

Maine Seacoast Mission is committed to working with people's strengths and honoring the capacity of individuals to choose their own course in life.



Maine Seacoast Mission
Lighting the Way by Land and Sea

February 2019

Mission Stories of Outer Islands & Coastal Downeast Maine Towns

Mission President - An Open Letter to the Maine Seacoast Mission Community



BAR HARBOR, ME — A beautiful, snowy morning on Frenchman's Bay seems like the right moment to reflect a little on my first days as President of the Maine Seacoast Mission.

My first days have been gloriously filled with stories: how, in 1917, the *Sunbeam I* first brought dental services to Maine's coastal island communities, how a young scholarship recipient found her voice with help from the EdGE program, how both lives and homes are transformed through the Housing Rehabilitation program, and how, for a century, the Mission has served as safe harbor for all. Stories of great good work, stories of fearless service, and stories of commitment to the Mission values. The Mission's long legacy has been the ever-present backdrop for my first week of service.

Mine has been a week of powerful firsts. My first full tour of the grand Colket Center. My first meetings and meals with the welcoming Mission staff. My first extended time with the Rev. Scott Planting — what obvious love he has for you all and what big shoes to fill. And I look forward to so many more firsts to come: voyages, school visits, community meals, and so many more.

[Read Full Letter](#)

Island Health Director Helps Island Nursing

Students Understand What's Ahead



L-R: Nursing Instructor Peggy Akers, Sharon Daley, Cheryl Crowley from Cliff Island, and Amy Tienery from Long island.

BAR HARBOR, ME -- On Thursday February 7th Maine Seacoast Mission Island Health Director Sharon Daley, RN joined two other island leaders in speaking to nursing students at University of Southern Maine College of Nursing's Casco Bay Fishing and Island Partnership. Fourteen nursing students will partner with the Casco Bay islands during their nursing school studies. For many nursing students this was their introduction to Maine islands.

Island Health Director Daley spoke to the students at the invitation of Nurse Practitioner Peggy Akers. Ms. Akers teaches the Partnership course, and is a member of Sharon Daley's Island Elder Care Conference, a group of health care workers focused on finding ways for island residents to age in place, among family and friends.

[Learn More](#)

Downeast Community Launches Online Events Calendar

Maine Seacoast Mission's Downeast Campus Calendar

Today February 2019 Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 3:30pm Downeast Ta	28 6pm Life Drawing Cl	29 9am Food Pantry Op 3pm Food Pantry Op	30 6pm Open Mic	31 9am Food Pantry Op	Feb 1 9am Joan's Coffee H	2 10am EdGE Family V
3 3:30pm Downeast Ta	4 8:30am Yoga 6pm Life Drawing Cl	5 9am Food Pantry Op 3pm Food Pantry Op	6 6pm Open Mic	7 9am Food Pantry Op	8 9am Joan's Coffee H	9 10am EdGE Family V
10 3:30pm Downeast Ta	11 8:30am Yoga 6pm Life Drawing Cl	12 9am Food Pantry Op 3pm Food Pantry Op	13 6pm Open Mic - Can	14 9am Food Pantry Op	15 9am Joan's Coffee H	16 10am EdGE Family V
17 3:30pm Downeast Ta	18 8:30am Yoga 6pm Life Drawing Cl 6:30pm Down East P	19 9am Food Pantry Op 3pm Food Pantry Op	20 6pm Open Mic	21 9am Food Pantry Op 3:30pm Circle of Pare	22 9am Joan's Coffee H	23
24 3:30pm Downeast Ta	25 8:30am Yoga 6pm Life Drawing Cl	26 9am Food Pantry Op 3pm Food Pantry Op	27 6pm Open Mic	28 9am Food Pantry Op	Mar 1 9am Joan's Coffee H	2

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

Google Calendar

CHERRYFIELD, ME -- There are many ways Maine Seacoast Mission reaches out to the public with stories and news of our services and programs. Social media, email, posters, press releases are examples of how we connect with people.

But with the increase in activities at the Mission's Downeast Campus in Cherryfield, ME, EdGE Assistant Director Isaac Marnik created a simple, quite useful way for Downeast Campus friends and supporters to know, at a glance, the particulars of all the Downeast Campus activities including our Food Pantry, Weald Bethel Community Center events, Joan's Coffee House, Downeast Table of Plenty (DETOP), and EdGE Programs and Services.

We also have online individual schedule calendars for our [Housing Rehabilitation Program](#) and for the [Sunbeam](#) trips.

Stay current with the Mission's Downeast Campus offerings. Visit our new online [Events Calendar](#) and bookmark it.

[Learn More](#)

Capt. Mike Johnson's Sunbeam Refit Update, February 2019



The interim boat to replace the Sunbeam during the refit

NORTHEAST HARBOR, ME — From Capt. Mike Johnson: By the time you read this, a set of mid-life refurbishment specifications will have been sent to five Maine shipyards. I am pleased by the strong interest shipyards have shown in the project, as well as the quality

of the yards considering the proposal. They are Billings Diesel and Marine, Stonington; Front Street Shipyard, Belfast; Portland Yacht Services; Rockland Marine Corporation; and Washburn and Doughty, East Boothbay.

By late March we should have a good idea of where the *Sunbeam* will head for its refit.

Sunbeam Engineer Storey King has done a fabulous job researching, locating, and inspecting several possible boats to fill in during the *Sunbeam's* absence.

[Full Story](#)

Mission President Scott Planting Retires

BAR HARBOR, ME — After nine years as president of the Maine Seacoast Mission, Scott Planting is retiring this month. The Mission staff and board of directors offered their thanks and appreciation at small events in Bar Harbor, Cherryfield, and on board the *Sunbeam*. Grateful board members, staff, and friends created an endowment fund in Rev. Planting's honor to support the Mission's work on the outer islands.



Lori Bartlett of Bar Harbor made this beautiful and delicious cake for Rev. Planting's retirement luncheon earlier this month.

Mission Board Chair Stacey Smith said of Planting's retirement, "The Mission is committed to working with people's strengths and honoring an individual's capacity to choose their own course in life. One of the best ways we do that is by meeting people where they are. Scott Planting has done that so well, traveling the length and breadth of Hancock and Washington Counties, including the outer Islands, quietly placing himself in their paths. He has honored their lives, stories and certainly their place in his work. Scott leaves the Mission on solid footing for the chapters ahead and we all wish "fair winds" to him and his family."

During Scott's time as president, the Mission built a secure financial base for the youth program EdGE, serving students in Washington and Hancock Counties. It expanded its scholarship program and strengthened the health and outreach services delivered by the *Sunbeam* to the people of the outer islands. The community center in Cherryfield more than doubled in size, while the Mission's food, shelter, and community programs expanded to better serve the children, families, and elders of western Washington County.

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