



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

June 2013

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

A year or so ago I read a book entitled "How the Irish Saved Civilization". I learned about Saint Patrick, who was captured from his home in Britain as a teenager, and taken to Ireland where he worked in the fields as a slave for six long years. During his captivity, he grew close to God and one night he heard a mysterious voice telling him that a ship had come to take him home. He escaped to a port 200 miles away, where a ship did indeed return him to his family. Back at home, in a vision, he heard another voice call him, saying "We beg you to come and walk among us once more." Try though he might, he could not put the Irish out of his mind. After that he returned to Ireland, the place of his captivity, as a Christian missionary. He built the church in that beautiful land and, as they say, the rest is history. But is it true?

In a story reported on by all four of the gospel writers, 5,000 people wanted to eat, but they only had a few loaves and fishes among them. By the time Jesus had them share, everyone ate their fill. Again, an amazing story, but is it true?

There are no shortage of theories to try to enlighten us as to what really happened. One theory about St. Patrick claims that the lives of two men were wedded to form the legend of the one. One theory explains that the miracle of the loaves and the fishes is a result of the unexpected generosity of a crowd of people who had extra food in their pockets.

What about you? Do you see all of this as a problem, which in the fullness of time and with the

inevitable improvements in skills and technologies, will be solved, all neat and tidy? Or do you see it as a mystery to be entered into with more illumination the further one goes? (Don't worry, this is not a test!) Here is a related question: Are people driven to church these days by a craving for facts, explanations, and solutions? Or do they come because they are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, satisfaction, and, yes, meaning?

In "The Good Book," author Peter J. Gomes quotes Princeton theologian Diogenes Allen on the difference between a problem and a mystery (p. 328). Allen says, "Mysteries to be known must be entered into." He then goes on: "For we do not solve mysteries; we enter into them. The deeper we enter into them, the more illumination we get. Still greater depths are revealed to us the further we go." It is not so with problems. "When a problem is solved, it is over and done with. We go on to other problems...But a mystery once recognized is something we are never finished with. It is never exhausted. Instead, we return to it again and again and it unfolds new levels to us...We live in a universe permeated by a divine reality whose hem we touch when we encounter mysteries."

Well, these are vexing questions that have kept theologians busy for a long time! My intent with this article is just to spark a discussion among you. In a culture that laboriously hunts for proof, I seek mystery and beauty, where five loaves and a couple of fish can be transformed into abundance.

Keith Bowie



It's the season of surveys! The PSTT is now working on THE LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE. This document is a tool given to prospective candidates to help them to get to know us. Questions involve the demographics of the Island and the composition of the congregation. Who we are now; what we hope for the future.

Some of the questions are easy and can be answered right on your computer. (If you don't receive email from the church, you will be getting the questions through the regular mail. If you have not gotten a survey by the time you get this Chimes, let us know so we can include you on our mailing list).

Some of the questions involve opinions on what kind of minister you want. Some ask you to dream about the future mission of our church. But we cannot avoid controversial issues like how we intend to handle the new state law regarding same-sex marriage. Candidates will want to know how we plan to answer those marriage requests.

Surveys are done in isolation. In the future we will gather together at a pot-luck dinner and give everyone a chance to say what he or she thinks are the most important issues facing our church.

Before the meeting, we will distribute a list of guidelines to follow so the meeting will give everyone a chance to be heard in a peaceful and loving atmosphere. And remember, if you do not want to speak in a meeting, don't stay away. Attend, listen, and put your response in the suggestion box or send it to the church.

We have been receiving some very helpful ideas in the SUGGESTION BOX. Thanks to all of you who took the time to give us your opinions.

As we continue to work on the PROFILE, please pray for wisdom for each and every member of our church family.

QUESTIONS ? Ask us. PSTT Team: Chris Beals, Donna Beals, Mike Bonsey, Betty Bryer, Mimi Dickson, Cindy Fox, Debby Hammond, Scott Hammond, Doug McMinimy, Estelle Megquier, Lindsay Shopland, Kathy Woodside (Mug shots soon to appear on bulletin board in office entry).





Our church family extended an extraordinary welcome to 21 UCC churches from Hancock and Waldo counties for the Hancock-Waldo Association's Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 11th.

Over 50 Clergy and lay members of both large and small churches met and discussed: the Maine Conference Vision, Mission and Mission Plan in the Conference's Time of Transition, Pilgrim Lodge's Capital Campaign, and Maine's Law Protecting Religious Freedom, and its impact on marriage policies in our churches.

Special thanks to Cas Dowden, Ruth Rossi, Ben Blaney, Bruce Blake, Mimi DeVries, Kathe Simons, Pastor Bowie and his wife Pam, Cindy and Rodney Fox, and Paul Dickson, and anyone who I may have missed for their generous support and hospitality in putting this event together.

Many thanks to all who provided food for the event, to Laurie Riddell for the flowers, to Pastor Bowie for the beautiful worship service, and to Kimberly Haller for her amazing music, and finally...thank you to all from our church who attended the meeting. It was great to be so well represented.

Kathy Woodside
Hancock-Waldo Association
Moderator

Pilgrim Lodge Alert!!

No matter what your age or interest...it's not too late to register for camp at Pilgrim Lodge. There are camps of varying lengths of time beginning in the spring through early fall, and if cost is a concern our church offers scholarships.

Check out the PL website at <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/> and see if there is something of interest to you!!

Maine Conference Annual Meeting May 31st to June 1st

There is still time to register for the Maine Conference Annual Meeting! Rev. Geoffrey Black, General Minister and President of the UCC will be the keynote speaker. Kathy Woodside, and Kathy MacCulloch will be our senior delegates to the conference, and Kincaid MacCulloch and Hunter Riddell will be attending as our youth delegates. Churches typically send delegates and clergy who are eligible to vote on resolutions presented at the conference.

Check out the Maine Conference website (<http://www.maineucc.org>) for the full agenda and more information about registration, resolutions, the proposed budget, reports, rules and procedures, and workshops at this year's conference.

Non-voting lay members are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions about the conference please speak with one of our church delegates.



Our July 15th Church Yard Sale needs YOU!

When and Where: Saturday, June 15 from 9 to noon, in the church parking lot

Who: Our Evening Auxiliary women (aka the Soul Sisters) are sponsoring this fundraiser for the church.

Many hands are needed for many tasks:

- trucker/stevedores to move boxes and items from the parsonage garage to church
- set up tables Friday afternoon
- put out items Saturday morning
- makers of baked goods
- sellers
- drivers to distribute leftovers to recycling, libraries, YWCA, Goodwill, Emmaus
- clean up crew

What: Your attic treasures, good household items, toys, sports equipment, no appliances

How: Donate your small items by bringing them Friday June 14 *before* 1 PM. Large items/items that should stay outside (gardening or yard things, exercise equipment, etc) should be brought the day of the sale, starting at 7:30 am. ***If you bring a large item, please be an angel and check back in at the close of the sale to reclaim it if unsold.***

Why: This spring, retiring Pastor Sandra Reed set aside some nice things for the church's Christmas Fair attic treasures sale when she moved to her new home. Later, to prepare the vacant parsonage for leasing, the Trustees decided to remove the many "collected" things left in the attic and storage spaces over the years by former occupants. There was too much to leave (how many Christmas tree stands can one family use?) and too much to store (!) until December for the Christmas Fair.

Spring cleaning?: If you have items at home to donate, OR if you would like to bring YOUR family's treasures to sell at your own table, make a donation to the church from your own sales, and join in!

To volunteer, put your name on the sign up sheet in the parlor, or call the church office. For any questions, contact Deb Wade, Nancy Howland, or Brad Stager.

Report on the May 18 yard clean up day

Wow! Here is what our team of yardies accomplished:

- ornamental shrubs and trees were pruned
- the church entrance was pressure washed
- major litter pick up over the entire yard and on ALL sides of the church
- all the window wells were cleaned of debris and leaves
- all planting beds were weeded
- truckloads of trimmings, weeds and litter were hauled away
- and **special mention**: all dandelions in sight were excised by Team Gurtler!

Don't be sad, if you missed the fun, there will be another chance once the leaves come down this fall!

Reflection by Martin B. Copenhaver

"If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day... then you shall take delight in the Lord."

Recently I sat next to a man at the movies who spent the entire time working with his Blackberry hand-held computer and then sending text messages on his cell phone. Occasionally, he would look up at the big screen, but then he would bow his head to the tiny screens in his lap. Obviously, he had taken to heart the slogan from an ad campaign: "Now anyplace can be your workplace."

At first I was a bit annoyed, but then I came to have something like sympathy for the man because his behavior had the look and feel of addiction. More and more it seems as if we are addicted to busyness. It starts with alluring promises ("you will save time," "you will have more freedom"). Eventually, however, there is no pleasure in it. We feel trapped. Even though we may begin to sense, "This is not good for me," we no longer see a way out. We are stuck in patterns we didn't exactly choose and don't know how to change.

A friend of mine, speaking of the time she was a pastor, says she felt that she had to make herself available at any hour, every day of the year. Laughing at herself, she said, "There used to be a time when only God was that important."

It is precisely the reminder that "only God is that important" that is the basis of the practice of keeping Sabbath. When we stop working for a time we can see that the world does manage very well without us. The sun still shines. The tides still ebb and flow. We are fed. We are not indispensable, but we are valued nonetheless. It is good to have that reminder on occasion. In fact, it is essential.

Prayer

God, I confess to you the sin of perpetual busyness. Please slow me down, make me pause, help me to receive the gift of peaceful rest. Amen.

Source: UCC.org



The summer is fast approaching and what an amazing school year we have had! I would like to give a HUGE thank you to our selfless volunteers for their time, effort & talents!

Heather Servaites
Debbie Hammond
Laurie Olson
Kim Craighead
Michelle Gurtler
Doug McMinimy
Beth Paradis
Hannah Paradis

Kathy Woodside
Laurie Riddell
Mike Bonsey
Kathe Simons
Christina Zittle
Bethany Hansen
Diane Bonsey

Another great big thanks to Kimberly Haller and Betsy Higgins for working with our youth through music! A special thanks to those who have also given their time and donations to make all our happenings this school year a wonderful success. Parents, grandparents, and families, we are not able to put on such fun activities for our kids without your continued support and example. Thank you for making your membership to our church family something treasured in your own lives.

I would also like to extend my personal thanks to our Christian Education Board who have done some pretty amazing things this school year. Without their support and talents, our program would not be the success it is today. Thank you to Kathy Woodside, Christina Zittle, Chris Beals, Betty Bryer, Doug McMinimy, Laurie Riddell, Maggie Almdale, and Yvonne Tabb.

The summer is coming soon and we are looking for help with our annual JC & Me program Sunday mornings. This is a chance for you to share your talents or gifts with our kids. They truly enjoy seeing the new and familiar faces, alike. During the summer, our Sunday School is also on Summer Vacation so the JC & Me helps kids stay engaged and active in their Christian Education while having lots of fun! If you are interested, please contact Amanda Beals or Kathy Woodside for more information. We will also be having an auction in the coming weeks, so be on the lookout for more information on that!

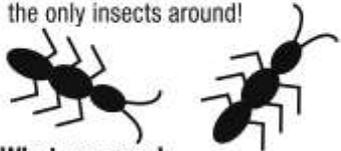
Once again, thank you to all the volunteers who have given their time to make this school year a blast for our kids.

Warmly, Amanda Beals, CE Coordinator



ANTS ON A HILL

Make this fun snack for a summer picnic — and hope these ants are the only insects around!



What you need:

- one box instant chocolate pudding mix
- milk
- graham crackers
- zippered baggies
- rolling pin
- clear plastic cup
- chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries



What you do:

1. Make the pudding according to directions on the box.
2. Put one whole graham cracker (four rectangles) into a zippered baggie. Seal and crush the crackers with a rolling pin.
3. Fill half the plastic cup with spoonfuls of chocolate pudding (dirt).
4. Add the crushed graham crackers (sand hill).
5. On the hill, place chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries (climbing ants). Enjoy!



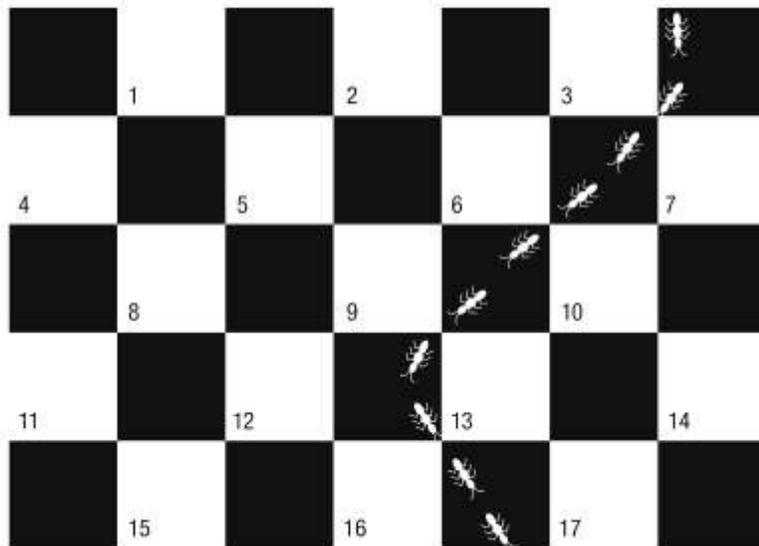
The ants go marching...

God created amazing insects and says we can learn lessons from their hard work.



Directions: Use the word bank below to fill in the tablecloth grid for ant-based wisdom from Proverbs 30:25, NIV.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 4. of | 6. strength | 15. summer | 12. food | 9. store | 2. are |
| 8. they | 3. creatures | 5. little | 7. yet | 10. up | 14. the |
| 1. Ants | 16. Proverbs | 17. 30:25 | 13. in | 11. their | |



Answer: "Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer." Proverbs 30:25, NIV



Birthdays this Month

- 1 Ruth Rossi
- 2 Paul Paradis
- 3 Addyson Makenna Boyce
- 5 Tricia Hammond
- 7 Hilda Roderick
- 8 Michael Gurtler
- 8 Mary Brown
- 9 Cynthia Lambert
- 10 Katie Fuller
- 15 Diane Bonsey
- 16 Raymond Turner
- 17 Lois Wade
- 17 Mary Paquet
- 21 Paul Hammond
- 21 Rodney Fox
- 26 Rob Shea
- 26 Vernice Young
- 26 Lynne Richardson
- 27 Kimberly Haller
- 29 Martha Hobbs
- 30 Alexa Bonsey
- 30 Scott Hammond



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Cindy Fox

Liturgists-

- 2 Youth Sunday
- 9
- 16
- 23
- 30

Flowers –

- 2 Deb Wade and Bob Breen
- 9 Jill and Sheldon Goldthwait
- 16 Deb Wade and Bob Breen
- 23 Jacquelyn Johnson
- 30 Kathe and Al Simons

Coffee Hosts -

- 2 Betsy and Valedah Higgins
- 9
- 16
- 23
- 30

Lectionary -

- 2 1 Kings 18:20-29, 30-39
Psalm 96
Galatians 1:1-12
Luke 7:1-10
- 9 1 Kings 17:8-24
Psalm 146
Galatians 1:11-24
Luke 7:11-17
- 16 1 Kings 21:1-21a
Psalm 5:1-8
Galatians 2:15-21
Luke 7:36-8:3
- 23 1 Kings 19:1-15a
Psalm 42 and 43
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39
- 30 2Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
<p>2 Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p><i>Family Sunday</i> <i>Youth Sunday</i></p> <p>S. School Picnic</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Cancer Support Group 5-6:30 PM</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Choir 7:00 PM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 Recital 10:30-4:30</p> <p>-----</p> <p>8 Recital 5:00-9:00</p>
<p>9 Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p><i>Sarah Fraley's Student Recital</i> <i>5:00 PM</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Outreach 7:00 PM</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Trustees 5:30 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p>J.C. and Me Auction C. E. Board</p> <p>Chamber of Comm. Concert – Backup Venue 5:30-9:00 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Deacons 7:00 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p>(Last day of Sunday School)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>VBS</p>	<p>25</p> <p>VBS</p>	<p>26</p> <p>VBS</p> <p>Council 7:00 PM</p>	<p>27</p> <p>VBS</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p><i>'J.C. and Me' begins</i></p>						

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

U. S. Postage Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
Permit Number 32

Special dates

- **Flag Day, *June 14, 2013***
- **Father's Day, *June 16, 2013***
- **First day of summer, *June 21, 2013***

Why Flag Day is Important

America was founded as a "nation under God," and has been looked up to by other nations for over two hundred years. Unfortunately, other countries — and some of our own citizens — are disgruntled with America today. Even though our reputation has taken some hits, we're still a strong country with high ideals and proud people.

There's a simple way you can help show that to the world — by flying the flag. Every time you put a flag out, you're saying, "I'm an American and proud of what this flag represents." The flag stands for "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," for religious freedom, and for other rights that many nations lack. The flag represents our history and our goals for a better future for all.

Flag Day is celebrated each year on June 14. Fly your flag high!

Articles this page NewsletterNewsletter

Hail to the Family!

One of Theodore Roosevelt's sons told someone how much he appreciated the family he had been a part of as a child. He commented that he had gone to Groton, a private school, then on to Harvard and short terms in other schools. Yet he felt that the best education he had ever received was at the family table.

Much can be said about cohesive families who pray, talk, laugh and sing together around the dining table. With God's presence affirmed, they become a small church. With the collective learning and wisdom of family members, they become a small school. With the give and take of conversation and gentle debate, the family gathering becomes an insightful forum. Then, when they sing joyous songs or carols or hymns of thanksgiving, they become a family choir, although maybe not the Von Trapp singers.

Finally, when delightful tales are told, or children's antics are acted out, and especially when the family jokesters do their shtick, well then, the family becomes the joyous comedy club. What great fun!

All hail to such a family!