



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

February 2013

"Finding God in All the Wrong Places"

Excerpt from [Deuteronomy 6:10-25](#)

"Do not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you."

Reflection by Martin B. Copenhaver

A cartoon in a magazine depicts a man and a woman leaving worship. The sign outside the church announces that the sermon topic for the day was the Ten Commandments. The man says, "Well, at least I haven't made any graven images lately."

The sad truth is, if the man in the cartoon is anything like us, he HAS made graven images—that is, idols, false gods.

Today, no longer are we tempted to worship gods by the name of Zeus or Aphrodite or Apollo. Now we are wooed by gods named Education or Success or Family or Money.

Paul Tillich, an influential theologian of the last century, defined God as a person's

"ultimate concern." If you want to know what your ultimate concern is—or, to put it another way, if you want to know what your idols are—ask yourself these questions: Where is your ultimate loyalty? What do you consistently make time for? In what have you put your trust? Where can you be most deeply threatened?

No one ever says, "I'm going to worship an idol now." Instead, idolatry happens when we invest our fullest energy and our ultimate allegiance in those things—perhaps even good things—that are not ultimate. And if we worship idols, instead of the one true God, we will be ultimately disappointed. There is only one God worthy of our worship.

Prayer

O God, the one true God, guide my actions and my thoughts this day so that I will not look for you in all the wrong places. Amen.

Martin B. Copenhaver is Senior Pastor,
Wellesley Congregational Church, United
Church of Christ, Wellesley, Mass.

Source: United Church of Christ

From the Pastoral Search and Transition Team

Last night (January 10) we had the first meeting of the PSTT with The Reverend Susie Craig, Associate Conference Minister. The members of the team were relieved to hear the steps in the procedure and learn the kinds of help the conference is willing to give us along the way. The conference will provide crucial tasks like vetting the applicants and giving us help in creating a Profile of our church and a Prospectus to send to ministers all over the country. So this is where we are and why you will be hearing from us soon:

First, we need to come up with a package to offer an interim. The good news is that the conference has a person in mind, which means that we could have an Interim in place in two or three months. We will be looking at this person and deciding if he/she is right for us at this time.

At the same time, we need to create a PROFILE of our church. And we need everyone to help us do this. We will be asking questions, and one of us may be asking you for specific help to get this important job done.

Then, after we answer hard questions and develop our profile, we need to create a PROSPECTUS to send to all applicants. Not only do we choose a minister, but he/she has to choose us. So we need to give him/her reasons to come here and work among us. Susie is confident that our church, located on this wonderful island, will have many applicants.

Every step of the way, we welcome everyone's opinion and advice. We hope to use some of your skills to help us create the Prospectus, which we hope to finish in May to take advantage of the summer. (Pastors may want to visit the area to check us out).

So get ready! Your help is needed as we work on specific tasks and dream together about the future of Bar Harbor Congregational Church, UCC.

Cindy Fox

THE GIRL FROM BUFFALO WENT OUT WITH A BLIZZARD!

On Monday, December 31, the last day of Sandra's time with us, we threw a party filled with love, bittersweet memories and lots of cake. Sandra arrived, decorated with a few snowflakes collected on her walk from the parsonage. She entered a room full of friends, and everyone joined in a hearty meal of soup and salad with enough side dishes to provide something for everyone.

Mike Bonsey gave reflections that he had written for the Last-Church-Service. Then gifts and stories were given:

- a piece of granite from Hilda to remind Sandra of her days on a rocky island.
- a benediction shawl from the Knitters. It was a series of triangles symbolizing the Trinity, to warm her and remind her of the Knitting projects started during her tenure
- Amanda presented a painting of a tree from the Sunday School. Every leaf was a fingerprint of one of the youth
- A gift from the congregation consisting of a heifer donated in Sandra's honor and a Love Purse of the money collected from friends far away and near.

Cindy (reading the part of Susie Craig) and Sandra read a liturgy of departure and forgiveness, which was planned for the last Sunday.

Sandra spoke a few words, and everyone joined the benediction. "May the Lord Bless you and Keep you...."

And then we all went out into the snowy night warmed by the fellowship and fond memories of fourteen fruitful years.

Oh, yes, Sandra left us one last gift, the title of the last sermon, the one we all needed to hear and didn't. The title was "Past and Future: All in God's Hands".

She left us with seven words, all we need to know. Thanks, Sandra.

Cindy Fox

Many Thanks

Dear Friends,

I want you to know how much I appreciated all of the Christmas cards and presents I received. Your generosity, as always, was overwhelming.

Even more than that, though, I want to thank you for the lovely going-away party you had for me on New Year's Eve. The evening was filled with smiles, tears, and happy memories, which I will always cherish. And, by the way, no one has ever given me a heifer before. I am touched that my ministry among you has made a lasting gift to Heifer International, an organization I am so very fond of. The personal gift of money, a lovely scarf, and some wonderful Nativity gifts will be treasured. I even got a piece of granite!

I have left you strong, capable and faithful. May you go forward in God's love. I will be praying for you.

Sandra M. Reed

Sandra's mailing address is:
53 Adams Lane
Dedham, ME 04429

(Please see the thank you note to David Lind for the wonderful Sandra farewell party photos on page 6.)



A WORD OR TWO FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION...



Winter in Maine is like a “long and winding road.” It is indeed long! We often feel like it will never end, and on any given day we can have snow, sleet, and freezing rain, consequently the road is not only winding it can also be more than a little unsettling. Often we just want to hunker down and find a warm and cozy place to wait out the winter.

One of those cozy places is our Sunday School. The warm smiles one sees during circle time is an indicator of just how cozy a place it is, and the comfortable relationship between the teachers and children provides just the right atmosphere for spiritual reflection and growth as we move toward the season of Lent.

We are so very fortunate to have this warm and cozy place! Our kids know this! Oh, the insight of a child!

RECENT HAPPENINGS

On January 13th we celebrated our annual **Birthdays Coffee Hour**. There was lots of delicious cakes and fun all around!

Just as a reminder, Family Sundays are the first Sunday of the month. For those kiddos who tend to get antsy, there is always care downstairs. We also have begun providing Children’s Bulletins that correlate to the lectionary for each week, not just for Family Sundays. These are a great resource for kids to connect and learn, all while having a bit of fun! They are available with crayons (or colored pencils for the bigger kids!) in the Narthex before each sermon. Please remember to leave the clipboards and coloring supplies with us so we can be sure to have them each week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

The Second trimester of our Sunday school classes has begun! This is a shorter session, which means that the Third Trimester will be here before we know it!

We are still in need of a 3rd-4th-grade teacher for this amazing group of kids. The curriculum is an easy to follow format for a new or experienced teacher! If you are interested or have questions, please contact Amanda Beals (207) 669-5807

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3rd - Souper Bowl Sunday

Bring your cans of soup, peanut butter, and other canned goods for the Bar Harbor Food Pantry. The Sunday School children will take a special collection of these items at beginning of the church service. We are hoping to raise more than our last year’s total of \$100 and 85 cans! Help us out!

February 3rd- Family Worship Sunday which means there will be no Sunday School.

March 3rd- Pilgrim Lodge Sunday. Family Worship Sunday which means there will be no Sunday School.

March 16th- Game & Movie Night! Look for more information to follow.

ODDS AND ENDS!

Our kids continue to generously support Hirut Suloro, the young Ethiopian girl that our Sunday School sponsors through their offering each week. We recently received a letter from her. Like many children her age she enjoys skipping and spending time with her two best friends. She loves bread and stew and her favorite school subject in school is English. We learned that she lives with her grandmother and she has two brothers and two sisters.

How can you help?

We would love some help providing snacks for our Sunday School kids. You don't have to buy anything; we can provide the supplies. If you are interested, please contact Amanda Beals (amandaward117@gmail.com) or Kathy Woodside (woodsidekat@gmail.com)

Blessings!

Amanda Beals

CE Coordinator



Judy Fuller and Norma Spurling cordially invites all the ladies of our church to the Annual Valentine's Party on February 26th, 7pm, in the church parlor. Fun and calories will be consumed! A sign-up sheet for delicious goodies will be available in the church parlor after February 4th. A guest speaker is yet to be determined. Hope to see you all there.



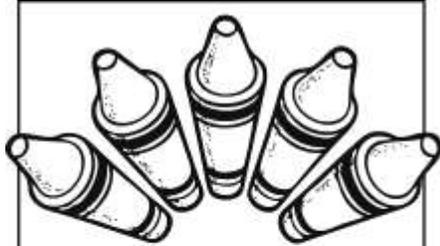
The Chimes sends a **big thank you** to David Lind who provided the excellent photographs on page 4 of Sandra's farewell dinner. Additional farewell photos can be found on the church's website of which David is the Webmaster. The web address is www.barharborucc.org.

After opening the website, check out the menu for a wealth of many subjects including Photo Galleries. Among the photo selections, you will find photos for many church events including Sandra's farewell. Or as another option, click on Farewell To Reverend Reed in the Topic List.

While at the website, check out the Bulletin Board for recent announcements, or the calendar of events for the current month.

The church's website is by far the most popular means of communicating church information. For the 12 months ending Oct. 2012, the number of visits was 18,168.

Also, please consider sending an email with your email address so that you can be added to the Weekly Bulletin for the very latest information to Paul in the church office at office@barharborucc.org. This will also enable us to notify you of church service closings due to increment weather when necessary.



Crayon Heart

Make heart-shaped crayons as a reminder that the things of God should be written on our hearts.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- Oven
- Oven mitt
- Heart-shaped silicon mold (available at craft stores)
- Old crayons

What you do:

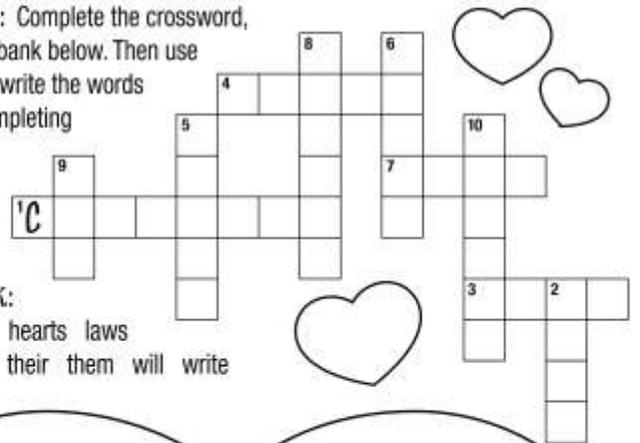
1. Heat oven to 230 degrees.
2. Remove paper wrappers from crayons. (This is easier if you soak crayons in cool water first.)
3. Break crayons into small pieces. Place pieces into heart-shaped mold, filling them about two-thirds full.
4. Bake for 15 minutes or until crayons have completely melted.
5. When the heart-shaped crayons are cool, remove them from the mold.



ON THEIR HEARTS

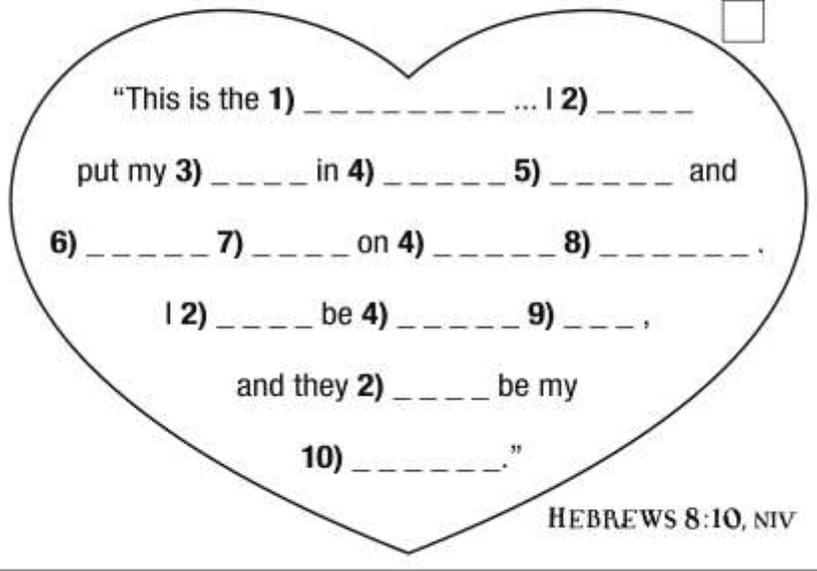
God made a special promise about a relationship he wants to have with people who love him.

DIRECTIONS: Complete the crossword, using the word bank below. Then use the numbers to write the words in the heart, completing God's promise.



WORD BANK:

covenant God hearts laws minds people their them will write



"This is the 1) _____ ... I 2) _____
 put my 3) _____ in 4) _____ 5) _____ and
 6) _____ 7) _____ on 4) _____ 8) _____
 I 2) _____ be 4) _____ 9) _____,
 and they 2) _____ be my
 10) _____."

HEBREWS 8:10, NIV

Answer: "This is the covenant ... I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Hebrews 8:10, NIV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
3 Worship Service and Sunday School, 10AM <i>Family Sunday</i> Souper Bowl Sunday Alleluia Choir 11:30	4	5	6	7 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	8	9
10 Worship Service and Sunday School, 10AM	11	12 Outreach 7:00 PM	13 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	15	16
17 Worship Service and Sunday School, 10AM Alleluia Choir 11:30	18 <i>President's Day</i>	19 C.E.Board 6:00 PM	20 <i>March Chimes Deadline</i> Deacons 6:30 PM	21 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM	22	23
24 Worship Service and Sunday School, 10AM Alleluia Choir 11:30 <i>Sonogee Service</i> 10:30	25	26	27 Church Council 7:00 PM	28 Trustees 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM		

February 2013



- 1 Beverly McNeal
- 2 Terry Savage
- 4 Norma Spurling
- 5 Sarah Skiff Dunbar
- 8 Maggie Painter
- 9 Yvonne Tabb
- 11 Roxie Brechlin
- 12 Clare Bingham
- 13 Mary Skiff Renault
- 13 Ben Reed
- 14 Pauline Wright
- 20 Heidi MacQuinn
- 21 Lenny DeMuro
- 22 Carolyn Miller
- 23 Heather Dority
- 23 Jacob Megquier
- 24 Jeremy McQuinn
- 25 Joyce Pilling
- 26 Aidan O'Connor
- 27 Kristin McKee

With sympathy

to the family and friends of

Marilyne B. Marino

12/19/22 - 12/20/12

Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon –
Assistant Deacon –

Liturgists –

- 3: Mimi Dickson
- 10: Scott Hammond
- 17:
- 24:

Coffee Hosts –

- 3: Ruth Rossi and Ben Blaney
- 10:
- 17:
- 24:

Flowers –

- 3 : Donna Hutton and Peggy Manton
- 10:
- 17:
- 24:

Bible Readings -

February 3

- Jeremiah 1:4-10
- Psalm 71:1-6
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- Luke 4:21-30

February 10

- Exodus 34:29-35
- Psalm 99
- 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
- Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

February 17

- Deuteronomy 26:1-11
- Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
- Romans 10:8b-13
- Luke 4:1-13

February 24

- Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
- Psalm 27
- Philippians 3:17-4:1
- Luke 13:31-35

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

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Special dates

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, *February 3, 2013*
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, *Feb. 10, 2013*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 13, 2013*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2013*
- First Sunday in Lent, *February 17, 2013*
- Presidents Day, *February 18, 2013*
- Second Sunday in Lent, *Feb. 24, 2013*

What will you give up?

During Lent, some Christians give up a luxury or vice as a form of self-denial or to practice self-control. Ultimately, such a sacrifice should benefit one's spiritual walk with Jesus, who gave everything.

A Missouri teenager decided to give up talking for Lent. Decklan Conway, 13, communicated through dry-erase boards, going through three markers in less than a week. Although he lost a few friends because he wouldn't talk, Decklan wrote, "I'm doing it for a greater purpose." He added, "God gave up his only Son for us. ... What are you willing to give up?"

A worthy corollary to that question is "What will you take on?" What can you do for God's kingdom during this season of reflection and recommitment?

Articles this page [Newsletter](#)[Newsletter](#)

From Your Valentine

St. Valentine was a priest who was executed around 270 A.D. There are many things we don't know about this martyr, but there are numerous, sometimes conflicting, stories about his life and death. One says that he was slain for performing weddings in secret after the Roman Emperor, Claudius II, had outlawed them. Another legend says it was because he helped Christians escape from brutal Roman prisons.

In 498 A.D., just over 200 years after Valentine's execution, Pope Gelasius declared February 14 as St. Valentine's Day. Valentine's love for God and humanity has made him "the patron of love" in the Roman Catholic Church and for people around the world.

By the mid-1700s it was common practice for friends and sweethearts to exchange trinkets made in the shape of hearts or to send handwritten notes of affection on February 14. It's believed that Valentine himself sent the first "valentine" while imprisoned. He is said to have written a letter to a young girl who visited him in prison just before his death. He signed the letter, "From your Valentine," a sentiment still used today.