

# The Clapper

God  
is still  
speaking,

**SECOND CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONAL**  
**United Church of Christ**  
Pastor: The Rev. Brad Hirst

May 2011  
[www.2ccucc.org](http://www.2ccucc.org)  
(207)439-3903



**Missing: Valuable flock**  
**If spotted, please call the**  
**Flock Hotline at (207)439-3903**

Our flock has left their winter stable and are out loose again roaming the neighborhoods looking for new pastures!

If 10 w(holy) sheep should appear on your front yard, please contact the the Flock Hotline, and with a donation to the church we'll send out our shepherds to move them along.

## **Pilgrim Lodge Weekend Retreat** **New Date, Same Great Weekend!**

Our weekend for Pilgrim Lodge this year will be August 26 – 28. We are filling out the reservation form and it would help us to know approximately how many are coming. Please RSVP to Elaine Hansberry (207-439-6731) [ehansberry@comcast.net](mailto:ehansberry@comcast.net) and let her know if you are planning on going.

It's a great weekend for fun, boating, hiking, singing, outdoor worship, and great fellowship. We're hoping for a large group – and looking forward to a great weekend in *August*.

## **The Maine Steiners** **in Concert** **May 24, at 7:00 PM!**

On the heels of their performance at Governor LePage's inauguration in January, their appearance on WCSH6's 207 newsmagazine in April, and their May audition for this summer's NBC blockbuster reality music competition *Sing-Off*, the Maine Steiners, the University of Maine's premier all male a capella group, will bring their considerable talents to Second Christian on Tuesday May 24 at 7:00PM.

If you caught them last year, you'll know their tight harmonies and unique arrangements of familiar tunes are not to be missed, and if you missed their show last year, here's your chance.

A free will offering will be received and once again they have offered to split the "door" with Fair Tide, Kittery's own transitional housing program for homeless families. So come on out, enjoy some great music, and support a great cause!



**Curious? Go to page 5!**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

From my vantage point, Holy Week was (once again) both energizing and exhausting, renewing and stressful, comforting and challenging. It always seems

a tumultuous end to the Lenten journey – and perhaps it should be. I hope that those of you who were able to participate in our gatherings and celebrations found them meaningful and challenging – and that we all remember that we are at a new beginning!

In the midst of Holy Week this year – at its apex on Good Friday – fell Earth Day. Did you notice? April 22 is the day each year we set aside to protect the earth. We are encouraged to ride our bikes to work, to turn off our lights, switch to compact fluorescent lamps, to do whatever we can to help conserve natural resources and protect our fragile environment. For one day.

An ecology-minded friend of mine from seminary hated Earth Day. Really! She resented the idea that we would set aside *one* day in the year to care for the earth and then treat it as we will the rest of the time. She has a point. It's like talking about stewardship just once a year and expecting everything will take care of itself the rest of the time. If the one day we set aside will help change the way we live the other 364 days, then so be it. But we need to be paying attention to what we are doing, and we all need a reminder from time to time. So here it is – again: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, and if all else fails, DISPOSE OF IT PROPERLY!

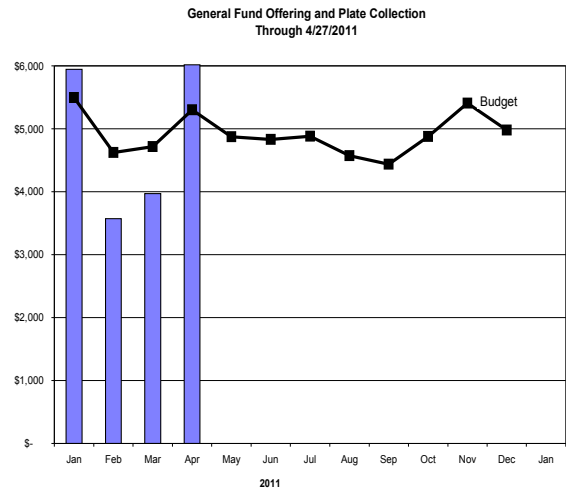
There are all kinds of reasons we pose for not recycling or disposing of our waste properly: it's inconvenient; there's no recycle bin; my town doesn't *require* it; it's too expensive; it's just one little thing... But time's running out, my friends, and we all know we can do better. Even with recycling bins all over our church, we still find bulletins, magazines, soda cans and newspapers in the trash cans. We *can* do better! We *must* do better!

We have to stop looking for reasons why we can't and start making some changes in how we live in and care for this planet. This is going to be (and perhaps already is) the biggest issue to face the Church in our time. Failure to act faithfully, courageously, and with haste will prove catastrophic. The time is now.

See you in church,

*Brad*

**From the Treasurer:**



The black line at the top of the chart represents the monthly target to meet budget. The vertical bars represent the actual offerings received each month, as of April 26.

April 2011 was an all-time giving high for a month with only four Sundays. There was only one month that was higher and that was December 2006 which had five Sundays and a Christmas Eve service.

**The Church Builder Bonus Pays You an *Extra 1.5%***

The Church Builder Bonus from the Cornerstone Fund gives you an unmatched opportunity to build the church while you build more income in your portfolio.

- *Invest \$10,000 or more* in a five-year Cornerstone note
- *Give back at least 10%* of your investment as a gift to any UCC-related organization – even your church
- *Earn a 1.5% bonus* over the prevailing five-year rate on the balance of your investment for the entire five-year term

Designate your gift to fund your regular contribution, your capital campaign pledge, or to support your favorite ministry. The Cornerstone Fund will forward your gift in your name so that you enjoy any benefits – including tax deductions – for which you are eligible.

It's that easy! For details and an application, call the Cornerstone Fund at 888-822-3863, or visit them online at [www.cornerstonefund.org](http://www.cornerstonefund.org). Or for more information about the United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund, speak to Pam Cooper.

### Church Council Highlights – March 6

**Call to Order:** Brad read *20 Things that Walking Your Dog Can Teach You*, and led us in prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** March 6 minutes approved.

**Review of Treasurer's Report:** Pledges down in February due to weather and low attendance. The large payment of oil in January was due to December's payment being made in January. This has balanced out in February. Accepted for audit as stated.

#### Unfinished Business

**Soup & Bread, Sunday, April 10:** This is a meal time to be shared with conversation with team leaders. The idea is that soup will be shared and people will have 10 minutes to talk to team leaders. The leaders will be able to share what is happening in respective areas.

**Aggieman Triathlon:** Ed Harvey is making progress. There are now over 50 people registered. Ed is aware of the parking issue at the base of the mountain. Ed is having a fundraising event at Eastern Mountain Sports in April.

**Upstairs Rooms:** The room needs to be cleaned up and the items removed. The trim needs to be placed around the room. Tom has time to do a Freebie Barn run.

**AMIGOS Dinner:** This will be a potluck dinner with a "Brown Bag Auction."

#### New Business

**AARP Driving Class:** Gini Barron has asked to use the church for an AARP driver safety, led by Greg Davis, on June 8. This is for a 25 – 30 people. An issue may be parking for the day. Brad suggested notifying the town that we would be holding an all day class here. We could also ask to use the tenants and the Badger's driveways for parking. Tom will call the Kittery Police Department and follow up. Car pooling will also be encouraged.

**Auto Clinic:** Malcolm is suggesting an auto clinic. General knowledge about your car and one on one time with a mechanic. He would like to use this as a time to introduce 2CCUCC to the public without it being a church thing. He would like to offer a cookout as well. Malcolm will come back with a date, towards the end of July.

**Kittery Block Party:** June 18, in the Foreside. Brad is attending the planning meetings.

**York Association Meeting:** Patty and Ken have volunteered to attend. Motion approved.

**Emergency Lights:** Power failure lights are \$35. The replacement battery is \$20. LED exit lights, that have battery back ups are \$40. Emergency lights that have exit signs in them are \$70. Not all of the existing lights are working. Ernie will get new batteries for the existing nonworking lights. Brad will call Chief O'Brien to check on requirements. Ernie would like to have a thank you card sent to George Fecteau on all of his electrical work.

**Energy Audit:** Ernie, Brad and Rob attended an energy audit workshop. To have an audit done on the church would be \$250 with Maine Interfaith Power. If we have the audit and then make more than \$500 in improvements, the \$250 is refunded. Ernie will follow up for an audit and get needed information from Pam Cooper.

#### Ministry Team Updates:

**Stewardship:** July quarterly meeting will be elections for team liaisons. Start looking and having conversation about whether you will stay, or who may replace you.

**Learning:** *The Jesus Diaries* is being used in Bible study. Packets are in for Pilgrim Lodge.

**Communications:** If you have something to share, please let Patty know.

**Deacons:** We will be singing The Palms on Palm Sunday. There will be small group meetings.

**Going Out:** Church World Service kits are due May 1.

**Trustee:** The floors have been cleaned and waxed. The upstairs floor needs to be finished. The heating system and painting the church still need to be considered and done.

**Next Meeting:** Quarterly Congregational Meeting May 1. Council May 24.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Higgins

Scribe, pro tem



**Sharing Brings Joy  
To us.  
To Others.  
To God.**

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

During worship on April 3, we were invited to help people in need around the world and in communities impacted by disasters in the United States through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. Thanks to your generosity, as of April 19 we collected \$572.63!

**Kittery Coffee House  
May 14, 6:30 – 9:30 PM**

An evening of live Blue Grass, Country, Folk and Rock, hosted by Shades of Grass. Any type of acoustic music is welcome. Please call 207-438-6087, 603-842-3818 or 207-676-9630 for more information. Suggested donation \$5 for a local charity.

This month's proceeds will go to Doug French, brother of musician Dennis French. Doug was recently burned out of his home, and lost everything.

Also, mark your calendars for the Second Annual Fort McClary Park Music Fest to benefit the Fort McClary restoration project and Footprints Food Pantry, on Saturday July 9. For more information call Ken or Patty Higgins at 207-703-2069.



**Footprints Food Pantry**

On Sunday, May 8, we will be collecting our monthly donations for Footprints Food Pantry. At this time of year they are low on everything, including Spaghetti'Os, baked beans, mac & cheese, meals in a cup, Saltines, Jello, and pudding. Sides dishes such as instant potatoes, pasta and rice, that help make a meal go further are also appreciated. Donations of toiletries and cleaning supplies are also welcome.

Also don't forget their annual food drive sponsored by the post office is on Saturday, May 14. Just leave your donations by your mailbox that day and a postal carrier will pick it up, or drop it off at the post office anytime between now and May 14.

**Going Out Ministry News**

We have many opportunities to share our faith through several mission projects.

Priscilla deRochemont headed up our **A.M.I.G.O.S.** project this year. If all the buckets are returned we will have filled 52. The food will help feed hungry schoolchildren in Honduras through the summer. The potluck supper and brown bag auction to help support this mission project raised \$200. It was a lot of fun trying to outbid each other for the mystery items in the brown bags. All of us in attendance had a really great time!

We've had a tremendous response to our **Church World Service** kit project! Check the table and boxes for all we've collected so far. Many thanks to everyone who has donated kits or is collecting items for them. The closing date for this project is Sunday, May 1. The kits will be boxed and brought to Portland May 4 or 5.

Our next **Table of Plenty** serving date is Thursday, May 26. We had a great team for our serving on March 31, which happened to be the night before a predicted snowstorm. We served many second helpings and had many requests for take-home meals ... no leftovers! Team members, thanks so much for all of your work that evening!

**Kittery-Eliot Senior Housing Corporation**

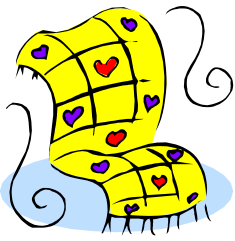
*Good Housing for Better Living for the Best People*

The annual meeting of KESH will be held on Monday, May 16, 2011 at Moulton Hall, Foxwell at Kittery, at 2 P.M.

KESH is a non-profit corporation whose charter is to build and maintain senior/handicap housing in Kittery and Eliot: Presently 62 units in Kittery at Foxwell, and 44 units in Eliot at Baran Place.

KESH presently owns one-third of Foxwell I (50 units) as a limited partner, and the 12 units of Foxwell II.

There is a real need for people willing to serve on the board of directors to continue the operation of Foxwell's units. Baran Place has its own board of directors. Membership is obtained by attending the annual meeting, signing the membership book, and paying \$1.00. For more information, please speak to Rev. William R. Baran, President



## Project Linus

Who doesn't like a blanket?

A blanket to swaddle a new baby. The silky edge of the blanket rubbed between thumb and forefinger. A quilt thrown

over you for a Sunday afternoon nap. But the best blanket is the one you reach for when you are scared or not feeling well.

On Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> many of us gathered in the vestry to once again make Project Linus blankets. These blankets are gathered up and then distributed throughout the local area to emergency services and hospitals for children in need. This is the third time that we have participated in this mission. We made 36 blankets!

I feel very fortunate to know that three young people in our church have received Linus blankets. There was laughter and smiles all day, not to mention enough food to feed a small army. Thanks to all that participated in yet another fun filled day of mission work. It was a day full of love. Be sure to visit our Facebook page to see pictures from this amazing day!

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**Bob's Clam Hut presents**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kittery Block Party**  
**Saturday, June 18 from 10am-4pm in**  
**Wallingford Square/Foreside**  
**"Building Bridges"**

Bob's Clam Hut and Kittery Recreation have partnered to present The Kittery Block Party. A celebration of local art, culture, and food that fosters lasting relationships and strengthens community in a fun neighborhood atmosphere, enjoyable to all ages. The theme "Building Bridges" will help to expand awareness in Kittery regarding the impact of bridge closures. This year's event is also a fundraiser benefiting Fair Tide Inc., and the Kittery Recreation Department.

The Kittery Block Party will be held in the heart of the downtown Kittery Foreside, and will feature children's activities, strolling entertainment, a main stage with musicians and magicians, and local cuisine. Admission is FREE! See you there!

## AARP Driver Safety Program

### Wednesday, June 8, 10:00 -3:00

We are please to announce that on Wednesday, June 8, Second Christian will be hosting the AARP driver safety classroom course, especially designed for drivers age 50 and older.

The class is open to anyone, and costs \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers. Auto insurance discounts are available for all Maine residents who participate in this class.

Participants need to RSVP to Gini Barron by May 27 because space is limited. Please bring to class that day your valid driver's license and your AARP membership card, as well as a check made payable to AARP for the correct amount. We are also asking participants to bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee, beverages, and desserts will be provided by the Doorkeepers. Also, because parking is limited we ask that you carpool if possible. For further information or to register, please call Gini Barron at 439-1678.



In this sped-up, media-driven century, we're confronted by stories 24 hours a day, about celebrities and regular people and wars and disasters and politics and technology. But how often do we hear the stories of our faith? And when they are being told, are we listening? At this year's Annual Meeting, we'll look at how to tell the stories that matter to us, in new ways we need to learn, and old ways we may have forgotten, and the middle ways that carry forward what we value, translating our story for new generations and transmitting it into our ever-changing world.

For more information about the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Maine Conference of United Church of Christ, please visit [www.maineucc.org](http://www.maineucc.org).

*Notes of Appreciation...*

Thank you Kristen Kidd & Harold Shea for donating mulch for the church garden.

Thank you Lucille Melhorn for the donation of a case of paper for the office!!

Thank you so much for the February donation of \$137.75 for Fair Tide. I realize the church has its own budget challenges, therefore organizing this gift for Fair Tide is very much appreciated.

Joe Gali, Executive Director, Fair Tide

**Congratulations**

**Mike Effenberger**

**on winning the 2011 Spotlight Award for Hardest Working Musician!!**



**Attention Graduates!!!**

If you or someone in your family is graduating this spring, please contact the church office ([joy@2ccucc.org](mailto:joy@2ccucc.org)) so that we may spread the good news! Also, if you

are entering college, let us know where, and we'll include that information too.

**Save the Date...**

The Doorkeepers invite all ladies in our church and guests to join us for dinner at Fogarty's in South Berwick on Thursday, June 2. We will plan to meet at the church at 5 PM to carpool or you can meet us at Fogarty's at 5:30. There will be a sign up sheet ahead of time so we have an idea of how many will be attending so please sign up.

**Updated Directories!**

The directory has been updated and copies are available in the vestry. Be sure to pick one up so you have the current addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of all your new and old friends here at 2CCUCC!

**Easter Gleaning:**

*Music not only opens our mouths, but our ears, eyes, hearts and minds, and the tomb.* ~WRB

*Happy Anniversary  
Second Christian Congregational  
United Church of Christ!  
May 25, 1843 - May 25, 2011*

**Fun Facts from the Archives...**

- Prudential Committee Report 1991: A pre-sale agreement was negotiated at \$0.79 per gallon for oil.
- Prudential Committee Report 1975: A new furnace was bought and installed for \$3,400.
- Prudential Committee Report 1980: A swarm of bees in the belfry tower was successfully removed and the honey was sampled at "Coffee Tyme."
- Coffee Tyme started on Mother's Day 1974.
- The December 29, 1961 newsletter featured the article "Should I Force My Child to Go to Sunday School?" by J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI. His answer? A resounding "yes!"

Thanks Pam for sharing some of these great facts!



**June 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM Start  
Piscataqua River, Eliot to  
Mt. Agamenticus Summit, York**

**To Volunteer speak to Ernie Wiswell  
To Register to Race go to  
[www.aggiman.org](http://www.aggiman.org)**

**Only 20 openings left!**

**Reminder: FOOD FOR FOOTPRINTS EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH (May 8<sup>th</sup>)**

**DEACON OF THE MONTH: Tom Baran**

**ALTERNATE: Charlie Donnell**

**May Ushers:**

01 Cheryl Beckert & Melanie Fetterolf  
 08 Orville deRochemont & Rob McDonough  
 15 Ernie & Sharon Wiswell  
 22 Vick & Bobbie Contella  
 29 Edith Morgan & Wanda Syphers

**May Greeters:**

01 Pam Cooper  
 08 Dick & Judy Jumper  
 15 Laura Donnell  
 22 The Baran Family  
 29 Melanie Fetterolf & Cheryl Beckert

**May Liturgists:**

01 Linda Wentworth  
 08 Rob McDonough  
 15 Lezlye Shea  
 22 Melanie Fetterolf  
 29 Lucille Melhorn

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

*Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:*

Kathy Bales	Molly Banville	Carl Burbank	Betty Chapman	Greg Chapman
Ann Clough	Jim Cole	Carolyn Consaga	Betty Farr	Sandi Folmar
Sandy Garland	Sam Legasse	Susie Legasse	Mildred Leland	Anna Lesswing
Howard Moulton	Priscilla Reuter	Lezlye Shea	Rich Wells	

*If you are aware of anyone who should be added to or taken off our prayer list, please contact the [church office](#).*

**May Birthdays**

May 1 Makayla Runey  
 May 4 Ashley Foye  
       Ben Wiswell  
 May 5 Lindsay Thornhill  
 May 9 Lezlye Shea  
       Ryleigh Foye  
 May 12 Robert Bickmore  
 May 13 Paris MacKenzie  
       Richard Starkey  
       Elizabeth Barbour  
 May 15 Betty Farr  
 May 17 Erika Shea  
 May 19 Edythe Niles  
 May 21 Jean Badger  
       Marion Raitt  
 May 26 Judy Jumper  
 May 28 Cynthia Boyd  
 May 29 Linda Baran

Lectionary Readings for May	
May 1	Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Ps 16, 1 Pet 1:3-9, John 20:19-31
May 8	Acts 2: 14a, 36-41, Ps 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Pet 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35
May 15	Acts 2:42-47, Ps 23, 1 Pet 2:19-25, John 10:1-10
May 22	Acts 7:55-60, Ps 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Pet 2:2-10, John 14:1-14
May 29	Acts 17:22-31, Ps 66:8-20, 1 Pet 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

Don't forget to visit our online calendar [click here](#)



**May Anniversaries**

May 27 Tom & Laurie Rowan