



# CHURCH STREET E-NEWS

Presque Isle Congregational Church, United Church Of Christ

March 2010

## Understanding 5 for 5

The 2009 annual reports of both the Church Council and the Trustees mentioned OCWM and 5 for 5 Offerings. While members of both of these church bodies are familiar with these terms, many of us are not. This is a short stewardship refresher course.

Being *5 for 5* is one sign of congregational vitality in United Church of Christ churches that fully support OCWM – Our Church's Wider Mission

Each year, we budget monies to the [wider mission of the United Church of Christ](#) under the category Basic Support. A check to the Maine Conference is sent monthly to pay our **Basic Support** pledge. These funds support our Maine Conference and national ministries of the UCC Wider Church Ministries, Local Ministries, Justice and Witness Ministries, General Ministries, and the Pension Boards.

There are four special mission offerings coordinated by the United Church of Christ: [One Great Hour of Sharing \(OGHS\)](#), usually a Lenten offering collected during the month of March; [Strengthen the Church](#), a Pentecost offering collected in May; [Neighbors in Need \(NIN\)](#), collected during the month of October; and [The Christmas Fund](#), collected during the month of December. Each season, we will provide a brief introduction to each of these offerings.

“Feed My Sheep,” the theme of the **2010 One Great Hour of Sharing Campaign**, reinforces Jesus' instruction to the disciples after his resurrection. Three times Jesus repeated the same message, “If you love me, take care of the people I love.” (John 21:15-19) The members of the family of God include those in parts of the world we may never visit—a flock often forcefully scattered as people are chased from their homes and livelihoods by brutal expressions of war or as communities are blasted by natural disasters, or as societies and countries are ground down by unrelenting hunger, disease, and poverty.

In challenging times, we often wonder how much we can afford to sacrifice to help feed Jesus' beloved sheep, when our own needs remain pressing. Perhaps only through prayer can we decide how to respond to Jesus' call. You are invited to offer your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing during the month of March, empowering the United Church of Christ to offer disaster relief and refugee aid, meeting basic needs in Christ's name throughout the world.

## Lenten Luncheon

A soup and bread luncheon was enjoyed by many on the first Sunday in Lent, February 21. The variety of soup and delicious breads plus the camaraderie made this a wonderful time of fellowship for all. Michele Lombard-Fowler's Carrot-Cheddar soup was the big hit of the day; and as requested, we have included the recipe.



### Carrot-Cheddar Soup

Saute in large kettle: 2 T oil and ½ cup finely chopped onion

Add and simmer until vegetables are tender

1 lb carrots (8-10), shredded; 1 lb potatoes (3-5), shredded;  
6 cups broth (chicken or vegetable); ½ t. dried thyme; 1 bay leaf;  
salt and pepper to taste

Add, stirring until cheese is melted: 1 ½ cups fat free evaporated milk and 1-2 cups cheddar cheese.

Discard bay leaf. Serve hot. (Serves 6)

## Church School Project



Happy Baker Grant  
Stewart

Our church school children learned about the devastation in Haiti and what they can do to help out. Church World Service is promoting a fund-raising project called *Kids to Kids – Haiti's Babies*. Children donate part of their allowance and create a fund-raising activity to purchase items for CWS Baby Kits. Several of our children participated in a Cookie Bake Day. Cookies were baked and decorated for our after-church fellowship hour on Sunday, February 14. Cookies were not sold but donations were requested. Through the generosity of our congregation and Women Exploring Their Faith a total of \$340 was collected to purchase the items for the kits and pay the mailing costs. The children will help make and pack the kits.

Many thanks to Martie Pritchard, Andrea Powers and Ann Wight for their assistance and to Martie's mother, Katie and Ava Powers, Grant Stewart, Alexandria and Ariana Peterson, Tanner and Tifini Lee, Connolly Ambrutis and Christina Plummer, Izzy Higgins and Ellie Goheen for baking and decorating the cookies.



### Celebrations

We celebrate the following births in our extended church family:

**Phoebe Jane Griffiths**, born February 11, 2010, to Jeremy and Julie Griffiths, brother Cole and sister Lucy of Fort Kent. Paternal grandparents are David and Roberta Griffiths.

**Emma Elizabeth Somerville**, born February 16, 2010, to Geoffrey and Stephanie Somerville of Annapolis, Maryland. Paternal grandparents are Gordon and Mary Somerville of Portage Lake, Maine. Maternal grandparents are Eric and Barbara Schoenfeld of Freehold, New Jersey.

### Daylight Savings Time



**Set Your Clocks Ahead** when you got to bed on Saturday night, March 13 so you won't be late for church.

**Daylight Savings Time begins on March 14.**

### GIFT Needs for March



Flour and Sugar  
Coffee and Tea

Jams, Jellies and Marshmallow Fluff  
Canned Meat and Meat Spreads  
Canned Salmon

### Looking Ahead to April

**Thursday, April 1**

**7:00 PM**

#### ***Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion***

As the sun goes down on Maundy Thursday, so begins the Easter Triduum, the three days from this Thursday night to the sunset on Easter. Since the fourth century, Christians have gathered to mark Maundy Thursday as a time of remembering the Last Supper and the betrayal of Jesus by his followers. Maundy comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, a new commandment. The emphasis of this services is on the actions and words of Jesus on that last night.

Tenebrae is a service of scripture readings that tell the story of Jesus' trial, crucifixion, and burial, accompanied by the gradual extinguishing of candles.

**Friday, April 2**

**12 Noon**

#### **Good Friday Service Grant Memorial United Methodist Church**

Good Friday is the observance of the arrest, crucifixion, and burial of Jesus. The center of attention is the cross. Hanging criminals on a cross was a common method of execution in the Roman Empire. As Christians behold the cross on Good Friday, they remember the arms of the Savior of the world, stretched out on the wood of the cross.

We will be joining with our Methodist and Episcopal friends at Grant Memorial United Methodist Church for this service, which begins at Noon.

**March 2010**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
	3:00 PM Girl Scouts  4:00 PM TOPS		7:00 AM Men's Group  11:30 AM Women's Group			
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
8:30 AM Choir  10:00 AM Worship Church School  11:10 Bell Choir	3:00 PM Girl Scouts  4:00 PM TOPS		7:00 AM Men's Group  11:30 AM Women's Group  6:00 PM Women's Group II			
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
8:30 AM Choir  10:00 AM Worship Church School  11:10 Bell Choir	3:00 PM Girl Scouts  4:00 PM TOPS		7:00 AM Men's Group  11:30 AM Women's Group			
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
8:30 AM Choir  10:00 AM Worship Church School  11:10 Bell Choir	3:00 PM Girl Scouts  4:00 PM TOPS		7:00 AM Men's Group  11:30 AM Women's Group  6:00 PM Women's Group II			
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>			
8:30 AM Choir  10:00 AM Worship Church School  NO Bell Choir Practice	3:00 PM Girl Scouts  4:00 PM TOPS		7:00 AM Men's Group  11:30 AM Women's Group			

## Our Church Life

### Soup Luncheon – March 21, 2010



### One Great Hour of Sharing – Our March Mission Offering



#### Our Church Staff

The Reverend Dr. Robert Grove-Markwood, Pastor

e-mail: [bob@piucc.org](mailto:bob@piucc.org)

Ms. Jeannette Condon, Moderator

Ms. Susan Grove-Markwood, Music Director

Ms. Melissa Vance, Administrative Assistant

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Mr. Paul Barrett, Treasurer

Ms. Sue Delano, Sexton

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