

THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT



Volume 33, No. 10

Special offering this month: "Neighbors In Need (UCC)"

October 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
Nancy Leighley 253-9827

Trustees
Kent Warner 253-4342

Board of Christian Education
Laurie Burke 253-6642

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

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

All members and friends of the Center Harbor Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, are hereby called to the **2011 ANNUAL MEETING** which will be held following the worship service on Sunday, October 30, 2011 in our Sanctuary.

Items to be considered and voted on are:
the annual budget for 2012
all nominations for elected office
any other appropriate business brought before the membership

The meeting will begin **immediately following** the Worship Service. At the conclusion of the meeting a pot luck luncheon will be served in Gilpatrick Hall.

Please make every effort to take part in this most important event in the life of your church. Your presence and participation are highly valued by your Pastor, church leaders and all who work so diligently to make Center Harbor Congregational Church such a wonderful and purposeful community of faith.

During the Annual Meeting this year we will welcome representatives from two or three of the programs that our church supports. They will give us a brief testimony of the importance of our church in their programs. You will like what they have to say!

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL
REPORTS IS OCTOBER 6TH**

Out of My Mind... and Heart

Carol Asher, _ Pastor

A LOOOONG time ago, there was a TV program called TW³ (TWTWTW—That Was The Week That Was!) It was a clever, sarcastic look at the news of the previous week. I feel like I have written my own version of TW³—as I compose this, I look back at SUCH a week!

I can't say enough about the staff at Littleton Regional Hospital—each person is superb! In preparation for knee replacement, I received a note book designed to answer MANY questions... about the staff and each individual job and about what to expect at each step of the process. Throughout, there are reminders that the patient is an important member of that particular part of the team being described. As I met with the surgeon the week before surgery, he asked if I had more questions, and he asked what made me so calm and confident. I told him that the notebook was great and ALMOST complete, but the one aspect that I considered most important was missing... and I told him about the important member of “the healing team” who really inspired my confidence. The surgeon smiled broadly, acknowledging the spiritual component that would carry me through.

ME? Did I say “carry ME through”? Later, when I spoke with a member of the physical therapy “team” we had somewhat of a repeat of that same conversation... the young man remarked that it must be really nice to have people praying for you during a time of surgery like this. I got to tell him that people were praying not only for me, but also for the entire surgical staff (including the guy from the company who designs and supplies the “hardware” that replaces old defective bones) and ALL the members of the hospital staff. What a look on that young PT's face as he absorbed the truth that people were praying for HIM during MY procedure!

I think many of you are familiar with the “prayer shawl ministry”—all over the world, Christians are knitting long soft shawls infusing each stitch with a prayer. The prayer shawls are given to people facing difficult circumstances, hoping that the person will feel comforted and surrounded with God's love as he or she wraps up in the soft shawl.

I have a beautiful shawl given to me a couple of years ago during a difficult time. The morning of surgery, as we were all going through our final preparations, I asked the nurse if she were familiar with the ministry. “Oh yes,” she replied, “my mother has made dozens of shawls.” I asked her if she could make sure that my shawl went with me through the OR and if it could be one of the first things that I would be conscious of in Recovery. Sure enough, I was wrapped in my soft, turquoise shawl as I “came to”. It was a comfort with a capital C! In these last few days, comfort has taken on a whole new meaning—it's not just a matter of pain... it is a complete sense of being surrounded and carried into a different place... all pain is NOT erased, but there is COMFORT there... many barriers and pitfalls are STILL in the way, but there is sense of safe passage through it all.

We so often give thanks for our health... which certainly shouldn't be taken for granted. But I am also coming to realize the blessings of an illness or of some physical difficulty... not because it is enjoyable, but because it teaches us something that good health cannot.

When I felt nauseated in the night, I had no thought about tax rates and political wrangling (that seemed so important before), but I really appreciated the cool hand of an LPN who took a couple of extra minutes in the middle of the night to make sure I felt a little better.

I even want to be thankful for the times that I need to ask for help (something that is difficult for me); I realize that we ALL need to be given those opportunities to help in the many and small ways that makes a life full.

Even now that I can claim to be bionic, I am in awe of the ways that we have been wonderfully created. What a partnership has been forged among God and skilled surgeons and creative titanium metal workers!

I thank all of you once again for the “storms of prayers” (for EVERYONE involved) and for the many ways you have already reached out to show your caring.

God is so good... and so manifested in our community of faith!

Asher
Pastor Carol

From the Board of Deacons

The cooler temperatures are upon us as we enter the fall season. Our final Sunday service in August was cancelled due to hurricane Irene—deacon called around to notify members.

Unfortunately rainy, foggy weather forced the church to have our last outdoor service for the summer to go inside on Labor Day weekend.

September 11th was Launch Sunday, the beginning of church school. Attendance was high. Our annual picnic at Perkins Point followed the service with many church members, good food and good fun were shared with one another.

Tuesday, the 13th was the date of Carol's surgery. She was held in all our prayers and thoughts. All reports are positive, and Carol is home.

Deacons arranged to organize Sunday services for September 18th and 25th. It was decided to ask two members to talk about their faith journey in lieu of the sermon. The deacons would serve as liturgists. Nancy Leighley served as the liturgist on September 18th and Honey Evans told of her faith journey. On September 25th, Ann Libby served as liturgist and Thom Winslow told of his faith journey. Services on October 2nd will be conducted by John Eaton. October 9th will be a faith journey. Carol will be able to return to the pulpit on October 16th.

Reach the Beach took place on Friday, September 16th into the wee hours of Saturday morning but was considered very successful. Many of the participants say that this is their favorite stopping point on the route because the food is so good and the people are so friendly—God working through us.

Deacons continue to consider ways to bring our church family even closer. You will hear more about the ideas shared in the near future.

Respectfully submitted, Honey Evans

Christian Education News

The Board of Christian Education met on Sunday, September 11, 2011, officially launching the new Church School year! There is a busy year planned, and everyone is looking forward to cookie walks, Second Sunday Youth Group, teaching our youth (of all ages!), pageants, and of course – Fun!

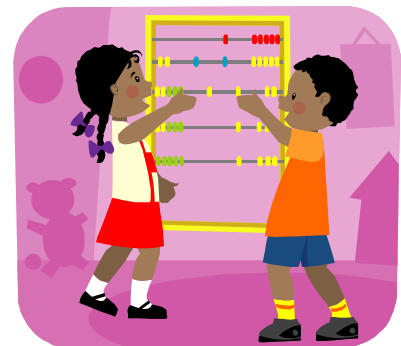
Carrie Crosby and Norman Larson presented the OWL (Our Whole Lives) Program to parents of youth in grades 7 – 10 on Sunday evening, as a kick-off of this new educational program. Look for more information to come!

The BOCE requested a second sponsorship child from the Rawdat School in Jerusalem, in addition to Talin Mani. Sadly for us, all the children at the Rawdat school have sponsors – but what joyful news for all the children there!

The Board would like to make sure all children are teamed up with a Church Buddy. Church Buddies become mentors and friends, and are advantageous not only to the children, but to the “big buddy” as well! If your child needs a buddy, if you would like to become a buddy, or if you would like more information on the Church Buddy program, please contact a member of the Board of Christian Education.

We are looking forward to another exciting year at CHCC!

Regards, Amy O'Hearn, Secretary



News from the Mission Board!

Neighbors in Need (UCC)

Two-thirds of the offering is used by Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects... issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. One-third of your NiN offering is used to support our UCC American Indian neighbors.

This year NEIGHBORS IN NEED in OCTOBER is for the national United Church of Christ Ministries of Justice and Compassion and the UCC Council for American Indian Ministries. Two-thirds of the offering will go to support Justice & Peace Ministries in local and national places of poverty and powerlessness. 300 justice leaders will be trained to help in communities where people need support in crises situations. The theme -“Imaging Another World Is Possible” brings hope and training to develop new leaders and encourage youth to be part of change for better conditions where they live. Stories of some of these programs will be in your pews during the month of October.

One third goes to support clergy and programs in the 20 UCC American Indian churches on reservations and one large urban multi-tribal in Minneapolis, MN. Many American Indians live in poverty, and support for education and training of their youth is vital.

MISSION: 1

Continuing our concern for hunger, from November 1-11, 2011 we are ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice.

MISSION: 1 means “That they may all be 1”, that “God is still speaking” through our actions in our continuing faith and our joining together in changing lives.

In 11 days, the UCC will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD and other household items for local food banks and outreach services.

In 11 days the UCC will make a push to raise online contributions of more than \$111,111 for NEIGHBORS IN NEED offerings for hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

In 11 days the UCC will offer more than 11,111 letters to Congress asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance to more effectively benefit hungry people worldwide, and to add to Bread for the World 2011 “Offering of Letters” campaign. Delegations will visit members of Congress to voice concern about hunger near and far.

During the first 11 days of November an online tote board at ucc.org will tally our count of foods, donations and letters so that we can celebrate together. On Sunday, Nov. 13 we will report on the success of this MISSION 1.

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	Alternative Christmas & Angel Tree

Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC October 2011

Visit us online: www.chccucc.org You may request the newsletter by e-mail.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
This month's mission: "Neighbors in Need"						
Boldface = Church-sponsored events						
World Communion Sun. 2 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments Cookie Walk	3 NO Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	4 1:30 Bereavement 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	5	6 6:00 pm T'ai Chi Deadline: Boards & Committees submit Annual Reports 12pm Women's Fellowship @ Kevins	7	8 8:00 Al-Anon
9 8:30 am BOCE 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments 11:30 Missions Board 5:30-7 Second Sundays	10 Columbus Day 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	11 1:30 Bereavement 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen (Our Turn To Serve) 7:30 pm Trustees	12	13 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	14	15 8:00 Al-Anon Work Weekend at Horton Ctr.
16 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments Annual Reports Avail.	17 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	18 1:30 Bereavement 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen 5:45 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Cabinet	19	20 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	21	22 8:00 Al-Anon 9am-7pm: UCC NH Conf. Annual Meeting, Concord
23 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments	24 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	25 1:30 Bereavement 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	26	27 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	28	29 8:00 Al-Anon
30 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship CHUCC Annual Mtg.	31 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi					
<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: chccucc@myfairpoint.net</p>						

REACH THE BEACH RELAY - 2011 EDITION

It is a good thing the weatherman gave us a warning about the first really cold night coming as we prepared to welcome over 400 Reach-the-Beach Teams at our church. Although Ben Crosby started out in shorts and a t-shirt monitoring the parking lot exit, he didn't stay in that garb long. The cold air descended quickly and Ben and the rest of us working outside bundled up for the night and it got down below 40 degrees.



As usual, the runners provide all kinds of energy and enthusiasm to the evening with their spirit and love of this event, and the many well decorated vans. Ask some of the parking attendants to describe some of their favorites. The runners started arriving at about 8PM and came in a slow but steady stream, but we got a little concerned when we had been open for half the hours and only one-quarter of the runners had come through. It turned out that a washed out bridge in the Notch had caused a change in the timing, so we saw most of the runners come in between 12 midnight and 2AM. That turned out to be a good thing as it kept us busy in the late hours and made the night exciting right up to the end.

A record number of the Center Harbor Congregational Church Family turned out to prepare and serve food, operate the parking lots and assist the RTB staff. We would like to thank all these people for giving their time and energy to make the event very successful again:

Don and Jill Morton	Palmer and Dorrie Smith
John Merrill	Patte Morrow, Braelynn & Charlotte
Joe and Pam Hulkow	Kent Warner
Nancy Leighley & friend Ann	Don and Barb Edwards
Ellen Weeks	Carrie, Ben and Hannah Crosby
Steve Weeks	Natalie Smith
Josiah Weeks	Honey Evans
Haley Weeks and Jessie	Dave and Lynne Sias
Adam Weeks	Norman Larson
Bonnie and Steve Colby & family	Thom Winslow
Rachelle and Phil Smith & family	

Many others also contributed by donating food supplies and preparing food beforehand. Special thanks to Ellen Weeks for heading up the food preparation and to Don Morton for assisting with some of the administrative duties. Don has agreed to be the Point-of Contact person for our Transition site next year and will be coordinating the event.

The runners were appreciative and gave great reviews of the food made available to them. Several kinds of soup, chop suey, baked goods and fruit, as well as a variety of beverages made up the menu. We asked for donations for food items and the runners contributed a total of \$1226 to the baskets! With an additional amount of between \$500-\$800 given to us by the Reach-the-Beach organization, we will indeed be able to consider this a successful event from a financial standpoint as well.

Submitted by Dave Sias

GREEN THUMBS?

Have you been busy potting some baby plants, having ‘started’ rooting at the end of the season? This will be an experiment to see if they will be a good thing to offer at the November Fair. Small(ish), simple pots okay, but you could decorate or make ‘covers’ if you want to be creative. Thanks in advance.



ATTENTION, CRAFTERS AND SEAMSTRESSES

On October 9th...maybe craft material in Gilpatric Hall. fabric awaits YOU. Take what the Holly Fair. What a great more than a month to work on a event.



sooner...there will be a table full of A variety of kits, little do-dads, and you like, AND create something for deal! This great offer gives you few things to help the all-church

A Note from Equal Exchange — Coffee and chocolate prices have risen, not surprisingly. In order for us (CHCCUCC) to continue to serve these socially conscious and delicious products, as well as make them available for you to purchase for your own use, please decide if this project is to be continued, and let Mission Board members know. (note: regular coffee would go up to about \$11 a pound)

Treasurer’s Report

Year to date expenses vs. income received		
As of August 31, 2011		
Expenses	Income	Income Over/ (Under) Ex- penses
\$ 77,753	\$ 59,908	\$ (17,845)

Year to date expenses are almost \$4,000 under budget. However, year to date income is \$3,300 shy of our budget. So it is almost a wash. We're basically right on budget. Hopefully we will be able to stay within our budget for the remainder of the year.

Respectfully submitted by your Treasurer, Jason Hicks

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.

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.

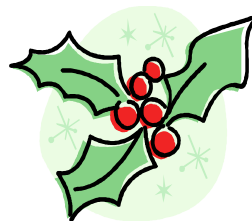
OCTOBER Deacons Responsible: **Nancy Leighley 253-9827**

	Ushers	Liturgist	Acolytes	Greeters	Fellowship Host
2	The Evans	Peter Michaud	Nate & Nick Manville	The O'Hearns	Robin Michaud Nancy Leighley Ellen Weeks
9				The Evans	The Phillips
16	Robin Michaud Ellen Weeks	Honey Evans	Thom Winslow Meeghan LeBlanc	Mary Moore	Bob & Honey Evans
23		Norman Larson	Daniel Humer John Merrill		
30 Annual Mtg.			Emma & Lauren O'Hearn		

THANK YOU FROM TAI CHI

The Tai Chi class would like to thank Center Harbor Congregational Church for the use of Gilpatric Hall for our classes. We have been practicing Tai Chi for several years and the classes have slowly grown in size with many students participating for several years. The size of the class may range from 2 to 8 people. The classes continue to be held on Monday mornings from 9-10 and Thursday evenings from 6-7. We welcome all participants and Tai Chi experience is not needed.

ANNUAL HOLLY FAIR NOVEMBER 2011



Our **ALL CHURCH FAIR** is
fast-approaching!

Your time, talent or treasures are welcomed.

Thanks!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The Women's Fellowship will have their fall luncheon at noon on Thursday, October 6th at Kevin's Cafe. Please call Jane King at **968-7495** or the church office at **253-7698** for reservations.

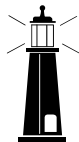


God and Peanuts

George Washington Carver called his workshop "God's Little Workshop." In that workshop, he began to analyze the peanut. He took it apart, heated, pressurized it and mixed it with other substances. Day-after-day and week-after-week he worked in his laboratory -- and eventually he came up with hundreds of different products. The little old peanut gave people a better diet and a new industry, and helped revolutionize the economy of the South.

Somebody once asked Carver how he managed to discover so much. "I really discover nothing; with God's help, I uncover things that are already there," he replied. "I come into my lab and I am lost. But I believe that I can do all things through Christ. I am His agent. I mix my labors with my prayers, and sometimes God is pleased to bless the results."





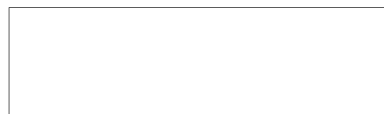
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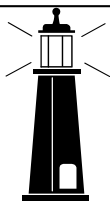
FIRST CLASS

**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



October 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

When we come to the edge of the light that we know,
 and we are about to step off into the darkness of the
 unknown...of this we can be sure:
 God will provide something solid to stand on...
 or else, we will learn how to fly!



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