

UNITARIAN CHURCH

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



DR. HARRY C. MESERVE, Minister
Box 1066 Southwest Harbor, Me.
Phone: 244-7124

NEWSLETTER February 1979

Where hate rules, let us bring love;
where sorrow, joy.
Let us strive more to comfort others than to be comforted,
to understand others, than to be understood,
to love others more than to be loved,
For it is in giving that we receive,
and in pardoning that we are pardoned.

attributed to Francis of Assisi

SUNDAY SERVICES

Feb. 4 Dr. Meserve
Feb. 11 Dr. Meserve
Feb. 18 Dr. Foote
Feb. 25 Dr. Meserve

SEXTONS DUTIES

Feb. 4 & 11 Fred & Eleanor Shea
Feb. 18 & 25 Eric & Chris Benedum

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

Feb. 7 Business meeting, hostesses Catherine Skolfield & Gail Strout
Feb. 14 Valentine Party - home of Ruth Beal. Lillian Tapley will show and talk about old Valentines.
Hostesses - Jean Beal and Ruth Royal

The trustees will meet Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m., at the church, and as always, the meeting is open to everyone.

NOTICE

Many thanks to those who have been shoveling the front walk. However, we may be snowbound Feb 11 and 18, for so far, no one has signed up to shovel then!!

CHURCH MEETING

The congregational meeting after church Jan. 28 was well attended, with President Eric Benedum presiding.

Treasurer Stan Richmond reported that as of Dec. 31, 1978, the books were just barely in the black, but for January 1979, expenses had exceeded income by nearly \$300.

Jack Bromley presented the budget for 1979 (since the adoption of our new constitution and by-laws last May, our fiscal year will now be Jan - Dec). A condensed version of this budget is printed on page 2. Both reports were accepted.

It was noted that although the total number of pledging units has dropped from 40 to 33, the amount pledged has increased \$1279 in response to a plea from the finance committee. Additional effort will be needed, however, to balance the new budget, which reflects a slight increase in salaries, rising utility fees, a city sewer connection fee, and decreased interest and rental incomes.

(A nominating committee for the May annual meeting was elected, consisting of Audrey Loody and Chandler Richmond, with Doris Seal as chairman.)

BUDGET FOR 1979WILL YOU?

Expenses	
Salaries	\$ 9676
Insurance	300
Maintenance & Utilities	2010
UUA Contributions	425
Newsletter & Adv.	450
Land payments	770
Music committee	150
Misc. & contingency	300
Total	\$ 14,081

Receipts	
Members pledges	\$ 9380
Alliance pledge	1000
Contributions	1570
Interest & Rent	980
'78 Church Fair	256
"One-time" gifts	250
Misc.	100
Total	\$ 13,536
Deficit	\$ 545

In line with helping the budget, contributions to defray the cost of duplicating and mailing the newsletter would be gladly accepted. It comes to slightly over \$20 per month, so any amount will be appreciated. Mail to Stan Richmond, RFD #3, Ellsworth, Me., 04605.

* * *

If you'd like to recommend a particular book, outstanding record, or the like, space will be provided in future newsletters for brief write-ups on such topics. Send to Helen Silver, 40 Union Street, Ellsworth.

* * *

New members will be welcomed into the church at a service of recognition, early in the spring. Anyone interested in becoming a member should speak to Dr. Meserve.

SEXTONS' DUTIES - 1979

We thank all who helped keep the church clean this past year. Here are the new assignments, based on past experience. If the dates are inconvenient, please try to arrange a swap, then notify Augusta Bromley at 667-8439. If you cannot participate, or are not scheduled and you can take a turn, also please notify Augusta promptly.

The work involves an hour or two a week vacuuming, dusting and tidying up the sanctuary, toilets, and kitchen. It should be done at your convenience on either the Friday or Saturday preceding the Sunday date assigned. If you call Ray Royal, he will leave the key in his mailbox. It should be returned there immediately when the work has been done.

Mark the dates on your calendar. Your participation saves the church much needed funds that would otherwise be required to hire the work done.

Thank you!

Mar 4 & 11	Dot Berry, Phyllis Canfield	Jul 22 & 29	Bob & Dot Noe
Mar 18 & 25	Jack & Augusta Bromley	Aug 5 & 12	Horace & Helen Pease
Apr 1 & 8	Bill & Julie Bromley	Aug 19 & 26	Gordon & Louise Ramsdell
Apr 15 & 22	Eleanor Carlson and Adrienne Conroy	Sep 2 & 9	Chandler and Marion Richmond
Apr 29, May 6	Deborah Cravey & Audrey Moody	Sep 16 & 23	Stan & Joanne Richmond
May 13 & 20	Maurice & Ruby Crews	Sep 30, Oct 7	Ray & Ruth Royal
May 27, Jun 3	Fred & Gertrude Mason	Oct 14 & 21	Bob & Thurley Royal
Jun 10 & 17	Leonard & Joy Mayo	Oct 28, Nov 4	Philip & Doris Seal
Jun 24, Jul 1	Clover Morrison and Joan Collier	Nov 11 & 18	Fred & Eleanor Shea
Jul 8 & 15	Julius & Ingrid Luck	Nov 25, Dec 2	Helen Silver & Louise Tweedie
		Dec 9 & 16	Lester & Emma Wass

Pierre* on Monarchy

"The difficulty with monarchy," said Pierre, settling himself comfortably into his camellounge in the living room of his house on Little Duck Island, "is not the institution itself, but the people who go into it. The problems of being a good monarch are so complicated and demanding that only the very wisest and best people can possibly carry them out. But the wisest and best people know that and are much too smart to get involved in so demanding a task that offers so little promise of real success. Of course, you do have a few monarchs who were pretty good at it; but for every Marcus Aurelius, Charlemagne, and Arthur, as well as every Eleanor of Aquitaine, Elizabeth, and Victoria, you have a dozen Caligulas, Attilas, and Farouks, to say nothing of the Jezebel, Lady Macbeth, and Bloody Mary types. It's not only the ones who are born into monarchy; it's the kind of people who want to force or scheme their way into the job that have given the profession such a richly deserved evil reputation. It is," Pierre added, "I admit, hard on the few decent people who are still active in the monarchy field."

"I suppose you've been pleased by recent developments in the field?" I inquired.

"You mean the Shah, of course," said Pierre. "He had to go. No matter how much kings talk about divine rights and dynasties that go back thousands of years, there comes a time when that old story about the emperor's new clothes comes true. People take a long hard look at one who's pretending to be their friend, protector, judge, and ruler, and as such to be clothed in wisdom, justice, mercy, and love, and they realize that legally and morally he has no clothes on. As soon as they begin to see the monarch as he really is, a fallible and self-important little snob, his days are numbered. It doesn't matter how rich he is or how big his army or how fearsome the weapons he's extracted from gullible Americans like you; as a ruler he's had it. It does astonish me how you Americans who had the devil's own time getting rid of a mild monarch like George III will spend so much time and money flattering, arming, and supporting absolute rulers all over the world, up to and including the Shah-complately."

"Excuse me, Pierre," I said. "Is that word Persian or Bactrian or Iranian?"

"Nice word, isn't it?" said Pierre. "I coined it when I saw this shah being carried around on the ancient peacock throne of the kings of Persia. At least they were real kings with all the pomposity and illusions that gave kings a certain antique charm. That is, if you didn't have to live under them. This shah's family made it to the top of the heap in good old free enterprise style only a generation back. Once they got the power, they thought they had it forever and it was theirs by divine right. That's what power will do to people any time, anywhere."

"But on the whole," I said, "you are pleased with the track record of monarchy in this twentieth century? There are many fewer kings than there used to be."

"Yes," Pierre agreed, "but I've always thought monarchy was one of the less promising human inventions. It had to be tried, I guess, but it had to fail, too. Now that humans have all but emerged from the monarchy phase, they should start emerging from military dictatorship and the dictatorship of the military. That will be the day when we can really hope for peace."

"Pierre," I said, "I'm glad you have some hope. Sometimes I find it a bit hard to hope these days."

"Just remember," Pierre replied, "that we Bactrian camels have been watching the human race develop a lot longer than you have. Who do you think the real zoo keepers are in this world?"

H.C.M.

* If you attended church on
December 24, you met Pierre.
If not, ask me.