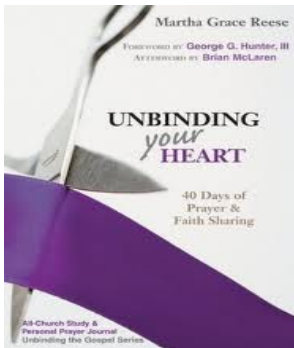


# The Clapper

God  
is still  
speaking,

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

January 2012  
www.2ccucc.org  
(207)439-3903



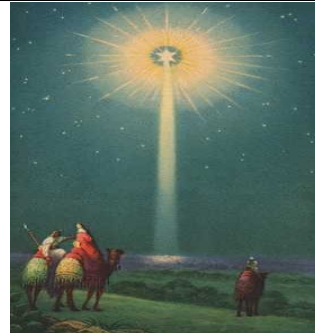
## E-VENT Coming in Lent 2012

Lent this year will be a very special time for our congregation. We hope everyone will participate in these 40 special days of prayer, supported by a

small group and joining in Sunday worship that builds on what we've been learning and praying about. The resource we'll use is called *Unbinding Your Heart* and will be provided when you sign up to be a part of a small group. We will have a special "Sign-up Sunday" on January 22<sup>nd</sup> when we will introduce the E-Vent and hopefully create some energy for this wonderful opportunity. Mark your calendars now with Ash Wednesday on February 22<sup>nd</sup> until Easter Sunday on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Be part of this special time of Sabbath and growth for our church community!

## Second Sunday Jazz Musician of the Month: Dave Brubeck

Dave Brubeck (b. Dec. 6, 1920) is an American jazz pianist. He has written a number of jazz standards, including "In Your Own Sweet Way" and "The Duke," as well as a hymn in our hymnal! His style ranges from refined to bombastic, reflecting his classical training and his improvisational skills. In 1996 he received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Please join us for Second Sunday Jazz Worship on Sunday, January 8, when we feature the music of Dave Brubeck.



## Epiphany Concert

Friday, January 6, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Hosted by

**Second Christian Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**A Celebration of the choirs  
of the churches of the**

**Kittery-Eliot Clergy Association**

**ALL ARE INVITED TO COME AND  
SHARE IN THIS TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**

## Notice of Quarterly Meeting January 22, 2012

In accordance with the Bylaws and Constitution of Second Christian Congregational United Church of Christ, the **Quarterly Meeting** of said body will convene following worship on **Sunday, January 22**, for the purpose of hearing annual reports from officers and teams, approving the budget for 2012, and conducting other such business as might properly come before the membership of the church.

*If you have not yet submitted your articles for the Annual Report, please do so as soon as possible!*

# From the Pastor

This is the time of year, in the relative peace between Christmas and the New Year, when folks in my line of work can let out a

welcomed sigh of relief and pause to reflect on the year that is now past.

There are many things we have been doing here for a while: Second Sunday Jazz, the Aggiman Triathlon, Table of Plenty, Fort Foster worship, and our annual Evergreen Festival. These are things we have been doing a while and doing well, but always improving on them. There is a ethos here of learning, growing, and reaching new levels of understanding that gives us the courage to listen for God's still speaking voice and respond in faith.

It is that same courage that leads us to take on new things, discovering new ways to be the church and serve God's people. So here's my Top Ten New Things we did in 2011:

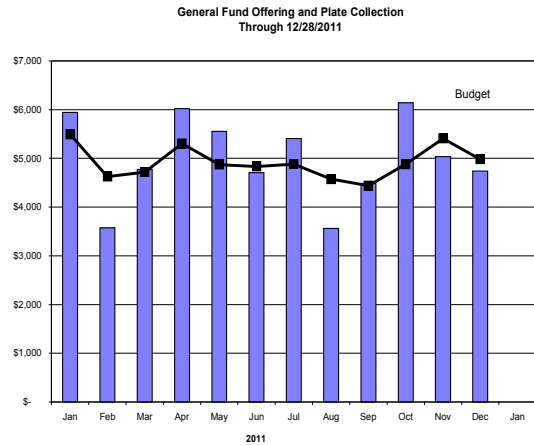
- Turnaround Boot Camp* – Church leaders were challenged and empowered to take us in a new direction of growth and renewal.
- AMIGOS Brown Bag Auction* – We found a new, fun way to raise funds for an existing mission project.
- Turnaround Church Coach* – We invited Paul Nickerson to come in and work with our pastor and leaders to turn our church around.
- Kittery Block Party* – Our neighborhood hosted the biggest party in Kittery in years!
- Bike and Build* – We hosted 35 young people riding bicycles from Portland to Santa Barbara, CA raising money and awareness for affordable housing.
- Financial Peace University* – 12 people discovered new ways to be faithful stewards of their resources.
- Unbinding the Gospel* – Our original unbinding group created two more, and the Spirit grows.
- Worship With Your Hands* – We worshiped God with hearts and hands doing work around the church and in the community.
- Each One Bring One* – We extended an extravagant welcome to 14 invited guests at worship on November 6.
- Advent Dinner* – We dressed up ourselves and our vestry for an elegant dinner, and had some fun too!

Maybe you remember some other new things we did last year. I'm sure I missed a couple. The good news is that we are doing new things, and God is at work doing a new thing among us. It was a great 2011, but the Spirit is telling me it will be an even better 2012, and I look forward to spending it with you!

See you in church,

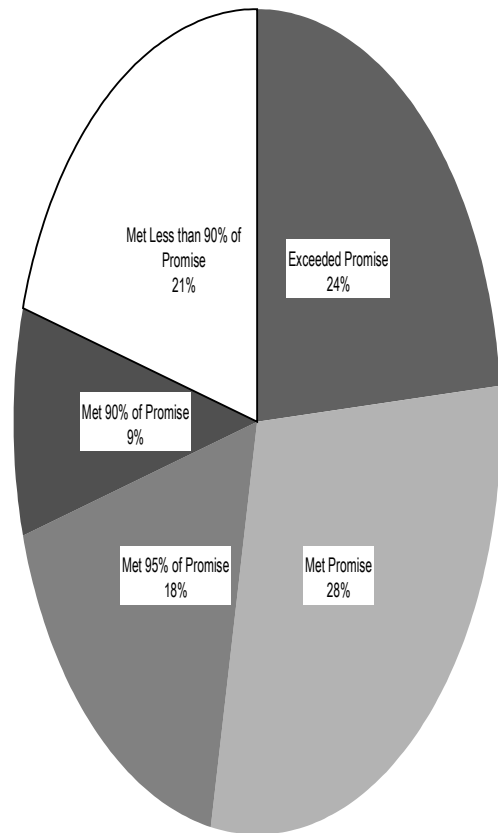


## From the Treasurer:



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 December 28.

## 2011 Faith Promise Goals



## Count Yourself Blessed!

As of December 27 we have received:

**Total Faith Promises: 28**

**General Fund \$49,119**

**OCWM \$6,679**

**Total Amount Promised for 2012: \$55,798**

## Church Council Highlights – November 29

**Finance Report:** The CFO stated that we have received 22 Promises as of November 29, with the prospect of even more in the near future.

### Unfinished Business

The Evergreen Festival was a success. The proceeds thus far are \$3,535.09 and the raffle brought in \$953.10. A follow up meeting will be held to discuss the fair and suggest changes.

Furnace: When the work is completed, we need to pay \$9,600 for the installation. The Finance Team will decide which fund to take the money from for the payment.

CDs: We have CDs coming due with the Cornerstone Fund on December 15, 2011. A discussion was held as to renewing them. Referred to Finance Team.

Budget: Requests for the fiscal year 2012 are due, so Finance Team can prepare budget.

Heating System: Work is nearly done. Thermostats work on a 7 day cycle in the Sanctuary and Vestry. Chimney needs to be relined with a flexible metal pipe. The old holes are being repaired and new tiles are being installed where needed.

Stewardship Campaign: The campaign has been well received, presented by Tom Baran and Pam Cooper.

### New Business

Winter Services: The consensus was to remain upstairs this winter unless the weather is such that only a few members are apt to attend and then we'll meet in the vestry.

Finance Team: The team and Pastor Brad met with a representative from United Church Funds. It is a firm that invests in responsible funds. They also met with Capital Campaign Leadership coordinator to discuss the feasibility of hiring them at a cost of \$3,200 to do a feasibility study of our church as to how we can raise more income. Both men are Ordained Ministers and work to help churches in their growth and financial needs. Other Capital Campaign companies may be looked at as well.

Epiphany Concert: We have been invited to host the concert this year, January 6 at 7:00 PM.

## Team Reports

Stewardship: Tom is pleased with the response.

Welcoming: Paul Nickerson was well received, and informative.

Learning: Thursday night Bible Study is off to a slow start and may change to first and third Tuesday evenings.

Diaconate: Nadine Reported that the Congregational Care will be meeting at the home of Edythe Niles. The Turnaround Team is still holding meetings.

Going Out: Laurie reported that a plaque has been ordered to honor the donors to the Hilda Fife Scholarship Fund. It is time to think about CWS kits for 2012.

Trustee: Ernie reported there are 7 teams for cleaning the church. The floors in the vestry and kitchen need to be stripped and wax. John's Cleaning will do it, and he asked to see if they would consider being hired to do the floors on a regular basis. A wall will need to be built to hide the air exchanger in the Sanctuary. Charlie rewired outlets to accommodate the new radiators. The floor at the top of the back stairs needs to be secured. Snow removal on Sunday morning was discussed.

Next Council Meeting, December 18.

Respectfully Submitted,

M. Priscilla deRochemont, Scribe

---

## *Liturgist Training*

Do you ever think you'd like to help lead worship by being a liturgist, but didn't think you knew how to do it? Well this is your chance, because we are inviting ALL liturgists, experienced, novice, and in between, to a training session on Saturday, January 14 at 10:00 AM. It should take no more than one hour. It's the work of the people – let's do it!

---

*Mark Your Calendars...*

## **Bible Study Returns!**

All are welcome to join us the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the parlor for Bible Study. Our first gathering will be January 17. Everyone is invited. No long-term commitment or previous experience is required!

**Diaconate Meeting Highlights – December 13****Unfinished Business**

Congregational Care Meeting hosts are needed.

Conference call with Paul Nickerson: Discussed attention to visitors and pastor's networking in the community. There were three guest families Sunday, Nadine filled in in nursery.

Nash Garabedian offered a Jazz concert some time in January/February to attract families. Perhaps Mike Effenberger could also do a concert.

Need for visitation shepherd discussed. Also noted that cards are sent to visitors who sign Guest Book. Need to be attentive to visitors.

Advent Pot Luck Supper and Auction raised over \$400 for Fuel & More.

Unbinding Your Heart: the next step after Unbinding the Gospel Groups is forming church wide groups to meet weekly and discuss *Unbinding Your Heart*, a six week, Lenten event of groups of 8-10 sharing faith time together in preparation for Sunday worship. The goal is 75% of the congregation participating. Churches who have done this experienced faith growth. February 26, 2012 first Sunday in Lent, with Ash Wednesday on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. January 15 sign up Sunday.

Child Care: Patty stated that downstairs room too small with large round table in it. Upstairs more roomy, but need to keep clear. Discussed people for child care. Different people each Sunday can be an issue for children. Possibility of paid child care mentioned. Special need for Christmas services.

Discussed time to honor members of 50+ years of membership.

Epiphany Concert: Jan. 6. Need for refreshments.

Next meeting January 10 at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Baran, Scribe

---

***Christmas Gifts***

Thank you to everyone who contributed Christmas Gifts. As of December 27, we received \$896! If you have not yet contributed, please consider prayerfully the ministry we share and the exciting new places our God is leading us. Special blue envelopes can be found in the vestry, or make a note on your regular offering envelope or check.

***Help for our Neighbors  
Fuel & More***

Although we enjoyed mild temperatures in December, a frosty wind is now howling. For some of our neighbors, the arrival of winter means a difficult choice between food and fuel. Kittery's Fuel & More is a special fund administered by the town of Kittery that provides assistance to residents who need help keeping their homes warm through the winter.

The program is funded solely by individuals and businesses. Residents in need are allotted one hundred gallons of oil/propane once during the winter season. With unemployment benefits ending for many and good paying jobs hard to find, the demand is growing. Many who inquire about the program have never asked anyone for help before. In order to meet the growing demand they need your help!

Thanks to your generous bidding at our Christmas bag auction, we raised \$402 to help keep our neighbors warm this year. But more money is needed! If you would like to make a donation to Kittery's Fuel & More, please include it with your weekly offering and make a note on your check or envelope that you are contributing to Fuel & More. No donation is too small to help.

---

**Christmas Fund 2011**

On Epiphany Sunday, January 1, we will dedicate our annual Christmas Fund offering. This special offering of the United Church of Christ helps to support retired ministers and their spouses and provide emergency assistance to clergy. Special red envelopes can be found in the vestry. Or make a note on your envelope or check that you are giving to the Christmas Fund.

---

**2012 FELLOWSHIP DUES**

We are inviting all members and active friends to please contribute \$15 each towards our 2012 York Association Fellowship Dues. Fellowship dues help to support the important work of our Association and Conference as they serve our local churches. Please note in the memo portion of your check, or on your offering envelope that you are making a donation towards the Fellowship Dues.

## ***End 68 Hours of Hunger\****

*Mission: To meet the needs of school children who confront approximately 68 hours of hunger between the free lunch they receive in school on Friday afternoon, and the free breakfast they receive in school on Monday morning.*

100% of every single dollar contributed to End 68 Hours of Hunger goes directly to purchase food which is packed by volunteers into backpacks, which are delivered to elementary schools. A school employee delivers the backpacks to the participating students. The students take the backpacks home on Friday afternoon, and return them empty on Monday morning. Volunteers then pick the backpacks up, refill them, and the cycle starts again, every week.

### **How Can I Help?**

1. Updating our website to keep the content fresh.
2. Contacting potential sponsors by phone and setting up meetings and webinars on our program.
3. Picking up food from distribution points and taking it to our storage facility.
4. Leading a team inventory and put the food away in our storage facility.
5. Serving as a team leader with the volunteer teams doing the packing and distributing of food.
6. Serving as a team leader with the guidance counselors at the schools we serve.
7. Talk with your civic organizations, your company, knitting group and bowling team about what we are doing and solicit donations or host fundraisers.
8. You can contribute directly to End 68 Hours of Hunger knowing that 100% of the funds you contribute go directly to the food needs of children.

To learn more go to [www.end68hoursofhunger.org](http://www.end68hoursofhunger.org).

\* Note: this program is currently operating in Dover, NH, and the need is here in Kittery.

*A teacher recently asked children to write about what they would do if they had \$100. One child wrote: If I had \$100, I would give it to my mother to buy food for us.*

## ***S(o)uper Weekend!***

It's almost that time of year again for soup pots and subs! Join us on February 5 as we transform Super Bowl weekend into a time for changing the world and helping our neighbors. On that Sunday, we will have soup pots in hand encouraging generous monetary donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring. We will also be making our famous subs that day. Sub order forms will be available in the vestry. Proceeds from both to benefit local charities. So save the date and be a team player on Super Bowl Sunday!

---

### **Going Out News**

**Table of Plenty:** We now have a schedule through winter and spring. Our team's dates to cook and serve are January 26, March 15, and May 3. If you're interested in joining our team, please see Laurie Rowan.

**Church World Service:** Watch for more info!

---

### **Footprints**

Dear Second Christian Members,

Thank you so very much for your donation of \$45.32 delivered to Footprints Food Pantry December 16, and thank you for the ice scrapers an item that is needed this time of year.

It is so wonderful to have enough money to purchase food when we need to, and we sure have needed to. We now have to purchase bulk food from stores to keep enough food for all with a need. Footprints is a non-profit Pantry run by volunteers only, and it is wonderful caring people like you that help us keep serving those that need a helping hand.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Fernald

***Don't forget your monthly donation to Footprints on January 8. Their shelves are low on everything especially staples such as tuna, peanut butter, pasta, baked beans, cereal, Helper Dinners (hamburger, chicken, tuna), and rice side dishes.***

---

### **Kittery Coffee House**

**January 14, 6:30 – 9:30 PM**

**For more info contact (207) 438-6087, (603) 842-3818, or [shadesofgrass@hotmail.com](mailto:shadesofgrass@hotmail.com).**

***The Book of Life...***

We celebrate the birth of  
Sienna Mae Seaward  
Born December 13, 2011  
Daughter of  
Philip & Meghan Seaward  
Granddaughter of  
Charlie & Nadine Donnell

***Notes of Appreciation...***

To Our Fellow Church Friends,

You made the difference in this year's Evergreen Festival. You volunteered without us asking. You asked for a different job this year or continued working in the same task you have perfected over the years. You told us when you couldn't help and where you could. You took charge of whatever task you volunteered for and made it your own to great success. As a result of all you did our church home had a most successful Evergreen Festival that raised \$4,638.

Thank You, Patty & Kathy

~~~~~  
Thanks to everyone who donated to the gift bags for shut-ins project. Your generosity allowed us to provide 20 gift bags to be delivered by Meals on Wheels and Kittery Holiday Baskets, and to make cash donations to Holiday Baskets and Footprints. Thanks also to Kennebunk Savings Bank, TD Bank, Service Credit Union, and P. Gagnon & Son for the items they donated.

Elaine Hansberry & Lezlye Shea

~~~~~  
Dearest Friends at the Second Christian Church,

You beautiful people, you made my 93<sup>rd</sup> Christmas. Thanks for the many beautiful useful gifts. It was so much fun seeing all the surprises.

You're a great group of people – so kind and giving – it's been a joy to know you. Wishing each of you a blessed and very happy New Year in 2012.

With much love and appreciation,  
Mary Dalzell

~~~~~  
Thank you Lezlye for the new desktop calculator for the office! "Addie" is a much needed improvement to our office!

~ Joy

**THINK INK!**

Thank you to everyone who dropped off used ink cartridges at the church. Each month we can return to Staples a total of 20 ink cartridges for \$2 credit each. These Staples Rewards points really help to stretch our office budget. So next time you find your ink cartridge empty – THINK INK!

~~~~~  
*During this cold and flu season, please remember that not all infections are bad...*

**Smile for You**

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu

When someone smiled at me today,

I started smiling too

I passed around the corner  
and someone saw my grin

When he smiled, I realized I'd passed

it on to him

I thought about that smile,  
then realized its worth

A single smile, just like mine,  
could travel around the earth

So if you feel a smile begin,  
don't leave it undetected

Let's start an epidemic quick,  
and get the world infected!

~ Maine ACE September 28, 2011

**United Way of the Greater Seacoast Needs  
Early Reader Volunteers**

One of the community wide goals of the United Way of the Greater Seacoast is to help children entering kindergarten be ready to succeed. To that end, they've created a new United Way Early Reader Volunteer program. They currently have 40 trained volunteers reading to pre-school children at 20 sites – but the need is great.

If you would like to volunteer for an hour every week or every other week, for at least four months, contact the United Way of the Greater Seacoast at 603-436-5554 or visit their website at [www.uwgs.org](http://www.uwgs.org).

**Reminder: FOOD FOR FOOTPRINTS EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH (January 8th)**

**DEACON OF THE MONTH: Ernie Wiswell**

**ALTERNATE: Nadine Donnell**

**January Ushers:**

01 Wilma Wheeler & Orville deRochemont  
 08 Lucille Melhorn & Edith Morgan  
 15 Nadine & Charlie Donnell  
 22 Bobbie & Vick Contella  
 29 Cheryl Beckert & Melanie Fetterolf

**January Greeters:**

01 Lucille Melhorn  
 08 Melanie Fetterolf & Cheryl Beckert  
 15 Patty & Ken Higgins  
 22 Sharon & Ernie Wiswell  
 29 Jean & Mike Badger

**January Liturgists:**

01  
 08 Nadine Donnell  
 15 Wilma Wheeler  
 22 Pam Cooper  
 29 Larry Hansberry

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

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

Kathy Bales	Molly Banville	Gini Barron	Carl Burbank	Heather Clark
Jim Cole	Carolyn Consaga	Vick Contella	Thelma Ferguson	Sandi Folmar
Mary Heal	Guy LaClair	Margaret Launer	Sam Legasse	Susie Legasse
Mildred Leland	Anna Lesswing	Laureene McQuade	Howard Moulton	Kim Polak
Priscilla Reuter	Gregory Sanborn	Lezlye Shea	Rosella Spears	Ian Stewart

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

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

January 2 Patrick Seaward  
 January 3 Mike LaMontagne  
 January 4 Roger Kenney  
 January 5 Andrew Morgan  
 Montana Wiswell  
 Cheryl Beckert  
 January 10 Pamela Bickmore  
 January 11 Carolyn Patten  
 January 18 David Kenney  
 January 25 Melanie Mackenzie  
 January 26 Betty Robbins  
 January 27 Ann Taylor  
 Jeff Mackenzie  
 January 31 Sharon Wiswell

**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

January 2 Ron & Pam Cooper

Lectionary Readings for January	
Jan. 1	Isa 61:10-62:3, Ps 148, Gal 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40, Isa 60:1-6, Ps 72: 1-7, 10-14, Eph 3:1-12, Matt 2:1-12
Jan. 8	Gen 1:1-5, Ps 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11
Jan. 15	1 Sam 3:1-10, 11-20, Ps 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Cor 6:12-20, John 1:43-51
Jan. 22	Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Ps 62:5-12, 1 Cor 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20
Jan. 29	Deut 18:15-20, Ps 113, 1 Cor 8:1-13, Mark 1: 21-28

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

