



Cape Neddick Tide

What's Coming and Going at the Cape Neddick Baptist Church December 2017

Rev. David Strosahl
www.cape-neddick-baptist.org

34 River Road (church) 207-363-3566 (h) 207-571-4676
Cape Neddick, ME 03902 choochoochaplain@gmail.com

Pastoral Ponderings

As of this past Sunday I have been with you for one year. Last fall I was asked if I would do pulpit supply from the Sunday after Thanksgiving through the end of the year. Pastor Don was retiring in mid-December and someone was needed to fill in. I was quite happy to do so as I enjoyed being a supply preacher at Cape Neddick for the last five years. What started as a week to week fill-in soon led to being called as your interim pastor.

I believe the Sunday after Thanksgiving was the first Sunday in Advent last year. My wife, Cyndi, a specifically trained interim minister would often preach during this time of

year about pregnancy in the churches she was serving. Advent is a pregnant season. There is the annunciation to Mary that she will bear a child. Sometimes that pregnancy is filled with consternation as we read of it in Matthew 1. Sometimes it is filled with wonder, dread, and expectation as we find it in Luke. Surely, the church between pastors is a pregnant time. Something is being born. There is the waiting in expectation. Anyhow, that first Sunday, knowing that Pastor Don was leaving, and knowing that you as a congregation did not know what to expect, was the right time to preach about pregnancy.

Now it is a year later, and the first Sunday of Advent is a few days away. It has

been a good year for me. I have enjoyed being your interim pastor. I have gotten to know you as I would not have simply being the pulpit supply that comes in once a week. Now we are at a different place in our relationship perhaps best characterized as waiting. The pulpit committee has done yeoman service in gathering all its material and producing a profile for prospective candidates. As far as I know that profile has begun to circulate. Now, the church waits; waits for someone to respond and may wait further for that right person. Sometimes that wait can be a long time as the Holy Spirit, just like children in the womb, does not work according to our time tables.

So where do we go from here? I often feel at this time of year that we need to see beyond the celebrated event, Jesus coming into the world, to the ongoing imperative for Christ to be born in us anew. "My little children, for whom, I am in the pain of childbirth until Christ is formed in you," Galatians 4:19. Unless Jesus Christ is formed in us, we become stale, perhaps even stagnant in our faith. Our faith should be an ongoing process of rebirth.

Perhaps one of the sad things about how we celebrate Christmas is that we treat it as a past event. After it is over, we won't think about it until next year. However, God, the living God, is not consigned to times past but is present and leads us into the future. Christmas is not just about the past but also the future. Jesus awaits to be born anew in us. Help me in the year ahead to work with you about what that means for us at Cape Neddick Baptist Church.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave



Advent Season Schedule

- Sunday, **December 3rd** First Sunday in Advent – 9:00am
Sunday School
Decorates the
Christmas Tree
- Sunday, **December 10th** – Christmas Pot-Luck Luncheon after the Worship Service in the Vestry, please bring a salad or hot dish to share. All are welcome!
- Sunday, December 17th – 1:00pm
Christmas Caroling in the Community
- Sunday, December 24rd – 7:00pm
Candle Light Service



News from the Pulpit Committee

We have identified a number of potential pastoral candidates. Our area minister Rev. Scott McPhedran is inquiring as to which of the potential candidates are still "open to move". When we receive this information, an initial letter will be sent to those "open to move" asking if they would like additional information about our church and facilities. Those

who respond will receive our Church Profile, copies of our annual reports, our bylaws and sample worship bulletins. The next step will be to contact each potential candidate after they have received our information packet and determine which candidates are interested in the ministries of the Cape Neddick Baptist Church. Those who are interested will move from potential candidate to prospective candidate status.

We ask you to join us in praying that God will clearly reveal the person He has prepared to call to lead the ministry of our church family.



Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center "Adopt a Family" for Christmas

The Cape Neddick Baptist Church will again participate in Alpha-PRC's "Adopt a Family" for Christmas program. A list of suggested presents will be posted on the sanctuary bulletin board. Please sign up to purchase a present for our "adopted family". All presents should be placed unwrapped under the sanctuary Christmas

tree. The deadline for putting presents under the tree will be posted on the sign up sheet.

A note from Joyce Willette regarding Alpha

Pregnancy...They are always in need of "gently" used children's clothing from new born to 4T. They especially need some winter clothing such as snow suits/snow pants for both girls and boys. I go every Tuesday, so I will deliver whatever clothing is donated

Advisory Board Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Cape Neddick Baptist Church Advisory Board on Sunday, December 17th after the worship service to elect a nominating committee for 2018.



Birthday and Anniversary sheets are on the back table. If there is anyone interested in having their name added to the sheets, please call. Betty Lovering. [207-363-8009](tel:207-363-8009)



Shoebox's Are Complete!

With everyone's help and support we mailed off 74 shoeboxes this year...great work! Where will our shoeboxes go this year...Zambia, Uganda, Philippines? It will be fun to find out!



Food Pantry

We continue to collect donations for the Food Pantry. Donations are always needed, but especially in this time of need. The collection box is located in the back of the sanctuary.



"The Star" Movie

In Sony Pictures Animation's THE STAR, a

small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free, and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. Includes the song "Mary Did You Know?".

It's playing at Regal, Cinemagic, and Flagship Cinema.