



# THE BEACON

Volume 1, Issue 12

Deadline for the next BEACON is Friday, April 5, 2013.

March 24, 2013

Send entries to [beacon@fccucc.org](mailto:beacon@fccucc.org).

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*For those suffering from the effects of the tough economy; for those who live without sufficient food, water, shelter, or safety; for veterans and those in active service; for peace and peacemakers*

*(cont. pg. 2)*

## HOLY WEEK ON MEETING HOUSE HILL

### MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28

7:30 p.m. - Worship with communion, dramatic monologue, and soloists

### GOOD FRIDAY, March 29

6:00 to 7:15 p.m. - Soup supper for all in Guptill Hall, hosted by the Spiritual Life and Worship Team.

7:30 p.m. - Sanctuary worship with our Meeting House Choir and instrumentalists offering *Requiem* by John Rutter, directed by Shirley L. Curry, Minister of Music.

8:00 p.m. - Vigil begins in the chapel and continues in two hour watches, until 6 a.m. Easter.

### EASTER, March 31

6:00 a.m. - Sunrise service at Fort Williams - near the flag pole overlooking Portland Head Light

9:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meeting House Choir and brass. ASL interpreted for the hearing impaired. Nursery care only.

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meeting House Choir and brass. Nursery care only. John McCall will preach at both sanctuary services.

*Join us for worship... and bring a friend to your church*

## Looking Ahead in Worship

### April 7 - Second Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship with communion

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with communion, the Meeting House Choir, and Sunday school. Diane Harvey will give the message at both services. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

### April 14 - Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the sacrament of baptism, the Meeting House Choir, and Sunday school. John McCall will give the message at both services. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

### April 21 - Community Crisis Ministries Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meeting House Choir, and Sunday school. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

## Search Committee Update

Hello Friends! Your Search Committee continues to be focused and working diligently on your behalf. At this point, we have received 20+ profiles from candidates very interested in our Senior Minister position. We have been pleased with the response and the quality of candidates we are reviewing. Although we cannot share with you details about the candidates specifically, we can share with you that this process is about building relationships with the candidates we are most interested in. There is back and forth communication between candidates and the Search Committee in which questions are answered, materials are provided, references are checked, interviews are conducted via Skype and face to face, and Google is searched, etc. All of this sharing back and forth informs and illuminates our impressions of each other. For as much as we are evaluating each candidate, each candidate is also evaluating us. Each candidate is prayerfully discerning his/her next 'call' just as the Search

Committee is prayerfully discerning *who* to 'call' to our church community. We have faith that the Divine is ever-present and guides our process and, that through careful evaluation and discernment, we will recognize when the right person comes to us. Please continue to keep the work of the Search Committee in your prayers. We are so grateful for your on-going support!

~ Peace,  
Betsy Keiter,

Search Committee Chairperson

### Search Committee Members:

Mike Kasputes  
Lauren Magnuson  
Jim Kupel  
Sandy Dyer  
Deb Dagnan  
Jim Rideout,  
Betsy Keiter  
Phil Whitney  
Gloria Dinsmore  
Aaron Scifres

## Requiem offered for Good Friday

The Meeting House Choir will offer *Requiem* by John Rutter, directed by Shirley L. Curry with guest instrumentalists and lyric soprano, on Good Friday, March 29th at 7:30 p.m.

Appropriate for remembering the life and death of Jesus as well as all dear ones we have lost, the *Requiem* was composed in 1985 by one of England's and indeed the world's most revered composers.

Mr. Rutter incorporates passages from Psalms 130 and 23 to intone our wish that the dead rest in peace and we commend it to you on this solemn day of remembrance. Please join us in the Sanctuary.

### Prayers of the People continued...

#### Ongoing Prayers:

**Cheryl Barter** at Seaside Health Care following surgery for a broken leg; **Kathleen Rummel**, at home; **Nancy Chadbourne** at the Cedars for physical therapy; Carol Zechman, her step-mother Carol Wessner, and other family on the death of her brother **Jeff Walker**; **Richard Hamlin** recently hospitalized.

#### Celebrations:

**Harold Ahlsen**, who recently moved to the Maine Veterans Home in Scarborough, will be 90 on April 5. Cards can be addressed to him at: 98 Wells Road Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

### IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER IS HOSPITALIZED....

Please contact the office if you or a family member is hospitalized. We check the lists at Maine Medical Center and Mercy regularly but may miss your name among the many. Email office@fccucc.org or phone 799-3361 to let us know.



### STEEPLE LIGHTING

The steeple is lighted the week of **March 31** in loving memory of **John E. Chadbourne** from Nancy, Jane and John E. Chadbourne Jr.

The steeple is lighted the week of **April 7** in loving memory of **Betsey Berry** by Scott Berry, and in remembrance of the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the birth of her beloved husband, **Frank E. Wright** by Maxine L. Wright.

### PLEASE PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

JUNE 7, 2013

A CELEBRATION  
for and with  
John McCall

The evening will include dinner (5:30 – 7 ) and program (7 – 8:30 PM)

Invitations will arrive in your mailbox in the next couple of weeks.

*Lisa Merchant*

## Join our Easter Vigil – A Lenten Tradition

Our Vigil begins on **Good Friday, March 29 at 8:00 p.m. and continues until 6:00 a.m. Easter morning.** We like to have at least 2 people to keep the Vigil for each 2 hour increment. *The sign-up sheet can be found just outside the Library or near Wright Pavilion.* Grab a friend or family

member and sign-up together! Also, anyone is welcome to come to the chapel and join in this blessed time of meditation and reflection. If you have any questions, feel free to email [slwteam@fccucc.org](mailto:slwteam@fccucc.org).

Thank you!

## Calling All Rainbow Scarves!

Thank you to all the knitters who have been crafting rainbow colored scarves for the United Church of Christ's General Synod in California this June. The scarves will be used to help people take a stand against bullying and domestic violence. **We need all scarves to be completed and delivered to the office by April 4** so

**that we may bless them in worship and then deliver them to the conference office.** For more information or questions, please speak to Diane.

## Call for Elder Nominations

The practice in our Church of recognizing members for outstanding service and for being valuable role models is a long and important tradition. Each year the Spiritual Life & Worship Team solicits Elder nominations from among the congregation and makes a recommendation for their election at the Annual Meeting. Please identify one or more members who you think should be named as an **Elder for 2013.** We would ask that

you include an explanation of why you feel the member qualifies, whether for diligent service in various church roles over an extended period, or for other reasons. **Please submit your nominations by Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> to Jen Dealaman in the Church Office.**

Thank you kindly,  
*Tex Haeuser*  
Spiritual Life & Worship Team

## Sunday School Sightings

Our Lenten service projects continue as grades 3 & 4 along with grades 5 & 6 have made beautiful greeting cards and Easter cards to our many church friends who are unable to join us in Sunday worship.

They have taken the project very seriously, hoping to brighten someone's day while reminding them they are loved. This week, as we enter Holy Week, will be extra

*(cont. next page)*

## Sunday School Sightings (*cont.*)

special for our children. For some time we have wanted each child to have their own name tag. Thanks to the talent of Marie Jordan this has become a reality. On Palm Sunday we will bless the new name tags for the children. It is our hope that adults and children alike may become better acquainted. Please take the opportunity to

acknowledge our children as they will be encouraged to do the same to you. A great way to meet and greet! Thank you.

*Carolyn Foster*

Sunday School Administrator

## Weekday Knitters

As noted in the last Beacon, Tracy and I are starting a weekday knitting group at church. All are welcome -- bring along knitting friends! Church membership is not required. We have yarn to share or sell. Everyone is expected to make at least one item to sell at the Church Bazaar.

**We will gather in Wright Pavilion on Fridays from 10 - noon, starting on April 5th.**

Hope to see you there!

*Elinor Redmond*

## Hilltop Guild Banquet – Thursday, April 11

**The Hilltop Guild's annual banquet will be held a month earlier than usual this year - April 11 at 6 p.m. in Wright Pavilion.** It will be catered by Brad Morrison, the owner of Have Chef Will Travel, and promises to be an evening of good food and great fellowship.

The cost is \$16 per person. If you are not on the Guild calling list and would like to attend, please call Joan Dennison at 799-3193 by April 3 to make your reservation.

## Supper and Auction

**What are you doing on Saturday evening, April 27? Hopefully you're coming to the Church Supper and Auction in Guptill Hall!** This event is a fund raiser for the church mission trip to Cherryfield this summer. The menu will consist of chicken parmesan, eggplant parmesan, spaghetti and salad, as well as homemade cake for dessert. With Chef Peggy Murray in the kitchen, you know it will be an excellent meal!

There will be lots of great items to bid on at both the silent and live auction, with Diane Harvey and Richard Armstrong leading the fun! So if you haven't already marked your calendars, do so now, it will be a great night. Tickets may be purchased after church at coffee hour every Sunday; look for the table with the tools and paint brushes! The cost is \$8 per person and \$20 for a family.



### SENIOR ACTIVITIES

**Thursday, April 4 – SAGE meeting** at 1:00 in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom.

**Wednesday, April 10** - Join us for **lunch at the Bridgeway Restaurant.** We will meet at the church at 11:30.

**Wednesday, April 17** - **“Lunch and Fun”** at noon in the Wright Pavilion. Bring a sandwich and beverages will be provided.

**Wednesday, April 24** - We will meet at **SMCC for lunch** at noon. RSVP by April 17, one week before, as they require exact numbers.

**Tuesday, April 30** - Join us at **I-Hop for breakfast** at 9:00.

**Thursday, May 9 - SAGE meeting** at 1:00.

**Wednesday, May 15** - Our annual **birthday party for everybody who is at least 90 years old.** All 90 year olds and a guest attend as guests and everybody else is asked to pay \$10 for the lunch, birthday cake and companionship. Please RSVP by May 5.

## Easter Offering – Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>

Like the Christmas Offering, your gifts are administered by our Mission Outreach Team for direct assistance to the work of agencies and ministries. **This year Mission Outreach has chosen two ministries to receive your gifts from the Easter Offering - Grace Street Ministry and Community Crisis Ministry.**

In the spring of 2006 two ordained UCC pastors felt Spirit-driven to begin a ministry with the marginalized and homeless in downtown Portland. Reverends Mair Honan and Elizabeth Peterson provide a walking ministry bringing compassion and communion to the street. "You won't have any trouble spotting the pastors. They're the ones carrying the big bags of new athletic socks." Your gift will help

Grace Street Ministry be where our needy neighbors are and able to provide for their very basic needs.

Our own Community Crisis Ministry continues to serve our local community in a variety of individual needs - from rent, to car repairs, to fuel oil, to bills due. Give now and hear more about it on Community Crisis Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>.

There is an Easter Sunday Offering envelope in your monthly sets. You can also note your check in the memo line and use the all purpose envelopes found in the pews. The Mission & Outreach Team thanks you for your support.

### SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

**Saturday, April 20  
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Remember, it is only weeks away... start that cleaning now!! Anything that you have not used or want we will gladly accept, except for the following particular items: **We do not take old TV's, typewriters, computers, or suitcases.** Other than these, we'll gladly take it!

Problem with getting it to the church? Call me!

*Prudy*  
799-5705

### - SAVE THE DATE -

## FCC UCC ANNUAL MEETING

**SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013**

*Immediately following 10:00 a.m. worship service*

## “To Everything there is a Season and a time to every purpose under heaven.” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

And so, it is time for me to “uproot” and move beyond my comfort zone as business manager of our church. My last day will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

For close to eleven years, it has been a privilege to work for you and with you. However, in order for Ken and I to reach our own retirement goals, it is time for me to seek full time

employment. I leave with a heart bursting with gratitude for the opportunity to work here along with the joy of getting to know my church family better.

Thank you all for all that you have done for me,

*Cyndi Alden*

### FAIR FANCY CRAFTERS / HOLLY DAZE BAZAAR

We have heard from a few elves with ideas for Fair Fancy items and offers of help, but we need a lot more. If anyone has a collection of sea glass that they don't know what to do with, call me. I have lots of suggestions for items that we think would sell well, from ornaments to trivets, mirrors, decorative pins, covered balls, and if you're not so inclined to "do it yourself" we would be glad for the donation of "raw goods". It will take many hands and starting things now create less panic in October.

*Marilyn Andress*  
[mjandres@maine.rr.com](mailto:mjandres@maine.rr.com)  
741-5199

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**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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No matter *who* you are  
Or *where* you are on life's journey

**YOU ARE WELCOME**

**THIS EASTER.**

- 6 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service in Fort Williams
- 9 a.m. Family Worship with ASL Interpretation
- 11 a.m. Family Worship with Meetinghouse Choir and  
Brass at 9 and 11 a.m.



**First Congregational Church United Church of Christ**

301 Cottage Road South Portland 799-3361 [www.fccucc.org](http://www.fccucc.org)  
John B. McCall, Senior Minister Diane L. Harvey, Transitional Minister