



The Harbor Light

The First Baptist Church of Block Island, R. I. Summer 2012

From the Pastor: A Church for the Whole Community

We pride ourselves at Harbor Church on being a church for the whole community, not just an institution that exists to serve its members. Three quick thoughts about this:

A week in the life. Consider the week of May 12-19. It began with Billy Collins and Coleman Barks speaking at two large events in our sanctuary. No sooner had the poets left the island than a group of 25 guests from New York City arrived—16 eighth graders with staff from Project Reach. They had a welcome cookout at the church Tuesday, and Wednesday hung out in the Rec Center with Island youth while a dress rehearsal of a play was going on upstairs. Then we hosted three performances of “*I Hate Shakespeare*” starring Island kids, including weeks of rehearsals, which took over the church building. Saturday morning, St. Ann’s Church held their yard sale on our front lawn. In between, of course, we had worship, prayer meeting, Bible study, several AA meetings, Executive Board, bridge group, prayer shawl group, Boy Scouts, and a BIRA board meeting.

Being on mission means being open to everyone. We want to be a church that welcomes people regardless of quirks, opinions, sins, and lifestyles. Our worship can’t be just for people who “get” church, or for the tastes of a certain age group or class—just as the use of our building can’t be limited in those ways. Our mission from Jesus is to be friends to all, including those others may shut out.

Being a church for the community requires members to serve and to reach out. It won’t work for our building to be on mission all week long and have the members serving only on Sunday morning. We need—and the Spirit desires—for every member of the church to be engaged in ministry to the community. No one ever has the right to retire from Christian service; my dad, at 92, still fills in as a Sunday School teacher. No one is too old or too busy to make time for children. The Pentecost season, which lasts all summer, means that the Spirit has been given to each one of us to empower us to serve and to bear witness to Christ. Keeping your mouth shut about Jesus and the church has the same effect as keeping the doors of the church shut to the community. Let’s keep our church open, our hearts open, and our mouths open to invite our neighbors to join us.

Expectantly,
Steve



FUN, SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT HARBOR CHURCH

There are lots of opportunities to get involved this summer....COME , VOLUNTEER, AND JOIN THE FUN!

SUMMER FAIR: We are looking for a chair, as well as people to head up various activities, i.e., auction, white elephant, food, bake table, etc.

BLOCK ISLAND QUILT: Help us sell raffle tickets!

VBS: Join us as we help children discover that anything is possible with God’s love.

REC CENTER: Have a good time playing games and sports with 5th and 6th graders (Tuesday nights), and jr. and high school kids (Friday and Saturday nights).

SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT HARBOR CHURCH

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday:

9:00 am Adult Education
10:00 am Worship Service
(Sunday School to resume
in September)

Tuesday:

7:30 am A Time for Prayer
6:00 pm Rec Ctr open/5th-6th graders

Thursday:

7:00 pm Bible Study

Friday:

6:30 pm Soup & Song
6:00 pm Rec Ctr open/Teens

Saturday:

7:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
6:00 pm Rec Ctr open/Teens



**AND BE SURE TO ADD THESE IMPORTANT DATES
TO YOUR CALENDAR**

**SATURDAY, JULY 28 - FAIR & AUCTION
AUGUST 6-10 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**



WEDDINGS

Love is in the air! Harbor Church will host six weddings this summer, and Pastor Steve will officiate at another four at other locations. A couple of the more unusual arrangements include an interfaith wedding with a rabbi and a 'secret' elopement. June and September are the most popular months, with four weddings planned for June and three more in September, including two back-to-back on the same day, Sept. 8.

It's a joy to see more couples seeking a "religious" presence to witness their vows.



Planning for our Summer Fair and Auction begins right now.

This event is a big fundraiser. It is also a day to be reminded of the joy found working together for a common good. Think about how you can help. Remember, no experience is necessary!

The White Elephant sale will be limited to a few tables. Items will be sorted and assigned to a table according to price (for example, a \$1.00, \$2.00 or \$5.00 table). No clothing, electronics, appliances, please!

Volunteers needed!

There are many spots to fill between now and July 28! We need volunteers willing to help with the Auction, Publicity, Food, Bake Table, White Elephant, Setup and Cleanup. We also need people to step up and take on some leadership roles for the Fair.

Sign up **as soon as possible** while **you** can choose how you will help!

To sign up, contact the Church office at 466-5940 or harborchurch1765@verizon.net

THE AUCTION has grown into one of our major fund-raising efforts. The success depends on the participation of the members of Harbor Church and the supporting cooperation and generosity of our valued business community.

We appreciate donations from members of the community, but we should like to emphasize that in order to make an attractive offer, the auction items must have real value and use to a potential bidder.

Acceptable items include: wooden chairs, tables, bureaus and “anything” that resembles, or is, an antique. Some of the most spirited bidding has been for such items as wire clamming basket, old brass and copper kettles, old weather vanes. Art works have to be attractive, in good condition and suitably framed. Art with a Block Island theme is particularly popular. Upholstered furniture is not acceptable! History shows it doesn’t attract bidders, and we then have to dispose of it ourselves. No electronics or appliances, please.

Additionally, should you have an association with a business that might be encouraged to make a donation, please feel free to pursue it. We blanket all Island, and many local, off-Island, businesses with solicitations. Want to help with this effort? Contact the Church Office.

A major contribution to the auction has been the donation of **cottage rentals and B&Bs**. In the past, the returns from this part of the auction represented one-third of the total auction. If you have a cottage you would be willing to donate for use off-season in the spring or fall, here or elsewhere, contact the Church Office. We will provide a contract with a requirement for a security deposit. **PLEASE CONSIDER THIS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION WITH LITTLE MORE THAN PROVIDING A WEEK OF YOUR CHOICE.**

The PRC: What is it?

The quick answer is: the Pastoral Relations Committee. As prescribed by our Bylaws, the Diaconate Board is responsible for the establishment of the PRC, which consists of three members, two of whom are appointed by the deacons and one appointed by the pastor. The primary purpose of the committee is to provide a communication link between the pastor and the congregation, as well as review the pastor's compensation and benefits package each year.

When we meet, we discuss issues and matters raised by the Pastor, including expectations, disappointments, hopes and concerns. Additionally, we discuss areas of satisfaction and/or dissatisfaction with the pastor and the pastor's work which have been brought to our attention by the congregation.

Please keep in mind that we, as a committee, welcome hearing your thoughts and concerns, feelings and suggestions concerning matters relating to Pastor Relations.

Many thanks go out to former committee members, Judy Mitchell and Eleanor Garrett, for their many years of dedicated service. Current committee members are Kay Lewis, Betty Lincoln, and Paul Marte. You can reach us at any time either directly or through the Church office.

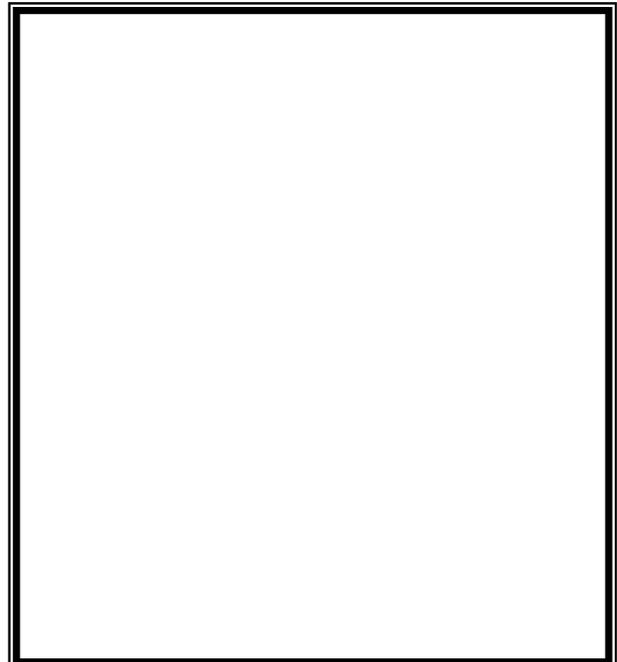
Paul Marte
Pastoral Relations Committee

Prayer Request List

A Prayer Request List has been added to the weekly bulletin for those families in need of prayers for comfort or healing.

Please contact the Pastor or one of our Deacons if there is anyone you would like to have added to the prayer request list.

You are also welcome to join in 'A Time of Prayer' held every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m.





Block Island Quilt

Progress is well underway. All the squares were completed and turned over to Ann Fagan, who took on the task of piecing the quilt together before it was sent off Island for the final step, the quilting. The finished quilt should be back on-Island around June 15th, and we are excited to see it finished. Thank you to everyone who helped us get the quilt made.

There's an old saying, "well begun is half done." We are off to an excellent start, but only 'half done.' Completing the quilt is just the beginning. There is still much to do, and we need your help. Many volunteers are needed to sell raffle tickets throughout the summer and fall. If you can dedicate a few hours a week to this effort, please contact any of the following committee members: Martha Ball, Eleanor Garrett, Rheba McKernan, Cindy Pappas and Frankie Smith.

PLEDGES UP—CHALLENGES REMAIN

A BIG thank you to all who have pledged for 2012—and especially to those of you who were able to raise your pledge! This has resulted in a projected increase of \$12K (2012 pledges vs 2011 actuals). This is indeed good news, and your faithfulness is much appreciated. Please keep those pledges coming in a timely fashion—our church's ministry is counting on you.

However, challenges remain ahead. Even with this increase, meeting our budget this year depends upon raising \$19,500 from other income sources, such as the Fair, Roll Call Dinner, and the Quilt project. To accomplish this, we will need everyone's help!

These numbers are an indication of the ministry that occurs on Block Island in and through the Harbor Church. We are blessed to have a wonderful building and a capable, faithful pastor. But, the work of Christ depends on all of us. The full definition of Stewardship includes faithful use of our treasure, our time, and our talents. Your generous financial gifts are always appreciated. But, if you've been wondering about how to share your time and talents---opportunities abound this summer at the Harbor Church!! Volunteer and join the fun!

Cindy Pappas, Stewardship Chair

MEET OUR SUMMER 2012 INTERN: **KADIN WILLIAMS**

This summer, Harbor Church will be hosting a new Summer Seminary Intern. A native of California, Kadin grew up primarily in the Central Valley of California, and as an undergraduate attended Bethany University of the Assemblies of God in Santa Cruz. There, he majored in Social Science and concentrated on History, Economics and Anthropology. Following the completion of his B.A., Kadin took some time off from school to pursue some other interests. During that period of time, he managed alumni relations for his alma mater's Social Science Department and worked as a research assistant for an academic publication. Kadin coached high school debate, filled in as a substitute teacher for an apologetics class at a local Christian School, and even delivered pizza.

Since his enrollment at Princeton Seminary, where he is pursuing a Masters of Divinity, Kadin has been working for the Bonner Foundation as a Policy Options research intern. He specializes in policies related to the environment, agriculture and natural resources. He hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in Religious and Intellectual History.

Kadin came to Christ at the age of twelve at a Baptist church in Humboldt County, CA. He was later baptized in that same church. Near the end of his sophomore year of college, he received a call to ministry. Following the call he began to take more courses in theology, biblical studies and hermeneutics. In the summer following his junior year, he served as a summer missionary for the Central Valley Baptist Association. He has also served as a Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, and church softball team coach.

Kadin's interests include snowboarding, fishing, disc golf, baseball, books, vinyl records, and, of course, his fiancé, Amanda Black (last summer's intern). The couple will be getting married in Tennessee on August 25, 2012.

Youth Group Missions

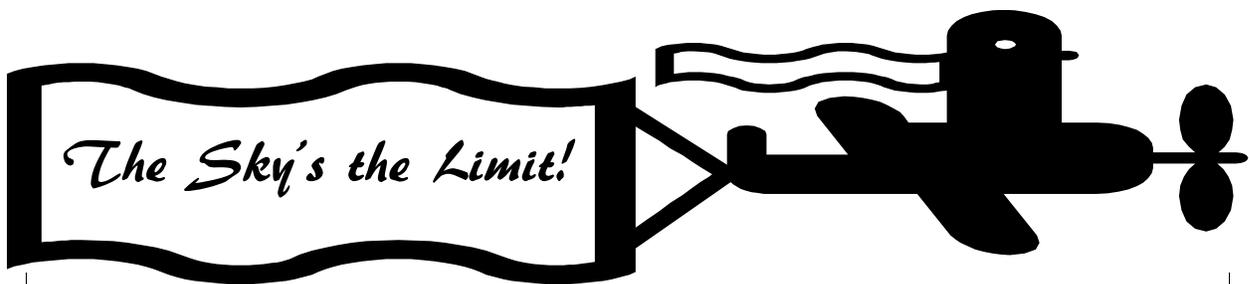
In June the Harbor Church youth group will be leaving for the adventure of a lifetime. The group will be going to Lewiston-Auburn, Maine. All students who have finished grades 6-8 are invited to be a part of this great project. The group will be working hands-on to meet the needs of a small urban community. The group will leave on Sunday and work Monday-Thursday (June 17-23). On Friday there will be a trip to Acadia National Park. Students are expected to raise \$59 of the overall \$259 cost.

For more information, contact Becca Hollaway or Kadin Williams.

Recreation Center Opening

Harbor Church is proud to announce that the Rec Center will be reopening on Friday, the 8th of June. Our new intern Kadin Williams will be leading the activities this year. Be prepared for games, activities, sports, and having a good time. The Rec Center is meant to be a safe place for young people to come, hang out, and just be themselves. So get involved, come with your ideas, and get ready for a summer of fun. The hours of operation will be 6:00-8:30pm, Friday and Saturday nights, for Jr. High students and 8:30-11:00pm for High School students.

The Rec Center will open on Tuesday nights on June 26th. Tuesday nights will be dedicated to 5th and 6th graders and the hours of operation will be from 6:00-8:00pm.



That's the exciting message of this year's Vacation Bible School program, where kids will learn that "Everything is Possible with God." (Mark 10:27) For one week in August, Monday through Friday, August 6-10, our church will be transformed into the 'wild blue' so kids can 'soar' through fun adventures, awesome crafts, Bible stories, and team games.

This year, a couple of our former Sunday School students will act as junior crew leaders. Jake Douglas and Hope Roosa will be assisting younger children in the various activities.

The Harbor Church VBS program, which had been non-active for many years, was reinitiated after Pastor Steve and Becca came to Block Island. By offering the program in the evening from 6-8:30 p.m. and serving a light supper to kids, we gave parents a few quiet hours to enjoy. The first year, 2010, brought 15-18 children to the program every day, and was wildly successful. Last year, participation increased to 20-24 children each day. We are hopeful that this trend will continue, and we will see even more children this year.

Feedback from the adults who helped with the program for the past two years has been very positive. Almost everyone who participated in the past is returning again. There is nothing so uplifting as seeing the joy on children's faces as they learn about God's love through fun activities and stories. Everyone is invited to share in this! Do you like to cook? Tell stories? Play outside games? Sing? No matter what your talents or interests, we can use you. Please call the church office if you would like to

Camp Canonicus, Here we come ... with a little help from our friends!

During the years 2008-2010, our budget included funding to send one of our Sunday School children to Camp Canonicus for a week. In 2011, we had budgeted for two children to go to camp, but no one took advantage of it, and subsequently, it was cut from the budget in 2012.

This year we have two children who would like to go to camp for three weeks. Camp Canonicus is granting the family a partial scholarship for one week. Picking up the rest of the cost will be a financial hardship for the family, and we are hoping to help them with generous donations from our church family. We hope you can find it in your heart to contribute toward sending these two children to a Christian camp where their lives will be enriched and their faith in Jesus expanded.

We hope to raise \$500 which will about cover the cost of one week for each child. A collection will be taken in church one Sunday in June. You can also send donations to the Church office. Whatever you can give is greatly appreciated.

**Harbor Baptist Church
American Baptist
Churches of Rhode Island**

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Harbor Church Staff

Pastor
Rev. Stephen Hollaway
Director of Music
Carrie Todd
Church Secretaries
Rheba McKernan/Barbara
Temple
Church Sexton
Todd Tremble

Our Church's Mission Statement

Joyfully, we are invited by the Spirit of God to embrace, celebrate and minister to the hopes and hurts of our members, neighbors, and the larger community through Christ-centered prayer, worship, teaching, sharing and caring.

The Harbor Light is a periodic publication of the First Baptist Church of Block Island. We encourage your participation and hope you will share with us your own experiences and memories for inclusion in future issues. Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue.

Martha Ball and Rheba McKernan, Associate Editors

**VISIT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE AT:
www.harborchurchblockisland.org**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO KEEP OUR MAILING ADDRESS LIST UP TO DATE. If you spend part of the year away from Block Island, it would be helpful to have your off-island mailing address and dates when you are away. Please let us know when we need to start using your off-island address.

If you would like to receive the Weekly Announcements by email, please contact Rheba or Barbara at harborchurch1765@verizon.net. Thanks.

