

Parish Visitor

First Congregational-Christian Church
United Church of Christ ° New Gloucester, Maine

Save the Dates!

MAY 2 @7 :30
Village Coffeehouse
Haley Reardon

MAY 3 after church
CROP Walk 2015
Help End Hunger
Locally & Globally
Walkers and Spon-
sors Welcome!

MAY 16
Maine Old Cemetery
Association Program
Here, Open to All
and part of our
250th Celebration

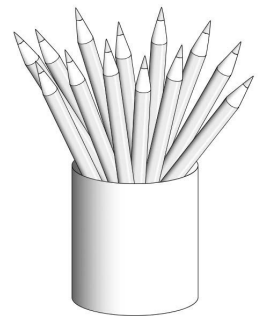


Rev. Linda Gard
Pastor
John Terison
Director of Music
Philip Blake
Sexton
Cindy Mahan
Office Administrator

Pastoral*e

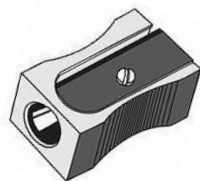
I'm going to say something now that should endear me to you forever. Here it is. BOX OF 64. If you got one in 1958, you were a trend-setter, one of the first on your block. Kings bowed to the radiance of your glory, and neighborhood kids to the convenience of your built-in sharpener. A box of 64 was spiritual experience...an insight to which we church people cling, and perpetuate unto naïve generations via weekly children's bulletins. But why should children have all the fun?

So, I'm pleased to bring you the whizbang spiritual exercise and stress-buster for 2015...a craze, I'm told, responsible for three of the ten best-selling books on A——n at this very moment: coloring books for adults. I kid you not. Exquisite, effusive tracery inviting a palette that would intimidate a peacock. And, frankly, (she wrote, clutching her Box of 64 to her bosom like the 4-year-old she was and could be again), I'm thinking I might buy in...



...because waiting for the finches to get their Gold on this year is making me crazy. Because my rotation of fleece shirts has come to Dishwater Gray, again. Because after a winter like that, Parish Center Brown is supposed to be background (not burial plot) for Wonderful, Exuberant Recreation, Articulated Visions of God-ness, and The Place God's Joy Comes Alive. Because, by gum, I need a Garden Path, and I need it now. Don't you?

I'm serious. A book called Balance is in my shopping cart right now. I'm debating whether to tell you the subtitle is *Angie's Extreme Stress Menders, No. 1*. (I'd print you a page, but the copyright police'd be on my trail in a flash.) I don't know who Angie is, really, but her last name is Grace, and that seems as good a sign as any.




Why am I telling you all this? Think of it as a tip...a genius idea for mom on Mother's Day, if you will. She/you won't have to water it, feed it, or plug it in.

And throw in a good set of colored pencils, why don't you? Her Box of 64 has seen better days.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Noah Fralich
- 3 Sally Warren
- 6 Brenda Bradbury, Jason Bradbury
- 8 Michael Fralich, Lucia Moody
- 17 Jesse Hahnel, Dot Sawyer
- 20 Charlotte & Caroline Matusovich
- 22 Dolly Bois
- 24 Dan Paradis
- 28 Isaac Blake



Help With the Little Ones!!

The NGCC nursery is in need of volunteers to help out with the little ones during church service. Many families have depended upon having reliable nursery care to be able to attend church services. If you have a Sunday (or Sundays) available, please contact Jennifer Dupuis at panda68@maine.rr.com or call me at 657-3649.


★★★
WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY....
WELCOME!
 We will be welcoming new members in a few weeks. If you've been attending and are interested in becoming a member of the church, please contact Rev. Gard (926-3260/linda@ngucc.org) or a Deacon.
 ★★★

Youth Group

The teens and leaders who've been meeting for several weeks (6:30 Sunday evenings) have some special events planned in addition to regular meetings:

- *attending the G-NG production of Once Upon a Mattress—several church youth are in the play
- *movie, dinner, and sky lantern launch on Friday, May 29
- *a summertime hike or two (Morse Mountain has been mentioned)
- *relocating the youth room to the back SS room for more space, light, and air...leaving the old room for possible conversion to food pantry storage and other uses.

We've gotten this news third hand, so check it out for yourself by coming to a meeting, OK?



Book Of Life

Irving Young, son of Eileen and the late Leroy Young, passed away recently in Florida. There will be a family graveside service on May 12th in Auburn.

The Rev. Mary Angela Davis will be installed as Settled Pastor of the Union Congregational UCC, Ellsworth Falls, on Saturday, May 9.

The Rev. Deborah Blood has been nominated to become the Conference Minister of the Maine Conference. Delegates and clergy will meet and vote on May 30.

May 2015
Tip of the Month.

Keep Your Teen Safe This Prom Season

-  **TALK**
About your expectations
-  **ASK**
Where they will be and confirm
-  **CHECK IN**
Have your teen call in at set times
-  **WAIT UP**
Check in when your teen comes home

Casco Bay CAN
CREATE AWARENESS NOW
TOGETHER. PREVENTING YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE.
www.CascoBayCAN.org
207-865-3985 x208

Cumberland County A grant funded project sponsored by Cumberland County Government www.cumberlandcounty.org SAMHSA #11175SP016497-05

May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the Month: Joseph Ovady					1	2 7:30 Coffee House—Hayley Reardon
3 9:30 Worship/SS 10:45 CROP WALK 6:30 Youth Group	4 8:30 Yoga	5 6:30 Men's Breakfast 7:00 250th Planning Group	6 9:30-12 Stitches 6 Chimes 7 Choir	7	8	9 8-9:30 Food Pantry Open 10-2 Vestry Resvd
10 MOTHERS DAY 9:30 Worship 11 Council 6:30 Youth Group	11 8:30 Yoga	12 6:30 Men's Breakfast	13 9:30-12 Stitches 6 Chimes 7 Choir	14 7 Trustees	15	16 ME Old Cemeteries Assoc. Programs, public welcome
17 9:30 Worship 10:45 Missions 6:30 Youth Group	18 8:30 Yoga	19 6:30 Men's Breakfast	20 9:30-12 Stitches 6 Chimes 7 Choir	21	22	23 8-9:30 Food Pantry Open
24 9:30 Worship 6:30 Youth Group	25 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY NO Yoga	26 6:30 Men's Breakfast	27 9:30-12 Stitches 6 Chimes 7 Choir	28	29 Tent. Youth Group supper, movie, sky lantern launch	30 1 pm Maine Conference Meets in Waterville
31 9:30 Worship 6:30 Youth Group	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>CALENDAR DATES FOR JUNE</p> <p>6—Coffee House 13 —Food Pantry 21—Fathers Day 25—Strawberry Festival (6-8 pm) 27—Food Pantry</p> </div>					

From the Board of Property

LIBRARY RENEWAL

The church library is used for most of our small-group meetings (Stitchers, Council, committees, bible study), for meeting with families to plan funerals, and as a “green room” for coffee house performers, among other things. Renovations have included paint, carpet, installation of a sink, counter and cupboards, a “smart” classroom screen and wi-fi, plus bookcases. This work was partly funded by memorials to Mary Morin and Ann Fryer, along with a capital projects gift. Todd Keneagy was engaged to carry out the work. Historian Pat Sawyer reminds us that when the Parish Center was first designed, this very useful space was proposed as an open courtyard!

PARISH CENTER/KITCHEN LAMPS

Front doorway lanterns have been removed to repair or replace. After that, something to keep them from being battered by swinging doors.

THANK YOU, EVERYBODY!

The only full bath in the parsonage has gotten a lot of use over the years and quite a few fixtures were failing/leaking/worn. So, thanks to a gift of capital project funds and the careful prioritization process of our Property people (say that three times fast!), it has been thoroughly and expertly refurbished. The Pastor is pretty pleased! Thank you all.

News from the Board of Missions

CROP WALK, May 3

Let's talk **CROP WALK!** Our annual Crop Walk will take place Sunday, May 3. There's still time to sign up to walk...or sponsor a walker...even on the day of the walk. The Crop Walk supports the New Gloucester Food Pantry and the world relief efforts of Church World Service.

One Great Hour of Sharing

The Lent and Easter One Great Hour of Sharing Special offering has raised \$844.59 to help Church World Service respond to disasters, minister to refugees and many more humanitarian efforts worldwide. Thank you so much!

The Benefit Concert for

New Beginnings*

advertised in last month's Parish Visitor, raised nearly **\$1600.**

Gray/New Gloucester International Baccalaureate student Jesse Ricardi organized the event, which featured a great lineup of local musicians, including the Bald Hill Band and Clara Philips.

New Beginnings, located in Lewiston, Maine, provides support to at-risk and homeless youth. This concert supported their scholarship fund.

PILGRIM LODGE—Use and Support Maine Conference Outdoor Ministries!

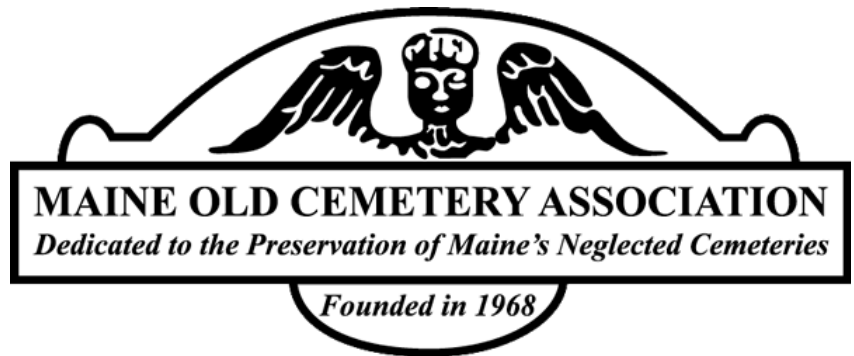
It is time once again for children and adults to plan for “church camp” at Pilgrim Lodge, on Lake Cobbosseecontee. Week-long and shorter camps are available for all ages through September. Check them out online at pilgrimlodge.org or on the bulletin board nearest the kitchen at church.

We hope to have some funds available through the church to help our kids and families with the fees, but our fund is low. Our aim is to cover \$100 for a week-long camp. To do that, we're going to need donations earmarked for the PL Scholarship Fund. You might say to yourself, “Hey, I/my kids/my grandkids LOVED Pilgrim Lodge; I want to make sure others can experience this great personal and spiritual resource.” Please help if you can!

Applications for scholarship funds are available on the church website and at the office. Applications are due May 10.



THE CHURCH'S JUBILEE CONTINUES



All of you are invited to attend the Spring program of **The Maine Old Cemeteries Association** (www.moca-me.org) on Saturday, May 16th. The church and New Gloucester Historical Society are co-hosts.

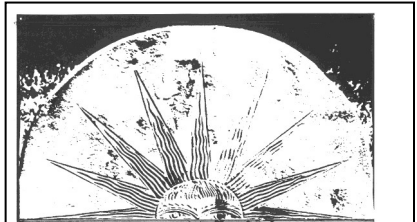
8:30-9:15 Registration (\$3), coffee and muffins, exhibits, displays

9:30 (sanctuary) Death's Heads, Sunbursts and Weeping Willows...Slide talk on Portland's first professional stone carver, Bartlett Adams, for a time a New Gloucester resident. Quite a few examples of his stone carving may be found in our oldest cemetery (see afternoon program).

11:15-12 Phil and Tom Blake giving an armchair tour of New Gloucester's cemeteries.

Noon Lunch (\$7) by the 250th Committee and Friends (3 hearty soups, salad bar...)

1:00 Visit the Lower Cemetery (Stevens Brook) with Phil and Tom as your guides.



Bartlett Adams (1726 to 1828) arrived in Maine from Massachusetts in 1800 to establish a stone-cutting workshop. Adams made marble hearthstones, mantelpieces and door jambs, but the most lasting and visible examples of his work can still be seen today in the early cemeteries of southern Maine.

If you would like to share in the lunch, please register online at the MOCA website (or on our Parish Center activities board). Otherwise, just come! Why not volunteer for the kitchen crew!

New Gloucester
VILLAGE

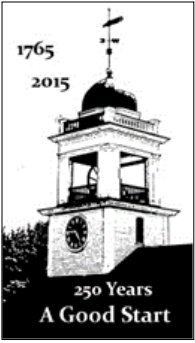
CoffeeHouse
 WHERE music is local

Amazing Folk Talent HAYLEY REARDON

Google her. When you do, you won't want to miss this Coffeehouse, for sure! Bring your friends.

May 2, 2015 7:30 pm Tickets at the door: \$10

Coffee and tea are hot and free. Munchies for a little donation.



THE PARISH VISITOR

First Congregational-Christian Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114
New Gloucester, ME 04260

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Gloucester
Maine
Permit No. 5

Current resident or



New Gloucester Food Pantry and Church World Service
Polly's hoping you'll join her....
for the 2015 New Gloucester

CROP WALK

Sunday, May 3rd

10:30 sign-in 10:45 start of 6.2-mile walk



**BE A WALKER
OR A SPONSOR**
FMI 926-3260

