



ISLANDS COMMUNITY CHURCH
NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 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; Hazel Henderson; Susan Solomon; Jeff; Baer Connard; Henry Rupert.

Strength and Support: Family of John Moulton; Family of Norma Conway; Family of Henry Rupert. God, we pray for the wellbeing of all. May love be our way.

Continuing Prayers: Kiernan; George Kinser; Brenda Bonney; Luca; Jacinda; Ed Roney; Bruce Bickford; Bruce Langford; Roger R; Liz Bouve and family; Paula; Ron and Angel; Nick Soliotis; Phyllis Simard; Jean S; Kim Johnson; Jean Richter; Willy Wilson; Donna McNelly; Hannah; Carol; Mary Perry Morgan; Susan Harrington; Roger, Josh; Rosemary Dunlap; Katy Huff; 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

Harpswell's 250th Anniversary Celebratory Events

August 1 from 11:30-3:30 – Tour of Harpswell Churches including Islands Community Church

August 1 at 4pm – ICC's choir will join the choir at Elijah Kelloff Church under the direction of Ed Striewski to lead a community sing of patriotic songs. This will be held at Elijah Kellogg Church.

August 15 from 11-3:30 – Tour of Harpswell Burial Grounds including the Bailey Island Cemetery – FMI – see the Harpswell Anchor

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

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

In the month of August Ordinary Time continues. Ordinary Time refers to the weeks in the liturgical calendar that fall outside the major seasons of Christmastide, Eastertide, Advent, and Lent. It is divided into two periods: the first begins after Epiphany, and continues until the day before Ash Wednesday; the second begins after Pentecost and continues until the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. The Sundays in Ordinary Time are numbered using ordinal numbers, which is the origin of the term "ordinary" from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning "numbered" or "ordered."

Spiritual Meaning of August - August symbolizes abundance, transformation, and personal empowerment, inviting reflection, gratitude, and alignment with your spiritual path. Spiritually, August is a month of fullness, reflecting the peak of growth and the near arrival of harvest. It encourages you to acknowledge and appreciate what you have cultivated in your life, whether in personal achievements, relationships, or spiritual growth. This period emphasizes gratitude and the sharing of blessings, aligning with the natural cycle of giving and receiving energy from the universe

Speakers for August 2026

- August 2 – Rev. Lisa Steel-Maley
- August 9 – Rev. Roger Powers
- August 16 – Rev. Jody Breton
- August 23 – Revs. Angie Arndt & Bill Parnell
- August 30 – Rev. Jeff Logan

Coordinators for the next few months

Aug. – Jody Breton
Sept. – Lori Burkhardt
Oct. – Paul Campbell
Nov. – Nancy Kinser

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 ICC's Pastoral Care provider and facilitates an on-going Spiritual Support Group. Participants are invited to explore their spiritual lives, share about life's challenges and joys and deepen their connection to themselves, each other and God.

If you are interested in joining a group please reach out to Angie, angiearndt12@gmail.com and if there is enough interest a new group will be formed.

The current group meets on Zoom but an in-person group could also be formed.

Altar Guild

The altar cloth for Ordinary Time is green. Guild members include Ed Striewski, Jody Breton, Dave Breton, and Cindy Mudford.

Music

Ed Striewski welcomes singers to join the choir. In July we were treated to Ruth Ann's voice and heard her playing beautiful violin music. Ruth Ann is the daughter of Ellen Frank who sang with the choir for many years during the summer months. With the few voices we have in the choir, the members give their most to song whether 4 or 12 members are present. Choir members include Margaret Broughall, Carol Ryberg, Lori Burkhardt, Brooke Smith, Laurie Smith, Janet Alexander, Gayle Hays, Rose Lawrence, Ellen Hoebeke, Dan Hoebeke, Ed Robinson, and Andrew Brassington. Interested in being a choir member or want to hear a specific hymn? See Ed Striewski.

Inspiration

"Embrace discomfort; it's where growth happens."

"Every sunrise is a new chance to redefine your limits."

"Challenge yourself daily; complacency is the enemy of progress."

"Let your dreams be the compass guiding your actions this month."

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](https://www.facebook.com/IslandsCommunityChurchMaine)

ICC's Instagram Page is: [IslandsCommunityChurch](https://www.instagram.com/IslandsCommunityChurch)

OUTREACH

Members: Co-chairs: Surrey Hardcastle (tel 833-0092; surrey@comcast.net) and Laurie Smith, with Mary Leeman, Marnie Mcfarland, Peg Orlando, and Mary Robinson.

SANTA CLAUS FUND

It's possible that everyone in Harpswell has already heard of the Santa Claus Fund, but the organization's remarkable achievements make it deserving of a closer look.

The fund began in 1991, when Rob and Deb Knight organized fellow fishermen to help a family who had experienced a tragic loss. Over the past 35 years, their initial donation of gifts expanded to cover other needs. In 2024 alone, \$20,000 in gifts, \$29,000 in food, \$10,000 in heating fuel, and another \$12,000 in personal care and household expenses were given to people in all parts of Harpswell. Many individuals and organizations fund these contributions, and groups like Pammy's Ice Cream host events. The Harpswell Anchor has generously provided publicity.

The Santa Claus Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, accepts year-round donations and welcomes new volunteers; details are available on its website. Although ICC made regular contributions over the past several years, it did not do so in 2025 because the committee determined that other under-supported causes needed assistance more urgently.

All recipients must be Harpswell residents. Applications for food and general assistance are accepted year-round at harpswellsanta.org. Key deadlines are October 15–November 20 for holiday gifts and October 15–April 15 for heating fuel. The mailing address is PO Box 252, Harpswell, ME 04079, and volunteers may text 207-522-8545 anytime.

BOB FRESON CELEBRATION OF LIFE

On September 27th we will gather to celebrate the life of our good friend, Bob Freson. We will first assemble at the Islands Community Church for a brief service at 1:00 (Bob did not want one but we do!).

Afterwards we will gather at Library Hall for food, beverage and storytelling.

Many of us love(d) Bob and we hope that we will have a large gathering. If you expect to be there, please let Hugh and Surrey know by September 1, so that the caterer has enough advance notice.

(yfh3@comcast.net, or Hugh & Surrey Hardcastle, PO Box 139, Bailey Island, ME 04003).

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 **Monday mornings from 9-10 and 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 5-6 pm** in the lower level of the church. 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.*

A Glass of Milk - One day, a poor young man, who was selling goods door to door to pay his way through school, found he had only one dime left, and he was hungry. Thinking he would ask for a meal at the next house, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door. Instead of a meal, he asked for a drink of water. Thinking he looked hungry, she brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it slowly, and asked, "How much do I owe you? She replied, "My mother taught us never to accept pay for kindness." He said, "Then I thank you from my heart." As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was stronger also. Many years later that same young woman became critically ill. Being baffled, the local doctors sent her to see the specialists in the city to address her rare disease. Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. Hearing the name of the town she came from, he immediately went to her hospital room, recognized her at once and was determined to do his best to save her life. After a long struggle, the battle was won. Dr. Kelly, who had asked that her final bill be presented to him for approval, wrote a few words at the bottom and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay. Finally, as her eyes traveled down the page, she read these words..... "Paid in full with one glass of milk." Signed Dr. Howard Kelly

In a Perfect World

~You could give away a baby bed without getting pregnant.
 ~Doing what was good for you would be what you enjoyed doing the most.
 ~Pro baseball players would complain about teachers being paid contracts worth millions of dollars.
 ~If the guy from the government said to you, "I'm here to help," not only would he mean it, but also he'd do it.
 ~Warranties would be for 13 months and products would fail at 12.
 ~More would be accomplished by governments when they spent more.

I dreamt I died and went to heaven,
 And the angels all gave me a nod,
 Then I met my maker and realized it's true,
 I really am older than God!

NEWS from the PEWS

Being a Beautiful Woman.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
 I pray the Lord my shape to keep.
 Please no wrinkles, please no bags,
 Please lift my butt before it sags.
 Please no age spots, please no gray,
 And as for my belly, please take it away.
 Please keep me healthy, please keep me young,
 And thank you Lord, for all you've done.

Beauty Tips to be a more Beautiful

~For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
 ~For beautiful eyes, look for the good in other people.
 ~To lose weight, let go of stress, hatred, anger, and the need to control others.
 ~For poise, walk with knowledge and self-esteem.
 ~To strengthen your arms, hug at least 3 people a day.
 ~To strengthen your heart, forgive yourself and others.
 ~For the ultimate attire put on the robe of Christ; it fits like a glove, allows room for growth, never goes out of style and is appropriate for any occasion.

Rock Sings Revised

~**Bobby Darin:** "Splish, Splash, I Am Having A Flash!"
 ~**Herman's Hermits:** "Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Walker!"
 ~**Ringo Starr:** "I Get By With A Little Help From Depends!"
 ~**The Bee Gees:** "How Can You Mend A Broken Hip?"
 ~**Roberta Flack:** "The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face!"
 ~**Johnny Nash:** "I Can't See Clearly Now!"
 ~**Paul Simon:** "Fifty Ways To Lose Your Liver"
 ~**Leo Sayer:** "You Make Me Feel Like Napping!"
 ~**Abba:** "Denture Queen!"
 ~**Tony Orlando:** "Knock 3 Times On The Ceiling If You Hear Me Fall!"
 ~**Helen Reddy:** "I Am Woman; Hear Me Snore!"
 ~**The Troggs:** "Bald Thing"

The Value of Knowledge - Ted, an engineer with an exceptional gift for fixing all things mechanical happily retired from his company after 30 years of loyalty. Years

later his company contacted him with a seemingly impossible problem that they were having with one of their multi-million dollar machines. Having tried everything and everyone else to get the machine fixed, they called on Ted who had solved so many of their problems in the past. Ted, who reluctantly took the challenge, spent a day studying the huge machine, and then marked a small x in chalk on a particular component and proudly stated, "This is where your problem is". The part was replaced and again, the machine worked perfectly. The company upon receiving a bill for \$50,000 from Ted for his service demanded an itemized accounting of his charges. Ted responded briefly: One chalk mark - \$1.00 ~ Knowing where to put it - 49,999.00. The bill was paid in full, and Ted retired in peace.

Federal Employee Evaluations Comments:

~This employee has reached rock-bottom and has started to dig.
 ~I would not allow this employee to breed.
 ~This employee is really not so much of a has-been, but more of a definite won't-be.
 ~This employee is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
 ~Got a full 6-pack but lacks the plastic thingy to hold it all together.
 ~He's been working with glue too much.
 ~When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell.
 ~If you see 2 people talking and one looks bored, he's the other one.
 ~Donated his brain to science before he was done using it.
 ~If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change.
 ~This employee should go far, and the sooner he starts, the better.

Cowboy Joe was telling his fellow cowboys back on the ranch about his first visit to a big-city church. "When I got there, they had me park my old truck in the corral," Joe began. "You mean the parking lot," said Charlie, a more worldly fellow. "I walked up the trail to the door," Joe continued. "The sidewalk to the door," Charlie corrected him. "Inside the door, I was met by this dude," Joe went on. "That would be the usher," Charlie explained. "Well, the usher led me down the chute," Joe said. "You mean the aisle," Charlie said. "Then, he led me to a stall and told me to sit there," Joe continued. "Pew," Charlie retorted. "Yeah," recalled Joe. "That's what that pretty lady said when I sat down beside her."

Worship Service

Sunday at 9:30AM

*Communion is always
served
the first Sunday of the
month*

Guest Speakers:

*Aug. 2: Rev. Lisa Steele-Maley
Aug. 9: Rev. Roger Powers
Aug. 16: Rev. Jody Breton
Aug. 23: Revs. A. Arndt & W.
Parnell
Aug. 30: Rev. Jeff Logan*

****Flowers:***

*Aug. 2: Janet Alexander
Aug. 9: The Mudfords
Aug. 16: Gayle Hays
Aug. 23: Laurie Smith
Aug. 30: Lori Burkhart*

****Refreshments:***

*Aug. 2: Janet Alexander
Aug. 9: The Mudfords
Aug. 16: Gayle Hays
Aug. 23: Laurie Smith
Aug. 30: Lori Burkhart*

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

AUGUST 2026

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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.

AUGUST

Birthdays:

08/04	Al Leeman
08/07	Mary Robinson
08/10	Ed Striewski
08/13	Dan Hoebeke; Mary Leeman
08/18	William Hollett
08/24	Beth York
08/26	Brooke Smith
08/28	Ellen Hoebeke; Sandra Johnson; Rose Lawrence

Anniversaries:

08/07	Lois and Ed Striewski
08/18	Mary and Al Leeman
08/20	Laurie and Eric Smith
08/19	Janet and Sam Alexander
08/26	Carol and Roger Ryberg

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