



The Church on the Cape Newsletter



May 2022

Pastor's Letter

Dear friends,

Transition is always a difficult time. Saying goodbye, welcoming a new pastor, and getting used to any other changes that may come with that. However, though changes may come, there is with us one who never changes.

He is:

**A friend who never changes,
Whose love can never die.**

Albert Midlane

Therefore, during this time of change, let us look forward to the future, for we do not go into it alone:

**Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
because He lives, all fear is gone;
because I know, He holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because He lives.**

Gloria and William Gaither UMH 364

Anyone who has ever watched Star trek will be familiar with its mission; "To boldly go where no man has gone before. "The USS Enterprise, commanded by Captain James T. Kirk, voyages out into the vast arena of space (The final frontier) seeking out new life forms. Indeed, ever since time began, man has ventured out into the unknown, his mind and spirit always wondering what lay ahead.

Some 4,000 years ago, a man of faith named Abraham also ventured forth into the unknown. Responding to a call from God, Abraham begins a new, daring, and dangerous journey. He leaves behind what is old and treasured in order that he may receive what is new and life-giving. He goes in confidence, staking his all on God's promise that He would make of him a mighty nation. And God did. Later, also in response to a call from God, Moses leads Israel from Captivity to the Promised Land. And this was not just another adventure; it was a religious experience in which they learned to trust God. They trusted that God, the Promise maker, would also be God

the Promise Keeper. Had they but known the words, they would surely have sung with Charles Wesley:

By Thine unerring Spirit led,
We shall not in the desert stray;
We shall not full direction need,
Nor miss our providential way;
As far from danger as from fear,
While love, almighty love, is near.

Because almighty love is near, this time of transition will be a source of blessing for us all. For Pastor Ho-Soon, as she begins a new ministry, and also for us as we venture forth into new experiences of God's Amazing Grace, and as we prepare to welcome our new pastor, Sammie Maxwell.

Do not be afraid; a glorious future awaits us all.

Desmond Parker, Interim Pastor

EASTER ISN'T OVER

During your preparations for Easter, you may have heard someone say, "All this work and it'll all be over so soon." Sorry, but they're wrong.

Easter as a celebration of the return of spring, the Easter of the Easter Bunny and colored eggs and candy, fancy hats and new spring clothes may be over by Easter Monday, not to come around again until next year.

But the true Easter, the celebration of Christ's resurrection, is never over. Easter is the reminder and the celebration of a continuing fact: Christ, who was raised from death, is alive today, tomorrow and forever. Daily he offers us and the whole world power to begin new life now.

Easter isn't over ... ever!

MOTHER'S DAY, May 8, 2022

In 1907, a lady in Philadelphia, Anna Jarvis, began lobbying for a day when our nation would honor mothers. She persuaded the leaders of the church her mother attended to designate the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day.

After Mrs. Jarvis had written countless letters to political authorities across the nation, by 1911, Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day a national holiday. He chose the second Sunday in May for the annual celebration. The second Sunday in May was the anniversary of the death of Mrs. Jarvis' mother

Source for articles: Newsletternewsletter

MAY LECTIONARY READINGS

May 1:

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Psalms 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

May 8:

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Psalms 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

May 15:

5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18

Psalms 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

May 22:

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Psalms 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

May 29:

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalms 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

PASTORAL COVERAGE

Beginning Monday, April 18, Rev. Desmond Parker will be providing worship services and pastoral care through June 30, 2022. Rev. Parker may be reached at 207-835-9030 or via email at desmondparker@aol.com.

SENIOR MOMENTS SPRING CONCERT!

Save the Date...Looking for a relaxing and uplifting way to celebrate the start of summer? Mark your calendar now for the Senior Moment's Spring Concert to be held on **Wednesday, May 25 at 4 PM, here at Church on the Cape**. You won't want to miss it!



Carole Chamberlain is at peace and with Our Lord. She passed away earlier today [April 25] with her family at her bedside. Carole was a devoted member of our church. She had hoped to gain enough strength to enjoy in person services, listen to the lovely music and share in the inspiration of the sermons. As she suffered with unrelenting physical pain she is finally at rest. The family has plans for a service at COC either in May or June. Thank you for your prayers. Notes of sympathy can be sent to Carole's daughter - Holly Ross, P.O. Box 303 Kennebunkport, Maine 04046.

Article by Marge Smith

IN-PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL TO BEGIN ON MAY 1ST

In-person Sunday School will start up again on Sunday, May 1st, with two different classrooms. One classroom will be for the Pre-K through 5th grade, and the second for infants, toddlers, and young preschoolers. The class for the older children will include Bible Stories and activities, and the class for the younger children will offer a safe place to play with friends. Questions? Contact Carol Nason, Education Committee Chairperson:

cgnason3@gmail.com or 207-502-7299.

We are looking for volunteers to work with our children. Please contact Carol if interested, and be prepared for her to contact you!

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT OPENING

If you, or someone you know, may be interested in the Administrative Assistant opening on an interim or regular basis, please contact the SPRC Chair, Sandy Day, at 978-821-3685 or via email at gourmetmom44@gmail.com. Days and hours are flexible and negotiable.

Farewell Tribute to Pastor Ho-Soon,
Parting Thank You from Pastor Ho-Soon,
and Blessing by Pastor Parker



Pastor Ho-Soon Tribute Poem by Shirley Pagluica
and Recited by Cynthia Nickel

Once upon a time, a pastor was asked
Just what is it you DO? What is your task?
May we answer, Ho-Soon, from our view in the pew?
You might want to hear our appreciation of you.

At times of sorrow, you've been by our side
Reading lessons of scripture, truths for us to decide.
In the quiet of the night, we'll remember your prayers
The comfort you gave in the midst of our cares.

So much work, so much study, we acknowledge you do
You guide us in book groups to make *us* think too.
You encourage our walk on the paths we are led
By the ONE we follow whose blood has been shed.

Your mission is clear and *you* of good cheer
Now carry your gifts for others to hear.
THAT's the answer, Ho-Soon, it's *what-you-DO...*
It's LOVE that you gave us...love we give back to YOU.

Parting Thank You from Pastor Ho-Soon



Dear family and friends of Church on the Cape,

For my final message as I leave Church on the Cape, I want to express my gratitude to God for:

- you who have been willing to try new things—virtual services, recording personal greetings, Zoom, reading the scripture for worship, new spiritual practices, studying unfamiliar books to name a few;
- you who have remained positive and faithful to building up the ministry of the church;
- you who have been a self-reflective, non-anxious, and non-judgmental presence in the culture of criticism and fear;
- you who have discerned the truth from the misleading rumors and perceptions;
- you who have lived out the wisdom of God and followed Christ by taking the high road;
- you who have respected me as your spiritual leader and given your unwavering support;
- you who have taken the time to share your heartfelt farewell that filled my heart with love; and
- you who have shared God's visions for the church and now will carry on.

Accept my deepest gratitude. Thank you.

I will pray for you and for Church on the Cape that your connection with God and with one another may continue to be deepened, and the church may fulfill the will and purpose of God.

May God richly bless you now and always.
In peace, Ho-Soon

Blessing by Pastor Parker



PASTOR PARKER

Ho-Soon, for three years, you have dismissed us with your blessing, and we have been blessed. Even though Mary and I have only been here a short time, now, as you go forth, I would like to be so bold to convey to you the blessing of this congregation. And so, as you go forth, to new experiences, and to a new ministry; may the peace and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, go with you, lead you, guide you, direct you; and may you be a blessing to all you meet, and especially to your new congregation.

God bless you, now and forevermore.
Amen.

Helping those in need in Afghanistan and Ukraine

We have mailed two checks to UMCOR, one for \$500.00 for aid to the Afghanistan refugees and one for \$1000.00 for Ukrainian refugees. We thank each and everyone for their contribution.

Another note is to let you know that the various charity gifts to the church throughout the year (except for our Alternative Fair in December) will be sent out quarterly. Any honorarium will be given to the Trustees as they are received. We feel everyone should be aware of the "working together" process.

Elaine Triplett

Congratulations!



This is the great-granddaughter of Lois Small, born on March 17th. Her name is: Mae Grace Drigotas.

Congratulations!

Carol and Brian Nason welcome their second granddaughter June Taylor (not the dancer!) Belgard. June was born on April 5th, weighing 7 pounds 3 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. June's parents are Emily (second daughter of Carol and Brian) and Brian Belgard of South Portland.



Egg Hunt and Easter Bunny Visit

It was an overcast day, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the egg hunters at the annual egg hunt at COTC on Saturday, April 16th. Those that came went home with a basket filled with eggs and treats! Many thanks to Bill Scarborough, who, year after year, finances this egg hunt. Thanks also to our marvelous Easter bunny, Diane Hutchins, who brought a song and movement to teach the children. Little Isabella was positively delighted! Diane is the sweetest, least imposing bunny you'll ever meet. Even the most timid children fell in love with her. And thanks also to Annie Hidell, who gave each child a hand-painted tile. Stay tuned for the next community event!

Photos on next page.

Article by Carol Nason



Women's Potluck Fellowship Reunion



Friday~ May 20th~ 5-8pm

Bring a favorite Hors D'oeuvre or snack,
a favorite memory or inspiration
and feel welcome to bring a friend

Church on the Cape
3 Langford Road

We would like to invite the Women of Church on the Cape to a Reunion to catch up after COVID. The event is planned for Friday, May 20th, 2022, from 5-8p at Bartlett Hall. Bring your inspiration, your favorite memories of the Church, and a friend. Please bring an hors d'oeuvres. Soft drinks will be provided.

If you have further questions please
contact

Annie Hidell
207-229-6860

abhidellart@aol.com

or

Paula Farnell
207-256-9002

plemosfarn1@gmail.com

Thank you and Happy Spring
Paula Farnell

Women's Bible Study Luncheon

The Women's Bible Study, begun by Beryl Samia many years ago, went out to lunch at Duffy's in Kennebunk last week on the 19th and had a wonderful time catching up with each other, giving lots of hugs, and celebrating Debbi Lord's birthday. Mary Ann Coleman sent the weekly study by email during the worst of the pandemic, and we are now ready to meet every other week in person.



On left front side of table – Judy Tripp, Mary Ann Coleman, Cecily McNair, Debbi Lord, Edie Lamberts, Carol Olson

On right front side of table – Alice Bruton, Peggy Kingsley, Jane Smith, Ruthie Clark, Susan Hathorne

Missing from picture: Beryl Samia, Gail Browning, Debbie Parsons, Shirley Bradbury, Karen Holt Steitz

Article by Alice Bruton



Guidance from John Wesley's Sermons: True Religion and Happiness

John Wesley's Sermons provide a wealth of guidance about faith, hope, and love. "The Complete Sermons" consists of 141 of Wesley's sermons compiled by Thomas Jackson in 1872. The book's jacket notes that "John Wesley's sermons remain timeless classics, demonstrating the theology and faith of the founder of one of the world's largest protestant denominations. He is responsible for 'the establishment of the Methodist Church, and his teaching remains as challenging and poignant today as it was on the day it was first penned.'" His guidance on religion and happiness follows:

Sermon 114 Excerpts

"If by the grace of God, we have avoided or forsaken all these idols -- *objects of sense; such as gratify one or more of our outward senses; objects of the imagination; things that gratify our fancy, by their grandeur, beauty, or novelty; and what St. John calls, 'the pride of life.'* He seems to mean honour, wealth, and whatever directly tends to engender pride." -- there is still one more dangerous than all the rest, that is religion. It will easily be conceived, I mean false religion, that is, any religion which does not imply the giving of the heart to God. [These are:]

- First a religion of opinions, or what is called orthodoxy.
- Secondly, a religion of forms; of barely outward worship, how constantly soever performed; yea, though we attend the Church Service every day, and the Lord's Supper every Sunday.
- Thirdly, a religion of works; of seeking the favour of God by doing good to men.

- Lastly, a religion of Atheism; that is, every religion whereof God is not laid for the foundation.

"True religion is right tempers towards God and man. It is, in two words, gratitude and benevolence; gratitude to our Creator and supreme Benefactor and benevolence to our fellow creatures. In other words, it is the loving God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves.

"It is in consequence of our knowing God loves us that we love him and love our neighbor as ourselves. Gratitude towards our Creator cannot but produce benevolence to our fellow creatures. The love of Christ constrains us, not only to be harmless, to do no ill to our neighbor, but to be useful, to be 'zealous of good works;' 'as we have time, to do good unto all men;' and to be patterns to all of true, genuine morality; of justice, mercy and truth.

"This is religion, and this is happiness, the happiness for which we were made.

"We are happy, first,

- in the consciousness of his favour, which indeed is better than life itself; next,
- in the constant communion with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ; then,
- in all the heavenly tempers which he hath wrought in us by his Spirit; again,
- in the testimony of his Spirit, that all our works please him; and, lastly,
- in the testimony of our own spirits, that 'in simplicity and godly sincerity we have had our conversation in the world.'

"Standing fast in this liberty from sin and sorrow, wherewith Christ hath made them free, real Christians rejoice evermore, 'pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks.' And their happiness still increases as they 'grow up into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.'

"Let all; therefore, that desire to please God condescend to be taught of God and take care to walk in that path which God himself hath appointed. Beware of taking half of this religion for the whole, but take both parts of it together. And see that you begin where God himself begins: 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me.' Is not this the first, our Lord himself being the Judge, as well as the great commandment?

"First, therefore, see that ye love God; next, your neighbor, -- every child of man. From this fountain, let every temper, every affection, every passion flow. So shall that 'mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.' Let all your thoughts, words, and actions spring from this! So shall you' inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world."

Source: "John Wesley's Sermons" (Kindle and book available at Amazon), Your Editor



In A Long Obedience in the Same Direction, Eugene H. Peterson maintains that the path to a blessed life is pretty obvious:

Everyone wants to be happy, to be blessed.

Too many people are willfully refusing to pay attention to the One who wills our happiness and ignorantly supposing that the Christian way is a harder way to get what they want than doing it on their own. They are wrong. God's ways and God's presence are where we experience the happiness that lasts.

Peterson concludes those thoughts by quoting Psalm 128:1. Everyone who honors the Lord, who walks in God's ways, is truly happy!

WE REMEMBER, May 30th

More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.

Source: Articles, Newsletternewsletter



The Cape Porpoise build is progressing, in spite of a few hiccups. It is not unusual to have periods of delay when scheduling subcontractors.

Volunteer participation has been great, with very few weather delays.

The search for a Partner Family for the second home is underway. We have completed the interviews and are now scheduling home visits, and hope to have the selection process completed within the month of May or early June.

There are still a few slots open for volunteers for the current build, but they fill up fast. Contact: program@habitatyorkcounty.org to see open slots, or call 207 985 4850

Beth Doty

Church on the Cape A United Methodist Church

We of The Church on the Cape represent various religious and cultural backgrounds and lifestyles. We are young, old, and middle-aged, single, married, widowed, divorced, parents, grandparents, and members of extended families.

Above all, we are people who take risks, make mistakes, confess, repent and try again.

At the center of our community is Jesus the Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection are the reasons we are together. The life and hope in this community have more to do with Christ's faithfulness to us than ours to Christ.

Whether you are searching for a faith community or just passing through, we want you to feel at home. Whoever you are, whatever your history, your scars, your gifts; you are among persons like yourself.

Join us from wherever you call home. If you like what you see here, we post our virtual, Hymn Sing, and Sunday Worship Service on our website, www.churchonthecape.org.

The Church on the Cape
3 Langsford Road
P.O. Box 2740
Kennebunkport, ME 04046
Church Phone: 207-967-5787
Email address: office@churchonthecape.org
Website: www.churchonthecape.org
Reverend Desmond Parker, Interim Pastor
Email Address
desmondparker@aol.com
Phone
207 835 9030