



*Christ Community Church of Blackstone  
Proclaiming Hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1822*

## *March 2026 Newsletter*



### *A Message from Pastor Joe*

*One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justify for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." Luke 23:39-41*

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

I thank the Lord that we are fast approaching the start of Spring and the change to daylight saving time. More light in the evenings and hopefully warmer days. I'm tired of the cold and the snow and anxiously await God's renewal that the change of the season will bring. And soon Easter will follow.

As I contemplate on the celebration of Easter, I listened to a short meditation by a Scottish preacher Alistair Begg entitled, "The Man on the Middle Cross." Like Luke 23:39-41 describes the exchange between Jesus and the two thieves who were crucified on either side of our Lord. One thief mocked Jesus, while the other acknowledged his personal sin and Jesus who was without sin.

Begg goes on to wonder just how this man actually made it into heaven. When he got to the gates of heaven the angel might have asked question like "do you understand the doctrine of justification by faith" or the inerrancy of Scripture" to which the thief replied, "I don't know". This went on for a while and the angel being frustrated called his supervisor angel to help sort this out but the answers remained the same. In final frustration, the angel wanted to know why he should be let into heaven. And the thief replied, "Because the man on the middle cross said COME".

This simple story reminds us that it's not the wealth we build or the fame we may garner in this life but it is the simple fact that "If you declare with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9)

As we contemplate the Lord's passion, His death, and resurrection, Jesus bids us COME. As we rapidly approach Easter I ask that we examine our relationship to Jesus and draw near to Him. Even in our most trying times, Jesus is with us, He loves us, and will never leave us as orphans.

God bless you all,

Pastor Marc



**Please pray for:**

**Those in need of healing:**

**Bill** – Leukemia stent transplant

**Julie** – as she cares for Bill and her family

**David B.**, continued healing and praise for the amazing progress so far

**Barbara** – stroke victim

**Glenn** – Fell out of a tree

**Those with cancer**

**Those who are mourning**

Those in war-torn countries

The homeless

**Children with long-term health issues & their Caregivers**



**Revival in this country**

**Those with anxiety or addictions**

Our **Unsaved** Loved Ones;

**Pray for our church**, that God may make us a lighthouse for those who need to know Him and to make us ready for the coming challenges.

**Pray for Pastor Joe** as he shepherds our Congregation and Coleen as she supports him in his vocation.

**Our Country**; Wisdom for our **Leaders**

**“Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven”**

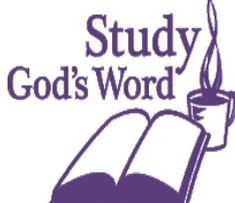
*Thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever! Psalms 136*

**Bible Study  
Tuesday Mornings @ 10am  
via Zoom.com**

We are studying “Miracles”

**All are welcomed**

Please contact Lynne @ [LynnePJ36@aol.com](mailto:LynnePJ36@aol.com) for a link to the Zoom Meeting.



**PRAYER MEETING**

**March 4**

**at 7pm via Zoom.com**

Through our prayers, especially with one another, we are demonstrating and validating the faith we have in Jesus Christ. It is through the discipline of prayer with one another that we develop a growing intimacy with God and create a spiritual bond with one another.

**ALL ARE INVITED!**

Please contact Lynne @ [LynnePJ36@aol.com](mailto:LynnePJ36@aol.com) for a link to the Zoom Meeting

**Received as Members  
Anniversary**

Nancy Mandeville – 03/26/1964

Joyce St. Jean – 03/26/1964

Lynne Cignarella – 03/29/2015

**Jesus says,  
“Come”**



**Marriage Anniversary**

Marc & Amanda Guilbeault  
March 26, 2012

**March Birthdays**

Roger St. Jean – 3/11  
Sheila Robeau – 03/17

**NEW BIBLE STUDY CLASS**

Pastor Marc is offering a new bible study on the **Book of Daniel: How to Keep to Biblical Principles in a Permissive Society.**

A date and time to be determined. Pastor Marc is opened to hold this study when people are available. Please contact him if you are interested.

All are welcome. You don't have to be a member of this church to attend. Bring a friend.

**NEW CHURCH SIGN COMING**

A new sign will be replacing the old one in the front of the church sometime this Spring, once the weather improves.

**FEED THE HOMELESS**

There is a fund-raising box on the right table in the front of the church. This donation goes to Betty's Restaurant to help Amanda with the cost of feeding the homeless. She serves lunch twice per week to the homeless.

**BLIZZARD OF 2026**

On Monday, February 24, a powerful blizzard came up the East Coast. According to the National Weather Service, a path of snowfall records were broken. Local states declared a "state of emergency" as schools were cancelled and businesses closed. The winds blew over 65 mph and snow accumulation was over three feet at the church.

This picture was taken after they shoveled the snow.



This is looking out my front door the next morning - Jackie



**From the Editor:** If you have anything you would like to submit to our Newsletter, please contact Jackie St. Jean 401.660.0473

**AED DEFIBRILATOR**

Pastor Joe has been given the green light to purchase an AED Defibrillator for our church building.

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a medical device designed to help those suffering from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA.) SCA occurs when the heart unexpectedly stops beating. The AED analyzes the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, delivers controlled electric shock to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

This should be an asset to our church.

**CARD-MAKING CLASS**

Lynne is holding a card-making class. It will be at her clubhouse Saturday March 14 @ 1:30 pm.

You will be making five cards. The cost is \$10/person.

Please let Lynne know if you will participate and she will give you the address.

**BLACKSTONE PARKS & REC EASTER EGG HUNT**

We will be working with the Parks & Rec folks to fill the Easter Eggs for the hunt.

**BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

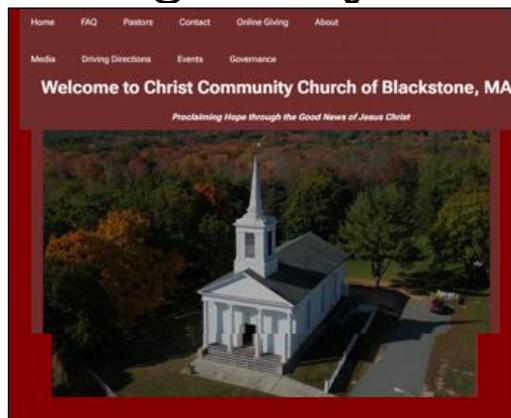
The By-Laws Committee has been reviewing the church By-Laws. Their plan is to read each section and discuss possible changes then revisit all suggested changes.

**WORSHIP LEADER POSITION**

The Congregation has voted to hire a part-time Worship/Song Leader and Musician for our Sunday services. Pastor Marc has agreed to write the job description and notify the media for posting.

Please pray that God sends us some candidates.

**VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE @ CCC**o**B.org**



**Don't Forget**



## OUR SHEPHERD

*Psalm 23.1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.*

Those of us who belong to the Lord know we are safe and secure. We know for certain that the Lord is our Shepherd. Therefore we do not fear the future because He is already there. He will walk before us every day, leading us to our eternal destination.

*the lord is my*  
**SHEPHERD**

Sometimes we have doubts about the future. We wonder whether we will have enough to provide for our essential needs. With childlike certainty, the psalmist then tells us, "I shall not be in want." You shall not be "in want" of anything that you truly need and that is good for you. The Lord will hear when you call, because His love never changes.

*Prayer:* Lord God, it is a glorious reassurance to me that You are my Shepherd and that in Your hands I am safe and secure. Amen

*Grace for Today-Mini Devotions page 31*

## JESUS SAID "COME"

Your goodness so great I can't understand,  
And, dear Lord, I know that all this was planned;  
I know You're here now, and always will be,  
Your love loosed my chains and in You I'm free;  
But Jesus, why me?

Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by My side,  
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied;  
I felt every teardrop when in darkness you cried,  
And I'm here to remind you that for those tears I died." \*

\*Part of the lyrics from "Come to the Waters"

## I GOT A FRIEND WHO CAN by Thomas Mac

I can't take your broken heart  
And mend all of the shattered parts  
I can't help ya find the strength to stand  
But I got a friend who can  
I can't calm the raging seas  
And walk the waves of Galilee  
I can't reach out with a saving hand  
But I got a friend who can

He is love, He is hope  
He is all that you're feeling inside  
When the night breaks you down, He is healing  
I can't offer you a perfect plan  
But I got a friend who can

I can't make a blind man see  
No, I can't give you all the strength you need  
I can't wash away your sin like sand  
But I've got a friend who can (I've got a friend  
who can)

I can't take a wandering soul lost on a broken  
road  
And lead him to the promised land  
But I've got a friend who can

He is love, He is hope  
He is all that you're feeling inside  
When the night breaks you down, He is healing  
I can't offer you a perfect plan  
But I got a friend who can



**About us:** We are a bible-based, Christ-centered Christian church, located on the corner of Church and School Streets in Blackstone, MA. We are affiliated with the 4Cs – Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

**Pastor:** Rev. Joe Overly.

**Assistant Pastor:** Rev. Marc Greenwald

**Zoom.com Meetings:** contact Lynne Cignarella at [LynnePJ36@aol.com](mailto:LynnePJ36@aol.com) for a link.

**Be sure to visit our website at [www.cccob.org](http://www.cccob.org) to listen to our sermons and to know more about us. You can also visit our Facebook page @ Christ Community Church of Blackstone.**



~ March 2026 ~  
 Christ Community Church of Blackstone  
 (508) 883-7885



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	4	5	6	7
8 <b>Turn Clocks Back</b> Sunday Service @ 9:30 am Sunday School during the service	9	10 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	11 7pm Prayer Mtg via Zoom	12	13	14
15 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am Sunday School during the service	16	17 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	18	19	20 <i>First Day of Spring!</i>	21
22 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am Sunday School during the service	23	24 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am	25	26	27	28
29 Sunday Service @ 9:30 am Sunday School during the service	30	31 Virtual Bible Study @ 10 am				