



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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December 2010

From the Pastor

As many of you know, we have been engaged in the process of finding, interviewing, and hiring a new custodian. By the time you read this, we will have been successful and a new custodian will be in place. (By the way, please make him or her feel welcome.) Something happened during the search process that I decided to write about.

First of all, you need to understand that this position is for eight hours per week. Not a big job, but a very important job. The reason I mention this is because we had thirty-five applicants. I was surprised by that. Several years ago when we conducted a search for a new custodian there were no applicants and we had to go out and find a cleaning service that was willing to do the job. What a difference a few years makes.

As I conducted interviews, three things impressed me: (1) Each person was eager to make a good impression; (2) Many of the people expressed how much they needed the job; and (3) Several of the applicants were desperately trying to piece together a living, some with as many as four part-time jobs. Now, before you tell me I am elitist and out of touch with what is going on around me, let me assure you that is not the case. I talk with people all the time who are struggling. In the process of using my discretionary fund I hear all kinds of stories and see all kinds of situations that are enough to break my heart. But this situation

really took me by surprise and has caused me to stop and think about the role of the church in these days.

If one were to look at only the surface of our town, I think he or she would see an affluent community. It is when one scrapes away the surface that one finds the life situations of many of the residents of MDI. I had to ask myself, "What is our church doing about this?" Well, we support the Maine Seacoast Mission, which ministers to many in and around the Island. We carry out a Thanksgiving Basket project every year. (And every year the numbers increase.) We work with the Maine Seacoast Mission in their annual Christmas gift gathering. I can do small things with a limited discretionary fund. We support a community outreach fund, sponsored by the Maine Seacoast Mission. We support and staff, from time to time, the food pantry. Many of our church family staff Serendipity on a weekly basis. Our doors are open every Sunday to any who want to worship and join us for Sunday School and fellowship. All in all, that seems like quite a bit. And I am sure that I have left some things out. Do we really have to do anything else?

I do think we do quite a bit, but those thirty-five applicants continue to show me that the need is, perhaps, greater than we know. As a result of my thinking, I would like to challenge our church family to look around and find some new ways to serve our community.

First, I would like to do what many other churches in our area are doing by offering, perhaps once a month or more often, a meal free to any who wish to attend. From what I have heard, churches engaged in this activity are really enjoying the folks who come for the meal and are forming new relationships within the community in which they worship.

Second, I would like to find some ways to support in a more organized way the Minister's Discretionary Fund. The church allocates \$500 in our budget, the Outreach Board and the Women's Auxiliary have contributed to it, and several individuals have also contributed. But if there was more money, there could be more help given. I would like to be able to contribute more regularly to the Maine Seacoast Mission Community Outreach Fund and also to have some money available to help others who find their way to our church, looking for help.

Third, I would like to see our church reach out to other agencies and churches in our town who are involved with helping the needy in our community. Together, we can do more than we can individually.

Finally, wouldn't it be nice if all of us took the responsibility to invite members of the community to our church? We have a great church with much to offer in the service of Jesus Christ. Shouldn't we make it available to others? We have a wonderful congregation, which would be made even better with new people, new ideas, and new perspectives. I invite everyone I meet to come to church. That is a very important part of my job as your pastor. But I can't reach everyone and your help would be greatly appreciated.

In this season of rejoicing and gifting, let's look around and see what our neighbors need. Perhaps we can be of help. I believe Jesus said something about that.

In the meantime, a blessed Christmas to one and all and a very happy, healthy

new year to you. May you and those with whom you share your life catch the spirit of the season.

Sandra M. Reed



The Annual Living Nativity will be held on the church steps on Wednesday, December 15th and Thursday, December 16th, 6pm to 7:20 pm . Participants are asked to be at the church by 5-5:30pm so as to allow plenty of time to get dressed. Be sure to wear warm clothing. Don't worry about supper, as there will be warm soup, sandwiches, and hot cocoa available to sustain you thru a cold evening. Sign up sheets will available in the parlor. We welcome new comers to the church to participate. It's an awesome event. Call Norma Spurling 288-9023 if you have any questions.

SAVE THE DATE!
OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR
Friday, December 10th,
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? If not here is the perfect opportunity to purchase that perfect gift for a special friend or family member. The Annual Christmas Fair has something for everyone.... Yummy baked goods, and amazing attic treasures. In addition there will be a raffle table featuring the art of several area artists, cash gifts, and specialty baskets.

Let's not forget our famous luncheon! Lunch begins at 11:00 a.m. which

gives you a whole hour to shop before you take a break for lunch. The menu will include savory soups, super crab rolls, scrumptious sandwiches, and delicious pies. So save the date...see your friends...and enjoy the Christmas fun!!

For the Christmas Fair we need lots of helpers!!

It takes the work of many hands to put this fair together! Please check the following list to see where you can help out!

Sign up sheets are in the parlor!

1. Fellowship Hall Set-up (Luncheon tables etc.)/Dec. 8th & 9th
2. Attic Treasures Set-up/Dec 8th & 9th
3. Pies for the luncheon
4. Cookies/Baked Goods/Fudge
5. Attic Treasures
6. Raffle Items
7. Raffle Workers
8. Fellowship Hall/Attic Treasures Clean-up/Dec. 10th
9. Kitchen Cook Crew
10. Lunch Take-out Crew
11. Kitchen Clean-up Crew/Dec. 10th
12. Waiters/Waitresses
13. Publicity
14. Where ever we may need you!

The Annual Church Fair is a major fundraiser for our church. Help to make this Christmas Fair the best ever!

Kathy Woodside



Our Christmas giving tree is now up in the narthex, with gift tags for children of all ages. Your gifts will be used to replenish the general supply of clothing, books, schools supplies, personal items and toys wrapped and distributed at the Sea Coast Mission. Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by Sunday, December 12th. You may also bring gifts to the church office or Sea Coast Mission at any time.

Thank you for your generosity to help make Christmas a more joyous day for so many children. Contact Karen McFarland if you have any questions.



A word or two from Christian Education...

Our Sunday School program has completed it's first trimester and is moving into the Advent season and the next session within the next few weeks. The program is progressing nicely thanks to the dedication and commitment of our great teachers, snack shepherds, and other volunteers. If you haven't taken a turn at doing snack, you might want to give it a try. It is a great opportunity to see our children engaged in learning about their faith.

PAST EVENTS

On October 23rd the Christian Education Board hosted a **Harvest Potluck!** Many thanks to Doug McMinimy and Jay Boyce for taking the lead on this event! It was a small but enthusiastic group....with great food, good conversation and warm fellowship.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Pageant: This year's Christmas Pageant will be held directly after church on Epiphany Sunday – January 9th. By changing the date we will have a less hectic C.E. schedule, but more importantly it allows us to be truer to our curriculum. We can celebrate Advent and Christmas, and have a clearer understanding of the meaning of Epiphany.

Doug McMinimy will be rehearsing music for the **Christmas Pageant** over the next several weeks as part of Sunday School and as part of Alleluia choir to familiarize our children with the music. Any special rehearsals will be announced at a later date so **stay tuned!**

Gingerbread Houses: Saturday - December 4th, 10:00 a.m.

to 12:00 a.m. This has become a traditional favorite with our children. Kathy MacCulloch and Leslyn Shea will be sending out letters with a recipe to make the gingerbread pieces for the houses. Please bring them with you when you come and decorate your gingerbread houses. This is an wonderful event and everyone has a great time.

Christmas Pageant: January 9th @ 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Get your coffee and sit back and enjoy our young people as they retell the Christmas story in their own special way!!

Birthday Coffee Hour: January 2nd

This is a Sunday not to miss! There will be twelve birthday cakes...one for each month

of the year. This is your chance to have more than one birthday a year...after all...how can you resist all that cake!!

For all you wonderful bakers out there...this is your chance to shine!! So keep watch for the Birthday Cake sign-up sheet!!

Sunday School

The 2nd trimester begins December 2nd and runs through March 6th. New Worship Center Story Kits have arrived!! Yippee!!

Special Thanks!!

Many thanks to Harold Paulsen of Acadia Carpet Care for donating his time for the cleaning of the rugs in our Sunday School area!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL WISH LIST!!

If you'd like to support the Sunday School program, there are a number of ways you can help. Let Kathy MacCulloch or Kathy Woodside know if you'd like to contribute your time, talents, or resources to the Sunday School Program!

**Substitute teachers
Snack Shepherds
Craft Shepherds
Photocopy Shepherds
New rug for the nursery
Digital camera
Colorful stickers for crafts**

*Christ
IS Coming!*

Annual Report Highlights, 11/14/2010

After reading these highlighted reports, we hope our readers, who may not be aware of all the activities of our church, see that we are blessed with many members and friends who work hard to serve our congregation and community. We are proud of them and our church.

We have wonderful assets for those seeking a closer relationship with God -- excellent sermons and spiritual guidance and care, great music, an outstanding children's program, a warm and caring congregation for service and fellowship, and an opportunity to be part of a genuine church family.

If you are new to our church, or have been away, please join us each Sunday for our 10 am Worship Service.

Report from the Pastor

"I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have worked hard this year in whatever capacity in which you have been called to serve. Your work is valued and appreciated – not just by me, but by the entire church family. While we all complain, from time to time, about the meetings we are all aware that we are doing important work. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

"For the past several years we have been fortunate to have Dusty in our midst as our Pastoral Assistant. Over the years he has provided wise counsel, engaging preaching and a wonderful example of what it is to live a life of commitment to God. He is retiring from the Park Service this year and will be enjoying a whole different kind of life with his wife, Anne, so we pray that both of you will enjoy God's blessings in the next stage of your life together.

Thank you, Dusty and don't forget to be with us whenever you can.

"What can I say about our Administrative Assistant, Paul? I appreciate so much the way he carries out his job. His presence in our office is a gift to all of us and his abilities are a tremendous help to me and to all of us. I look forward to seeing him each time I come to the church and I'll bet you do too.

"We are so blessed to have Kimberly as our Organist and Music Director. Her gifts from God are wonderfully on display every Sunday and I know all of us are so very grateful to her for what she brings to our church. I cannot thank Kimberly without also thanking the members of our choirs. You lift our hearts and turn us toward praise to God with every one of your musical presentations.

"Kathy "Mac" has been such a wonderful addition to our professional staff. I don't believe I have ever known anyone who so easily relates to young people and adults in such a meaningful way while providing guidance, instruction and fun. Kathy is a woman of faith who inspires us all.

"This year, Anne Warner will "retire" (Can you retire from a job for which you do not get paid?) as our Treasurer this year. Thank you, Anne, for your many years of dedicated service and your faithfulness not only to God, but to Christ's Church. Your budgets and reports have been things of beauty!

"Finally, I would like to offer a thanks and a challenge to the members and friends of our church. In the coming year, I invite you to GET INVOLVED here. If you have been missing worship, please come on back. Make worship a priority for you and your family. If you have been waiting for just the right job for you within the life of the church, the time is now. Don't wait to be asked – Volunteer! Our ministry is only as effective as we, as a congregation, make it

and this church has much to offer to our members and friends, our community and our world. If you have some good ideas for our life together, let us know. There are already many people who are working very hard to carry out our ministry – join them and see just how worthwhile it is.

"I am looking forward to another year with you. Praise to God for all that has been and for all that is to be!"

Sandra M. Reed

Church Council

“The goal of the Church Council is to coordinate interaction among the many other groups and committees of our church, to assess the direction of the church, and to continue to foster its growth.”

“As the other church committees and boards do their important work, the Church Council stands ready to facilitate interactions, act as a sounding board, and offer any support that it can.” “On behalf of the Church Council, I encourage everyone to feel free to attend a meeting or speak to a Council member with any concerns.” “Our Church Council continues to meet regularly each fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the church.”

Kevin Mills

Music Director/Organist

“With the Adult Choir, we continue to encourage both year-around and seasonal singers to join us in our worship and praise of God through music. My ardent thanks to those who have sung in the Adult Choir this year: Margaret Blake, Ben Blaney, Ginny Blaney, Kendra Duley, Mary Drury, Bill Fuller, Debby Hammond, Ellagene Holder, Kathy Kief, Ann Lee, Doug Lee, Doug McMinimy, Al Simons, Kathe Simons, Yvonne Tabb, and May Vinette.”

“The Youth Choir (Alleluia Choir) is now a combination of older ‘veteran’ members and some newer singers. As always, we welcome anyone who desires to sing!”

“Doug McMinimy continues to work with the Cherub Choir at the beginning of Sunday School time on Sunday mornings. Like the Alleluia Choir, the Cherub Choir often presents special music during our church services. I have started a Drumming Circle (we could call it ‘Drumming for God’) for ages 7-93 and hopefully plan their first appearance around the time of the Christmas Festival. Kathe Simons has started up again with the Chapel Chimers, working with ages 3 through first grade on the chimes. They will occasionally play our Introit and special music, and we look forward to hearing them again.”

“Please mark your calendars for Sunday, December 12 at 2:00 pm for our wonderful Christmas Festival.”

Kimberly Haller

Christian Education Report

“The greatest and most welcome change is the addition of Kathy MacCulloch as our C.E. Coordinator.”

“Our biggest area of exploration has been with curriculum. We have added a ‘Worship Center Curriculum’ for our pre-K through 3rd grade. We also experimented with several different curricula for all other grade levels and finally settled on ‘Living the Good News,’ which is one of the leading lectionary-based curriculums in the field of religious education. We have also explored new options for circle time, settling on a once a month.”

“Vacation Bible School was incredibly successful with over 27 kids participating.”

“We have welcomed some new faces to our Sunday School Teachers and have retained some familiar faces as well. Thank these teachers if you see them - - Sandy Boyce, Marianne Dimauro, Kim Craighead, Kathe Simons, Melissa Mills, Michele Gurtler, Kathy Woodside, Leslyn Shea, Kathy MacCulloch, Connie Blaney, Beth Paradis, Laurie Olson, David Lind, Scott Hammond, Mike Bonsey, Ray VonderHaar, and Bethany Hanson.” “Bruce Blake also deserves special thanks for helping to set up the Sunday School space most every Sunday!”

Kathy Woodside, Doug McMinimy, Kim Craighead, Sandy Boyce, Kathy MacCulloch, Reverend Sandra Reed, Betty Bryer, Laurie Riddell

Ladies Auxiliary

“The main focus of the Ladies Auxiliary is to gather in the fall and make plans for the Annual Christmas Fair. We welcomed Kathy Woodside’s leadership at the 2009 Fair.”

“We welcome all the church ladies, young and old, to join us as we prepare for the Fair and to come to any events we have scheduled in the future.”

Norma Spurling

Outreach Board

"Last fall we had another successful year distributing Thanksgiving baskets to over 200 families on MDI."

"During Advent Karen McFarland coordinated with the Sea Coast Mission to offer our church members an opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for families in both Hancock and Washington counties who would otherwise go without. The Sea Coast Mission has an entire floor at their West St. headquarters devoted to this program. Many of our church members joined in the Santa's workshop atmosphere and helped wrap presents. Once again look for the Christmas tree in the Narthex and give generously of your time and money, to make this a happier Christmas for someone."

"Thanks to all who have participated in our fruit festivals during coffee hours this summer and fall. We hope that this effort brings attention to and support for our local farmers."

"Our church members continue to support the work of the Bar Harbor Food Pantry/Clothing Program through volunteering their time as well as donations of food and money."

"At one of the Lenten evening series organized by the deacons, we heard from many individuals in our church who have been involved in mission ministry in one way or another. It was inspiring to hear how their lives have changed through their involvement in many different programs. The Outreach Board attempts to make these opportunities available to the members of our congregation. We plan workdays at H.O.M.E. in Orland and would like to organize a mission trip somewhere in the U.S. or outside, but we need the support of more people. If you are interested in a mission trip, either for one day or longer, please speak to one of our board members."

"Current members: Paula Moody, Secretary, Al Simons, Treasurer, Debby Hammond, chair, Donna Beals, council representative, Karen McFarland, Laura Hendricks and Sandra Reed."

Debby Hammond

Maine Conference United Church of Christ Delegate Report

"The 79th Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference United Church of Christ was held at the University of Maine at Farmington June 10th to the 13th. The theme of this year's meeting was "Reframing Church—Visions and Dreams" based on the scripture Acts 2:17 -- *"In the days to come - - is it our God who speaks - - I will pour out my spirit on all humankind. Your daughters and sons will prophesy, your young people will see visions, and your elders will dream dreams."* Quite a profound statement when you think about reframing church don't you think? Delegates Caitie Smith, Rachel McMinimy and Kathy MacCulloch attended sessions on redefining "family"...yes that does include everyone in your congregation! They also attended sessions on connecting with youth -- at their level -- using their media."

"Serving as a delegate to the Maine Conference and the Hancock-Waldo Association is an opportunity to learn about the polity of the United Church of Christ...in other words you get to see how the UCC works! It may not always be neat and tidy, but everyone has an opportunity to play a part. Consider playing a part...attend a conference or association meeting sometime...you might like it!!"

Kathy MacCulloch, Kathy Woodside, Caitie Smith, and Rachael McMinimy

Board of Deacons

This year the Board of Deacons sponsored several special events. On Wednesdays during Lent, the deacons sponsored Lenten suppers of soup and bread during which organizations within the church could speak about their activities. We also arranged for the traditional Easter morning breakfast. An outdoor Sunday worship service was held in August. The Board of Deacons thanks all the folks who helped with the Lenten meals, Easter breakfast and the outdoor service.

"An agreement was signed with our Pastoral Assistant, Dusty Warner, concerning his duties in that position."

"The Board of Deacons is working with the Board of Christian Education to establish policies with respect to the use of photographs on our website and public documents.

"We considered the installation of a new recording system to record the church services but decided that the demand for such a system did not justify the expense.

"The hearing enhancement devices were located and we are currently acquiring first aid supplies to be kept on hand for church services.

"Lastly, the Board would like to thank all those who served as liturgists, hosted the coffee hours and helped with the offering collections and communions."

Current Members:

"Bruce Blake, Mary Dudzik, Karl Haller, Scott Hammond (Secretary-Treasurer), John Kelly, David Lind (Chair), May Vinette, Laurie Wellman, Kathy Kief (Vice Chair), Ann Lee and Lindsay Shopland. The Board of Deacons continues to mourn the passing of Rita Johnston. Rita is sorely missed."

David W. Lind

Flower Committee

"We would like to thank everyone for providing flowers for the altar throughout the year, and for the Easter and Christmas flowers. We get a chance to see many of the recipient's faces light up and receive the warm thank you that follows, when delivering your beautiful flowers.

"The sale of the Poinsettias at Christmas time is part of the Women's Evening Auxiliary fundraiser.

"At anytime if you know of anyone in need of a little cheer, please let a member of the flower committee know. We would be happy to deliver flowers to them.

"As always we thank Laurie Riddle for the many beautiful arrangements she provides."

Flower Committee

Trustees Report of Annual Activities

"The Trustees of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church worked diligently on their responsible management of both facilities and finances of the Church in 2010.

With regular attendance at monthly meetings the group worked to monitor and manage the regular finances of the Church operations. The Endowment Committee worked closely with the Church's financial managers to provide funds for the Church operations and also ensure the long-term health of invested funds.

"The Trustees worked to encourage financial support of the Church through a series of presentations over the months leading to September's Stewardship Sunday.

Presentations and materials looked to educate members of the importance of their financial support of the Church as well as generally encourage all Church members to be good stewards as their capabilities allowed. Stewardship commitments received in 2010 were below projections and are reflected in the proposed 2011-operating budget of the Church.

"A number of significant repair and maintenance projects were conducted on Church facilities in 2010. These projects were funded through a generous bequest and led by the tireless efforts of several Trustees. The front entrance steps were renovated and replaced, the building's exterior was renovated where wooden elements were exposed and basement windows were replaced with energy efficient updates. The steeple was renovated and repaired to ensure the continued beauty of this iconic community feature. During the scheduled spring workday members of the Church performed a number of maintenance projects including lawn repair, fence repair, shutter replacement and floor refinishing. The continued maintenance of the Church will need this type of volunteer effort in order to be responsible stewards of Church properties."

"Thank you all for being part of our Church family."

Michael Gurtler

Mike also mentioned that the church received an unexpected (probably one-time) additional \$25,000 from the Mear's Trust, and the congregation agreed that the grant should be used to offset the projected budget deficit this year, give year-end bonuses to our staff, and place the remainder placed in the church's endowment.

Mr. Edward B. Mears, who passed some years ago, left a multi-million dollar trust to benefit several institutions in Bar Harbor including our church. In addition to the \$25,000 unexpected gift, we project that our church will receive an additional \$25,000 normal payment from the Mear's trust this year.

Our church continues to be blessed by those like Mr. Mears, and recently Ms. Doris Karst, who want to help, through planned giving, bring others closer to God -- and to show love and admiration for those who endeavor to love God most of all, and others as themselves.

Called to Care

Our Mission is to provide caring assistance to members of our Congregation and that is done in a variety of ways. During the year of 2010, Baptism blankets were knitted by our busy-fingered knitters. Members of our Congregation who are residents of Sonogee and Birch Bay Village were visited on a regular basis. Get well and sympathy cards were written and mailed to our families in need. Quarterly cards were mailed to our Church members who were unable to attend Church or participate in our Church life. 'Care Packages' were assembled and mailed to our College Students at Final's time, Valentines Day and Halloween to let them know that they remain in our thoughts. Casseroles were made and delivered to those who were recovering from surgery or other trauma.

We are a small, energetic group and are happy to provide care and cheer to our fellow members of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church.

Ann K. Lee

Website Usage Report

The Bar Harbor Congregational Church website, www.barharborucc.org, had over 14,000 visitors from the end of October 2009 to the end of October 2010. Most of these visits were in January, April, May, August and September, which may be explained by vacation planning. About six billion bytes of information was downloaded from our website during this period. This activity cost the church just over one cent per visitor. Church documents like the Chimes proved very popular. A number of people visit the site

regularly. Detailed statistical information about the use of our website is available in the church office.

David W. Lind

Nominating Committee

Please refer to the next page for the Moderator of the Annual Meeting, Clerk, Treasurer, Historian, and members of church boards and committees.

Church Endowment

Finally, the church's endowment fund that contributes about \$26,000 to the annual cost of the church is doing well. Its market value at October 31, 2010 was \$778,805 compared to \$723,565 at December 31, 2009.



Celebrate Christmas

Decorate your Christmas tree.

Ring a Christmas bell.

Sing a joyful carol

With a jubilant noel!

Light your Advent candle wreath.

Rejoice with friends on Earth.

Give thanks to God for sending Christ

In this, His Christmas birth.

Share your joy of Christmas

And God's blessings from above.

Celebrate God's Graciousness!

Celebrate God's Love!

—Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2010

*Moderator – Mike Bonsey	2012
*Clerk – Margaret Blake	2011
*Treasurer – Al Simons	2011
*Historian – Deborah Dyer	2011

Board of Christian Education

*Sandy Boyce	2013
*Kathy Woodside	2013
*Sue Kropff	2013
Betty Bryer	2012
Laurie Riddell	2011
Kim Craighead	2011
Doug McMinimy	2012

Board of Deacons

*Kathy Kief	2013
*Scott Hammond	2013
*Amy Riddell	2013
*	
Mary Dudzik	2012
Karl Haller	2012
Mae Vinette	2012
Laurie Wellman	2012
David Lind	2011
John Kelly	2011
Lindsay Shopland	2011
Bruce Blake	2011

Board of Outreach

*Debbie Hammond	2013
*David Painter	2013
*Melissa Mills	2012
Karen McFarland	2012
Laura Hendricks	2011
Paula Moody	2011

Board of Trustees

*Lenny DeMuro	2012
*Beth Paradis	2013
*Donna Beals	2013
*Sandy McFarland	2013
Steve Sprague	2012
Robert Sanderson	2012
* Tim O'Brien	2011
Ruth Rossi	2011
Owen Craighead	2011
Treasurer – Al Simons	

The minister is an ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

Church Council

*Scott Riddell	2013
Tim Smith	2012
Jane Haraden	2011

Flower Committee

*Judy Fuller	2013
*Brenda Sprague	2013
Roxie Brechlin	2012
Linda Kelly and Susan McKay	2012
Kim O'Brien	2011
Nancy Pelletier	2011
Alternate -- Ponzi Reed	

Music Committee

*Doug Lee	2013
*Jennifer Booher	2013
*Kathy Kief	2012
Bill Fuller	2012
Judy Delong	2011
Doug McMinimy	2011

Delegates to UCC Annual Meeting and Association Meetings

*Kathy Woodside	2011
*Kathy MacCulloch	2011
Alternate – Donna Beals	2011
Youth Delegate – Catie Smith	2011
Alternate – Rachel McMinimy	2011

Pastor-Parish Relations

*David Lind	2013
*Martha Hobbs	2013
Sandy McFarland	2012
Marion Dyer	2011
Billie Mitchell	2011

Nominating Committee

*Robinson Fry	2013
*Richard Rechholtz	2013
Earl Brechlin	2012
Deborah Dyer	2012
Nancy Pelletier	2011
Lenny DeMuro	2011

The persons whose names are marked with an asterisk are nominated for election at the annual meeting on November 14, 2010. Those not so marked continue to serve unexpired church terms.

NATIVITY SCENE POTS

Celebrate the joy of Christmas — and remember Jesus' birth — by making this craft to decorate your home or to give as a gift.

What you need:

- 3 terra cotta pots (any size)
- Acrylic paints (including one for skin color)
- Paintbrush
- Craft glue (or a glue gun, with an adult to help)
- Brown yarn
- Material swatches
- Straw-colored raffia

What you do:

1. Decide which pot will be Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. Turn each pot upside-down and paint a face on each one.
2. Decorate the pots by painting hair and clothes or by using yarn and material as hair and head coverings.
3. For baby Jesus, glue raffia along the bottom to look like straw in a manger.





PUZZLE

The angel's message

On the first Christmas Eve, shepherds were watching over their flocks when an angel suddenly appeared.

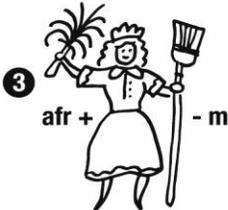
Use the picture clues below to find out what the angels said to the terrified shepherds.



1 - k



2 - (1) e



3 afr + - m



4 g + - h



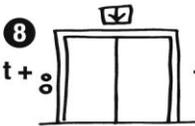
5 - paper



6 j + - b



7 - b



8 t + - d



9 b + - h

“Do _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3. I bring you _____ 4
_____ 5 of great _____ 6 that will be for _____ 7 the people.
Today in the _____ 8 of David a Savior has been _____ 9
to you; **he is Christ the Lord.**” Luke 2:10-11, NIV

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11, NIV

Answers: 1. knot-k=not; 2. bee-(1)e=be; 3. afr+maid-m=afraid; 4. g+hood-h=good; 5. newspaper-paper=news; 6. j+boy-b=joy; 7. ball-b=all; 8. t+down-d=town; 9. b+horn-h=born

December

Birthdays
of the

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Dannie Bickford
2 Michael Breen
2 Parick Breen
4 Eric Kelley
4 Terrance Kelley
6 Bill Fuller
6 Jefferson Hobbs
11 Beth Paradis
11 Mary Elizabeth Kelley
12 David Blaney
12 John Collier
14 Linda Kelley
15 Fran Fry
16 Jean Kief
17 Jo-Ann Sawyer
18 Ian Hepburn
18 Deb Wade
18 Mark Reece
19 Marilynne Marino
19 Isabella Webster
20 Kelsey Mills
21 William Parker Renault
23 Tom Shea
26 Kathryn Mittelberger
27 Mary Drury
27 Dean Bryer
29 Dusty Warner
31 Michael Blaney
31 Eve Moore

Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Mary Dudzik
Assistant Deacon – Lindsay Shopland

Liturgists-

5:
12:
19:
26:

Flowers –

5:
12:
19: Poinsettias
26: Poinsettias

Coffee Hosts -

5:
12: Cas Dowden
19:
26: BYO Christmas Cookies

Home Bible Readings

5 Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

12 Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

19 Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

26 Psalm 148
Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

December

			1 Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Trustees 5:30 pm Guided Meditation 6:00 pm Church Council 7:00 Pm	2 Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM	3	4 <i>Gingerbread Houses</i> 10:00 am Cub Scout Christmas Party 3:00
5 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am <i>Djembe Drumming</i> 12:00 <i>Girl Scouts 2:00</i>	6 Cancer Support Group 5:00 PM	7 <i>Guided Meditation 2:00</i> <i>Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM</i> <i>Swim Team booster club 5:00-7:30 pm</i>	8 Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Guided Meditation 7:00	9 Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM	10 <u>Church Fair</u>	11
12 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am <u>Christmas Festival 2:00</u>	13	14 Guided Meditation 2:00	15 Living Nativity 6:00 – 7:20 PM Guided Meditation 7:00	16 Living Nativity 6:00 – 7:20 PM Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM	17	18
19 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am Deacons 11:30 AM	20	21 Guided Meditation 2:00 <i>Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM</i>	22 Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Guided Meditation 7:00	23 Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM	24 Family Service 5:00 Traditional Service	 <i>Wise Men Still Seek Him</i>
26 Family Worship 10:00 am – <i>no Sunday School</i>	27	28 Guided Meditation 2:00	29 Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Guided Meditation 7:00	30 Adult Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM	31	

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

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

Special dates

- Second Sunday of Advent, December 5, 2010
- Third Sunday of Advent, December 12, 2010
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19, 2010
- First day of winter, December 21, 2010
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2010
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2010
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2010

The Best Gift

A king sat on his throne on Christmas Day as many of his subjects presented him with gifts: jewels, gold, artwork, handmade treasures and food galore.

One man stayed back until everyone had given their gifts. Eventually, the king asked if the man had a gift he wished to give. The man said he had only one thing to present. He had nothing of material or financial value, just a friendly heart that was free of malice and full of best wishes for the ruler.

The king told the man he'd brought him the best gift of all: friendship and goodwill. How can you present those to someone this season?

Articles this page: NewsletterNewsletter

The Missing Piece

It's frustrating trying to complete a picture puzzle and realizing a piece is missing. The same is true when we try to make sense of our lives and discover something's missing within.

Each of us has an emptiness that only God's Spirit can fill. Philosophers speak of a "God-shaped hole," and Augustine wrote, "Our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you." Until we rest in God, inner peace and "completeness" will evade us. Drugs, drunkenness, riches, travel, sexual escapades and social activities won't suffice.

That's why the psalmist wrote, "'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, LORD, do I seek" (Psalm 27:8, NRSV). That's also why Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10, NRSV). Being filled with God is the only way to fill in the missing piece and have a truly fulfilled life.