

# THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT



Volume 33, No. 12

Special offering this month: "Alternative Christmas and Angel Tree"

December 2011



### Center Harbor Congregational Church United Church of Christ

PO Box 229, 52 Main Street  
Center Harbor, NH 03226  
Tel: (603) 253-7698  
Tel/Fax: (603) 253-8668  
Office/Sanc. Hrs: T-W-Th 9:30-2:30  
Website: www.chcucc.org  
E-mail: chcucc@myfairpoint.net

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The Rev. Carol Snow-Asher,  
Pastor ~ Tel. 744-7864  
Nancy Turziano, Music Director  
Nancy Lemieux, Office Secretary  
All Members: Ministers

**The Village Preschool**  
Sally Mann 455-6322

**Altar Flowers**  
Pastor/Poster in Gilpatric Hall

**Deacon of the Month**  
All Deacons

**Trustees**  
Kent Warner 253-4342

**Board of Christian Education**  
John Merrill 253-6793

**Board of Christian Mission**  
Mary Alice Warner 253-4342  
Submissions & calendar events  
due by the 15th each month.

## You will be Restored!!

**Alternative Christmas** - through December 18th.  
Honor a loved one by giving a gift in their name  
to a worthy organization.

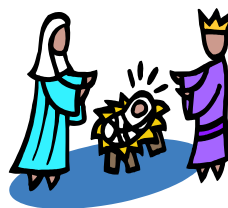


**Memorial Poinsettias** - Order special  
memorial flowers by Sunday, Dec. 4th.

**Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon**, Thursday,  
December 8th at 12 noon in Gilpatric Hall.

**Advent Afternoon** - Saturday, December 17th; Crafts for  
kids of ALL AGES from 1:30- 3 p.m.; pageant rehearsal from  
3-5 p.m. And, as if that weren't busy enough....

**Christmas Caroling** to some of our shut-ins and  
dear folks, leaving the church at 5pm Saturday,  
December 17th. (We will have pizza for those  
participating in the Advent Afternoon activities  
before going out.)



**Church School Pageant** - During morning  
worship on Sunday, December 18th., the  
children invite you to travel with them to  
Bethlehem.

**Christmas Eve Services** - Invite someone to worship  
with you as we welcome the Christ child; 5 p.m.  
outside around the manger (weather permitting);  
7 p.m. candlelight service inside.



**Christmas Day** ~ we will gather around the  
manger in the sanctuary at 10AM on Sunday,  
December 25th to listen to the angels' song and  
to hear the voices of Bethlehem.

## Out of My Mind... and Heart

Carol Asher, — Pastor

I love this Christmas story about God's sense of humor: *A Practical Joke*

*It's a marvelous, wonderful, wise, loving, practical joke: Christmas! The nativity.*

*There's God, down through the centuries, listening to the prophecies about the Messiah.*

*Some of them were wonderful and beautiful and spoke the mind of God. Others thundered away about the Conqueror, the one who'd come in on a white horse, with sword and shield, a leader that would be better and tougher than King David.*

*So God gave them the gift they so badly needed. But not the gift they expected.*

*It was King David II they wanted. It was a tiny baby they got. What a hoot!*

*They wanted power. So God gave them the power of weakness. They wanted a conqueror. So God gave them love that conquers all.*

*That must have been good for a heavenly chuckle or perhaps even a belly laugh (if a belly laugh is possible for a God who is spirit.)*

*It was not the laughter of derision. It was the laughter of a loving, gentle parent waking up long before the kids on Christmas morning, waking up in anticipation of the face of the child when that special gift is opened, and the child realizes that the gift is infinitely more than it ever dared ask for in the letter to Santa.*

*And the laughter of God is the laughter of a pleased-as-punch parent who receives the Christmas thank-you hug of a delighted child.*

*The joke comes back every year.*

It seems that the Thanksgiving and Advent seasons have "snuck" up on us this year... and we have been caught so totally unprepared that many of us haven't even started making the long seasonal "to-do" lists. Perhaps... instead of bemoaning the fact that there is even less time this year as we have had every other hectic year... instead of panicking about trying to get everything done, maybe our late start is a message for us, yet ANOTHER practical joke that God is playing on us this year. Is it possible that we are being called to throw away those old lists and do something strange and different... and meaningful and wonderful?

May this be the year we REALLY keep to the budget that we can afford. Our love for our family and friends

is NOT reflected in the added number of expensive gifts that we give to them. May we have the courage to stop and give gifts purely because we WANT to, not because we are forced into HAVING to give them. May this be the year that we don't simply COMPLAIN about the crass commercialism, but we absolutely refuse to "buy" into it (excuse the pun!)

May this be the year to get a little creative and give gifts (and maybe gift certificates) that will benefit local businesses, craftspeople and workmen who need a boost in this economy.

May this be the year that we smile when we find ourselves in a store line and take those few minutes to hum a Christmas carol. (Let those around wonder!!)

May this be the year of more peaceful preparations, not hypertensive activity! Think about what REALLY needs to be done in order to be ready for Christmas. (Do your friends look forward to choosing from six different desserts... or do they enjoy visiting with YOU??)

Having foregone some of the craziness, may this be the year that there is a little extra time to spend with someone who otherwise wouldn't have much to look forward to.

May this be the year that we learn to graciously say "thank you" rather than ruing that we didn't remember to have some wrapped trinket ready for just these circumstances.

May this be the year that you invite a neighbor to come with you to the Christmas Eve service that they might hear the unbelievable good news of God's unexpected gift to the world. (in the quiet candlelight, you and they might hear the beating of angel wings and the sound of God's laughter, too).

May THIS be the year that we listen to the bidding of the angels and do the unexpected. May THIS year mark the beginning of some new traditions that are more meaningful and more in line with the real reason for Christmas. In my family, we say that "a tradition" is something we did last year and we all liked!

The season MAY have snuck up on us... but there is ALWAYS time to be different and make new plans.

Sooo... blessed tradition-making!

*Sharon*  
*Pastor Carol*

## From the Board of Deacons

Earlier in November we welcomed Pastor Carol back after her successful knee surgery.

December promises to be a busy month with the weekly lighting of our Advent candles, the Church School Christmas pageant, Advent Afternoon, Caroling, and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Invite your neighbors to worship with you during the Advent season and on Christmas Eve—outside gathered around the Nativity Scene at the front of the church at 5PM and inside at 7PM. There will be special music and candlelighting at both these services.

The order form for Christmas Poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary is on the next page of this newsletter. Please note that all orders **MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 4th**.

Christmas this year falls on Sunday, so there will be a short, somewhat different service at 10:00AM giving us an opportunity to worship together on this very special day.

You are again invited to post one Christmas card/greeting to the whole church on the board in Gilpatric Hall. We hope that you will do something creative with the money saved on cards and postage.

The Deacons (and all the other Boards and Committees) are working to identify the many tasks that need to be accomplished each month and hope others in the church family may be willing to help. More details will be forthcoming in the near future.

The brand new CHCC tee-shirts made their debut at the Holly Fair—they are really striking. Please see Patte Morrow to buy your very own (only \$10 per shirt). An additional order will be made when the present stock is bought out.

Christmas blessings to each and everyone from the Board of Deacons.



### The Christmas *Presepio*

In many Mediterranean countries and in South America, there is a custom of enlarging on the traditional manger scene. Many homes display a *presepio* that has grown over the years and may take up an entire room.

In the center is traditional manger scene, with the “normal” figures are gathered around—Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus; some shepherds and their sheep; the three Wise Men and their trusty camels; and some representatives of the choir of angels. To this basic scene, families have added many typical Bethlehem “towns-folk”—the busy innkeeper and his family, travelers who might have journeyed to Bethlehem for the census, workmen and craftsmen from the town; town children and normal people who would have found themselves swept up into the wonder of that evening more than 2000 years ago. As figures were made and added to the family *presepio*, stories were made up and shared. These stories became part of the family tradition as they were told year after year.

For example, an older Bethlehem midwife might tell of arriving at the stable (ewww!) too late to help Mary deliver her first-born, but in time to marvel at the beauty of that tiny baby. Or the town carpenter who finds out that he shares his profession with the father of this new baby. Or a little child who wonders about the bright star that hovers right over the stable area.

Some families even add figures representing the members of their own families... and share stories about what it might have been like had they actually been in Bethlehem on that night.

The point is that there is ALWAYS room at the manger for anyone to come and see, to marvel

### Christmas Poinsettias



Joel Robert Poinsett was the first American diplomat sent to Mexico in 1825. There he saw some flowers that the Mexicans called "flowers of the Holy Night" because they bloomed right around Christmastime. Dr. Poinsett sent some cuttings back to his family in South Carolina.

At first glance, all you see in this plant is green and bright red. You might assume that the bright red is from the flowers. Upon close examination, you will discover that there is a cluster of small golden-yellow flowers in the center of the red (or pink or white) leaves. The red leafy part attracts the insects that are needed to pollinate the almost-hidden tiny flowers.

The poinsettia symbolizes our Christmas season. At first glance, we see only the splashy red and green of typical decorations. Red and green are true Christmas colors that remind us of life and hope and love. But almost hidden in all the decorations is the true meaning of Christmas—the small treasure more precious than gold. May we be attracted like the insects to look beyond the obvious at Christmas and spread the good news of the treasure we find.

### Order Holiday Flowers For Our Sanctuary

Please order as soon as possible, but no later than Sunday, December 4th. Extra forms will be available in Gilpatric Hall and in the Sunday bulletins. Please indicate where you wish your plants to go after the Christmas Sunday service (we would like to have some flowers left until Christmas Eve.) Please submit order forms and payment in the offering, or to the church office (253-7698).

<u>Poinsettia</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Qty. Red</u>	<u>Qty. White</u>	<u>Total Qty. of Plants</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>I'll Take Home</u>	<u>To Nursing Home or Shut-in</u>
4"	\$6.75						
6.5"	\$15.00						
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$</b>		

Because we have had too many plants in the past, we will order what we need for shut-ins; all other donations will be given to the Deacons' Fund. In any case, all memorials will be listed.

Please make checks payable to **Center Harbor Congregational Church** and write "Flowers" on memo line.

Name of donor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

*And if you wish, circle a choice below and fill in. This will be in the bulletin on Christmas Sunday, December 18th.*

In memory of...      In honor of...      In celebration of...

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC December 2011

Visit us online: [www.chcucc.org](http://www.chcucc.org) You may request the newsletter by e-mail.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>This month's mission: "Alternative Christmas &amp; Angel Tree"</b></p> <p>Questions? Call the secretary during Office/Sanctuary Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm or leave a message: (603) 253-7698 or 253-8668 E-mail: <a href="mailto:chcucc@myfairpoint.net">chcucc@myfairpoint.net</a></p>						
2nd Sun. of Advent 4 8:30 am <b>BOCE</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship &amp; Church School</b> 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments 5-8:30pm <b>OWL</b> <b>Poinsettia Deadline</b>	5 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	6 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	7	8 12noon—Women's Christmas Luncheon @ church 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	9 11:30am Preschool Grand Luncheon	10 8:00 Al-Anon
3rd Sun. of Advent 11 10:00 am <b>Worship &amp; Church School</b> <b>(Pageant Rehearsal)</b> 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments 5:30pm <b>Second Sundays</b>	12 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	13 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	14	15 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	16	17 8:00 Al-Anon 1:30pm <b>Advent Afternoon</b> 3pm <b>Pageant Reh.</b> 5pm <b>Caroling</b>
4th Sun. of Advent 18 10:00 am <b>Worship Christmas Pageant</b> 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments	19 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	20 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	21	22 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	23	24 8:00 Al-Anon 5 & 7pm <b>Christmas Eve Services</b>
25 <i>Blessed Christmas!</i> 10:00 am <b>Family Worship</b>	26 NO Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	27 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	28	29 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	30	31 <i>Happy New Year!</i> 8:00 Al-Anon

## *News from the Mission Board!*

Our national United Church of Christ November 1-11 2011 MISSION: 1 to impact hunger issues in the US and the East African Famine Relief was successful, and our church can be pleased that we were part of the success in exceeding the goals.

Our Food Fight shows our giving spirit with the food and household goods brought to the altar to share with our neighbors for the holidays. The big winner of our Food Fight is the local food pantry in Meredith, which received 251 items of food (123 from the Post Office side of the church and 128 from the Parking Lot side). Thank you all for your caring love. Although all the food items collected during the Food Fight have been delivered to our local food bank, the need is on-going. Please remember to purchase some extra items for the food pantry when you shop all during the winter months.

In December we turn to our local community with our Angel Tree, Alternative Christmas and the Stars visits. There were 29 Angels on the tree for children in the Inter-Lakes Schools, with requests from the families for winter clothes and a few toys. We are asked to bring our gifts in a bag with wrapping paper and ties so that the parent can wrap them. Please tie your Angel to the bag and bring it to the church by **Sunday December 11**, and we will deliver them to the Meredith drop-off that day.

We have 8 Stars on the tree for those in our congregation who are mostly unable to get out to church; you may take a Star and pick up a small arrangement from Floral Creations on Rte. 25 in Moultonborough when you show your Star - "Because We Care". We thank Mardee for her generosity to us in bringing added joy to our Stars. Please call before visiting these special people.

For our Alternative Christmas, there will be 5 choices for you to give a gift in someone else's name in place of an actual present. Booklets will be available in Gilpatric Hall for you to peruse and make your gift "purchases" on December 4, 11 and 18. The Mission Board has again chosen the Circle Camp for Girls, Heifer International, Mayhew Camp for Boys, New Beginnings, and Village Preschool scholarships. You may also leave your order form in the church office. Please remember to write a different check to each different organization. You will receive a gift tag to give to the person honored by your alternative gift.

Sally Humer, a member of the Mission Board, followed up on her idea of collecting coats for school children and joined with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Clothing Exchange at the Inter-Lakes Elementary School held on October 28. Our church collected 50 coats, and many other items. A letter from the school nurse says that over 140 children and adults were outfitted that day, and that the "children came to school that Monday wearing their new gear and were able to play in the season's first snowfall"!

We are truly a "giving community of faith"; we show our love for God through our gifts to those near at home and in the wider world.

Wishing you a joyous and blessed Advent and Christmas season.

The Mission Board – Sally Humer, Joyce Larson, Robin Weeks and Mary Alice Warner, Chair

## CHCC 2011 Missions

January	The Christmas Fund (UCC)
February	Mission Trust Fund
March	One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC)
April	New Beginnings
May	Blankets & Tools of Hope (Church World Service)
June	United Campus Ministry
July	Strengthen the Church (UCC)
August	Habitat for Humanity
September	Focus on Africa
October	Neighbors in Need (UCC)
November	Hunger
December	<b>Alternative Christmas &amp; Angel Tree</b>

## Christian Education News

Thom Winslow shared that the Cookie Walk held on October 2, 2011 raised \$164! All of the cookies were sold. It was wonderful that this was successfully pulled together on short notice.

John Merrill has agreed to step into an interim position as chairperson of the BOCE, pending congregation approval of a full appointment at the Annual Meeting. John's "new" role will become effective January 1, 2012. Yeah!

The proposed Christian Education budget for January to December 2012 was submitted, based on last years' budget. A line item was added for the OWL Program (\$500).

A hope was expressed that in the future, there might be more possibilities for more Adult Education programs or retreats. This will be discussed in the future...and any input of interest from the congregation will be appreciated (for example: marriage enrichment, short-term Bible Studies, Family Forums...).

Ellen Weeks shared that volunteers are needed for the Holly Fair. Hopefully, our youth and families will be encouraged to participate in this ALL-CHURCH FUND-RAISER.

Norman shared that the first OWL retreat was held the first weekend in October at Geneva Point Center, with a great group of kids. There are 10 attending – 7 girls and 3 boys (5 total from CHCC). Sessions will be held on the first Sunday of each month, and several learning modules are covered in each session.

The Annual Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 18, 2011. Rehearsal will take place during service time on Sunday, December 11, 2011 and again following Advent Afternoon at 3:00 on the 17th. Carrie Crosby will direct again this year, with Hannah being the manager.

Advent Afternoon will take place on Saturday, December 17, 2011 from 1:30 to 3:00pm. There will be a number of crafts for all ages. The group discussed encouraging more participation from

the congregation; it was suggested that Church Buddies be invited (by their Little Buddies) to join the festivities. At 3:00pm there will be a rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant. The group would also like to

**You are cordially invited to join  
the fun of Advent Afternoon.  
Saturday, December 17th  
1:30—3PM  
-and-  
to lift your voices as we go  
Christmas caroling to those  
who can't get out as much,  
leaving the church at 5PM.**

go caroling later that afternoon.

Our sponsored child at Rawdat El-Zuhur school in Jerusalem, Talin Mani, will be 6 years old on December 13th. Thom would like everyone to sign a birthday and a Christmas card to send. Additional sponsorships are still not available (a huge YEAH! for the children!) We will look into the possibility of a UCC-related school here in the U.S. that needs scholarship help for its students.

Patte Morrow and Adam Weeks will be working together on leading the Second Sunday Youth Group. They will meet December 11, 2011 at 5:00pm. Several Youth Group and Church member (9 in all) attended the Horton Center Work Weekend October 15-16, 2011.

A UCC National Youth Event will take place July 10-13, 2012 at Purdue University. The event is for youth ages 13-18. Robert Vodar should be contacted if anyone is interested in attending. There is available money in the Bliss Fund to support our youth attendees. Approximately 3,000 youth from all over the country are expected to attend; it will be a great opportunity for worship, workshops, fun and fellowship!

# Trustee's Report

Our annual Holly Fair is full church family participation from Jesse on up. Everyone enjoys working, and getting to know each other better. Don Edwards has tallied an approximate total for the Holly Fair at about \$2,600; while this is somewhat below our budget number, every dollar is important. Thanks to ALL who contributed, helped set up (and clean up), kept the tables "manned", and prepared and served the luncheon. Special thanks to Ellen Weeks for so much hard work of cheerleading and organizing it.

We are in the final days of our Pledge Campaign. Please prayerfully consider what you can give to support the church we all love, and get your pledge in if you have not already done so. This commitment helps the Trustees plan better

We are learning that our property is getting older. Signs of this are in rotting wood on the back ramp to door, painting needed on the garage, and plumbing problems due to age. Dealing with this is going to cost us more going forward than over the past years. We have been dealing with it fairly successfully with the trustees doing a lot of the required work. We are fortunate to have help from non-trustees, for which we are very thankful.

The Team Program, which is moving forward in the Cabinet will be an additional big help.

Kent Warner, Chair, for the Trustees.

## Rah! Rah! Team!

Team CHCC is a winning team...

and each member and friend has already made the team.

No one will be sitting on the bench without actively participating!

Watch for YOUR future Team CHCC opportunities!

# Treasurer's Report

Income was \$1430 short of budget in October while our expenses were \$245 less than budgeted. Year to date, we are running a deficit of \$17,258 compared to the expected deficit of \$23,115. So we're still doing better than we expected to be at this time in the year. Hopefully the snow stays away and won't impact us too much.

Respectfully submitted by Jason Hicks, Treasurer

Year to date expenses vs. income received As of Sept. 30, 2011		
Expenses	Income	Income Over/ (Under) Ex- penses
\$ 94,338	\$ 77,080	\$ (17,258)



## Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

Women's Fellowship will have their Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 8th at 12:00 p.m. at the church. Bring your favorite casserole dish & place setting as well as a small gift, a special Christmas memory and your Christmas spirit! Rolls, dessert and beverages will be provided. See you on the 8th for fun and fellowship. Please call Jane King at 968-7495 for reservations.

### Birthdays



*This information is not available online.*

*For updates, members may request a printed sheet from the secretary.*

### Anniversaries



*This information is not available online.*

*For updates, members may request a printed sheet from the secretary.*

*We apologize if we missed anyone. Please let us know if you want to be added to the list(s).*

**Worship Volunteers for the Month** *Please share your time and talent!*  
Please sign up for future dates in Gilpatric Hall, or contact a Deacon of the Month.

#### December: All Deacons Responsible

	Ushers	Liturgist	Acolytes	Greeters	Fellowship Host
4	Mary Moore	Carrie Crosby	Charlotte Morrow & Evelyn Hicks		Nancy Leighley
11	Dave & Lynne Sias		Taylor & Megan Colby		
18		Christmas Pageant	Emma & Lauren O'Hearn	Dave & Lynne Sias	
24		Ann Libby	Ben & Hannah Crosby		
25					

## Take a Little Time to Consider This: Gift-Giving Survey

“Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and bowed down to the ground in homage to him, then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:11)

1. When I relate modern-day Christmas with the gift giving at the stable, I feel \_\_\_\_\_
2. As I make up my gift list, I am:  

excited	frustrated	perplexed	angry	happy	obligated
careful	fearful	nonchalant	other _____		
3. When I give a gift, I:  

ask for a list of suggestions	give the same thing to everyone
give special gifts according to each person	don't think of the value of the exchange
give something I have made	
4. When I receive a gift, I:  

am thankful before opening it	reserve my thanks until after opening
consider the person and not the gift	value the homage as well as the gift
mentally compare the value of the gifts in the exchange	
5. The best gift I ever received was \_\_\_\_\_
6. The best gift I ever gave was \_\_\_\_\_
7. A good suggestion for the person who has everything is \_\_\_\_\_
8. When I receive an alternative gift (something other than a wrapped package), I:  

feel cheated	am honored
am embarrassed	other _____
9. One good alternative gift that I'd like to give (or I have given) is: \_\_\_\_\_
10. One person I'd like to remember somehow this year is \_\_\_\_\_
11. One change I'd like to make this Christmas is \_\_\_\_\_

### The Heart of Christmas

It has been said that James the Fifth of Scotland sometimes put aside his royal robes and, dressed as a peasant, moved among the common people. He assisted in their labor, heard their talk, entered into their common life and shared their sorrows. He knew them intimately, as one who involved himself with his people—where they lived and moved and had their being. It was only then that he could rule with understanding for all his subjects.

In the incarnation, the coming of Christ the King, God relates to us like that. And so Christ put aside His royal garb to live among us. THAT is the heart and meaning of Christmas.

## The Xmas of Christmas

Someone has written that people use Xmas and it means Xhaustion, Xcuses, Xchanges, Xcesses, Xtravagances, commercial Xploitations, Xasperations, Xhibitions and worldly Xcitement. How much better to make Christ the very center of our Christmas observances and know joy, happiness sharing and contentment in Him.

In Greek, the first letter in the name "Christ" is X. Keep Christ in Christmas! Let's make this season one of Xaltation of God's gift, Xclamations of joy, Xpectations of peace, Xpressions of love, wonder at God's Xtraordinary plan, and Xuberant gratitude for X's coming.

## Christmas In The Community

### The Altrusa Club of Meredith 16th Annual Festival of Trees

At Waukegan Golf Club Barn. Admission \$3.00—children 5 & under FREE

Fri. Dec. 2nd 2-8pm; Sat. the 3rd 9am-5pm; Sun. the 4th 11am-5pm

Cookies & Cider; Custom Designed Trees; The Noel Shoppe; Raffle Baskets

CHILDREN'S EVENT Story Time: The Gingerbread Man

December 2nd at 5:30pm or 7:00pm Adults: \$3.00; Children 3-8: \$2.00

Pre-Registration suggested: 279-5529

### 20th Annual Meredith Rotary Club Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 4th at 12:00 noon at Inter-Lakes Elementary School

Dinner prepared by Hart's. Dinner, Entertainment and Gifts—Courtesy of the Meredith Rotary Club.

For seniors of Meredith, Sandwich, Moultonborough and Center Harbor.

Reservations necessary—no later than Thursday, December 1st. Call 279-7600

### The Pemigewasset Choral Society—To Hear The Angels Sing

Wed. Dec. 7th: 7:30pm—St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Meredith

Fri. Dec. 9th: 7:30pm—St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, Franklin

Admission to these concerts is by donation

Sun. Dec 11th: 3:00pm—PSU's Hanaway Theatre, Silver Center for the Arts, Plymouth

Admission for Sunday: Adults: \$10.00 — Students & Seniors: \$5.00

### Christmas Nativity Display, over 80 crèches representing 30 nations.

December 9-11, Friday: 12-5; Saturday: 9-5; Sunday: 12-3 Free Admission.

Meredith Bay Colony Club, 21 Upper Mile Point Drive

Many sets are handcrafted in native styles by folk artists using native materials.

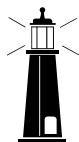
These are collections of our own John Eaton.

### Lakes Region Chordsmen—A barbershop musical dinner

Christmas Cabaret & Spaghetti Dinner—Sunday, December 11th, Gilford Community Church, 19 Potter Hill Rd. Catered by Patricks.

Dinner Served: 4-5pm—Show: 5-6pm. Adults: \$8.00 / Children: \$4.00

Call Guy Haas 707-9990 or Ed Farmer 253-8523



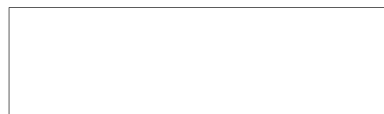
**THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT**  
 Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC  
 PO Box 229  
 Center Harbor NH 03226-0229  
 www.CHCCucc.org



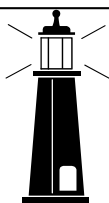
FIRST CLASS

**Save us a stamp:  
 Opt-out of our mailing list and  
 opt-in to our  
 e-mail list**

by calling the church office (603) 253-7698



THE  
 CENTER HARBOR  
 LIGHT  
 December 2011



We are a church whose members love and value each other. Our faith community is a force for caring and sharing God's love in local and wider communities. As members, we learn, grow and serve together to do God's work with faith, compassion and respect.

**All are Welcome on Sundays**  
 10:00 a.m. Worship and Church School  
 —all children welcome  
 11:00 a.m. Fellowship in Gilpatric Hall

**Wanted: Humble Shepherds**

A cartoon pictured the angry parents of a boy who had been selected to play the part of a shepherd in the school's annual Christmas pageant. "But somebody had to be a humble shepherd," the boy's teacher retorted.

Like those parents, too many of us relish the starring role. We want to be front and center—the key player in the entire production. But God needs humble shepherds as well as stars. Nothing we do in His service should be looked on as insignificant or unimportant.



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