



# The Harbor Light

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

## *From the Pastor:* **Beginning with Middle Schoolers ...**

If we are going to build a youth ministry at Harbor Church, our best opportunity is to focus on involving middle school students. Already we are taking four “baby steps” in this effort:

1. Becca Hollaway is leading a **Youth Sunday School** at 9:00 a.m. aimed at grades 6-8. These students are old enough to attend the full worship service at 10:00 a.m.
2. The **Ecumenical Youth Group** will begin having regular meetings on Sunday evenings at 7:00 in the Rec Center for fun activities and a brief time of spiritual focus.
3. We are working on plans for a **Youth Mission Trip** soon after school is out in June. Rather than waiting for a youth group to develop fully, we want to use the mission trip as a means of recruiting youth and building solidarity as a group. I have been researching agencies that offer pre-packaged mission trips with meals, evening programs, and fellowship with other youth. The Roosa Fund has expressed willingness to cover much of the cost of this trip with a grant, although we will expect the youth to also do some fundraising. I hope to announce details soon.
4. The church is sponsoring **Boy Scout Troop 30** which reaches out to boys in grades 5-8 and meets Fridays at 2:30 in the Rec Center. Bernadette McNerney is serving as troop leader, assisted by several parents. They recently had a couple of archery activities and are beginning to work on merit badges.

Our youth ministry will be strengthened this summer by the arrival of Kadin Williams, our third intern from Princeton Theological Seminary. He comes from Costa Mesa, California, and will be visiting Block Island in April. The church will be operating the Summer Rec Center again with hours for grades 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12. We have received grants from both Princeton and from BIRA to cover most of the cost of having an intern. Thank you!

The Christian Education Committee has general oversight of the Youth Ministry. If you have any love in your heart for middle schoolers and are willing to assist with activities, please contact Christian Education Co-chairs Barbara Temple and Rheba McKernan, or Becca or me. We’re going to have some fun—and lives will be shaped by this ministry.

Expectantly,



## **HELP US RELIGHT THE CHURCH**

We are embarking on a campaign to replace all our chandelier and wall sconce bulbs with LED’s which we anticipate will reduce our electric usage for lighting by 86%. These new bulbs are instant-on and dimmable, and they contain no mercury so will not require special disposal like CLF’s (although they tell us they last 22.8 years!).

We plan to replace a total of eighty bulbs for a total expense of \$1,000. The Trustees are hoping you will join our effort by sharing the initial expense with the purchase of two bulbs for \$25.

The difference is marked – we have “test bulbs” in one fixture in the sanctuary (an added extra, the old chandelier sparkles with new life!) and another in Fellowship Hall. This brand is NOT “curly” so we are not losing the traditional feel of our lighting. Please join our effort! Mark checks or envelopes “Light Bulbs” and drop them off or send them to Harbor Church, Box D2, Block Island RI 02807.

[www.harborchurchblockisland.org](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org)

Please visit us at our website, [www.harborchurchblockisland.org](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org). We are looking for comments and welcome suggestions as to how we can improve the site to better serve you and the community.

We are currently looking for photographs of activities at the church. The summer Fair and Auction, VBS, the Summer Rec, the fall Roll Call & Halloween festivities, the Advent and Easter seasons, Choir rehearsals and performances, any and all events that take place at Harbor Church, from the Gardeners making wreaths to decorate the town to Clayhead Pottery afternoons to the new Boy Scout troop learning about archery. Photos can be transmitted electronically; we also have the technology to scan older ones which we promise will be handled with care and returned to you.

Contact the office or better yet, use the "contact us" feature of the website.



**ANOTHER CHANCE TO OWN A BLOCK ISLAND QUILT!**

Thanks to Eleanor Garrett, the Block Island Quilt, a tradition begun by the Harbor Church Sunday School Builders and Friends, is back... led by Eleanor, a long-time quilter, a gifted group of ladies (Lois Bendokas, Ann Fagan, Sandy Greenman, Gwen Hart, Becca Hollaway, Rheba McKernan, Karla Sargent, Marie Shepherd, Carrie Todd, and Jessica Veldman) will join the ranks of quilters past whose work is still cherished by those lucky enough to have held the winning ticket.

Eleanor and her enlistees are spending countless hours creating squares, each a unique interpretation of a Block island scene or landmark and each a stand-alone treasure. The handcrafted, one-of-a-kind quilt will depict historic lighthouses, boats big and small, and landmarks that are unique to this very special place.

Tickets for the quilt raffle to be held late in the fall are \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25. Proceeds will benefit the Harbor Church and the many programs that take place under its roof.

Not a quilter? You can still be part of BI Quilt 2012 by helping sell raffle tickets. Contact the church office for more information.

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS

## Weekly Happenings:

Sunday:

9:00 am Adult Education  
10:00 am Worship Service and  
Sunday School

Tuesday:

7:30 am A Time for Prayer

Thursday:

7:00 pm Bible Study

Friday:

6:30 pm Coffeehouse

Saturday:

7:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast

## March

7 Board of Deacons—5:15pm  
12 Prayer Shawl — 7:00 pm  
14 Trustees—4:00 pm  
21 Executive Board—5:15pm

## April

HOLY WEEK BEGINS APRIL 1

1 **Palm Sunday** 10:00 am

4 Deacons — 5:15 pm

5 **Maundy Thursday**

Potluck 6:30 pm

6 **Good Friday Ecum.Service—**

St. Ann's—12 noon

8 **EASTER**

**Sunrise Service**

6:00 am

**Easter Concert**

9:00 am

**Easter Worship Service** 10:00 am

9 Prayer Shawl—7:00 pm

11 Trustees' Meeting — 4:15 pm

18 Executive Board—5:15 pm



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

**SATURDAY, JULY 28 — CHURCH FAIR**  
**MON., AUG. 6—FRI., AUG. 10—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 — ROLL CALL**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 — ROLL CALL DINNER**

## God Bless Your Service to Our Church

On Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, we installed our 2012 Board and Committee Members, and we thank each of you for your service and dedication.

Several changes were made this year: Martha Ball assumed the responsibilities of Church Clerk from Rheba McKernan. The Board of Deacons signed on three new members: Martha Ball, David Roosa and Todd Tremble. Cindy Pappas and Will Young are now part of the Stewardship Committee. Christian Education gained a new member, Lila DelPadre; Rheba McKernan and Todd Tremble joined the Social Committee; and Adam Dydak is now a member of the Music Committee. And, if anyone is interested, there is a vacancy on the Missions Board to be filled. We wish everyone success in their new roles.

There are also outgoing members whose long-term service and accomplishments should be recognized. We thank Donna Corey, Ellen Jacke, John Hopf and Kay Lewis, all of whom have served faithfully as Deacons and whose counsel will be missed. And our thanks and gratitude to Martha Ball who has left Stewardship to take on several new challenges, noted above, and Cindy Pappas, who has been a gentle and caring leader for Christian Education and is now moving on to the Stewardship Committee.

## A BALANCED BUDGET FOR 2012!

After much cutting – and salary freezes – the Executive Board, with the able assistance of Treasurer Cheryl Blane and Stewardship Chair Bill Penn, developed a budget with an \$851 shortfall vs. the substantial operating deficit incurred in 2011. When that news circulated among the congregation, a church member added \$851 to an already generous pledge, and we had a balanced budget! (Go to the last two pages of the Annual Report at [www.harborchurchblockisland.org](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org) for details of projected expenses and incomes.)

Now, the task before us is keeping expenses in line AND being sure our income meets, and hopefully exceeds, expectations. Thanks to everyone who responded to last fall's pledge campaign—An Attitude of Gratitude. The deadline was last November, but if for any reason you missed it, new and/or renewed pledges are always joyfully accepted. We also have some new fundraisers in the works, which will provide wonderful opportunities.

**How are we doing?** The following shows actual income year-to-date vs. projections of monthly income needed to achieve our budget goals for 2012:

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Needed (2 mo. Aver)</u>
January and February 2012 Pledges	\$15,855	\$12,224
Total Income Year to Date	21,035	26,990



## Clayhead Pottery

Imagine a fun place where kids and adults can get together and paint mugs and other treasured keepsakes. This was the vision Becca and Rheba had back in the fall of 2010 when they started Clayhead Pottery. In return for using the church's facilities, ten percent (10%) of all sales and the additional cost for electricity to run the kiln was pledged back to the church.

During 2011, the studio was run on a part-time basis, opening once or twice a month during the off-season. In July and August, it opened three hours/day on Mondays and Wednesdays. Total sales for the year were \$2,142; from this, \$680 was given to the church. The balance of the income paid for greenware, supplies, and a part-time helper in the summer.

No special talent is needed to create a one-of-a-kind piece of art, nor is it just for kids. Children as young as 3 and adults well into their senior years came to paint pottery. And everyone of all ages is looking for something fun to do on a rainy day. On a rainy afternoon in August, 65 people suddenly showed up. In just those few hours, sales for the year were doubled. While no one is wishing for a lot of rainy days this summer, Clayhead Pottery plans to take advantage of any rainy-day opportunities that come its way.

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

PO Box D-2  
Block Island, RI 02807  
Phone: 401-466-5940  
Fax: 401-466-2070  
Email: [harborchurch1765@verizon.net](mailto:harborchurch1765@verizon.net)  
Website:  
[www.harborchurchblockisland.org](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org)

**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](http://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 at [harborchurch1765@verizon.net](mailto:harborchurch1765@verizon.net). Thanks.



**Gathered October 23, 1765**