



# THE CHIMES

THE NEWS LETTER OF THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

29 Mount Desert Street, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

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FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

October 2009

It seems to me that we spend a great deal of time and energy wishing we were somewhere else; or looked like someone else; or had a different job; or lived in a different town; or had an “easy life” like someone else. Many people I speak with voice just that wish to me. They don’t necessarily use the same words I used, but they voice a discontent with the way things are for them. If they could only move, or get a different job, a different spouse, different parents, a different hair color, or lose weight, their lives would be easier, more content and more meaningful. Ah, if only it were that easy!

I, too, have felt this way from time to time. Instead of making the difficult and challenging changes in my life that I need to make, I have felt that a simple, on-the-surface change might help me. No matter how many times I have felt that way, the answer has never been simple. Buying a new outfit might cheer me up for the moment, but the thrill is soon gone. When we need to make changes in our lives, it takes a great deal of work, commitment and plain old ordinary gumption. Changing our lives from the inside is hard work. This is not something for the faint of heart. We might easily adjust to a new hairdo, a new house or even a new job. Getting used to being a new person is something else all together. And yet, this is what Jesus has called us to do.

Jesus has told us that if we would have faith in Him, we will be new persons. If we allow Jesus to be at the center of our lives, moving aside whatever (or whomever) was there previously, our lives will undergo a radical shift. Can we really live with that kind of a change? It is far easier to change superficially, but surface change is not what is required of us. Right from the beginning of Jesus’ earthly ministry, when John the Baptist began his cries of, “Repent, repent, the kingdom of God is at hand,” we knew that this whole process was going to demand much of us. Usually content to get by without exerting much effort, we are amazed to see just what faith requires.

Being a new creature in Christ has a totally liberating effect on our lives. We no longer have to be bound by the opinions of others, or how close we come to living up to the standard of the day. In fact, the more we emerge from our chrysalis of the old ways and become a butterfly who embraces the new ways of Christ, our physical circumstances begin to matter far less than our emergence in faith. It is darned hard work to change from the inside out: to change our attitudes, our ideas, the ways we spend our time, the things to which we give our allegiance, the things that are important to us. In many ways it is like making another trip through the birth canal: tight passage along the way, but when we make it to the fulfillment of the journey, all is light

and air and grace. Nothing weighs heavily on us. Everything is new and exciting. Each day is a gift from God. We are not perfect, but we are on the way to faith and following God's plan for our life.

When we place Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, we undergo a radical shift. Nothing looks the same, nothing feels the same. Everything is imbued with a new meaning and a new purpose. Every category of our life is judged against our commitment to Christ. Life takes on a new color, a new vision, and a new value.

How wonderful it is to belong to Christ. All the effort it takes to make the shift in our life from a so-so faith to a complete faith is worth it, and so much more. This is the great journey to which we are all called. Traveling together makes the journey easier and the burdens lighter.

Sandra M Reed



## Church Camping Trip

October 2-4 at Mt. Desert Campground  
Campers and non-campers are welcome for whatever part of the weekend you are able to join the fun. Be sure to stop by the campground office for directions or to secure your site at our group area with Donna or Owen. We have a pretty flexible schedule for our time together as follows:

**Friday night** - early campers, dinner on own  
**Saturday 1-4** - waterfront time  
**Saturday 5:00** - potluck cookout (can someone bring a guitar?)

**Sunday 8:00** - worship and break camp

We hope you can join us for this annual fellowship event.

Kate St. Denis



## Monthly Family Worship

On October 25, all families are invited to join together for 10 AM Morning Worship. Thereafter, **on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month**, there will be **no Sunday School classes** so that we may all worship together. Nursery care *will* be provided. What a wonderful way to celebrate the love of God and our faith in Jesus Christ with worshippers of all ages! See you in church!

As our Sunday School program gears up for a new program year, we need several more folks (a team of 2-3) to STEP FORWARD to teach our SIXTH-GRADE class. Additionally, we need a few more teaching team members for our THIRD-GRADE and FIFTH-GRADE classes. The CE Board has worked incredibly hard this summer to select dynamic curriculum for our Sunday School. Please contact Kathy Woodside or any other member of the CE Board to join our team.

These are great groups of kids and your participation is needed! Note: Family Worship will take place on the fourth Sunday of each month (except September); there will be no Sunday School classes on Family Worship Sundays. Thank you in advance for your help.



Dear Members & Friends:

The Stewardship Committee this year is attempting to put the emphasis on mission, not maintenance; discipleship, not membership; and the giver's need to give, not the church's need to receive.

Does this mean that our church does not need faithful givers this year? What do you think?

For 2008 we received 72 pledge cards totaling \$106,220. For 2009 we received 60 pledge cards totaling \$99,057. The congregation approved expenditures for 2009 of \$218,450. The budget was balanced with the following projected revenue amounts. Legacy income - \$25,000, Investment Proceeds - \$29,000, Fundraising events - \$10,000, Committee Contributions - \$6,200, and the hope those who did not send in their pledge cards would still be contributing.

**Our goal this year is three fold:**

- 1. Increasing the giving from members and friends.**
- 2. Having 100 family units (returning Intention cards) indicating their willingness to support our ministry to the best of their ability.**
- 3. Placing 100 sets of My Offering Church Envelopes with our church friends and members.**

Our envelopes have a new look this year. Each weekly envelope has a scripture verse on it. Do you know where this verse is found?

Week – March 21, 2010: *“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.”*

Sincerely,  
Rodney B. Fox  
Chair of the Board of Trustees



**New Members:**

**Bob and Jane Sanderson**

September 27, 2009

## **October 24 Harvest Potluck**

Stay posted for more information, but for now save October 24 at 5:30pm for great fun, fellowship, and food at the Harvest Potluck.



**Thanks to the mystery gardener, the weeds in our flowerbed have disappeared. It looks great. Thanks to all for your quiet service to the church. (You know who you are.)**

**Your Trustees**

## **A Prayer for Pumpkin People**

After Liz Curtis Higgs wrote the popular children's book *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, people began using her analogies to say a prayer while carving their Halloween pumpkins.

The pumpkin prayer, a Christian alternative to Halloween traditions, reminds people of all ages what God has done for us. Use it this fall when your family makes jack-o'-lanterns.

- While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you."  
(See Proverbs 1:7.)

- While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others."  
(See Matthew 6:14-15.)

- While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me." (See Psalm 104:24.)

- While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts."  
(See James 1:17.)

- While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I say please you." (See Psalm 19:14.)

- While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do."  
(See Matthew 5:16.)

After carving your pumpkins, display them as examples of how God's love transforms us into new creations. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17.)

Source: Newsletter Newsletter



**To the family of Richard D. Young, husband of Vernice, father of Marilyn and Wanda, and grandfather of Emily. Richard was a 50-year member of our church.**

# Cookies for Friends

Autumn is the perfect time of the year to sow kindness and reap a "harvest" full of friendships. Make this special treat to share with someone.

## What you need:

- An adult to help
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cooked or canned pumpkin
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 cups diced, roasted almonds
- 1 cup chocolate pieces
- Raffia or fall-colored ribbon (optional)

## What you do:

1. Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.
2. Beat in egg, pumpkin and vanilla.
3. In separate bowl, mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon.
4. Add dry mix to creamed mixture.
5. Add almonds and chocolate pieces; mix thoroughly.
6. Drop by teaspoons onto well-greased cookie sheets.
7. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or until lightly browned.
8. Cool on racks. Makes about six dozen.
9. Stack two cookies on top of each other. Then tie them like a present with the raffia or ribbon. Give the cookies to friends and family to thank them for their friendship.



Autumn brings many visible changes. God makes lots of foods and grains ready for harvest. He also tells us that if we sow in peace, we, too, can raise a harvest.

Find and circle the bold (dark) words from James 3:17-18, NIV.

"But the **WISDOM** that comes from **HEAVEN** is first of all **PURE**; then **PEACELOVING**, **CONSIDERATE**, **SUBMISSIVE**, full of **MERCY** and **GOOD FRUIT**, **IMPARTIAL** and **SINCERE**. **PEACEMAKERS** who **SOW** in **PEACE** raise a **HARVEST** of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**."

C	S	P	E	A	C	E	L	O	V	I	N	G	F
O	U	E	U	X	W	C	E	Y	T	P	R	W	R
N	B	A	U	L	T	J	C	O	R	E	I	I	U
S	M	C	P	R	X	K	F	W	I	A	G	S	I
I	I	E	M	E	R	C	Y	I	I	C	H	D	T
D	S	T	C	E	R	U	D	M	Z	E	T	O	S
E	S	I	V	X	J	C	U	P	W	M	E	M	D
R	I	H	E	A	V	E	N	A	W	A	O	H	P
A	V	M	P	J	M	K	L	R	T	K	U	V	W
T	E	O	C	G	O	O	D	T	G	E	S	S	L
E	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	I	B	R	N	Y	O
X	H	D	D	R	Q	Q	E	A	Z	S	E	D	B
S	I	N	C	E	R	E	E	L	S	Y	S	O	W
G	I	P	U	R	E	S	O	Y	C	E	S	E	F

# October



1 Ann Lee  
3 James Campbell  
5 Kristie Rechholtz  
7 Rhiannon Vonder Haar  
8 Thomas Hobbs  
16 Charles Benore  
16 Dorothy White  
16 Boynton Stanley  
16 Fred Olson  
21 Evan Beals  
22 Deborah Dyer  
22 Robert Gray  
24 Michael Bonsey  
24 Kathryn Kief  
25 Edwin Soule  
27 Karl Haller  
28 Ellen Reed  
29 Eva Bonsey  
29 Florence Ames  
29 Caroline McMinimy  
31 Carley Ross  
31 Caitlin Ross



We're thankful for you!

## Sunday Worship Contributors

**Head Deacon –** Betty Bryer  
**Assistant Deacon –** Rita Johnston

### Liturgists-

4:  
11:  
18: Debbie Dyer  
25: Scott Hammond

### Flowers –

4: Diana Bacon, Vernice Young  
11: Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Spurling  
18: Crystal Dow  
25: Tim and Kim O'Brien,  
Edric and Maryanne Starbird

### Coffee Hosts -

4:  
11:  
18: Apple Festival  
25: Charlie and Patty Benore

### Home Bible Readings

4 Job 1:1, 2:1-10  
Psalm 26  
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12  
Mark 10:2-16  
11 Job 23: 1-9, 16-17  
Psalm 22:1-15  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10:17-31  
18 Job 38:1-7 (34-41)  
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Mark 10:35-45  
25 Job 42:1-6, 10 -17  
Psalm 34:1-8  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 10:46-52

# OCT BER

				1 Bible Study 10:00 am Adult Choir 7:00	2 <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	3
4 <b>Worship / Sunday School 10 am</b> <i>Flower Committee – after church</i> Girl Scouts 2:00-4:00 pm	5 <i>Cancer Support Group 5:00</i> Cub Scouts 7:00	6  Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	7	8  Bible Study 10:00 am Adult Choir 7:00	9  <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	10
11 <b>Worship / Sunday School – 10 am</b>	 <b>Columbus Day</b> <i>Called to Care 4:00 PM</i>	13  <i>Outreach Board 7:00</i>	14	15  Bible Study 10:00 am <i>Trustees 5:30</i> Adult Choir 7:00	16  <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	17
18 <b>Worship / Sunday School 10 am</b> <b>Deacons 11:30</b> <i>Girl Scouts 2-4</i>	19  <i>Eden School Board 6:00</i>	20  Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	21  <b><u>Chimes</u> <u>Articles Due!</u></b> <i>CE Board 7:00</i>	22  Bible Study 10:00 am Adult Choir 7:00	23  <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	24  <b>Harvest Potluck 5:30 PM</b>
25 <b>Family Worship 10 am</b> <i>Stroke Survivors' Group 6:00</i>	26  <b><i>Committee Annual Reports due to office!</i></b>	27  <b>Finance Committee 1:30</b>	28  <i>Church Council 7:00</i>	29  Bible Study 10:00 am Adult Choir 7:00	30  <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	31  <b>Halloween</b> <i>(Church open from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM for Trick-or- Treaters)</i>

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U. S. Postal Paid  
Non-Profit Organization  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609  
Permit Number 32

## Special dates

- World Communion Sunday,  
October 4, 2009
- Columbus Day Observance,  
October 12, 2009
- Reformation Sunday,  
October 25, 2009
- Reformation Day,  
October 31, 2009

## Tomorrow

Do not look forward to what might  
happen tomorrow.

The same God who cares for you  
today

Will take care of you and yours  
tomorrow and every day.

Either God will shield you from  
suffering

Or God will give you unfailing  
strength to bear it.

Be at peace then and put aside

All anxious thoughts and  
imaginings.

—St. Francis de Sales

## The Pope's Challenge

During Pope Benedict XVI's visit to America in April 2008, he said in a speech, "Any tendency to treat religion as a private matter must be resisted. Only when their faith permeates every aspect of their lives do Christians become truly open to the transforming power of the gospel."

In other words, how we live and what we do must reflect Christ's teachings. How we treat one another and how we care for the helpless, the homeless, the sick and the poor must reflect Christ's influence in our lives.

"We were created as social beings who find fulfillment only in love — for God and for our neighbor," the pope said. "Our neighbor" refers to any other human on Earth.

It's insufficient to practice the Christian life for only an hour each week during formal worship. Being a Christian is a full-time responsibility and joy, 365 days a year.

Source: Newsletter Newsletter