

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
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October 2012

FROM THE PASTOR

I breathe better in the fall. The air seems, somehow, lighter, cleaner, easier. As soon as summer fades I find a new strength and focus. I guess fall is just part of the rhythm of my life. While summer is a bit heavy for me, fall brings fresh breezes and encouragement. I don't concern myself with the winter that will come, but rather I concentrate on the blessings of the season.

I wish I could be that way about everything. I believe it's called living in the moment. I wish I were better at that. You know, appreciating every minute for what it is, without worrying about the future or looking forward to something else. That's what I mean. Sometimes when I am in the midst of a normal day, I start thinking about what I have to look forward to. When my dogs wake me up to go out at 4:30 in the morning I am busy crabbing about the fact that I am up too early and not appreciating the stillness and beauty that comes at that time of the day. Often when I go to bed at night I am preoccupied with what will be

happening the next day. That state of mind isn't conducive to sleep.

When I look to the Scriptures, this is what I find: Matthew 6:25-34. I'll wait while you look it up . . . got it? Good. These words are some of the most comforting and challenging words in the Bible. Jesus tells us that there is no reason to worry about anything – first of all because we can't change anything with worry and, secondly, because we are precious in the sight of our heavenly Father and God will see to all our needs. Beautiful and powerful words and sometimes just too good to be true. Especially when the world comes crashing in on us. Often when we are too concerned about the details of our lives and we lose the big picture. Sometimes when we feel particularly unlovable.

If we truly find the blessings of life, the words Jesus utters in Matthew 6 become the bedrock of our life, more than a vague promise, but a reality. If we are truly fortunate, the words come home to us at just the right moment; just when we need them the most. If we are not so

fortunate, we may wander in the desert until Jesus' promise becomes ours and we spend the rest of our lives living in grateful response. Then we are truly blessed, freed, and redeemed. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

As the new season begins, let it be a season of rebirth, rededication and renewal. Let your life embrace the good news that you are a precious child of God. Then live as though you believe it.

Sandra M. Reed

PLEASE CONSIDER A REQUEST: HELP NEEDED!

As our Annual Meeting approaches, we are in need of several willing people to fulfill some important roles in our church.

We are in need of a new Treasurer as Al Simons is stepping down from that position. This is a very important job and would require someone who had some knowledge of budgets and the details of reporting information regarding our budget to the Trustees and the congregation. The Treasurer attends Trustees meetings and also makes the annual Treasurer's report at the annual meeting. Please consider this position if you can. If you have questions, please see Al Simons or Paul Dickson in the office.

We are also in need of people for the Christian Education Board, the Deacons, and the Trustees. Please

step forward and help lead your church next year. We need you.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please see Debby Dyer or Lenny DeMuro, members of the Nominating Committee.

Deborah Dyer,
Chair of Nominating Committee



**Compassion
Sunday,
October 14th**

Can you imagine changing the life of a young child FOREVER for less than \$1.25 a day? On **Sunday, October 14th**, we will celebrate **Compassion Sunday**.

A number of you as well as our own Sunday School children sponsor children living in poverty through Compassion International. Al and I sponsor Anny Abadia in Colombia; she is the same age as our oldest grandson. We look forward to receiving updates from Anny's tutor and her minister, and personal letters from Anny herself. Some of her letters come with pictures she's colored for us; each time I go to the refrigerator and see Anny's photo and her colorful pictures, I think about her. Our Sunday School children sponsor Hirut from Ethiopia; her picture can be found throughout our Sunday School classrooms.

Sponsorship dollars provide for partnerships with local churches who in turn provide the children with educational opportunities and help; health care, hygiene training and supplementary food if necessary; and a caring and safe Christian environment to grow in self-confidence as they are given the opportunity to hear the gospel and to learn about Jesus.

Are you already sponsoring a child through Compassion International? If you are, please send me a quick email (kathe@simonshome.org) with your child's first name and country. We will put pins on a world map to get a sense of where the children are whom we are already sponsoring. Please bring a letter from your child and a recent photo of him/her so that we can celebrate this important outreach with a display on October 14th.

On Compassion Sunday, we will have information about fifteen children from all over the world who are each hoping to get their own individual sponsor. These children are from Thailand, Togo, Rwanda, Peru, Nicaragua, Mexico, Kenya, India, Guatemala, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Bolivia, and Bangladesh. If you are interested in sponsoring a child but won't be in church on October 14th, please be in touch with me so that I can provide you with the necessary information.

Will you prayerfully consider making an impact on the life of a child in need through Compassion International? God bless you!

Katha Simons

CHAPEL CHIMERS

Chapel Chimers will return this fall! Stay tuned for an announcement about this great musical opportunity for our young children, pre-school through Grade 2. We will practice right after Sunday School in the pre-school classroom. Chapel Chimers will share introits on Family Sundays and will participate in this year's Christmas Festival and Christmas worship services. Contact Kathe Simons at 244-3207 if you have any questions or concerns. Stay tuned!



A WORD FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION...

Sunday School is off to a great start! We welcome new teachers Heather Servaites and Doug McMinimy, and

welcome back Michele Gurtler and Debby Hammond after a hiatus. Heather is teaching Pre-k/Kindergarten and Doug has the high school group. Michele is teaching 7th and 8th graders and Debby has grades 1 & 2. Laurie Olson is teaching our 3rd and 4th graders and Kim Craighead is working with grades 5 and 6. Amanda and I have worked hard to find a fun and interactive curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for each grade level. We are anxious to hear from parents and kids about each program so let us know. We are excited about this year and hope you will be too!

We still have a few kids who have not been registered, so if you haven't signed your child up for Sunday School, please ask your child's teacher for a registration form. The contact information is important so we can keep you informed of events or changes throughout the year. We always have room for more kids so if you know a child who might enjoy being a part of our church family please invite them to join us!

Yours in faith,
Kathy Woodside
Christian Education Board Chair

Amanda Ward
Christian Education Coordinator



HARVEST POTLUCK

Date: Sunday October 7th

Time: Right after church

Host: The Christian Education Board!!

Bring a dish to share!!

NO SHELLFISH, PEANUT, OR PORK

INGREDIENTS PLEASE!!

Bring a pumpkin to decorate!!



We need someone to work with our high school kids for the 2nd session of Sunday School, which begins December 30th until March 17th. This is a great group of kids who want to do mission projects, community outreach, and just plain fun activities!

So if you think you'd like to work with some amazing young people this is your chance. Talk to Amanda Beal (amandaward117@gmail.com) or Kathy Woodside (woodsidekat@gmail.com) or even better...some of the kids if you'd like to know more about this amazing opportunity.

2012 Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting will be held after church on November 11. Please plan to be there!

Also, it's time for board and committee chairs to start writing your Annual Reports so they can be published for the meeting. **Please submit your reports to the church office no later than Friday, October 19.**

Thank You!

ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE PETS

On Sunday, October 7, we will hold our annual blessing of the pets service. We will gather in the sanctuary at 3:00 PM for the brief service in which each animal, insect or whatever will be offered a blessing for their good health and happy life.

Please join us and bring the creatures with whom you share your life. All are welcome, but please confine your pet to a leash, carrier or other appropriate container in order to minimize exciting things happening. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Sandra.



Be a liturgist!

If you have thought about being a liturgist, or are willing to take offering, but aren't sure what's involved, the Deacons have a class for you.

Join us after church on November 4, when we will explain the procedures and give you some tips on how to prepare for being the liturgist.

Cindy Fox
Board of Deacons

Music to a Pastor's Ears

1. We were just getting ready to leave for church when company came — so we brought them with us.
2. I know it looks impossible, but with God's help we can do it.
3. Of course I'll accept that responsibility. It will be a privilege.
4. I'm willing to help in any way I can.
5. God was really speaking to me through you during today's service.
6. I'll be glad to help you with visitations.

Source: Newsletter Newsletter

Also, I would love to be a liturgist and/or coffee host.



Treasurer's Corner

This hasn't turned out to be a quarterly report as I had originally intended, but it brings good news!

Our giving has remained on target throughout the summer! This is extremely unusual.

Church income is traditionally very end-weighted; most of the church's income is given in the last six weeks of the year. But this year at the end of August (66% through the year), we have already received 70% of our budgeted income. Please congratulate and thank your fellow church members when you see them!

Additionally, our Trustees and the others who control spending for our ministries are doing an excellent job keeping expenses under control. Our expenses are running slightly under our budget. These two factors combined mean we're in a much different financial situation than we were last year. Last year at the end of August our year-to-date spending had exceeded our income by over \$13,000. This year we are ahead by \$3406! Thank you!

On a final note, I apologize for not reviewing the last Treasurer's Corner numbers closely. I was using a new program to summarize the church's books, and it had a bug giving the wrong numbers. Thanks to Rod Fox for noticing the problem and reporting it to me.

Respectfully,
Al Simons, Treasurer

Bar Harbor Congregational Church Financial Data Actual 2010, 2011 and Year-to-Date comparison for 2011 and 2012

	12 months to 12/31/10	12 months to 12/31/11	2012 Budget	Last YTD 08/31/11	YTD 08/31/12
Operational Income					
Plate Income (Loose Offering)	\$51,734.00	\$60,225.00	\$50,000.00	\$35,900.00	\$32,765.00
Pledge Income	\$96,884.00	\$80,723.00	\$82,400.00	\$46,126.00	\$57,646.00
Other Income	\$100,400.00	\$60,163.00	\$59,512.00	\$38,577.00	\$44,207.00
Total Operational Income	\$249,018.00	\$201,111.00	\$191,912.00	\$120,603.00	\$134,618.00
Operational Expense					
Total Administrative Expenses	\$10,369.00	\$10,000.00	\$16,659.00	\$6,604.00	\$8,343.00
Total Building and Grounds	\$44,455.00	\$39,955.00	\$41,368.00	\$26,390.00	\$26,273.00
Total Church's Local Mission	\$11,628.00	\$6,395.00	\$8,600.00	\$4,054.00	\$3,670.00
Total Church's Wider Mission	\$7,634.00	\$6,146.00	\$6,650.00	\$1,700.00	\$3,003.00
Total Ministerial Expenses	\$81,359.00	\$76,166.00	\$79,436.00	\$53,446.00	\$47,005.00
Total Staff Expenses	\$57,158.00	\$62,512.00	\$67,133.00	\$41,669.00	\$42,918.00
Total Operational Expense	\$212,603.00	\$201,174.00	\$219,846.00	\$133,863.00	\$131,212.00
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$36,415.00	\$(63.00)	\$(27,934.00)	\$(13,260.00)	\$3,406.00

A TASTE OF GRACE

Because Jesus died and rose for us, we have the free gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. That's the meaning of grace: "God's Riches At Christ's Expense."

Celebrate God's grace by "spelling it out" with this fun, nutritious recipe.

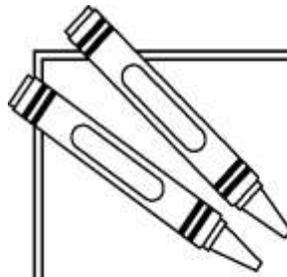
What you need:

- An adult to help
- 2 bowls
- Mixing spoon
- 1 Tablespoon yeast
- 1/2 cup warm water
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 1/3 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Cutting board
- Cookie sheet



What you do:

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.
2. In a small bowl, stir the yeast with the water and honey. Let the mixture sit for five minutes.
3. In another bowl, stir the flour and salt together.
4. After five minutes, add the bubbly yeast mixture to the flour and salt mixture.
5. Stir everything together, first with a spoon and then with your hands. The dough is ready when it's still a little crumbly.
6. Put the dough on a cutting board with a little flour. Knead it into one big ball.
7. Divide the dough into 12 pieces, and roll each piece into a snake shape.
8. Form the letters G R A C E (twice). Then form the two extra pieces into any shape you choose.
9. Bake your letters and shapes on the cookie sheet for about 10 minutes. Let cool, and enjoy!



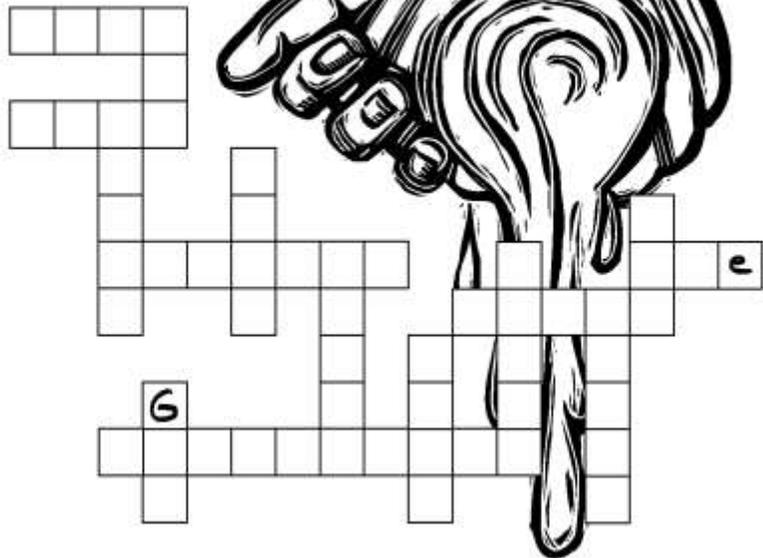
Just for **KIDS**

THE GIFT

God has given us a gift that we can't work for or buy. Discover what this gift is by reading Ephesians 2:8-9, NIV.

Fit the words in bold into the word puzzle below. We've provided two letters for you.

"For it is by **grace** you **have been saved**, **through faith** — and this **not from yourselves**, it is the **gift of God** — **not by works**, so that **no one can boast.**"



October



1 Ann Lee
5 Kristie Rechholtz
6 Robert Sanderson
16 Charles Benore
16 Fred Olson
21 Evan Beals
22 Deborah Dyer
24 Michael Bonsey
24 Kathryn Kief
25 Edwin Soule
27 Karl Haller
28 Ellen Reed
29 Eva Bonsey
29 Florence Ames
29 Caroline McMinimy



Dorothy (Doadie) White
Hope O. Sweet

Mildred Dan Ward



Penny Carter and Joe Hackett,
September 8, 2012

Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Charlie Benore
Assistant Deacon – Patty Benore

Liturgists-

7: Scott Hammond
14:
21: Debbie Dyer
28: Cindy Fox

Flowers –

7: Amanda Beals
14: Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Spurling
21: Debbie Dyer
28: Marjorie Beam
and Greg and Crystal Dow

Coffee Hosts -

7: Harvest Potluck
14: Pumpkin Festival
21: Donna and Tim Beals
28:

Home Bible Readings

7 Job 1:1; 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

14 Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

21 Job 38:1-7, 34-41
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

28 Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	5	6
7 Family Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School <i>Blessing of the Pets 3:00 pm</i> Alleluia Choir 11:30	8 <i>Columbus Day</i>	9 Outreach Board 7:00 PM	10	11 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	12	13
14 Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30	15	16 Community Supper 5:00-6:30pm C.E. Board 6:00 pm	17 Chimes Deadline Finance Comm. 12:00 noon Deacons 7:00 PM	18 Trustees 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	19	20
21 Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30	22	23	24 Council 7:00 PM	25 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	26 <i>Deadline for Annual Reports to be submitted to the church office</i>	27
28 Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30	29	30	31 <i>Church open for Trick-or- Treaters 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm</i>			

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

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Permit Number 32**

Special dates

- World Communion Sunday, *October 7, 2012*
- Columbus Day Observance, *October 8, 2012*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 28, 2012*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2012*

Living by Son-Light

Some of our days seem very dark. Sickness, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job or another struggle overshadows life. In our despair, it can be difficult to sense God's presence. If God were here, we reason, surely he'd be shining his light on our dark circumstances.

When life is bright and joyous, it's easy to sense God; the sun becomes a natural metaphor for God's Son, Jesus, the Light of the world. But even on cloudy days, the sun still shines, its presence not bound by our limited vision. And in the darkest night, the sun remains; the warmth it gave before dusk lingers, enough to preserve us into the dawning of a new day. Sometimes we even catch its reflection in the moon.

"Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning" (Psalm 30:5b, NRSV). Trust in God; even in life's dark times, the Son still shines!

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

Building God's kingdom

On Reformation Sunday, as we think about Martin Luther, the 16th-century reformer of the church, we rejoice that God raises men and women in every era to lead movements which serve the kingdom of God. According to Luther, "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."

It was faith that helped Luther become such a daring and courageous leader. Columnist Walter Lippmann once wrote: "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him, in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on."

Of course, that applies to both men and women — and it certainly applied to Luther.

God calls men and women out of the world to learn the meaning of commitment, love and service. God then sends those men and women back into the world to put their commitment, love and service to work. That's how the kingdom of God is spread and how God's church remains alive and healthy.