

Dear Friends,

To whom or what do you pray? How is your prayer shaped? When do you pray? And, of course, what are your expectations? All these are questions that our young people thought about in the CUF Coming-of-Age Class this spring.

Prayer is not always a request for change. It can be an expression of amazement or gratitude, an acknowledgement of a wrong choice or mistake, or a request for help. Prayer can also be an opening of oneself to guidance and direction.

When all is said and done—all the rituals, traditions, words, gestures, music, clothes, special foods—the foundation of our Christian faith is transformation. We trust that who we are and the world in which we live can and will move forward into the future in new and beautiful and exciting ways if we are living, working and being within the mysterious entity we call...Christ. When we are no longer living within and for ourselves, when that way of life has died, then our new way of being in the world rises. In the ancient words of Paul, "it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me: and that life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith . . ."

As we move forward to the celebration of Easter, of transformation, of "dying and rising", let us together hold in our hearts the words of the prayers offered up by our three young people in the Coming-of-Age Class during this Lenten season:

In concern: for the resolution of conflicts and wars, especially in Maine and also in the Ukraine, for pollution and global warming, for those who reject science, for Manna Ministries having enough food, for safe snow removal and driving conditions, for elections, for children who live without parents, for those who are ill, for safety on sledding hills, for those who are lonely or homeless, for Oklahoma University, for the Middle East . . .

In gratitude: for parents, for family, for church teachers, for people who admit they are wrong, for birthdays . . .

In celebration: for show choirs, for spring training, for people who run for office, for children who survive trauma, for Spring coming, for longer days

The young peoples' prayers of thanks and hopes for living into a transformed world were addressed to "Abba", "Papa", "Big Mama and the World", "The Unknowable", and "The Love in All Creation".

Christ? Christ indeed!

See you in church,
Lorna

The Reverend Lornagrace Grenfell



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Around CUF . . .

Willow Divine hosted a great March Movie Night!... Our children made really beautiful candlesticks and challah covers for our Holy Communion service with them in worship!... We congratulate Jessie Walker for winning an Acting Award at the Regional One Act Play competition!... How truly delightful to visit with former CUFer Tiffany Twitchell on her recent visit to Orono!... Jasper obtained SIX baseball player signatures at the Red Sox spring training in Florida!... Mark Bilyk, Ed Brazee and Rori Knott had a great time at the "This I Believe" Story Telling Project with the CUF Coming-of-Age Class!... The CUF Communications Task Force had their first meeting! Ed, Tricia, Rachel, Leo and Raechelle are planning a survey for us! Get ready!... We missed it, but last fall Peter Osberg and his son Matthew held a lovely 90th birthday celebration for both Priscilla and Phil Osberg!... CUF is delighted that Lynn and Ben King and Katie and Sarah are moving up to Orono from MDI! The girls will be the 4th generation of Curtises to go to OHS!... And Lindsey LaChance and Adriana have moved back to the area, and we will again see them at CUF!... Have you been missing young Xander during the Children's Message these days? He was in Antarctica!... Thomas Griffith had three art projects accepted for the Student Exhibition at UMaine at the Lord Hall Gallery!... The Reverend Emily Taylor was just great to fill in for Reverend Lorna at the last minute on Sunday! Thank you, Emily!

Cards of love and encouragement to:

Jayne Bartley

9 Alumni Drive, Orono ME 04473

Jane Ann Cooper

9 Alumni Dr., Orono ME 04473

Maddie Emerson

35 Wagner Dr., # 351, Orono ME 04473

Matt Harriman

143 Forest Ave., Orono ME 04473

Lorraine Lick

44 Kelley Rd, Orono ME 04473

Gary Noyes

79 Havasu Road, Orono ME 04473

CONGRATULATIONS TO CUFER

SAM KUNZ

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBER OF
THE ORONO TOWN COUNCIL

CONGRATULATIONS TO CUFER

BRIAN MCGILL

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBER OF
THE ORONO SCHOOL BOARD

In celebration of the birth of

Eleanor Arlene Brazee

Daughter of Jeff and Amanda Brazee
Granddaughter of Ed Brazee and Connie
Carter

In celebration of the birth of

Skyler Veira Forman

Daughter of Alexis Irons and Chris Forman
Granddaughter of Kevin Irons
Great granddaughter of Fred and Sally Irons

? Who ? Who ? Who ? Who ?

How well do you know your church family? Each month, the WIND asks a question about someone in our congregation. Can you discover the answer? Ask around! Talk to people!

April Challenge: What CUF member said the following in a radio interview this past month? "I was so thrilled to do those (public announcements) because it made me feel like things were becoming whole again. To read out those locations, that station, 'World Trade Center', made such a difference to me."

March Challenge: What CUF member was featured in the *We Are Bangor* video about how to pronounce "Bangor" that was featured on the national news? Answer: Melissa Gerety!

Cards of Condolences may be sent to:

Marion Chute

432 Main Street, Orono ME 04473

on the death of her daughter

Pamela Dianne Chute

April Gospel Lessons

April 5, Easter Mark 16:1-8

April 12: John 20:19-31

April 19: Luke 24:36b-48

April 26: John 10:11-18

The Church of Universal Fellowship

~ HOLY WEEK SERVICES ~

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

~ Shared Supper

~ Life of Christ in Hymns

~ Table Communion

6:00 pm in The Gathering Place

Please call 866-3655 and let us know

✓ *if you are coming*

✓ *what you will be bringing*

✓ *if you will need childcare*

Thank you!

Good Friday, April 3rd

Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm

~ EASTER SUNDAY, April 5th ~

~~ All are welcome! ~~



Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am

Penobscot Valley Country Club

Easter Morning Breakfast at 7:15 am

Church of Universal Fellowship

EASTER MORNING WORSHIP at 10:15 am

SHABBAT Dinner

Friday, May 15th 6:00 pm in the Vestry

The origins of our Christian Sabbath can be found in the Jewish tradition of Shabbat.

- Just like we do on Sundays at the CUF, Jewish folk around the world worship and remember God from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday each week.
- Just like we do during our communion services, a blessing is said over the wine and over the bread.
- Just like we do each Sunday, family and friends gather together, good food is eaten and prayers are said.

This year at the CUF, the elementary children have been learning about Jesus and about the Jewish roots of our Christian faith.

As part of that curriculum, we have invited some of our friends from Beth El synagogue to come share a Shabbat Dinner with us on Friday May 15th at 6 pm.

Mediterranean foods of the sort Jesus might have eaten will be served and those who want to help with the cooking & set-up can come at 5 pm to help out.

All members of the CUF are invited, whether you have children in our programs or not! This is a great chance to experience some of what our children have been learning and to enjoy a wonderful, spiritual, inter-faith evening.

There is no charge for joining in the dinner, but donations toward the cost of food would be greatly appreciated, since this is not an event, which was included in our yearly budget – sometimes great ideas show up later on! Suggested donation amounts: \$7 per person, \$20 per family.

Please **RSVP** by **April 19th** to Sarah Marx at smarxmccgill@gmail.com.

The children and I hope LOTS and LOTS of you will come!

Blessings, Sarah Marx, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

...from the Commissioned Minister

March has been another busy month. Many guests and groups came to the Maine Vets Home where so much has happened that please the residents. We now welcome April, spring and Easter with open arms and *without* snow. Spring is finally here - Deo Gratias! I continue to work on weekends and when my supervisor needs me in to work extra days. Truly I deem it an honor and it brings me joy to serve our veterans and their spouses.

I believe it's important for a person to continue learning; it's good for the body, mind and spirit. A while ago we looked through the *Bethel Series*. I briefly explained the concepts to introduce them to another way of understanding the Scriptures. A short while ago I read the history of hymns as we sang them. A month ago I shared the history of superstitions and led a lively discussion in which everyone shared some superstitions they remembered. The origin of nursery rhymes is the next item I am curious about. So, several days ago I stopped at the Bangor Public Library to pick up a book ordered through Inter-library loan: *Heavy Words Lightly Thrown. The Reason Behind The Rhyme, The seamy and quirky stories behind favorite nursery rhymes*, by Chris Roberts. A cursory perusal increased my interest and desire to share the history of the words we chanted as children.

Each Sunday we have a "Church Service" that includes a bible reading, reading from Our Daily Bread and Daily Guideposts. I recently finished reading the booklet about the healing power of the 23rd Psalm where we learned the words David the shepherd boy wrote in our daily lives. I generally leave this and other information at the office to keep it handy when needed. I bring the oil from St. Anne de Beaupre with me to bless the sick or those making their transition. Geneva usually brings a variety of cookies for our coffee after Service. When I can I bring in cheese and crackers to enjoy after our Service.

Thank you for your prayers. Cataract surgery on my eyes was successful. What a miracle! Thank God! I wish you a blessed Easter Season. May the risen Jesus continue to bring new life in each of us.

With love and prayers, Anne Borreggine, Commissioned for Ministry to Older Persons

OWL is coming to the CUF! But what IS OWL anyway?

No, OWL is not a bird sanctuary program, nor a visit from Harry Potter's owl Hedwig, nor a group of scholarly professors meeting to exchange lofty rhetoric.

OWL (Our Whole Lives) is a wonderful Sexuality Education program jointly developed by the UCC and the UUA.

It is comprehensive, age-appropriate, and affirming of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

It actually includes 6 levels: K-1st grade, 4-6th grade, 7-9th grade, 10-12th grade, young adult and adult. I hear that a senior level is currently being developed.

We will offer the program for 5-6th graders and 8-9th graders next year (2015-2016) at the CUF.

Speaking as a parent whose child has attended the OWL program in the past, I can't tell you how amazing I think this program is. And speaking as a teacher who has dealt with MANY different curricula over the years, I can't tell you how impressed I was when I taught the 4-6th grade curriculum – it is comprehensive, well-researched, engaging for youth, active and a joy to teach. With so many damaging messages about sexuality in the media (and sometimes from churches as well) and with so little sexuality education being offered in the schools, I believe this program, or something like it, is a necessity. It is a powerful experience for youth to see their healthy and growing sexuality affirmed by both their faith communities and by the adults who are raising them, as well as to dialogue about changing bodies, changing relationships, and issues of sexuality and social justice, not just at home, but also with peers, in a safe and supported setting.

An amazing team of CUF folk – augmented by a couple of community members as well – attended a 2 day 20 hours training in March in order to become certified to teach this program. The team includes **Will Hunter, Rori Knott, Brian McGill, Sarah Marx, Sonja Birthisel, Rachel Dobbs, Sandy Caron, Erin Lanigan and Jonathan McCullum** (from the Wilson Center).

The OWL core values are:

- self-worth
- sexual health
- responsibility
- justice and inclusivity

Its' assumptions are as follows:

- All persons are sexual.
- Sexuality is a good part of the human experience.
- Sexuality includes much more than sexual behavior.
- Human beings are sexual from the time they are born until they die.
- It is natural to express sexual feelings in a variety of ways.
- People engage in healthy sexual behavior for a variety of reasons including to express caring and love, to experience intimacy and connection with another, to share pleasure, to bring new life into the world, and to experience fun and relaxation.
- Sexuality in our society is damaged by violence, exploitation, alienation, dishonesty, abuse of power, and the treatment of persons as objects.
- It is healthier for young adolescents to postpone sexual intercourse.

The program is very clear that parents are their children's primary sexuality educators and seeks to support parents in this role at all times. Please check out the following web-sites if you would like to know more about the OWL program:

http://www.ucc.org/justice_sexuality-education_our-whole-lives

<http://www.uua.org/re/owl>

<http://www.uua.org/re/owl/297213.shtml>

Please also ask the teachers listed above to tell you more about the program during Coffee Hour – they have a lot to share!

And finally, please let me know if you have a child or grandchild you are considering signing up for the program. We will have a required "Parent and Caregiver Orientation Meeting" in the late spring or early fall where you can examine the whole curriculum in detail and make a final decision on enrollment.

Feel free to spread the word to others in the community as well – once CUF youth have had a chance to sign up, we will open enrollment to youth outside of the CUF.

As always, it has taken a team effort to make this new program a reality at the CUF. So thanks to the volunteer teachers, the Deacons, the Trustees, and the whole congregation for your support of this program.

May we be the change we want to see in the world!

Sarah Marx, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Private Time for Parents!

with Dr. Bob Peddicord

Monday, April 13

CUF Gathering Place 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Parents and Children Welcome!

How would you like to have a half hour of private time after dinner to relax, and connect and confer with your partner? This program will tell you how to set up **Private Time for Parents** and give children what they need.

Dr. Bob Peddicord is a Pediatric Psychologist who has been helping children and parents for over 30 years. He was co-founder of the Child & Parent Center in Bangor Maine. Strategies outlined in his books have been used successfully with a large number of parents and children.

The University of Maine

8TH ANNUAL

HEALTHY HIGH 5/10K & 1 MILE FUN RUN!

Sponsored by: University Credit Union

**Tech shirts for the first 700 runners/walkers in the 5k and 10k
Finisher medals for all who cross the finish line Certified Course**

April 20, 2015, 4:20 p.m.

Location: Student Recreation & Fitness Center University of Maine

<http://umaine.edu/aod/healthy-high-5k-10k/>

Register at: healthyhigh.racewire.com

Updates on facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1542512182632740/>

Only \$5 for students in the 5K

Only \$20 for non-students in the 5K

Bring shoes to donate for Soles for Souls

The race supports the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism Day of Service

Hospitality and Greeting Schedule

Hospitality (refreshments)

Greeting

Mar 29 Trudy and Wendall Tremblay

Kai and Kirsten Ksnyiak

Apr 5 Phylis Borns, Betty Carr, Alida Coates,
Susan Heath and Deanna Westfall

Gladys and Ron Noyes

Apr 12 Sandra Caron and Stefanie Egenhofer

Sonja Birthisel and Alisha Autio

Apr 19 Stephen Burnham and David Cox

Rita and George Weatherbee

Apr 26 Ginny and John Hackney

Sonya and Glenn Griswold

May 3 Lyn and Randy Adkins

Diane and Tom Halkett

Please contact Stefanie Egenhofer, 866-3862, with any changes. Thank you!

Friday Book Night

7:00 pm Gathering Place

April 10: *Abide with Me* by Elizabeth Strout host: Betty Carr

May 1: *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor Frankl host: Fred Irons

State of Grace Women's Book Group

5:30 pm Gathering Place

Come join us. Call Johanna Szillery at 827-4172 for more information.

April 13, 2015 - *The Poacher's Son* by Paul Doiron

May 18, 2015 - *Philomena: A Mother, A Son, and a Fifty-year Search* by Martin Sixsmith



We will gather in the Mackenzie Room at 6:30.

April 24: Unhappily living with her son and snobby daughter-in-law, Carrie Watts longs to reconnect with her past by visiting

the place where she grew up. Undeterred by her son's opposition, Carrie boards a bus and takes off for her home on her own. With Cicely Tyson and Vanessa Williams.

Host: Maddie Emerson

May 29: The autobiography of Solomon Northup, a free black man who was abducted in New York state and sold into slavery in the 1800's.

Host: Judy Kuhns-Hastings.

ALLIANCE

Alliance will meet on **April 14** in the Gathering Place at noon. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be served. We will make plans for the Daffodil Luncheon on May 12.

Thank you to everyone who supported Messy Church for six years; cooking, cleaning up, and participating in the stories and crafts.

Chris Gilman was named to the National Atlantic Conference Fall All-Academic Team in Men's Soccer. The NAC All-Academic Team recognizes student-athletes on varsity sports teams who have earned a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Student-athletes must also have reached junior academic standing and competed in a minimum of two years of varsity competition at their institution. Chris is a senior in Marine Systems Engineering at Maine Maritime Academy. Chris also had one of the two best Sea Projects at Maine Maritime Academy from his work this summer on a merchant marine vessel (engine).

News of our young people

Jessie Walker is part of a team traveling to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in May to participate in the Grand National Tournament of the National Catholic Forensic League. She will be competing in Oratical Declamation. She already won first prize at the Maine Forensic Association State Championships in both Oratical Declamation and Oral Interpretation of Literature-Prose. In addition, she is an alternate for Humorous Interpretation at the National Speech and Debate Association Tournament in Dallas in June. We already know what a great speaker she is - glad that this is being recognized!

Emily Feher's artwork was one of the pieces from Orono featured in the Art from the Heart of Maine exhibit at the Bangor Mall. This exhibit features art from schools as far away as Waterville and as close as the Bangor area. A photo of Emily's art is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

Eliza McPhee was named Leonard Middle School Student of the Month in February.

Neily Raymond was recently named Second Place Individual at the Penobscot Valley Middle League Team Spelling Bee. Students from nine area schools competed as individuals and teams. Neily managed to survive seven very challenging rounds, including words such as apocryphal and Sisyphian!



Pilgrim Lodge

A summer camp ministry of the Maine Conference,
United Church of Christ.

Our mission is to help young people and adults grow as Christians. We achieve this growth through week long experiences in group living involving exposure to the world of nature, helpful caring relationships, experiences of sharing, recreation, fellowship, and worship. By engaging in purposeful programming, campers and counselors broaden their understanding of God and the world. Together we seek to overcome fears and frustrations and to experience the joy of giving and receiving love. The camp community creates a life-style in accordance with Christian values, an openness to the Holy Spirit, and the grace of Jesus Christ. We offer both youth and adult camps throughout the summer months. Please review our 2015 summer schedule: <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/schedule.php>. For more information: <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/> or contact The Rev. Darren Morgan 947-1660 to answer any questions you have regarding our program.

CHURCH OF UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP ADULT EDUCATION -- SPRING 2015

All are welcome to all programs and events!

***April 10, Friday at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Place:** Friday Book Group

Abide with Me by Elizabeth Strout Host: Betty Carr

***April 12, Sunday, #12:10 in The Library:** *Who Is Theologian C. S. Lewis?* Host: Will Hunter

***April 13, Monday, at 5:30 pm in the Minister's Office:** State of Grace Women's Book Group:
The Poacher's Son by Paul Doiron Host: Johanna Szillery

***April 13, Monday, at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place:** *Private Time for Parents* with Dr. Bob Peddicore

***April 24, Friday at 6:30 pm in the MacKenzie Room:** Movie & BYOWhatever!

Movie: see description under Movie Night on page 7 Host: Maddie Emerson

***April 26, Sunday, #12:10 in The Library:** *Page 4 of the Sermon*

Host: Reverend Lorna Grenfell Come and talk back to the sermon!

***May 1, Friday at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Place:** Friday Book Group

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl Host: Fred Irons

***May 3, Sunday, #12:10 in The Vestry:** *Slideshow of European Trip*

Hosts: Irene von Hoffmann and John McCormack

***May 15, Friday at 6:30 pm in the Mackenzie Room:** Movie & BYOWhatever!

Movie: see description under Movie Night on page 7 Host: Judy Kuhns Hastings

***May 17, Sunday, #12:10 in The Library:** *Who Is Theologian Marcus Borg?* Host: Barbara Turner

***May 18, Monday at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Place:** State of Grace Women's Book Group

Philomena: A Mother, A Son, and a Fifty-year Search by Martin Sixsmith Host: Johanna Szillery