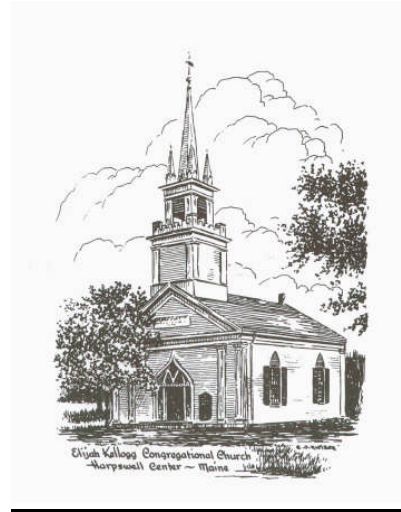


Elijah Kellogg Church
Newsletter



January, **2010**
The Minister's Mite

Joy to the World!

Isaiah of old prophesied:
Nations shall come to your light.

The angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds
saying:

*I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.*

The twelve days of the Christmas season begin with the Incarnation (*The Word made flesh, dwelling among us*), and conclude with Epiphany (*"manifestation"*). Epiphany reminds us that the coming of Christ is for all people. The light of Christ shines to all the peoples of the world. The Good News of Christ is not for a privileged group but for everyone everywhere.

May the light of Christ shine in your heart and reflect outward to all around you this day. And may the glory of Christ's love and life shine out from the Kellogg Congregational Church this new year.

Grace and Peace,

Jim Henry

Ponderings from the Associate Pastor

Journey to Bethlehem - an 'angel-eye' view

winding path of paper bags
 light the way to Bethlehem
 from the warmth and comfort
 of stargazer's camp
 come the seekers
 under starry skies
 roman interrogation
 quicken hearts on a journey
 beggars remind travelers
 of taken-for-granted blessings
 shepherds huddle around campfire
 keeping watch o'er their sheep
 in the cold crisp night air
 empathetic with the walkers
 and the road yet ahead
 "Glad tidings of great joy!"
 angelic messengers announce the news:
 a baby is born this night
 a child born in a stable
 savior for all - go to Bethlehem!
 tired travelers look for the babe
 at the inn - full - nothing to offer
 but a stable sheltered from the weather
 the time is here
 Mary and Joseph amazed
 bask in the light
 of the Christ-child
 shooting stars celebrate
 for the people who dwell
 in darkness have seen a great light
 born for all this night
 born in our hearts anew each day
 if we but allow
 the smallest of openings
 praying for guidance
 as December becomes January
 and beyond...

"Be near us, Lord Jesus,
 we ask thee to stay
 close by us forever
 and love us, we pray."

Many thanks to ALL who helped and participated to make the Journey to Bethlehem a wonderful new tradition! Stargazers: Gard Conley, Ned Pierce, Bill

Hunter, with servant Susan Anderson; Beggars: Sam Gatchell, Ian Hathaway, Carmen Hetherington, Shea Nelson; Roman soldier: Rick Moody; Shepherds: Rick Daniel, Seth Hetherington, Wayne Hurst; Angels: Caroline Daniel, Sara Gatchell, Nellie Hetherington, Emma Venard, Nancy White; Innkeeper and set design/maker Vince Golonka; Setup: Vince Golonka with help from Rick Daniel; Making a path: David Hunter; Sheep, Camel, Donkey artwork: Shirley Freeman; Mary and Joseph: Kristi and David Hunter; Guides: Ashley and Chris Braley, Carrie and Chet Bubier, Colette and Frank Gatchell; Fellowship hosts: Ruth Allen, Anne Anderson, Susan Ferris, Judy Furber, Jim Henry, Ruth Smith; Greeters Paula Conley, Nancy Hurst, Barbara White; Sanctuary Pianist Janet Davis; Director Sandra Golonka; Costumes: Ruth Allen with lots of help from Anne Moseley and Anne Anderson; Luminary lighters (100+) Susan Anderson and Kieley Hetherington; Lanterns on loan from Kathy Morse; Scaffolding for 'angelic host': Jim Hayes; Filming by David I Chipman and Donna Frisoli; parking attendants: Herb Ferris and Bruce Myer; Yummy cookies: Women's Fellowship.

Wow, lots of people involved - blessings abound!
Shalom, Pastor Nancy

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 26, 2010
6:00 PM Potluck Supper
7:00 PM Meeting



A potluck supper will precede the meeting. Those with last names beginning with A-L are asked to bring a casserole to share, and M-Z a salad. Also, please bring your own place settings - this speeds the clean up process. The Hospitality Committee will provide rolls, beverages and dessert. See you there!

**Annual Reports
due**

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

In order to have the Annual Report ready in a timely manner, Board and Committee Reports will be due Wednesday, January 13, 2010. Please deliver your report by E-mail, Mail, Hand-in or Leave in the mailbox at the Office entrance (electronic submissions greatly appreciated).

Christian Education

FETA (Faith Exploration through Art) will be meeting only one day per week on Thursdays starting January 14th. We will incorporate all three ministries of music, puppetry and clowning into one afternoon afterschool until 5:30 pm. FETA will be offered with a minimum of six youth attending ages 3rd grade and older. Please speak with Pastor Nancy if your child is interested in being part of this ministry. Thanks!

For 8th through 12th grades: Explore the 'immediacy' of Mark's story - then as now, the good news is so important and wonderful, it is bursting to be heard! Fast paced, action packed study of the Gospel of Mark led by Pastor Nancy will be offered every other Sunday morning (only six sessions!) during Sunday school time from January 10th through March 21st. This group study/discussion, a mandatory part of the Continuing the Journey confirmation class, is open to all interested 8th to 12th grade youths. Please contact Pastor Nancy for an outline of the discussion meetings.

2nd Annual Talent show will be held Saturday, February 27th. Get your acts together - comedy, music, drama, skits, singing, poetry (original or otherwise) or other hidden talent! Bring a dish to share for supper at 5:30pm with the talent show following!

See Sandra Golonka or Pastor Nancy with any questions - a signup sheet will be in the hall soon!



The Deacons

Communion

Communion will be served on Sunday, January 3, 2010.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Deacons will be on Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m.



Board of Missions

Food Bank Offering

There is an ongoing need for non-perishable food for the food bank. Besides the corn and pasta sauce they suggest our church supply, all other canned and dry foods are welcome. Bring your donations the first Sunday of each month and leave them by the double doors in Fellowship Hall.

The Board of Missions was gratified to see such an enthusiastic response to the Salvation Army request this year for gifts for needy children! There were few tags left on the tree. The toys and clothing were delivered the week of December 14.

Disbursements for December:

Bath-Brunswick Hospital Chaplaincy	\$100
First Radio Parish Church	\$100
Maine Seacoast Mission	\$200
Salvation Army/Local Hunger	<u>\$200</u>
	\$600

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will meet on Tuesday, January 5th, and we invite and encourage all women of the church to join us. Our program, which begins at 11a.m., will feature a guest speaker who will tell us all about Safe Passage, a Yarmouth-based support program which reaches out to rescue the poorest of children in Guatemala City through an educational reinforcement program which helps lift them out of poverty. Founded in 1999 by Hanley Denning, a young Bowdoin graduate from Yarmouth, it is a most inspiring story. Please do join us with a sandwich for your lunch (dessert and drinks to be served). Our business meeting will follow.

MEN'S BROWN BAG LUNCH STARTING OFF WITH A BANG:

Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

Our speakers will be Rick and Linda Balzer of the Balzer Family Clock Works in Freeport. Their company does clock manufacturing and restoration all over the United States and even Europe. Their specialty is tower clocks placed in many institutions.

The well publicized clock works in LL Bean's lobby was designed and built by the Balzers.

It's a fascinating and entertaining story you won't want to miss. LADIES ARE INVITED -- bring a sandwich and a friend, coffee and tea are available.

If you have a favorite timepiece bring it along for comments by an expert. Don't miss it!! 12: noon.

Newsletter deadline: Monday, January 18

The deadline for the February newsletter is the third Monday of the month, January 18th. Please E-mail to susan@kelloggchurch.org or leave hand-written items in the mailbox outside the church office entrance. Thanks, Susan

**Harpwell Community Blood Drive
Fellowship Hall
Monday, January 18th
12:00 - 5:00 PM**

Please help. The blood you donate saves lives.
For an appointment please call Connie at 833-5567 or just drop in – we'll be happy to see you!

Cribbage Wednesday, January 27

Fellowship Hall is the place to be on the last Wednesday of the month! Die-hard Cribbagers meet at 7 o'clock. This is serious business - there's a tournament coming up, but they're not so busy that they can't take time to bring along a Beginner. Everyone is welcome.

Reservations in January

Fellowship Hall

Every Wednesday 12-2:00 HCNS

Every Thursday "Time for Twos" 9-11am HCNS

Every Friday YAK 2:50 pm

Tuesday, Jan 5 - Women's Fellowship 11 am

Tuesday, Jan 12 - Men's Brown Bag Lunch 12pm

Tuesday, Jan 12 - yoga 4pm

Thursday, Jan 14 - FETA 2:50pm

Monday, Jan 18- Red Cross Blood Drive 12-5pm

Tuesday, Jan 19 -yoga 4pm

Tuesday, Jan 19 - Congregational Council 7pm

Tuesday, Jan 26 - Potluck & Annual Meeting
6:00 & 7:00pm respectively

Wednesday, Jan 27 - Cribbage 7pm