



The Pew Review

2nd Baptist Church, Calais, Maine 04619

PRAYER: O God, on this the first day of the year, may I be reminded that my life is an open Bible for all to read. Help me to reflect the mercy, grace and love that is found in its pages. In Jesus' name. Amen

IF YOU DO NOT USE IT OR NEED IT, IT'S CLUTTER AND IT NEEDS TO GO!

To find a new place to keep my socks, I looked at the top two drawers of a bureau in the bedroom. These two small drawers are ideal. One can be for the white socks, and the other for the black socks.

Problems is: There's already stuff in these drawers. But the, I never open these drawers to get anything. Ever. These are drawers into which I throw stuff I don't want or need, but I don't want to get rid of entirely. So I decided to take a closer look. Here's a partial inventory of what I found:

Cell phone charger cords (2), cell phone, pills, coins, foreign currency, tie clasp, old travel itinerary, empty cuff link box, old blank checks, two black permanent markers, checkbook ledger, little silk bag, a wet wipe, a city map, a boarding pass, business cards (not mine) numerous scraps of paper, pads of memo paper, plastic baggie of coins, receipts, name tags, ID cards from school, clothing tags, postcards, two pair

of sunglasses, a tiny seashell, paper clips, a lighter, reading glasses, paper napkin, rubber bands, chap stick.

That's just one drawer. All but a couple of items I tossed in the trash.

The drawer is a metaphor for my life. It tends to get cluttered with things I don't need, don't even want. I don't need to keep old resentments. Sure, maybe I don't think about them any more, but they're in my closets taking up emotional space I could use for other purposes. I don't need to feel badly about unrealized dreams, or unattainable goals. I can throw that garbage out, and be thankful what I had and what I have. I don't need to hand on to a false self-image of myself. I'm not 19 anymore. My waist is never going to be 30 or 32 again—ever! I am not a spring chicken anyway. And that's fine me. How about you?

It's a very cleansing exercise to go through a drawer and toss stuff out,

and perhaps keep one or two things that are a treasure.



I did find a treasure in all that mess. I found a copy of the vows that I had written for my wedding years ago. I stopped amid all the mess I had around me, unfolded the paper and reread what I had written then. And I cried a little.

Cleansing is cathartic. It's good for the soul. I kept the copy of the vow, and threw everything else away. You have to know what to remember and what to forget.

(Timothy Merrill)



If you judge people, you have no time to love them.

A pessimist's blood type is always B-negative.

RANDOM THOUGHTS FOR THOSE WHO TAKE LIFE TOO SERIOUSLY:

- Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- A day without sunshine is night.
- I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.
- Honk if you love peace and quiet.
- I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol.
- He who laughs last thinks slowest.
- Despite the cost of living, have you noticed how popular it remains?
- You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be misquoted, and then used against you.



Our New Year's Babies.....(that would be yesteryears)

Happy Birthday

Jan. 1 Rachel Burden
 Jan. 3 Barbara Baird
 Jan. 5 Janet Lovely
 Francis McClure
 Ricky Price
 John Deacon
 Jan. 7 Irene Gallway
 Jan. 8 Kathy Francis
 George Moreshead

Jan. 9 Verna MacKechnie
 Ada Taber
 Jan. 10 Paul Potter
 Ryleigh Potter
 Jan. 15 Alissa Lovely
 Jan. 17 John Baker
 Jan. 18 Heidi Newell
 Jan. 21 Gary Urquhart
 Jan. 26 Rick Baird

Jan. 27 Irene Moreside
 Jan. 28 Brynne Lander
 Jan. 31 Evelyn Howland
 Emma Seelye

THE CHURCH MOUSE

Is it time to sit back and relax yet? I am not celebrating New Year's Eve. I am sitting by the fireplace, put my feet up, and read a good book. I have had it!

Why do we run around and act so foolishly buying presents that people don't need or want over Christmas? It's nice to give a gift of love as Jesus gave to us but we absolutely carry it way too far.

My feet hurt from running around the stores to buy gifts, my back aches from standing for hours in the kitchen, and my head aches from stress.

Now don't get me wrong, I love Christmas with the decorations and lights. I love the Advent season in the church. I just think we carry things too far. END OF GRIPE.

Maxi and I have been having wonderful evenings entertaining our friends. One night might be at her home, the other at mine. Many evenings are playing cards or scrabble. ...of which I have won the most games. (pat on my back). Great conversations about the good old days; and there have been a few. Some that should not be mentioned in a

RIDICULOUS LAWS IN THE UK

- It is illegal to die in the House of Parliament
- Eating mince pies at Christmas is banned
- It is illegal to place a postage stamp of the King or Queen upside down on an envelope

"church" newsletter. Just nice senior citizen evenings.

Next year I am going to try to be more organized. As the article on the front page, it's time to rid myself of things I don't need. I need to clean out my drawers...bureau drawers. Clutter in the home is clutter in the mind. And, believe me, my mind needs no more clutter. I need a fresh start and a fresh mind.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYONE

THIS 'N THAT

First of all, it's great having Pastor David Beal and Nancy here for New Year's. We have missed them. Pastor Dave will be filling in for Pastor Matt today. After church we will celebrate a pot luck luncheon with them

As I write this, my granddaughter Jamie is in labor. Prayerfully by the time you read this I will have a healthy great grandchild.

Hi to Winnie Demmons. Winnie is still at Stillwater Healthcare Center in Bangor. Miss you, Winnie.

So nice to see so many of our college kids home for Christmas break. It was great to look around the church and see "complete" families together.

How about this weather? 48 one day, the next in the high teens and windy.

The lights just flickered...hope I don't lose power in the middle of this.

Sorry to hear that Bud Barnard is struggle with a sore foot. He went to the E.R. for treatment. I wouldn't be surprised if Irene has kicked him (-

Beth Doten was home for Christmas with the old folks. Love having her around.





What a wonderful Advent season at the church. The Sunday School put on a wonderful program; the choir sang beautifully for the cantata, and Matt, as usually, had very topical messages for the season. Thank you to everyone who took part and worked so hard. Blessings!!!!

Matt, Rachel and the boys are vacationing in Pennsylvania for a week. They will return late on January 2.

See Joanne Wheelock is slowly recovering from her hip surgery.

Issie had to have oral surgery. Of course, everything couldn't go smoothly. She had some extra work done. Her biggest worry

was that she would have a toothless grin for a few days, but that was avoided.

Pauline McFadden is suffering from hip and back pain. Hopefully, Pauline, you will get help soon. There is nothing worse than a backache.

My long-time friend, Muriel Flagg DeShon passed away on Dec. 6. For those of you who attended classes at Calais High School in the 70's and early 80's you no doubt remember her. She always worn shiny bracelets that jingled as she walked the halls with her high heels tapping the floors. I will miss her. Pastor Matt was kind enough to do the funeral service.

Thank you to Mary, Sandra, Muriel, and Sandra for taking the Christmas trimmings to make way for the Uth all-nighter here on New Year's Eve.

Hey, Judy Antonello, where are you? It's time you got home from visiting your boys in Rhode Island.

Flo Russell spent Christmas with her family in Fredericton, NB.

Dr. & Mrs. Herman Schaffer have been in town lately. He is the attending OB/GYN at the hospital when Dr. Demesi is on vacation. They come here from Texas and really enjoy our church and fellowship.

A REMINDER

Brothers & Sisters for Missions will meet Tuesday, Jan. 10th, starting at 6pm. We start out with a pot luck supper and then have a business meeting. Are you interested? Please attend. We are looking for new members.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the church will be held directly after morning service on Jan. 22. All members are urged to attend. The budget and church officers will be voted on.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

This study will start again on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 9:30am. All ladies are invited to attend. The teacher is Mary McLellan.

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director how to determine whether or not a patient should be admitted to the institution.

"Well, said the Director, "we will up a bathtub, the we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No, said the Director, "a normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"



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Your business tag line here.



Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch.

If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products



Caption describing picture or graphic.

or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.

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This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

