

South Congregational Church United Church of Christ



March 2015

Words from our Minister

~ THE PUZZLE THAT SPEAKS ~

The picture puzzle which I began last month is taking shape and teaching me of life's lessons.

- 1) No matter how often I try to put the same piece into a specific location, if it doesn't fit the first time- it still doesn't the fourth or fifth time.
- 2) Sometimes I only know if it is a true fit by turning them over and looking from the back side, different perspective.
- 3) One cannot put in a middle piece before there are pieces to connect to it. All pieces/events have a time and sequence of coming together.
- 4) When a piece does fit, you know it for sure!
- 5) Never turn down help from a friend.... and at times, don't over-estimate their ability to assist ~ Meow!



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

Lent and Easter

You Should Know

Pilgrim Lodge

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
(Nursery Care provided)

Sunday School 10:30 am
Classes

Hymn Sing Sundays
(last Sunday each month)
10:15 am



On the theme of 'Faith and Service,' we are excited that fifteen of our church family will be heading to **BackBay Mission in Biloxi MS, March 21-28**. They will participate in the local soup kitchen (Loaves and Fishes), the homeless support program (the Micah Center) as well as the housing renovation program. The area continues to recover from Hurricane Katrina in 2005 although the Mission has been assisting those in need along the Gulf Coast since 1922. This past year, housing opportunities for homeless veterans have been opened thanks to BackBay Mission, a new endeavor. We'll be fortunate to meet and likely have a conversation with the new Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. Alice Graham. The group will be paired with a similar number of volunteers from the Gainesville FL. United Church of Christ congregation. BackBay Mission books work groups 40-45 weeks each year and is nearly full for next year.

Lydia Corcoran
Nancy Gearin
Linda Hill
Heather McLaughlin
Kristen Miale Sam Miale



Don Curry Miriah Kelly-Carter
Dayton Goudie Joe Hepp
Denise Macaronis
Laura McLaughlin John Merry
Sue Walters Rev. Charles

Thank you for representing South Church in hands on and hearts extended ministry.

You Should Know...

Starting in Lent, and continuing beyond, the Music Committee and David Brandes, our new organist and choir director, have voted to move the postlude from its current position in the Sunday morning worship service, to the more traditional position at the end of the worship service. In its current position, the Music Committee and David feel that the postlude can have the air of a concert performance, rather than worship. They believe that by definition, it should be the period at the end of the sentence rather than a comma.

Placing it in its traditional place at the end of the service will allow members of the congregation an option to stay and listen, or to leave as individually desired. Should anyone be inspired to applaud, it would be more appropriate to do so without interrupting the spirit of worship. It would also allow for more lengthy postludes common in much of the organ literature.

Looking back, the origin of the current placement of the postlude began with the arrival of the new organ ten years ago. It was a logical outgrowth to feature the new instrument. It is felt that it is time to reconsider its original intent and move it to the more traditional position, closing the worship service. Throughout the year the Music Committee will continue to assess this change and later this year, they will revisit their decision.

From The Deacons: Thanks and appreciation go to outgoing deacons Barbara Branchina and Joyce Stobo for their years of service and contributions to the church and its members. Welcome to new Deacon Elizabeth Grant, and to recent junior Deacon Ryan Scott. As we start the new calendar year, think about serving an usher, either on occasion or more frequently, along with the deacons; new ushers are always welcomed! Ask any of the deacons if you have questions, or just sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Mark Your Calendars

The Women's Association will be holding their 6th annual tag sale on June 6th, so please start collecting your gently used books, toys, jewelry, and household items. As usual, we do NOT take clothing, shoes or electronics. Collection boxes will be placed in the hall some time after Easter, but if you need to part with items now, or need pick-up, please talk to Ros Whalon(967-4629) or Morven Troost(967-3813).

And watch for a sign-up sheet in early spring. So put on your volunteering hat. There are lots of ways in which you will be able to help.

We are invited to the **Ecclesiastical Council** at the Wells Congregational Church UCC; 3:00pm on March 15 followed by a Service of Installation for their new minister, the Rev. Charity OMartian.

Thank You



Thank You



We wish to express our deepest gratitude for the very warm welcome which has been extended to us by Rev. Whiston and the members of the South Congregational Church. The graciousness of your welcome and hospitality cannot be overstated. We have so appreciated meeting each and every one of you. You have all made us feel more at ease in our new church home, and indeed, in the Kennebunk area.

Kathleen and David Brandes

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United Church of Christ
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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.

HEEDING GOD'S CALL

Heeding God's Call is the Multi Faith Movement to End Gun Violence. When traveling south on the 14th of every month protests are held before the NRA Headquarters on Waples Mill Road in Fairfax, Virginia at 10:00 AM. When the 14th falls on a Sunday the protests are at 2:00 PM. The 14th of the month chosen as it was on that date the 20 children and 6 adults were shot and killed in Newtown, CT.

Heeding God's Call cooperates with the Coalition To Stop Gun Violence and with The Brady Campaign who function at the legislative level while Heeding God's Call serves at the grass roots level.

Jack Mathison

SUMMER CAMP

It's not too early for summer camp plans at **Pilgrim Lodge**. Already one of our youth has signed up. A great program of our Maine Conference UCC, one week camps for all ages.

Take a look at www.pilgrimlodge.org. Financial support from our Women's Association. Rev. Charles has more information or look at the hallway bulletin board.

~ Life Journeys ~

Deaths February 20 Carolyn Frances Walker

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