



THE CHIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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May 2008



Well, the United Church of Christ has been in the news again recently. The story revolved around Trinity UCC in Chicago, and remarks made by one of the pastors there. This probably would not have been big news at this point except the pastor was, before he retired, Barack Obama's pastor.

Regardless of how you feel personally about his sometimes inflammatory remarks, the story has been much in the news. If folks ask you, "Aren't you a member of that denomination?" You might start your answer by saying that the debate speaks to the uniqueness of the UCC, whereby decision-making rests within each congregation.

I would think it affirms the UCC's commitment to members' individual consciences and speaks to ways that

the UCC, throughout its history, has been a "risk-taking church."

"People are looking at the UCC like they never have before, and that's why it's critical that we respond proactively and tell our church's story," said the Rev. John H. Thomas, General Minister and President. "Otherwise, we will let others continue to define us in narrow and distorted ways."

People know that at its core, Christianity has something good to offer humanity. At the same time, many have a sense that they are alone in being a "thinking" Christian.

Our denomination is anything but stagnant. We are always on the "frontline" so to speak. It's tough, but it's good.

Jesus was on the edge and if we really believe in the truths he spoke to us, we belong in a church that welcomes diversity of ideas.

Dusty

GREETINGS FROM SABBATICAL LAND!

Contrary to popular opinion, I really do know how to take a Sabbatical and, even though I am keeping in touch with some church matters, most of my time has been spent doing research for my book. I am finding my reading to be extremely interesting and as I wade through the responses to my first questionnaire, I am getting smarter about just what it is I want to accomplish during this Sabbatical.

Speaking of questionnaires, thank you to those of you who have returned yours and to the rest of you: don't forget to return them by May 11. When I lead worship on May 11, I will be giving you another questionnaire and asking for volunteers to be interviewed. I am very grateful for all the help you are giving me in this undertaking.

Other than that, Wally and I are getting to spend some time at our camp in Dedham. Not enough time, mind you, but some time. I am amazed as I see the "pond" lose its ice cover and the blue water reappear for another season. It is fun to watch the bulbs I spent so much time planting beginning to emerge as well. There is so much promise in spring! We will leave on May 13 to go to California to see our daughter Melissa graduate from California State University at Monterey Bay. Our whole family will be together for that event.

I attended First Congregational Church, UCC in Ellsworth last Sunday and I will be attending churches around the area for the rest of my Sabbatical. I do enjoy experiencing different forms of worship and participating in the life of other churches as a guest. I am also, as I am worshipping, gathering information for my research. I wonder what people think as they see me wildly making notes during the service?

Again, thanks for your making this Sabbatical possible.

Sandra Reed



Worship Leaders During Sandra's Sabbatical

May 4	Dusty Warner
May 11	Sandra Reed
May 18	Ward Holder
May 25	Dusty Warner

June 1	Sandra Reed
June 8	Jenny Reece
June 15	Dusty Warner
June 22	Jenny Reece
June 29	Dusty Warner

The Rev. Dr. Ward Holder is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Reece is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church.

Sandra M. Reed

Big Doings at BHCCUCC

On Sunday, July 20 we will be celebrating our 50-year members and gathering after church for a pot luck luncheon. We hope this will be an important part of our 125th Anniversary observance.

We need two people to coordinate the luncheon. This doesn't mean they would have to do all the work, just the recruiting and planning! Everyone will help by bringing food. Please let Paul (in the church office) know if you can do this. It promises to be a great day and with your leadership even better!

We are pleased to celebrate with Scott, Amy and Hunter Riddell on the adoption of Heather Noelle Sophia Riddell. Welcome to the church family, Heather! God bless you all.





Annual Memorial Service



Born March 25 - Phoebe Jane Dunbar, daughter of Lucas and Sarah Dunbar, little sister of Mallory and granddaughter of Bill and Charlotte Skiff.

Our annual memorial service will take place during the worship service on June 1. If you have lost a loved one or friend since last Memorial Day, please let us know and that person will be named during the service. You may call the church with the information, mail the information to the church, or email the information to smreed@barharborucc.org. Use whichever way works best for you. The list will come from those whom we have remembered in the Chimes newsletter over the past year, but we are happy to add those whom you know of who were not mentioned in the newsletter as well. Each person will be remembered with a few words and a flower. When you let us know about your friend or loved one, please give your name, their name, your relationship to them and, if you can, a few words about them. Thanks for your help in this matter.

Spring Local Mission Project

Are you interested in being part of a mission project but only have a day to give? The Outreach Board is organizing a work day, Saturday, May 17th, at **h.o.m.e.**, in Orland. **H.o.m.e.** is a cooperative community that was started in 1970 as an outlet for home workers' crafts. It has expanded to include a health clinic, food bank, shelters, learning center and day care, house construction, farmers' market and job and craft training. We will work in their garden at Mandala Farm. If you are interested in this opportunity to be in a mission for our local area, please talk to Donna Beals or Debby Hammond.

Choir Notes

They broke a leg . . .

Congratulations to the cast, crew, and musicians involved with Acadia Community Theatre's smashingly successful *The Music Man*. Doug McMinimy played the lead role, Tony St. Denis was the stage manager, Kim O'Brien was another cast member, Brian Booher conducted the orchestra, and Paul Dickson played cello in the orchestra. It was a great show and I hope many of you got to see what talent we have here in our church!

Youth Sunday - May 4, 2008

The Alleluia Choir and individuals from it will provide music for the Youth Sunday service on May 4. The anthem is a rousing rendition of two spirituals that I think you will find particularly uplifting. I hope to see many of you at this year's Youth Sunday service.

Spring Festival - June 1, 2008

Please support the Alleluia Choir, the Adult Choir, and many other talented folk in our church and community by attending the Spring Festival on Sunday, June 1, at 2:00PM. This concert will feature both instrumental and vocal performances from amateurs and professionals, solo and ensemble. For those of you who were wondering what this is . . . this Festival is similar to our Christmas Festival concert with the obvious exception of the music performed. The concert is free and a reception will follow it. Make this YOUR Rite of Spring!! (pun intended)

Music Project: Supplement to the Pilgrim Hymnal

Ever have a hymn or spiritual song from your youth, another church, or a church retreat that you'd like to sing in church but it isn't in the Pilgrim Hymnal? Now is your chance to speak up and be a part of a Supplement to our Pilgrim Hymnal. I will start collecting individual pieces and suggestions from you in May.

There are several steps in this project, so I don't know how long it will take; the end result will make this project worthwhile, no matter how lengthy the process. These are the steps we must go through before compiling a Supplement:

1. A piece is given to me for consideration.
2. I must check with our licensing agreement for copyrighted material to confirm that we are able to use the piece in our Supplement.
3. After obtaining approval from #2, the piece goes before the Music Committee for approval.
4. After obtaining approval from #3, the piece is included in our Supplement.

While these steps may seem laborious, they are necessary for a quality and legal Supplement. Please do not hesitate to give me pieces, ask me questions, or suggest other ideas regarding this project.

Sassy Southerner Singing on Swans

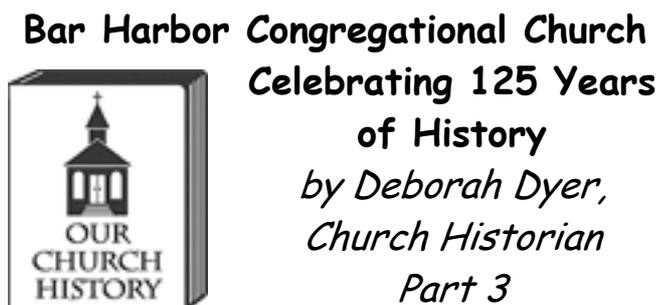
This is just my way of telling about my new part-time (one day each week) teaching position. I am now the music teacher at the Swan's Island School (K-8) and literally sing half the day! I teach grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8, a total of 27 students.

What a change from the college students I taught in Maryland! So far, this position is both challenging and rewarding and I'm excited about this new adventure in my life.

Faithfully yours,
Kimberly Haller

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to pick up Myrtle at Sonogee and bring her to church, and then return her to Sonogee afterward. Please contact Ann Lee at 667-3637 if you can help with this ministry of caring.



In this part of the church's history, I would like to take you on a walking tour of the church in order to make you more aware of the many items that have been contributed to the church. You will find evidence of these items in the interior and as part of the exterior of the church.

As you walk up the granite steps, realize that the granite is the only part of the "old" granite church we still have. The outdoor sign was given in memory of Ben Wade; our bell and steeple were given by Mrs. Miles Carpenter; on top of the steeple is a weathervane that at one time was on the St. Saviour Hotel, which had been located across from the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. The hotel was torn down in 1945 and the weathervane was given by Gerard Alley, who had been the owner of the hotel. The pillars were given in honor of Elsie Brown, Esperance McFarland, Harvey and Kay Mitchell and Hazel Moon.

Inside the church, the pulpit was given in memory of Mrs. George Hagerthy. The lectern was given in honor of the Rev. James Lancaster. The hymn boards were given in memory of G. Prescott Cleaves by his sons. The State of Maine flag was given by our Afternoon Auxiliary. The Christian flag was given in memory of Barbara Ellen Joy. The ceiling fans were donated by the Afternoon and

Evening Auxiliaries.

The carpeting on the balcony steps was given by H. A. Brown Furniture Company. The balcony handrail was given by Herm Woodworth. The *prie Dieu* (kneeling bench) was given by St. Saviour's Episcopal Church. The sound system was given in memory of Kathleen H. Higginbotham.

Some additions were made later to the sound system in memory of Robert and Barbara Brown. The organ was dedicated to Margaret H. Dyer for her years of service as Organist and Music Director. The chimes were given in memory of Stephen Woodworth. The Maas-Rowe Carillon, which included updated chimes, was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Brown and Emeline B. Bryant.

The chairs in the chancel were given in memory of Lester Megquier and Hazel Megquier. The piano was given by Jean Douglas. Our altar cross was given in memory of Dr. Ralph Wakefield, 1877-1947. One brass flower vase was given in memory of Belle Brenton, and the other was given in memory of C. E. Whitmore, 1868 - 1970. The original lectern Bible was given in memory of Kevin McGean.

The Baptismal bowl was given in memory of the Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Bessey. The ewer (Communion pitcher) was given by Penny Frost in memory of her mother, Madelyn Strout. The minister's chalice was given in memory of Deacon Ansel B. Leland, 1884 - 1939. One paten (Communion plate) was given in memory of Winona Chambers, 1893 - 1985 and the another paten was given in memory of Madelyn Strout.

The cross and vases used in the Sunday School were given by Barbara Ellen Joy. The Bibles and hymnals we use in the sanctuary were given by many different people.

The plaque in the narthex reads, "All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him." (Psalm 22:27).

I may not have a complete list of names of various items given to the church, but I hope this gives you an idea as you walk and look around in the church. These many items were given with love and in memory of the many

people listed.

The church has stood for over a century as a beacon in the Christian life of this community. Long may its light continue to shine in the cause of righteousness for God and our country.



Baptized April 6, 2008 -
Logan Joseph Christian
Reece, son of Mark and
Stephanie Reece and little
brother of Faith.

AN EXPLANATION OF GOD:

The following article was written by an 8-year old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, California. He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment to "explain God." Could any of us have done as well?

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers."

"God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off."

"God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have."

"Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church."

"Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to

teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K."

"His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important."

"You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time."

"You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God! Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway."

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

"But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases."

"And that's why I believe in God."



Pilgrim Lodge

As the weather warms and thoughts of summer are in the air, many of you will be planning to send your children off to Pilgrim Lodge for a week of fun. If you are planning on sending your child to Pilgrim Lodge, or you

are planning on attending a camp, please bring a copy of your application to Paul in the office or give me a copy on Sunday. We would like to know who is going from our church and help you out financially. The church will pay for 30% of the cost of the camp. To do this we need to know who, when, and the cost so we can send our portion in to Pilgrim Lodge. We do hope many of you will choose Pilgrim Lodge as it is A LOT OF FUN! Please see Mary Swift for more information, the camps available, and an application.

Sunday School

May 4th is Youth Sunday. Youth 3rd grade & up will be helping with the service. There will be a rehearsal in the morning of May 3rd to go through the service.

The last day of our regular Sunday School will be June 8th. During the Sunday School time, we will be taking the children to the Village Green for a picnic. The Christian Education Board will be providing the food. In case of rain we will have a picnic in the fellowship hall downstairs.

God's Garden Club

God's Garden Club is our summer Christian Education program for the children of the church. Each Sunday a different person teaches the lesson on something that they do for work or enjoy doing. In the past we have gone on trips through Acadia National Park, helped at the food pantry, as well as spent time reading, singing and doing craft projects. The children get to experience God's bountiful garden first hand. All children are welcome.

God's Garden club will begin on June 15th with the annual planting of the geraniums in front of the cemetery next door. Please have children wear clothes that can get dirty. Thank you.

Youth groups 3rd & 4th with 5th & 6th

We have decided to combine the 3rd & 4th grade and the 5th & 6th grade youth groups. The more the merrier! They have been making May baskets, which will be delivered to our church family shut-ins. The next meeting will be May 1st, when we will go to Sonogee to deliver the May Baskets.

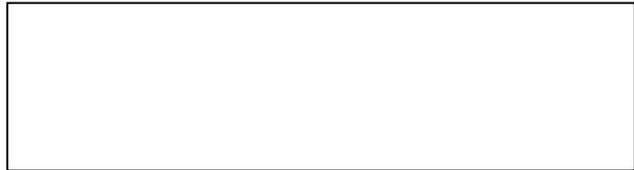
Mary Swift

Bar Harbor Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
29 Mount Desert Street
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

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Special Dates

- Ascension of the Lord, May 1, 2008
- National Day of Prayer, May 1, 2008
- Christian Family Week, May 5-11, 2008
- Pentecost, May 11, 2008
- Mother's Day, May 11, 2008
- Trinity Sunday, May 18, 2008
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 19, 2008
- Memorial Day, May 26, 2008



Ascension Day

Forty days after each Easter, many Christians around the world celebrate the Ascension. It's the day when the resurrected Jesus was raised up from the earth into heaven. The Ascension is the prelude to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon a gathering of people, including the apostles, in Jerusalem.

The Ascension is more important than many Christians realize. In his human body, Christ could be in only one place at a time. The risen Christ, however, can be spiritually present in any place at any time.



A Debt of Gratitude To Those Who Served and Are Serving in the Military

One Memorial Day, some children were asked what the holiday meant to them.

"That's the day the swimming pool opens!" answered one eager boy. What he didn't realize or appreciate was that he can freely go to the pool because more than one million people have put their lives on the line to preserve America's democracy. Many of them have died so citizens of other countries might also enjoy the privileges of political, social and economic freedom.

Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America's best citizens. They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 26.

The Newsletter

May



- 1 Alexandra Heiges
- 4 Myrtle MacLeod
- 4 George Mitchell
- 11 Elise Craighead
- 12 Joyce Stanley
- 14 Alisha Rechholtz
- 14 Scott Riddell
- 15 Patty Benore
- 15 Tim Smith
- 15 Sheridan Steele
- 16 Andrea Horner Semels
- 17 Alice Hobbs
- 17 Mary Reed
- 18 Richard Collier
- 18 Sandra Reed
- 19 Leslie Spurling
- 20 Paul Dickson
- 20 Coady Modeen
- 20 Olivia Modeen
- 21 Faith Reece
- 21 Dean DiMauro
- 21 Lou Ingrisano
- 21 Ezekiel Valleau
- 24 Llewellyn Cooper
- 24 Christopher Booher
- 25 Crystal Hobbs
- 26 Ronald MacQuinn
- 28 Heidi Turner O'Connor



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Rita Johnston
Assistant Deacon – Betty Bryer

Liturgists-

- 4: Youth Sunday
- 11: Debbie Dyer
- 18: Ray Vonder Haar
- 25: John Kelly

Flowers –

- 4: Florence Ames and Dottie Robins
- 11: Dorothy White
- 18: Dean and Marianne DiMauro
- 25:

Coffee Hosts -

- 4: Jan Varnum and Barb Richardson
- 11: Senior Sunday School Class
- 18: Maryanne and Ric Starbird
- 25: Roxie and Earl Brechlin

Home Bible Readings -

- 4 Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1st Peter 4:12-14
John 17:1-11
- 11 Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1st Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23
- 18 Genesis 1:1-2, 4a
Psalm 8
2nd Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20
- 25 Isaiah 49:8-16a
Psalm 131
1st Corinthians 4:1-5
Matthew 6:24-34