Happy Easter! Christ is Risen!

We have been waiting for Easter and finally it is here! We are an Easter people and that means we have a new perspective. We don’t have to see the world with the lens of Good Friday for death was not the last word. Now we can see and know that the Risen Christ is living still and this newness of life is among us!

Bruce Epperly writes, “Resurrection is always personal even though it is universal in scope. In the garden, Jesus calls Mary’s name, and she is transformed. Resurrection happens when we hear God’s voice – the voice of new life – amid the deathfulness of our lives and the world. We may want to hold onto that voice, but as Jesus tells Mary, ‘let go of the way you used to know me; for, I am also a new creation. I am not bound by the past, but will bring new life in unexpected places, to cultures you cannot imagine, and in ways that will astound you.’ If resurrection means anything – then and now – it means that we must be open to transformation and to the birth of…[those new] possibilities in our midst.”

Here at Christ Church we have been on a journey of new life. I am so grateful for all the ways the Spirit has been at work through our worship, service, and life together as a community. I am looking forward to what this spring will bring! A Search Committee will be proposed to the congregation and I think we will also begin reflecting more deeply on the mission God is calling Christ Church to at this time. This spring we will be taking a closer look at finding resurrection in our economic lives, both individually and as a society! I hope you will make plans to join us for the “Faith and Finances Forums” beginning on April 21, which will include a simple lunch following worship and time for thought provoking discussion and reflection. We will continue our mission of compassion and care to those in our midst and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors!

So let us enter this Easter Season knowing that Christ is going ahead of us bringing new life and new possibilities! Christ is risen, risen indeed!

Wishing you Easter’s joy,

Allison
Cabinet News

The Cabinet met on March 12th and broke a record for early adjournment, by finishing at 8:15. Considering that many meetings last year went until after 10 pm, this is a sure sign of progress.

Committees are functioning, which takes the pressure off the Cabinet to do the work of the committees.

We are pleased that Liz Blackman has offered to take the Minutes of the Cabinet meetings, in the absence of a Clerk.

Upcoming events are the Rummage Sale on April 20th, co-chaired by Hannah Engel and Rhoda Frederick; and a Bridge Breakfast on April 25th, chaired by Joan Cowgill. These ladies are working hard to carry out the many tasks necessary to have successful fundraisers. Please consider helping out, because it’s a great way to get to know one another, and promote the fellowship of Christ Church.

Work is underway to assemble a Search Committee for a settled pastor. Everyone has busy lives, and it’s difficult to find enough people who have the desire and time to make the commitment. However, God has led us through the interim period with great hope for the future, and our mission is to continue to allow God to show us the way.

Stewardship must be part of our ongoing mission. It takes money and other resources to maintain the church buildings, pay staff, and offer service to others. The Cabinet and Committees have done an excellent job of holding the line on spending. We all must work together to assure the church is on a firm financial footing, before we can call a settled pastor.

May the blessings of Easter be with all of us, as we strive to be the hands and feet of Christ.

Faithfully,

Beverly Heald
Christ Church Cabinet Chair

Check the Calendar!
A lot goes on here at Christ Church, and to keep track, we have an online calendar on our website www.christchurchkennebunk.org

Please let the Secretary know if you have events to add, or notice any errors: Jane King 985-4494 jkchristchurch@gwi.net
**Coming Events**

Online registration for **Pilgrim Lodge 2013** has begun. Campers from the previous three years will receive a camp brochure. To get on the mailing list, or to receive information on registering using paper forms, Karen Steelhammer, 724-3200, karen@pilgrimlodge.org

**Wanakee UMC Summer 2013** camp schedule is posted in the Fellowship Hall or go to [www.wanakee.org](http://www.wanakee.org) Registration can be made online, or printed forms are available on the website.

Saturday, April 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., United Methodist Women will hold a **Mission Study on Poverty** with a potluck lunch, at Old Orchard Beach Methodist Church, on Washington Street in OOB. The book for the study is $10.00, and there are also some copies available to borrow. Contact person is Malory Petersen, 590-9250.

**Spring Rummage Sale** is April 20th, so start setting aside clean used clothes and household articles, sorted by gender and size if you can. Set-up for the rummage sale will take place during the week before, and if you can help for even an hour, it will be appreciated!

**Concerned about climate change?**
On **Saturday, April 20th**, the Congregational Church in Cumberland UCC and the Foreside Community Church in Falmouth UCC will co-sponsor a potluck supper and screening of the film "**Chasing Ice**" in Cumberland Center. This film is not available on Netflix or in movie theaters. The winner of Sundance 2012 cinematography award, this documentary features an intrepid hero, fabulous pictures of Arctic glaciers by National Geographic photographers, and an exciting story line. Rated PG-13. $5 per person, kids free, babysitting provided. Vegetarian dishes encouraged. Potluck starts at **5:30**, film at **6:15**. Congregational Church in Cumberland Center, 282 Main Street. FMI contact Lalla at lcaro@maine.rr.com or 829-2283. You can watch a trailer for the film at: [www.chasingice.com](http://www.chasingice.com)

**Worship Radio Network** begins their spring pledge drive **April 22nd**, and they ask for our prayers throughout the month of April that all of their needs will be met so they can reach more people for Christ in Maine. The local frequency is **97.1 FM**, Sanford. For more information, please call Nan at 622-1340.

The ladies of the church will host a **Bridge Breakfast, April 25th** with Ron Breton preparing a delicious meal. **Card tables with clean tops are needed, either loaned or donated!** If you can help, please contact the office. Bridge Players of all levels are welcome in groups of four, to play together. Players should bring playing cards, score sheets, and pencils. The cost is $20 per person to play; sign up in the office as a table of four by **April 11th**.

**Last Chance!** The Search Committee, tasked with discerning who our next settled pastor will be, will begin meeting **April 25**. If you have an interest in being part of this process, whether you’re new to Christ Church, or a long-time member of the congregation, please talk to Beverly Heald, 985-7096, bheald08@roadrunner.com

The York Association Annual Meeting will be **Sunday, April 28**, at the Second Christian Church of Kittery.

**Turkey 2013**
Plans are currently underway for a trip to Turkey, **October 21-31**. **Rev. Bryan Breault** and **Rev. Susie Craig** will lead in exploring this country of mystery and legend, with history at every turn. Mosques, Synagogues and ancient Christianity will mark the itinerary. The underground city of Cappadocia, the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, the ancient city of Ephesus and more await. Please contact Susie Craig at susiecraigacm@aol.com with any questions.
Faith and Finance Forum

There is a profound connection between faith and finance, often overlooked or ignored, seldom discussed; but probably the most important issue we face personally, socially, and spiritually: the test of true religion and personal faith, the heart of all ethics, and the harbinger of our future for good or ill.

**Sunday, April 21** Sermon: “Economics or Stewardship?”
Theme: “You cannot serve God and Mammon (Money)” – Jesus, Matthew 6:24
Luncheon & Discussion: “Your Money or Your Life”
   What is the place of God in your life? The place of money? Their connection?
We will provide a handout of an expanded sermon to read and reflect on the economics of the Bible and Jesus, the history of the church and economics, and a checklist on personal finances to bring next week.

**Sunday, April 28**
Theme: “If I am not for myself, who will be?” – Hillel, a great Jewish rabbi when Jesus was a child.
   “Love your neighbor as yourself” – Torah, Jesus
Luncheon & Discussion: “A Dream Not Deferred” Part I
A personal view of faith and finance for our future: How do we care for ourselves? How do we care for our finances? What do we need to know?

**Sunday, May 5**
Theme: If I am not for others, what am I?” – Hillel, the remainder of the quote.
   “Love your neighbor as yourself” – Torah, Jesus
Luncheon & Discussion: “A Dream Not Deferred” Part II
A social view of faith and finance for our future: How do finances impact all the social, political, religious and ethical concerns of our communities, churches, state, nation and world?

**Suggested Readings:**
Psalm 24:1-2                Leviticus 25:1-55                Jeremiah 34:8-17

“An investment in education pays the best interest!” – Benjamin Franklin

Christian Education

Rev. Allison has found a very fun way to deliver the children’s message on Communion Sundays – with the help of some of our youth, Rev. Allison gets involved in a puppet show to present the message in a way that makes everyone laugh, and gets the point across quite clearly at the same time. For Sunday School the other three Sundays of the month, we are blessed to have dedicated adults interested in teaching our young people. In the fall the children were taught by Jennifer Clapp, Allan Davis, Judy Cadmus and Jane King. Activities revolved around serving others locally and globally. After the Newtown tragedy, the children were able to show their caring and compassion by making and sending cards to the parents of Newtown, CT. During Advent the children wrote out ways they could serve Christ, and put them into the Sparkle Box for his birthday gift, which was opened Christmas Eve, and their notes put into the manger with the baby Jesus. The box and their ideas are nicely displayed in the Vestry. Please stop by and see what great ideas our young people expressed.
Outreach

Habitat for Humanity York County has been working hard to open a Habitat ReStore. They are beginning to accept donations at the ReStore at 4 Industrial Drive, Kennebunk, right off Route 1 south of Kennebunk from 1-5 Fridays and 9-5 Saturdays.

The mission of Habitat for Humanity York County ReStore is to provide the public with new and reusable, quality building material and supplies at extreme discounted prices for their home improvement needs. The ReStore supports the basic Habitat mission by raising additional funds to better serve our community. The ReStore will recycle and promote sustainable building practices throughout York County by helping to divert construction and building materials from landfills.

And you can help! If you are remodeling your home and have kitchen cabinets, refrigerators, dryers, or dishwashers in good working condition and less than 10 years old, dining room tables and chairs, end tables, book shelves, plumbing fixtures, windows, and doors, they would love to take them off your hands. Visit www.habitatyorkcounty.org and check out the lists of acceptable items. Drop in Friday 1-5 or Saturday 9-5 at 4 Industrial Drive, Kennebunk, Maine (just off York Street, Rte 1 South, by Pillsbury’s Plumbing Supply).

If you are cleaning out the basement or garage, please swing by the ReStore on Friday or Saturday to see what they can accept and maybe save a few dollars at the landfill. Also, your donations may be tax deductible.

Volunteers are also needed for these positions:

1. **Drivers:**
Several drivers are needed to pick up donations. The ideal volunteer will have a clean driving record, be able to drive a 16 foot box truck, and have the ability to lift (with proper equipment) heavy items such as appliances, kitchen cabinets, doors, windows etc.

**Schedule:** Four 4 hour shifts, one shift per driver per week, with some flexibility depending on the amount and distance of pickups that particular day. They will report to the ReStore at 8 am or 12 pm for daily instructions. In the event that pick-ups for that particular day are light, the driver may be asked to assist with store duties. As with all key volunteers and staff members, proper background checks will be required. Days to be determined.

2. **Floor/Warehouse**
This position will help with unloading trucks upon return from pick-ups, assist customers with loading and unloading, cleaning, and preparation of items to be placed on the sales floor, cleaning and sweeping the sales floor and the entrances and exits of the building, dusting existing inventory, and, generally, assisting the overall appearance of the ReStore. Volunteers will have to be able to lift, with proper equipment, heavy items.

**Schedule:** Four 4 hour shifts with the need for 3 volunteers per shift. Two shifts per day, 9am to 1 pm, 1 pm to 5 pm. Volunteers should arrive 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time for daily instruction. Initially, the ReStore will open for business Thursday, Friday, and Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm. There may be a few volunteers on Wednesdays to prep the store for the week.

3. **Cashier**
This position will work “behind the counter” accepting payment via the point of sale system. Ideally, these volunteers will have good customer relation skills, along with good computer skills the volunteer will also assist in searching the Internet to properly price donated material. As these volunteers will be handling funds, they will be required to authorize a background check. There will be one cashier per shift, for a total of 6 per week.
Church Notes

We have begun a new tradition here at Christ Church. On Communion Sundays, we bring non-perishable food to gather and dedicate at the altar for the York County Food Bank. The next Communion Sunday will be April 7; be sure to remember your contribution to ease hunger for our neighbors.

Asset Mapping: What are our assets as a church? In November a meeting was held to begin identifying the assets of Christ Church, both physical and intangible. On January 6th another meeting continued the process by combining identified assets into groups that could increase revenue and also the visibility of our church as a place for fellowship, fun, and food. Please consider which of the groups that have formed you might be interested in helping. Please let Allison or Beverly know if you would like to join one of these groups:

- Community Lunches Beverly Heald Carol Holmberg, Betty Schofield, Kristin Holmberg
- Building Use Policy Joanna Brown, Chris & Linda Babbidge, Dick Thompson
- Holding Forums of Social Interest Dick Thompson, John Cummings
- Marketing the Sanctuary for Weddings Denise Butler, Allison Smith,
- Expanding church use by community groups Joan & Bert Cowgill

Webpage News To save on a considerable monthly fee, the “Donations” page has been removed from our website. You can still fulfill your pledge electronically, as many people do, through your bank, or by contacting Treasurer Joanna Brown, arbor3@myfairpoint.net, 985-7224. Some members donate through the United Way, which is also appreciated.

TRANSITION TEAM

The Transition Team continues to meet to plan for the calling of a settled pastor. A detailed report of their work can be found in the Annual Report.

Transition Team members are:
- Rev. Jim Anderson revjima@yahoo.com 985-8823
- Marcia Carter marcia.carter88@yahoo.com 985-7366
- Carol Holmberg nana2@roadrunner.com 467-3216
- Kristen Holmberg schnookums@roadrunner.com 467-3216
- Gordon Miller gamkennebunk@gmail.com 985-8190
- Gail Preble, gail1463@gmail.com 967-4095

If you feel that you have input for the transition team that you have not had the opportunity to share, please contact Jim Anderson.

Local Outreach

Christ Church Knitting Ministry is a satisfying way to contribute to ministries in our community. Projects large and small are welcome, such as small prayer squares, seafarers’ caps, and lap robes and prayer shawls. Directions and yarn are available in the knitting room, and you can knit with us Sunday morning, or work at home, as suits you.

As well as hand-knit caps, the Seafarers’ Friend Mission in Portland also very much appreciates donations of books and magazines. These can be dropped off in the Vestry.

Bon Appetit is a free community meals program in Biddeford. On the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 3:45 p.m., a team from Christ Church carpool to Second Congregational Church in Biddeford to help prepare and serve dinner for those in need. Volunteers are always welcome to join. See Judy or Dick Cadmus for more information, 985-6788.

Nutritious, inexpensive home-prepared food is brought to the students at Biddeford Adult School, which serves all of York County, twice a week by Christ Church volunteers. They would appreciate donations of high-protein finger food to help with this mission. The students are adults of every age studying to gain workplace skills to better their lives. Many come to school hungry, and they need our support to learn effectively. Carpools leave Christ Church every Tuesday and Wednesday at 9:00 am. FMI, talk to Carol Holmberg, 467-3216.

Bible Study

Tuesday morning Bible Study Group meets weekly from 10 AM to 11:30 AM at 70 Hampton Glen Drive in Kennebunk, now reading 1 Corinthians. Everyone is welcome, church members or not, any version of the Bible, or even those unfamiliar with the Bible at all. To learn more, call Rev. Jim Anderson, 985-8823
The **Celtic Concert and Corned Beef Buffet Supper** on March 16th was a big success, with more than one hundred guests in attendance, and net proceeds of over $550.00! Many thanks to the cooks, servers, ushers, decorators, publicity distributors, and clean-up crew for all your efforts in support of Christ Church!

The bells rang on Easter Sunday, in a joyful service celebrating Christ’s Resurrection!

**Like us** on Facebook; Kristen Holmberg is doing a great job of keeping our page updated, and filled with more photos – thank you, Kristen!

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Christ Church

*Federated*

United Methodist Church – United Church of Christ

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