



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, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 AM– 3:00 PM,

Friday 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM, Closed Wednesdays

Telephone: (207) 288-3280 E-mail: office@barharborucc.org

Web Site: www.barharborucc.org

September 2012

From the Pastor

Okay, it's nearing the end of summer. Here are some of the ways I can tell: the Red Sox stink out loud; the humidity is making my hair frizzy; some of our wonderful visitors from away are starting (?) to drive me up a wall; my tomato plant didn't produce the way I had hoped; my parking place is often occupied by someone who claims they will "only be there for a minute," despite the "Pastor - 24/7" indication; and even my favorite football team isn't living up to expectations, thus making me nervous for the fall and winter. I am not normally a whiner, but by this time of year I yearn for the cool, crisp air of autumn. By the middle of winter I will most likely be whining again, but the fall respite will be welcomed with great celebration in my heart.

I got my come-uppance the other day, however. It happened innocently enough. I was enjoying some delicious green grapes that I had purchased at the local Hannaford supermarket. I had immediately washed and refrigerated them when I brought them home, so they were at their succulent best as I sat on the parsonage porch, enjoying them with some iced tea. Since I am a serious foodie, I take grapes very seriously. (You may have noticed that by listening to some of my sermons.) I was enjoying a brief time-out, thumbing through the newest *Boston Herald*, and plucking plump, juicy grapes from their yielding vine. All was well.

That is, until I got a grape that wasn't quite so enjoyable. Not watching what I was doing, I idly plucked a grape that was below my grape standard. It turned out to be bitter and sour in taste. I found that out, however, by placing it in my eager mouth and chomping down on it like there was no tomorrow. Ugh! My mouth immediately filled with an obnoxious taste and it was too late to do anything about it – the damage was done. Even a hastily slurped gulp of iced tea could not dispel the unpleasant taste in my mouth. The nasty bitterness lingered on my tongue even through a desperate tooth brushing. I just couldn't get rid of this hideous reminder that into each life a little rain (or sourness) must fall.

Days later, as I reflect on this disturbing incident, I am reminded of that old adage that it is not good to dwell on sour grapes or to keep an attitude about life that is filled with the lingering taste of sour grapes. What are sour grapes, after all? In a figurative sense, sour grapes are our very human reaction when things don't go our way. If we are hurt, rejected in some way, or feel that we have been cheated somehow by the good fortune of another, we are said to be indulging in sour grapes. Do you know what this feels like? Unfortunately, I do. I have engaged in a sour grapes attitude from time to time in my life and it wasn't a good way to live. Just like the literal sour grape left a very bad taste in my mouth, the figurative sour grapes can leave a bad

attitude in our lives. Who needs that?

As I look at the beginning of my article and find the evidence of my whining, I am ashamed of my pettiness. I no more want to be governed by that feeling than I do by the unpleasant taste of the sour grape I let invade my delicate palate. What to do, what to do?

To quote the Eagles (a rock band), I need to "get over it." Nothing in my late summer whining will help me to be a better person or to fulfill the ways in which God has called me into service. Enough! I have found that wallowing in sour grapes does little other than make us overly sensitive, crabby, unappreciative of the gifts all around us, and unable to live in the joy of our faith. Who wants to live like that? And, more importantly, who would want to spend any time around us in that state of mind?

Some things are more easily gotten over than others. Admittedly, my complaints are small. But anything that interferes with joyful living can get very big if allowed to fester and increase. Sometimes we need help in getting over the things that hold us down, but often all we need is a different way of looking at our lives. I have always been told that when I feel sorry for myself, the best medicine is to reach out to help someone else – get involved in something more important than my problems.

The Red Sox will continue their downward spiral, I'm afraid; bad hair days will always be a part of my existence; our visitors are not here to make me happy (although many of them do); I will plant another type of tomato plants and hope for the best again next year; I should probably walk more and not need my parking place so often; and, after forty-five years, I really need to accept that being a Buffalo Bills fan has its drawbacks. Such is life.

I choose joy.

Sandra M. Reed



BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 16, 2012 our church will be participating in the National Back to Church Sunday. On this day, churches all over the country will be gathering for worship with an emphasis on the importance of church in our communities and our lives. We hope that our members and friends will join us in worship that Sunday so that we can celebrate our life together as the Body of Christ. This would be the perfect time to come back if you've been staying away from church and to invite a friend or neighbor to join you at church. It is also a great time to invite the family down the street to join us and our wonderful Sunday School family. There is room for everyone.

So, don't forget to join us on Sunday, September 16 - you will be glad you did.



Thanks to all of you, and especially to those of you who provided flowers, notes of condolence, and the snacks for MaryAnne's life celebration. You are a very kind and caring congregation. God bless you all.

Rick Starbird



Free Community Supper

Everyone in our community is welcomed to join us for a free supper meal at church on Tuesday, September 18th from 5 to 7 pm. All are welcome!

This supper meal will be prepared around the farmer's market theme.

Please join us for good food and fellowship. Bring yourself and a friend, and meet others who live and work in this community.

Suppers are also planned for the third Tuesday of October, and from January through May of next year.

If you would like to help with this wonderful program, please contact Debby Hammond of The Outreach Board.



Carolyn Grace Shopland Graber,
August 11, 2012, daughter of
Lindsay Shopland and Joel Graber



Maggie Masella and Benjamin Reed,
July 14, 2012
Dana Colligan and Matt Riegert
August 25, 2012.



Summer is over and the school year is upon us. Although the warmer days are turning cooler, I would like to look back and thank all those who helped make Lighthouse Kids, our VBC program, a great success! The kids and adults alike had a wonderful time and shared in an enriching program. From the CE Board and myself, thank you to all the cooks, teachers, actors, and parents for making the commitment to VBC.



Now comes the request for more help! We are in need of teachers for every level. If you have ever wondered or thought about teaching, our kids are the perfect bunch! Even if you can commit to only a few weeks, we would love to have your help. Please contact me if you are interested or have any questions.

Warmly,
Amanda Beals

Patriot Day — a day of remembrance



On December 18, 2001, Congress approved a joint resolution designating September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day." It's a day to remember the more than 3,000 innocent lives lost on that September morning in 2001.

The resolution requests that each year the President issue a proclamation calling on the American people and state and local governments to observe the day with appropriate programs and activities. Those activities include remembrance services, candlelight vigils, moments of silence, and flying the American flag at half-staff.

In his 2003 proclamation President Bush said, "On that day, and in its aftermath, we saw the greatness of America in the bravery of victims; in the heroism of first responders who laid down their lives to save others; in the compassion of people who stepped forward to help those they had never met; and in the generosity of millions

of Americans who enriched our country with acts of service and kindness."

Keep them all in your prayers this Patriot Day.

Celebrate grandparents

Several sociological factors are affecting grandparents' role. Because families are spread out geographically, "long-distance grandparenting" is now common. On the other end of the spectrum, many grandparents are actually raising their grandchildren.

Despite modern-day challenges and changes, grandparents are more important than ever for providing kids with a sense of history and heritage. Whether through social media and Skype or special outings and storytelling, the older generation has a variety of avenues for connecting with grandkids.

In the process, grandparents can share their Christian faith. "One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts" (Psalm 145:4, NIV).

"I must do something' always solves more problems than 'Something must be done.'"

—Unknown

"Properly understood and applied [prayer] is the most potent instrument of action."

---Mahatma Gandhi

Articles this page Newsletter Newsletter



Name that animal

Play a fun drawing game about animals mentioned in the Bible.

What you need:

- Bible
- Paper strips
- Chalkboard and chalk (or dry erase board, pen and eraser)
- Timer or stopwatch

What you do:

1. On each paper strip, write a Bible verse that mentions an animal (see list below for ideas).
2. Form teams. Take turns looking up each verse and drawing for your team, getting one point for each correct guess.
3. Time each player. Take turns among teams.

Possible verses:

Numbers 22:21 (donkey); Deuteronomy 32:11 (eagle); 2 Samuel 17:8 (bear); Job 8:14 (spider); Job 39:13 (ostrich); Psalm 20:7 (horse); Psalm 58:8 (slug/snail); Proverbs 6:5 (gazelle, bird); Proverbs 26:11 (dog); Proverbs 30:25 (ant); Proverbs 30:28 (lizard); Isaiah 7:18 (fly, bee); Jonah 4:7 (worm); Matthew 10:16 (sheep, wolf, snake, dove); Matthew 10:29 (sparrow); Matthew 23:37 (hen, chick); Luke 13:15 (ox, donkey); Luke 13:32 (fox); 1 Peter 5:8 (lion).



AMAZING ANIMALS

God created a rich variety of animals to live on the earth.

Directions: Write the name of each animal next to its picture. Then fill in the correct letters to complete Psalm 104:24, NIV.

1 _____ 4 _____ 2 _____ 9 _____
 14 _____ 20 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ 8 _____
 17 _____ 7 _____ 13 _____ 16 _____ 19 _____
 18 _____ 10 _____ 3 _____ 6 _____ 15 _____

“How _____ are your _____ ,
 O _____ ! In _____
 you _____ them _____ ;
 the _____ is _____
 of your _____ .”

Answers:
 leopard, dove, donkey, worm, fish, camel, butterfly, and
 “How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all: the earth is full of your creatures.” (Psalm 104:24, NIV)

September



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



September

By all these lovely tokens
September days are here,
With summer's best of weather
And autumn's best of cheer.

—Helen Hunt Jackson

Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Cindy Fox
Assistant Deacon – Mary Dudzik

Liturgists-

- 2: Betsy Higgins
- 9:
- 16:
- 23:
- 30:

Flowers –

- 2: Mr. & Mrs. Donald Dyer
Bill and Judy Fuller
- 9: Charlie and Michelle Croan
Lenny DeMuro
- 16: Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Soule
- 23: Mrs. Richard Young
- 30: Bob Malaney

Coffee Hosts -

- 2:
- 9: C.E. Board
- 16: Apple Festival
- 23:
- 30:

Home Bible Readings

- 2 Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
- 9 Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-17
Mark 7:24-37
- 16 Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38
- 23 Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37
- 30 Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9^o:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Family Sunday Worship Service and Holy Communion 10:00 am	3 Labor Day 	4	5	6	7 Wedding rehearsal	1 ----- 8 Carter/ Hackett wedding 2:00 PM
9 Rally Day Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 am	10	11 Outreach Board 7:00 PM	12	13 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	14	15
16 Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 am	17	18 Free Community Supper 5:00 - 7:00	19 Deacons 7:00 PM	20 Trustees 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	21 Kevin Morse' Guitar Recital 8:00 PM	22
23 Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 am	24	25	26 Church Council 7:00 PM	27 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	28	29
30 Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 am						

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

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Special dates:

- Labor Day, *September 3, 2012*
- National Grandparents Day, *Sept. 9, 2012*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2012*
- First Day of Autumn, *September 22, 2012*

Labor Day reflections

Labor Day brings to mind picnics, cookouts and family gatherings. Falling on the first Monday in September, it marks the unofficial end of summer and the beginning of a new school year. But the holiday was created in 1882 to honor the social and economic contributions of American workers.

In a strong economy, it's easy to take for granted the ability to work and be paid well. But times have changed during the past few years, with many people still struggling with unemployment and underemployment.

During our holiday celebrations this year, let's give thanks for the jobs we have, pray for those who aren't as fortunate and offer words of encouragement or help to someone who needs it.

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

My Church



My church is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

My church will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with those things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be!