



Broad Brook Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
122 Main Street
Broad Brook, Connecticut 06016

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January - February 2016



The Wayside Beacon

Publication of the
Broad Brook Congregational Church
Pastor: Rev. Carol Lewis

WELCOME 2016!

January - February 2016
volume 86 - issue 61

For I know the plans I have for you,* declares the Lord,
*plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans
to give you hope and a future.*
- Jeremiah 29:11

Broad Brook Congregational Church

122 Main Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016
860-623-4547




Broad Brook Congregational Church

Pastor
Ministers
Moderator
Treasurer
Organist
Chair, Board of Deacons
Chair, Board of Trustees

Rev. Carol B. Lewis
All Congregation Members
Wade Signor
Robert Cormier
Dr. James Clark
Betty Stratton
Corin Jones

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org/>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BBCongregationalChurch>

The Wayside Beacon
is a publication of the
Broad Brook Congregational Church

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Sunday Worship Services are held at 10:00 AM.

Communion is observed on the first Sunday of each month.

Church Sunday School is held from September to June and starts at 10:30 AM after the children and teachers leave the Worship Service.

The nursery is available for parents with infants and small children during the service. The sound system in the nursery enables you to hear the worship service.

Rev. Lewis has office hours on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm or by appointment. Calls for the Pastor should be made through the church office at 860-623-4547.

Please email staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org with announcements or corrections to the weekly Bulletin or the Beacon.



Thanks to Broad Brook Gardens
 for our wonderful flower arrangements!



Sign up for our
e-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe on our site:
<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>



We're on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/BBCongregationalChurch>
 Please like us!

A Message From Rev. Carol Lewis



Happy New Year one and all!

November and December have been very busy here at BBCC. Hopefully the next few months will be less hectic but still filled with Advent's gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. My hope for all of God's creation is a time of greater peace and love that will foster joy in our hearts and the hearts of those we encounter on our life's journey.

The United Church of Christ is putting out Social Media Postcards. For those who are not tech savvy I will include a copy of one of the postcards in our Beacon from time to time. Here is one for this issue:



Think about returning to church. Come back for the community, the extravagant welcome, the love. God knows we need it now more than ever. Come back because we miss you! If you haven't returned that sweater yet, you could wear it to church

and we can commiserate with one another over our "unique" Christmas gift. Hope to see you there!

Blessings,
 Rev. Carol





May the new year bring you success
happiness and prosperity.
Have a happy new year!
May each and every day of the New Year
Brings you lots of happiness and love.



Sign up for 2016 flower
dedications in the
fellowship hall.



The 2nd Sunday each month we do our
monthly collection for the food pantry.
Thanks for your participation!

From the Christian Education Committee

Submitted by Linda York

Sunday School News

The Sunday School presented the annual Christmas Program on December 13, 2015. This year we acted out the book called The First Christmas Night. We thank the adults who took the Three Kings roles and the choir who sang *Bethlehem's Gift* to help us this year. We especially thank the children for spreading God's love and the message of peace this Christmas season.

The Sunday School continues to plan special events for the Winter and Spring seasons. Planned events include a leading a mission project to raise money for the Heifer Project, presenting a puppet show, singing in the children's choir, having a First Communion Class, and hopefully having some fun science projects to help illustrate our faith.



First Communion Classes

Students in second grade and above who have not taken First Communion classes are invited to attend three classes to prepare them to take communion with the church. The classes will take place from 11:15 – 12:00 after church on March 6, March 13, and March 20, 2016. First Communion will be offered during the 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday church service on Thursday, March 24, 2016. The children and their parents are invited to participate in the service. Certificates and crosses will be given out.

Please sign up for the first communion classes at church or call Linda York at (860-623-4287) for more information.



DONATION COUPON

Making a donation as a wonderful way to remember a special anniversary, to say "thank you," celebrate an event, or to donate in memory of a loved one or a friend who has passed away. Check the appropriate box below to tell us where you would like your donation to go.

✂.....✂.....✂.....✂.....

<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Maintenance	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Music Committee	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Office Supplies	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday School	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coffee Hour	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historian (storage containers)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please Specify)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deacon Wish List	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discretionary Fund	\$

Total Amount of Donation \$ _____

(Check payable to: Broad Brook Congregational Church)

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Reason for Donation: _____

Send your request to: Board of Trustees
Broad Brook Congregational Church
P.O. Box 466
Broad Brook, CT 06016

PLEDGE ENVELOPES

Pledge envelopes are now available for those who have pledged to Broad Brook Congregational Church. They are on the table in the narthex. Anyone who did not pledge and would like offering envelopes, please see Bilt Startton.



Anyone who would like a record of their 2015 donations, please see Bill Stratton.



Our Mission Statement

We are a caring family of God where all people are welcome to share in spiritual growth, guidance, fellowship, and support. We work together to spread God's love and the words and mission of Jesus Christ to others.

BROAD BROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Hymnals Order Form

Each hymnal costs \$20.00. To donate a hymnal to the church, fill out the following form, neatly printing how the front inside cover donation plate should read. Turn in this form and a check for \$20.00 to BBCC, indicating "hymnal fund" in the memo. Thank you for your generosity.

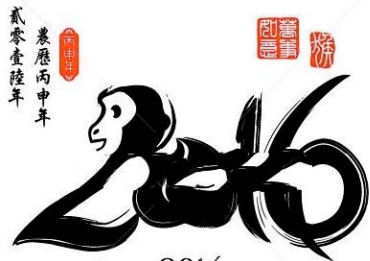
Hymnal Donated by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please send your donation to:

Music Committee
Broad Brook Congregational Church
122 Main Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016



2016
CHINESE NEW YEAR THE YEAR OF
MONKEY

HAPPYNEWYEAR2.COM

Earthly Branch of Birth Year: Shen
Wu Xing (The Five Elements): Jin (Metal)
Yin Yang: Yang

Chinese Zodiac

hóu. Years of the Monkey: 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016, 2028

The monkey is a clever animal. It is usually compared to a smart person. During the Spring and Autumn (770 - 476 BC), the dignified Chinese official title of marquis was pronounced 'Hou', the same as the pronunciation of 'monkey' in Chinese. The animal was thereby bestowed with an auspicious meaning.

BBCC FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Dedicating a flower is a wonderful way to honor someone you love and respect. To arrange to have flowers any Sunday, contact Corin Jones at 860.654.1877. The arrangements are *only* \$22.00.

Your check should be made payable to Broad Brook Congregational Church. We also do double dedications if the date you want is taken.



Mail-In Flower Dedication Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Dedication: _____

Enclose your check for \$22.00 payable to: **Broad Brook Congregational Church** and mail to us at: Broad Brook Congregational Church, P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Cut out the coupon above and send in your flower dedication. We list the dedications in the Sunday Bulletin and on our website at <http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>.



Children's Sermons

JANUARY

10-Carol Innes
17- Katherine Mickens
24-Dr. James Clark
31- Rev. Carol Lewis

FEBRUARY

14- Tracey Nieroda (First
Sunday in Lent)
21-Wade Signor
28- Rev. Carol Lewis

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me,
and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of
heaven belongs to such as these."

- *Matthew 19:14*

Helping With Physical Challenges At Our Church

We've put a lot of time and effort into making
sure our church is physically accessible. We
have:

- chair lift and a helper to get you up/down the
stairs to/from the sanctuary.
- wheelchairs and walkers available.
- portable hearing devices to help hear the
service.
- wheelchair friendly restrooms



FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS - *Betty Stratton, Chair of the Board of Deacons*

Submitted by Betty Stratton

As I am writing this article, we are now in the 3rd week of
Advent. We are preparing for the birth of Jesus Christ. I want to
thank each family who has volunteered to lead the Advent Litany
and light the candles. They are: Katherine Mickens, Tracey
Nieroda and Chelsea Morin, Christine Marschall with Ella and
Avery, Bill and Betty Stratton with Isabelle McMahon, and
Joyce and Becky Bonelli and family. The Board thanks you all.

The Sunday school put on a delightful Christmas Pageant on
Sunday Dec. 13th. The children acted out the story, "The First
Christmas Night" by Keith Christopher under the direction of
Linda York. Thank you to Linda and Children.

On Mon. Dec 21st, Broad Brook Congregational Church had
it's first "Blue Christmas" worship. This a service that
celebrates the reason of the season in an atmosphere of quietness,
dim light, soft music, scripture and prayers to help on reflect on
the season in a calmer softer way.

Broad Brook Congregational Church came alive with the
poinsettia plants that decorated the church. We celebrated
Christmas Eve with the service of Lessons and singing Carols.
Rev. Carol read the children a story, which we all enjoyed.
Silent Night was sung during the lighting of the individual
candles and the tree.

Looking ahead:

Ash Wednesday is Feb.10, 2016, therefore the first Sunday
in Lent is Feb. 14th. The plans for during Lent have not as yet
been discussed. Spring time is the time for our new member
reception. Anyone interested in becoming a member of Broad
Brook Congregational Church should contact Rev. Carol Lewis
or a Deacon.

March 24 is Maundy Thursday and Easter is March 27th.





JANUARY

Mrs. Beth Siekiera Walker 6
Mr. Zachary Siekiera 9
Mrs. Janice Lang 10
Miss Braelynn MacDonald 13
Ms. Madelaine Clark 18
Ms. Katie Siekiera 30

FEBRUARY

Mrs. Joyce Bonelli 1
Mr. Tyler Morin 11
Mr. Jason DiMauro 12
Mr. Jerry Marquis 14
Mrs. Penny Savoie 18
Arthur Sweet 20
Miss Amanda Bonelli 23
Miss Brittany Townsend 28

Happy Anniversary

JANUARY

Rev. Dr. Joseph & Laura Callahan 10
Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Curren 28

Call or email Debbie Siekiera 860-627-5181
- dlsiekiera@yahoo.com to add/ remove
birthdays or anniversaries.



LEETE-STEVEN'S
FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

61 South Road
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Windsor Locks
860-623-3498

354 Main Street
Somers
860-749-8413

www.leetestevens.com

Ways & Means *(continued)*

Our committee would like to thank everyone for their support throughout the past year. We look forward to working with you again in this new year of 2016. As always we are always open to suggestions to new ways of raising funds to help out Broad Brook Cong'l Church meet its goals and obligations. ☒



Corned Beef Supper

March 5th 2016

*(Weather permitting! Flyers and
mailers
will be sent prior to the date.)*



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WAYS & MEANS Committee Report

submitted by Debbie Siekiera

I cannot believe we are entering into a new year already. Where did the last one go? With a new year in front of us, it is now time to set a whole new schedule of fundraising events. Our committee will be diligently researching some new fun ways to raise money for our church. We will continue to hold our popular suppers, with the first being the Corned Beef supper on March 5th, 2016. Last year the snow was relentless which meant cancelling this favorite meal. So far the weather has provided us with less brutal temperatures and dry pavements. Let us see what it will give us as we head towards the spring.

Our Ecumenical Bazaar was fun again this year although it seemed that the foot traffic for that day had decreased. Sales were still good however so we are anticipating new product and display for next year. Thank you everyone who contributed your homemade items and to our buyers who took the time to visit, always some great gift giving items for some lucky recipient.

The Pot Roast Supper was amazing! Our committee would really like to thank our butcher Greg at "The Butchery" (next to Harken's) for the super select cut of meat he sold to us for this meal. This is not to downplay our chef's ability to put his magic in there for the tastiest and most moist piece of meat. Oh and let us not forget the gravy, potatoes, even the carrots! Then to crown the meal off.....the choices everyone had for dessert was phenomenal. They were all sooo good! Thank you everyone for your help and support once again. There is so much fun fellowship time at these events.

As a reminder to parents who have teens graduating from high school who are required to perform community service for credit, we can use your students to help at all our fundraisers. Please see or call Mike or Debbie Siekiera for more information 860-627-5181.

Lay Readers



JANUARY

3 - Debbie Signor
10- Dr. James Clark
17- Rich York
24-Katherine Mickens
31-Wade Signor

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20
Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29
Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19
Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6

FEBRUARY

7- Joyce Bonelli
14- Bob Cormier

21- Warren Wenz
28- Mike Siekiera

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Genesis 15:1-12; Psalm 27
Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8



Please Patronize the stores at
TOWN CENTER SHOPS
next to Broad Brook Church
860-432-8900

Sunday School Help

Our Sunday School attendance is growing! We need teachers. Mrs. York has been doing a wonderful job with assistance from Chelsea Morin. We would like to separate the older children from the younger ones to better serve their needs. Please consider making a difference with our youth! All materials are provided. Please see Linda York if you would like to help.



2015 Flower Dedications

We thank all of those who dedicated beautiful flowers in memory or in honor of someone in 2015.

January

25 – Selma Grant in memory of her parents

February

1 – Joyce Bonelli
8 – Bill and Betty Stratton in Honor of Valentine's Day
22 – Linda & Rich York in memory of her mother Frances Sheldick

March

1 – Selma Grant in memory of Gerry Arnold
15 – Mike & Debbie Siekiera in honor of their Anniversary
22 – Carolyn Feldman in memory of Walter Feldman

April

5 – Easter Lilies
12 – Bill & Betty Stratton in honor of their 49th Wedding Anniversary
19 – Deborah A. Breton in memory of her husband Normand E. Breton
26 – Joyce Jordan in honor of Alice Wenz's birthday
26 – Nancy Nodwell in memory of Bill & Gerry Arnold

May

3 – Alice and Warren Wenz in honor of their anniversary
10-In Honor of Mother's Day
17-Carolyn Feldman in Memory of Walter Feldman



May, cont'd

24 -Linda & Richard York in memory of all the fallen heroes.
31 – Joyce Bonelli in memory of Irving Fellows

June

7 – Corin & Bob Jones in memory of their brothers, Jonathan & Bill
14 – Deborah A. Breton in Honor of Jennifer Curtis
21 – Carol Ballard in memory of her sister Lorraine Fortuna on her Birthday

July

7 – Deborah Breton in memory of Loved Ones
12 – Rev. Carol in Memory of Charles Lewis

Upcoming Events



January

10- Annual reports due
31- Annual meeting @ 11: 20 am with pot luck lunch

February

15 - Beacon News Due
28- Lenten lunch /discussion @ 11:30 am (sharp)

March

6- Lenten lunch/discussion @ 11:30 am (sharp)
6, 13, 20 - Communion Classes
13- Lenten lunch- pot luck /discussion @ 11:30am (sharp)
24 - First Communion for graduates

Rev. Lewis' Office Hours Every Wednesday

January 6, 13, 20, 27
February 3, 10, 17, 24

The 2nd Sunday each month is the monthly collection for the food pantry.

The Annual Meeting of Broad Brook Congregational Church is on Jan 31, 2016 @ 11:15am following a pot luck lunch. Everyone should bring a main dish, vegetable or salad to share.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, watch WFSB Channel 3, or see web site WTIC.com (STORM CENTER) or listen to WTIC 1080 radio to see if Worship Services have been cancelled.



Memorial Garden Order Form

Fill out the form below with your desired inscription to purchase a Memorial Garden engraved brick and /or a Memorial Garden nameplate. Send the form along with \$35.00 for **each** item to:

Memorial Garden

Broad Brook Congregational Church

P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Memorial Garden Brick:

(placed within the garden, along the path, on the mulch) (Leave spaces between words and dates)

Memorial Garden Nameplate:

(placed onto the Dovecote Pole) (Leave spaces between words and dates)

Note: allow 4 weeks to produce nameplates and bricks.

Name _____

Contact number/email _____

July, cont'd.

19 – Karen Loubier in memory of Sarah Loubier, her sister

26 – Debbie Siekiera in Memory of Irene Watson

August

2- Joyce Bonelli to celebrate the birth of her new grandson Benjamin Luke Bauer

9 – Karen Loubier in memory of Michael Loubier

16 – Alice and Warren in memory of Loved ones

24 – Joyce Bonelli in memory of Justine Fellows, her mother

September

6- Karla Vince in honor of Birthday

13 – Debora A. Breton in memory of her husband

Normand E. Breton and Mother Althea H. Lane

20 – Debbie Siekiera and Family members in honor of Theresa Cahone, Debbie's mother

27 – Carolyn Feldman in memory of their Anniversary

October

4 – Bob & Corin in memory of their brothers Jonathan & Bill

11 – BBCC in honor of Rev. Carol on Pastor's Appreciation Sunday

October, cont'd.

18 – Karla Vince in honor of their families

25 – Nancy Nodwell in loving memory of Bill and Gerry Arnold

November

1 – Deborah A. Breton in memory of her husband Normand E. Breton and mother Althea H. Lane

8 – Karen Loubier in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Osborn

22 – Karen Loubier in memory of Michael Loubier

December

6 -Linda & Richard York in memory of her brother, Bruce Sheldick

13 – Deborah A. Breton in



EAST WINDSOR SELF-STOR, LLC



115 North Road
East Windsor, CT 06088
and
420 Ellington Road (Rt 30),
South Windsor, CT 06074

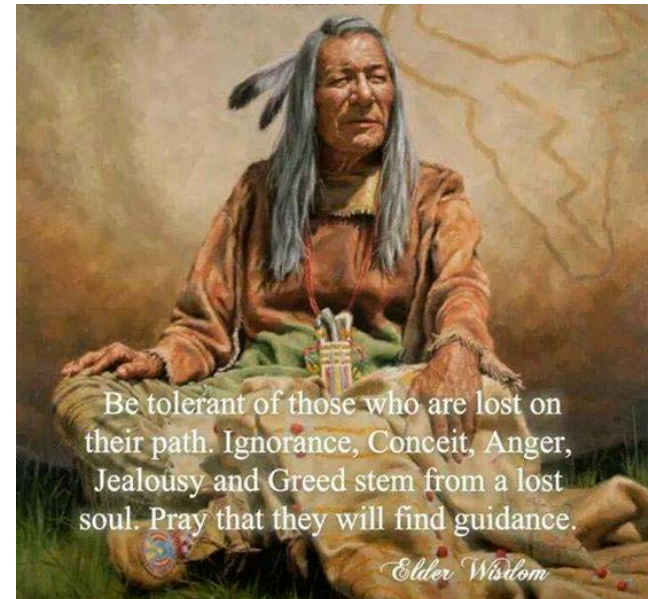
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Call Today!
860-292-6024 or 860-528-4421



4. For the frosting; in a large mixing bowl, combine all frosting ingredients. Once ingredients are incorporated, beat until smooth and creamy. Spread/fill layers on cooled cakes.

Yields: 1 - 9" 3 layer cake
Serves 12



Be tolerant of those who are lost on
their path. Ignorance, Conceit, Anger,
Jealousy and Greed stem from a lost
soul. Pray that they will find guidance.

Elder Wisdom

Classic Red Velvet Cake

Submitted by Debbie Siekiera

Here is a tried and true cake that makes a good impression and tastes as good as it looks. This recipe is on my must make list for our December supper fundraiser. I also have used this recipe for cupcakes and (at the time) future son-in-laws Grooms cake. This cake is very moist with a buttery chocolate taste with a traditional Cream Cheese frosting. If you like red velvet cake this is a must try recipe. Good luck and as always..... Enjoy!!

Ingredients:

1/2 cup shortening	1 tsp baking soda
1/4 cup butter, softened	1 tsp salt
1 1/2 cups sugar	1 cup buttermilk
2 eggs	
1 (1 oz) bottle red food coloring	Frosting:
3 tps cider vinegar	1 (8oz) pkg cream cheese, softened
3 tps vanilla extract	1/2 cup butter (1 stick)
2 1/2 cups cake flour	4 cups confectioners' sugar
1/4 cup baking cocoa	3 tps vanilla extract

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 3 - 9" round baking pans.
2. In a large mixing bowl, cream shortening, butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time. Beating well after each addition. Beat in the food coloring, cider vinegar and the vanilla. Combine the cake flour, baking cocoa, baking soda and salt: add to creamed mixture alternately with the buttermilk.
3. Pour into prepared cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 - 25 minutes or until tooth pick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes then remove to wire racks to cool completely.



Our Chef - Mike Siekiera - Cooking one of our great suppers!



Rev. Carol - Holy Humor Sunday



Katherine Mickens doing a Childrens Sermon



Linda York during our tag sale

*Some Memories
from
2015*



Members & volunteers -
Alice & Warren Wenz

SEND NEWS & PICTURES

for the Beacon. Email to
staff@broadbrook
congregationalchurch.org



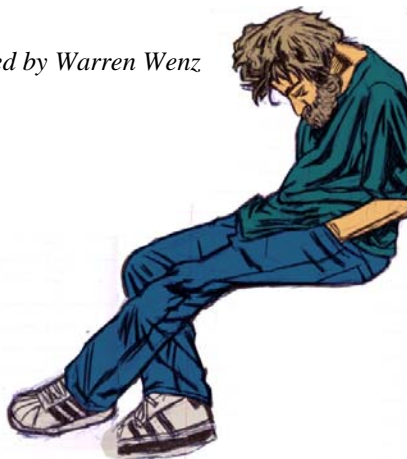
The Sermon

Writer Unknown - from an email circulated by Warren Wenz

A pastor transformed himself into a homeless person and went to the church that he was to be introduced as the head pastor at that morning. He walked around his soon to be church for 30 minutes while it was filling with people for service. Only 3 people said hello to him, most looked the other way. He asked people for change to buy food because he was hungry. No one gave him anything.

He went into the sanctuary to sit down in the front of the church and was told by the ushers that he would need to get up and go sit in the back of the church. He said hello to people as they walked in but was greeted with cold stares and dirty looks from people looking down on him and judging him.

He sat in the back of the church and listened to the church announcements for the week. He listened as new visitors were welcomed into the church that morning but no one acknowledged that he was new. He watched people around him continue to look his way with stares that said you are not welcome here.



Then the elders of the church went to the podium to make the announcement. They said they were excited to introduce the new pastor of the church to the congregation. "We would like to introduce you to our new Pastor." The congregation stood up and looked around clapping with joy and anticipation. The homeless man sitting in the back stood up and started walking down the aisle.

That's when all the clapping stopped and the church was silent. With all eyes on him....he walked up the altar and reached for the microphone.

He stood there for a moment and then recited so elegantly, a verse from the bible.....

"Then the King will say to

those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me.'

After he recited this, he introduced himself as their new pastor and told the congregation what he had experienced that morning. Many began to cry and bow their heads in shame. "Today I see a gathering of people here but I do not see a church of Jesus. The world has enough people that look the other way. What the world needs is disciples of Jesus that can follow this teachings and live as he did. When will YOU decide to become disciples?

He then dismissed service until the following Sunday as his sermon had been given. ❖



There are 610,042 people experiencing homelessness on any given night in the United States. About 9 percent of homeless adults- 57,849 - are veterans; just under 8 percent (4,456) were female.. These numbers come from point-in-time counts, which are conducted, community by community, on a single night in January every other year.