

South Congregational Church United Church of Christ



April 2018

Words from our Minister

In recent years, you have heard the term 'border crossing experience' to describe our hands on efforts in Outreach. Whether it be to Biloxi MS (Back Bay Mission) or Biddeford (Bon Appetite Soup Kitchen) or other programs, these avenues of service allow us to cross over into new –and often unfamiliar– territory. They offer new insights into our faith, making scripture and the teachings of Christ come alive in our midst. The concept of moving into new territory is profoundly Biblically based. We are reminded of the exile to Babylon and later return to the homeland, the exodus from Egypt and journey of forty years returning to the Promised Land. In the New Testament, we read of the sojourn of leaving behind the familiar to follow Jesus; the way – the truth – the life. This is the road of Easter promise.

I take great satisfaction in leading 21 other volunteers of our faith family to Mississippi in a couple weeks. We will carry the gospel light. We will share that light. We will be enlightened in return. I have no doubt. We would request that you hold us in prayer as we shall carry you with us to the job sites and all our learnings in our week together.

Learn more at: www.thebackbaymission.org. Founded in 1921, Back Bay Mission remains committed to the welfare of those 'living on the edge' and in more recent years, impacted by devastating hurricanes in the local communities. It is a mission of our United Church of Christ and its year round Easter message of hope and new life.

We are students and parents and grandparents---one half of us new to the experience. We are:

**Alicia Richelieu, Andy Wilson, Heather and Laura McLaughlin,
Linda Hill, Patti and Sarah Berger, Dayton Goudie,
Susan Walters, Peter Sentner, Kiara Davis, Svetlana Lucero,
Julie and Allie Bennett, Kristen and Alex Miale,
Jeff and Abby Dubay Troiano,
Missy Jordan, JoAnn and Jillian Lapoint.**

After our week, I will be staying one additional week to volunteer with the No. Hampton NH UCC congregation. Look at the hallway bulletin board for news of our time in MS as we take you with us crossing the border.

Rev. Charles

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
Outreach News
Deacon News
Lent Box
Life Journey

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
(Nursery Care provided)

Sunday School 10:30 am
Classes

Holy Week and Easter Services



Maundy Thursday 6:00pm 'Meager Meal' (soup and bread) **followed by**
7:00pm **Tenebrae** Worship Service at
Christ Church, Dane Street, Kennebunk

Good Friday 7:00pm Worship at Church on the Cape

Easter Sunday 6:30am Community Sunrise Service, Kennebunk Beach
10:30am South Church Worship with Brass, Choir;
Nursery Care Only



From Outreach

Monarch Place is a chemical free, rehabilitation house in Portland that houses up to a dozen individuals. It is a program that receives support from our Outreach Committee through the Panzenhagen Fund and supports those in recovery. Rev. Charles has visited with its director several times in the past year as well as residents and we are seeking donations of new towels (bath, hand, wash clothe) for those who arrive with very little beyond a back pack. Also blankets for twin beds can also be received. In addition, we welcome donations of travel size toothpaste, kleenix, shampoo, etc that we will combine into 'Welcome' bags for new residents. Thank you.

From the Deacons

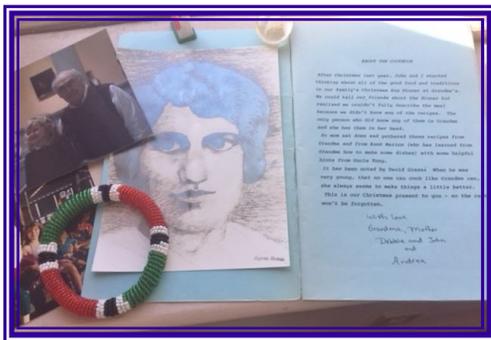
Thanks and appreciation go to outgoing deacons David Reid and Linda Hanna for their years of service as deacons and for their contributions to the church and its members. Welcome to new Deacons Karen Searle and Steve Ogden. As we head into spring (hopefully!), think about serving as an usher, either on occasion or more frequently, along with the deacons; we'd love to have you! Ask any of the deacons if you have questions, or just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

The Lent Box

For the season of Lent, each week a different child has been taking home the “Lent Box” and returning it the following week with something/object(s) that signify or remind the child of God. It will be opened during “Words to the Children” and Rev. Charles will try to discern just what it might convey for us all. We hope this to be creative and bring conversations to our homes, to stretch our thinking and sharing of our faith.

Lent Box Week 1

“A key, *God who opens the door of tomorrow and new chapters of life.*”
Thank you Abby and Emily Barter



Lent Box Week 2

“A bracelet from Kenya which reminds us of our trip and how they worship God so often in their lives and a cookbook from our great-grandmother – *God is in our family.*” Thank you Antonia, Sophia and Christianna

Lent Box Week 3

“A snow globe angel with wings to fly to the sky like God... And a penny whenever we find one we think of our ‘Papa Bear’ (grandfather) who died.”
Thank you Lucy, Mary, Carly Mooney



Lent Box Week 4

“An apple (*Garden of Eden*), c.d. of 'Joseph and Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat' (*reminder of Vacation Bible School last year*), picture of Grandparents who have died and a lighthouse which both guides us and warns us of danger---- all reminding us of God.”
Thank you Matthew and Bennett Ewy

Lent Box Week 5

“5 stones and sling shot (*David and Goliath*), cup (*it runneth over*), bread pieces and gummy fish (*fives loaves and two fish*), sand (*reminding us of God who provides for us in dry times*), and a plastic frog made from a 3-d printer (*the plagues of Egypt*).”
Thank you Owen and Jacob Ruel



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

Life Journeys

Death March 4 Dean C. Coniaris

South Church Scholarship Applications

Next month, be watching for information on Scholarship Applications being available for those of the church family continuing studies beyond high school graduation.

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



Our front office renovations are nearly complete, but not yet done. Continued patience we ask before final touches and then furniture is moved back into place. Thank you Trustees for overseeing this effort.



Pictures - April 8 - Stories

You are invited to spend extra time during Fellowship Hour to hear Megan Grassi's family month long trip to a local school in Kenya.

