



THE BEACON

JANUARY 2018

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

Deadline for the February BEACON is Thursday, January 18. Send entries to beacon@fccucc.org.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For those who live without sufficient food, water, shelter, or safety; for veterans and those in active service; for peace and peacemakers; for areas in strife around the world.

Prayers for Heather Allen;

Prayers for Debbie Conlon;

Prayers for Joshua DeVito;

Prayers for Jim Ekedahl;

Prayers for Karen Ellis;

Prayers for Barbara Merrill;

Prayers for Peter Moore;

Prayers for Donna Morong;

Prayers for Mary Suessmann;

Prayers for Ina Wetmore;

Prayers for all who grieve.



LOOKING AHEAD IN WORSHIP

January 7

8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

First Sunday after Epiphany

Chapel Worship with Communion

Sanctuary Worship with Communion, Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday School. Cindy Maddox will give the message. Fellowship time follows.

January 14

8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship with Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday School. Cindy Maddox will give the message. Fellowship time follows.

January 21

8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship with Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday School. Quinn Gormley and Skyler Keiter will give the message. Fellowship time follows.

January 28

8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship with Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday School. Cindy Maddox will give the message.



STORM CLOSING NOTICES will be listed on the following TV stations: WCSH Channel 6, WMTW Channel 8, and WGME Channel 13.



RECEPTION OF GRATITUDE

As you know, **Rev. Bob Morse** has retired from his position as Pastor of Member Care and Visitation. Although he will remain a member of the church, he will no longer serve in a pastoral capacity. To thank him for his ministry among us, we will have a **special reception during coffee hour** after worship on **January 7**. Baskets will be available for the reception of cards and gifts.

MISSION GLOBE, ALTAR FLOWERS & STEEPLE REMEMBRANCES

MISSION GLOBE:

January 21—In loving memory of **Bill Harris**, from Darla

ALTAR FLOWERS:

January 8—In loving memory of **Paul Gray**, from Beth DeTine and Sara Gray

January 14—In loving memory of **Frank Westerberg**, from his daughter Karen.

January 28—In loving memory of **Wayne Lockwood**, from Bruce, Ann, Rachel and Andrew

STEEPLE DEDICATIONS:

Please call the church office for reservations.

To remember or celebrate loved ones with flowers on the altar or light the Mission Globe, please contact Dana Wiggins at danawig@gmail.com.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES (SAM) ACTIVITIES

Thursday, December 28—we will meet at **9:00 a.m.** for **breakfast** at the *Egg and I* in Scarborough. If you eat an earlier breakfast, please join us for a cup of coffee or tea.

Thursday, January 18—**SAM meeting** at **1:00 p.m.** We'd love to hear your ideas for activities in 2018.

Thursday, February 15- **SAM meeting** at 1:00.

SAM also has a monthly newsletter for those over 55 years old that highlights our activities. If you would like to be on our mailing list, just call the office (799.3361).

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION is ongoing, so **don't forget to register your child!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you have **1-1/2 to 2 hours a week** to help with the **Food Pantry**, or **1-1/2 to 2 hours a month** to help with **The Beacon or Senior Moments**? Please call the Church Office if you would like to help.

PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW if you have changed your contact information—address, phone, e-mail.

CARE GROUPS ARE COMING! CARE GROUPS ARE COMING!

What, you ask, are Care Groups? Well, Care Groups are small gatherings of 6-10 people who share a common interest. They will meet once a month to build relationships and strengthen the community within our Church. A common reading will be shared with all of the groups each month, and the meeting will provide opportunity for discussion around that topic. The rest of the meeting is up to the group! Thanks to those who have already signed up, we have five groups with enough interest to start meeting in January. They are: LGBTQ, Cape Elizabeth, Dinner Out, Parents with Young Children, and Knitting. Those who signed up for these groups will be contacted in January about the logistics of their first meeting.

There has been interest expressed in the following groups, but they each use a few more people to get started: After Church, Scarborough, and Happy Hour. The sign-up sheets will remain on the wall in the curved hall until after the holidays, so you still have an opportunity to join.

The **Care and Connection Team** hopes that anyone with an interest in building their relationship with others in the church will consider giving a Care Group a try. We have heard wonderful things about the very positive impact similar groups have had in other churches. We Care, and hope you will Care too!!!



FAMILY PROMISE

We have just completed our second week of hosting guests as part of Family Promise.

It has been an awesome experience having so many volunteers come and go each day, bringing delicious foods to share, planning and leading children's activities, staying over-night, doing laundry, etc.

The guests have expressed their gratitude for the hospitality you offered. As Coordinators, we likewise share our appreciation for all you do to make people feel welcome.

Our next hosting week is just around the corner of the New Year – February 18-25, which is school vacation week for many. Please look at your calendar, as the sign-up will arrive in your e-mail box before long. Some people have already announced that they will be away that week; others may be a bit more available since it is a vacation week. We know, with your marvelous support, that the week will go smoothly (and the next hosting will be the week of June 3, so we'll have a break). Thank you so much!

~ Debra & Tim Honey and Linda & Peter Foss

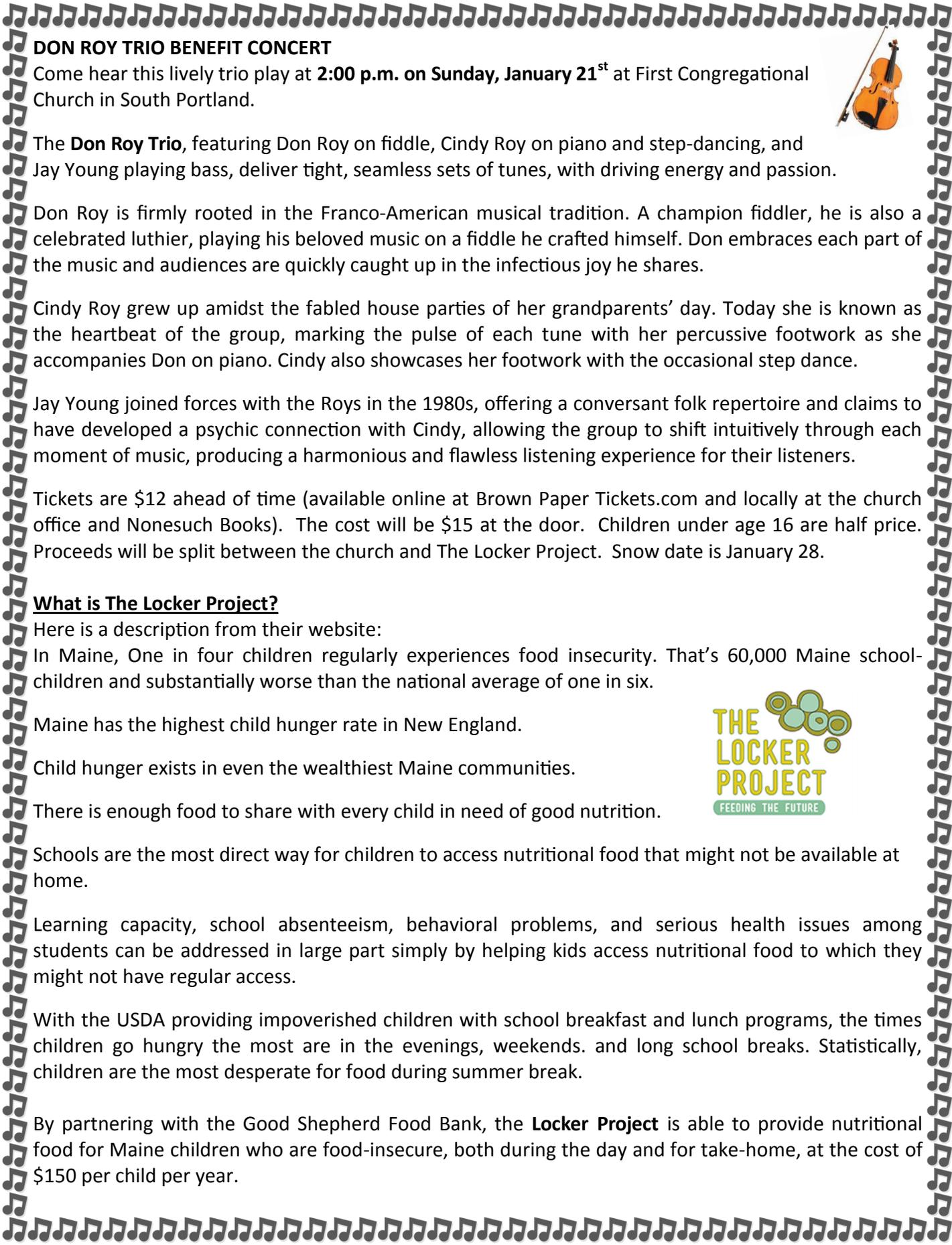


HOLLY DAZE BAZAAR

Thank you to all who made our annual bazaar a success because of your volunteering, creativity and shopping. Special thanks to the bazaar Chair Jan Files and Lynne Lanctot who pulled it all together.

COMMUNITY CRISIS MINISTRIES

A huge **THANK YOU** to church members and friends who participated in the Community Crisis Ministries Christmas gift program. Also thank you also to the ornament takers who bought gift cards and gave Community Crisis Ministries cash or checks for the families. Every single card, check and dollar bill has gone to brighten a family's Christmas this year. We are blessed!



DON ROY TRIO BENEFIT CONCERT

Come hear this lively trio play at **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 21st** at First Congregational Church in South Portland.



The **Don Roy Trio**, featuring Don Roy on fiddle, Cindy Roy on piano and step-dancing, and Jay Young playing bass, deliver tight, seamless sets of tunes, with driving energy and passion.

Don Roy is firmly rooted in the Franco-American musical tradition. A champion fiddler, he is also a celebrated luthier, playing his beloved music on a fiddle he crafted himself. Don embraces each part of the music and audiences are quickly caught up in the infectious joy he shares.

Cindy Roy grew up amidst the fabled house parties of her grandparents' day. Today she is known as the heartbeat of the group, marking the pulse of each tune with her percussive footwork as she accompanies Don on piano. Cindy also showcases her footwork with the occasional step dance.

Jay Young joined forces with the Roys in the 1980s, offering a conversant folk repertoire and claims to have developed a psychic connection with Cindy, allowing the group to shift intuitively through each moment of music, producing a harmonious and flawless listening experience for their listeners.

Tickets are \$12 ahead of time (available online at [Brown Paper Tickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com) and locally at the church office and Nonesuch Books). The cost will be \$15 at the door. Children under age 16 are half price. Proceeds will be split between the church and The Locker Project. Snow date is January 28.

What is The Locker Project?

Here is a description from their website:

In Maine, One in four children regularly experiences food insecurity. That's 60,000 Maine school-children and substantially worse than the national average of one in six.

Maine has the highest child hunger rate in New England.

Child hunger exists in even the wealthiest Maine communities.

There is enough food to share with every child in need of good nutrition.

Schools are the most direct way for children to access nutritional food that might not be available at home.

Learning capacity, school absenteeism, behavioral problems, and serious health issues among students can be addressed in large part simply by helping kids access nutritional food to which they might not have regular access.

With the USDA providing impoverished children with school breakfast and lunch programs, the times children go hungry the most are in the evenings, weekends, and long school breaks. Statistically, children are the most desperate for food during summer break.

By partnering with the Good Shepherd Food Bank, the **Locker Project** is able to provide nutritional food for Maine children who are food-insecure, both during the day and for take-home, at the cost of \$150 per child per year.



Church Calendar

Jan 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 10am - Sanctuary	1 Office is Closed for	2 1pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - Choir	3 9am - Children's 6:30pm - Children's 6:30pm - Eskimos @	4 6:30pm - Care & 6:30pm - S, L & W @ 7pm - Mission	5	6 5:30pm - Soup
7 8:30am - Chapel 10am - Sanctuary 6pm - Confirmation	8	9 1pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - Choir	10 2pm - CCM Review 6:30pm - Children's	11 12pm - Staff 6:30pm - Admintlstr 7pm - Pastor Parish	12	13 10am - Labyrinth
14 8:30am - Chapel 10am - Sanctuary	15 Office is closed for	16 1pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - Choir	17 9am - Children's 6:30pm - Children's	18 Beacon Deadline 1pm - SAMS @ 2nd 7pm - Council	19	20 9am - Children's
21 8:30am - Chapel 10am - Sanctuary 1pm - Concert Set 2pm - Concert Don 6pm - Confirmation	22 7pm - Investment	23 1pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - Choir	24 6:30pm - Children's	25	26	27
28 8:30am - Chapel 10am - Sanctuary 1pm - Concert Set 2pm - Concert Don	29	30 1pm - Prayer Shawl 7pm - Choir	31 6:30pm - Children's	1 6:30pm - Care & 6:30pm - S, L & W @ 7pm - Mission	2	3 9am - Children's 5:30pm - Soup

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
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OFFICIAL CALL TO THE BUDGET MEETING

The members of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, are hereby called to meet on **Sunday, January 28**, following the regular 10:00 a.m. service of worship, for the following purposes:

- I. To receive and act upon the 2018 church budget proposed by the Church Council, and
- II. To hear and act upon any other business that may properly come before the church.