August 2013

Interim Minister
Rev. Allison C. G. Smith

Office Administrator
Jane King

Music Director
Warren King

Sexton
Dan Stone

Cabinet Chair
Beverly Heald

Treasurer
Sharon Crippen

Assistant Treasurer
Joanna Brown

Clerk
Kim Whitmore

Join us for worship!

Sunday,
10:00 a.m.

All are welcome!

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Message from Allison

Christ Church August 2013 Pastoral Letter

It is summer! In the church’s liturgical year, we often call this Ordinary time, the season after Pentecost. But Maine in the summer is far from ordinary. It is the ordinary things, however, that often point us to what is extra-ordinary. I love Mary Oliver’s poem, “I would like to write a poem about the world that has in it nothing fancy” because it reminds me of God’s miraculous gifts that are all around us. As you experience these summer days, may you be blessed by these ordinary and miraculous signs of God.

Peace and Blessings,

Allison

I would like to write a poem about the world that has in it nothing fancy. But it seems impossible.

Whatever the subject, the morning sun glimmers it.
The tulip feels the heat and flaps its petals open and becomes a star.

The ants bore into the peony bud and there is a dark pinprick well of sweetness.

As for the stones on the beach, forget it.
Each one could be set in gold.

So I tried with my eyes shut, but of course the birds were singing.
And the aspen trees were shaking the sweetest music out of their leaves.

And that was followed by, guess what, a momentous and beautiful silence as comes to all of us, in little earfuls, if we’re not too hurried to hear it.

As for spiders, how the dew hangs in their webs even if they say nothing, or seem to say nothing.
So fancy is the world, who knows, maybe they sing.

So fancy is the world, who knows, maybe the stars sing too, and the ants, and the peonies, and the warm stones, so happy to be where they are, on the beach, instead of being locked up in gold.

-- from Why I Wake Early, by Mary Oliver
Cabinet News

The July Cabinet meeting was held on Tuesday July 9, 2013. Kim Whitmore was welcomed to the Cabinet and was thanked for taking on the role of Clerk. Sharon Crippen was welcomed and thanked for taking on the role of Treasurer. Both positions require diligence and dedication and we are thankful for their services and faithfulness.

The dates were set for the Fall Rummage Sale on October 19th, the Pine Cone Fair on November 16th and the Spring Rummage sale on April 26th. Rhoda Frederick and Sheila Moody will co-chair the Rummage Sales and Betty Schofield and Liz Blackman will co-chair the Pine Cone Fair. It’s not too soon to be thinking about how we can all support these fundraising activities.

The Christian Education Committee is planning to have a pancake breakfast on September 8th to welcome everyone to an exciting new year of programs for children and youth. The committee is working on curriculum development which will integrate Bible stories, music, and lessons for daily living.

If it takes a village to raise a child, then it takes all of us to raise Christ Church up to the community as a welcoming and safe place to learn about Jesus Christ and become a follower of the Word. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend worship and experience the fellowship of our church family.

Blessings and Peace,  
Beverly Heald  
Christ Church Cabinet Chair

Remember the Hungry

We have begun a new tradition here at Christ Church. On Communion Sundays, we bring non-perishable food to gather and dedicate it at the altar for the Church Community Outreach Services’ food bank, serving people in need here in the Kennebunks. The next Communion Sunday will be September1: be sure to remember your contribution to ease hunger for our neighbors.

Richard W. “Dick” Homer passed away on August 5, 2013, at the age of 96. He and his late wife Adelaide, “Laddie”, had been members of Christ Church since 2001. Friends and family are invited to join Dick’s family for a remembrance celebration to be held on August 30, 2013 at 5PM at The Webhannet Golf Club, Kennebunk Beach. Donations in Dick’s memory may be made to the Gosnell Memorial Hospice House, 11 Hunnewell Road, Scarborough, ME 04074

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
**Congregational Life**

Too bad if you missed the Piping Hot Flutes! concert on July 28 -- it was one hot concert! Five fabulous flutists performing on a range of instruments from piccolo to one-inch-diameter alto flutes kept the audience absolutely enthralled with their brilliant sound weavings. Another flute concert is in the works for the Fall, with more flute and piano music – be sure to be there!

The next concert at Christ Church will be Coastal Sound, featuring Warren King and Ron Breton along with two of their friends playing Big Band dance music. This concert will be held in the Fellowship Hall, so people can dance (but you don’t have to – feel free to just sit and enjoy!)

The Christian Education Committee will be presenting a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, September 8, at 9:00 a.m., to welcome everyone to an exciting new year of programs for children and youth. The committee is working on curriculum development which integrates Bible stories, music, and lessons for daily living. Please invite your friends and neighbors, especially those with children, to join you for a delicious breakfast and experience the fellowship of our church family. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for donations of food items.

Our Search Committee is working tirelessly to complete our congregational profile, and gather information for the Prospectus which will be used in the recruitment of our next settled Pastor. On the Committee are Rev. Jim Anderson, Denise Butler, Dick Cadmus, Rhoda Frederick, Beverly Heald, Carol Holmberg, and Elizabeth Schofield. They are meeting weekly through the summer, and have almost completed the Congregational Profile. The Profile as completed to date can be found on the partitions in the dining room. After Cabinet review of the completed Profile, the Congregation will have a final vote on September 22nd. The Search Committee will travel to Augusta on September 21 to meet with Susie Craig, our UCC Conference Minister at the brand new Conference Center to present and discuss the Profile. Please direct any questions to the Search Committee. May our prayers and thanks and God’s guidance be with them as they progress with their work.
The Christian Education Committee has been meeting during the summer to brainstorm engaging new programs for our children. This past year, we had a rotating team of Sunday School teachers, so no one could get “burned out” from the teaching. The teaching team all found the experience enriching and joyful. As one of the volunteers, Beverly Heald, put it: “This is not my area of expertise, but I had a great time with the children working on the Palm Sunday dramatizations. I found them to be interested and responsive to the biblical teaching of Holy Week and I got as much from them as they got from me.” If you enjoy interacting with children, please think about it in a prayerful way, asking for insight into how you might be able to help bring God’s love to our children.

We have developed a program for nursery and toddler child care to provide continuity for the children through a rotation of volunteers caring for them. This also makes it easier for each volunteer to have a structure to follow in the nursery. If you think you might like to give this ministry a try, please let Allison know. Both youth and adults are welcome to volunteer.

**Full-Tuition College Scholarships Available!**

Piedmont College, a small 4-year private liberal arts college in the mountains of northeast Georgia, offers Congregational Heritage scholarships to students who are active in a UCC congregation and have a GPA of at least 3.0. These scholarships range from $17,000 to $21,000 per year, up to full tuition, and the college is actively soliciting for applicants. There are pamphlets available in the Fellowship Hall, and detailed information packets with application materials in the office. FMI: bbonstra@piedmont.edu, www.piedmont.edu, 800-277-7020

**Coming Events**

**Volunteer Orientation – Help Grieving Children**

The Center for Grieving Children, in Sanford, will be holding a Volunteer Orientation on August 28th from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. There are a variety of ways to get involved and help this vital resource. FMI: Janice@cgcmaine.org

**Downeast Spiritual Life Conference**

**August 23-24:** The second annual Downeast Spiritual Life Conference in Bar Harbor “Spirituality in Our Times: Embracing Diversity, Creating Community,” will feature speakers from varying religious and spiritual perspectives, workshops, a spiritual retreat, and a concert by Noah Paul Stookey. downeastspiritual.org 374-5200.

**“Worship, Joy, Community”**

A free Music Workshop will be presented at First Parish Church, Saco, 9 am – 4 pm, Saturday, September 14. The workshop is open to all, and will include lots of chances to participate in music-making and singing. A schedule for the day is posted on the Music bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. To register, contact Peter Stickney: 793-8247, peter@firstparishsaco.org.

**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. Contact Susie Craig at susie craig acm@aol.com with questions.
Local Outreach

Summer Free Lunch Program
Concerned people in Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Arundel are organizing to serve nutritious lunches twice a week to the children of RSU #21 who receive subsidized lunches during the school year, but have no such resources in summertime. Lunch preparation takes place on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 to about 11:30 at a rotation of area churches. If you can help prepare or deliver lunches, please call Beth Jones, 967-3613. If you know of a family that could benefit from this program, please encourage them to call their General Assistance Officer: Arundel: Wendy Lank, 985-4201; Kennebunk: Karen Winton, 985-2102, ext.1342; Kennebunkport: Judy Barrett, 976-4401.

JOIN THE PARADE of HAPPY FEET!
The Missions Committee invites you and your friends to join the parade of happy feet of children returning to school. Caring Unlimited has invited us to join forces with many other churches and compassionate people to assist this private agency in providing new sneakers and a new outfit of clothing for the children they shelter against domestic violence. The numbers of children and their families in need have been growing and our demonstration of Christian love is greatly needed. With a gift of $5.00, we will add a paper sneaker to the string of happy feet and send the proceeds to Caring Unlimited for bulk purchasing. We will meet you in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour or use an envelope provided in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate. You may use any name for credit such as your children or grandchildren, but your name is needed for tax credit.

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.

Shaker Hill Apple Festival 2013 to End Homelessness and Hunger
Volunteers are needed, in 4 hour shifts, 9am to 1:00 or noon to 4:00pm, for the Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15, 4th Annual Shaker Hill Apple Festival. Volunteers will help with serving food, the yard sale, silent auction, penny auction, children’s activities, shelter booth, information tent, and parking. YCSP festival events will benefit York County Shelter Programs homeless and hunger programs. Please contact Joan Sylvester, Community Relations Director/Volunteer Coordinator for York County Shelter Programs, at 324-1137, ex 105 or e-mail, (joans@ycspi.org) if you are able to sign up for one or more of the volunteer openings. When you sign up, please provide a phone number and/or e-mail.
Like us on Facebook; Kristen Holmberg is doing a great job of keeping our page updated, and filled with more photos – thank you, Kristen!

Christ Church
Federated
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