

South Congregational Church United Church of Christ



April 2016

Words from our Minister

As you read this, I have arrived at Back Bay Mission, Biloxi MS, serving as a Long Term Volunteer through our United Church of Christ. I will be an Assistant Site Supervisor in the Mission's housing renovation program. I am grateful for your support for this extended time of study and mission. This month, work groups from WI, CT and IL will be here before our South Church group of 15 arrive for their week on April 23.

This setting will allow me to learn more how the gospel light is an avenue of transformation in lives of those miles distant from Maine and who endured Hurricane Katrina, wounded yet rising again. Quickly we realize the reason why such mission trips are called 'border crossing experiences' as we move into new geography, new faith expressions, and broader understanding of God at work. It is both humbling and inspiring at the same time.

What 'border' is God inviting you to cross? What new 'resurrection territory' is God inviting you to explore? I'll be sending periodic reflections and pictures which will be posted on the hallway bulletin board.

Please click on this link: www.thebackbaymission.org and learn more of this program founded in the 1920's and particularly pictures of the housing renovation program, one facet of *their* work--- which is *our* work! *Charles*

Jim Berger

Dayton Goudle

Ann Dinino

Sarah Berger

Bound for Biloxi, MS

Linda Hill

April 23 -30

Larry Carter



Denise Macaronas

Miriah Carter

Quinn Sargent

Greg Scott

Don Curry

Ryan Scott

Nancy Gearin

Susan Walters

Linda Scott

Our Mission is to be an inclusive community of faith that preaches the word of God, teaches the love of Jesus Christ and reaches out to all through the Holy Spirit.

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Inside this issue:

Words from Rev. Whiston
New Members
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Life Journeys
Thank You

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
(Nursery Care provided)

Sunday School 10:30 am
Classes



MOVIE NIGHT
FRIDAY, APRIL 15
6:00 – 9:00 pm



SOUTH CHURCH COMMUNITY HOUSE

Please join us for MOVIE, POPCORN, AND PIZZA NIGHT on Friday, April 15 at the Community House. The thoughtful comedy DAVE, starring Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver, is the perfect antidote for the current crazy election season! When the President becomes indisposed, Dave, a regular citizen and look-alike, is recruited to fill in. DAVE is a movie that appeals to people of all political persuasions, perhaps because what we all really want is not so different after all.

Movie Night and all refreshments are FREE. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board so that we can make sure we have plenty of food and chairs. Join us for fun, fellowship, and discussion – the perfect Tax Day Tonic!

Welcome to South Church

We are pleased to be welcoming the Rev. Pat Smith who will lead us in worship during this month and first two Sundays of May. Pat, who is no stranger amongst us, recently retired from the York Beach UCC church. On call for pastoral needs or emergencies, Rev. Dr. Burt Howe - also no stranger amongst us- as well as the Rev. Mark Arbisi are available. Contact may be made through Sarah at the office or Susan Twombly/Elizabeth Grant, co-chairs of our Deacons.

Welcome New Members

During last month, we rejoice in these eleven folks who have joined South Church !!

Lisa Howe Dries and Bill Dries - Lisa grew up in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, received her Bachelor of Science degree from her parents' (Pat and Burt) alma mater, Bates College, and her medical diploma from the University of New England. She is currently an OB/GYN at Southern Maine Health Care in Biddeford. In addition, she is a published author of children's books that feature farm animals (especially a frog named Hopper!). These tales are based on the bedtime stories that Lisa created for her two daughters to teach life lessons, such as how to deal with strangers and the first day of school.

Bill is a graduate of the University of New England, where he and Lisa met. After working as a police officer in Connecticut and Maine, Bill left law enforcement to become a full-time dad to Maddy and Anna, now 8 and 6 yr. old. As concerned parents of the quality of the food their daughters ate, Bill and Lisa decided to raise some of their own meat and vegetables. They now own Triple L Family Farm, Live, Love and Laughter. Bill sells meat from their pigs and fresh eggs from the chickens as well as raising vegetables. Bill works closely with other local farmers, and is currently a member of the Maine Farm Bureau.

Rebecca Manikian - Rebecca grew up in the Kennebunks and was then away for about 20 years. A graduate of Holy Cross, she returns now with her husband, Max, and children Reese (6 years) and Wyatt (4 years). Reese is in our Sunday School and in the Children's Choir. Rebecca is the Director of Operations for the Dunkin Donut stores in Maine. She oversees the cleanliness, product control, and other aspects involved with running the stores. This keeps her more than a little busy, she adds! She volunteers at the school and the whole family enjoys skiing during the winter season.

Burt and Pat Howe – Burt is a retired American Baptist minister, conferred Pastor Emeritus by the United Baptist Church in Saco where he served for 32 years. After receiving his BA from Bates College, where he met Pat, Burt earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Andover Newton Theological School. Burt enjoys golf, and is an outdoorsman who enjoys hiking, fishing, hunting. His favorite pastime is spending time with his family, especially his four grandchildren.

Pat retired after 27 years as a Teacher's Assistant in Old Orchard Beach, helping students in math and reading. A graduate of Bates College, where she won the heart of her husband of over 40 years, Burt. In addition to being partners in marriage and parenting, Pat was a partner to Burt in ministry as well as being a member of the choir and hand bell choir. We are so happy to have Pat as a member of our own church choir. All their grandchildren, who are in the children's choir, have inherited Pat's musical enthusiasm. Pat also enjoys spending time at their cabin in New Hampshire, hiking, crafts, and most of all, spending time with family and friends.

Jennifer Howe Ruel - Jennifer grew up in Old Orchard Beach with her parents, Pat and Burt, and older sister Lisa. She graduated from Old Orchard Beach High School and Wheaton College. Many people feel called as to future work. This was the case for Jennifer, who felt called to be a teacher. She earned a Masters degree in Education from the University of New England, has taught for 13 years at Massabesic Middle School. Jenn and her husband Richard run a business, Seacret, a line of healthy skin and hair care products. They have two boys, Jacob and Owen, who are in our church school program, and live next to Jenn's sister, Lisa, and her family on 30 acres in Kennebunkport.

Stine Brown -Stine lives in West Kennebunk with her daughter Britta, who swims for Kennebunk High School. Trips from coast to coast were not unusual. Stine completed her undergraduate studies at Bowdoin College and received her PhD from the University of Oregon. She is a Professor in the College Of Arts and Sciences - Biology at the University of New England, where she teaches, advises students, and carries out research on marine invertebrates and the metabolism of crustaceans. She has been singing in the choir these past couple of years, along with her dad, Bill. Her mom, Margrethe, and Britta are usually in the congregation.

Todd Cesca and Megan Murray -Todd and Megan reside in Kennebunk with their two English Pointers Hazel and Harper. Megan is a teacher at Kennebunk High School spending the majority of her time in the resource room and then serving various committees on campus outside the classroom. Todd is a partner with the firm Charter Oak Capital Management. Outside the office he coaches varsity boys lacrosse at Kennebunk High School and serves on a number of non-profit boards in both the Kennebunks and Portland. Todd and Meg wish to bring a positive presence to the church and continue engaging and investing in the community.

Margie and Bruce Chew -Margie and Bruce Chew both grew up in Birmingham, Michigan. They started dating at The University of Michigan, and got married after graduation. They then moved to Cambridge, MA for Bruce to go to Harvard Business School, where Margie also worked. Bruce stayed to get his Ph.D. from Harvard's School of Economics; he was then hired as a Professor at Harvard Business School and remained there for many years. Margie stayed home with the four children (now scattered about the country), founded and directed The Kids In Need Foundation, a charity affiliated with several Boston hospitals for 21 years.

The Chews first came to Kennebunkport 36 years ago, and it immediately felt like home. They moved here permanently in 2009. Bruce is currently a director with DeLoitte Consulting in Washington, D.C. Margie has a small quilting business and is interested in community outreach. They love South Church and find the community warm and friendly. They find special peace in looking at the steeple from their home and listening to the bells. They don't want to be any place else!

South Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
PO Box 414
Kennebunkport, ME 04046
Phone: 207/967-2793
Fax: 207/967-5672

We are on the web
www.southchurchucc.org

The deadline for submitting
newsletter articles is the 15th of
each month by emailing to:
sarah@southchurchucc.org.

Life Journeys

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| Baptisms | February 28 | Lucas Patrick Stack |
| | March 13 | Christopher Lawrence Landry |
| Death | February 24 | Candy Howes |
| | March 12 | Charles Sumner Howard |

South Church Scholarship Applications

Watch for details regarding South Church academic scholarships, applications will be available May 1 and due back in the office June 1.

A Thank You to The Church Family

We wish to express our deepest thanks to the Reverend Charles, all of the church staff members, the children of the church school, and every member of South Congregational Church for your extraordinary expressions of caring, concern, and support of us and our entire family as we have mourned the loss of both David's younger brother and mother in less than a year. Your prayers and sympathy have sustained us both. We cannot begin to voice our gratitude for all the spiritual and physical comforts we have received from this wonderful community of God's faithful servants. We bless the day God brought us here and to all of you.

Most Sincerely,
David and Kathleen Brandes

South Congregational Church UCC
PO Box 414
Kennebunkport, Maine 04046

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