

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 – Thursday 9:00 – 3:00 PM, Friday 9:00 – 11:30 AM
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THE CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

November 2011

November 06, 2011

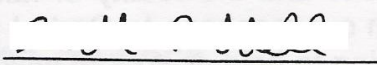
Pursuant to the By-Laws (Article VI, Sec. 4 and 5) the Call to the Annual Meeting of the

Bar Harbor Congregational Church, U.C.C. is herewith issued, said meeting to convene at

11:00 a.m., Sunday, November 20, 2011. 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 2012.
3. To elect officers, delegates, and board and committee members.
4. To transact such other business that may properly come before said meeting.

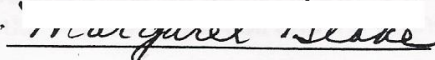
This call is issued by the Church Council.



Scott Riddell, Chair

Church Council

ATTEST:



Margaret Blake

Margaret Blake

From the Pastor

Nothing Gold Can Stay

*Nature's first green is gold
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower
But only so an hour.*

*Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sunk to grief
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.
- Robert Frost*

The first time I ever heard this poem, Martha Chandler's brother-in-law was reading it at the memorial service held for his wife on Swan's Island. I read it again at Martha's memorial service and then later at the service that was held for my mother. The poem's simplicity and depth of meaning touch me in a way few other poems do. For me, this poem is a testimony both to the brevity and the precious quality of life.

Every year at this time I find myself repeating the words of this poem to myself as I watch the leaves depart for the season. I watch them turn from green to gold and then on to various shades of orange, red and, finally, yellow. Then they are gone. Autumn is my favorite time of year, but also a melancholy time. How I have enjoyed the summer's shade from the big, old tree in front of the parsonage. As its leaves disappear, I know that the snow is not far behind and I begin to brace

myself for the onslaught of cold, wind, ice and the bleak beauty that is winter.

Would you ever want to live in a place where the four seasons are not present? I wouldn't. The rhythm of the changes in the year is a mirror for the changes in our lives and in our faith. Spring without peepers? Summer without the riot of color of flowers and shrubs, bursting forth to give thanks to the sun? Fall without her own particular palette of color? Winter without the glistening snow and the sharp, clear song of the birds? Not for me, thank you. I need to feel new life under my feet. I need to understand that what is gone will once more be lifted up. I need the example which the seasons provide of the circle of life and faith in the One who created that life. I need to be reminded of who I am and to whom I belong.

Although I have learned to my sorrow, as you have, that *nothing gold can stay*, I have also learned that what is gold can never die. This is the wonder that is the life cycle and this is the wonder that is the creative love of God. I am deeply moved and inspired by the miraculous scenery all around us, regardless of the time of year. The metaphor of faith is played out in the seasons and the reality of faith is lived out in our response to God. I know that in trying to hold on to that which is gold, I would deny the wondrous plan God has for all of creation. If it is true that *nothing gold can stay*, then it is also true that nothing gold ever truly dies, but continues on in God's creative,

unending symphony of life and love. Thanks be to God.

We will prepare ourselves and our homes for winter. Some of us will move to warmer climates. Others of us will stay for the harsh beauty of bare limbs and sparkling snow. Wherever we are, our God is with us, reassuring us that life goes on and love never ends. As you make your rounds in the days to come, stand still and listen for the creative spark of life all around you. Stop and let your feet feel the stirrings of new life beneath you. All is well. God is good.

Sandra Reed

Annual Veterans Day Service

We will hold our annual Veterans Day service on Friday, November 11 at 11:00 AM. The service will consist of prayer, a time to remember, hymns, and thanksgiving to God for those who have lost their lives in service to our country as well as those who have been injured and those who have gone on to lead lives of quiet service following their service commitment.

Please come and help us observe this solemn day. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be provided after the service.

If you have any questions, please contact the pastor at 288-3280,

Healing Service

On Sunday, November 27 we will hold our annual Healing Service beginning at 2:00 PM. This has become a very meaningful time for many and everyone is invited to come and pray for healing for themselves, loved ones, neighbors and those we do not know. Come and join us. Anointing with oil and the laying

on of hands for healing will also be available for those who desire these ancient ministrations.

Questions? Please contact Sandra Reed at 288-3280.

Many Thanks

Thank you to all the folks who work behind the scenes for the good of our church. We really couldn't keep going without your generous sharing of your gifts. This month we particularly want to thank **Earl Brechlin, Charlie Benore, Mike Gurtler, Jim Lambert, Owen Craighead, Kathy Woodside, Jim MacLeod, Marion Dyer, Dave Lind, Nancy Pelletier, and Billie Mitchell**. There are many more. Please forgive any omissions. Please know that your work is valued and appreciated. We are blessed to know you.

Update from the Trustees

Our church trustees have been busy. There is always plenty to do when caring for a building. Over the past summer, we added a railing to the church chancel for safety, and to meet building codes. The siding on the church addition was repaired. Down stairs in the fellowship hall, we have bright new flooring for our Sunday school room. Also, thanks to a generous donation from **Steve Sprague** and help from the Church Ladies, we replaced our old sign.

We are always looking for handy church members to help when we need them. Many thanks go to our volunteers. **Earl Brechlin** spent his weekend adjusting movable walls and shortening doors to accommodate the new flooring. **Mike Gurtler** and **Sandy McFarland** hung our new sign. **Bruce Blake** helped weed the yard.

If you can help occasionally, with repairs, let me know and I'll add you to my list!

Beth Paradis
Trustee

Congratulations to

Maggie Painter and **Rachael McMinimy** for their second and eighth place finishes as the MDI High School cross-country girls won the Hancock County Championship. Also **Caitie Smith** who finished third in the individual MDI girls jay vee results, and helped the group to post a perfect score and finish first.

Continuing with the Painter family, Maggie's father **David Painter** finished first in the run, and third in the Acadia Triathlon.

Hannah Paradis an eighth grader at Emerson School, and daughter of **Beth and Paul Paradis**, has been instrumental in starting a dialogue about "being a member of a racial minority in a mostly white state." As recognition for her good work, Hannah will be "among panelists discussing the school's Black History Month program at a meeting of the Greater Bangor Area NAACP" that took place on October 23.

Wow! Once again, the *Mount Desert Islander*, whose editor is **Earl Brechlin**, won the best small weekly newspaper in Maine for the third year in a row. The Maine Press Association also gave "28 other awards for editorial, advertising, and design excellence including 16 other first places, five second places, and seven third places." Thanks **Earl** for keeping us well informed, and for being an important part of our community and church.

The *Mount Desert Islander* is also a winner on a larger geographical scale. The Islander won "two top awards for overall editorial and advertising excellence given by the National Newspaper Association and the New England Newspaper and Press Association." Also impressive was winning the "second place in the small weekly division for Newspaper of the Year." It runs in the family as the *Islander's*

sister paper, *The Ellsworth American*, won first place for Newspaper of the Year in the large weekly division. Other awards were won as well. "We are honored to be recognized for excellence by our colleagues in the community journalism world," *Islander* editor **Earl Brechlin** said."

Sources: *Mount Desert Islander* and mdi.villagesoup.com



The flower committee is now taking orders for poinsettias. Order forms will be in the parlor through Sunday, December 4th. The cost is \$20 per poinsettia and all proceeds benefit the Ladies Auxiliary.

If you would like your poinsettia given to a certain individual, you will be responsible for the delivery.

Sue McKay



We extend our sympathy to the family of Mary S. Reed, a Covenant member of our church.

Dear Church Family:

My name is Amanda Ward and I would like to introduce myself as the new Christian Education Coordinator here at Bar Harbor Congregational Church. I am currently teaching upper level mathematics at Sumner Memorial High School. I also coordinate the yearbook and I am the advisor for the Senior Class of 2012. I have just finished up my first time as a volleyball coach. It has already been a very eventful beginning of school for me! As for my personal life, I live here in Bar Harbor going on 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years now. I have a sister and three wonderful nieces and nephews who live right here in town as well.

One thing you should know right away is that I am always available to talk. I know I am new at this, so please; if you have any suggestions or need help, do not hesitate to reach out. I will make every effort to communicate with you throughout the months ahead. If there are any concerns or urgent needs you may have, my phone is never far away from me. I look forward to working with each and every one of you and believe

that together we will have a wonderful year of fellowship and learning with our youth. I am excited to embark on this new journey with such an amazing group of teachers, students and parents. I hope to make this school year one of great discovery and growth for all our young people.

I must share the verse I have often referred to on a daily basis in my recent years:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,

Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, Plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

"Our children are not only our future but our present," as Dr. Reed eloquently stated on Sunday. Together, I hope to foster their understanding and build relationships with them, for they are the next generation of our congregation. I hope this week and the weeks ahead bring you happiness and peace.

Sincerely,

Amanda Ward

pinkmanda1984@yahoo.com

207-669-5807

The Habit of Keeping a Clear Conscience

GOD COMMANDS TO US ARE ACTUALLY GIVEN TO THE LIFE OF HIS SON IN US. Consequently, to our human nature in which God's Son has been formed (see Galatians 4:19), His commands are difficult. But they become divinely easy once we obey.

Conscience is that ability within me that attaches itself to the highest standard I know, and then continually reminds me of what that standard demands that I do. It is the eye of the soul which looks out either toward God or toward what we regard as the highest standard. This explains why conscience is different in different people.

If I am in the habit of continually holding God's standard in front of me, my conscience will always direct me to God's perfect law and indicate what I should do. The question is, will I obey? I have to make an effort to keep my conscience so sensitive that I can live without any offense toward anyone.

I should be living in such perfect harmony with God's Son that the spirit of my mind is being renewed through every circumstance of life, and that I may be able to quickly "prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2; also see Ephesians 4:23).

God always instructs us down to the last detail. Is my ear sensitive enough to hear even the softest whisper of the Spirit, so that I know what I should do? "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God..." (Ephesians

4:30). He does not speak with a voice like thunder - His voice is so gentle that it is easy for us to ignore.

And the only thing that keeps our conscience sensitive to Him is the habit of being open to God on the inside. When you begin to debate, stop immediately. Don't ask, "Why can't I do this?" You are on the wrong track. There is no debating possible once your conscience speaks.

Whatever it is - drop it, and see that you keep your inner vision clear.

"My Utmost For His Highest"
Oswald Chambers



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR
FOR THESE
IMPORTANT**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DATES...

Sunday - November 20th

Trimester 1 of Sunday School Ends!
Wow!...how time flies when we're having fun!

Sunday - November 27th

Family Sunday! We are one in the spirit!

Saturday - December 3rd

Gingerbread Houses! Can you believe it's that time of year again already?

Sunday - December 4th

Trimester 2 of Sunday School Begins!
Advent...Christmas...Who says you can't have fun teaching Sunday School?

Harvest Potluck



DATE: SUNDAY ~ OCTOBER 30TH

TIME: RIGHT AFTER CHURCH

WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL

Hosts: The Christian Education Board!!

BRING A DISH TO SHARE!!

BRING A PUMPKIN TO DECORATE OR MATERIALS

TO MAKE A SCARECROW!!

Co



A Few Words About Teaching...

The other day I was expressing concern to someone close to me about the lack of new teachers for our Sunday School program. That person said to me, "maybe folks are afraid...maybe they don't feel they are knowledgeable enough, or maybe they do not feel that they are good enough in the eyes of God". I have to admit that it had not occurred to me that the good people in our church family would have any of these thoughts or concerns. In my heart and mind, I think each and every one of you has something to offer to our Christian Education program.

As for being knowledgeable enough...we are all learners on this faith journey. In fact a couple of Sundays ago I asked Mike Bonsey who is currently teaching our 7th and 8th graders what his lesson that week was about. He was teaching about the Jewish Sabbath and said he was learning some things he didn't know from the curriculum he is using. That's terrific! Mike's willingness to learning something new is exciting for both him and the kids in his class. I find that I often learn a new way to interpret the scriptures through the eyes of the 1st and 2nd graders I work with. I know our other teachers have some amazing teaching moments in their classes...when something clicks and the kid's get it!

Then there is that part about being good enough in God's eyes...If I recall Jesus loved sinners! Jesus taught us that God loves us in spite of our limitations and weaknesses. I don't know about our other teachers, but I for one know that I am not as good as I can be or would like to be all the time, but in my heart I know that God understands that I strive to be a better person so that is good enough.

Oh, how can I forget the being afraid to teach thing? Believe it or not this may be the easiest

thing to overcome. We have great teaching materials for all grade levels, we have experienced teachers that would be willing to have anyone sit in on their classes to get a sense of how it all works, and we have a young and enthusiastic C.E. Coordinator who will support and guide anyone who has an interest in teaching. Lastly we are flexible and open to accommodating schedules.

If you want to substitute teach...we would love it! If you are unable to commit to a full teaching session, but could teach part of a session...we would love it! If you want to help with crafts...we would love it! If you want to organize the library...we would love it! If you want to help with snacks...we would love it! We welcome each and every one of you to be a part of this wonderful adventure called Christian Education in any way you may feel called to be.

Yours in faith!
Kathy Woodside
Christian Education Board Chair

YOU ARE NEEDED!

We need teachers for the following sessions and grade levels:

Pre-K and K	Session 2 (12/4-2/19)
Grades 1 & 2	Session 2 (12/4-2/19)
High School	Session 2 (12/4-2/19)

Mimi Dickson would love some help teaching the high school class!!

If you have an interest in teaching or contributing to the Christian Education program in some way, please speak to Amanda Ward our C.E. Coordinator, C.E. Board, C.E. Board members Laurie Riddell, Doug McMinimy, Betty Bryer, Kim Craighead, Sandy Boyce, Sue Kropff, Kathy MacCulloch, *Kathy Woodside*, or *Pastor Sandra Reed*.

SIGN OF THANKFULNESS

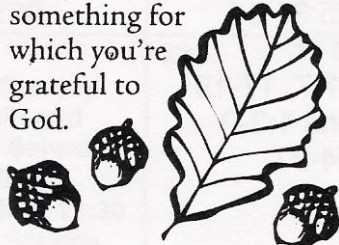
Create this festive sign, which will serve as a yearlong reminder to be grateful.

What you need:

- Hole punch
- Large piece of cardboard or cardstock
- Twine
- Twigs
- Glue
- Acorns, leaves (real or silk) and raffia

What you do:

1. Punch two holes in the top of the cardboard.
2. Thread twine through the holes and tie it in a knot (for hanging).
3. Using twigs, spell out "Be Thankful," "Thank God" or a similar phrase about gratitude. Glue the twigs onto the cardboard.
4. Decorate the sign by gluing on acorns, leaves and raffia.
5. Hang up your sign. Whenever you see it, think of something for which you're grateful to God.



Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

1. Give Take Grab	2. peanut praise pear	3. temple house LORD	4. proclaim past present	5. name boy lad	6. ruin destroy make
7. pine acorn known	8. train nations bus	9. done donut muffin	10. Sing Sleep Yawn	11. she him girl	12. sun praise moon
13. tell fast slow	14. red all blue	15. horrible dreadful wonderful	16. acts sisters aunts		

" _____ to the _____, _____ his _____;
 _____ among the _____ what he has _____.
 _____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
 _____." PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. LORD, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts.
 Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)

Sunday Worship Contributors

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
- 13 Maggie Berry
- 14 Owen Charles Kelly
- 19 Bea Lou Horner
- 21 Eric Beals
- 21 Stephanie Kelley-Reece
- 21 Glenn MacPherson
- 22 Caroline Woodworth
- 25 Binky MacQuinn
- 26 Sara Heiges
- 27 Pat Linscott
- 27 Owen Craighead
- 29 Sarra Kane
- 30 Keith Miller
- 30 Betty Bryer

Head Deacon – Bruce Blake
Assistant Deacon – Scott Hammond

Liturgists-

- 6: Estelle Megquier
- 13: Doug Lee
- 20: Debbie Dyer
- 27: Ann k. Lee

Flowers –

- 6: Nancy & Jack Pelletier
- 13: Sheridan & Barb Steele
- 20: George & Billie Mitchell
- 27: Sue Ackerman, Jim & Kathy MacLeod

Coffee Hosts -

- 6: Kathie & Al Simons
- 13: McMinimys
- 20: Sandra Reed
- 27:

Home Bible Readings

- 6 Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13
- 13 Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30
- 20 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46
- 27 Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
I Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Daylight-Saving Time ends, Nov. 6, 2011



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Adult Choir 7:00	4	5
6 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am Alleluia Choir 11:30	7	8	9	10 Adult Choir 7:00	11 Veterans Day Service 11:00 am	12
13 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am Alleluia Choir 11:30	14	15 Outreach Board 7:00	16 Deacon Board 7:00	17 Trustee Board 5:30 Adult Choir 7:00	18	19
20 Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am Annual Meeting 11:00 am Alleluia Choir 11:30	21 Thanksgiving Baskets	22 Thanksgiving Baskets Christian Ed. Board 7:00	23 <i>Chimes articles due</i>	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 Family Sunday Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am Alleluia Choir 11:30 Healing Service 2:00 pm	28	29	30			

**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:

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2011
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, Nov. 6, 2011
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2011
- Christ the King Sunday, November 20, 2011
- National Bible Week, Nov. 20-27, 2011
- Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2011
- First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011

Dare to Hope

If you've ever given up on a dream, then you have something in common with Zechariah. When an angel brought news that Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, would soon have a son, Zechariah had trouble believing it (Luke 1:13-18).

How long had it been since Zechariah first prayed for a son? More to the point, how long had it been since he'd given up praying for a son? With the couple's childbearing years long past, Zechariah likely felt compelled to emphasize the impossibility of the angel's proclamation.

Perhaps you know what it's like to lose hope. Zechariah's story reminds us that God's plans cannot be hampered, even when the laws of nature stand in the way. Hold on to your hope because God works miracles.

Articles this page: Newsletter Newsletter

Veterans Day

On November 11, 1918, the Germans and the Allied Nations, which included the United States, signed a document to initiate an armistice (cessation of hostilities), thus ending World War I. A year later, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation designating November 11 as Armistice Day. It was to be a day of reflection – a day to remember those who died in the country's service and to offer Americans the opportunity "to show sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nation."

Wanting to recognize more specifically America's veterans, Congress passed a bill changing the name of the day from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. The change was made in May 1954.

On this national holiday, churches around the nation hold services of prayers and praise. Followers of the Prince of Peace pray for peace among the nations of Earth and for the day when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4, NRSV).