

News from the AKS

Oakland Sidney United Methodist Church
Oakland, ME

Reverend Susan Davenport, Pastor

May 2008

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Edna Comstock, Newsletter Editor

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In a world where people become easily self-absorbed, being kind to one another is not only necessary, it is important. A story is told about a man in a large city who was on his way to an interview for a new job with a highly successful company. Well-groomed, wearing a nice suit and smelling of expensive cologne, the man made his way to the corporate headquarters. As he was waiting for the elevator, and elderly janitor walked by, slipped on the wet floor and fell down awkwardly. The young man chuckled to himself at the "Three-Stooges-like" humor, unconcerned that the older man might have been hurt. He actually stepped over the fallen janitor, boarded the elevator, went up to the 29th floor and entered the reception area.

Soon the man's name was called, and he was ushered into a beautiful executive office. He was greeted by the woman who was going to conduct the interview. She was the company President. After introducing herself she said, "By the way, on your way up to see me, did you see anyone who needed help?" "Yes," he replied, "an elderly janitor fell down right in front of me as I was waiting for the elevator." "Did you stop to help him?" "Well, no, because I believe in promptness, and I didn't want to be late for the interview." "Of course," said the woman, "But you see that was the interview! As a business executive, I know that many people push and shove their way to the top. But as a Christian, I have come to realize that love is the most powerful thing in the world and that anyone who wishes to rant first must remain the last of all, and the servant of all. I'm very sorry, but I'm afraid you are not the kind of person I have in mind for this position."

OAKS is a place where I have found kindness and love. I know there are many people out there who could and would benefit from that kindness and love in their life too. Won't you invite someone you know who needs a little TLC to church so we can spread God's love and kindness? Remember, there are three important lessons to be learned in life. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third, well you get it.

Blessings,

Sue

Pastor Sue



Mother Daughter Tea and Bridal Show May 4th

The invitations are out and we're scurrying around to get ready for the Mother/Daughter Tea to honor the women of our church. The program for the afternoon will be a bridal show. But, this isn't just any bridal show it's a show that will feature "old" wedding gowns worn by the young women of our church. We have gowns from as far back as the 1920's right up through the most recent decade and we're hoping that when you come you'll bring some pictures from your own wedding to share. Ginny Merritt is organizing a lovely tea reception after the bridal parade. So gussy up and plan to join us for this delightful afternoon. RSVP to Jan Osborn

Lectionary Readings for :

5/4: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11;

5/11: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

5/18: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

5/25: Isaiah 49:8-16a; Psalm 131 or Psalm
62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Matthew
6:24-34



School will be out for the summer next month and that means that it will be time for VBS! Vacation Bible School will be held at the United Baptist Church on June 23-27, from 9am-12pm. The need to get ready and find the many hands it will take to teach, prepare snacks, lead music, do crafts, read stories, and just generally help out that much more urgent. Please prayerfully consider this ministry to our children and volunteer to help. Talk with Pastor Sue, Clara Watson, or Jan Osborn.

New Members to be Received on Pentecost Sunday

On Sunday, May 11th, the church celebrates Pentecost. In the Gospel of John, chapter 14:25-26, Jesus promises the Disciples that He will send the Holy Spirit; "the Advocate," to teach them and remind them of all He has said to them. Then, in the Second chapter of Acts, Luke reports the coming of the Holy Spirit and its' effect on the fledgling church. In verse 41, Luke writes, "So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added." Today, the celebration of Pentecost is still a time for renewing our baptism in Christ, and a time for the reception of new members into the church. OAKS will continue this Apostolic tradition by welcoming new members into the church. If you would like to unite with this congregation by becoming a full member, or, if you would like to transfer your existing membership from another church to the OAKS family, please speak with Pastor Sue so arrangements can be made. We would also welcome any who have not been baptized to come and receive this sacrament of grace as well. What a great gift for Mom, Grandma, and yourself!



The Grand Sweep

Our Wednesday evening bible study, The Grand Sweep, is continuing its trek through the New Testament. New folks are welcome to join us at the home of Norma Berryman, 130 Fairfield Street at 7pm each Wednesday.

A Different Drug Problem

The following is an article that appeared in the Avoyelles Parish Newsletter.

The other day, someone at a store in our town read that a Methamphetamine had been found in an old farmhouse in the adjoining county and he asked me a rhetorical question, "Why didn't we have a drug problem when we were growing up?" I replied, I had a drug problem when I was young: I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions and community socials no mater the weather. I was drug by my ears when I was

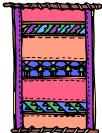
disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn't put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.

I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered a profanity. I was drug out to pull weeds in Mom's garden and flower beds, and cockleburs in Dad's fields. I was drug to the homes of family, friends and neighbors to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow their yard, repair the clothesline, or chop some firewood, and, if my Mother ever knew I accepted a single dime as a tip for this kindness, she would have drug me back to the woodshed.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behavior in everything I do, say, or think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack, or heroin; and, if children today had this kind of drug problem, the world would be a much better place. God bless the parents who drugged us.

Alternative Craft Fair

In addition to the Church Fair this coming fall Cheryl Leonard is organizing an Alternative Craft Fair in early November. Cheryl has booked the Beads for Life again and will also be bringing in items from other parts of the world and hopefully the US to help people in need. Please keep this Fair in mind when you do your Christmas and other gift shopping in November.



Receipts Still Needed

We're nearing \$300 in returns from the Shaw's receipts. Please continue bringing those receipts in. It does make a difference. You will find an envelope on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall where you can leave your receipts. Or you can give them to Edna whenever you see her.

May Lectors:

4th Scott Colby
11th Melody Brann
18th Carole Cateau
25th Scott Bond

Church Fair!

Mark your calendars for October 25th! It takes a whole church to create a successful Church Fair, so we need help from everyone. Start thinking about what you can do to help.



We need people to grow cucumbers and beets for us. If you, or someone you know, have a garden maybe you could set aside a row for the church. The fair will feature a Country Cupboard with jams, jellies, relishes, pickles, candy and baked goods of all kinds.

Children will have their own corner where they will decorate cookies while their parents browse. It would be nice to have small items the kids could buy for gifting.

Any and all crafts are welcome. Share your talents and maybe even a workshop time when we can all work together to create crafts for the fair.

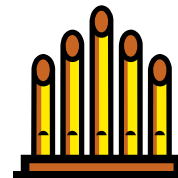
The lunch counter will feature baked beans, hot dogs, chili, rolls, soup, bars, coffee/tea and soda.

The silent auction table will have several theme baskets. Please think about creating a basket. Some ideas might be, a Halloween/Thanksgiving/Christmas/Movie/Children's/CoffeeLovers/Chocolate Lovers/Reading or Music Lovers Baskets. Be creative and start planning soon!

If we all work together we will have fun, and help support the church general fund. More importantly, however, this is a great way to build community and invite folks to join our church family! For further information please speak with Joanne Cook.

Come To The Fairs This Fall!!

The Chimes Are Ringing Again



Have you noticed that Bob has been playing the chimes on the organ lately. They sound wonderful and we are all so happy to have them back. The chimes were damaged when lightening struck a year or so ago and we've finally been able to get them repaired thanks to many generous donations to the Memorial Fund.

Funds were used from the following funds:

Goldie Brawn	Harold "Ben" Brackett
Evelyn N. Bragg	Mrs. Fox
Jeanne Kappler	Ruth B Lewis
William "Neil" McCabe	Ola McDonald
Olive Parent	Lawrence Peterson

Pat Barnard
 Margaret Bowen
 Dot Brackett
 Betty Chadbourne
 Joanne Cook
 Kathy Chase
 Joan Finemore
 Roberta Fisher
 Geneva Fitch
 Connie Huntley
 The family of Rosetta Isbister
 Margaret Johnston
 Debbie Gillis
 Ernie Johnston
 Glenn Leavitt
 "Mac" McDougall
 Sylvia Norton
 Ken & Thelma Philbrick
 Louise Pullen
 Barbara & Russell Ryer
 Sandy Schwartz kids in Kenya
 Beverly Wrigly
 Jan Zakouris

Bishop Peter Weaver
 D.S. David Svenson
 Our Church & Pastor

I AM A CHRISTIAN

By Maya Angelou

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin."
 I'm whispering "I was lost,"
 Now I'm found and forgiven."*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I don't speak of this with pride.
 I'm confessing that I stumble
 And need CHRIST to be my guide.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I'm not trying to be strong.
 I'm professing that I'm weak
 And need HIS strength to carry on.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I'm not bragging of success.
 I'm admitting I have failed
 And need God to clean my mess.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I'm not claiming to be perfect,
 My flaws are far too visible
 But, God believes I am worth it.*

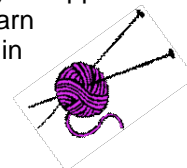
*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I still feel the sting of pain,
 I have my share of heartaches
 So I call upon His name.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
 I'm not holier than thou,
 I'm just a simple sinner
 Who received God's good grace, somehow.*



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The members of our Prayer Shawl ministry meet the second Monday of each month to knit and crochet prayer shawls for those who are sick, shut-in or grieving. Prayer shawls are also available for anyone who would like to commemorate a special occasions such as a birthday, anniversary or graduation. There is no charge for a prayer shawl but the ladies involved in the ministry do appreciate gifts of yarn or money to purchase yarn for the shawls. If you are interested in joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry or have need of a Prayer Shawl please contact Joanne Cook at 873-5575.



May Greeters

5/4: Terry & Scott Colby
 5/11: Joan & Vernal Finemore
 5/18: Alberta & Mike Porter
 5/25: Gail Watson & Linda Sprague

Prayer List



**Summer is coming.
Mark your calendars Worship moves to 9am June 1st**

OUR MISSION

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 a.m. all ages

WORSHIP:10:00 a.m. nursery provided

Phone: 465-3222 (Church office) 465-2894 (Parsonage) 992-6766 (Pastor's Cell)

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20 West School Street
Oakland, ME 04963**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Webb Fox
76 South Alpine Street
Oakland, ME 04963**

May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		April 29 Worship Committee 9am Comstock residence		1 UMW 7pm	2	3 UMM Breakfast 7:30am & Church Clean Up Day
4 Mother/Daughter Tea & Bridal Show 2pm	5 AA Noon Discipleship I Bible Study 6:30pm Pleasant St. Ch.	6 Boy Scouts 6:30pm Prayer Group 7pm	7 Grand Sweep Bible Study 7pm	8 AA Noon Administrative Board 7pm	9	10
11 Pentecost Sunday Mother's Day	12 AA Noon Prayer Shawl Gp. 1:30pm Discipleship I Bible Study 6:30pm Pleasant St. Ch.	13 Daisies 3pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Prayer Group 7pm	14 Grand Sweep Bible Study 7pm	15 AA Noon Oakland Council of Churches 7pm St. Theresa's Church	16	17 Double & One 6pm
18 Trinity/Peace with Justice Sunday Eagle Scout Ceremony 2pm Pre Conference Mtg. 3pm	19 AA Noon Discipleship I Bible Study 6:30pm Pleasant St. Ch.	20 Boy Scouts 6:30pm Prayer Group 7pm	21 Grand Sweep Bible Study 7pm	22 AA Noon	23	24
25 Golden Cross Sunday Memorial Day Sunday	26 Memorial Day AA Noon	27 Daisies 3pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Prayer Group 7pm	28 Grand Sweep Bible Study 7pm	29 AA Noon	30	31 Waterville Garden Club Plant Sale 8am-Noon
Coming in June	June 1 st - Farewell Service for DS 3pm, Green St. UMC	Graduation	Worship moves to 9am - June 1st			

2008