

January 2020

MSBC NEWS

A CONNECTION TO GOD & EACH OTHER

Soli Deo Gloria

From The Pastor...

It Is Not Death To Die

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21)

2019 is now behind us. Like every other year, it was full of joys and sorrows, encouragements and disappointments. More than any year in recent memory, 2019 was a season of grief for our church family. Just a few hours ago, I received the news that our dear brother Paul Roger died early this morning (December 30). This adds to a growing list of loss. In just the last four months, we've held funerals for: Tim Regis (8/24), Grover Pillsbury (9/14), Laura & Linda Lowd (9/21), Dennis Miller (10/22), Sandra Parks (11/9), and Richard Bailey (12/14). In 2019, we also said goodbye to five dear friends of MSBC – Tom Hodge, David Shaw, Lily Hodge, Brenda Hughes, and Rob Wilkins (a former member).

As we enter a new year, a new decade even, we would do well to look back and grieve, but not despair. For we believe that death is not the end. In fact, we believe with the Apostle Paul that "to die is gain." Why? Because we believe that those who die in the Lord are not dead at all. They are alive with Christ right now, freed from all sin and suffering (and that is far better). As Jesus said to the thief on the cross – "Today you will be with me in paradise!" (Luke 23:43)

These dear brothers and sisters in Christ have left behind their physical bodies, but only for a short time. They now wait in heaven with Christ and all His people until He returns to take His throne on the Earth. Then they will be raised with us to receive glorious and everlasting bodies and inherit the New Heavens and Earth. We will rejoice and reign with Christ together forever.

But don't take my word for it. Here are a few chapters from the Bible to help us all reflect more fully on this glorious truth: John 11, Romans 8, 1 Corinthians 15, Philippians 1, 1 Thessalonians. 4, Revelation. 21-22.

Another great source of comfort are the hymns that we sing every Sunday: *How Great Thou Art, Amazing Grace, the Old Rugged Cross, It Is Well with My Soul, Blessed Assurance*, etc... Nearly every one of them has us singing something about our eternal life after death. Here is a lesser known hymn that has encouraged me greatly. I pray that it will bless you as well:

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IT IS NOT DEATH TO DIE

César Malan (1832); Translator: George W. Bethune (1847)

It is not death to die,
to leave this weary road,
and 'midst the brotherhood on high
to be at home with God.

It is not death to close
the eye long dimmed by tears,
and wake in glorious repose
to spend eternal years.

It is not death to bear
the wrench that sets us free
from dungeon chain,
to breathe the air of boundless liberty

It is not death to fling
aside this sinful dust,
and rise, on strong, exulting wing,
to live among the just.

Jesus, Thou Prince of life!
Thy chosen cannot die:
Like Thee, they conquer in the strife
To reign with Thee on high

God bless you all and Happy New Year!
- Pastor Michael John

Meetings/Gatherings/Groups

January 5 - First of the Sunday Night Series, Chapel 6:00pm
January 8 - Youth Group Resumes, at 6:00pm
January 12 - Sunday Night Series, Chapel 6:00pm
January 15 - Annual Reports Due in Office
January 19 - Deacons Meeting at 12:00pm
January 19 - Sunday Night Series
January 19 - Annual Report Book available for review
January 19 - Sanctity of Human Life Sunday collection for PCC
January 21 & 28 - Tuesday Prayer Group at 11:30am
January 26 - Pot-luck Lunch & Annual Meeting
January 26 - Sunday Night Series



Please send newsletter articles to
our Communications Assist,
Dorothy Purdy at her special
address: msbcom37@gmail.com



Youth Group 2020

Meets on Wed at 6:00 pm beginning January 8 for fellowship and both spiritual & physical food. Open to all youth in grades 5-10.
For details please contact Caryn Ahlstrom.

History of Church Pews

Original to the present 1873 church building at Market Street Baptist. Up until 1886, Market Street was part of Salisbury MA and the church was called the "Salisbury & Amesbury Baptist Church". They were among the many pews used in the upstairs sanctuary and were replaced when renovations took place in the 1950's. A small amount of the pews were saved & moved to the bottom floor for the new wedding chapel room. They have been used there until 2019.

Mcinnis Auctioneers sold our pews at one of their auctions in September 2019.

\$1,425 sale of 13 pews (5 pews sold for \$125 each and 8 for \$100 each)

-356.25 commission 25%

\$1,068.75 Total payment to MSBC (for chapel chair fund)

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Many photos need updating. Some of you have outdated photos & others have no photo at all. Also...Please check your personal info...address, phone, email address & birthdates
Please email the office with your photos & corrections at msbcsec@verizon.net or 978-388-0930 to have these changes reflected in the mailing list and directory.
~Thank You!

Women's Encouragers Brunch

Saturday, February 1 from 9-11am

All women are welcome to come to the next women's encouragers brunch for good food, good speaker and good fellowship.

Sign-ups at church or call church office.



Boy Scout Update...

You may have noticed that the nursery is getting a facelift by Troop 4 Eagle Scout candidate Noah White. He, along with fellow Scouts, family and friends are painting the "yellow floor" to new colors. We might have to rename it! MOD squad is working with him on coordinating colors. We give him a special thanks to him for undertaking this project.

MSBC Annual Report Books 2019

An Annual Report Book will be offered to every family on Sunday, January 19. Please review your copy to prepare for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26. In the meantime, please submit your reports to the office before January 15.

Sunday Evenings in 2020

We'll be gathering in the Chapel at 6 pm for a time of worship, prayer, and discipleship. Here is a schedule of upcoming Sunday evenings at MSBC:

January 5	The Power & Practice of Prayer I
January 12	The Power & Practice of Prayer II
January 19	Special Presentation – Abby Johnson PCC Talk (Sanctity of Human Life)
January 26	The Power & Practice of Prayer III



HOPE MAIL (New Brothers Fellowship)
Notes are due to Ruth Kerr on January 20

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday – January 19

As a church, Market Street Baptist supports The Pregnancy Care Center as an outreach mission project. A speaker will give a presentation during worship and a special offering will be collected.

What is SOHLS? In 1983, the Christian Action Council Education and Ministries Fund, which is today known as Care Net, asked President Ronald Reagan to create a special day to focus on the value of human life and the fundamental right to life, as recognized by the American Founding Fathers. Later that year, President Reagan issued a proclamation establishing a National Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (SOHLS).

The PCC is a crisis pregnancy center offering loving alternatives to abortion, and confidential counsel to nearly 1,500 women annually who are facing unplanned pregnancies. In addition they provide sexual integrity education, post abortion counseling and material assistance (baby items/food). The services are free, thanks to support from individuals and local churches. www.PCCNortheast.org

PRAYER CORNER...

Please contact church office to have your request and/or results printed in the newsletter

at 978-388-0930 or email msbcsec@verizon.net

Audio/Visual Ministry

(Paul, Ray, Ward, Dana, Les)

We record our Sunday Worship Service to broadcast on three Cable TV networks:

ACT TV12 (Amesbury, Salisbury, Merrimac) Thursdays 4:30 pm & Fridays 9:00 am

Haverhill 22 (Haverhill) Sundays at 7:30 am & 5:00 pm

PortMedia 10 (Newburyport) Thursdays 4:30 – 6:00pm

Pastor's Sermons on Radio:

WSEW 88.7 FM - www.wordradio.net

Sundays 9:00am "Unchanging Grace"

Recordings available:

SUNDAY WORSHIP on DVD @ \$3 donation

SUNDAY SERMON on CD @ \$2 donation

Use the Requests Forms at the back of the sanctuary or call church office. Free to Nursery/ JR Church volunteers.

Sermons can also be heard on our web site: www.MSBCNews.gov

Upcoming Sunday Night Series

February 9 – March 29

How to Talk about Your Faith: Do you have trouble talking about your faith with family and friends? Join the club! We all need help. Even the Apostle Paul asked the church to pray for him so that He can speak this Gospel clearly and fearlessly. (Ephesians 6:19-20 and Colossians 4:4) This will be an 8-week series that we hope will encourage and equip each us. Lessons from Greg Koukl's Tactics.

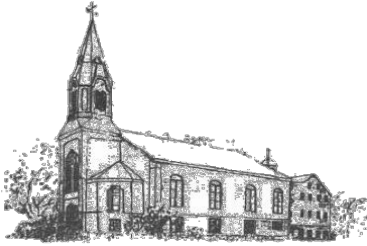
April 12 – June 7

How to Grow in Your Faith: Now that we've come to faith in Christ, how do we continue in our growth? And how can we help each other grow? This 8-week series will focus on what it means to be a disciple of Christ and how we can help make disciples for Christ.

MARKET STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

37 Market Street
Amesbury, MA, 01913

NEWSLETTER January 2020



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TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

WORSHIP WITH US	FIND US
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Sunday's at 10:00 - 11:30 am

Cable TV:

ActTV12

Thursdays 4:30 pm & Fridays 9:00 am

Haverhill 22

Sundays at 7:30 am & 5:00 pm

PortMedia 10

Thursdays 4:30 – 6:00pm

Radio:

WSEW 88.7 FM - Sundays 9:00
am "Unchanging Grace"

www.wordradio.net

www.msbcnews.org

Sermons Archive:

www.msbcnews.org/sermons

(for current sermons, visit the home page)

Facebook: [Market Street Baptist Church](#)

CONTACT US

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Rev. Michael John (Pastor)

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Dianne Cole (Office Admin)

msbcsec@verizon.net

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am -
12:00 pm

Friday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm