

“Easter spells out beauty, the rare beauty of new

THE PEW REVIEW

MARCH 2013

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH, CALAIS, ME

A Good Friday World

Easter is the most profound and important holiday in the Christian calendar. Easter surpasses any other day. On Easter we celebrate the risen Christ—an event without which our faith is empty and hollow, as the apostle Paul noted.

On a National Public Radio program, Christian writer and novelist Anne Lamont once referred to another writer, Barbara Johnson, who said that Christians are “Easter people living in a Good Friday world.”

What did Johnson mean?

She means that Christians are those who know the power and reality of the Resurrection, but who also live among those who have not made it to the Resurrection, who still walk in a world of darkness, death and destruction, symbolized by Good Friday with its dark clouds and three crosses on a hill.

Christians rejoice on Easter because the Resurrection is proof positive that Jesus Christ destroyed the power of sin, death and the devil. We fear these enemies no longer.

But where Jesus builds a church, the devil builds a chapel, as someone said. Like Christmas, the Easter holiday has been turned into a commercial enterprise that involves new spring clothes, chocolate bunnies, Easter eggs, greeting cards, potted plants and more.

How many understand that to appreciate Easter one has to journey past Good Friday and Calvary’s cross? It was the sins of the world that put Jesus on a cross, it was human hands that laid him in a tomb. But it was God’s power that raised him to new life.

We live in a Good Friday world. But thankfully, we can sing: “Because he lives, I can face tomorrow/Because he lives, all fear is gone./ Because I know he holds the future/And life is



Earth's saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart.

WHY ATTEND CHURCH REGULARLY

BECAUSE—God Expects It

*“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some”
Hebrews 10:25*

BECAUSE—Faith Requires It

*“Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
Romans 10:17*

BECAUSE—The Inner Man Needs It

“That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, with his Son Jesus Christ”

1 John 1:3

HOW TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LEVEL OF INSANITY

1. At lunch time, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hairdryer at passing cars. SEE IF THEY SLOW DOWN.
2. Skip down the hall rather than walk and see how many looks you get.
3. When leaving the zoo, start running toward the parking lot, yelling, "Run for your lives!"

4. They're loose!"
4. Tell your children over dinner, "due to the economy, we are going to have let one of you go."
5. Order diet water whenever you go out to eat, with a serious face.
6. Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone

7. Specify that your drive-through order is, "TO GO."
- These are just a few ways you can keep your sanity, no matter what others may think.



Every bad situation will have something positive. Even a dead clock shows the correct time twice a day. Stay positive in life. God know what is best for you.

PLAYING WITH WORDS

I tried to catch some fog, I mist.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

What does a clock do when it's hungry? It goes back 4 seconds.

WE CAN CALL THE FOLLOWING "LEPRECHAUNS!"



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|----------|-------------------|
| March 3 | Luke |
| March 7 | Nick |
| March 9 | Wendy Putnam |
| March 10 | Emily Ginn |
| March 14 | Amber Cookson |
| March 17 | Heidi Fitch |
| March 18 | Patty Gagner |
| March 20 | Jeremy Putnam |
| March 22 | Marion Prince |
| March 23 | Judy Antoniello |
| March 27 | Sharon Bailey |
| March 28 | Kristi Wescott |
| | Elizabeth Trainor |
| | Dennis Gillespie |



FYI

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- Our church mortgage is approximately \$56,000.
- The elevator repair was (hold on to your hats) - \$4157.88
- Our totals expenses for February were: \$10462.00
- The balance from the Morrison Estate bequeathment will not be received until after tax

FRIENDS ARE ANGELS WHO LIFT US TO OUR FEET WHEN OUR WINGS HAVE TROUBLE REMEMBERING HOW TO FLY.



**SEE HE RISES FROM THE TOMB
GLOWING WITH IMMORTAL BLOOM**

THIS 'N THAT

This past month has found us battling flu and snow storms. No church on the 10th because of snow; and evening services cancelled on the 17th for the same reason. And, I as write this today, Feb. 22, the weatherman is saying, yup, you got it right, snow on Sunday.

Attendance has been down to a low of 62, but is now gradually climbing back up. The flu has been here and mostly gone....thank heavens. I have been lucky enough to escape it; others have been diagnosed with pneumonia and bronchitis. It has been nasty!

And, of course, there are those that head south for a few weeks. Nice to have Richard Clock and Kathleen Caso back after an extended vacation to Belize, Florida, and Texas. Both came back sporting tans.

Roy Cornelius returned home to Alabama to spent time with his family. Angie (wife) has been here visiting. Wonder how she enjoyed the snow?

Keep Mike Francis's dad in prayer. He is presently a patient at Togus Veterans' Hospital.

The church has received many, many calls for fuel assistance. As of January we are now unable to help because of very low funds. It's hard to say "no" to

people but our benevolence account is exhausted. Pray for an early and milder spring.

Vi Carter, we miss you. Hope you will feel like being here soon. Also, among the missing are Flo Russell and June Miner. Time to shake the winter and return.....you are missed.

Thank you, Brian Marshall, for digging out the snow banks at the end of the walkways. The plows left a steep hill for you.

Leslie Lyons has volunteered to be the assistant treasurer. Thanks, Les! I hope to take advantage of that offer.

The elevator is now back in running order. It was an expensive repair but one that was definitely needed. Our senior saints and others need this to enter the sanctuary. Just remember, if the button is **RED**, don't push it.

Pastor Matt & Rachel recently enjoyed some time away. Grammy volunteered to babysit. Rachel said it was a nice break for both of them. Those two little boys can certainly keep their parents busy.



Great to see Emily and Tommy Ginn in services last week. Emily was on a break from UMF (Farmington) and Tommy from SMCC (Portland). Tommy is employed by the Town of Yarmouth and Yarmouth Fire Department.

Jeff Doten has returned to work at Mercy Hospital. He's has had shoulder surgery resulting from a fall while working on a stepladder.

Marlene Bryant, her daughter and granddaughter recently enjoyed a shopping trip to Bangor. My guess is that Marlene did "A LOT" of "purchasing."

Nadine Stanhope was a recent patient at Calais Regional Hospital but has returned home and feeling much better.

Jim Doten has been enjoying ice fishing at East Grand Lake...one salmon made it home. Delicious!

Doug & Mary McLellan are packing their bathing suits. They will be embarking on a cruise sometime in March. This is a "first time" event for both. Have a great time....everyone here will keep an eye on Muriel.

Avoid truth decay-brush up on



Your friends are like buttons on an elevator. They can take you either up or down.

COMMITTEES, ETC.

Brothers & Sisters for Missions recently completed an "absentee baby shower" for a family that was burned out. Numerous gifts were received for the baby boy yet unborn. They were delivered by Irene & Sally to a very grateful mother.

Mary McLellan & Debbie Little of the Christian Ed. Board have accomplished the task of having

coverage for the nursery and junior church each Sunday from now until May. A job well done.....thank you, ladies.

The Diaconate is working on the Easter programs....Maundy Thursday, Sunrise Service, Easter Breakfast, etc.

The choirs is practicing for the Easter Cantata to be held March 30 at

6:30pm.

The East Area Association celebrated the Lenten Season by having services here on Wednesday evening—Feb. 20. A great message was received by those attending. A lunch and fellowship followed the service.



