



ROAD WORK

-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER-

**OLD ORCHARD BEACH UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

November 30, 2008

Volume 1, Issue 6

Winter Has Come to Maine

From York County Emergency Management

This Week:

Sunday:

~Breakfast—9:30 AM
~Worship & Sunday
School—10 AM

Monday:

~Food Pantry—9 AM

Tuesday:

~Prayer Service—6 PM

Wednesday:

~Food Pantry—9 AM

Saturday:

~Gab 'n Grow—1 PM

Sunday:

~Breakfast—9:30 AM
~Worship & Sunday
School—10 AM

Even though we are only half-way through November, it has been as cold as January in York County and significant snow has already been reported in other parts of the state. Although the price of heating oil has been falling, it is still high, and many homes could be chilly this year.

Now is the time to put your emergency supplies together for that big winter storm that traps you at home. It's time to remember basic winter safety tips, make your home as snug as possible and reach out within your community to help others stay safe and warm. Do you have what you need to stay safe at home? Especially, if the power goes out and you are not able to get out for a few days?

York County EMA suggests:

- Build a disaster supply kit with non-perishable foods, drinking water, necessary medications and other supplies that your family would need for at least a three-day period. Don't forget those other family members, your pets.
- Make sure your car is ready for winter, with snow tires, winter wipers, and an easily accessible car emergency kit. Remind yourself to slow down and watch out for the other guy that first time you drive in snow or ice.
- Inside the house, ensure that wood stoves are installed correctly. Remember your local fire department will check your stove for you, if you have

questions or concerns about proper installation. And always keep flammable items well away from the stove.

- Check the instructions on alternative heating sources such as kerosene heaters so that you can operate them safely if they are needed.

- If you have a generator, identify a safe place to operate it, outside and well away from enclosed spaces (never in a basement or attached garage). Test your generator at least once a month to make sure it works; and store fuel in proper containers.

Many more winter preparedness and safety measures can be found at:

<http://www.maineprepares.com>

VERSE OF THE WEEK

"The Word that gives life was from the beginning, and this is the one our message is about. Our ears have heard, our eyes have seen, and our hands touched this Word."

1 John 1:1 (CEV)

A Word About Advent

From the General Board of Discipleship

Advent is a strange and wonderful time in the life of the church: strange, because we hold back when the culture is going wild; wonderful, because we know that a night is coming when we will join together in song with candles blazing.

Advent is not a penitential period like Lent. But, like Lent, Advent is a season of anticipation and preparation. There is reason for restraint. If you can't hold back, you can't celebrate. Christians know about fasting

and feasting --if we let the Christian calendar discipline us. Our culture is geared to instant everything, and "right now" is our demand. Yet the gospel's wisdom is that we do not live according to our timetable. We live by the Lord who is coming, but who never seems to be on our time schedule; who came long ago when no one was ready save a few shepherds.

So we do odd things in the church. We use purple or blue to suggest a state of unfulfilled

readiness. Then, at Christmas, we bring on the joyful white; and the contrast with the somber color of purple or blue sets it off with greater effect. The tone of Advent music and texts is more restrained so that the sound of the angels' song may resound with greater freshness on Christmas Eve!

So don't be deprived this Advent season, but prepare yourself for what is to come.



**OLD ORCHARD BEACH
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Along the road less traveled...

P.O. Box K
Washington & Fountain Avenues
Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064

Phone: 207-934-5553
email: info@oobumchurch.org

Michael J. Gray, *Pastor*
Merv Sedlar, *Organist*
Members of the Congregation, *Ministers*

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.OOBUMCHURCH.ORG

The Four Areas of Focus for the UMC

There has been an ongoing conversation in the United Methodist Church. Everyone choosing to participate in this conversation has come to believe we are doing nothing short of answering the questions for our time: What is the United Methodist vision for living Wesley's principles — doing no harm, doing good and loving God? And how does that vision enable us to fulfill the church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? The growing belief is that there are four areas of focus to provide that answer. They are:

Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. The church must recruit young people for ministry and provide them with the skills necessary to be effective in this new time of opportunity. That includes women and people of color the world over. Similarly, we must offer leadership training for lay people who are in ministry in countless ways.

Creating new places for new people by starting new congregations and renewing existing ones. If we are to remain faithful to our commitment to transform the world, we will reach out with genuine hospitality to

people wherever they are. We will make them feel welcome as we start new faith communities, seek to renew existing ones and inspire faithful discipleship.

Engaging in ministry with the poor. As an expression of our discipleship, United Methodists seek to alleviate conditions that undermine quality of life and limit the opportunity to flourish as we believe God intends for all. As with John Wesley, we seek to change conditions that are unjust, alienating and disempowering. We engage in ministry with the poor, and in this, we especially want to reach out to and protect children.

Stamping out killer diseases by improving health globally. Conditions of poverty cause illness and death. The lack of access to doctors, nurses, medications and appropriate facilities is deadly, especially among those who live in conditions of poverty. But the diseases of poverty are not inevitable. We believe the people of The United Methodist Church can play a significant role in educating others about diseases such as HIV/AIDS and malaria, and treating and preventing their devastating effects.

Upcoming Events

Christmas Assistance Programs for the Salvation Army—Dates for those applying for assistance this holiday season have been announced. Christmas applications will be taken:

December 1, 2, 3—9 AM to Noon

December 1 & 2—1 to 3 PM

November 30—1st Sunday of Advent.
The Sunday of LOVE.

December 7—2nd Sunday of Advent.
The Sunday of JOY.

December 7—Celebration by the Sea—This annual event sponsored by the OOB Chamber of Commerce is a community celebration complete with music, food,

and a tree lighting ceremony. There will be more details to come.

December 14—3rd Sunday of Advent.
The Sunday of HOPE.

December 14—Trustees Meeting directly after worship.

Friday, December 19 at 7:30 PM—*The Love Came Down at Christmastime Tour*—See Jars of Clay, Leeland, Sixpence None the Richer, and Sara Groves at The Coliseum in Lewiston.

December 21—4th Sunday of Advent.
The Sunday of PEACE.

Wednesday, December 24 at 7PM—*Christmas Eve Service*—Join us for a special time of worship and warmth as we look celebrate the birth of our Lord.

December 28—Christmas Sunday.

January 4, 2009—Epiphany Sunday.

January 2009—*Citizen Police Academy*—The OOB PD is accepting applications now for the second installment of this popular program.