

News from the AKS

Oakland Sidney United Methodist Church - Oakland, ME

www.oaksumc.org

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February 2009

Edna Comstock, Newsletter Editor

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February, 2009

Dear Church Family,

The following story came from Rev. Peter Panagore at First Radio Parish.

A high-powered Bostonian kept a weekly appointment with his therapist. He believed in God, but felt disconnected from God and humanity. He felt superficial. "Do you park near your office?" asked the therapist. "Three blocks away." The Bostonian replied. "Try this every day, on your walk to your office, stop on the sidewalk, plant your feet, and ask pedestrians, 'How are you?' When they glance at you ask, 'No, really. How are you?' Then listen."

He did. Everyday he stopped in front of a doorway and repeated those questions to those passing by. Soon people were talking to him. They weren't just replying, "Fine." Instead, they were telling him personal stories. All types of people told him what they felt. They told him their thoughts. They told him their troubles, their joys, their struggles, their pressures. The Bostonian came to understand that many people felt as isolated as he did. All it took was for him to stop being a passer-by by engaging the people around him. In the following years his connection to God deepened because his connection to his community deepened.

There is a scriptural idea – Koinonia. It means partnership, community, participation and communion. As individual as our relationship to God is, scripture teaches that unless we join in fellowship, in community, we'll miss an essential aspect of our own humanity and in missing that, we miss God.

During this coming Lenten season, my prayer for all of us is that we will find ways to practice Koinonia; fellowship in community, as a church family. There will be many opportunities for this during the coming months. Please take advantage of this discipline and see if it doesn't make a significant difference in your relationship with God, and your sisters and brothers.

Blessings,

Pastor Sue

Lent begins February 25th
with our Ash Wednesday Service
at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary



**Outreach Committee Plans Fair
"Share God's Love!"**

On Sunday, February 8th, our Outreach Committee will sponsor a mission type fair during coffee fellowship hour after worship. The theme of the fair is "Share God's Love." There will be four tables set up, each one representing a way in which we can become involved in reaching out to others in our church community, as well as the Oakland community. Two of our committee members will be at each table to talk about their focus and answer questions. They will also happily sign folks up to be part of their service/ministry team. Our four focus areas are:

- Coffee Hour
- Parish Nurse Program
- Designated Drivers
- Free Lunch Program

Come join us for refreshments, fellowship, and an opportunity to become an active participant in the ministry of our church family.



Nursery Attendants

- 2/1: Stephanie Begley
- 2/8: Gail Watson
- 2/15: Karen & Nicole Connor
- 2/22: Vileta Stone

Lectors

- 2/1: Melody Brann
- 2/8: Josephine Smith
- 2/15: Dawn Maxim
- 2/22: Carol Pullen

Greeters

- 2/1 Helen Willett & Barbara Quinby
 - 2/8 Joanne Cook & Jan Osborn
 - 2/15 Ramona & Arnold Freeman
 - 2/22 Joan & Vernal Finemore
- February Lectionary Readings:
 2/8: Ps. 147; Isa. 40:21-31; I Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.
 2/15: Ps. 30; 2 Kings 5:1-14; I Cor. 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45.
 2/22: Ps. 50; 2 Kings 2:1-12; 2 Cor. 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9.

Prayer List

- Family of Dot Brackett
- Norman Bartlett
- Jerry Furbush
- Ruth Stanley
- Anita Willett
- Harold McDougall
- Barbara Ryder
- Geneva Fitch
- Betty Chadbourne
- Ina & Leonard Stymiest
- Our Servicemen & women
- Our D. S. Beverly Stenmark
- Our Bishop, Peter Weaver

Charge Conference Booklet

The 2008 Charge Conference Booklet will be available for anyone wishing to have one as soon as all year end reports have been submitted. If you are the chair of a standing committee, please write a brief report of your committee actions for 2008 and submit it to Pastor Sue or Edna Comstock. Thanks!

"Have a Heart Supper"

Fundraiser to benefit
Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter

Saturday, February 7
5 to 6:30 pm

Pleasant Street
United Methodist Church
61 Pleasant St. in Waterville

Soups, chowders, stew & chili
Hearty breads, pies, beverages

Adult\$7
Age 4 to 8\$4.00
Age 3 & under.....free

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee wants to be sure that everyone knows who they are! Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find the full list of Church Officers for 2009. Please keep this list so you will know who to talk with should you need information, want

Lay Speaking Academy:

A Cluster of Courses for Beginning & Advanced Lay Speakers

April 18, 25, May 2, 2009
8:30 AM gathering,
9:00AM-1:00 PM class sessions
(with fellowship break)

At the Green St. United Methodist Church,
Augusta Maine

Basic Courses

**Introduction to Lay Speaking* with Rev. Desmond Parker
(final class session May 9 instead of May 2)

**Basic Refresher Course* with Pastor Tom Frey

Advanced Courses

**This Holy Mystery* with Rev. Richard Cullen

**Finding Our Voices: Communication Technology Serves the Gospel*

Teaching Team:
Rev. Karen Munson, Jim Jacobsen, Jim Brown

Sponsored by the Jesse Lee Cluster
Of the Mid Maine District United Methodist Church

All Course fees include books and materials

Basic Lay Speaking \$20
Basic Refresher Course \$10
Advanced Lay Speaker Courses \$30

to register contact: Ruth Cannon, 207-786-3929 ruthcannon@roadrunner.com.

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT
www.neumc.org/mme



Do You Know Our History?

Many of us are relatively new to OAKS and don't have even the slightest knowledge about how this parish came to be. Alberta Porter our resident history buff (I have it on good authority that she is connected to the Oakland Historical Society) has graciously offered to remedy that problem by sharing a bit of a OAKS history from time to time. You will find her first installment below.

HISTORY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH IN OAKLAND

Methodism was first organized in by Luther P. French, who formed a class here in 1843, of which D.B. Ward was leader, and Thomas Hill, a local preacher, and his wife, Joseph E. Stevens and Mrs. G.W. Pressey were active members. Ezekiel Robinson, Martin Ward, P.P. Merrill, M. Wight and Asa Heath had probably preached occasional sermons in this part of the town between 1827 and 1843.

The Methodist met at the Union Church and later built a chapel just north of the Union Church on the site of the present St. Theresa Catholic Church. They sold this lot to the Free Will Baptist in 1844 and purchased the Old Free Will Baptist Church vestry on the other side of the street. They used that as a meeting house until their own church building could be built. Daniel Safford bought that lot, and intended to use the chapel in erecting a house, but found it impracticable and tore down the structure.

In 1860 they had 96 full members, 36 probationary members and two churches valued at \$8000. In 1874 they erected a permanent building on School Street at a cost of \$6000, R.B. Dunn having donated \$1600 toward the cost. The old church vestry that they purchased from the Free Will Baptist was sold for \$125. The church on School Street was completed in 1875. The church was empty most of the time until 1876 when membership began to grow reaching 100.

Belated Happy Birthday wishes to all our January birthday folks. Sorry we missed getting you in the January Newsletter



Keep bringing in those receipts

Oakland – Sidney United Methodist Church Officers for 2009

Number in (#) denotes year term ends

Chair Administrative Board
Selma Pulcifer (09)

Treasurer
Edna Comstock

Vice Chair Administrative Board
Phil Sprague (09)

Trustees Chair
Richard Catteau (11)

Christian Education Chair
Lisa Gillis (11)

Worship Committee Chair

Communion Steward
Kathy Chase (12)

Youth Ministries Coordinator

Council of Churches Representatives
Clara & Ray Watson

COMMITTEES

** Denotes chair of committee*

Finance Committee Chair
Rich Baker (10)

Christian Education Committee

Financial Secretary
Norma Berryman

2009
Marshalyn Baker
Rich Baker

Historian
Alberta Porter

2010
Butch Merritt

Lay Leader
Jan Osborn (10)

2011
*Lisa Gillis
Bill Pullen

Lay Member Annual Conference
Jan Osborn (11)

All teachers and the Pastor

Lay Member Annual Conference (Alternate)
Edna Comstock

Finance Committee

Membership Care Chair

Members serve on this committee by virtue of their office: Chair of Finance - Pastor – Lay Member Annual Conference – Chair Administrative Board – Chair SPRC – Chair Trustees – Lay Leader – Financial Secretary – Treasurer

Membership Secretary
Anne Small (11)

*Rich Baker

Memorial Funds Secretary
Selma Pulcifer

Missions Committee Chair
Alberta Porter (09)

Lay Leadership Committee (Nominating)

Music Director
Virginia Merritt

2009
Josephine Smith
Barbara Ray

Organist
Bob Lorenz

2010
Carole Catteau
Rick Ray

Recording Secretary
Linda Sprague (09)

2011
Joan Finemore
Barbara Quimby

Staff/Parish Relations Chair
Linda Sprague (10)

Membership Care

2009

Linda Baker
Claudette Carr

2010

Ida Bailey
Anne Small
Jane Knight

2011

Cathy Bond
Bambi Bahr

Missions Committee

2009

Gail Watson
*Alberta Porter

2010

Margaret Johnston

2011

Vileta Stone
Nancy Burwood
Ramona Freeman

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

2009

Gary Knight
Kathy Chase

2010

Terry Colby
*Linda Sprague

2011

Rick Leonard
Peter Comstock

Trustees

2009

Butch Merritt

2010

Scott Colby
Selma Pulcifer

2011

*Dick Catteau
Arnold Freeman
Tim Proctor

Jan Osborn- Lay Member to Annual Conference

Worship Committee

2009

Toni Edwards

2010

Carole Catteau

2011

Scott Bond
Dawn Maxim

Virgina Merritt – Music Director
Bob Lorenz – Organist

Administrative Board

The Administrative Board shall include:

Chair of Administrative Board
Lay Leader
Pastor
Chair of SPRC
Chair of Finance Committee
Chair of Trustees
Treasurer
Lay Member Annual Conference
President UMM & UMW
Representative of UMYF
Chair of Worship
Chair of Membership Care
Chair of Missions
Elected Members at Large
Norma Berryman
Claudette Carr

All are welcome at Administrative Board meetings.
All full members of the church are afforded voice
and vote.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

The last night of Mardi Gras; the day before Lent begins, is called Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday. It is the last day to celebrate and eat whatever you want for the Lenten fasting begins. This year we will join our Cajun friends by celebrating Fat Tuesday with a Pancake Supper at the church at 6pm on Tuesday, Feb. 24th. The UMM will be cooking for us and everyone is invited to come and join the fun. If you'd like to contribute to the cause you're invited to bring your favorite muffins, donuts, or whatever else you like with Pancakes!





The last Sunday in March (the 29th) we are planning our first ever Oakland-Sidney United Methodist Church Sunday School Reunion. We

hope to make the event **HUGE!** What we need are the names and addresses of any people you know who attended Sunday school at our church. We will be doing a mailing during the second week of March to let people know of the event. Please mail addresses to:

Bill Pullen
209 Tilton Point Trail
Oakland, ME

Or you can e-mail them to:
bpullen@msad49.org

Please help us to spread the word as we hope to welcome back many old (and I am starting to learn the meaning old) friends.



We want to say thanks to all of you who volunteered to help get the newsletter out, especially Carol Cateau who volunteered to get the January issue out and Jane & Gary Knight who have agreed to help with this project on an on-going basis.

We also want to encourage anyone in the parish to think about contributing to the newsletter, not just news items, but also poems, stories or something that strikes you as interesting or important to share with our community. You may send your offerings for inclusion in the newsletter to edna-c@roadrunnenr.com or bring them to church and give them to Edna Comstock our editor.

Christian Music Concert February 28th at OAKS

Our own Dawn Maxim whom you have seen playing both the bass and lead guitar on Sunday mornings with the choir has made arrangements with the Christian band she plays with to put on a benefit concert here at Oaks the last Saturday of February. According to Dawn the concert will include a number of different kinds of Christian music that should appeal to young and old alike. Please tell your friends in the area who enjoy good Christian music to save Feb 28th on their calendars and then plan to join them for this uplifting musical event.



Ten Commandments

Some people have trouble with all those 'shall's' and 'shall not's' in the Ten Commandments. Folks just aren't used to talking in those terms.. So, in middle Tennessee they translated the 'King James' into 'Jackson County' language....

(Proported to be posted on the walls of the Cross Trails Church in Gainsboro, TN)

1. Just one God
2. Put nothin' before God
3. Watch yer mouth
4. Git yourself to Sunday meetin'
5. Honor yer Ma & Pa
6. No killin'
7. No foolin' around with another fellow's gal
8. Don't take what ain't yers
9. No tellin' tales or gossipin'
10. Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff



Highlight for February

FREE LUNCH – Noon Feb 11th
Shove Tuesday Supper – 6pm Feb 24th
Ash Wednesday Service 7pm Feb 25th
Look for details inside

Christian Music Concert -7pm Feb 28th
Look for flyers at church and in the community or check with Dawn Maxim

OUR MISSION

We exist to draw people to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, enriching our lives together through love and service.

WORSHIP:10:00 a.m. nursery provided

Church Office phone disconnected use 465-2894 (Parsonage) or 992-6766 (Pastor's Cell)

e-mail: revsuedave@roadrunner.com website: www.oaksumc.org

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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