



# News & Notes

A monthly update for students and parents

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*"Classical music is one of the best things that ever happened to mankind. If you get introduced to it in the right way, it becomes your friend for life."*

-- Yo-Yo Ma, 1955-  
Cellist, composer,  
pedagogue

## February Footnotes

Well, I hope that you are all practicing hard, working to perfect your assigned piano pieces, and enjoying our weekly listening exercises! I expect to be pleasantly surprised by everyone's hard work when my husband and I return from his pastoral sabbatical in a couple of weeks. The time is certainly flying by, and if you've been a little lax in your practicing, get those fingers moving ASAP! Remember, I'll want to see your practice log with your honest record of the amount of practicing you did each week while I was away.

I realize that the week that I resume teaching piano lessons (the week of February 16) is also the week of school vacation, so I will need to know whether or not you will be coming, if you would like to come at a different time that week, or if you will simply resume your lessons the week of Feb. 23. Please take a minute to consider your plans for that week, and then send me an email ([melody@yourchurchweb.net](mailto:melody@yourchurchweb.net)) or leave a message on my home answering machine (207/799-9466), letting me know what your plans for vacation week are. If I have not heard from you by Friday, Feb. 13, I will be calling you to find out if you plan to come for your piano lesson during vacation week.

## Please Save the Date!

I am excited to announce the date of our sixth annual Spring Piano Recital: Saturday afternoon, May 23, 2009, at 2:00pm. The recital will be held at the Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene, located on the corner of Rt. 77 and Wentworth Street. It's a very special afternoon, and I want everyone to be able to participate this year. Mark your calendars now - I would feel terrible if anyone had to miss it!



## Some Concerts You Don't Want to Miss

There are a couple of concerts taking place in Portland's Merrill Auditorium this month that I want you to know about. "Kids, Kartoons, and Kotschmar" is taking place on Sunday afternoon, Feb 8 at 2:00pm. This kid-friendly organ concert is themed "Disney by the Decade," and will feature familiar melodies, including selections from Walt Disney's "Alice" series. It is sure to be a fun afternoon, and ages 21 and under are admitted for free! Then Thursday evening, Feb. 26 at 7:30pm cellist Yo-Yo Ma will be performing selections from J.S. Bach's Six Suites for Unaccompanied Cello. One of the world's most celebrated musicians, Ma has recorded over 75 albums, 15 of which have won Grammy Awards. "There is hardly any virtuoso of any instrument who is as complete, profound, passionate, and humane a musician as Ma" (Boston Globe). This will be an unforgettable night!

## Payments & Cancellations

To simplify my bookkeeping, monthly payments are appreciated at the beginning of each month. If you need to cancel for any reason please be sure to let me know as soon as possible. Credit will only be given for lessons missed due to sickness and family emergency, and only if I receive advance notice. I will let you know if make-up options are available.



*Happy  
Valentine's Day!*

Melody Twitchell  
6 Susan Rd.  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
207.799.9466  
207.318.3516 cell  
[melody@yourchurchweb.net](mailto:melody@yourchurchweb.net)  
[www.melodicmusings.com](http://www.melodicmusings.com)