October 14th, 2020

RCC Weekly News

BRINGING YOU THE LATEST FROM THE ROCKLAND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Good afternoon on this incredible autumn day! Here is a photo of the beautiful, cheerful arrangement currently outside the church. We have a bit of a mystery on our hands, though: who did this? Staff cannot confirm which of our talented green thumbs installed these beauties. If it was you, will you tell us so we can say thanks? It's such a nice way to be greeted every day and we want to acknowledge you!
Sincerely, A Grateful Staff

BIRTHDAYS

Oct 15: Martha Bouchard; Marlene Groves
Oct 18: Marcia Crippen

OUR OFFICE IS OPEN, PLEASE REMEMBER:

Masks required over nose and mouth.

Mon - Thurs 9:00am-3:00pm

Please use business window if you can.

THANK YOU!

"ORTHODOXY" EXPLORATION WITH PASTOR SETH CONTINUES

Next meeting is October 15th

GK Chesterton is one of the great Christian thinkers of the early 20th century. He was a great influence on CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien, John Henry Newman, and many others. Chesterton was a master with words, and was even more masterful in articulating a clear view of his faith in Christ. Chesterton has the ability to present things in timeless ways. During this incredible time we are living through now, there is no way to predict the future. There are, however, anchors that ground us and essential things that we can take forward with us.

What are those essentials of the faith that will carry forward?

What will we choose to bring with us into the new world that is coming?

Thursday, Oct 15: Chapter 2
Thursday, Oct 22: Chapter 3

Join us on Thursdays at 6:30pm on ZOOM as we explore GK Chesterton's "Orthodoxy".

UPDATE FROM KATE!

Greetings and Salutations!

2020 sure has been a strange year, hasn't it? As most of you know, I've been staying home on Sunday mornings to run Zoom for our 10 am worship service. I've had some real struggles with my health this summer, and fall isn't turning out too good either. Fortunately, I remain complicated and benign, but I still need to take an extra measure of caution during the pandemic. While I miss seeing each of you (in person) on Sunday mornings, this note is my way of saying "Hello! Shalom! Halleluiah and praise be to the Lord Almighty and the community of love embodied in our gathered church!" Because I remember and believe that, whether we're gathering in person or on Zoom or by phone or by thought and prayer, God is with us, and we are together in the embrace of our love for one another. Take care of yourselves, each of you. My love accompanies this note. Thank you for being you, and being a part of our beloved community.

With hope and prayer,
Kate Gabriel-Jones

CLERGY APPRECIATION

Yes, it was this past Sunday. If you blinked, you missed it! However, you can still participate by sending a card or note to Seth and Ed for all they do for us. They have mastered Zoom meetings and still keep in touch with us, since so many are not ready to return to regular Sunday attendance. We all need encouragement and enjoy sweet words of praise. Just drop your notes at the office or in the mail. Thanks. - Nina Durgin

Some photos from last year :)

(Thanks Pam Walton!)

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK!

IN PERSON WORSHIP

- 50 or fewer allowed in the Sanctuary
- Pews are roped off for socially distant seating
- ALL must wear masks entering and while in the building
- Singing only allowed softly behind masks (singing is a super spreader)
- Unfortunately, no socializing (coffee hour) after the service
- Hand sanitizer provided and encouraged
- Those who cannot attend may follow the service on Facebook Live or ZOOM
- Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month) you can either bring your own elements from home, or we provide individually wrapped elements here at the church when you enter. Gluten free elements available, as well.

UPDATE: THE CHURCH'S PLANTS

Thank you to Mary Blenk, who has graciously volunteered to keep up with our neglected plants. Much appreciated, Mary!

And one more shoutout to Ardell Robarts, who gave the church's plants love for so many years.

Thanks to you both from both staff and plants.

FROM PASTOR SETH

As the state moves into Phase 4 of re-opening, the Council will be discussing re-opening the building to groups that used our building before the pandemic. There will be limits to the number of people in rooms and expectations that groups will clean up after themselves. We will expect the protocols of masks and social distancing to be upheld as well. We are working hard to maintain the standards that Maine has presented to the rest of the nation with low case numbers and low hospitalizations. If you have any suggestions or thoughts, please let Brian Harden, our moderator, or Martha Majunka, our associate moderator, or me, know. With your help, we will all get through this. Endure, and trust in the Lord!

Peace and grace, Pastor Seth