



THE BEAUTY OF A COASTAL WINTER

Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational Newsletter

February 2015

Soundings

By Rev. John Carson

“We gather together...”

There’s no such thing as “solo” Christianity. Rightly understood, Christianity is more than “me and Jesus.” Rightly practiced, Christianity is all about “we and Jesus.”

A large and essential part of Christian faith is “gathering together.” In all four Gospels, one of Jesus’ primary ministries is to gather a community of followers.

Indeed, Jesus came to build a beloved and loving community: a community of followers who would love one another as God and He loved each of them, and a community that would reach out to others, sharing that same love.

If Christian faith is all about connection and community, then mark the importance of gathering together. Not only for worship and work. Not only for prayer and support. But especially to bear witness to the love that binds us together: to God and Jesus, to each other, and to our neighbors too.

Soon we will gather together in Annual Meeting, the 256 th (*Cindy, please check this!*) Annual Meeting of the Elijah Kellogg Church! It will be both an historic and an important occasion. A time of fellowship and celebration. A time for looking back and looking forward to the future.

The promise of our gathering is that Jesus will be with us. “Truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be

done for you by my Father in heaven. For wherever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (Mt 18:19-20)

I hope that you can come. Please join us as we gather together for our Annual Meeting – in Jesus’ name.

Grace and Peace,

John

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Faith & Family

by Denise Perry, Christian Education Director

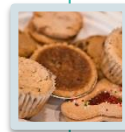
Train a child in a way he should go,
and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6



**2nd & 4th
Tuesdays**
After School @
Kellogg
3-5pm



**Lenten Bible
Study Series**
Begins Wed,
Feb 18th 6-7pm



**Sunday, Feb
15th - BAKE
SALE to
benefit
Beatriz**

Sunday School is going strong and steady. The children are learning about God's love, learning life-lessons from the parables, and applying it to their everyday lives. They are amazing!

KC-JAM – The children's choir is preparing two new songs: "Train is a Coming" and "The Ten Commandment Boogie". Stay tuned to hear them soon!

ASK - On February 10th ASK (After School @ Kellogg) will be filling and delivering a Valentine's basket to the residents of the Vicarage by the Sea. **We are looking for donations of small stuffed animals and non-slip socks to add to their basket.** ASK will also meet on February 24th to help prepare for our Heifer mission that begins March 1st!

Lenten Bible Study Series (February 18 – April 1) Led by Ashley Braley, this 7-week class will meet on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 6-7pm. On the first evening, February 18th Pastor John will offer an Ash Wednesday service to follow this class at 7pm. Childcare will be available. If interested, contact either Ashley Braley or Pastor John.

Missions & Outreach

February – On February 15th stop by our Bake Sale table after the worship service. ASK will be preparing cookie jar mixes and our youth families will be baking other goodies to sell. All proceeds benefit our child sponsorship, Beatriz!

March – Heifer International

- Fill the Arcs is a daily missions-giving program that spans for four weeks, beginning March 1st.
- Potluck Supper and Game Night (Friday, March 6th 5-7pm). Join us for an evening of good food and good company while enjoying some video clips about Heifer and playing some board games.
- Help us welcome Jan Schrock (daughter of Heifer's founder, Dan West, whose vision started Heifer's work 70 years ago) who will bring the morning's Sermon on March 15th and then join us at our Fellowship/Coffee Hour to talk further about Heifer's work, here and around the world.
- Again this year we will offer a Chance Auction (March 1-29), all proceeds to benefit Heifer International. We are looking for donations such as: gift cards (Hannaford, LL Bean, Skillins, etc.), service cards (Yard Work, House Cleaning, Gardening, etc.) or Entertainment (Movie passes, Restaurant, Bowling, etc.) Please see Denise or Cindy if you have an item to donate.

April - In support of a local mission, we will be gathering WALKERS and SPONSORS for the annual Habitat for Humanity Spring Walk. So dust off your walking shoes and consider joining our team!

Winter Weather Notice



We will be using the
**WINTER WEATHER
CANCELLATION PAGE**
at www.wcsh6.com to
alert membership of
any church related
closings.

THE CASUAL BOOK CLUB

When: 3rd Monday afternoon of the month. Next meeting is February 16th at 1 pm

Where: Church Parlor

Who: Any members or friends of EKC or of the community

(It is not necessary to be EKC member and it is also not necessary to be female although all current members are.)

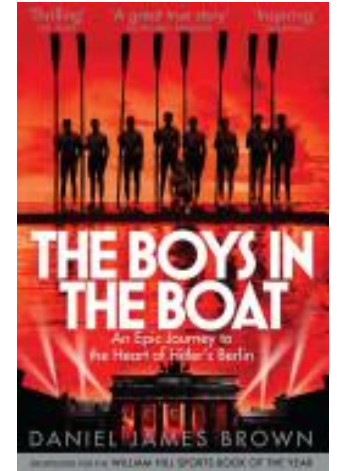
Book for February: The Boys in the Boat by David James Brown

Regular meetings: 3rd Monday of month (except July/August)

Current leader: Kathy Goodrich

Looking ahead -

March Book: Still Life with Bread Crumbs by Anna Quindlen



Our Threshold for the Future

Submitted by George Patterson

A major event took place in January- the Church entered into a contract with Leslie Fossel and Restoration Resources of Alna, Maine. This was a goal that your Preservation Group has been working on for most of last year for it established a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the work they are to do for us, on the Sanctuary and the parsonage. During the past months we have been at work to establish a budget for each item that we wish to preserve, for example the shutters, the painting of the sanctuary, the parsonage, etc. Each budget figure became part to the total for which Restoration Resources committed itself to finish the budgeted items, or the GMP. This is \$214,082!

There is however more, as to this we must add the cost of insulation to the church and the Parsonage (which was not part of Restoration's responsibility): \$27,866; and the cost of the church purchasing the paint-\$6,000. The total cost is therefore \$247,948. We were able to reduce this figure by \$4,000, a grant from a trust administered by the Maine Community Foundation, bringing the total down to \$ 243,948. These numbers are firm although we feel it is prudent to add a 15%

contingency to allow for an item or two that was undiscovered and may materialize before we are through. Nothing has come up to date.

We will be working closely with the contractor throughout the spring, working out construction details and waiting for summer weather when the paint can be removed. If you have any questions or comments, the Preservation Committee would like very much to hear from you.

Brown Bag Returns

Submitted by Bruce Myer & Doc Phillips



Elijah Kellogg Brown Bag Lunch Series Returns with a Buzz!!

Join us on February 10th @ 12:00pm for



BEES (Part 1?)

"If the bee disappeared off the face of the earth, man would only have four years left to live." - Albert Einstein

The Problem

The Head-Scratching Case of the Vanishing Bees

ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP?

Join us for this informative and thought provoking discussion lead by DOC PHILLIPS. Doc relates his many years of Beekeeping experience here in Maine and discusses the global crisis and how it affects us right here in Harpswell, Maine.

SAVE THE DATE



Friday, March 27th

Chewonki Chili & Chowdah Challenge

Please mark your calendars for a fun evening of

Chili & Chowdah tasting

Friday, March 27th

5:30 to 7:30 pm

At the Harpswell Community School Gym.

Tickets may be pre-purchased ahead of time from 5th grade students

or at the door the evening of the event!

(\$7.00 Adults, \$5.00 children)

Snow date: Saturday, March 28th from 5:30-7:30

All proceeds to benefit HCS 5th grade Chewonki trip

HARPSWELL COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL SEED SALE

THINK SPRING!

FEDCO ORGANIC SEED SALE

Our annual Fedco Seed Sale has begun! Please help support our scholarship program by purchasing your seeds through HCNS. These seeds are cultivated specifically for use in our Maine climate, and we have used them with great success in our home and school gardens in the past. Each packet is \$3.

ORDERING OPTIONS

Order online at: www.store4217023.ecwid.com
Seeds ordered online will be mailed via
USPS directly to you.

OR

Fill out a form through our students/staff/parents
where you may pay by cash or check.
(There is no direct ship option for this method)

THE ORDER DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 25, 2014.

Please help us spread the word by sharing
our store link on Facebook and forwarding
this to your friends!

THANK YOU!

If you have any questions, please email
Hillary Ramsay at ramsay.hillary@gmail.com
or call/text her at 207.798.0424.