



THE CHIMES

THE NEWSLETTER 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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July 2012

From the Pastor

I have recently begun re-reading my favorite books, the Mitford Series. These books, now nine in number, chronicle the life and times of Father Timothy Kavanagh, an Episcopal priest and servant of God. In my “humble” opinion, these books should be required reading for anyone preparing for the ordained Christian ministry and probably for everyone else as well. These books do not fit into any particular genre. Rather they transcend the normal categories of literature we generally assign to the written word. Jan Karon wrote these novels and, while I enjoy her writing style, it is within the content of the books and in the characters who come alive in the pages where I find the true meat of the stories. I have been reading these works for years and they have never failed to capture my attention and imagination and challenge my faith and the way in which I carry out my ministry in Christ’s name.

Father Tim’s story is that of a man who grows into his calling as a priest. You can imagine how I would resonate with this story, as one does not become a priest or minister overnight, but rather through a series of life experiences. Father Tim learns how to accept himself and his past, his shortcomings and his undeserved calling. It is a beautiful story of grace and hope. Ms. Karon presents us with a flawed but redeemable character who is overcome by the grace of God and lives to tell the tale. I don’t know if the author based

Father Tim’s character on anyone she knew, but Tim is real and human.

One of the best parts of the book is the way in which Father Tim expresses his thoughts. For example, when his wife, the lovely Cynthia, gives him a red Mustang convertible for his birthday, he is stunned and not sure he should (or could) accept it. “But, dear, it’s red and I’m a priest!” This made me laugh as I looked back at all the things I have worried over in my ministry – what was “proper” and what was not. As I said, Father Tim is delightfully human. The books are full of Bible quotations and wonderful prayers. In short, the books are a delight.

But the very best thing about the Mitford series is the kind of priest Father Tim becomes. He doesn’t sit in his office (unless he is studying) but rather goes out into the community to be a part of its heartbeat. He doesn’t lecture his congregation, but, rather, shares with them the important lessons God imparts to him and others with whom he comes in contact. He is there when there is sickness, death, divorce, loneliness, or need. He is a true priest in every sense of the word – the very reason why I would make this series required reading for any budding pastor. It matters very little what denomination Tim is a part of - his example transcends the flimsy boundaries we might construct between our churches.

The good news is that one does not have to be a budding minister or long-time

pastor to read and enjoy these books and, most importantly, to learn from them. One does not have to be male or female, young or old - just human and desirous of a more intimate relationship with God. The Mitford books can show us the way.

Make your way to Jesup Library and borrow one of the books. It is best to read them in order, but each one stands on its own. Let me know what you think. Please don't hold me too harshly to Father Tim's standard of ministry - I'm working on it, but I'm not yet there. Enjoy!

Sandra M. Reed

Vacation Bible Camp Needs You!

This year's Vacation Bible Camp theme is *Lighthouse Kids: Shining God's Light*. It will be Monday - August 6th through Thursday - August 9th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The camp is geared for kids in grades 1 through 6, however younger ones are welcome if accompanied by a parent.

Here is the Schedule:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 5:30-5:40 | Registration |
| 5:40-5:50 | Skit |
| 5:50-6:15 | Dinner |
| 6:15-6:30 | Lesson |
| 6:30-6:35 | Split into groups: 2 groups for discussion and crafts. Grades 1-3 and 4-6 |
| 6:35-6:50 | Discussion |
| 6:50-7:10 | Craft |
| 7:10-7:20 | Song and closing |

Note: There is a 10 minute window for any delays.

This is a great camp theme...the kids will love it. We know this because we have done it all before. The skits were written and produced by our own Cindy Fox for VBC several years ago so they are tried and true.

Now here's the pitch...to do VBC is like putting on a show...it takes many hands to pull it off. Here is the list of jobs/tasks/roles we need help with:

Actors:

- Lead Reader
- Moses
- Older Mary
- Younger Mary
- Angel
- Saul/Paul
- Jesus

Registration: Betty Bryer needs helpers!

Meals: Providers for Day 1, 2, 3, and 4 and helpers to set up, serve, and clean up!

Crafts:

Leader for grades 1-3
Leader for grades 4-6
Helpers

This is an effort to revitalize our Christian Education program. We did not do a Vacation Bible Camp last year and it was missed by many! Here is your opportunity to make a difference to our kids and our church. If you are only available one evening, we can still use your gifts and talents. So if you have any interest in being a part of *Lighthouse Kids: Shining God's Light*, please talk with Amanda Beals (amandaward117@gmail.com) our Christian Education Coordinator or Kathy Woodside (woodsidekat@gmail.com) our Christian Education Chairperson.

The Bible

An Invitation...



The other day, I was thinking about that awkward moment in church a few weeks back when Kathy MacCulloch asked the congregation to raise their hands if they had read the Bible (I assume cover to cover), and very few of us in Church that morning could raise our hands (I couldn't).

So I resolved to do my best to read the New Testament this summer. And after talking it over with the Board of Christian Education, I would like to invite you, yes you, to join me this summer in reading all or part of the New Testament, or whatever your schedule can manage.

I will be posting a signup sheet in the parlor. Just write your name down, the version of the Bible you're reading, and during coffee hour on Sunday mornings, check off the books you've read that week.

There is no meeting to fit into your schedule, no pressure to read a certain number of pages or chapters per week. Go at your own pace but make the commitment to get going!

**Please join me. Just read,
*just do it!***

Thanks, Doug McMinimy

Its doctrine is holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be saved, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here heaven is open, and the gates of hell are disclosed.

Christ is the grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, health to the soul, and a river of pleasure. It is given to you here in this life, will be opened at the judgment, and is established forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its contents.

For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Source: *The MacArthur Study Bible*

For those wishing to join in reading the Bible, the church has one CD version of the Bible for someone who would rather listen than read the Bible. Also, the church will provide several copies of the MacArthur Study Bible (NKJV) for those wanting manuscript explanations and cross-references to help study the Bible. Please contact Paul (288-3280) in the church office if you would like either.



Quite Time

We are beginning the summer with a BANG! We have had 10 volunteers come forward to help with our summer Sunday activities! Thank you to all those who have pledged their time and talents. I am looking forward to seeing the amazing things our friends will be planning for the youth during the Sundays in summer.

I would also ask the congregation to step forward and help strengthen our Christian Education program. We are looking for people who would be willing to help out during the school year in any way. There are many things we need help with downstairs such as:

- Snacks
- Teaching
- Crafts
- Clean Up
- Much more!

If you are interested or willing to help out, (remember it doesn't have to be every Sunday!), please contact myself or Kathy Woodside. We would love to have new faces as well as our faithful friends who are always helping out, come down and be with our youth. They love to see new people and enjoy learning from the adults in our church family.

Thanks again for a successful school year! I look forward to a bright and sunny summer!

Sincerely,
Amanda Beals



MaryAnne Starbird,
with deepest sympathy
for Edric Starbird and family

Quite Time



"Rest is not idleness," said John Lubbock, "and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water or watching the clouds float across the sky is hardly a waste of time."

Most of us need more, not less, rest built into our daily routine. Only when we are quiet can we hear God's whisper.

Summer is a great time to find a peaceful, outdoor spot to read, rest and pray — even if only for a few minutes. God is eagerly waiting for us to make space for him.



Frannie Day and Michael Bragdon, of
Bucksport, Maine, June 19 at Castine, Maine

Amanda Ward and Christopher Beals, of
Ellsworth, June 30 at our church

THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE

Play this game with a group of friends to remind you to follow Jesus.

What you need:

- Large space for running
- 3 jump ropes or 9 traffic cones

What you do:

1. Using jump ropes or traffic cones, form lines at both ends of the playing area. Also make a dividing line in the middle. Designate one side as "The Way" and the other as "The Truth." The center line is "The Life."
2. Choose one person to stand in the middle of the center line. He or she is the caller, yelling, "The way!" or "The truth!" or "The life!" The rest of the players also start on the middle line.
3. When a location is called, players run as fast as possible to the designated area. The last person to arrive switches places with the caller.
4. When "The Life" is called, players run to the center line and raise both hands. No one gets out.



KNOW THE WAY

Thomas said to Jesus, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" (John 14:5, NIV).

Directions: To read Jesus' reply, shade in the letters that contain an asterisk (*) and write them in order on the blanks below.

u n s w e r e i a m h w a
y a n t l r u t c h ! f i v e
n o o n a e c s o x m e s
f a z t h e r r o u c d g h
p u m r x e s t j v g o h n

Jes ___ ans ___ d, " ___ the ___
___ d the ___ and the ___
___ to the
___ except th ___."

___ 14:6, NIV

Answer: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6, NIV

July



- 3 Mary Cunningham
- 8 Jennifer Moulton Stonehouse
- 8 Fred McPheters
- 9 Rick Starbird
- 9 John Kelly
- 9 Ezra O'Connor
- 10 Rachael McMinimy
- 11 Joan Clement
- 12 Henry W. Brown
- 13 Judy Roberts
- 14 Beverly Blaisdell
- 14 Kay Young
- 14 Donald Dyer
- 15 Nicholas MacCulloch
- 15 Charlotte Skiff
- 15 Robert Collier
- 15 Rachel Krautwald
- 16 Maria Lopez Patterson
- 17 Connie Shea
- 25 Earl Brechlin
- 25 James Lambert
- 25 Jesse Olson
- 25 Marie Coffron
- 31 Marianne DiMauro



Have a fun and safe July fourth!

Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Patty Benore
Assistant Deacon – Charlie Benore

Liturgists-

- 1: Al Simons
- 8: Betsy Higgins
- 15: Scott Hammond
- 22:
- 29:

Flowers –

- 1: Sandra Reed
- 8: Greg and Crystal Dow
- 15: Yvonne Tabb
- 22: Richard and Arlanne Snodgrass
- 29: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brown


Coffee Hosts -

- 1: Judy and Bill Fuller
- 8: Strawberry Festival
- 15: Betsy Higgins
- 22:
- 29:

Home Bible Readings

- 1 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
- 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43
- 8 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13
- 15 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29
- 22 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- 29 2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ JULY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat. |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|-----------|
| 1 Worship Service and God's Garden Club - 10:00 am | 2 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 3 Bar Harbor Music Festival 7:00 PM | 4  | 5 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 6 Bar Harbor Music Festival 7:00 PM | 7 |
| 8 Worship Service and God's Garden Club - 10:00 am CE Board w/ VBC volunteers 11:30 | 9 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 10 Bar Harbor Music Festival 4:00 PM Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00 | 11 Bar Harbor Music Festival 7:00 PM | 12 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Worship Service and God's Garden Club - 10:00 am Bar Harbor Music Festival 8:15 PM | 16 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM VBC 5:30- 7:30 PM | 17 VBC 5:30- 7:30 PM | 18 Finance Committee 12:00 noon VBC 5:30- 7:30 PM | 19 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM VBC 5:30- 7:30 PM | 20 Bar Harbor Music Festival 7:00 PM | 21 |
| 22 Worship Service and God's Garden Club - 10:00 am | 23 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 24 Bar Harbor Music Festival Rehearsal 11:00 –1:30, 5:30-7:30 Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM | 25 Bar Harbor Music Festival Rehearsal 11:00 – 1:30 | 26 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 27 Bar Harbor Music Festival Rehearsal 11:00 – 1:30, Concert 7:00 PM | 28 |
| 29 Worship Service and God's Garden Club - 10:00 am | 30 BH Town Band Concert Rain Location 6:00 PM | 31 CE Board 6:00 | | | | |

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

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Special Dates:

- Canada Day, July 1, 2012
- U.S. Independence Day, July 4, 2012

**Finding your
way**



Need directions? These days, online map services can tell you how to get to just about any destination. Yet even these sites make no guarantees. Disclaimers absolve them of responsibility if the directions run awry. "These directions are for planning purposes only," one site warns. "You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly."

Fortunately, the Bible has no such disclaimers. God's Word always gets us where we need to go. In fact, when the unexpected happens, that's when Scripture is at its best!

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

Independence overrated

It might have been humorous, if it hadn't hurt so much. One moment I was on my front porch. The next I was lying flat on my side, wedged between a bush and the house. In a split second, my 13-pound puppy had taken off after a bird, yanking me off my feet.

All it took was one ill-timed moment of distraction to transform me from a strong, reasonably healthy adult to a helpless, badly bruised victim of misfortune. Unable to move, I was pondering my dilemma when a strong hand reached down. My neighbor had rushed to my aid. Embarrassed but grateful, I accepted his help.

I'm not as independent or self-sufficient as I'd like to think I am. We were created to need and be needed. That isn't a bad thing.

—Kari Myers (adapted from *HomeTouch*)