



THE CHIMES

THE NEWS LETTER OF THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

29 Mount Desert Street, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 3:00 PM; Friday 9:00 – 11:30 AM

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April 2010

From the Pastor

Recently I came across a wonderful booklet entitled, “16 Reasons I Love Jesus.” It is put out by the United Church of Christ and produced by the Congregational Vitality Initiative, written by the Stillspeaking Writers’ Group, and available through Pilgrim Press. The booklet is small, so it fits in pocket, purse or backpack and is a good tool for sharing our love for Jesus. I thought the content was so wonderful and thought provoking that I wanted to share with you its first eight reasons this month.

So now, without further ado, here are the first eight reasons why we love Jesus and a little bit of commentary about each:

1. ***Jesus shows me what God is like in ways I can understand.*** In Jesus’ life we are able to see clearly the purpose of God for our lives. Jesus is our teacher and our model. Jesus was able to live the life God called Him to live and, in doing so, called us to the lives God has planned for us.

2. ***Because when other people can’t forgive me, Jesus does.*** What a wonderful assurance we have from Jesus, that all who believe in Him are given the gifts of God, including forgiveness. Forgiveness is part of salvation – when we are truly sorry for our sins, we know we can go to God for forgiveness. This is Jesus’ assurance.

3. ***He ate with sinners and outcasts, the poor and the sick, which means there is room at His table for us.*** How wonderful it is to know and believe that who we are, what we have done, who we hope to be and all the details of our lives are given a place in the love of God. We thank Jesus for His great example.

4. ***Because of Jesus, nothing I experience is strange to God.*** Jesus helped us to understand that there is nothing that can separate us from God’s love – absolutely nothing. Because of that, we are freed from our opinions and prejudices. There really is a God who accepts me as I am!

5. ***Jesus helps me relate to God as a loving parent instead of a distant deity.*** Jesus called God, “Abba.” That is a familiar term for the word, Father. An even closer definition would be, “Daddy.” Because Jesus related in such an intimate way to God, we can relate to God as God’s children.

6. ***Because something about His boldness gives courage to even me.*** What a wonderful thing it is that Jesus has taught us: We can do all things through Him, because He strengthens us. When I don’t feel brave enough to stand up for what I believe is right, I know God in Christ will be with me to uphold and strengthen me to do the right thing, even when it is difficult.

7. *I love Jesus because He descended into hell, and I've been there, too.* When we find ourselves in the scariest of places, facing things that threaten to undo us, we know that there is nowhere we can go where God has not already gone. In Jesus we find not only a Savior, but a mentor who has shown us that even hell is not outside of His saving love.

8. *Because one day, a visitor from China came to my church. We didn't speak each other's language, but when she pointed to her heart and said, "Jesus Christ," we understood each other just fine.* Jesus has broken down all the barriers that keep us from understanding and loving each other. If we love Jesus, everything else becomes possible because we stand on mutual ground. When we allow race, color, sexual orientation, gender or appearance to keep us from talking to one another and, more importantly, listening to one another, we are missing the great liberation that Jesus offers us.

That's all for now, but I will continue next month. If you would like one of these booklets, please see me as I have a good supply of them and I am ready and willing to share.

Sandra M. Reed

Work Weekend at Pilgrim Lodge

Are you interested in spending a night at Pilgrim Lodge? April 23-24 is "Jump Start Work Days," a chance for youth (6th grade and above) and adults to help with some of the many projects involved in opening camp for the season. Saturday breakfast and lunch are provided. There is no charge for the weekend. If you are interested or have questions please contact Karen McFarland.

A Great Stewardship and

Fellowship Opportunity

On April 24, from 9am to 12 pm, you too can have a great opportunity to spruce up our church. Soup, rolls, brownies and drinks will be provided.

The list of what we hope to get done follows:

1. rake, seed and water lawn.
2. remove shutters and clean for painting.
3. clean parlor carpet.
4. scrape and prime flaking exterior walls. paint will be applied later.
5. wash windows.
6. polish brass.
7. repair side steps and firm-up pew.
8. fill cracks in step at ramp.
9. caulk seam on sills.

Rain date will be MAY 01. See you there at 9am; tools etc will be in place.

PILGRIM LODGE ALERT!!

**PL Senior High Camp has
only 13 places left!**

Other camps that are filling up fast include Grandparents camps and Family Camp so if you have been thinking about going to PL this summer register soon! And don't forget our church has a special Pilgrim Lodge Scholarship Fund that will cover 1/3rd of the registration fee!! So take advantage of this amazing opportunity and spend some time at PL this summer! Just a warning though...if you go once you will want to go again...and again!! Check out the Pilgrim Lodge display in the Church Parlor; choose a camp and GO!! You will be glad you did!! And for those of you who register online, please let the church office know so we can be sure that the church pays 1/3 of your registration fee!!

An Update on Dusty Warner

As you know, we have been blessed for the last several years to have the ministry of Dusty Warner in our midst. Dusty has been sharing his faith and skills with us as our Assistant Pastor. Recently the Deacons met with Dusty to talk with him about the work he does with us and ways in which we might mutually benefit in the future from engaging Dusty's considerable pastoral skills.

In an agreement drawn up among Dusty, the Deacons and me, some decisions were made that will, I think, benefit all of us. Here is a summary of that agreement:

- Dusty's position among us will be renamed Pastoral Assistant;
- He will be available for counseling, Bible study, and worship leadership, according to his schedule;
- He will be a pastoral presence among us for spiritual guidance, consultation in matters of Christian nurture, education and theology;
- He will be available to officiate at weddings, funerals and other rites of the church; and
- He will serve under the guidance of the Pastor and the Deacons.

We are truly blessed to have someone of Dusty's faith and experience among us as a pastoral presence. Please let him know that you are glad he is serving us in this capacity. Dusty serves in this position without salary, as a testimony for his love of the church and its Head, Jesus Christ.

Thank you, Dusty, for all you contribute to this family of Christ.

Sandra M. Reed



The image of the bridge you see here represents the connection among all the UCC churches in Hancock and Waldo Counties. So often we wonder what is going on in other UCC churches in our area, but we seldom have the opportunity to visit any of them because we are all so involved in the life of our own church. Now there is a way to learn more about what our neighboring churches are doing for fundraising, fellowship, Christian Education, Bible study, and more. Read the Hancock-Waldo Association Newsletter “**Keeping Connected**”!!

How do you get the newsletter?

There are several ways:

- † Go to our church website (www.barharborucc.org) and you will find a link to the newsletter.
- † Contact the editor Reverend Pat Butler (jpbutler6@yahoo.com) and she will put you on the mailing list.
- † Go to the Maine Conference Website (http://www.maineucc.org/associations/HW/hancockwaldo_frontpage.html) and you will find a link to the newsletter.

Newsletters are published three or four times during the year and articles are always welcome!! If you have something you would like to share about our church that you wish to submit, simply contact editor, Reverend Pat Butler (jpbutler6@yahoo.com) or if you do not have access to e-mail give the article to me and I will see that she receives it. In the meantime...**STAY CONNECTED!**

Kathy Woodside
HWA Delegate

What's Happening in the Maine Conference, UCC!

The UCC Insurance Board invites you to join any one of these upcoming webinars:

**Mar 25, 2010 11:00AM EST / 8:00AM PST
Maintaining Your Church with
Contractors or Volunteers**

Whether you use contractors or volunteers, there are important liability and insurance considerations before you decide. Learn about the traps and pitfalls and how to do it right.

**Mar 30, 2010 2:00PM EST / 11:00AM PST
Maintaining Your Church with
Contractors or Volunteers**

Whether you use contractors or volunteers, there are important liability and insurance considerations before you decide. Learn about the traps and pitfalls and how to do it right.

**Apr 13, 2010 11:00AM EST / 8:00AM PST
The New Church Usher – More Than a
Greeter**

To assure a welcoming place and the safety of all, the Usher's role is expanded to the whole property and more technical concerns. What should your Head Ushers be doing?

**Apr 15, 2010 2:00PM EST / 11:00AM PST
The New Church Usher – More Than a
Greeter**

To assure a welcoming place and the safety of all, the Usher's role is expanded to the whole property and more technical concerns. What should your Head Ushers be doing?

You can register for any of these by subscribing to ACE. Just contact Sue Stevens (800.244.0937) at the conference office to subscribe.

Educator Day- the Maine Conference Christian Education Ministry Team is hosting an Education Day on Tuesday March 30, 2010 from 10am to 12 noon at First Congregational UCC in North Yarmouth. The theme for the event is **“Interfaith Education: Why should we do it?”** Leadership will be provided by Judy Colby-George. To register contact the Resource

Center at 1-800-244-0937 or resourcecenter@maineucc.org. A donation of \$5 per church is payable at the door.

It's Coming We will gather at the Univ. of Maine in Farmington for the 78th Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference on June 10-13, 2010. Our Theme this year is “Reframing Church – visions and dreams” from Acts 2: 17. Our keynote speaker will be Carol Howard Merritt, author of “Tribal Church” and “Reframing Faith”. Carol will also lead our Pre-Meeting Retreat for Clergy and Lay on Thursday and Friday. More information, including registration, housing, etc. will be available on the conference website by April 1. Please plan to join us in Farmington.

**Save the Date - Middle School Rally Day -
May 2nd, 2-5 pm**

This spring we will gather once again in Waterville gathering young people from around our conference. Sing music and more. Watch your mail for our event information, which will arrive shortly in your church!

Celebrating our Service Men -

At our Middle School Rally Day our young people will be remembering our service men from churches around the conference, writing letters and sending friendship bracelets. If your church has anyone in the National Guard or armed forces, we would appreciate knowing their names and addresses. Please e-mail this information to Susie Craig at susiecraigacm@aol.com or call the Maine Conference Office at 846-5118. Thank you.

Andover Newton Theological School is offering got four exciting on-line seminars this spring.

There's one Enrichment Seminar for both clergy and laity, especially geared to educational leaders: Teaching Teachers to Teach, Dates: April 26 – May 21, Registration Deadline: April 26

There are also three Empowerment Seminars offered in cooperation with the Alban Institute, primarily intended for clergy and church staff continuing education, but open to everyone:

Managing Change and Conflict in Congregations with David Brubaker, author of *Promise and Peril: Understanding and Managing Change and Conflict in Congregations*

Dates: April 12 – May 7 Registration Deadline: April 2

The Hidden Lives of Congregations, with Israel Galindo, author of *The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics*

Dates: April 26 – May 21 Registration Deadline: April 16

Becoming the Disciple-Forming Community with Jeffrey Jones, author of *Traveling Together: A Guide for Disciple-Forming Congregations*

Dates: May 31- June 25 Registration Deadlines: May 21

John Bell in Maine

The Iona Community's world-famous musician, John Bell, will be coming to Maine May 22-23, 2010 to share his passion for world music and congregational singing with churches in New England! Both clergy and laity will enjoy this amazing weekend when John will share his music in engaging, humorous, inspiring, thought provoking, and encouraging ways. Saturday afternoon, John Bell will lead a participatory workshop entitled "Encouraging and Improving Congregational Singing" at the North Windham Union Church. Sunday morning join the Raymond Village Community Church for worship with John leading the service and preaching. Sunday afternoon,

John will lead the "Big Sing" at First Congregational Church in South Portland, where he will, in his engaging, humorous, inspiring, and encouraging way, take us on a musical adventure of Iona Community and world songs.

Registration forms and additional information are available at www.maineucc.org

If you have questions or desire additional information, please contact Rev. Nancy Foran by phone at 207-650-7845 or by e-mail at nancy1@maine.rr.com.

Registration and workshop information is now available on the ME Conference website for "GATHERED HERE 2010"

This is a weekend-long ONA workshop for the ME Conference sponsored by The Witness Life Commission and hosted by First Parish Congregational Church UCC in Saco. This event is offered in response to the resolution approved in June 2008 calling on the Conference to undergo study as to whether to declare itself an ONA Conference. This event is open to all members and friends of the ME Conference UCC and its churches.

For more information, check the ME Conference website www.maineucc.org or contact Bill Walsh, 207-615-4556 or email to gatheredhere2010@gmail.com

New England Regional Youth Event - June 24-27 at the Boston University campus in Boston, Mass. **Inside-out, Outside-in, Finding our Way in God's World!**

Come join with 300 young people from throughout our New England Conferences. Sign-ups have begun. Young people, their churches and friends are in the midst of raising funds so all can take part in this special event. Some scholarship help is available. Our Maine contingent will gather in Saco the night before, and then take a bus together to Boston. Speak to Susie Craig if you have any further questions. You can find us on the Internet as well - Google New England Regional Youth Event! We already have over 30 signed up!

New in the Resource Center!

Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life

Evangelism by Martha Grace Reese

This is a book for pastors who want to know the truth about the state of evangelism. It was recently selected by The Christian Century as a featured "Take and Read" book. *Unbinding the Gospel* is a book for Christians who want a hopeful, powerful, joy-filled way to learn to share their faith. (It's also a book for people who cringe when they hear the "E" word!) This book for congregational use has been enthusiastically endorsed by 8 heads of denominations, Brian McLaren, Richard Peace, as well as by countless pastors and church leaders. The book is required reading during Phase 2 of the "Small Church Vitality Initiative" a new program led by Rev. Darren Morgan the Associate Minister for Small Church Development. The Resource Center has three copies available for loan.

Unbinding Your Heart by Martha Grace Reese

Unbinding Your Heart is a six-week All-Church Study designed to follow *Unbinding the Gospel*. It includes a daily individual prayer journal. Over forty days people will **pray** each day's scripture and prayer exercise. **Study** a chapter from the book with their small group. Then **Worship** together with the week's chapter being the focus of the sermon, music and prayer. This

resource can start real changes in congregations that bring the experience to all age groups, from middle school youth to the most senior members. The book is used during Phase 3 of the "Small Church Vitality Initiative" a new program led by Rev. Darren Morgan the Associate Minister for Small Church Development. The Resource Center has three copies available for loan. The book is used during Phase 3 of the "Small Church Vitality Initiative" a new program led by Rev. Darren Morgan the Associate Minister for Small Church Development. The Resource Center has three copies available for loan.



Dear Church Family;

Here we are already in the third session of Sunday School for the year. Many of you are aware that this has been a year of transition for our Sunday School program. The Christian Education Board and teachers have spent a significant amount of time trying out new curriculums in search of the most age appropriate program for each grade level. There have been many successes...several of which we will attempt to describe here.

The Worship Center Curriculum we are using with the Pre-K/Kindergarten and 1st 2nd graders is very exciting. The program is truly worship centered so the class is structured like an actual worship service. So if you see a sign on the classroom door that says **Worship in Progress**, please respect that because these kids are actively engaged in a prayer filled experience.

There are three very special classes being taught during this session. Laurie Olsen is teaching the "Case for Christ" with 5th graders; Kathy MacCulloch is teaching the 3rd Grade Bible Class, and Reverend Sandra is offering a Confirmation class for

7th and 8th graders. As with all classes **attendance is very important** particularly for classes such as these where one lesson is dependent on the other.

We have a dedicated group of volunteer teachers who take their teaching responsibilities seriously. And with our emphasis on a developmental curriculum we find we need every minute on Sunday mornings for our lessons so we are asking parents to pick their children up at **11:15**

a.m. This will really help each class finish up in a more orderly fashion and give parents a few precious minutes to enjoy coffee and conversation during the fellowship time before they collect their children.

The end of the Sunday School year will be here before we know it and we will be starting up "God's Garden Club" for the summer. If you have a special skill, craft, field trip idea, or project that you would like to do with the children one Sunday in June, July, or August, please contact Kathy MacCulloch (288-4272 or kathymacculloch@gmail.com) or Kathy Woodside (288-5160 or kcwoodside@roadrunner.com). We would love to hear from you!

Finishing off the 2009/10 calendar year Events in Christian Education

March 28th- Palm Sunday, family worship
April 4th- Easter Sunday, family worship
April 25th- Spring fling, 11:30 potluck right after Church
May 23rd- 3rd graders receive their Bibles
May 30th- Last day of Sunday School
June 6th- Youth Sunday
June 13th- First day of God's Garden Club

Please plan to attend and volunteer if you can! Thanks!

Yours in Christ,
Kathy Woodside,
Christian Education Chair

Kathy MacCulloch
Christian Education Coordinator

There's Something Better coming

This season of Easter is a special time for Christians to celebrate the ultimate reason for our hope: Christ is risen, and invites us to rise with him to new life.

Easter is an invitation to try again with God's help to break that addiction we had given up all hope of ever breaking. There's something better coming. ...

Easter is a chance to work at renewing the marriage we had given up all hope of ever saving. There's something better coming. ...

Easter is an opportunity to reach out to our neighbors who, in our busyness, we neglect. There's something better coming. ...

Easter is an invitation to look at our lack of love and seek God for compassion. There's something better coming. ...

Easter is a chance for all no-hopers to regain their vision of what can be! There's something better coming. ...

Easter is an opportunity to renew our faith. There's something better coming. ...

Easter is a chance to "renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles; to run and not faint." There's something better coming. ...

Homiletics

A colorful CROSS



Create a beautiful decoration for your window this Easter. It will remind you that Jesus rose from the dead to save you from your sins.

What you need:

- 8½" x 11" sheet of paper
- Pencil
- Clear transparency sheet (or clear report cover)
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- Colored tissue paper
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Scotch tape

What you do:

1. Draw a large cross that takes up most of the paper.
2. Put the transparency over the paper and trace the cross onto it with a permanent marker.
3. Cut the colored tissue paper into 1" x 1" squares.
4. Using a paintbrush, spread glue onto the tissue paper squares and then place them on the cross. (Add a few drops of water to the white glue to make it more spreadable.)
5. After the glue is dry, cut out the cross. Then tape it in a window and enjoy the beautiful colors.



SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE

At this time of the year, we see many crosses draped in purple, black or white cloth. They remind us of the loving sacrifice Jesus made for us – and that he rose again.

Use the code in the big cross to complete 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, NIV.

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Answer: Christ died for our sins ... he was buried ... he was raised on the third day.



				1	Maundy Thursday Service 7:00	 GOOD FRIDAY Service at noon	3	Dance class					
4	Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 AM Easter Breakfast 6:30 AM Easter Worship 10:00 AM (no Sunday School)	5	Cancer Support Group 5-6:30 Cub Scout Pack meeting 7:00	6	Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	7		8	Bible Study 10:00 BH Garden Club 1:00 Adult Choir 7:00	9	Minister's Day Off	10	Dance class
11	Worship / Sunday School 10 am Alleluia Choir 11:30 Girl Scouts 2-4	12	Cub Scouts 3:30	13	Outreach Board 7:00pm	14		15	Bible Study 10:00 Trustees 5:30 Adult Choir 7:00	16	Minister's Day Off	17	Dance class
18	Worship / Sunday School 10 am Alleluia Choir 11:30 Deacons 11:30	19	Cub Scouts 3:30 Eden School Board 6:00 PM	20	Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	21	<u>Chimes</u> <u>Articles Due!</u> CE Board 7:00	22	Bible Study 10:00 Adult Choir 7:00	23	Minister's Day Off	24	Dance class
25	Worship / Sunday School 10 am Alleluia Choir 11:30 Spring Fling 11:30 Girl Scouts 2-4	26	Cub Scouts 3:30	27		28	Church Council 7:00	29		30			

April 2010



- 1 Samuel Brady Renault
- 2 Marsha Fuller
- 6 Hannah Paradis
- 6 Eric McQuinn
- 8 Jane Boynton
- 11 Saida Riddell
- 14 Kathy Woodside
- 16 Jane Haraden
- 19 Barbara Adler
- 22 Esther Testa
- 23 Donald Hobbs
- 23 Lisa Krautwald
- 23 Kim Craighead
- 25 Jan Varnum
- 26 Caitie Smith
- 27 Katelyn Burns



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Ann Lee
Assistant Deacon – Kathy Kief

Liturgists-

- 4: Debbie Dyer
- 11: Mary Drury
- 18:
- 25:

Flowers –

- 4: Easter Flowers
- 11: Beverly McNeal
- 18: Jean Kief, Cecil and Lucy Sprague
- 25:

Coffee Hosts -

- 4: Deacons
- 11:
- 18:
- 25:

Lectionary -

- 4 Isaiah 65:17 - 25
Psalm 118:1 - 2, 14 - 24
Acts 10:34 - 43
John 20:1 - 18
- 11 Acts 5:27 - 32
Psalm 118:14 - 29
Revelation 1:4 - 8
John 20:19-31
- 18 Acts 9:1 - 20
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11 - 14
John 21:1-19
- 25 Acts 9:36 - 43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9 -17
John 10:22 - 30

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

Special Dates:

- Holy Week, March 28-April 3, 2010
- Maundy/Holy Thursday, April 1, 2010
- Good Friday, April 2, 2010
- Holy Saturday, April 3, 2010
- Easter Day, April 4, 2010
- Administrative Professionals Day, April 21, 2010

Good Friday?

At first glance, Good Friday appears to be a misnomer.

It seems inconsistent that the day of Christ's crucifixion should in any way be described as "good."

But that seeming inconsistency vanishes when we understand that the ancient meaning of good was "holy." The word holy is entirely consistent with the suffering and cross that Christ endured for us.

Hence, Good Friday is also known as Holy Friday.

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

The Promise of Christ

The 14th chapter of John's gospel contains this promise our Lord gave his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate (sometimes translated Comforter), to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16, NRSV).

Jesus added: "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live" (John 14:18-19).

What a wonderful promise! Jesus knew he would be dying. He knew the disciples would see his resurrected body. But even after Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples wouldn't be alone. The Holy Spirit would come to comfort and embolden them.

"[My] peace I leave with you," Jesus concluded. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid" (John 14:27).