



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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November 2009

**Bar Harbor Congregation Church, UCC
29 Mt. Desert St., Bar Harbor, ME 04609**

THE CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

November 1, 2009

Pursuant to the By-Laws (Article VI, Sec. 4 and 5) the Call to the Annual Meeting of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church, U.C.C. is herewith issued, said meeting to convene at **11:00 a.m., Sunday, November 15, 2009**. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is:

1. To hear the reports of officers, boards, committees and organizations of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church, U.C.C.
2. To adopt a church budget for 2010.
3. To elect officers, delegates, and board and committee members.
4. To transact such other business that may properly come before said meeting.

This call is issued by the Church Council.

Kevin Mills, Chair
Church Council

ATTEST:

Margaret Blake, Clerk



From the Senior Pastor

As you will see in this newsletter, things are pretty busy at our little church. Thanks to all of you who will be stepping down from your positions on Boards and Committees and thanks to all of you who are beginning new terms. We do a lot of work to make sure the church runs smoothly and that we are meeting all of our obligations to our denomination, our members, and our community. I know that many of you spend countless hours on church work. I want you to know right now that what you do does not go unnoticed – you are very much appreciated for all that you choose to do in the name of Jesus Christ.

By the time you read this newsletter, I hope many of you spent October 18th with Joan Jordan Grant and Kathryn Booth. What a wonderful job they did helping us get in touch with our spiritual sides. The time we spent together was blessed time indeed.

One thing I learned from them is that it is not enough to work for Christ's Church. It is not enough to be a paid staff member or volunteer in a church. Those jobs are important, but there is one other job that must get taken care of first. **We need to take care of our own spiritual life.**

By spending a daily time of silence or prayer, in communication with God, we are making a powerful statement about what we believe to be important in our faith journey. So many other things press on us and compete for our time – believe me, I understand – but without a spiritual expression in our lives, we are surely going to run out of steam and lose track of the journey we are on. I know how easily this can happen.

What is the purpose of our faith if not to grow closer to our Creator? And yet many of us spend such a minimal amount of time in this pursuit that we know a great deal more about television shows, stock market trends, and our favorite sports teams than we do about how to draw near to the presence of God!

When we draw closer to God we learn the value of peace and silence. We begin to understand the “patience of unanswered prayer,” as well as the joyous ecstasy of standing in the presence of God. In coming closer to God, we also begin to understand God's claim on our lives and His directives to serve the poor, bind up the broken hearted and heal the sick. When we fully understand and participate in our faith, we are called to do things that we could never do without God's grace surrounding us, God's peace leading us forward and God's joy holding us up. All of this begins, I think, with a simple spiritual practice of engaging in a time of prayer and silence every day. Perhaps we can look at this as saying our daily “hello” to God.

It is wise to remember, in our spiritual journey, that we are not looking for God. God is always seeking us. All we have to do is put our selves in a state of mind that allows us to recognize and revel in God's presence. This encounter may very well change us and shape us into new people, so it is not without risk. But, my friends, be of good courage. Time spent in God's presence is the sweetest time we have. Time spent with God forms and shapes us into the people God calls us to be.

When it is time to enter into God's holy presence, the dishes can wait to be washed; the report can be put off for a bit; the family can join with you and the homework can be put on “pause” for just a minute. The voice of God is calling – will you answer?

Sandra M. Reed

Christmas Partnership with Maine Seacoast Mission

The BHUCC Outreach Board has decided to work with the Maine Seacoast Mission for our Christmas Community Outreach program this year. We are very excited to be merging the efforts of our two established Christmas Outreach programs!

While that is a change, other things remain the same. We will still have a tree with tags for members to take, indicating people with Christmas needs. The need for our participating is as great as ever. Please do NOT wrap the gifts that you donate to the project; they will be wrapped at the Mission.

We will also have an additional way to participate this year; individuals or groups from the church can volunteer to work at the Mission, preparing Christmas packages. This is a great way to contribute to the overall effort with your friends! Come join us in working with Maine Seacoast Mission!



Thanksgiving Baskets...

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. In as much as you do it to the least of these, you do it to me."

As Thanksgiving approaches, I am thankful for many blessings Kathe and I have received. However, I know that some people here on MDI are not as fortunate as we are this year. This is why I am happy to support the church's Thanksgiving baskets project.

Last year, our church provided Thanksgiving dinners to approximately 250 families in the area; the need this year will be at least as great. We need your help!

Although we work with the island's schools and are reaching out to the other churches for contributions of food, to meet the anticipated need we are counting on your support as well! As your circumstances permit, please bring canned or dry food suitable for Thanksgiving dinner to church. This year, we are also asking for fresh vegetables like butternut or acorn squash, or white or sweet potatoes. Any financial contribution that you are able to make to the project will also be gratefully accepted to help offset the cost of items that we end up having to purchase to complete the baskets. You may give a contribution to any Board member, or leave it at the office.

In a change from last year, we will not be collecting and distributing turkeys. Instead, the baskets will have a coupon enabling the recipients to obtain a turkey at a store. We don't have the access to any storage that is adequate for the number of turkeys that will be involved. Board members are Donna Beals, Debbie Hammond, Laura Hendricks, Lou Ingrisano, Karen McFarland, Paula Moody, and Al Simons.

We will be assembling the baskets on Sunday and Monday preceding Thanksgiving, and distributing them on Tuesday. Your help is needed then, too!

Please join your Outreach Board in this project. It feels great!

For the Outreach Board,
Al Simons

Called to Care...

Called to Care is looking for additional volunteers to join them in their ministry of caring. If you'd like to be a part of this group that shows compassion to those in our community most needing it, please contact Ann Lee at 667-3637.

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed

The Deacons are looking for volunteers to host coffee hour after church. This is a very important ministry because this is where we can connect with visitors and potential new members. It is also the time when we all have the opportunity to get to know each other better. Fellowship with other Christians is an important part of our faith.

We realize some of you may be put off by the large spread that some members prepare for coffee hour, but it isn't necessary to be too elaborate. The church provides the coffee, as well as sugar, creamer (you can bring 1/2 and 1/2 if you like) cups and napkins. You just need to bring a cold beverage for the kids as well as simple snacks. You don't need to bake, nor do you need to spend a lot to provide for an army.

If this still seems a little daunting alone, you might want to recruit a friend to help you.

We greatly appreciate all who regularly sign up as host and would love to have more people help out. If we all do this together it isn't too great a burden on a few. If you can help, just sign up in the Narthex, or if

you have any questions you can contact the church office at 288-3280 or any of the Deacons.

Thank you from Scott Hammond, Chair of the Deacon Board.

Sunday School Coordinator Needed

We are currently seeking a Sunday School Coordinator who would work an average of 15 hours per week. The description of this job includes the following:

- Has a strong belief in Jesus Christ;
- Is committed to his/her own continuing Christian Education and development;
- Is passionate/excited about working with children and youth;
- Is organized and will work hard to; Coordinate Sunday School activities with the minister and music director;
- Support teachers through weekly contact and teacher meetings at least quarterly that will enhance and fulfill the chosen Sunday School curriculum;
- Develop and adhere to a Sunday School calendar;
- Maintain registration and attendance records in a timely way;
- Is committed to making the Sunday School work well including coordinating Circle Time, activities that support the week's story/Scripture and gathering, sharing and using resources appropriately;

- Is an effective communicator, using email and other means;
- Can delegate responsibilities when necessary and appropriate;
- Keeps in touch with the Christian Education Board, church staff, Sunday School teachers, and other volunteers who support the Sunday School;
- Is available to Sunday School teachers by telephone, email, and on Sunday mornings in person;
- Will attend monthly Christian Education Board meetings, where he/she will report activities;
- Will work in partnership with the Christian Education Board to recruit and support Sunday School teachers and volunteers, and periodically review and recommend curricula for the Sunday School.

If you are the one for this important job, please let Sandra Reed know.

Thank You Sandra for Caring for Us and Our Animals Too



Congratulations!

David Woodside,
President of Acadia Corporation

“The Acadia Corporation, founded in 1932, accomplishes their mission by providing friendly and courteous service, traditional food service and quality merchandise. Acadia Corporation sets the tone for all employees with their dedication to community service. Whether serving on volunteer boards, fulfilling a long-standing commitment to the Friends of Acadia or tirelessly promoting “MaineCrafted” products, Acadia Corporation is a leader to the merchant community.”

“Acadia Corporation is a role model for other companies in Maine. I am very impressed with their commitment to Maine-made products and recognize the importance of being a leader in the Bar Harbor region,” stated Curtis Picard, Executive Director of the Maine Merchants Association.”

“David Woodside, Acadia Corporation president, remarked, “Acadia Corporation is very excited about being nominated as the 2009 Maine Merchant of the Year. Our employees work very hard to make the company a success and having the company recognized for its solid commitment to customers, to the community, the environment, and its employees is important, especially during challenging times. Acadia also gratefully recognizes and thanks its customers, for without them, winning awards like this wouldn’t be possible.”

The Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce also honored the Acadia Corporation with its Environmental Leader Award.

Earl Brechlin
Editor, *Mount Desert Islander*

"The *Mount Desert Islander* was named the weekly newspaper of the year at the annual meeting of the Maine Press Association here Saturday."

"...the *Islander* won a total of 34 other awards for writing, photographic and advertising excellence; more than any other weekly newspaper in the state."

"This newspaper stood out among other entrants in this category as a competently designed, clearly written, feisty model of a community weekly, all the more impressive because of its young age and its independent ownership." "No other paper in this class came close to matching the overall package."

"This award doesn't just belong to the folks in our organization. It also belongs to all our loyal readers and advertisers who have helped us get to where we are today," Mr. Brecklin said."

Source: *Islander*

Thank You

MANY THANKS to our members and friends who gave up their time to staff the Bar Harbor Food Pantry in the month of October! Without volunteers such as you, the Food Pantry would not be able to serve its patrons. Our next opportunity to Bar Harbor community in this way will be in January. Please sign up when asked!

The Food Pantry has asked BHUCC to provide toiletries during the months of November and December, for example soaps, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Although not specifically asked of us, the Pantry also needs juice, Macaroni and Cheese, tea, baked beans and side dishes such as stuffing and mashed potatoes.

We thank you for your continued support of this local mission of the church.

Organic, Fair-Trade Coffee is Available

The Outreach Board purchases Organic, Fair-Trade coffee for each Sunday's coffee hour after worship. Additionally, we can order coffee for your use at home! By using Fair-Trade coffee, you are helping support the farmers producing your brew.

The vendor we purchase from requires us to buy in case units; this is six 12-ounce bags. In order to avoid building up a stock of less-frequently-requested coffees, we are currently limiting our ordering to Breakfast Blend in both whole bean and ground, and French Roast in whole bean. These are available for purchase for \$7.00 per bag. Additionally, we order decaffeinated Fellowship Blend in 1 pound bags for Sunday morning use. If you would be interested in purchasing this decaf coffee, please talk to Al Simons.

To purchase any of this coffee, please contact Al Simons, by sending an email to al@simonshome.org. If you are interested in a different type of coffee and are willing to buy a case (it is vacuum packed and stores well), feel free to ask Al. We place an order approximately every 6 weeks.



November 11, 2009
Service at 11:00 AM

Thanks to the generosity of Doris Karst, we were able to fund this important improvement to our Church

The late Doris Karst at Centenarian High Tea Party



Old Columns Are Being Replaced with New Fiberglass Ones. Steps Are Now Without Gaps to Improve Member and Visitor Safety



Bar Harbor Congregational Church
Replacement of Upper Steps and Landing



Lower Steps and Landing Are also Being Replaced



Here's the Scoop from your Christian Education Board!

- Yes, it's time to mark **Gingerbread House Day** on your December calendar. We'll be helping our youngsters (of all ages!) to complete yummy gingerbread houses on December 5th. Hope you can join us. Be listening for an announcement in church with more details for how to prepare for this special holiday tradition!
- **Look in this newsletter for a job description** for our part-time Sunday School coordinator. Do you know someone with a strong Christian faith who would be well-suited for this dynamic job? Please spread the word!
- **Thanks to our Snack Shepherds** who faithfully serve snacks and drinks (provided by the CEB) to our Sunday school children and youth each Sunday. There are still opportunities to volunteer. Please be in touch with any member of the CE Board if you'd like to help.
- Let us know if you'd like to be part of this year's preparations for the annual **Christmas pageant**. It will be right after the 10 AM worship on **Sunday, December 20th**. What a great way to get to know our special children! Want to help?
- **Open Registration** continues for Sunday School. Do you have a new family in your neighborhood who you could invite to church and Sunday School?
- **Compassion for Hirut** - Our Sunday School children are sending a special holiday contribution to Hirut so that she can enjoy a special Christmas gift. Thanks to our Sr. High Sunday School class, a letter will go off to Hirut very soon!
- **Family Worship** will be held on November 22, the 4th Sunday of the month. There will be no Sunday School classes. Nursery care is provided every week. Sunday School classes will be held on November 29th.

Kathe Simons, for the CE Board

Attitude of GRATITUDE

The Thanksgiving holiday reminds us that we should always be grateful for the many blessings God provides. Keep a special gratitude journal, and write in it often to keep an attitude of gratitude.



What you need:

- Paper (8½" x 11" sheets, plain or lined)
- Stapler
- Stickers
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

1. Fold several sheets of paper in half.
2. Staple the pages together on the folded crease.
3. Write "Attitude of Gratitude" on the cover.
4. Decorate your journal with stickers and drawings.
5. On the inside cover, write "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).
6. Use your journal daily as a reminder of your blessings and as a guide for when you say prayers.



He gave thanks

This Thanksgiving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

Across

1. opposite of down
3. opposite of up
4. more than one loaf
6. penniless
8. place where God dwells
9. bass, halibut, salmon and others
10. past tense of give
11. a command you give to a dog

Down

2. another name for humans
3. twelve of Jesus' closest friends
5. what a lawnmower cuts
7. _____ giving
9. odd number after 4



Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. broke, 9. heaven, 10. gave, 11. sit
 Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five

November



3 Tabitha Booher
5 Matthew Lambert
5 Susan Lynn Ackerman
5 Stephen Moulton
7 Cindy Fox
8 Carolyn Meader
10 Robert Cooper
12 Richard Fox
14 Owen Charles Kelly
19 BeeLou Horner
21 Eric Beals
21 Stephanie Kelley-Reece
22 Caroline Woodworth
25 Binky MacQuinn
26 Sara Heiges
27 Pat Linscott
27 Owen Craighead
29 Sarra Kane
30 Keith Miller
30 Betty Bryer



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Bruce Blake
Assistant Deacon – Scott Hammond

Liturgists-

1: Scott Hammond
8: Al Simons
15: Betty Bryer
22: Rita Johnston
29: Deb Wade

Flowers –

1: Nancy and Jack Pelletier
8: Anne and Dusty Warner
15: George and Billie Mitchell
22: Estelle Megquier
29: Jay and Sandy Boyce

Coffee Hosts -

1: Apple Festival
8: Cas Dowden
15: Ruth Rossi
and Kathy and Ralph Solimano
22: Pumpkin Festival
29:

Home Bible Readings

1 Ruth 1:1-8
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34
8 Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44
15 1 Samuel 1:4-20
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-25
Mark 13:1-8
22 2nd Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-18
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37
29 Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1st Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

November



1 Worship / Sunday School 10 am	2 <i>Webelos</i> 3:30 <i>Cancer Support</i> 5:00 Cub Scouts 6:00	3 Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	4	5 Bible Study 10:00 am Girl Scouts 3:00 <i>Adult Choir 7:00</i>	6 <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	7
8 Worship / Sunday School 10 am	9 <i>Webelos 3:30</i>	10 <i>Outreach</i> 7:00	11 Veteran's Day Service at 11:00 AM	12 Bible Study 10:00 am BH Garden Club 1:00 Girl Scouts 3:00 <i>Adult Choir 7:00</i>	13 <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	14
15 Worship / Sunday School 10 am <u>Annual Meeting!</u> <i>Girl Scouts 2-4</i>	16 <i>Webelos 3:30</i> <i>Eden School Board 6:00</i>	17 Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	18 <u>Chimes</u> <u>Articles Due!</u> <i>CE Board 7:00</i>	19 Girl Scouts 3:00 <i>Trustees 5:30</i> <i>Adult Choir 7:00</i>	20 <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	21
22 Family Worship 10 am <i>Girl Scouts 2-4</i>	23 <i>Webelos 3:30</i>	24	25 <i>Church Council 7:00</i>		27 <i>Minister's Day Off</i>	28
29 Worship/ Sunday School 10 am <i>Nursing Home Service 10:45</i> <i>Stroke Survivor's Group</i> 6:00 Healing Service 7:00	30 <i>Webelos 3:30</i>					

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

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

Special dates

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2009
- **Daylight-Saving Time ends,
November 1, 2009**
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2009
- Christ the King Sunday, November 22, 2009
- Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2009
- National Bible Week, November 22-29, 2009
- First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2009

Thanksgiving

Most Americans, learning about Thanksgiving's origin, hear or read about the destitute Pilgrims who suffered greatly during their first bitter winter in America. Many Pilgrims got sick, and half of them died.

What we don't focus on enough is the fact that Native Americans took pity on the Pilgrims. They befriended the newcomers and gave them food. They taught them how to survive the vicious cold months.

Then, when the earth grew warm again, the Indians taught the Pilgrims how to grow various crops and how to store any surplus. It was primarily because of the natives' friendship and helpfulness that the Pilgrims began to eke their way from disaster to fruitfulness.

It's no wonder that when the Pilgrims had their first successful harvest, they invited their Indian neighbors to celebrate with them. The natives didn't come empty-handed. They furnished venison, wild turkeys and probably vegetables from storage. It was, more or less, a potluck affair. The Pilgrim leaders prayed gratefully at the occasion.

We can be confident that an unseen but not unexpected Guest was very much present that day.

Source: The NewsletterNewsletter