

THE CHIMES

THE NEWS LETTER OF THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

29 Mount Desert Street, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 3:00 PM

Friday 9:00 – 11:30 PM

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From the Senior Pastor

July 2009

I lost my cell phone a couple of weeks ago. I looked everywhere: in the car, the house, our camp. I retraced my steps and went back to stores I had been in. I looked through my office at the church. No luck. The phone was gone. Luckily, I have insurance on my cell phone, so I called AT&T to make arrangements to get a new one. With only a minor dent in my checking account, the new cell phone arrived the next day. Case closed. My connectivity restored, I went on about my business.

Yesterday I found my old cell phone. It was right where I had put it, on a bookshelf in the living room in the parsonage. It wasn't lost at all. I had merely forgotten where I had placed it. Of course I returned that phone to the insurance company and got on with the business of deciphering the directions to the new phone.

This whole incident has prompted me to think about other losses I have suffered in my life. Some losses are more easily rectified than others, aren't they? Some, like my cell phone, merely need something new to replace that which has been lost. Others, no matter how good our insurance, can never be replaced.

Many times, our first experience with loss is the death of a pet. When I was a little girl, my dog, Inky, died. It happened while I was at school. I guess he had been sick, but I knew nothing about that. All I know is that when I returned home from school, Inky was gone. My parents told me that he had been sick and he got so sick that he died. I only knew that I missed my dog. I cried and was sad for a time, but eventually I got over my grief and went on with my life. But I never forgot that little black dog of questionable parentage.

As life goes on, we experience many more losses. Some are devastating in their effect and others somehow get absorbed into our lives. When my grandparents died, I could rationalize that they were old and sick and that it was time for God to welcome them home. When my parents died, the loss was much sharper and, for the first time in my life, I felt like an orphan. I was nobody's little girl anymore. My loss was keen.

We all know about loss. It is, after all, part of life. We lose cell phones, car keys, jobs, hearts, health, and people we love. We try to recover what we can, replace what we can, and live with the loss of that which is irreplaceable.

But as many times as we lose something or someone, there is so much that we find in our lives. The unexpected friend. The unanticipated love that blossoms. The joy of becoming a parent. The tears of happiness shed as we watch a precious child or grandchild get married. The haunting melody of a beautiful piece of music. The wonder of a sunrise on Cadillac Mountain. The immeasurable bliss of belonging to our Lord and Savior. For each loss there is the possibility of joy.

My plan is to go through the rest of my life recognizing that loss will come, but anticipating a new joy around every corner. The love of God makes that optimism possible. The grace of God makes that inevitable. Thank You, God.

Sandra M Reed

Third Annual Harvest Festival Coffee Hours

On Sunday, July 12th, the Outreach Board is hosting the first in our 3rd annual series of monthly harvest festivals. The congregation is invited to enjoy creatively prepared, in season, locally grown produce and fruits during coffee hour.

The Maine Council of Churches' "Be a Good Apple Program" encourages us to buy from local farmers for many reasons including: eating fresh healthy food, keeping farmland in production, boosting the local economy, and reducing the emissions used in food production and distribution.

Participation in these festivals is a small way that we can answer the call of stewardship to care for God's creation, including ourselves. The scriptures clearly tell us that we are to regard our bodies as temples to be used for serving God. We need to do everything we can to stay healthy and fit. Good, fresh food is a big part of that responsibility.

"I am the true vine...." John 15:1

Help us celebrate the Harvest Festivals by contributing something made from your favorite recipe using the fruit or vegetable of the month.

Contributions should be brought to the church before the coffee hour on the festival date.

July 12 - Strawberry Festival

August 16 - Blueberry

September 20 - Zucchini

October 18 - Apples

November 22 Pumpkin

If you would like to bring an item for any of the festivals, please call Karen McFarland at 288-5760.

Church World Service Blankets+

On Sunday July 12th, our congregation will support the Church World Service mission Blankets+ (formerly called Tools & Blankets), along with some 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. Our contributions provide the means to transform lives and communities faced with an emergency or simply struggling to put food on the table. For over 60 years, Church World Service has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a viable future, including:

- Blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster
- Tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields
- Wells for families living in drought prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens
- Literacy training and micro credit for women struggling to realize their potential
- Blankets+ means it's about blankets and so much more!

The offering envelopes and leaflets you will find in the weekly bulletin will be collected at Sunday service on July 12th. You may also contribute at the church office anytime before or a few weeks after this date and use your own labeled envelope if need be.

**For He will deliver the needy when he cries,
The poor also and him who has no helper.**

Psalm 72:12

Outreach Board

**Please note new contact information
for Kimberly and Karl Haller**

Kimberly and Karl have moved! Their new address is P. O. Box 462, Searsport 04974. The new phone number is 548-2675



Do you wonder where the money goes?

How is the money we contribute to the Church spent? This is the fourth of several articles that will provide answers to those questions.

Where does the money go? #4

Taxes, Taxes, Taxes, we just cannot escape them! Even the Church must pay their due. Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." Our church budget includes \$7,970 for parsonage real estate taxes and payroll taxes.

Tune in next month for another answer to the question, WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Congratulations to our Graduates

Our church family offers hearty congratulations and best wishes to the following graduates:

Eighth Grade: Rachael McMinimy, Hannah Boyce

High School: Cullen O'Brien, will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Michael Breen, will be attending the University of Maine; Patrick Breen, will be attending Bowdoin College; and Evan Hendricks, will be attending Goucher College.

College: Mary Elizabeth Kelley, University of Southern Maine; Lindsey Hendricks, Goucher College.

We are proud of all of you, and we join your parents in offering our support, our care, and our help as years go by. We are glad you are part of our church family!

New Newsletter for Area Churches

The Hancock-Waldo Association is now publishing a quarterly newsletter, 'Keeping Connected', to help keep us informed of events in our sister churches. The Newsletter will be posted on our bulletin board and the church's website for your review.



The Seventh Friend

When I was first diagnosed with cancer: My first friend came and expressed shock by saying, 'I can't believe that you have cancer; I always thought that you were active and healthy.' He left and I felt alienated and somehow very different.

My second friend came and brought me information about treatments used for cancer and said, 'Whatever you do, don't take chemotherapy. It's a poison.' He left and I felt scared and confused.

My third friend came and tried to answer my 'whys' with the statement, 'Perhaps God is disciplining you for some sin in your life.' He left and I felt guilty.

My fourth friend came and told me, 'If your faith is great enough, God will heal you.' He left and I felt guilty.

My fifth friend came and told me to remember, 'All things work together for good.' He left and I felt angry.

My sixth friend never came at all. I felt sad and alone.

My seventh friend came and held my hand and said, 'I care. I'm here. I want to help you through this.' He left and I felt loved.

-Linda Mae Richardson,
in The Victory in the Valley

Christian Education News

The Christian Education Board has been VERY busy with lots of events and planning! Here are the highlights:

- **The End-of-Year Sunday School Picnic** was great fun for all and a tremendous success! We “took over” the Village Green, ate wonderful food (special thanks to gourmets Leslyn Shea and Patsy Nishina), and played ping-pong baseball and other games to celebrate our year together.
- **God’s Garden Club** is off to a rollicking start. Sandy Boyce and Jenn Booher helped to facilitate Week #1 – be sure to admire the beautiful geraniums that the youngsters planted in the cemetery wall next to the church...in the rain! Also, be sure to look at our beautiful God’s Garden Club banner. Week #2 was an opportunity to chime and sing with Kathe and Al Simons and Caitie Smith. Over the coming weeks, we’ve got lots of more fabulous activities planned for God’s Garden Club --- we hope to see lots of kids joining us – please bring your summer guests!
- **Love the theater?** In August, **Doug McMinimy** will work with our children in grades 2-8 during God’s Garden Club to **produce a musical** that will be performed in church on Rally Sunday, September 14. Look for more details
- **The CE Board recently participated in a mini-retreat**, followed soon thereafter by our regular board meeting time. We accomplished SO much---after re-visioning our goals for Sunday School, plans are underway for curriculum reviews, and a dynamic Sunday School program year.
- **The Sunday School Coordinator job description** is being developed and will have been shared with the Trustees at their June Meeting. We are eager to advertise and hope to find the *perfect* person for this vital position. Know anyone who might be interested? Please contact Kathe Simons, at kathe@simons.mv.com or by phone, 244-3207.

- **We need you and your talents.** We will be offering a range of opportunities that will include not only Sunday School teaching, but also important volunteer options including **Snack Shepherds, Circle Time Captains,** and **After-Hours Angels** (there’s a rumor we’ll need a few woodworkers!) Recruitment and ongoing support for our cherished Sunday School teachers and volunteers is an important commitment of our board. Be looking for some exciting information to be shared in church, in next month’s Chimes, and in the Sunday bulletin in the coming weeks. We need YOU and your talents! Stay posted, please.

Breathless? Yes, we’ve been busy! A special thanks to all members of the CE Board who work year-round to make our Christian Education programs the BEST that they can be. How might YOU help to support our children and youth? They are our most precious treasure from God.

Congratulations to Dana Reed

Congratulations go to Dana Reed who was given a Special Recognition of Merit Award at MDI Hospital’s EMS Recognition Banquet for his work as Chair of the MDI Pan Flu Workgroup.

Adult Bible Study

Leave the hubbub of the busy summer behind and join us for an hour each week to celebrate the Psalms and learn what they teach us about prayer, about anger, about life and death, about our need for God.

We will meet on Thursdays in July at 10 AM (sharp) and will finish at 11AM (a timer will dismiss us "on the dot"). If you have company, bring them along! If you haven't been to Thursday Bible Study, give us a try.

Summer is a busy, hectic, exhausting time. Drop by the church for an hour on Thursdays, while we turn to the Psalms and refresh ourselves in the "still waters".

• S U M M E R •

TRAVEL BINGO

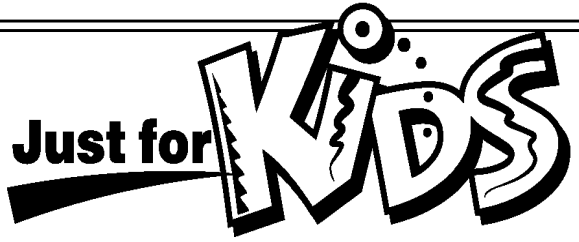
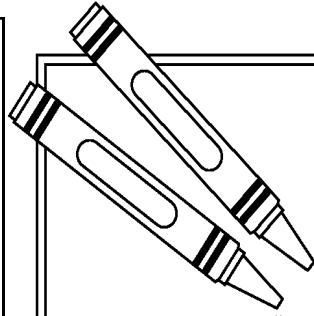
Summer travel is fun, but sometimes getting to the destination can take a long time. Try this homemade bingo game to entertain you and your family while you vacation this summer.

What you need:

- Sheets of 8¹/₂" x 11" paper (one for each player)
- Stickers (16 for each player)
- Pencil, pen, marker or crayon

What you do:

1. Before your trip, list different things you might see as you travel.
2. Take each 8¹/₂" x 11" sheet of paper and fold it in half, from top to bottom. Fold it in half again from top to bottom. Then fold it in half from side to side and then again. Unfold the paper and you should have 16 equal-sized squares, four across horizontally and four down vertically.
3. Family members write one thing from the list in each of the 16 squares. They can place them in any order. For non-readers, someone can draw pictures in each square.
4. Put the sheets and stickers in the car in an easy-to-reach place.
5. While traveling, when you see an object that's on your card, say it out loud. Put a sticker in that square.
6. The first person to get four in a row wins the first round. The first person to fill two rows wins the second round. The first person to fill the entire sheet wins the game.



TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT

The way people travel has changed over time, but one thing has not changed — God was with people in biblical times just as He is with you and your family as you travel during your summer vacations.

Count the number of letters for each name, and then write the name in the spaces next to the verse that matches. (Hint: Besides counting the number of letters in the name, also pay attention to whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament.)

NAMES

Paul Moses Joseph The Israelites Abram crowds
Samaritan Jesus Naaman Angel of God

VERSES

“The _____ had been traveling in front of Israel’s army” Exodus 14:19

“And _____ went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt.” Genesis 41:46

“Go in peace,” said Elisha. After _____ had traveled some distance” 2 Kings 5:19

“_____ traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem.” Genesis 12:6

_____ “traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece.” Acts 20:2

“_____ traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.” Luke 8:1

“Large _____ were traveling with Jesus.” Luke 14:25

“_____ traveled to the plains of Moab and camped along the Jordan across from Jericho.” Numbers 22:1

“_____ led Israel from the Red Sea For three days they traveled in the desert” Exodus 15:22

“But a _____, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.” Luke 10:33

Answers: Angel of God; Joseph; Naaman; Abram; Paul; Jesus; crowds; The Israelites; Moses; Samaritan

July 2009



- 3 Mary Cunningham
- 8 Jennifer Moulton Stonehouse
- 8 Fred McPheters
- 9 Rick Starbird
- 9 John Kelly
- 9 Ezra O'Connor
- 10 Rachael McMinimy
- 11 Joan Clement
- 12 Henry W. Brown
- 13 Judy Roberts
- 13 Tony St. Denis
- 14 Beverly Blaisdell
- 14 MaryAnne Starbird
- 14 Kay Young
- 14 Donald Dyer
- 15 Nicholas MacCulloch
- 15 Charlotte Skiff
- 15 Robert Collier
- 15 Rachel Krautwald
- 16 Maria Lopez Patterson
- 17 Connie Shea
- 23 Wallace Reed
- 25 Earl Brechlin
- 25 James Lambert
- 25 Jesse Olson
- 25 Marie Coffron
- 31 Marianne DiMauro



Sunday Worship Contributors

Head Deacon – Patty Benore
Assistant Deacon – Tim Beals

Liturgists-

5: Anne Warner
12:
19:
26:

Flowers –

5: Yvonne Tabb and May Vinette
12: Marjorie Beam and Greg and Crystal Dow
19: Fred and Marie Mc Pheters
and Donna Hutton
26: Richard and Arlanne Snodgrass

Coffee Hosts -

5:
12: Strawberry Festival
19:
26:

Home Bible Readings

5 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13
12 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29
19 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
26 2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21



July



			1 <i>Bar Harbor Music Festival Opening Concert</i>	2 Bible Study 10:00 am	3 Minister's Day Off <i>BHMF Concert</i>	 Independence Day
5 Worship / God's Garden Club – 10 am Youth Choir 11:30	6 <i>Cancer Support Group</i> 5:00 - 6:30 PM	7 <i>Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00</i>	8	9 Bible Study 10:00 am	10 Minister's Day Off <i>BHMF Concert</i>	11 <i>BHMF Concert</i>
12 <i>Tools of Hope and Blankets Sunday</i> Worship / God's Garden Club - 10 am Youth Choir 11:30	13	14 <i>BHMF New Composers' Forum</i>	15 <i>Chimes Articles Due!</i> <i>CE Board 7:00</i> <i>BHMF New Composers' Concert</i>	16 Bible Study 10:00 am <i>Trustees 5:30</i>	17 Minister's Day Off <i>BHMF Concert</i>	18
19 Worship / God's Garden Club - 10 am Youth Choir 11:30	20	21 <i>BHMF Rehearsal</i> <i>Acadia Shawl Ministry 7:00</i>	22 <i>BHMF Rehearsal</i>	23 Bible Study 10:00 am	24 Minister's Day Off <i>BHMF String Orchestra Concert</i>	25
26 Worship / God's Garden Club - 10 am Youth Choir 11:30	27	28 <i>Finance Committee 1:30</i> Wedding 4:00PM	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 am	31 Minister's Day Off	

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

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

Special dates

- Independence Day, July 4, 2009



Freedom

Each one of us is born most free
And we alone can choose
To do what God would have us do,
To use what God would use.

Or, we are also free to seek
The proud and selfish way —
A life where other gods come first
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ
leads,
We find that freedom's place
Is really in God's Will for us,
And we have chosen GRACE!

—Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems

A Prayer for Our Church

Lord Jesus, we pray that you will somehow give us ears to hear, hearts to love and wills devoted to serve; that in the days to come this congregation may be known not for our glory but for thine alone - a congregation of people who know you; that this place may be an oasis, a place where people come to find out about you, where lives are straightened out and made whole, where people find the peace that passes understanding.

Give us, we pray, a heart to desire these things above all else. We pray through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Source: The Newsletter Newsletter

