



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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November 2012

**Bar Harbor Congregation Church, UCC
29 Mt. Desert St., Bar Harbor, ME 04609**

THE CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

October 22, 2012

Pursuant to the By-Laws (Article VI, Sec. 4 and 5) the Call to the Annual Meeting of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church, U.C.C. is herewith issued, said meeting to convene at **11:00 a.m., Sunday, November 11, 2012.** The purpose of the Annual Meeting is:

1. To hear the reports of officers, boards, committees and organizations of the Bar Harbor Congregational Church, U.C.C.
2. To adopt a church budget for 2013.
3. To elect officers, delegates, and board and committee members.
4. To transact such other business that may properly come before said meeting.

This call is issued by the Church Council.

Scott Riddell, Chair
Church Council

ATTEST:

Margaret Blake, Clerk

**The Bar Harbor Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting
November 20, 2011**

Meeting was called to order with prayer by Mike Bonsey. Quorum was met.

Church Roles/Historian's Report – Deborah Dyer reported that since last year's audit of the roll, it is presently 195. (Some are listed as inactive, which lowers our dues to the UCC Conference.)

Minister's Report – Sandra is most grateful for all who contribute so much to the church, especially those who do so 'behind the scenes'. This year, in their honor one goat and one sheep have been donated to Heifer International.

Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting were corrected, motioned and approved.

Church Council – Scott Riddell, No additional comments to the written report.

Music Committee – Kimberly Haller thanked the music committee for their work in selecting our new organ, which was generously donated by the MacQuinn family. She also thanked the adult choir. We have five additional choir members (Brittany Lester from COA, Bradley Stager, Nancy Howland, Amy Riddell returning, and Kathe Simons returning). We were sorry to lose two members, Ginny Blaney and Mae Vinette. Kimberly also thanked the congregation for their great support.

Ladies' Auxiliary – Norma Spurling. No additional comments to the written report.

Outreach – Deborah Hammond. No additional comments to written report.

Delegate 2011 Report – Kathy Woodside. No additional comment, but all are encouraged to read the interesting report that Kathy wrote about her experiences UCC Conference and meetings.

Deacons – David Lind. This is Dave's last year as a Deacon. He spoke about a lack of communication throughout the church. We have a web site that is visited by more than 2,000 hits per month and full of correct and up to date information, which you can easily access anytime. We were also challenged to get involved in "Call to Care" by visiting folks in senior homes and rehabilitation facilities.

Trustees – Beyond the written report, chairperson Owen Craighead indicated that the significant problem with a section of siding on the new addition was addressed under the warranty replacement with new at no cost. An extensive energy audit is being pursued. He encouraged people to be more involved (invested) with their time and talent when it comes to the church grounds. For example: planting, weeding in the flowerbeds. He said, a portion of the left over granite will be used for a historical bench on the church property. It was reported that much trash is left between us and St. Saviour's because folks "party" there. Suggestions have been to install motion lights and to get rid of the

old shed altogether. The shed might have good equipment stored in it. He reported that our pledging dollars are down; we need to work on it. Our handicapped and minister's signs were ripped off and choir members witnessed pot smoking in the parking lot. Conclusion, vandalism sadly happens.

Budget – Al Simons, Treasurer: Al reported that a gift of \$101,000 was donated for the specific purpose of reducing the “Borrowed for Capital Improvement” debt the church owes the Endowment Funds. Al indicated the 2012 budget draft reflects a deficit of \$28,786. The figures include a 4% salary increase for the pastor, music director and the custodian. The pastor's health insurance package has decreased significantly. Discussion and comments reflected the following: The Ladies Auxiliary will donate approximately \$3,000 from the Christmas Fair to help balance the short fall. It was noted that there is no longer a provision for the pastor's sabbatical fund. It was agreed the treasurer would revise the 2012 draft budget with both the increase in income and the additional expense figure. It was stated while this budget will be a challenge for all of us; we still need to think about passing this deficit budget. Rod Fox raised the question: in approving this deficit budget are we also authorizing any of the short fall would come from our investment/endowment fund? Mike Bonsey (moderator) said, the budget will be approved with the understanding, should there become a deficit, a congregational meeting will be called to address the problem at that time. The draft budget as presented was approved with the revisions and stipulations stated above.

Rod Fox recommended that the minutes of this meeting and the final 12/31/2011 financial statement be published in the February 2012 Chimes. This resolution was passed.

Nominating Committee – Deborah Dyer thanked all on the Nominating Committee for their hard work in filling almost all the positions available. She referred us to the Nominating Committee Report – November 2011. It was noted that two slots in the Board of Deacons are still open. Cindy Fox volunteered to serve in the class of 2014. The unfilled slot for the class of 2013 was eventually filled by John Kelly. It was pointed out that John had already served two three-year terms on the Deacons. Continuing beyond the six consecutive years is not permitted within the By-Laws. Sandra ruled that the will of the congregation prevails over By Laws. The total slate was approved.

There being no further business, Mike declared the Annual Meeting over.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Blake,
Church Clerk

From the Pastor

It is only a few more weeks until our Annual Meeting, at which we decide the next year's future for our church. I usually look forward to annual meetings – it is a great time to get together with fellow church members and friends to see what our hopes and dreams are for our church. We decide how we will serve God in the coming year. We plan our activities and give a lot of prayerful thought to our mission and our goals as we seek to follow Jesus' invitation to follow Him. We agree on our budget and we look carefully at our income. Each one of us is challenged to be as generous as possible for the life of our church. Annual meetings are a time to affirm our call as Christians.

This year I am a bit uncomfortable as the Annual Meeting approaches. November 11 is only a few weeks away and the Nominating Committee tells me that we have several positions still open. The Trustees are having a difficult time finding someone to step forward as our Treasurer. I am hoping this will change by November 11, but in the meantime I am just a bit uncomfortable as I think of next year.

I am well aware of the personal commitment it takes to serve on a Board of Committee of our church. I am also cognizant of the level of busyness in the lives of our members and friends. However, I cannot help thinking of what a blessing it is to be a part of an active, vital church. That is actually how I got started on the journey to become a minister. I joined a local UCC church and, right away, got involved by becoming a Sunday School teacher. I attended worship, taught Sunday School and my daughter went to Sunday School (Sunday School and worship were at two different times) every Sunday. After about six months, I was invited to become a member of the Church Council and from then on I was hooked on serving my local church. I didn't have much money to give the church, but I knew that the time I was giving was valuable as well. From there, I got involved in the Association and

Conference activities in the New York Conference and the rest, as they say, is history.

I am not telling you this to scare you – I am not suggesting that you all need to get as involved as I did. That was God's plan for my life. However, I cannot help but want the joy of service in Christ's name to be an important part of your faith life as well. The time you give to your church is never wasted. Your ideas could be just the ones to lead your church into a season of renewal. Your help could make the difference between the success and failure of any number of activities.

I am also not trying to make you feel guilty. That is not my purpose at all. I am, however, asking for help for this church which I have come to love. I know you love it too. That is why I am asking.

At the present time, we have a number of deeply committed people who already give their time and talents to the mission of our church. To them, I know we are all grateful. But they need some support. Will you consider stepping forward?

Thank you for considering my request. I will see you at the Annual Meeting. (Don't forget, we need a quorum to conduct business!) Hopefully, we will go successfully and happily into our future.

May God bless us all as we seek to serve Him in this humble place.

Sandra M. Reed

ANNUAL VETERANS DAY SERVICE

We will hold our annual Veterans Day Service this year on Saturday, November 10, at 11:00 AM. Since Veterans Day occurs on Sunday this year it is better to hold the service on the day before.

The service will be the same, however, as we honor our Veterans and engage in prayer and remembrance. Light refreshments will be held immediately afterward.

Please plan to attend this meaningful gathering. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

Sandra M. Reed

Preparing for the December 12th Church Fair?

Have you been making **woodworking masterpieces?.....jelly and jam?.... sewing or painting up a storm?** Honing those recipes for the **candy table** or the **baked goods** sale? Hopefully you know where you set aside your **Attic Treasures** when you cleaned out that cabinet last May! Want to wait tables at the **best One-day Lunch Kitchen** ever?

These and many other ways of helping out are all part of what makes our annual fair a great success. Please join in the fun. Many hands make the best fair!

Join the after church meetings that you will see announced in our November weekly church bulletins and keep an eye out for posters in the church parlor!



On behalf of the Bar Harbor Food Pantry, thanks to the following members and friends of the church who staffed the Pantry in October. The gift of your time and effort is truly appreciated!

Deb Hammond, Scott Hammond, Geneva Langley, Karen McFarland, Caroline McMinimy, Paula Moody, Laurie Riddell, Scott Riddell, Stan Short, Al Simons, Kathe Simons, Haleigh Smith, Yvonne Tabb, Deb Wade, and Dee Whitmore

Giving Thanks

The Outreach Board invites you to show gratitude for all blessings as the holiday season approaches. Again this year, we are partnering with schools, businesses and community organizations to provide a Thanksgiving meal to neighbors needing help.

As in the past, we are requesting food items, monetary donations, as well as your time and energy, to provide holiday meals to families.

We'll host a "Food Sunday" on November 4th, but you're welcome to bring your donations to the church on any Sunday before Thanksgiving.

This is a giant effort, and we look forward to your help with the sorting of food on Sunday Nov. 18th, constructing the baskets on Nov. 19th, and on the day of pick up and delivery, Nov. 20th. Indicate your preference for day, time and job, on the organizing schedule in the parlor.

Many thanks to you for reaching out to our neighbors in this way.

Paula Moody
For The Outreach Board

Annual Healing Service

On Sunday, November 25 at 7:00 PM we will hold our annual Service of Healing here at the church. This year will mark our 15th annual time of healing and hope. Our service includes time for prayer, remembrance and a time of anointing and laying on of hands for those who desire these rituals. Prayer shawls and lap robes will be available for those who want them.

Please join us at this important service. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Reed.

Congratulations

Earl and his team did it again.

“Of all the newspapers submitted in this category, there was very little debate when it came to the superior excellence of the *Mount Desert Islander*. It is the kind of newspaper every community should hope to have.”

Earl took first place in two categories, and “Mr. Brechlin was elected President of the Maine Press Association.”

Source: *Mount Desert Islander*

Gestures of Gratitude

In 2005, a female humpback whale became entangled in a web of crab traps and lines just east of the Farallon Islands, off the San Francisco coast. Hundreds of yards of line rope were wrapped around her body, tail, torso and mouth, weighing her down so much that she struggled to stay afloat.

A fisherman spotted the whale and radioed for help. When rescuers arrived, they determined that the only way to save the creature was to dive in and untangle her. This was a dangerous proposition, as one slap of the tail could be deadly.

Rescuers worked for hours with curved knives and eventually freed the whale. What she did next surprised the divers: She swam in what seemed like joyous circles, coming back to each person, one at a time, nudging them gently, in what rescuers assumed was a beautiful gesture of thanks.

May you and those you love be surrounded by people who help you get untangled from whatever is binding you and may you always know the joy of giving and receiving gratitude.

Source: Newsletter Newsletter



Treasurer's Corner

November 2012

This month I have good news and bad news. Let's get the bad news out of the way first; it concerns next year.

As it currently stands, the church will be without a Treasurer as of January first. Several people have been asked to take on the role, but all have declined. The bylaws of the church state that this role must be filled by a covenant member. Please consider taking on this important job.

The Trustees have prepared a budget for approval at the Annual Meeting on November 11th. It projects the pledge and “loose plate” offering income at the same level we budgeted for 2012. The Trustees scoured our expense budget lines, but the end result is another deficit budget. There simply is no way to decrease our expenses enough to balance the budget without cutting staff and programs.

Our neighbor church, St. Saviour's, now shares a minister with St. John's church in Southwest Harbor. I don't think that we want to follow that model.

The way to a balanced budget involves significantly increased giving. Please consider this as we approach Stewardship Sunday. We could, and

may need to, increase our congregational giving by each giving more each year. However, another way to increase a church's income is to increase the membership. Part of our problem is that our church's membership has been declining in recent years. Do you know anyone who might be interested in joining our congregation? Will you take the risk to invite them?

I have been asked what would happen if we have years where our expenses exceed our income. I believe that we would need to take money from the endowment, which naturally no one wants to do.

Now the good news I promised!

You can find the numbers portion of this Treasurer's Corner below. The news continues to be good! Church income is traditionally "end weighted," with a large portion given in the last six weeks of the year.

At this point I can't tell whether we will finish the year with increased giving, or instead the giving has been moved earlier in the year. Either result is good news. By having a strong pattern of giving during the summer, we avoided having the cash flow problems that churches often have. If the giving ends up being significantly above budget we may be able to pay down some of the building debt.

Yours Truly,
Al Simons

Bar Harbor Congregational Church Financial Data

Actual 2010, 2011 and Year-to-Date comparison for 2011 and 2012

	12 months 12/31/10	12 months 12/31/11	2012 Budget	Last YTD 09/30/11	YTD 09/30/12
Operational Income					
Plate Income (Loose Offering)	\$51,734.00	\$60,225.00	\$50,000.00	\$39,456.00	\$37,232.00
Pledge Income	\$96,884.00	\$80,723.00	\$82,400.00	\$53,400.00	\$63,954.00
Other Income	\$100,400.00	\$60,163.00	\$59,512.00	\$46,569.00	\$57,338.00
Total Operational Income	\$249,018.00	\$201,111.00	\$191,912.00	\$139,425.00	\$158,524.00
Operational Expense					
Total Administrative Expenses	\$10,369.00	\$10,000.00	\$16,659.00	\$7,818.00	\$9,970.00
Total Building and Grounds	\$44,455.00	\$39,955.00	\$41,368.00	\$29,968.00	\$30,376.00
Total Church's Local Mission	\$11,628.00	\$6,395.00	\$8,600.00	\$4,085.00	\$4,083.00
Total Church's Wider Mission	\$7,634.00	\$6,146.00	\$6,650.00	\$1,700.00	\$4,505.00
Total Ministerial Expenses	\$81,359.00	\$76,166.00	\$79,436.00	\$57,840.00	\$52,844.00
Total Staff Expenses	\$57,158.00	\$62,512.00	\$67,133.00	\$44,989.00	\$48,179.00
Total Operational Expense	\$212,603.00	\$201,174.00	\$219,846.00	\$146,400.00	\$149,957.00
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$36,415.00	\$(63.00)	\$(27,934.00)	\$(6,976.00)	\$8,567.00



Sunday School has started off with a BANG! We have some new and familiar faces joining our teaching staff this trimester, students are engaged in lessons and lots of fun, and best of all, a commitment to our youth's program is being discussed and worked on!

Below you will find the calendar for the next month; feel free to save and post it somewhere around your home!

November 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Family Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 SS Class #7	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 SS Class #8	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving!	23	24
25 SS Class #9	26	27	28	29	30	

As we look forward, we are beginning to plan for our Christmas Pageant. The date for this Pageant is Sunday December 9. If you are interested in lending a hand please let Amanda Beals (amandaward117@gmail.com) or Kathy Woodside (woodsidekat@gmail.com) know.

The source

"One day I read in the 10th chapter of Romans, 'Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.' I had up to this time closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I now opened my Bible and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since."

—D.L. Moody

Wall of THANKS

During this season of gratefulness, create a special wall of thanks in your home.

I'm thankful
for my Family
-Joey

What you need:

- Sticky notes
- Pens or markers
- Poster board (optional)

What you do:

1. Every day in November, have each family member write or draw on a sticky note someone or something they're thankful for. (Try not to repeat ideas.)
2. Display your notes on a wall or on poster board.
3. Read your list every day to remind you about God's many blessings.

Sharing
toys with
my friends
-SARA



Be thankful for everything

When we're faithful, we see that God provides all we need.

Use the list of vowels below to complete the words of Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV.

i a a e u i i o u e a o e o a a i i a o o e
a e o e e i i e a e o o u o e u i E e i a I

"S _ ng _ nd m _ k _ m _ s _ c _ n
y _ _ r h _ _ rt t _ th _ L _ rd,
_ lw _ ys g _ v _ ng th _ nks t _ G _ d
th _ F _ th _ r f _ r _ v _ ryth _ ng,
_ n th _ n _ m _ _ f _ _ r
L _ rd J _ s _ s Chr _ st."
_ ph _ s _ _ ns 5:19-20, N _ V

Answer:
Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV)

November



3 Tabitha Booher
5 Matthew Lambert
5 Susan Lynn Ackerman
5 Stephen Moulton
7 Cindy Fox
8 Carolyn Meader
10 Robert Cooper
12 Richard Fox
14 Owen Charles Kelly
21 Eric Beals
21 Stephanie Kelley-Reece
22 Caroline Woodworth
25 Binky MacQuinn
27 Pat Linscott
27 Owen Craighead
29 Sarra Kane
30 Betty Bryer

Sunday
November 4, 2012



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Norma Spurling
Assistant Deacon – Amy Riddell

Liturgists-

4: Al Simons
11: Betsy Higgins
18: Mimi Dickson
25:

Coffee Hosts -

4: Ruth Rossi
11:
18:
25:

Home Bible Readings

4 Ruth 1:1-8
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34
11 Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44
18 I Samuel 1:4-20
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-25
Mark 13:1-8
25 2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

With Sympathy...

To the family of Paul Woodfin II



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	2	3
4 <i>Family Sunday</i> Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30	5	6	7	8 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	9	10
11 Worship Service and Sunday School <i>Annual Meeting</i>	12	13 Outreach Board 7:00 PM	14	15 Music Committee 5:30 PM Trustees 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	16	17
18 Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30 <i>Thanksgiving Basket Workday</i>	19 <i>Thanksgiving Basket Construction</i>	20 <i>Thanksgiving Basket Distribution</i> C. E. Board 6:00 PM	21 Deacon Board 7:00 PM	22	23	24
25 Worship Service and Sunday School Alleluia Choir 11:30	26	27	28 Church Council 7:00 PM	29 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	30	

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Special dates, 2012

- All Saints' Day, November 1
- *Daylight-Saving Time ends, Nov.4*
- Veterans Day, November 11
- National Bible Week, November 18-25
- Thanksgiving Day, November 22
- Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 25

Lines in the sand

Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America once said: "Every time religious leaders wanted to draw a line in the sand, Jesus had the audacity to stand on both sides of it and be Lord of the judged and the judging, and for that he was nailed to a cross."

How quick we are to judge others about their looks, their beliefs, their lifestyles, their parenting, their spending habits, their church attendance (or lack thereof). How fortunate we are that Christ stands not only on their side of the line we draw but on ours as well, extending to us the gift of grace we withhold from our neighbors.

Oh, for the day when God will draw us all into one great dance and our shuffling steps will erase that line we drew!

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

Veterans Day



Veterans Day has its roots in what was called Armistice Day, the day when a peace agreement was signed with Germany ending World War I. Armistice Day was established with a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson which reads in part: "Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations." On June 1, 1954, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans.

On Veterans Day this year, let us remember and honor those men and women who gave of themselves, and let us continue to pray for our men and women currently serving in the military.