



# 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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September 2010

## From the Pastor

Are you a morning person or does your energy tend to gather throughout the day, allowing you to be at your best in the last part of the day? Morning people tend to aggravate those who “don’t do mornings,” and people who are more energetic later in the day tend to amaze those whose energy concentrates in the early hours of the day. We are not all alike. We tend to have differences in appearance, opinion, and actions. Usually I think this is a very good thing, but sometimes it is a cause of disagreement and an indication of our inability to understand each other. I especially think it is not a good idea when I wish to have my own way. Isn’t that human nature?

My energy tends to concentrate in the morning. That is a very good thing because our dogs like to wake us up at about 4:30 AM and one or both of us need to be ready to take them for their first walk of the day. Their breakfast is next on the agenda and, by then, the day is off to a rousing start. Although it takes me a little while to wake up, after a few minutes I am ready to take on the day. However, by about 7 PM I am ready to fold my tent and relax. That is unfortunate because most of the church meetings I attend begin at 7 PM. Sometimes our outer schedules do not match our inner schedules. I have a feeling that many of my fellow meeting-goers are on the same schedule that I am on. Sometimes

it is hard to concentrate and come up with appropriate ideas and solutions to problems. Fortunately, we are balanced between those who are energetic at night and those of us who are not. That is a very good thing for the church.

Have you ever heard the expression, “opposites attract?” Since I was very young I have heard those words spoken. My grandmother, especially, used to say that marriage partners should fill in one another’s gaps. By that, I think she meant that it is good to share your life with someone who can pick up the slack in areas in which you are weak. Our lives are made richer by having relationships with people who are different from us; those who challenge us and help us to see things in a different light.

I believe this is the case in our church. We are fortunate to have among us folks who have different interests, abilities and opinions. While that can sometimes cause difficulties, I believe it keeps us from becoming stagnant or boring. I want to celebrate our differences and invite you to do the same as we live together as Christ’s people. Since Jesus made it clear that not all people are the same and since the Apostle Paul reminded us that we have different gifts and graces, we might just as well look for the strength we have together as a sort of melting pot.

I have absolutely no talent as a quilter, and yet I appreciate the way in which a quilt comes together. I love to see the

various patterns and colors that are chosen to form a patchwork of beauty. Even the underside of a quilt has a loveliness all its own as the quilter chooses a pattern which will compliment the main side. In between the front and back of a quilt is often a kind of stuffing that makes the quilt look fluffy and attractive to us, making us want to curl up within its warmth. To complete the quilt, the stitching, done meticulously, holds the pieces together and makes all the beautiful parts come together as a whole. Who cannot appreciate the complexity and artistry of a quilt?

In many ways our church is like a quilt, formed by patterns that come together to make a whole entity. We are individuals with our own colors and textures, but we are bound together by our belief in God, the recognition of Jesus Christ as God's only Son, and the presence of the Holy Spirit moving among and within us. Sometimes our differences make for rather loud discussions, but most of the time our individual talents are what make us such a strong corporate body. When I lead worship, I am moved when I observe and participate in the oneness we bring on Sunday mornings and on other occasions when we gather. During meetings I am appreciative of the way in which different people use their gifts to bring about the ends we seek. When I visit in homes or hospitals, I see us as individuals with needs and graces. All of those parts make the whole that is our congregation.

Today I want to celebrate the diverse group of people who came together to form the Bar Harbor Congregational Church and those who have come along ever since to keep this Body of Christ seeking to serve the One who created us. We will never be accused of being dull or boring – our differences make us colorful and filled with life. May God continue to work through us, that we may serve God's holy purpose on earth.

Sandra M. Reed

## **JOIN US FOR A NEW WAY TO PRAY**

On Sunday, September 26, please join Sandra Reed after worship for a look at guided meditation. We will meet in the library room downstairs at 11:30 AM, following worship, to hear a preliminary report on the new course on guided meditation which will be offered to our congregation. Your questions will be answered and a brief experience of guided meditation will be offered so you can decide if you want to continue on with the course being offered. Those who are interested will be able to give feedback as to when and where the group will meet.

This is something new for our congregation, but not new to the world of Christian prayer. Please join us and see if this is a discipline you would like to add to your spiritual life.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Reed.

## **Thank You Brian for Giving to Your Church and also to Your Town**



**Brian is the conductor and trumpet player for "Maine's oldest continually performing municipal musical groups [that] has been entertaining summer visitors and residents alike for more than 100 years."**

“Established in 1898, The Town Band has drawn local and regional musicians for more than a century. ‘It’s a group of amateur musicians who are performing. It’s people having a good time and enjoying the music,’ said conductor Brian Booher.”

“A trumpet player most of his life, Mr. Booher said of conducting, ‘You’re creating music. You have to move music through the ability to bring different musicians together. It’s nerve-wracking, but it’s wonderful’”

“Now in its second century, the band will continue to accept new amateur talent as well as professionals. ‘The Town Band’s a wonderful institution,’ said Mr. Booher. ‘It’s away for people to go out and enjoy something simple and fun.’”

Thank you Brian for your contribution to our church ministry through your musical talent playing the trumpet, and for bringing us wonderful summer musical evenings around the bandstand.

*Source: Mount Desert Islander*

## Change Your Thinking

(This article appeared a year-ago in the Chimes, and is worth repeating.)

It will take just 37 seconds to read this and change your thinking.

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room.

One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs.

His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.

The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation.

Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man could not hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days, weeks and months passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep.

She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone.

Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window besides the bed.

It faced a blank wall.

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window.

The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, 'Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you.'

#### Epilogue

There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled.

If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.

'Today is a gift, that is why it is called The Present.'

We thank Lou Ingrisano for bringing this letter to our attention.



The Board of Christian Education continues to be very busy! We have had a wonderful God's Garden Club, with as many as 20 kids in attendance. We went on a field trip to the Bar Harbor Food Pantry. We were hosted by the most wonderful people. Many thanks to Sandy Boyce, Debby Hammond, Ruth Rossi and friend Kathy Solimano, Kathy Simons, Ward Holder and Doug McMinimy.

Summer is always such a hectic time. Thanks for making the time to volunteer!

Upcoming events we have are a Vacation Bible School. We will be preparing for a play during VBS! We will be learning songs, some dance moves and making props. We will be performing the play during Church on September 12<sup>th</sup>, Rally Sunday! VBS will be August 29<sup>th</sup> through September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 to 8pm right at the Church. Hope your kids can make it!

**The first Day of Sunday School will be September 19<sup>th</sup>.** We are still looking for a couple of teachers to fill in the year. We will be dividing the teaching among 3 trimesters again, the first with 9 weeks of classes, the 2<sup>nd</sup> with 10 weeks and the 3<sup>rd</sup> with 9 weeks of classes.

We are also excited to have Family Worship once a month again this year! It is such a wonderful time for families to be together for the whole of worship. It livens up our dinner conversations at our house!

So, again, we are busy, we need more volunteers, especially teachers, we love all our kids and we thank God for his guidance!

Kathy MacCulloch  
Christian Education Coordinator  
kathymacculloch@gmail.com



We extend our sympathy to the family of James (Jim) Campbell, who recently died.

# Smart cookies

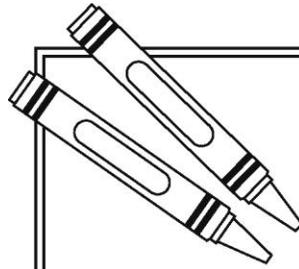
September is an exciting time, as you begin growing in wisdom with a new year of school and Sunday school. Be a "smart cookie" by making this special container for your kitchen. Change the pictures as your year goes by. Or fill the container with cookies to give as a gift.

## What you need:

- 2 identical disposable plastic containers (rectangular and clear)
- 1 lid
- 4 photos or drawings
- Scissors
- Sticky bow or ribbon (optional)
- Cookies

## What you do:

1. Cut four different pictures or drawings to fit the sides of your container. Allow the edges to slightly overlap around the four sides of one container.
2. Gently set one container inside the other. Then slide the pictures or drawings down between the two containers to cover the four sides. Press the inner container down to secure the pictures in place between the sides.
3. Fill the container with cookies, and put the lid on top of the inner container.
4. You can put a sticky bow or ribbon on the lid to make the container look like a present.



Just for **KIDS**

# GOD'S INSTRUCTION

The Bible is a guide for how we should live. In Sunday school and at home, we learn how God loves and saves us. Solve this puzzle to find Proverbs 4:13 (NIV), which tells about the importance of God's Word.

First, write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then write the correct letters on the number-coded lines below.

young \_\_\_\_\_ death \_\_\_\_\_ cold \_\_\_\_\_ come \_\_\_\_\_  
 1 2 3                    2 6 7 8                    4 1 5                    9 1

sweet \_\_\_\_\_ can't \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ later \_\_\_\_\_  
 10 1 11 12                    13 14 15                    16 8 10                    15 1 17

"H  
 4 1 2 3                    1 15                    5 1

6 15 10 5 12 11 13 5 6 1 15 ' 3 1

15 1 5                    2 8 5                    6 5                    9 1 ;

9 11 14 12 3                    6 5                    17 8 2 2 ' 7 1 12

6 5                    6 10                    16 1 11 12                    2 6 7 8 "



"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life." (Proverbs 4:13, NIV)

Answers: old, life, hot, go, sour, can, yes, now

# September



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Rob Fry  
3 Brian Booher  
4 Jean Willis  
6 Benjamin Blaney  
7 Laurie Olson  
12 Tracey McCarthy  
13 Jacquelyn Johnson  
15 Mimi Dickson  
20 Olivia Stanley  
22 Wanda Young  
23 Anna Naggert  
24 Kendra Bonsey  
24 Hannah Boyce  
25 Debra Hammond  
26 Nathaniel Olsen  
27 Jennifer Spurling Gibson  
28 Kathy MacCulloch  
30 Melissa Reed Young



## Sunday Worship Contributors

**Head Deacon –** Lindsay Shopland  
**Assistant Deacon –** Ann Lee

### Liturgists-

5:  
12:  
19:  
26:

### Flowers –

5: Penny Frost  
12: Mr. & Mrs. Donald Dyer, Jr.,  
Cindy and Jim Lambert  
19: Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Soule  
26: Michele and Charlie Croan

### Coffee Hosts -

5: Sue Ackerman  
12:  
19: Zucchini Festival  
26:

### Home Bible Readings

5 Jeremiah 18:1-11  
Psalm 139:1-6  
Philemon 1-21  
Luke 14:25-33  
12 Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28  
Psalm 14  
1 Timothy 1:12-17  
19 Jeremiah 8:18-9:1  
Psalm 79:1-9  
! Timothy 2:1-7  
Luke 16:1-13  
26 Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15  
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16  
1 Timothy: 6:6-19  
Luke 16:19-31

# September

			1	2	3	4
						L'Heureaux/ Frost Wedding 11.00
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship 10:00 am		Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>Rally Day</b>  Worship 10:00 am  Girl Scouts 2-5 pm		Outreach 7:00  Cub Scout Pack Meeting. 6:00-7:30 PM	<u>Chimes</u> <u>Articles</u> <u>Due!</u>	Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM <b>Trustees</b> <b>5:30</b>	Classical Guitar Concert 8:00 pm- Kevin Morse	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship 10:00 am  Zucchini Festival coffee hour <b>Deacons 11:30</b>		Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00	<b>Church Council</b> 7:00	Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM		
26	27	28	29	30		
Worship 10:00 am Guided Meditation workshop after church (library) Girl Scouts 2-5 pm				Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM		

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United Church of Christ  
29 Mount Desert Street  
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**U. S. Postal Paid  
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Bar Harbor, ME 04609  
Permit Number 32**

## **Special Dates**

- Labor Day, September 6, 2010
- Patriot Day (remembrance of Sept. 11), September 11, 2010
- National Grandparents Day, September 12, 2010
- Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 - October 15, 2010
- First Day of Autumn, September 23, 2010

## **An Offertory Prayer**

Loving Creator, you have generously and graciously given us blessing after blessing, gift after gift, kindness after kindness. Your steadfast love and amazing grace abound in our lives. You are awesome, and we are humbled and deeply grateful.

Now we give our tokens of love and appreciation to you. First, we offer our grateful hearts, minds and souls. Receive our praise and thanksgiving. We also offer the gifts of our labor, our monetary offerings, and our pledge of talent, time and service.

Help us be dedicated servants for you in our daily lives so we may be more worthy of the life you have given us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Articles this page: NewsletterNewsletter

## **Labor Day Thoughts**

On this Labor Day weekend, it's hard not to think about how unemployment has affected many people in our communities and churches. Congregations with unemployed members have a calling to help however they can.

Some churches provide job fairs; some have regular meetings to help unemployed people cope. Some churches provide food and other necessities. Those who can should hire an unemployed brother or sister in Christ at a fair wage. The entire congregation should pray regularly for unemployed people.

Christians who've lost their jobs should know they still have work to do. The church always needs volunteers, and unemployed people can serve the Lord and help the church's mission.