



Celebrate Christmas with us!

Join the Mission for two Christmas events in December. Visit the Mission's Colket Center during the Northeast Harbor Christmas Festival on Saturday December 2 to make crafts, enjoy a festive atmosphere, and welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus to town.

Then travel Downeast to Cherryfield on Friday, December 15 to celebrate Christmas with crafting, a hot chocolate and s'mores bar...

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A Time to Listen

The Mission is listening to our communities. Over the past year, the Mission hosted 17 listening sessions for residents Downeast and on unbridged outer islands. Community members shared their worries and their hopes, and how the Mission could help. These listening sessions and what the Mission heard are the feature of this fall's *The Bulletin*.

In his letter that opens *The Bulletin*, Mission President John Zavodny shares...

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Photo Credit: Erin Clark, *The Boston Globe*

Covid Vaccinations Underway on Maine's Outer Islands

The Mission, in partnership with Northern Light Health, Spectrum Generations, and AgeWise Maine Initiative, will offer Covid vaccinations on Maine's unbridged, outer islands this late November and early December. Vaccinations will be given aboard the nonprofit's boat, the 74-foot Sunbeam, and at designated facilities on the islands. These vaccine clinics will take place between November 28 and December 5 on Matinicus, Monegan, Isle au Haut, Frenchboro, Great Cranberry, and Islesford.

"The Mission has a tradition of bridging the healthcare gap in our island communities," says Mission President John Zavodny, "Made possible by our fall 2023 partners, this next round of clinics..."

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In School with EdGE

The Mission's EdGE program is known for its afterschool and summer camp programming, which has provided a safe, nurturing space for kids for more than 20 years. But EdGE happens during school time too! This year, the Mission offers in-school programming for all seven EdGE partner schools in Washington County. The in-school activities focus on...

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Chief Financial Officer Jeff Shaw Retires

After seven years at the Mission and a highly successful career in accounting, Jeff Shaw will retire as the Mission's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at the end of December. Jeff joined the organization on a temporary basis in 2016 to finish a financial report for a grant. By the year's end...

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Thanks to the Mission's Platinum Sponsors

The Mission's corporate sponsors support the Mission's work all year. Through their generosity and the generosity of all of our donors, the Mission can help sustain and strengthen families and communities. The Mission's two platinum sponsors Bar Harbor

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From the Archives

In this photo from 1953, Santa Claus (Rev. Neal Bousfield) poses with the Rev. Celia Piper and students from Muscongus (Loud's) Island on *Sunbeam III*.

Celia, who was from South Addison, joined the Mission in 1953 where she worked on Muscongus providing church services. In 1957, she left the Mission to become a missionary in Alaska. Seven years later Celia returned to become the minister for South Gouldsboro and was Mission's "minister-at-large" for Washington and Hancock counties until her retirement in 1978.

Celia also wrote a book about her life called "Summer Was Yesterday" about her life. She described some of her most memorable jobs including stints doing aircraft maintenance and lobster fishing, as well as her time a minister and pilot in Alaska.

[Learn more about the Mission's](#)

History

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Rooted in a history of compassionate service and mutual trust, the Mission seeks to strengthen coastal and island communities by educating youth, supporting families, and promoting good health.

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