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## Penney Memorial United Baptist Church

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**Office Hours:**  
8:00 — 4:00,  
Monday—Friday

**Worship Service:**  
Sundays— 10:00 a.m.

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We are all rested up from our summer vacations and are looking forward to an exciting fall here at Penney.

Our worship service will return to the 10:00 a.m. hour on Sunday, September 11. At that time, our sanctuary choir will be back in place as well. An exciting addition to the Music Ministry this fall is the Children's Choir directed by Julie Gilbert.

Marianne Sansouci is our new Sunday school Superintendent and she is looking forward to meeting and working with all the teachers and students when Sunday school begins on September 11 from 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.

The Mothers and Others group is making some changes this year and will be holding their meetings on Sunday afternoons in hopes that more women will be able to attend. They will be doing a study series on *Discovering God's Will for Your Life*.

The Youth Group will be having a kick-off event on Friday, September 16, so save the date and more information will be coming soon! We welcome all youth grades 7-12.

Our Community Dinner ministry will begin again on Saturday, September 24 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Food donations and volunteers are always welcome!

The VIP's will have their luncheon meeting on Monday, September 26 at noon. The program will be a musical event with Elaine Bender and Norm Peron.

Hope Baptist Church is hosting a simulcast with [Beth Moore](#) on Saturday, September 10. The cost is \$20 which includes lunch.

More information on these and other worship and fellowship opportunities are included in this newsletter or on our website at [www.pmubc.org](http://www.pmubc.org).

# Penney Memorial United Baptist Church



## Pastor Rick's Corner

The Wednesday evening group at Penney Memorial has been studying the books of 1 & 2 Peter in the New Testament. One of the themes of 1 Peter is, according to commentator Warren Wiersbe, **"Where there's Christ, there's hope."** And we certainly do need hope in our world today.

Things all around us are difficult and for many, life is hopeless. The economy continues to struggle. Home values are down and many still face foreclosure. The unemployment level is too high and we wish we could bring our troops home from the Middle East. There is great suffering and conflict in our own country and around the world. On top of all that, we must endure 14 months of political campaigning for the next election.

But the Bible says we have a living hope. "All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: for it is his boundless mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again, so that we are now members of God's own family. Now we **live in the hope** of eternal life because Christ rose from the dead. And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you, pure and

undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And God, in his mighty power, will make sure that you get there safely to receive it, because you are trusting him. It will be yours in that coming last day for all to see. So be truly glad! There is a wonderful joy ahead, **even though the going is rough for a while down here**. These trials are only to test your faith, to see whether or not it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests gold and purifies it – and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold; so if your faith remains strong after being tried in the test tube of fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day of his return." (1 Peter 1: 3-7)

I said in a recent sermon that we can't "will" ourselves to be hopeful or to have more faith. It comes in believing Christ and his Word. Hope is something the Holy Spirit enables us to have on the inside, regardless of our circumstances or the world situation on the outside. God is there and he is faithful, even when we're not....so faithful. He loves you and loves you and loves you. Near the end of 1 Peter, in 5:6-7, the Bible says, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." I run to this verse all the time, trusting in his Word for the hope that is in Christ.

In Christ,  
Pastor Rick



Penney Memorial is participating in Back to Church Sunday, a national movement of churches to encourage formerly church people to rediscover church and try it again. According to LifeWay research, 38 percent of people are receptive or highly receptive to attending church. 82 percent say they would be open to attending church if a friend invited them. But, unfortunately only 21 percent of active church-going Christians invited someone to church

last year! Penney is joining with thousands of churches to help change those statistics by inviting everyone to attend church on Sunday, September 18 at 10:00 a.m.

Following worship that day, we will join together in family fellowship at [Bicentennial Park](#) for a picnic lunch together. The church will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs and drinks so just bring along a dish to share with the group. We are looking for some volunteers to help with this event.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex to let us know how many from your family are coming.

## Children & Youth

### Daycare Center News

- Michelle Atwood, Director Good Shepherd Learning Center

GSLC has just enrolled two new babies, four preschoolers, two young toddlers and one toddler!

We wish all of our children heading off to kindergarten the best of luck. We will miss you!

Our gardens are growing and we have sunflowers, watermelons and we have picked cucumbers and eaten them for snack.

We once again be doing our Yankee Candle fundraiser. More information will be coming soon!

### Youth Group

The Youth Group will kick off the fall program schedule with a sleepover on September 16 beginning at 7:00 pm. We will be spending time on our mission focus, have games and movies, and do planning for upcoming events. All youth grades 7-12 are encouraged to join us!!



## Operation Christmas Child

Pam Cullen, coordinator

Let's keep [Operation Christmas Child](#) going for the WHOLE year by collecting different shoe box items each month.

The September donations are toy jewelry, watches and flashlights (with extra batteries). Also, school supplies are still on sale for great prices right now! Please remember that you can bring any of the suggested items. Thank you to all of you who continue to contribute to the "Pennies for Presents" container in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you all for your continued support.

The contribution box will remain in the narthex for your donations. If you have ideas for shoe box items or fundraisers please let me know.

## Outreach & Missions

### Blood Drive

- Louise Lerley, coordinator

Our next blood drive will be held on Monday, September 12 from noon to 7:00 p.m. The drive will be held at the Augusta Civic Center as we join in the Day of Remembrance Blood Drive celebrating the 10th anniversary of September 11.

There will be eight double red cell chairs at the drive and ALL Penney donors will have a Penney Memorial VIP line. All presenting donors will receive a T-shirt and chances to win giveaways. Please note the change of hours and location are for this drive only. Our November drive will be back at Penney. This is a one time arrangement since our area is not large enough to accommodate the amount of people expected to participate.



-Tim Poulin, coordinator

The first Community Dinner of the fall season will be held on Saturday, September 24 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. The menu will include American Chop Suey, salad with dressing, biscuits and brownies for dessert.

It takes many donations and many hands to put on this dinner each month. Please consider volunteering some time to set tables, prepare and serve food, or clean up after the dinner. Contact the church office for more information.

# Penney Memorial United Baptist Church

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## News & Announcements

### Beth Moore Simulcast

Hope Baptist Church in Manchester is hosting a simulcast of a live conference with Bible teacher Beth Moore on September 10.

The conference cost is \$15 and lunch is \$5. Several women from Penney are attending and looking forward to a time of fellowship and teaching. See Pam Cullen for more information.

### Worship Time Change

We will return to our 10:00 am worship time on Sunday, September 11. Sunday school for all ages will begin that day as well.

## Small Groups

### Mothers & Others

All women of the church are welcome to join this group which meets on the second Sunday of each month at various members homes at 1:30 p.m. We will be using the study series "Discovering God's Will for Your Life."

Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Bonnie Johnson.

Anyone interested in joining should contact the church office by the end of August so we can be sure to have study books for everyone.

### Church Mugs

The Welcome Committee has purchased navy stoneware mugs with a light gray Penney logo. You have an opportunity to purchase a mug for \$6 each. Your payment should accompany your order and payment envelopes are available in the church office. You will be notified when the mugs arrive. These mugs will also be filled with goodies and information about the church and given to those visiting at Penney.

### Pastoral Relations Committee

The Pastoral Relations Committee want the congregation to know we are responsible for strengthening the pastor-congregation relationship through mutual exploration of the role of pastoral leadership, and to act as intermediary regarding congregational reactions to the pastor's leadership and the pastor's reaction to the congregations' responsiveness to his leadership. If you have feedback, feel free to contact Eric Lind, Ivan LaBree or Pat Brown.

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### Note of Thanks

A big thank you to my Penney family and friends for the many prayers, cards and phone calls that were very important in my recovery from surgery.

Love in Christ,  
Dottie Small

### VIP's

The VIP's is a group of folks ages 55+ that meets the fourth Monday of each month.

The VIP group will meet on Monday, September 26 for a catered luncheon in Perkins Hall. The program with Elaine Bender and Norm Peron will follow in the overflow room.

Visit our website at [www.pmubc.org](http://www.pmubc.org) for more information and group events.



American Baptist Churches of Maine  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**October 21 & 22, 2011**  
 Hosted by the  
**First Baptist Church of Fairfield**  
 12 Newhall Street, Fairfield, Maine 04963

**“Reaching Our Jerusalem”**

Dear ABCOM Churches,

We are pleased to be your host for the ABCOM Annual Meeting which will take place at the Fairfield First Baptist Church this year on October 21st and 22nd.

It is with great pleasure we welcome Milfred Minatrea as our keynote speaker. We know the evangelical message will reach out to touch and encourage our brother and sister churches as they push forward to reach out to our surrounding communities in the name of Jesus Christ. Together we will share the mission which is to be an example to the world as witnesses for Jesus and then to move on to really make that difference. We will together meet the challenge on how to approach the world and the lost that touch our everyday lives. As always through the power of scripture, we shall move forward in obedience and love as disciples of Jesus Christ to help change our world every day of our lives.

Come share in this evangelical walk and experience the power of the Lord as we join as one to reach many in His most precious name.

Sincerely your brother in Christ Jesus,  
 Pastor Stephen Donahue

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Milfred Minatrea**

Milfred is founding director of the Missional Church Center and author of *Shaped By God's Heart: the Passion and Practices of Missional Churches*, published by Jossey-Bass. He has also written numerous articles on the church's role in God's mission and served as contributing author and editor of *Hands on Ministry*, which equips laypersons in pastoral care skills for effective ministry. As director of the Missional Church Center, Minatrea coaches churches and individuals in their quest to live God's mission, leads experiential seminars exploring the missional culture and spiritual formation for authentic discipleship, networks church leaders who are journeying toward a missional posture and joins them as a fellow learner in Christ's mission.



**ANNUAL SERMON: Rev. Dr. David Clark**

The Rev. Dr. David R. Clark, raised in Holliston, Massachusetts, is a graduate of Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts, of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois, and of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Massachusetts. He has served churches in Illinois; Ontario, Canada; and Maine. In 1988, Pastor Dave was called as Pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Hollis, Maine. He has also served the First Baptist Church of Nobleboro (1992-1999) and the Ogunquit Baptist Church (1999-2006). He earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary while in Ogunquit. He has also taught courses at the Kalimantan Theological Seminary in Pontianak, Indonesia, and for AIM (ABCOM Institute for Ministry). Pastor Dave and his wife, Wandah, came to Court Street Baptist Church in May 2006.



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## Upcoming Events

### Back to Church Sunday

Penney is participating in Back to Church Sunday, a national movement of churches to encourage formerly churched people to rediscover church and try it again. A church picnic will follow worship that day at Bicentennial Park.

### Red Cross Blood Drive

The next Penney Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Monday, September 12 from 12:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the August Civic Center as we join in the Day of Remembrance Blood Drive commemorating the 10th anniversary of September 11. Contact the church office for more information or to schedule an appointment.

### Youth Group Fall Kick Off

The Youth group will kick off the fall program schedule with a sleepover on September 16 beginning at 7:00 p.m. We will be spending time on our mission focus, have movies and games and do planning for upcoming meetings and events. All youth grades 7-12 are encouraged to join us!!

### Visit our Website

Just a reminder that all of the information in this newsletter and much more can be found by visiting our website at [www.pmubc.org](http://www.pmubc.org)