



The Antenna



News of the Bridgton Christian and Missionary Alliance Church April, 2010



Happenings

Sunday, April 4

6am Sunrise Service
7am Easter Breakfast
9am Easter Service

April 15-18

Missions Conference
(see schedule on page 4)

Friday, April 23

7pm-9pm Ladies, Nite Out

Saturday, April 24

7:30-9am Life 2010 fundraiser
breakfast
Church Clean Up Day
(Volunteers Needed!)

Friday, April 30

Set up for AWANA Grand Prix
(Volunteers Needed!)



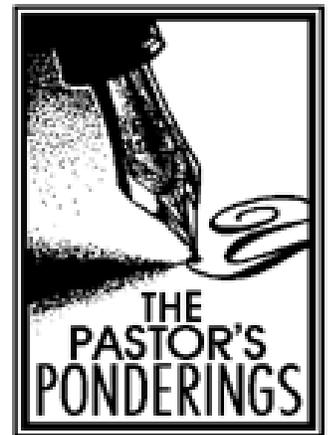
*"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."*

Luke 24:5

MOVING FORWARD

As we come into the Easter season we are reminded of our real reason for being as a church. We are here to be the visible body of our risen and ascended savior Jesus Christ. Fellowship is, of course, vital to the body life of the church. We need each other and as Jesus prayed in John 17 we need to be united together just as the Father is united to the Son. Such a call to unity is in itself a tremendous challenge, but there is so much more.

I say there is much more because our church is not simply a fellowship group ministering to its own needs. It has been well said that God has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light and he then sends us right back into the darkness to call others into the light. As a church we are as the body of Christ here on earth not only to minister to each other, we are also called to be salt and light in this world and to proclaim the message of Christ until he physically comes again. That's why I was incredulous the other day when someone told me that he had been listening to Family Radio while traveling through New York State and heard the speaker say that God has no use today for the church. That friends is outright heresy. Never in history has God had a greater need for his body than now. He needs us as an active, united, outreaching body. I might add that the world whether it realized it or not also needs the church for these same reasons.



This being the case, I have greatly appreciated the support we have had from our church body for the community Lenten Luncheons. Our participation has been vital to the expression of our love and interest in this community. You can be sure that the active part we have taken has not gone unnoticed. Debbie's presentation at the luncheon this year of the hymn Because He Lives was a real encouragement to many and a real case in point. The power of the Resurrection of Christ comes through that hymn and came through in Debbie's presentation and I could tell that there were many there who were really taking it in. That's why we are here, that's our reason for being. We must continually move forward making use of every means possible to proclaim the gospel.

Such was the vision of Dr. Simpson the founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Back in the 19th century the movie theaters were all closed on Sunday evenings so he would rent them and hold evangelistic meetings in them. People felt free to go into a theater when they wouldn't set foot in the church. Simpson was widely criticized for taking the gospel into "A den of iniquity" as people put it, but God was leading him to reach out to those in need and that's where he found them. We need to continue with that same vision.

Pastor's letter continued on next page...

Pastor's letter continued from page one...

Of course not everything we do is outside our building and it has been well said that Easter Sunday is the greatest Friend Day on our church calendar. It is that time, more than any other, when people will consider going to church. We need to be proactive about this. This year, working especially through our worship team, a very special cantata has been planned and the gospel will be clearly announced. Let us do everything possible to get as many visitors as possible out to that service.

There are a number of other special services coming up also. On Palm Sunday evening we will be having Dinner and a Concert with Eddie Piper. Again, this can be an evangelistic tool for reaching people in an informal way with the gospel.

Following our Palm Sunday and Easter programs, on May 16, Sue Thomas the retired deaf F.B.I. agent will be here to share her testimony. Sue is a dedicated Christian and her testimony has made a tremendous impact wherever she has spoken. The fact that the TV series *Sue Thomas F. B. Eye* was based on her life should spark the interest of many who have watched the series. This again is another Friend Day opportunity.

July 4, Independence Day, falls on a Sunday this year. The July 4 period is the peak of tourist season and it is another big date for our church as Paul Veit will be speaking. Paul has a real gift of evangelism and has touched many lives with his presentations. We praise God that he is located here and that we can use him for reaching out to the community.

Our official Friend Day this year will be Sunday, July 25. We are making arrangements to again hold it at the Steven's Brook School. The week following we will as usual be conducting our VBS program which has always served as a strong evangelistic outreach tool.

August may seem to be a long way off, but we are already making plans to send a mission team to Revere, Massachusetts at that time to minister for a week on the beach reaching out to those who vacation there.

The calendar year of course begins on January 1, but our church year really begins in the fall as the summer season ends and school begins again. We plan to launch that New Year with a concert with Ernie Couch and Revival. This year they will be coming on Sunday morning October 3 and my prayer is that the Lord will use them in a special way to reach many with the gospel.

Even as I write this we are looking at the possibility of adding more outreach programs to our schedule. We do this not to entertain ourselves but to create opportunities of witness. As Rick Warren so well put it, "It is not about us." It is about the Lord. It is my prayer that as the days, weeks and months go by that we will in our lives and in our church ministry see the Lord lifted up and glorified here in the greater Bridgton area.

- Pastor Boon

Church "Yellow Pages"

If there is sufficient interest, we will be putting together a "yellow page" type listing of businesses, services, etc. offered by members or regular attendees of our church to be made available to the rest of the congregation. This will allow those who may be looking to have work done, or for a particular service or trade, to patronize the businesses of their fellow church-goers if they wish to do so. This is not a listing for those who need free or reduced rate services (please call the church office if you need this type of assistance).

Any of you who own your own business, or have a trade or service that you would like listed, please provide the following information in writing, via email or leave it in Box M03, and we will include it in the listing. We will need:

Business or trade name

Contact information (address, phone and email – business card is good)

Short description of services (or trades) offered

Business/office hours (when it is okay to call)

This listing will be distributed in each mailbox and posted on the church bulletin board. Please note that inclusion in this listing does not constitute a reference, positive or negative, of the businesses listed.

If you have any questions, please call me at 647-2599 or email me at Jamiebasile@myfairpoint.net.

-Jamie Basile





6am—Easter Sunrise Service
 7am—Easter Breakfast
 9am—Easter Worship Service
 with Cantata



If you are a secret sister and would like to leave a note for the Sister who has you, please place it in an envelope in the Secret Sister box with your name on it. FMI see Peggy Frank.



Chris & Bob Vaillancourt would like to borrow a car seat and/or a “pack ‘n play” (folding crib) to use one week in the middle of August when their 2 year-old great grandson Eli is visiting from Texas. Their phone number is 452-2015. Thanks!

The Pinetree Crosses

Last April on a Sunday we took one of our “nowhere” drives, my husband was quietly driving a back road. I was occupied in the front passenger seat watching the scenery.

I noticed out of the corner of my eye that my husband was straining to look out my window. This startled me, since his eyes should have been on the road in front of him. I asked him what he was looking at out the windows, and he quietly replied, “Nothing”. His eyes went back to the road in front of him.

After a few minutes I looked over at my husband and noticed a tear running down his cheek. I asked him what was wrong. This time he told me, “I was just thinking about Pop and a story he had once told me.” Of course, because it had to do with his Pop I wanted to know the story, so I asked him to share it with me.

He said, “When I was about 8 years old, Pop and I were out fishing and that’s when he told me that the pine trees know when it is Easter.”

I had no idea what he meant by that, so I pressed him for more information.

He continued on...”The pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter—if you look at the tops of the pine trees two weeks before, you will see the yellow shoots. As the days get closer to Easter Sunday, the tallest shoot will branch off and form a cross. By the time Easter Sunday comes around you will see that most of the pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all of the tallest shoots.”

I turned to look out the window and I couldn’t believe my eyes. It was a week before Easter, and you could see all of the trees with the tall yellow shoots stretching to Heaven.

The tallest ones shone in the sunlight like rows of tiny golden crosses.

-submitted by Tom Smith





Annual Conference

Please join us April 15-18 for our **Annual Missions Conference** with Oeuy Kes of Cambodia:

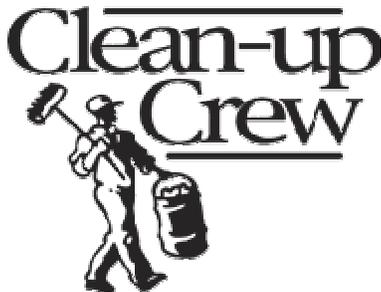
Thursday, 6pm, Pizza with the Junior and Senior High teens.

Friday, 6pm, Dinner with the Missionary

Saturday, 12pm, Ladies' Luncheon

6pm, Mens' Dinner

Sunday, 10:30am, Worship Service with an International Potluck to follow.



April 24th is **Church Clean Up Day**. Please come and help scrub, repair, and make our church shine both inside and out.



Meet for Breakfast

If you are planning on helping out at the church clean up day or would simply like to eat breakfast out, we hope you will join us for a delicious breakfast and great fellowship on **Saturday, April 24th from 7:30-9am**. We will be taking donations toward the teens trip to Life 2010. FMI you may call Debbie at the church office Monday-Friday 9-1.

Prayer Requests From Our Congregation

Prayer requests are from the Sunday bulletin.

It is the policy of Bridgton Alliance Church not to post members' prayer requests in unsecured areas on the internet. Members who would like a copy of the prayer list are asked to contact the church office. Thank you!



A NOTE FROM YOUR CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

At its last meeting the Administrative Board discussed for some time the use of the entryway—Foyer of the church. It was noted with great pleasure how much the church has become a great family. For many it is here that we have most of our friends. Much of our lives revolve around the church. At the same time it was noted that many visitors have been attending church.

Many times there are subjects of interest that we want to share with others in our church family and the most obvious place to make contact would seem to be the entranceway—Foyer of the church. While we appreciate this, we also want to make the flow to and from the sanctuary as pleasant an experience as possible for those who visit with us.

For that reason we have decided to restrict to a certain extent what takes place there and what is placed there. There will be times when missionaries, special speakers and other ministry groups have a table placed in that area. There will also be an occasional church poster placed there. It will, of course, be decorated each year for VBS. But by and large we are asking that promotional posters and literature be placed on the bulletin board. When by special request a table is permitted to be set up, we will probably ask that it be set up in the fellowship hall, although some exceptions may be made for something representing a church ministry such as the quilting ministry.

It is, of course, impossible to make a satisfactory global decision that fairly covers every eventuality and special requests may be considered on a case by case basis by the Administrative Board.

We appreciate your cooperation in this area.

-The Administrative Board



Rent-a-Teen

The teens in AYF are raising funds for the Life Youth Conference this summer. They are available for odd jobs. Please call the office if you are interested in renting a teen. All checks should be made payable to the Bridgton Alliance Church and mark on memo line Life 2010 with teen's name.



Vacation Bible School Is Coming Soon!

Be prepared for a "High Seas Expedition" this summer! More details are soon to come! If you are interested in being a volunteer this year, please contact Cyndi Ranco.

Snacks for April

April 4
Misty S. & Sue H.

April 11
Kathy G. & Pat P.

April 18
Faye D. & Deb L.

April 25
Martha P. & Faye B.

Thank you!

Politically Incorrect

When Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new session of the Kansas House of Representatives in January, 1996, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

"Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good'. but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and inverted our values.

We confess that we have ridiculed the absolute truth of your Word and called it "Pluralism".

We have worshipped other gods and called it "multiculturalism"

We have endorsed perversion and called it "alternative lifestyles"

We have exploited the poor and called it "the lottery".

We have neglected the needy and called it "self-preservation".

We have rewarded laziness and called it "welfare".

We have killed our unborn and called it "choice".

We have shot abortionists and called it "justifiable".

We have neglected to discipline our children and called it "building self esteem".

We have abused power and called it "political savvy".

We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it "ambition".

We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it "freedom of expression".

We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it "enlightenment".

Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today. Cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!"

The response was immediate. One Democratic legislator walked out during the prayer in protest. In six short weeks, Central Christian Church, where Reverend Wright is pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 of those calls responding negatively.

The church is now receiving international requests for copies of this prayer from India, Africa and Korea. Commentator Paul Harvey aired this prayer on his radio program, "The Rest of the Story", and received a larger response to this program than any other he has ever aired.

With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and wholeheartedly become our desire so that we again can be called "One nation under God".

-submitted by Dody & Evelyn Maxfield



We look forward to a fun and exciting day at our annual Grand Prix on May 1st at 1pm. Rick Hagerstrom will be our MC and he will share the Gospel with all who attend in an entertaining fashion. If you have a child who does not attend AWANA but wishes to race in our Grand Prix, they are more than welcome. Car kits cost \$5. Please se Debbie Dean or Peggy Frank for more information.

as
iron
 SHARPENS IRON
 so one
man
 sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17

Iron Sharpens Iron 2010

Date: June 5, 2010
 Place: First Baptist Church,
 Canco Road, Portland ME
 Price: \$45—1 to 9 men;
 \$39.00 for 10 or more;
 \$29.00 student
 Ages: 13 on up
 Sign up ends: April 25, 2010

Our money needs to be in no later than the last sign up day. We really would like it if all could attend. For more information, visit <http://www.ironsharpensiron.net/> and click on the Portland ME, June 5 site, for conference information and seminars that will be offered that day.

Newsletter
DEADLINE

Information for the newsletter should be emailed to Jamie Basile at jamiebasile@myfairpoint.net and Becky Foster at beckster74@yahoo.com or put in the new Antenna box at church, box NO1 (no pun intended :).

The deadline for the May edition is Thursday, April 22.

Numen

A little girl lived on a South Sea island and was known to have regular conversations with Jesus. Her fellow villagers believed her and treated her with special attention. They were also altogether cautious neither to make light of her nor to take advantage of her gift for their own benefit.

Soon the word of her numen got around to the local bishop. Being a bishop and a guardian of stuff, he wasn't all that prone to believe stories like this, usually writing them off to native lore. But the girl's reported experience developed legs enough so that his curiosity provoked him to delegate his monsignor to enquire of the youngster concerning this phenomenon, lest, perhaps it get out of hand.

So the monsignor devised a test as to the authenticity of these "conversations". He listened the girl out, then said "In your next conversation with Jesus I would like you to ask Him what I confessed in my last sacrament of penance." She agreed.

Some time passed. Hearing nothing from her, the priest impatiently sought her out. He asked had she talked to Jesus and did she bring up the question. "Yes", she said. "Well, what did Jesus say about what I said in my confession?" the priest asked. And the little girl answered "He said 'I forgot'."

-submitted by Becky Foster



Bridgton Alliance Church

368 Harrison Road, Bridgton, ME 04009
 647-2027—www.bridgtonalliancechurch.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Service, Bible Discovery Zone and Nursery Care—9:00 a.m.

Staff

Pastor Ed Boon—pastor@bridgtonalliancechurch.org
 Debbie Dean, Director of Discipleship—discipleship@bridgtonalliancechurch.org
 Pat Burgess, Office Administrator—info@bridgtonalliancechurch.org