and then obey. It can be scary when we do not understand, however, anytime we follow the Lord’s instructions we win simply because we have obeyed Him. *What obstacles cause you to waver in your trust in God? What personal assurances do you find about God’s ways in Isaiah 55:11? What benefits of trust Him are mentioned in Psalm 34:8-10?*

*Dr. Charles Stanley*

## POSITIVE INSIGHTS

*“We have heard that it was said by them of old time, ‘Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgement...’” Matthew 5:21*

One day I was reading the fifth chapter of Matthew. I’ve read that chapter hundreds of times. But this time I had a revelation about it. It is a blueprint for happiness. The descriptions of what you must do to be happy go on through the whole chapter. And it says not only to love your friends, but also love your enemies and pray for those who mistreat you. Then the great sermon rises to a climax where it says, “You must always act like your Father in heaven.”

You may say, “This is unattainable. That is too hard.”

That is why Jesus is Jesus. He put it high, because He believed that there was something great in human beings. He tried to get us to see that if you have what it takes to rise to the challenge, you will find happiness in a way you cannot find it anywhere else. If you are courageous enough to take it, your life will be great.

**Prayer:** Our Heavenly Father, deliver us from our everlasting indecisiveness. We want, yet we don’t want. We dream, yet we don’t dream. We reach, yet we don’t reach. Help us to say, “By the grace of God I will do it.” Then, we know, everything will start marvelously changing. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Norman Vincent Peale*

## MOSES AND THE RED SEA

Nine year old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. “Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.” “Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?” his mother asked. “Well, no, Mom, but, if I told it the way the teacher did, you’d never believe it!”



## MAY 2020 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 0

### **Giving:**

Local:	\$4,945.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	202.90
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,147.90</b>



### OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

**Website:**[www.empirecob.org](http://www.empirecob.org); **Facebook:**[www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB](http://www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB);

**Twitter:**[https://twitter.com/empire\\_cob](https://twitter.com/empire_cob); and

**Instagram:**<https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>

## ONLY HUMAN?

By Patricia Stepanski Plouffe, printed in *Angels on Earth* magazine, May/June 2020

"This is the one," John-Paul said, and I knew he was right. We sat in our warm car, staring at the church – small, white and full of New England charm.

Since our engagement, we'd been searching for the perfect place to get married. John-Paul and I wanted a fall wedding in Cape Cod but had struggled to find a venue that we both liked. Until this one. Something about it just felt right.

We got out of the car and trekked through the freshly fallen snow to explore. The church doors were locked. Probably closed for the off-season. *What now?*

"Can we help you?" came a voice from behind us.

We spun around. Standing there were two young men dressed for the cold weather, each holding a snow shovel.

"We want to be married here," I said.

"The pastor preaches at Our Lady of the Cape during the winter months," one of the men said. "If you hurry, you should be able to catch him there right now."

John-Paul and I hightailed it back to the car. When I turned to shout a thank-you, the men were gone. Off to shovel snow, I presumed. But the only set of footprints I could see anywhere were mine and John-Paul's.

We found the pastor right where our mysterious helpers had said he'd be. Our ceremony that fall was everything we'd dreamed of. Perhaps because it was divinely arranged.

## MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

By Georgia Hubley, printed in *Angels on Earth* magazine, May/June 2020

A perfumy smell woke me from a deep sleep. I sat straight up in bed. The whole left side of my body was numb. Tingles ran from the neck down to my left foot. My husband had already gotten up, so I couldn't ask him if he noticed the strong scent that filled the bedroom: a sweet and spicy combination of oranges, nutmeg and vanilla. "Old Spice," I said, breathing it in. The scent my dad wore every day of his life. Strange that I was smelling it now. Was it real? Were my symptoms? A year ago I'd gone to the ER with chest pains, but doctors assured me it was a bad case of indigestion. Was I overreacting again?

I took another deep breath, visualizing the milky white glass bottle with the blue sailing ship logo. I gave a bottle to Dad every Christmas, every birthday. I loved the scent of it, even when I was a teenager chafing against his protectiveness. He just couldn't bear the thought of my getting hurt. I wished he was still here to look out for me.

*What if he is here?* I thought suddenly. *What if the smell was a message?*

I jumped out of bed, slipped on flip-flops and yoga pants. "I'm numb and tingly from my neck to my toes," I said to my husband.

We reached the hospital in minutes. After two days of tests, an angiogram revealed two blockages in my coronary arteries. Doctors inserted a stent in surgery. Eventually I needed two more as well as a pacemaker. My heart problems had originally been misdiagnosed. Angels weren't going to let that happen again.

## DATES TO REMEMBER IN JULY

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

20<sup>th</sup> – Roger & Cynthia Welch

28<sup>th</sup> – Skip & Kathleen Powell

### **BIRTHDAYS**

01<sup>st</sup> – Bailey Price

02<sup>nd</sup> – Natasha Towe

06<sup>th</sup> – Glenn Stanford

13<sup>th</sup> – Pat Shafer

17<sup>th</sup> – Jen Baker

18<sup>th</sup> – Sheryle Knott

Carolyn Trent

20<sup>th</sup> – Pam Franklin

24<sup>th</sup> – Cynthia Welch

29<sup>th</sup> – Veronica Suderman



*If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates.  
Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary. You are important to us!*



# JULY 2020 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 Psalm 19:1-4  Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano Candice Arellano	2 Job 42:10-13  Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo Ben & Jen Baker	3 Romans 6:1-13  Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger	4 Mark 12:41-44  Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.
5 Philippians 4:10-20  Pastor & Teachers Helen Campbell Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam.	6 Psalm 139:7-10  Naomi Covey Arlene Cupp Gary & Charlotte DeHart	7 James 1:2-6, 12-17  Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear	8 Luke 10:25-37  Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz	9 Psalm 36:5-9  Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie Harold Harger	10 Hebrews 2:5-18  Clark & Melanie Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam.	11 2 Corinthians 1:1-7  David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family Jay Irizarry
12 Matthew 6:25-33  Pastor & Teachers Norman Johnson Randy & Teri Johnson & Fam. Darlene Kennard	13 Ephesians 2:1-10  Sheryle Knott & Fam. Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib	14 Psalm 91:1-6  JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes Gerri Masellis Ric Mason	15 2 Corinthians 12:6-11  Edna May Miller Josephine Moore Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune	16 1 Peter 4:9-11  Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Fam. Tommie Parrish	17 Psalm 12:1-18  Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family Dennis Peterson Eileene Petros	18 Romans 12:9-21  Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family Skip & Kathleen Powell
19 James 1:19-25  Pastor & Teachers Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Family	20 Numbers 6:22-27  Joel & Susan Price & Fam. John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Fam.	21 Ephesians 6:12-18  Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden Charlotte Rice & Fam.	22 1 Corinthians 9:24-27  Lana Royer Keith & Maria Shafer Vance Shafer Vern & Patty Shafer	23 2 Corinthians 9:6-11  Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider Tony & Laura Snyder & Fam.	24 Isaiah 45:2-6  Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford J.J. & Soleena Storne & Fam.	25 Genesis 50:15-21  Veronica Suderman & Family Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Family
26 Hebrews 12:4-11  Pastor & Teachers Mike Syverson Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent	27 Luke 7:36-50  John & Sue Vacca Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam.	28 2 Corinthians 4:13-18  Roger & Cynthia Welch & Fam.	29 Psalm 34:1-8  Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam. Derek Wyatt	30 John 20:24-31  Don & Susan Wyatt Donny Wyatt	31 1 Corinthians 13:4-7	













**PRAYER**  
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# JULY 2020 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			<b>1</b>  8:00 am <b>Government Commodities Distribution</b>	<b>2</b>  4:15pmFellowship <b>Singers</b>		<b>4</b> <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> <b>9:00am-2:00pm</b>
5	6	<b>7</b>  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> <b>9:00am-Noon</b>	8	<b>9</b>  4:15pmFellowship <b>Singers</b>	10	<b>11</b> <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> <b>9:00am-2:00pm</b>
12	13	<b>14</b>  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> <b>9:00am-Noon</b>	15	<b>16</b>  4:15pmFellowship <b>Singers</b> 6:00pmBoard <b>Meeting</b>	17	<b>18</b> <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> <b>9:00am-2:00pm</b>
19	20	<b>21</b>  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> <b>9:00am-Noon</b> 9:30amWomen's <b>Fellowship Mtg.</b>	22	<b>23</b>  4:15pmFellowship <b>Singers</b>	24	<b>25</b> <b>HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP</b> <b>9:00am-2:00pm</b>
26	27	<b>28</b>  <b>EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> <b>9:00am-Noon</b>	29	<b>30</b>  4:15pmFellowship <b>Singers</b>	31	

## EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour