

## ***Congregational Church of Bristol Newsletter April 2016***

**Church telephone: 563-6843; Email: [ccob@tidewater.net](mailto:ccob@tidewater.net)**

**To find out what's happening at our church between Sunday services and the monthly newsletter, please visit our website: [www.ccobucc.org](http://www.ccobucc.org)**

### **APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER**

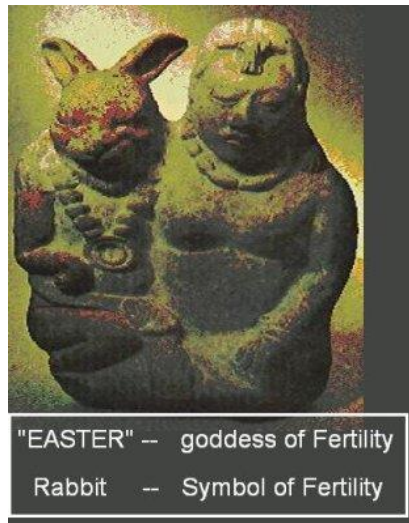
#### **April Birthdays**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Brooke Seiders  
6<sup>th</sup> - Ethan Fink  
9<sup>th</sup> - Mabel Scherer, Todd Vincentsen  
12<sup>th</sup> - Stephanie Vincentsen  
15<sup>th</sup> - Anne Lewis  
16<sup>th</sup> - John Hobbs  
21<sup>st</sup> - Julia Cheney, Susan Buchanan  
25<sup>th</sup> - April Ference  
28<sup>th</sup> - LeAnn Harris



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#### **Minister's Musings Easter and Spring**



There are several theories about where and how the name “Easter” originated. The one I like best was first suggested by The Venerable Bede, (672-735 C.E.), a Christian scholar who wrote the "Ecclesiastical History of the English People.”<sup>i</sup> (Did anyone else have to read this in college English classes? I did.) The Bede stated that Easter was named after Eostre (a.k.a Eastre), the Great Mother Goddess of the Saxon people in Northern Europe<sup>ii</sup> symbolizing fertility.

Why, you might rightfully ask, do I prefer this theory about the name Easter? It's simple. Because the name is derived from the ancient word for spring: “eastre.” Spring is my favorite time of year. With the reawakening of the earth, it is a time of fertility. In our Christian faith it is also a season of hope, of joy, of New Life.

I have long thought it is fortuitous that in the northern hemisphere, Easter comes in early spring. It's easier for me to think of the New Life that Christ gives while I observe new life bursting forth all around me. I sometimes

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wonder how my colleagues in the southern hemisphere handle the metaphor of new life at a time when they are entering into fall.

Like Christmas, Easter is not a one-day holiday; it is a season. It lasts for seven weeks – the Easter season extends from Easter Sunday, the Day of Resurrection, to Pentecost, the receipt of the Holy Spirit, a gift Jesus promised at his ascension to Heaven.

So, welcome Eostre, welcome spring! Alleluia!

- Pastor Anne Roundy

### **A Joke from Good, Clean Funnies!**

A builder, pastor, and professional golfer went deer hunting together. They were all novices, but wanted to try it.

They had been out all day and towards dusk they all spotted a 5 point buck at the same time. They each took aim and 3 shots were fired at the moving target. The buck went down, so they rushed over to make sure it was dead. It was, so they started to discuss who had actually hit it. As they were discussing it, a game warden happened along and asked what the problem was. They told him, and he said for them to stand back and he would try to figure it out based on the bullet hole and the rifles that were being used.

After only a couple minutes, he came to them and said that the pastor was the one who hit the deer. The three wondered how he could figure it out so fast. The warden said the bullet went in one ear and came out the other.

### **Food Pantry – April 3rd**



The volunteers at the New Harbor Food Pantry are very grateful for the food CCOB collects every first Sunday of the month. They are currently serving approximately 60 individuals. In addition to the items we have been donating, the pantry could use canned peaches, canned pears, canned fruit cocktail, and peanut butter. Remember to bring your donations on Sunday, April 3rd, and thank you!

### **Baked Bean and Casserole Supper**

The Fundraising Committee will hold a Baked Bean and Casserole Supper on Saturday, April 9th at 5:30 PM. Join the fun and dine on homemade baked beans, casseroles, salads, rolls, and delicious desserts! All of this yumminess for \$8!!



## **Deacons' Report**

We welcome Rev. Anne Roundy back from her "winter break" and are thankful to her for a very spiritual holy week and Easter season. We have witnessed the passing of three of our members: Grace Redfield, Mary Ella Prior, and Ruth Brookes. Please join us while we continue to hold their families and loved ones in love and support. We are still keeping in our prayers, Janet Chase, Dayle Strachan, & Ron Paullo.

We are happy to welcome Jeannie Hunter and Leighton Andersen as our newest Deacons... They will be getting on the job training over the next few months.

Our organ appears to be repaired and back in good playing order. So, we look forward to hearing it once again!

## **Missions Meeting**

The next meeting of the Missions Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the church.



On Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM, our church will host the third Pemaquid Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk. This is an ecumenical walk raising money for Church World Services which provides international relief and development in addition to food and clean water for people in need. Twenty-five percent of funds raised go to our local food pantries. Please put the date on your calendar! We need a volunteer who will be our church's recruiter, handing out donation envelopes and making reminder announcements. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Debbie Mikulak in the church office – 563-6843 or [ccob@tidewater.net](mailto:ccob@tidewater.net). Thank you!

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.religioustolerance.org/easter1.htm>