



INSPIRATION

OLD NORTH CHURCH IN MARBLEHEAD

CONGREGATIONAL / UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FEBRUARY 2012

“The Face of Jesus”

In my office, I have a poster that depicts an image of Jesus Christ. From several feet away, you can notice the classic bowed figure, the crown of thorns, the bearded man looking somber. But if you walk closer, you'll see that the large image of Christ is actually constructed from dozens of smaller faces: young and old, male and female, white, brown, black, nameless and famous. Gandhi is there. But so is a mustached man that looks a whole lot like Adolph Hitler. In short, everyone is represented: all are children of God, and everyone who has ever been, and will ever be, were the reason for Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

It's an interesting reflection: In whose face do you see the face of Christ? And where do you find the face of God in your daily life?

On my good days, I see God in the sunset. I see God in the clear blue sky. I see God in my husband. I see God in my cat's seemingly bottomless affection for me (go figure). I see God in the community at Old North Church.

As of February 1st, I have been serving as your Associate Minister for one year. I have seen God in my work with you, as we stood side-by-side to... fill in the blank here! I have seen God as I have worked alongside you in the fields of North Carolina, in the kitchen at LifeBridge, and in clearing floodwaters from the floor of Parish Hall. I have seen God in our fun times together: the youth playing games and eating meals together, the adults at hors d'oeuvre evenings and church fairs and Christmas parties. I have seen God as we have worshipped

together in the sanctuary, in a graveyard on Easter, at the sweeping seaside this past summer, in small groups of prayer and Taizé, and at my husband's church for the U2charist service. The time has flown, and when I joyfully reflect upon this year, I see God in every piece of it!

On some days, it's harder. I wonder where the face of Jesus is. I wonder why this artist chose to create the face of Jesus from both Gandhi's and Adolph Hitler's countenances. I look at this world, filled with both Gandhis and Hitlers, and wonder how God can still be seen through it. On those days, this poster challenges me. The face of God is indeed everywhere; all are created in God's image, even those with whom I disagree, and those whose actions go against God's message of love and compassion. It is my job to look for it, and to allow God's light within me to shine, so that others can see God more clearly in this oftentimes dim world.

The face of Jesus is everywhere, if we but have eyes to see. May we open them throughout this Lenten season, and challenge ourselves to see God in the midst of the good and the difficult.

May we all continue to be the church,

Rev. Jill E. Olds, Associate Minister

Stewardship Corner



Your Pledge...The Pulse of Old North

Now that the 2012 Budget has been presented and voted on, it is time for reflection and analysis on this year's Pledge Campaign: The Pulse of Old North. Just how is our pulse at Old North shaping up?

At the time of this writing, we currently have 294 pledges in the amount of \$485,047. These results so far are significant and meaningful. More than 1/3 of the donors increased their pledges, showing they believe in keeping Old North strong and healthy! We will continue to work towards our fitness goal of \$525,000. However, the real picture shows the following alarming trends among our donors since 2008:

- 50% of our annual pledged income comes from only 25 donors.
- Despite a growth in active membership, the number of families and individuals who pledge has dropped from a high of 334 in 2009 to 294 at this writing.
- There are 47 families or individuals who pledged in 2011 but did not pledge in 2012. The total amount lost in pledge income from these families is \$36,848.

The Stewardship Committee has discussed several ideas for addressing these trends. For the past few years, we have worked on the education piece of stewardship rather than solely on the fund-raising piece. Many churches are facing the similar declines in attendance and fund-raising due to societal changes such as youth sports on Sundays and busy work schedules. It seems the time has come to delve into more extensive information gathering about our membership and what Old North means to each member. How and when this will take place is being discussed. Old North Church has been the heart and soul of the Marblehead community for 375 years and we are very grateful to those members who continue to support and be involved in the life of the Church.

Fellowship Committee News

Winter has finally settled in with the first real snowfall. Now that the holidays have passed and the pace of life has slowed down a bit, the Fellowship Committee wants to take this opportunity to thank all those who gave of their time and their talent to decorate the beautiful wreaths for our Silent Auction. The auction was a great success and the hall looked lovely during the festivities of the Christmas walk and the Festival Concert.

February brings us many different focuses: love, Lent, President's Day and Ground Hog Day. How do they relate – at first glance not at all, except that they all happen in February. However, we are what connect these events by the importance we give occasions, the way we observe them and with whom. Those that are of importance to us have become occasions for fellowship in our church. We are blessed with so many opportunities where people have come together and had the joy of fellowship through working for a common goal. Many of these are wonderful volunteer times like: the Fair, the Burn's supper, Mardi Gras, the Cabaret, Music Concerts, the pot luck picnic, the pancake breakfast and the Youth talent shows. Most help supplement our budget but all bring us together joyfully in a community of fellowship.

Happy Valentine's Day and blessings of faith and fellowship,

MaryAnn Main

Nominating Committee News

This is the time of year that the Nominating Committee begins its search for people willing to serve on the various church committees. You may receive a phone call from a member of the Nominating Committee asking for your help. A comprehensive list of all committees with description of member duties is outlined in the church bylaws. If you are interested in serving on any committee or would like more information about the responsibilities of any of the committees, please contact Ellen Nash at 781-631-1098 or ellen.nash@comcast.net. "Many hands make light work". Thank you.



Church School News

Happy New Year everyone! We hope by now you have all heard about the wonderful time we had at the Christmas Variety Show in December. There were special surprise guests (Dennis and Jill) and our children sang and performed to entertain us all. The cookie spread was impressive. We feel it worked well and received positive responses by members and newcomers to the church.

We started the New Year with a new concept: Kids in Church, for the month of January. We hope everyone had a chance to share this experience with your children.

Church school resumes with a Children's Service on January 29 and classes began February 5th. A huge thank you to the teachers who volunteered to teach your children this winter/spring session! Many of these teachers also taught in the fall and we are thrilled to have them back! They are as follows:

- Nursery 3/4's: Michelle Sidwell
- Kindergarten: Jean Sheehy
- 1st and 2nd: Bonnie MacDonald
- 3rd and 4th: Peggy Rule
- 5th and 6th: Amy Leveroni

We kicked the year off with a Welcome Back Teacher's Breakfast in Parish Hall on Sunday January 22nd before church.

We hope to bring back our 2nd Annual Retreat this winter. Last year's was a true treat as we prayed and practiced yoga positions. Please watch the church bulletin as the dates and details become firm.

Also, watch for us during the month of February as we will be hosting coffee hour and would love a chance to chat with you about how you too can share your talents with the young people of our church.

Happy Winter and God Bless,
Pam Ferris and the Church School Committee



Youth Group News

After the unusually hectic pace of the fall and holiday season, the youth group activities have slowed down to a more normal pace! Ahhhhh...

The HSYG continues to volunteer at Lifebridge on the first Sunday of every month. Our next date is Sunday, February 5th. We meet at 4:30 p.m. at Stacey Street parking lot, and we will have you back by 7:30 p.m. (no flip flops or open-toed shoes allowed). Lifebridge provides a meal to all those who come. For a few hours, you will do some cooking and serving, have some fun, and gain community service. Interested in receiving an evite? Contact Jill Olds at jill@onchurch.org.

The Junior Youth Group (JYG) is looking forward to their annual Nightwatch trip to St. John the Divine in NYC. This year the trip has so many youth participating, that they will be traveling by bus!! Can't wait to hear all about it!

Milestones

Baptisms

- January 15 Ella Olivia Gaffney
Daughter of Jaclyn Dixey
and Brendon Gaffney
- Gannon Wesley Kubany
Son of Heather and Mike Kubany

Funerals

- December 15 Walter Cook
- December 17 George Duncklee
- January 11 Ann Poor
- January 12 Sally Fowler



We Gather Together Fair News

We would like to thank all of the dedicated, resourceful, and tireless volunteers who worked on the fair in November 2011. Without your time and talents these events could not have happened. In addition, we would like to thank all who contributed, attended, and supported these events. The preview party and fair day were exciting and exhausting, but well worth the effort. *The profit of \$14,000 exceeded everyone's expectations.*

Our primary goal was to get people of various ages and diverse interests working on a common goal for the church. New talents were discovered and new friendships were nurtured. Weekly meetings got creative juices flowing and provided a good forum for consensus.

After a well-deserved rest, the fair committee is ready to rev the engines once again. We learned that it is never too early to begin planning for November 2012. In preparation for November 16th and 17th fair events, we will have monthly workshops until September to plan and create. At that time we will meet weekly until the fair weekend. Stay tuned.

Flory Denhard and Marcia Hostetter, co-chairs



Music Committee

Happy New Year from all of us on the Music and Festival Chorus Committees at Old North! We have a wonderful New Year's resolution to add to the others you're working on! *How about joining the Senior Choir right now?!* The Senior Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9pm; we're *always* looking for new members to join and this is a wonderful way to fulfill your resolution to be good to yourself, expand your routine with new friends and challenges, and enjoy making beautiful music! 16th-century Spanish author, Cervantes, said, "He who sings frightens away his ills." There are hundreds of thousands of articles written linking the benefits of singing to one's

physical health and well-being. So, during these cold winter months, please consider singing with the Choir for great fun, fellowship and good health!

The Senior Choir will be singing on the following Sundays in February: February 5, 12 and 19. These services begin with a warm-up rehearsal in the sanctuary at 9am followed by the 10am service. The Senior Choir will not sing on Sunday, February 26, but all are encouraged to attend this service which will be highlighted by musical moments by the Cecelia Choir and Bell Choir.

This season's Lenten Concert—to be held in the evening on Palm Sunday—will feature a very special performance of the stunning opening chorus of Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. John's Passion*, as well as a few selected solos and chorales from this powerful masterpiece. The program will also include a performance of Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings* and will conclude with the beloved *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré. The choir will perform this stirring musical offering from the balcony with organ and string quartet.

Rehearsals for the Palm Sunday concert will begin on Wednesday, February 22 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall. All interested singers are welcome to join; rehearsals take place every Wednesday evening, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Saturday rehearsals will take place on March 24 (from 10am to 12 noon, choir only/no soloists) as well as Saturday, March 31st, from 10am to 12 noon, which serves as the **required** Dress Rehearsal for all. We will be using the Hinshaw edition (edited by John Rutter) of the Fauré *Requiem*. Please contact me if you would like to borrow or purchase a copy from the Old North library. The performance—free and open to the public with a free-will offering at the door—will take place on Sunday, April 1, at 7pm, by candlelight. Proceeds will benefit Old North Church.

Upon consideration of how we might benefit our church and the many wonderful musicians in our midst, the Trustees agreed to offer the use of our marvelous sanctuary—free of charge—to selected performing artists and groups, in exchange for a live concert, open to the public, and a sharing of all proceeds collected at the door. Further, the willingness on the part of our dedicated Music Committee to manage the concert details and logistics, makes this fundraising-musical adventure a win-win for all! Please note that Old North's

portion of this collection is distributed directly to the overall church budget, and not to the music program.

We are so proud to be able to offer such a high level of professional concert activity throughout the year in our acoustically-spectacular, accessible, and close-to-home sanctuary at Old North. Please help us to spread the word to friends in Marblehead and surrounding communities, please support these concerts with a contribution at the door, and most importantly, please attend! The concerts by *Kaleidoscope Chamber Ensemble* and other visiting musicians are not to be missed!

Trumpeter Dan Duncan is truly part of the Old North “family” as he has been performing two Easter Sunday services every year for over 20 years, as well as regular appearances with the Festival Chorus and Orchestra and various musical Sundays and celebrations. He will be appearing on Sunday, February 5th with an extraordinary ensemble of musicians to present a colorful program of contemporary music, including a tango! We have scheduled the concert at 2pm to allow concert goers plenty of time to get to super bowl festivities following the one hour program. Please attend this concert to show Dan your support and gratitude for his musical contribution to our church community.

The second concert in our chamber music series presented by the *Kaleidoscope Chamber Ensemble* will be take place on February 26th at 4pm. Please see the attached flyers for concert information for both concerts this month.

Festival Chorus CDs are not only wonderful keepsakes, as they recall the glorious concerts so many of you participate in for years to come, but they stand on their own as a fabulous CD to add to your collection. While we are not licensed to sell these [archival] recordings commercially, as part of the Old North family, you can feel free to purchase a Festival Chorus CD at anytime. While my opinion might be a bit biased, the recent Festival Chorus concert—held in December of 2011—marks some of our greatest work together; this particular CD is absolutely fantastic! Your purchase of Festival Chorus CDs helps balance the Festival Chorus books, which in turn, enables us to work on future concert and recording projects! Please contact Jane Kraybill at 781.631.4832 if you’d like to purchase a copy of the December 2011 concert CD (or a CD from a prior Festival Chorus concert).

Finally, a heartfelt *thank you* to the many dedicated members of our Senior Choir, Youth Choirs, and Bell Choirs for their contribution of time, energy, and extraordinary talent, throughout the busy fall and Christmas seasons!

Sincerely,

Maria van Kalken, Minister of Music

From the Africa Committee



Rev. Philani (Simon) Mbanjwa will be formally installed as Pastor of the Pholela Congregation on February 25th. Here’s an excerpt from an email to us: *“I am pleased to inform you that we are preparing my ordination ceremony and induction that will be on the 25 February 2012 at Pholela high school. We request you to remember us in prayers because this is an important moment for me and the entire congregation.”* Dennis will send Simon a commemorative gift and the Africa Committee will send him a golden cod pin and a small amount of money to be used by the Pholela Congregation.

Our friend Mrs. Nomsa Khabela with the help of neighbors continues to feed HIV-positive people with the produce from her vast farmland. And here’s an excerpt from our Christmas email from her: *We will re-open on 18 January 2012, hoping that in April there will be a nurse who will visit the project once a week. An Indian pastor has arranged for the nurse, of which we are very excited and grateful.* The Africa Committee recently sent Nomsa funds to purchase plates, cups, and cooking utensils.

The Christian Service Committee continues to support The Byimana Science School in Rwanda (<http://www.byimana-school.com>). Two hundred dollars pays a year’s tuition and board at this secondary school that sends 98 percent of its graduates to technical university. See Richard Thibedeau or any CSC member if you would like to contribute to the school.

South Africa’s Thula Sizwe Choir, those wonderful singing dancing men who have visited us before, may be at Old North in April. Stay tuned!

Informational Meeting About Our Whole Lives (OWL) Curriculum

On Thursday, March 22nd at 7pm, Old North Church will host Jane Detwiler, an OWL facilitator and trainer whose work is nationally known in UCC and UU circles. Jane will share with our church how we might use this curriculum to talk with our teenagers about potentially sensitive issues, such as personal feelings of self-worth and responsibility in decision-making about sex, and how God might be in the midst of that crucial conversation.

For those of you unfamiliar with Our Whole Lives, OWL is a curriculum developed jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the UCC Justice and Witness Ministries. Our Whole Lives is built upon four core values:

1. Self Worth
2. Sexual Health
3. Responsibility
4. Justice and Inclusivity.

Participants are encouraged to use these values in decision-making concerning their own sexuality and relationships. Throughout the program, participants are guided to explore and learn to articulate their own values.

The meeting is welcome to all who might be interested in learning more about OWL. It has not yet been decided that Old North will utilize this curriculum, and all perspectives will be respected at this meeting. Hope to see you there!



Old North Church in Marblehead 2012 Concert Series

a Kick-off Konzert of trumpet, piano, violin and flute

featuring:

Daniel Duncan, trumpet
Joshua Del Dotto, piano
Barbara Englesberg, violin
and Lisa Hennessy, flute

Super Bowl Sunday, February 5th, 2012 2:00 PM

works of: Stephenson, Casterade, Morales, Forestier and Luce



a Meet the Artists reception directly follows the concert

suggested donation: \$20

for additional information please call 781-631-1244 or go to www.oncmhd.org

Old North Church is accessible for the physically impaired



Old North Church in Marblehead
presents a

back-by-popular demand performance by

KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

featuring

Jill Dreeben, *flute*; Jennifer Gilman, clarinet;
Beth Welty and Mark Latham, violins;
Dani Rimoni, viola; Sandi-Jo Malmon, *'cello*; Guy Urban, *piano*

PLEASE JOIN US!

Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 4pm

Meet-the-Artists Reception directly following the concert!

PROGRAM:

Amy Beach: *Theme and Variations for flute and string quartet in a minor, Opus 80*

Jean Francaix: Quintet for clarinet and strings

Johannes Brahms: Piano Quintet in f minor, Opus 34

Suggested Donation: \$20

For additional information about this concert, or other programs at OLD NORTH CHURCH, please call 781-631-1244.

OLD NORTH CHURCH IS ACCESSIBLE FOR THE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED

February 2012

February 2012							March 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4					1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			February 1	2	3	4
			3:30pm Cecelia Choir (PH) 4:30pm Parish Singers (PH) 7:30pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal (MR)	1:00pm MMA Lunch 7:00pm Deacons (GR)		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Communion Sunday 8:00am Worship (S) 10:00am Worship (S) 2:00pm Dan Duncan Concert (S) 4:30pm HS Youth 5:30pm Confirmation 2 (GR)	10:00am Prayer Shawl (GR) 7:00pm Women's AA (PH)	9:00am Lectio Divina (BR) 7:00pm Trustees (GR) 7:00pm Youth Cmte (BR) 7:45pm Bell Choir (S)	3:30pm Cecelia Choir (PH) 4:30pm Parish Singers (PH) 7:30pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal (MR)	7:30pm Church Council (GR)	Jr Youth Nightwatch	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Jr Youth Nightwatch 8:00am Worship (S) 10:00am Worship (S) 1:00pm HSY Bowling 5:30pm Confirmation 2 (GR)	10:00am Prayer Shawl (GR) 7:00pm Women's AA (PH) 7:30pm Music Cmte (GR)	9:00am Lectio Divina (BR) 11:00am Bertram House Service 7:00pm Church Sch Cmte (GR) 7:45pm Bell Choir (S)	3:30pm Cecelia Choir (PH) 4:30pm Parish Singers (PH) 7:30pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal (MR)			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
School Vacation Begins 8:00am Worship (S) 10:00am Worship (S) 5:30pm Confirmation 2 (GR)	Inspiration Deadline 10:00am Prayer Shawl (GR) 7:00pm Women's AA (PH)	9:00am Lectio Divina (BR) 7:00pm Christian Service (GR) 7:45pm Bell Choir (S)	Ash Wednesday 7:30pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal (PH)		7:00am Men's Breakfast (PH)	
26	27	28	29			
Cecelia Choir School Vac. Ends 8:00am Worship (S) 10:00am Children's 10:00am Worship (S) 4:00pm Kaleidoscope 5:30pm Confirmation 2 7:30pm HS Youth (YR)	10:00am Prayer Shawl (GR) 7:00pm Fair Workshop (GR) 7:00pm Women's AA (PH)	9:00am Lectio Divina (BR) 7:45pm Bell Choir (S)	3:30pm Cecelia Choir (PH) 4:30pm Parish Singers (PH) 7:30pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal (PH)			

Old North Church
8 Stacey Street
Marblehead, MA 01945-3565

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
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CHURCH OFFICERS

Senior Minister, Dennis B. Calhoun
Associate Minister, Jill E. Olds
Moderator, Tim Sheehy
Clerk, Don Morgan
Treasurer, C. Stow Walker
Financial Secretary, Betsy Halbert
Treasurer, Christian Service, Richard Thibedeau
Historian, Gordon Lothrop

CHURCH STAFF

Minister of Music, Maria van Kalcken
Office Manager, Lisa Nahatis
Administrative Assistant, Carole Vale
Bell Choir Director, Sandra Barrett
Youth Choir Director, Rebecca Kenneally
Sunday Sexton, Olivia Gould
Wedding Sexton, Marsha Christensen

BOARD/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Trustees, -Lynne Breed and Diane Canty
Diaconate, Rhod Sharp
Nominating, Ellen Nash
Stewardship, Eliza Cushman
Christian Service, Virginia Healy-Kenney
Church School, Peggy Rule
Music, Pattye Comfort
Membership, Lynda Hare
Youth Fellowship, Amy Egelja
Fellowship, MaryAnn Main
Pastor-Parish Relations, Alan Freeman
Flower, Judy Rawding and Carol Merrigan
Open and Affirming, Sue Benua
Safe Church Advocate, Dave Hostetter

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