

The Cross and Anchor

The Congregational Church of Boothbay Harbor
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2017



Dear Friends,

A new year begins. English author, Neil Gaiman, wrote:

“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life. Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it. Make your mistakes, next year and forever.”

I have mixed feeling about Gaiman's wish. On the one hand, mistakes are an indication that a person or a group is taking leaps of faith. On the other hand, mistakes may cause a lot of pain. And so I pray that your mistakes in this new year will be the ones that occur inevitably in a life of faith ~ even when we are diligently seeking God's guidance. And I pray that you will sense God's grace surrounding you when you do make mistakes.

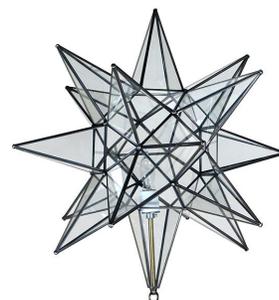
While we will miss Debi Wood terribly, we wish her every happiness and blessing in her new home in Florida. I am pleased to announce that the church has hired a new administrative assistant, Heather Lorrain. Heather is very friendly, highly organized, and is eager to get to work with us. She will begin work on Tuesday, January 3rd and will, ordinarily, be in the office Monday through Friday from 8:30-4:30. Please take the time to introduce yourself and make Heather feel at home.

Grace and peace,

Sarah

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**Help Needed on January 1st:**

Please bring baked goods to share at our breakfast table worship (Moravian Love Feast) in the Fellowship Hall Sunday morning, January 1st at 10 a.m.)



# YOUTH GROUPS

## Senior High Youth Group:

**Sunday January 8th** directly after Church: We are holding a meeting concerning the possibility of a future mission trip. We ask that both parents and youth group members attend. We would like you to bring recommendations, along with times that work best for you. Tory and I both had the pleasure of going on mission trips to Guatemala to help with Safe Passage. It was a trip of a lifetime and one that we will never forget! We would love to share that same experience with YOU!

As always, friends are most definitely welcome to join!

**Junior Highs:** Please see our Facebook page for January events.

-Anna



The Sunday School has had a great year so far and we are looking forward to 2017!! We have been very busy with our fundraising for Heifer International and after our Heifer Hootenanny in February we will be picking our animals to donate!!

I want to say a huge **Thank You** to Brooke and Eleanor Erwin, Echo and Aubrey Hardwick, Jennifer, Maddie and Abbie Orchard for working the Sunday School craft fair table, Jack and Casey Duncan for helping with the Breakfast with Santa, everyone who donated food and supplies for the breakfast, Sue and Bill Burge for all your work putting the breakfast together!!

We would like to say a big **Thank You** to Vicki Haugen for volunteering her Sunday to stay downstairs with the Sunday School. Vicki was our first "Church Friend" and the kids will always remember her for the hot dog band aids and using her stethoscope to hear their heart-beat.

Lastly I want to say **Thank You** to all of our Church families and friends who have volunteered and donated to the Sunday School. It is with all your help and hard work our Sunday School is a great place to learn about God and create lasting friendships. Thank you for all your support!!

- Magen



**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST**

Tuesday, January 10, 2017, is the date for the next Women's Breakfast to be held at 8 a.m. at Mama D's. Please sign up if you plan to attend. If you find that you are unable to be there, remove your name from the list by January 8 or call Arlene Smith 633-2383.

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Tuesdays at 6:45 a.m. - 8:a.m.

Meditation and Reading

We meditate together for 15 minutes and then read to one another for an hour. No preparation necessary ~ just bring your mind, heart, and soul.

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**Community Lunch:**

Our church will host the **January 5<sup>th</sup>** Community Lunch at St. Columbas. 8 soups, 5 breads and 5 desserts are needed. Please check the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to see what is needed. New participation is always welcomed. Thank you.



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MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. on Monday, January 9th at Mama D's.

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**Would You Like to Join the Church?**

We would love to welcome you into our family of faith. For more information, please speak to Rev. Sarah Foulger or any of the deacons.



We are entering a busy time of year and requests for using our beautiful new spaces are on the rise. Please remember if you are scheduling a meeting or event to call the church office and put it on the calendar.

**HELP NEEDED ~**

**January 1**

Please stay after the Moravian Love Feast to help put away Christmas: tree needs to come down, ornaments put away, swags and wreath stored, nativities packed, etc.



**Call for Words and Photographs!**

On Sunday, January 29th, the **annual Audio-Visual sermon** will be shown. If you have pictures from the life of the church in 2016, please send them to: [sarahfoulger@gmail.com](mailto:sarahfoulger@gmail.com) and **mark AV in the title of the email.** (If you don't mark **AV** in the title, I may not see it). **Please send by January 18.**

Also, in preparation for the annual report, please send or drop off **one word** that comes to mind when you think of the church. All of these words will be used to generate the front cover of the annual report. Drop off words in the church office or email to: [congochurchbbh@outlook.com](mailto:congochurchbbh@outlook.com)



**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION:  
Following worship on Sunday, January 29th.**

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NOTE: Serving dishes and containers are piling up in the kitchen, particularly those left from the Christmas Fair. Please pick them up. Any dishes or containers left in the kitchen from the Cookie Walk or other events. After January 8, they will be discarded.



Trustees

From the December Meeting:

- ◆ Ideas to raise funds for the planting phase of the Memorial Garden were discussed. The goal is to raise \$17,000 in time to initiate in the spring of 2017.
- ◆ 2017 Budget was discussed, but not finalized.
- ◆ Weather has slowed the start of the hardscape installation, but we expect that work to begin next week and should be complete well before the annual meeting at the end of January.
- ◆ Updated language in Church bylaws acknowledging the existence of the John Murray Society was approved. A warrant will be issued and the congregation will vote on the proposed changes at the annual meeting.
- ◆ Ms. Heather Lorrain was approved as the new Church Administrator. She will begin January 3, 2017. Many thanks to Sue Goodrich as well as Sarah for managing the workload during this transition at a very busy time of year.
- ◆ Ms. Sheila Gaspar has tendered her resignation as Church Bookkeeper effective the end of January. She is moving further away and is unable to continue. We appreciate her service and flexibility in this transition. If you are interested in replacing Sheila or know someone who might be, please reach out to Alex Logan.
- ◆ We are nominating Ms. Wendy Wolf and Mr. Eric Hakanson as new Trustees in 2017 replacing Mr. Tom Whittle and Ms. Betsey Kipp. Thanks to Tom and Betsey for their years of service.

Deacons Report - At our December meeting

- ◆ Discussed responsibilities for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Moravian Feast services
- ◆ Proposed the following new Deacons: Becky Welsh, Vicki Haugen, Ella Long and Evy Case
- ◆ Discussed training for new deacons
- ◆ The following were received into membership in December: Ken and Marcia Bradsell (associates), Echo Hardwick, John Ludwig (associate), Alice and Andy Mutch
- ◆ Planning is underway for Visitor Training.

Special Thanks

- ◆ To all who helped with the Christmas Fair
- ◆ To all who donated Poinsettia
- ◆ To all who helped with the special reception for Debi Wood
- ◆ To Sue Goodrich who managed the office and published the newsletter after Debi left and before our new administrator arrived
- ◆ To all who have contributed to the fuel fund
- ◆ To all who brought joy to the home-bound by Christmas Caroling
- ◆ To all who made a pledge this year (your pledge makes it possible for the Trustees to budget faithfully for 2017)
- ◆ To those who brought creches
- ◆ To Susan Landermare for bringing fresh plants into the sanctuary



Adult Christian Education Series on The Holy Land Revealed Begins January 8th

"This course covers the ancient history of what many people know as the Holy Land, a geographic area that includes modern Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian territories. The course also looks at other regions in the ancient Near East, including Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey) and Mesopotamia (encompassing modern Iraq and much of Iran). The timespan we will cover begins with the First Temple period (c. 960 B.C.-586 B.C.) and takes us through the Second Temple period, the time of Jesus, and the destruction of the temple (c. 516B.C.-A.D. 70). Our historical sources for these periods of ancient history include the Hebrew Bible and related religious works, the Dead Sea Scrolls, the writing of Josephus and Philo, the New Testament, and the Mishnah and Talmud. We will also explore the archaeology of the ancient Near East, which will complement our study of the historical sources by giving us more complete picture of ancient societies."

This 36 lesson course, our 20th, is taught by Professor Jodi Magness, an archaeologist with extensive field experience in Israel. He is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The projected schedule is listed below.

We meet in the Library for about an hour starting at 8:25 Sunday mornings so members of the choir can join us for the first half of the class. Each class begins with a ½ video lecture followed by an always stimulating ½ hour group discussion.

The schedule is:

1/8	Lecture 1	The Land of Canaan
1/15	Lecture 2	The Arrival of the Israelites
1/22	Lecture 3	Jerusalem--An Introduction to the City
1/29	Lecture 4	The Jerusalem of David and Solomon
2/5	Lecture 5	Biblical Jerusalem's Accent Water Systems
2/12	Lecture 6	Samaria and the Northern Kingdom of Israel
2/19	Lecture 7	Fortifications and Cult Practices
2/26	Lecture 8	Babylonian Exile and the Persian Restoration
3/5	Lecture 9	Alexander the Great and His Successors
3/12	Lecture 10	The Hellenization of Palestine
3/19	Lecture 11	The Maccabean Revolt
3/26	Lecture 12	The Hasmonean Kingdom
4/2	Lecture 13	Pharisees and Sadducees
4/9	Lecture 14	Discovery and Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls
4/16	Easter	
4/23	Lecture 15	The Sectarian Settlement of Qumran
4/30	Lecture 16	The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Essenes
5/7	Lecture 17	The Life of the Essenes
5/14	Lecture 18	From Roman Annexation to Herod the Great
5/21	Lecture 19	Herod as Builder--Jerusalem's Temple Mount
5/28	Memorial Day Weekend	
6/4	Lecture 20	Caesarea Maritima--Harbor and Showcase City
6/11	Lecture 21	From Herod's Las Years to Pontius Pilate
6/18	Lecture 22	Galilee--Setting of Jesus' Life and Ministry
6/25	Lecture 23	Synagogues in the Time of Jesus
Summer Break—Classes Resume September 9		
9/10	Lecture 24	Sites of the Trial and Final Hours of Jesus
9/17	Lecture 25	Early Jewish Tombs in Jerusalem
9/24	Lecture 26	Monumental Tombs in the Time of Jesus
10/1	Lecture 27	The Burials of Jesus and James
10/8	Lecture 28	The First Jewish Revolt: Jerusalem Destroyed

- 10/15 Lecture 29 Masada--Herod's Desert Palace and the Siege
- 10/22 Lecture 30 Flavius Josephus and the Mass Suicide
- 10/29 Lecture 31 The Second Jewish Revolt against the Romans
- 11/5 Lecture 32 Roman Jerusalem--Hadrian's Aelia Capitolina
- 11/12 Lecture 33 Christian Emperors and Pilgrimage Sites
- 11/19 Lecture 34 Judaism and Synagogues under Christian Rule
- 12/3 Lecture 35 Islam's Transformation of Jerusalem
- 12/10 Lecture 36 What and How Archaeology Reveals

Each of the 36 classes is self-contained and does not require attending the previous class. A course guide-book is provided at our cost of \$15. Participants are welcome to attend the 30-minute videotaped lecture at the beginning if their schedule has other conflicts.

Think about coming. You'll find it spiritually nurturing and learn more about your and other's beliefs.

Betty and Ted Repa, Co-facilitators

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## Christmas Fair Results

|                                                                               |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Trustees                                                                      | \$ 458.00         |
| Christmas Tags                                                                | 30.00             |
| Cookie Walk                                                                   | 679.25            |
| Craft Table                                                                   | 276.50            |
| Deacons                                                                       | 652.50            |
| Soup Luncheon                                                                 | 508.00            |
| Sunday School                                                                 | 348.50            |
| (Heifer \$40, Sunday School Craft table \$122, Breakfast with Santa \$186.50) |                   |
| Mission (gross)                                                               | 1,581.52          |
| <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>                                      |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                  | <b>\$ 4534.27</b> |



Outstanding! Thank you to everyone involved.

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Rebuilding Together Dinner

We will be celebrating Rebuilding Together with a Pot Luck Supper at 5 pm on January 20.

Bring your favorite Pot-Luck to share.

Free-will offering.

Questions? Call Sally Barter at 841-3928



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WORSHIP IN January

- Sunday, the 1st: New Year's Day Moravian Love Feast Worship (this will take place in the Fellowship Hall). Sign up to bring rolls, breakfast pastries, gluten-free options, or juice)
- Sunday, the 8th: Matthew 3:13-17 "Possibilities Unfolding"
- Sunday, the 15th Paul's Letter to American Christians" by Martin Luther King, Jr. (abridged)
- Sunday, the 22nd Matthew 4:12-23 "Called Together" Baptism of Logan Chryplewicz
- Sunday, the 29th Annual Audio-Visual Sermon
Annual Meeting of the Church after worship