How many of you have ever told someone about a wonderful restaurant you have just been to? Or a concert you have attended? Or invited a friend to join you at a special event? We often share the experiences that touch our lives with our friends and neighbors and invite them to come along next time!

Sometimes I think we hesitate more when it comes to our church. We might feel a bit shy when it comes to inviting someone to join us at church. Is it the old saying about not talking about “religion and politics”?

But Jesus calls us to reach out beyond ourselves. This is how that small rag tag group of disciples grew so that we are here today—by simply sharing the “good news” of what Christ was doing in their lives and in the community, and inviting other to “come and see.”

Most people join a church because someone they know invited them.

So I want to really encourage you to share the joy of what is happening at Christ Church—

- worship and music that inspires
- a community that will support you through the joys and challenges of life
- a place for young and old and everyone in between to grow in faith
- a place to make a difference, to truly be the hands and feet of Christ, making a difference in the lives of neighbors near and far
- a place to find the transforming love, joy, peace, and hope of God

We are having a special kick off Sunday on Sunday, September 8th with a pancake breakfast and wonderful worship service. I hope you will invite a friend, a neighbor, or your grandchildren, not only this Sunday but other times this fall. You never know what a difference one conversation, one seed planted, one simple invitation might make in someone’s life.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!!

Blessings to each of you,

Allison
Remember the Hungry

We have 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 October 6; be sure to remember your contribution to ease hunger for our neighbors.
Many members of Christ Church, as well as lots of people from the wider community, had a great time dancing and listening to the band Coastal Sound, featuring Warren King and Ron Breton along with two of their friends playing Big Band dance music. The concert was held in the Fellowship Hall, which provided an excellent dance floor.

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.

A lot goes on here at Christ Church, and to keep track, we have an online calendar on our website [www.christchurchkennebunk.org](http://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
Christian Education

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 adopted a seasonal Bible-based curriculum with easy and clear lesson plans that include all ages. The curriculum is available for review and consideration in the office. If you think you might be interested in helping with this crucial ministry, please see Allison or Beverly, or mention it to Jane King in the office 985-4494 christchurch@gwi.net

Nursery and toddler care is being provided by some of our high school youth, with adult oversight. If you think you might like to give this ministry a try, please let Allison know. Both youth and adults are welcome.

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: boonstra@piedmont.edu, www.piedmont.edu, 800-277-7020

Coming Events

Prison Ministry Mentor Training

My Sister’s Keeper, a prison ministry based in Cape Elizabeth, is offering a brief informational mentor training on Monday, September 9 from 11 am to 1 pm at Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church, 280 Ocean House Road. My Sister’s Keeper is the action-based, prayerful response of our faith-based communities to the immediate needs of women who struggle for a safe and successful transition from jail or prison to home, family and community. Founded in 1999 in Cumberland County, it is now seeking additional mentors within the greater Portland area and York County. Please contact Kelly Dell’Aquila, Director of Services, at 712-5962 or mysisterskeeper@ceumc.org if you would like to attend this session or if you would like to schedule an alternate time to meet. For more details see http://www.ceumc.org/my-sisters-keeper

South Coast Senior College Open House

Thursday, September 12, 4:30-7:00 p.m. York County Community College, 112 College Drive, Wells, will present an open house to introduce South Coast Senior Colled, a stimulating program for lifelong learners 50 and better with a focus on enrichment topics. This is an opportunity to meet the instructors, sign up for classes, and connect with other Seniors while enjoying refreshments in a casual environment. Please RSVP to 216-4343. More information at www.ycc.edu (Senior College tab)

Bluegrass Concert at Union Congregational Church

Route 1 Bluegrass and Drowned Valley Bluegrass will be in concert Friday, September 13 at 6 pm at the Union Congregational Church, on Church Street in York Beach. $10 admission; all proceeds will go to the Church Furnace Fund. www.thelighthouse.com 232-0966
“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.

Christian Rock Concert at Messiah Christian Church

33MILES, a modern Christian rock duo, will perform Saturday, September 14 at 6 pm at Messiah Christian Church on Route 1 in Wells, just South of the Kennebunk town line. www.thelighthouse.com 232-0966

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.

Career and Retirement Education for Women

The Maine Centers for Women, Work & Community will offer free classes on finances and employment at their York County Center in Saco, beginning September 16. See the schedule in the Fellowship Hall or call 286-1722 www.womenworkandcommunity.org

Ladies’ Fellowship

The first meeting of the season will be held on Wednesday, September 25th at 2:00 p.m. Plans will be made for projects throughout the year. All women are welcome, including friends or neighbors who are not members. Meetings will be held the second and fourth Tuesdays through June.

Maine Conference UCC Fall Calendar

September 21, Saturday, 8 am-4 pm: Convocation: “Shared Ministries: Laity and Clergy Working Together” at The Church of Universal Fellowship, 82 Main St, Orono.

October 4-6: State Youth Council Autumn High School Weekend: Pilgrim Lodge

October 26: Youth Event with Celia Whitler, Camden UCC: a musical event for Middle School and High School students

November 10-11: Middle School Work Weekend at H.O.M.E. Co-op

January 25: UCC Family Ski Day at the Camden Snow Bowl; snow sports from tubing to tobogganing to skiing
**Fall Rummage Sale**

*Fall Rummage Sale is Saturday, October 19* – start setting aside good used clothes and household goods!

**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 susiecraigacm@aol.com with questions.

**Pine Cone Fair**

*Pine Cone Fair is Saturday, November 16* – please save your coffee cans to be used for the Cookie Walk!

**Local Outreach**

**Habitat for Humanity** York County needs volunteers to help in "deconstructing" a house of valuable building supplies (windows, doors, flooring, etc.) to be sold at the Restore to fund new affordable housing for the local community. Volunteers get to see how a house is built from the inside out! The project is 9/12-9/14 on Drakes Island in Wells. Equipment and lunch will be provided. To sign up, contact John Stoma, 203-521-6489, 207-967-0161, jpstoma@aol.com

**Veterans Serving Veterans**, a grass roots-program founded in Sanford in 1994, provides warm clothing, blankets, and basic necessities to local veterans in need. Over 300 veterans a month are served during the cold months, and the program continues year-round. They are in need of toiletries currently, and would appreciate any donations. Veterans with proper ID can “shop” for what they need on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon at 199 Jagger Mill Road in Sanford. Veteransmilitarysurplus.blogspot.com

**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.
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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207-985-4494
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