

UNITARIAN CHURCH

ELLSWORTH, MAINE
Sundays 10:30 am
Phone: 667-4393



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NEWSLETTER February 1977

WELCOME!

IF YOU ARE A NEW "SUBSCRIBER"
IT IS BECAUSE someone in the
church thought you might like
to receive our newsletter.

We have just received our bulk mail permit, so now we can afford to send to a much wider circle of friends. In fact, we must mail a minimum of 200 pieces each mailing. We will be happy to add new names at any time. Changes, additions or deletions may be made by telling editor Helen Silver (40 Union St.) or distribution chairman Helen Pease (128 Main St.).

315 E

DECISION SOON

On Jan. 16, a brief meeting was held after church to discuss the adjacent property (across our driveway) which is up for sale. There is the possibility an apartment complex might be built there. Considerable interest was expressed in trying to buy part or all of the land ourselves, to preserve the wooded setting of our church. (The asking price for the nearly two acres is \$15,000). Let your trustees know how you feel!! A decision will have to be made soon. A list of the trustees appears on page 2.

The next trustees' meeting will be February 7, 7:30 p.m., at Dorothy Berry's home on State Street.

SUNDAY SERVICES

February 6	Dr. Meserve
February 13	Dr. Meserve
February 20	Dr. Foote
February 27	Dr. Meserve

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Feb. 2
Feb. 2 Business meeting, Dorothy Berry, hostess, at her home.
Feb. 9-16-23 Maybasket meetings

SEXTON'S DUTIES

Feb. 6 & 13 Catherine Skolfield and Gail Strout
Feb. 20 & 27 Helen Silver & family

PUBLIC SERMON

The first Sunday of each month, Dr. Meserve delivers a sermon dealing with a question that is of concern to the public generally. Feb. 6 he will deal with an issue that should unite all people of goodwill, whatever their religion, political party, or economic and social philosophy. That issue is the plight of the political prisoner in the world today, an ugly fact of too many countries.

Fortunately there is something that people can do to change this situation, and there is an organization that is working hard on the problem all over the world. It is Amnesty International. A discussion will follow the sermon.

DISCUSSION GROUP

A discussion group will be held every third Sunday of the month, immediately after church. If you have specific topics in mind, please contact Therese Garnett (667-5855) and let her know what you'd like to have discussed. The first meeting will be Sunday February 20, after church. Bring a sandwich and an open mind!

CAN YOU HELP?

Anyone willing to assist in the preparation of a dried arrangement of flowers for our Sunday morning services should call Joy Mayo (667-8062).

Bob Royal shoveled our walk in December, and Stan Richmond shoveled in January. We need more volunteers for February and March - even just one week will help!

PEOPLE

Wedding congratulations to two of our newest members, John J. Moore and Deborah E. Murphy, both of Ellsworth. Dr. Meserve married them at the church on Jan. 8. They became members last month.

Also, Joy Mayo, Trenton, Maine, rejoined the church, after coming back from Florida. A warm welcome to all of you.

Our sincere sympathy to Merrill Bunker and his family, on the death of Merrill's father last month.

We hope Ray Royal will soon be feeling better, after his recent illness.

Thanks to Stan Richmond for sham mowing the carpet in the church.

The deadline for the next issue is Feb. 20. News may be left in the "Newsletter" box at the church.

A specially chosen recital, endorsed by the piano vendor, by Keller Horch at the church on January 22. He played five Beethoven selections, and was accompanied in the four-hand recital by Deborah Moskowitz. The final concert of this season will be at 8 pm on March 27 (note: the date has been changed) with Toshihiko Kono, cellist, and Masaruho Ikemiya, pianist.

MANY THANKS

Special thanks to the building fund from the friends and family of Herbert and Evelyn Lord, in their memory.

NEW PERSPECTIVE

Richard Beal shares with us the following quote from "The New England Mind," which redefines some familiar terms from the point of view of our Puritan ancestors.

"The ultimate reason of all things they called God, the dream of a possible harmony between man and his environment, through which they perceived the order of all things, and the sense of a divine purpose, which they called God. It was not a religion, but the feeling to which it was reproduction. The heart of this vision was the sense of the orderliness of the world, and its appeal to universal human nature has always been the promise of comfort and ultimate triumph."

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 1976-77

Pres., Stanley Richmond; V. Pres., Gordon Fanshell; Sec., Dorothy Barry; Treas., Raymond Royal; Members: John Bronley, Louis Collier, Edward Kemps, Ingrid Juck, Helen Silver, Lewis Smith; Alliance representative, Catherine Skelfield.

The Drill

Since we moved to Maine two and a half years ago, there have been many changes in our lives. Most of them have been cheerful and welcome: a simpler kind of life, closer to the essentials both in nature and in human relationships, a life less cluttered by organizations, committees, and group responsibilities. Our income is smaller, but we expected that; and since our needs have been reduced to the essential rather than the superfluities, we have not suffered. The positive aspects of our new situation have been so much more important than the negative ones that it is hard even to enumerate the latter.

But there have been some new challenges that we did not expect, although perhaps we should have. The particular challenge I have in mind is called "the drill." It is seasonal. It comes in the winter when the north winds are blowing hard and the temperature hovers around zero. They tell us that the "wind chill factor" when the temperature is zero and the wind is at 20 miles per hour is about -39 degrees. We believe it. Our water pipes run along the northwest side of our house. They tend to freeze up in weather like that. Then we have to call the plumber, and everyone knows how that hurts, although as plumbers go ours is the greatest. He makes prompt house calls, and his bills are not exorbitant. In Grosse Pointe, Michigan, our plumber drove a Mercedes and gave us a bottle of Canadian whiskey for Christmas. He also sent compatible bills.

To combat the freezing situation, we have instituted the drill. It is a challenge and response situation like those described vividly in Arnold Toynbee's A Study of History. The drill consists of having somebody get up at two-hour intervals all through the night, as the Welsh hymn says, and turn on all the water faucets in the house. The drill solves the plumbing problem. At least, it has so far. But it creates some human problems, like getting back to sleep before the 3:00 A.M. worries tie one in knots. But until now we have assumed that the drill, cold and difficult as it is, is probably good for us. It hurts enough to be a character-builder, a typical example of the challenge-response theory of history.

However, recently we began to get very tired of the drill, the plumber's visits and bills, and the long nights of interrupted sleep. At more expense than we can afford we got a "backhouse heater" for our arched space to keep those pipes cozy at the coldest nights. We think it will work quite well and help us to meet, better, though perhaps not to meet and surpass our other historical challenges with the proper responses. We shall miss the drill, of course, but not very much. No doubt other character-building challenges will arise.

H.C. M.

P.S. - The pipes froze again Jan. 23.