

ISLANDS COMMUNITY CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

ISLANDS COMMUNITY CHURCH

P.O. Box 281

Bailey Island, ME 04003

PRAYERS

Please join us in especially remembering the following people in your daily prayers:

Health and Healing: Liz Gleason; George Kinser; Luke Rafferty; Mark Wilson; Marie Marquis; MB; Baer Connard; Wayne Gagne; Hazel Henderson.

Strength and Support: The Family of Liz Bouve. God, we pray for the wellbeing of all. May love be our way.

Continuing Prayers: The Rupert family; Kiernan; Luca; Jacinda; Ed Roney; Bruce Bickford; Bruce Langford; Paula; Ron and Angel; Nick Soliotis; Phyllis Simard; Jean S; Kim Johnson; Jean Richter; Willy Wilson; Donna McNelly; Hannah; Mary Perry Morgan; Susan Harrington; Josh; Rosemary Dunlap; Laura; for all who love and support those living with mental health and other chronic health conditions.
Prayers for our first responders and for those serving in the military. God, we pray for a unified vision of peace and for policies that provide all with basic human rights, justice, safety and effective health care. We pray for compassion, tolerance of diversity and of varied viewpoints.

If anyone would like to have a person's name included in the Prayer List, please contact Jody Breton at maineofficiants@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting – Sunday October 25th following church service. Please plan on attending. A new church logo will be discussed and voted on. More detail in newsletter.

Royal River Chorus Sweet Adelines at ICC - Mark your calendars for the next ICC free concert on Saturday, October 24 at 4:00. This group performed about a year and a half ago at ICC and were fabulous!! Plan to come and be prepared to be dazzled once again!!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Members: Gayle Hays and Hugh Hardcastle (co-chairs), Ed Striewski, Jody Breton, Angie Arndt, Lori Burkhart, Paul Campbell, Tuckie Westfall, Nancy Kinser, David Breton, and Cindy Mudford.

In the month of October Ordinary Time continues.
Besides the times of year that have their own distinctive character, there remain in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time.

Spiritual Meaning of October - October is a month of transition, release, and gratitude — a bridge between the vibrant energy of summer and the introspective quiet of winter, inviting reflection, ancestral connection, and preparation for new cycles. Spiritually, October is associated with **balance, transformation, and letting go**. As leaves change and fall, it mirrors the completion of life cycles, encouraging you to release what no longer serves you and make space for renewal

Speakers for October 2026

- **Oct 4 – Rev. Angie Arndt**
- **Oct 11 – Rev Jeff Huot**
- **Oct 18 – Rev. Mair Honan**
- **Oct 25 - Rev Jeff Logan**

Coordinators for the next few months

Oct. – Paul Campbell
Nov. – Nancy Kinser
Dec. - Tuckie Westfall

Prayer List

To add someone to the prayer list, fill out the prayer list form, see Jody, or email Jody at maineofficiants@gmail.com. Please ask Jody to remove names of those who have recovered. Reminder, permission must be given prior to adding a person's name to the printed prayer list.

Pastoral Care

If you could use Spiritual Companionship (a listening ear), please reach out to Angie at angiearndt12@gmail.com or call 207-318-9429.

Spiritual Support Group

Rev. Angie Arndt is facilitating the Spiritual Support Group. The group is a confidential place to explore your spiritual life and share compassionate conversation about life's big questions. The group plans to meet once monthly. For more information please contact Angie at angiearndt12@gmail.com

Altar Guild

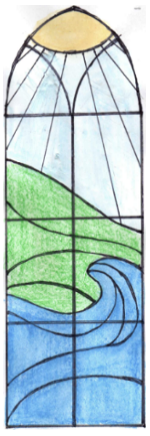
The altar cloth for Ordinary Time is green. The Altar Guild also sets up Communion, neatens the hymnals/bibles, manages the candles, etc. Please thank the members. Guild members include Ed Striewski, Jody Breton, Dave Breton, and Cindy Mudford.

Inspiration

"*October is the month of painted leaves, their rich glow now flashes around the world*." — Henry David Thoreau
"*Listen! The wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves*." — Humbert Wolfe
October is here — welcoming the heart of fall and gracing us with a cozy energy that makes us want to savor every moment of amber foliage and crisp, clear skies!
It's a month of festive pumpkin patches, hot apple cider, and the comforting embrace of oversized sweaters.
"The end of the summer is not the end of the world. Here's to October…" — A. A. Milne
"After the keen still days of September, the October sun filled the earth with mellow warmth." — Elizabeth George Speare

Communications Update – New Logo Vote on October 25th

Recall that the Innovation Team was formed in an attempt to identify ways by which ICC might increase awareness of our church and improve attendance for Sunday services. Key among their recommendations was the development of a "brand" for ICC. To that end, a subset of the Innovation Team (Jody Breton, Angie Arndt, and John Ferraro) pursued the development of the ICC web site and an associated logo. A key consideration in selection of the logo was to emphasize spirituality rather than religion, since so many people have negative feelings about organized religion. Jody's experience with web development services was leveraged in this effort, and a logo was selected from many "canned" images that were available. That logo is in use on our web site, our rack card, and our Order-of-Service at this time.



However, that logo (shown here on the left) has been at the center of some ongoing discussions. As a result, our newly formed Communication Team (Marc Burkhart and Laurie Smith co-chairs, with Brooke Smith, Margaret Broughall, Jody Breton, Mary Robinson, and John Ferraro) has worked to develop an alternative to the existing logo, and a sketch prepared by Margaret Broughall is provided here (to the right) for your amusement. This new design uses the image of a window from the church and captures the spiritual and natural elements present in the existing logo. (Please note that if you are viewing this on your phone, the images may appear reversed.)



It's our hope that you'll give some thought to these designs and be prepared to vote when we bring these up for discussion at a Congregational Meeting, currently scheduled for October 25th following the Sunday service.

Tribute from an ICC Supporter - Carol Bailey

On a recent brief weekend visit to OBI, I visited ICC which remains the church of my heart. It was wonderful to see Hugh, Surrey and Gayle. But I looked around for all my friends no longer in their regular pews, Joanne Harris, Priscilla J, Joyce C, Connie J, Ruth P; knowing their spirits are still there. All were so welcoming to me and open their arms to include me in monthly ladies' lunch, knitting, church coffee etc. Plus not having Bob Freson, Bud Edwards, Frank Orlando!

I also felt so proud to show my daughter the legacy of the Willing Helpers in our projects to install an elevator, make stair access easier, upgrade the downstairs room and bathroom with the generosity of donors and the monopoly design and sales.
Miss you all and thank you for my life on the Islands. Carol 617-448-4574

WHAT'S NEW AT ICC

The following are links for online information for your benefit and to share with interested community members or people who might like to learn about the church.

ICC's website address is: islandschurch.org
ICC's email address is: welcome@islandschurch.org
ICC's Facebook Page is: IslandsCommunityChurchMaine
ICC's Instagram Page is: IslandsCommunityChurch

ICC COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Ping Pong and Puzzles Every Tuesday, 1:00-3:00

*The word is out - Ping Pong at Islands Community Church on Tuesdays is FUN! We now have **two** tables in play (thank you to Mary and Ed Robinson's daughter for the 2nd table) due to more and more players showing up for good times at table tennis. Puzzling and snacks add to the enjoyment.*

Yoga Classes

*Yoga classes are offered in the lower level of the church **Monday mornings from 9-10 and will be moving to Friday mornings in October**. Instructor Kelly Merrill is a native islander who has been teaching yoga for 7 years. All classes are suitable for ALL LEVELS, staying within a gentle practice of movement and breath. Cost is $15.00 per class.*

NEWS From The PEWS

Hershel Walker never had it easy. One of 7 children, his family was lower-middle-class. He went to an all-white school, the worst student of the class and was bullied for his ethnicity. The early emotional trauma caused him to develop a stutter. As a young man, he was overweight, dumb and had no confidence whatsoever. He said his life took a new direction when coming home one summer, he confided to his mother. It was when she reminded him not to use his problems as excuses in life, that he developed a workout regimen which eventually expanded to 1,500 pushups and 2,000 sit-ups daily, admitting “it almost became like a drug to me.” Every day he read a book out loud to overcome his stuttering. Coming back to school, he had one goal in mind, to never be that person he was anymore. He joined the track team and the football team. He uses his life examples in extolling the value of hard work when he speaks to today’s youth. What’s your excuse?

Football Tryouts - A football coach when asked how he picked a team from a bunch of raw recruits replied, "I hate to give away my secrets, but …. I take them into the woods, and at the signal, I start them running. Those that run around the trees are chosen as guards and the ones that run head on into the trees become the tackles."

The Norfolk Virginia Blues were a team of collegiate all-stars and considered by many, including themselves, to be the final word in college football. So, when they went up against Washington D.C.’s Gallaudet University, they thought they had a sure thing: Gallaudet was a school for the hearing impaired. Norfolk’s egos were bigger than their helmets, and deciding since their opponents were deaf, they wouldn’t bother using signals or to huddle. The blunder ended in a shutout, 20 to 0 – in favor of Gallaudet. Although team members were deaf, they could still read lips, and they understood every play Norfolk planned!

Property History - A recent case in Louisiana perfectly exemplifies how ridiculous government paperwork can be. A company president was trying to buy some land in Louisiana for a plant expansion. He wanted to finance this new facility with a government loan. His lawyer filled out all the necessary forms, including the abstract-tracing the title of the land back to 1803. The government reviewed his application and abstract and sent the following reply: 'We received today your letter and application for your client, supported by the abstract of title. We have observed, however, that you have not traced the title previous to 1803. Before final approval, it is necessary that the title be traced previous to that year. Yours truly. In response, the lawyer sent the following letter to the government: Gentlemen, In your letter regarding my client’s application, you request that the title to be claimed goes back further than 1803. I was unaware that any educated man failed to know that Louisiana was purchased by the United States from France in 1803. The title of the land was acquired by France by right of the conquest of Spain. The land came into possession of Spain in 1492 by right of discovery by the Spanish Portuguese sailor named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by Queen Isabella. The good queen, being a pious woman and careful about title, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope of Rome upon Columbus voyage before she sold her jewels to help him. Now the Pope, as you know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God. And God made the world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to assume that He also made that part of the United States called Louisiana, and I now hope you're satisfied.

Erin’s new friend Tom asked what it was like to be a Christian. She replied, “It’s like being a pumpkin: God picks you from the patch, washes all the dirt off and then He cuts the top off and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. He then carves a new smiling face for you and puts his light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.

"**Halloween** is right around the corner. You can tell because all the stores are decked out for Christmas."

My body isn’t a temple; it’s a haunted house. It needs a lot of work, makes mysterious creaking sounds, and contains the spirit of a creepy old lady that’s always mad about something.

Bloopers

~The license fee for altered dogs with a certificate will be $3 and for pets owned by senior citizens who have not been altered the fee will be $4.50."

~The sewer expansion project is nearing completion, but city officials are holding their breath until it is officially finished.

~The ladies of the county medical society plan to publish a cookbook. Part of the money will go to the Samaritan Hospital to purchase a stomach pump."

~The assembly sent to the senate a bill requiring dog owners in New York City to clean up after their dogs to avoid a $100 fine. The bill also applies to Buffalo.

Dear Tech Support, Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slowdown in overall system performance, especially in the Jewelry and Flower apps, which operated seamlessly under Boyfriend 5.0. In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled some of my other apps, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable apps such as NFL 3.0, MLB 6.0, and Golf Clubs 3.2. Conversation 6.2 now only runs sporadically, and Housecleaning 1.5 simply crashes the system. Please note that I have installed Nagging 7.4 to fix these problems, but to no avail. What can I do? Signed – Desperate.

Dear Desperate, First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system. Enter command: Ithoughtyoulovedme.html, and delete versions of Nagging. Download the Tears 5.3 update and try to install Guilt 3.0. If the apps work as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run Jewelry 3.1 and Flowers 4.4. However, remember, overuse of the above applications can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 1.9, Happy Hour 7.1, Whatever you do, DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Mother-In-Law 1.0 as it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of your entire system. In addition, please, do not attempt to re-install Boyfriend 5.0. – that will crash Husband 1.0. Husband 1.0 is a functional app, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn other new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional apps to improve memory and performance, such as Cooking 2.0 and the Comfort Food 2.1 update. Good Luck!! – Tech Support

Worship Service

Sunday at 9:30AM

Communion is always served the first Sunday of the month

Guest Speakers:

Oct. 4: Rev. Angie Arndt
Oct. 11: Rev. Jeff Huot
Oct. 18: Rev. Mair Honan
Oct. 25: Rev. Jeff Logan

**Flowers:*

Oct. 4: Laurie Smith
Oct. 11: The Mudfords
Oct. 18: Gayle Hays
Oct. 25: Lori Burkhart

**Refreshments:*

Oct. 4: Laurie Smith
Oct. 11: The Mudfords
Oct. 18: Gayle Hays
Oct. 25: Lori Burkhart

**If you are able to help out, please contact Charlie Libby at* wjj4@comcast.net

OCTOBER 2026

The Islands Community Church is a non-denominational church based on the teachings of the Bible. The church is led by a Board who invite ordained ministers, lay people and chaplains to celebrate the service. Communion is offered monthly on the first Sunday. Outreach and community service are important aspects of the church mission.

Weekly Worship Speakers: The church has an active Worship committee responsible for inviting ordained ministers, lay people and chaplains to celebrate the service each Sunday. These ministers are rooted in a diverse array of faiths including Congregational, Episcopalian, Baptist, Presbyterian, among others. They are primarily based in the mid-coast region, including Portland. The variety of speakers at the Sunday services are appreciated by the attendees, as each offers his or her personal insights on their journeys and the teachings of the Bible.

PASTORAL CARE and COUNSELING: Rev. Angie Arndt provides pastoral visits and counseling. Angie can be reached at 318-9429 or at angiearndt12@gmail.com.

COMMUNION is served the first Sunday of the month and is available at home for those unable to attend church. If someone wishes to receive Communion at home, please call Hugh Hardcastle at 833-0092.

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OCTOBER

Birthdays: **Anniversaries:**

10/10 Janet Alexander
10/12 Laurie Smith
10/12 Pam White
10/13 Bob York
10/17 Surrey Hardcastle
10/17 Peg Johnson

Note: ***If your birthday or anniversary is in this month, and it is not noted, please contact Mary Robinson at mrobinuk7@gmail.com***