

Congregational Church of Bristol Newsletter July 2017

Church telephone: 563-6843; Email: 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

JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER

July Birthdays

15th - Pat Benner, Todd Vincent

16th - Bonnie Grant

20th - Polly Lindsay, Nora Cyr

23rd - Paula Foster



(If you don't see your name on the birthday list, please contact the office 563-6843 and let us know.)

“A Pilgrim’s Ponderings”

July 2017

Dear friends in Christ:

Summer greetings! The weather here in Maine has at long last turned fair, warm, and beautiful. Between now and Columbus Day in October, many people will be traveling here to “Vacationland.” It brings back memories of summers I spent as a kid with my family on Hoyt’s Island on Great Pond in Belgrade Lakes.

In a couple of days, Maury and I will have the good fortune to hop on a plane in Portland and fly out to Dayton, Ohio for a one week, Fourth of July trip to visit our son, Sam, his wife Ginny, and their two boys, our grandsons, Connor (8) and Evan (5). Obviously we can’t wait to see the “Buckeye Dowses.” It will be a good time to reconnect as a family, to celebrate our common bonds, to enjoy each other’s company, and to resolve, once again, that though we are physically separated by one thousand miles, we can and will do everything we can to build strong, loving relationships between our three generations. We will remember where we came from as live in the present moment while preparing for the future.

There’s another “family” reunion coming up in October. This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Of course, our spiritual roots as disciples of Jesus Christ go all the way back to Pentecost and the earliest days of Christianity. Our specific heritage as descendants of and adherents to what is known as the “free church” tradition has its origins at a particular time and place in history.

Reformers **Martin Luther, Huldrych Zwingli, John Calvin, Thomas Cranmer, Balthasar Hubmaier, William Tyndale** and many others were used by God to bring about enormous changes in the ways Christians lived out their faith. Writing for *Reformed Worship* magazine, James R. Payton, Jr, professor emeritus of history at Redeemer University College, reminds us that *“politically, socially, economically, culturally, and in many other ways, the Reformation has helped us to mold the world we live in today.”*

Why did the Reformation happen? Does it still impact us today, and if so, how? What were some of the positive changes that came about, and what were some of the damaging excesses? We will have the opportunity this fall to ask these and other questions and learn more about the Reformation and its lasting influence.

Beginning on Sunday, October 22 and continuing for six Lord’s Days through November 26, those interested in the subject will gather in the library after worship (bring along some snacks from the *Keep It Super Simple* refreshments table in the Fellowship Hall!) and watch a new DVD series called **“This Changed Everything.”** It was produced by the well-respected **Christian History Institute**, publishers of the popular magazine *Christian History*. Please join us for what promises to be an enlightening experience!

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I think this excellent resource will assist us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. I trust that God will use it as a catalyst to help us rejoice in our spiritual family connections, celebrate our common heritage, strengthen our faith in the Lord as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and inspire us to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8).

I'll end this month's pastoral epistle with a few quotes from the Reformers.

"The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." Martin Luther (1483-1546)

"We must seek the truth, love it, defend it, and hand it down uncorrupted to our posterity." Philipp Melancthon (1497-1560)

"True evangelical faith is of such a nature it cannot lie dormant, but spreads itself out in all kinds of righteousness and fruits of love." Menno Simmons (1496-1561)

Your brother in Christ and fellow pilgrim,
Pastor Jim



Strawberry Social – July 1st, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Members of the Fundraising Committee pick the strawberries locally and make the following delicious desserts of which you have your choice: strawberry shortcake, strawberry sundae, or strawberry rhubarb pie ala mode served with your choice of lemonade, iced tea, or hot coffee. All of this deliciousness is \$6.00 per serving. Come on out and join the YUM!



Food Pantry – July 2nd

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. Thank you for your donations.

Deacon's Report

The Deacons for July: Becky Collamore and Leighton Anderson.

We are delighted to have our "summer folks" with us once again. Welcome back!

We have taken over the KISS coffee hour scheduling from Jean and Leighton Anderson. We are grateful to Jean and Leighton for all the years they coordinated coffee hour for us. Leighton, you were always there to start the brew! Thank you both.

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Susan Buchanan donated an extremely generous gift for the coffee. We are most grateful and thank you Susan! So thoughtful.

We encourage more folks to help us out with this. Please take a Sunday for July or August. KISS means prepackaged treats are more than adequate! The sign-up schedule is on bulletin board.



Baked Beans & Casseroles Supper – July 22nd

Please join us on Saturday, June 17th at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall for our delicious Baked Beans & Casseroles Supper with all the fixins including dessert and beverage - \$8 per person!!

Choir Festival

The New Harbor United Methodist Church would like to invite the area churches to participate in a Choir Festival at the New Harbor Church during Old Bristol Days on Sunday, August 13th between 1:30 pm and 3:00 pm. Each church will choose their own hymns and will provide their own accompanist or canned backup music. Space will be provided downstairs for gathering and refreshments.

The amount of time available to each church will depend upon the number of churches that choose to participate.

If you are interested, please contact the church at newharborroundpondumc@gmail.com or call Pastor Kelly at 677-3055.

**ANNUAL CHURCH FAIR
FUN FAMILY FAIR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 9 AM - 2 PM
EVERYONE CAN HELP!!**



Fair Update

As the fair date approaches on August 5th, committee members are busy planning, pricing, organizing and meeting. We have added a couple of new items this year: we will be offering lobster rolls, a bouncy house, popcorn, and the art show is back!

We are still in need of volunteers to supervise kids in the bouncy house, sell popcorn and man the candy table. Most tables are in need of at least another volunteer. From baked goods to Granny's Attic, we could use some help. A shift of 2-3 hours is fine and encouraged.

As always, donations are needed. Granny's Attic includes jewelry and, new this year, gently used dressy/silky type scarves. Please contact Dayle Strachan at 677-2526 for drop off of smaller items or anything that might need to be laundered.

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Yard sale/flea market items can be brought to the fellowship hall beginning Tuesday July 25th. This includes books. If needed, you can also store things prior to that date in Sandy Holmes' barn. She can take smaller items on Sundays in her car. Please contact Sandy at 563-3957 to make arrangements for "barn drop off".

Baked goods can be dropped off to the kitchen on Friday August 4th or early Saturday morning, August 5th. Don't forget that Mabel Sherer still needs canning jars for her canned goods. You may reach Mabel at 380-6401.

If you are an Artisan or know of someone who would like to participate in the fair, contact Sandy Guibord at 563-3783. We still have room for a few more tables.

Bring any plants you can donate on Friday Aug. 4th or early Saturday morning Aug. 5th. Please be sure to label them.

Alexandra Weiss is heading up the art show/sale for us. Contact Alexandra at 563-6534 if you know of anyone who would like to exhibit.

Last, but not least we need your help. On Friday we will be setting things up, volunteers are still needed for parking and various tables and then break down on Saturday afternoon. Keep in mind a couple of hours of your time would be great.

We are planning a meeting after church on July 9th. Sandy Holmes will fill you in on the silent auction and the trips being offered. Chris and Sandy Averill will bring you up to date on where we are with things in general. Contact Sandy Averill with any questions - 677-2165.



One of the reasons the "Silent Auction" is called silent is because most of our jobs are done in the calm before the rush of the actual church fair. So, if you can help out prior to the crush of tasks on fair weekend, check with Sandy to find out how you can help. Solicitors are needed as well as set up help the week before the sale.

We have in the past had great luck with restaurant and service related gift certificates, so anywhere you usually do business, check to see if they would be willing to donate a gift certificate to us. Our local businesses have supported us in the past and are willing to help—we just need to ask! We have tax write off forms available to these businesses as they offer up their services.

This year's Silent Auction will feature several exciting trips as well as our usual gift certificate boards. Trips will include the 6 day/6 night guided South African photo safari as well as a 4 night 2 person Western Caribbean Cruise, and 5 day/4 night for 4 at Disney Orlando Florida trips.

If you are willing to helping to solicit items, please contact Sandy Holmes at 563-3957.



Jewelry Needed for Church Fair

Ladies, please look through your jewelry boxes and see if there are some things you can part with for the Granny's Attic Table. Jan Reilly will have a basket near the KISS Refreshment table on Sundays for your jewelry donations. Thank you.

Peninsula Artisans

Church Fair/Peninsula Artisans: Please contact Sandy Guibord with any suggestions you may have of artisans who would make a good addition to our fair, and she will be happy to get in touch with them. This year we are charging a flat fee of \$30 per table, inside or out. Thank you. Sandy's phone, 563-3783 or email: sguibord@operamail.com

Plants and Flowers!



Flowers & Plants are needed for the Annual Church Fair. Please contact Lora Leduc if you can donate to the Plant Table. Lora's phone is 563-2047 and her email is raylora@tidewater.net. Thank you.

Happening in July

Pastor Jim & Maury on vacation	June 28-July 11
Brief Church Fair Meeting (after worship)	July 9, 11:00 am
Deacons Meeting	July 13, 3:30 pm
Baked Bean Supper	July 22, 5:30 pm
Vesper Service at Brown Church in Round Pond (Pastor Jim will lead service)	July 23, 7:00 pm
John Hobbs Memorial Service	July 24, 2:00 pm