



# The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

May 2011

## EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>



Our beautiful altar



Ruth Grierson and Susannah Jones



Nicole Carreno, Joan Bromage,  
Gracie Carreno



Ann Benson and Mary Mitchell



Chloe Hatcher and Susan Buell



Scott and Rina Grierson and children



Ezra Halkett and Fred Benson

## SR WARDEN'S MUSINGS

I will confess at the start that there is not much I like about David Brook's column in the New York Times, and even less that I usually agree with. He often seems to take his topics from his political party's morning feed, parroting received "wisdom." I find he uses his sociological cookie-cutter too freely; dividing people up into phony and specious categories often based on their spending patterns and residential zip-codes, and then implying that public policy should be based upon those distinctions. Brooks should have gone into marketing, not journalism, to my mind.

That said, he wrote a fascinating column last Thursday, April 21 ~ Maundy Thursday, about what is sturdy and substantive about theological inquiry and religious faith. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/22/opinion/22brooks.html?ref=davidbrooks>) And I agreed with much of what he wrote. Brooks takes to task a kind of mushy, "I'm OK; You're OK" approach to religion that eschews any serious engagement that God genuinely might call us to participate in. He wrote:

"Rigorous theology provides believers with a map of reality. These maps may seem dry and schematic — most maps do compared with reality — but they contain the accumulated wisdom of thousands of co-believers who through the centuries have faced similar journeys and trials.

"Rigorous theology helps people avoid mindless conformity. Without timeless rules, we all have a tendency to be swept up in the temper of the moment. But tough-minded theologies are countercultural. They insist on principles and practices that provide an antidote to mere fashion."

"Rigorous theology delves into mysteries in ways that are beyond most of us. For example, in her essay, 'Creed or Chaos,' Dorothy Sayers argues that Christianity's advantage is that it gives value to evil and suffering. Christianity asserts that 'perfection is attained through the active and positive effort to wrench real good out of a real evil.' This is a complicated thought most of us could not come up with (let alone unpack) outside of a rigorous theological tradition."

By now most of you may be scratching your head, thinking isn't this guy Fletcher the same person who wrote last month that a common liturgy can unite a

community and paper over disputes in the face unknowable answers to intractable theological questions? How can he have it both ways? Yes, to the first question. "Yes and no" to the second question. I will confess that I am skeptical of human efforts to rest on "definite [] convictions about what is True and False," (Brooks). That, however, does not mean I do not agree that a meaningful life requires a searching inquiry for those answers, that scriptures does not provide definite answers, and that a spiritual and religious life often is arduous in practice and destabilizing of personal convictions and life choices. Moreover, liturgical practice is first and foremost theological proclamation. The context and spiritual generosity with which ones enters that inquiry, however, can be all important to the provisional answers that one reaches.

In the coming month of May, there will be a forum focusing on the Nicene Creed and other opportunities to examine the central articles of our faith. I think the key piece is that these inquiries take place in substantial part in a community where there is give-and-take, there is genuine listening to opposing or alternative points of view, and a desire to meet one another where they are, just as Jesus did with those whom he encountered. Finally, we live in a time of frenetic stimulation and bombardment of images and information, and that distraction often is not helpful to the kind of theological reflection Brooks celebrates. To my knowledge, God has not written an "app" for the i-phone ~ yet.

May your Easter journey be filled with mystery, joy, and small discoveries.

*Ted Fletcher*

### COMMUNITY CONNECTION

- Am a first generation American on my Father's side. My Father immigrated from England.
- Attended first grade in St. Saviour's Parish Hall because Conner's Emerson wasn't ready for students yet.
- In my family we named our pets after our Uncles.
- When I was a kid tickets for a movie at the Criterion Theater were 18 cents.
- Went to a Brooklyn Dodger game at Ebbet's Field.
- Worked in the Fannie Farmer candy factory in Cambridge MA for one day.
- Apprenticed to the Dunlap potters. Sue Dunlap created St. John's stain glass window of St. John.
- Live in my own owner designed and built house.

### WHO AM I?

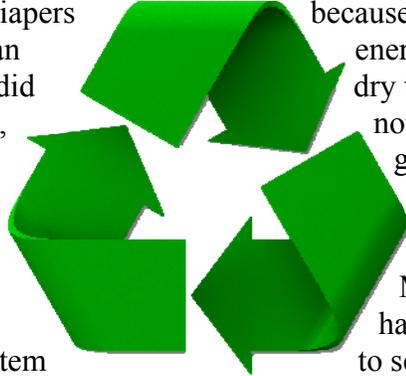
## THE GREEN THING - remember way back when. . .

In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

That's right; they didn't have the green thing in her day. Back then, they returned their milk bottles, Coke bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks. But she's right. They didn't have the green thing in her day.

Back then, they washed the baby's diapers  
They dried clothes on a line, not in an  
volts. Wind and solar power really did  
clothes from their brothers or sisters,  
lady is right; they didn't have the



because they didn't have the throw-away kind.  
energy gobbling machine burning up 220  
dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down  
not always brand-new clothing. But that old  
green thing back in her day.

Back then, they had one TV or  
room. And the TV had a small  
screen the size of the state of  
stirred by hand because they didn't  
you. When they packaged a fragile item  
newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

radio in the house, not a TV in every  
screen the size of a pizza dish, not a  
Montana. In the kitchen, they blended and  
have electric machines to do everything for  
to send in the mail, they used wadded up

Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; they didn't have the green thing back then.

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty, instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled pens with ink, instead of buying a new pen. They replaced the blades instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But they didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar and kids rode their bikes to school or rode the school bus, instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi Service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But that old lady is right. They didn't have the green thing back in her Day. OMG that was MY day too!

P. S. Don't forget the WW II years when we recycled EVERYTHING, food and clothing and gasoline and tires were rationed, so we didn't go anywhere (shoes were rationed, too), and we were proud of ourselves and our country and most of us were healthier and happier than kids are today.

Submitted by *Patsy Fogarty*

## THANK YOU ALL

...for the many ways you supported our family during John's surgery and hospitalization. We are very thankful for the cards, phone calls, visits, emails, rides, and yummy meals. While John was in the hospital in Boston, I felt as though you stepped right through the phone or the computer to sit with me. We were surrounded by your good thoughts, encouragement, energy and prayers. We are very grateful.

*Susan Covino Buell*

## DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

The committee has been meeting bi-weekly for the past two months with architect and builder Todd Hardy to develop the building design. The lively discussion and creativity involved in fully developing the design is the fun part; navigating the required codes, ordinances, reviews, and permits can be challenging. We are sharing our progress with the Vestry as we proceed and will have updated drawings to show the full congregation in the near future.

*Jim Vekasi*, Chair

## TREASURER'S REPORT

As of the end of the first quarter, we are within budget with no serious concerns to report. Personnel expenses show savings as we budgeted for higher clergy costs to retain flexibility in our upcoming decisions.

Please remember the Blessings Fund as you find reason for shared celebration.

*Jim Vekasi*, Treasurer

		Jan - Mar 11	Budget	\$ Over Budget
	<b>Income</b>			
	4010 · Contributions - Pledges	15,890.00	14,175.00	1,715.00
	4020 · Non-Pledged Donations	1,481.00	2,200.00	-719.00
	4025 · Blessings Fund	250.00	1,200.00	-950.00
	4050 · Investment Income to Operations	859.83	675.00	184.83
	5800 · Fundraising	94.00	500.00	-406.00
	4100 · Dedicated Gifts	333.90	1,100.00	-766.10
	<b>Total Income</b>	18,908.73	19,850.00	-941.27
	<b>Expense</b>			
	7100 · Outreach	1,232.36	1,100.00	132.36
	7200 · Personnel	20,656.08	27,432.05	-6,775.97
	8000 · Other Expenses	1,030.65	1,029.00	1.65
	8200 · Facility Operations	4,688.74	6,086.00	-1,397.26
	8650 · Assessments - Diocese of Maine	6,401.76	6,402.00	-0.24
	<b>Total Expense</b>	34,009.59	42,049.05	-8,039.46
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-15,100.86</b>	<b>-22,199.05</b>	<b>7,098.19</b>

## ANNUAL GARAGE and ESTATE SALE

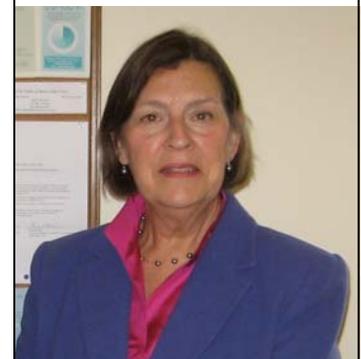
Friday and Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

We welcome your donations of “goodies” and “estate” items for this event. Some of the items may also be transferred to either the Silent Auction, Antiques, or Treasure Trove Table booths at the Quietside Fair on July 16<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for items that others may value. Items that are not worth buying should be disposed of elsewhere – clean up and disposal of such items has been a problem in the past. If you have items to offer or be picked up please leave word with Michele at church (244-3229) or Mary Mitchell (244-9951). We look forward to your help or being there to acquire some of this treasure.

## QUIETSIDE FAIR @ St. John's Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

Once again our Quietside Fair will be held in conjunction with Harbor House's Flamingo Festival on July 16<sup>th</sup>. **An important organizational meeting for those in charge of the various booth's will be held on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 in the Undercroft.** Any interested parishioners are invited to attend and contribute. This affair begins in earnest after the Flamingo Parade and runs until 3 p.m. Once again a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Hancock County Medical Mission in Ecuador. We look forward to your involvement and hopefully you'll include a neighbor two, in this major church fundraiser. Contact Mary Mitchell (244-9951) with your thoughts, questions or willingness to pitch in.

### WHO AM I?



Ellen Gilmore

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

### **Second Sunday of Easter, May 1**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's  
Psalm 16; Acts 2:14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31  
The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

### **Third Sunday of Easter, May 8**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's  
Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17; Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35  
The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 15**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's  
Psalm 23; Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10  
The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 22**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 29**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's  
Psalm 66:7-18; Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21  
The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

**Thursdays:** 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist  
(a service that offers healing and hope to all)

## **9:00 Sunday Forums**

May 1 — *The Peace Corps at 50: Margot in Ghana*, Margot Haertel

May 8 — **PARISH MEETING**

May 15 — *Making Sense of the Nicene Creed*, Floy Ervin and Dean Henry

May 22 — *Faithful Action: the Mission of the Seacoast Mission*, Scott Planting

May 29 — TBA

## **THANK YOU FROM ST. ELIZABETH'S ESSENTIALS PANTRY**

As always, thanks for keeping our little basket filled. Now that most of the snow and ice are gone, more of you have been traveling and it shows! Recently we received this lovely thank you note from Gretchen Lane, a volunteer at the Pantry (also the wife of our Bishop) –

*Dear people of St. Andrew & St. John,*

*Thank you so much for the two boxes of toiletries you donated to St. Elizabeth's Essential Pantry. Last Tuesday we had a group of 6<sup>th</sup> graders from Falmouth Schools at the Pantry and some of them divided the toiletries into individual bags that will be handed out to our clients this Tuesday.*

*It is through the thoughtfulness of people such as you that we are able to continue taking Christ's message into the world by helping people with so many needs. We thank you all for your support of this mission.*

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**Birthdays** \*\*\*\*\*  
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**MAY**

- 7—Cuff Train
- 9—Joan Bromage
- 11—Susannah Jones
- 19—Anne Welles
- 26—Sam Felton
- 29—Doris Walton

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\*\*\*\*\*  
**Wedding  
Anniversaries** \*\*\*\*\*  
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**MAY**

- 7—Elizabeth and John Hewlett
- 19—Wanda and Steve Fernald

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**BISHOP'S BLEND COFFEE**

For several years we have had Bishops Blend coffee and tea available for sale. As sales have been slow, we've decided not to purchase it for individual sales, though St. Andrew & St. John made a small profit on each bag. It's easy and quick for you to purchase online by going to the website [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org), where you will find a link to Pura Vida. Their coffee is Fair Trade Certified, they donate 15% of all sales to ERD, and shipping is free for orders over \$30. We'll continue to purchase Bishops Blend from Pura Vida in bulk to use for coffee hours and other events.

**COME HOME FOR SUPPER**

Save the NEW DATE! On FRIDAY, JUNE 3, You and all island-wide Episcopalians are invited to the second mutual "Come Home for Supper"—a time to share good food & friendship in small groups at the homes of parishioners from each church. Sign up on Sundays, May 8, 15, or 22. Or call Rita Redfield 244-4025, Elaine Theriault 244-9461, or Ida Smalidge 244-7266. Think about hosting—it's fun, and easy when your guests help with the food! See you there!

**MDI MUSICAL EVENINGS**

A couple of months ago we started a monthly series of informal MDI Musical Evenings. We'd love to have you join us if you are interested and able! The format we've followed so far is to devote the first hour to (informal) group singing and then have a guest musician play for us. The first month, we sang madrigals and Stephen Sampson played Schubert and Chopin. Last month, we sang Celtic songs and Sam Dunlap played classical guitar. The program for the next several months is shown below. Music is supplemented by socializing - aided by pot-luck desserts, wine and other beverages. We intend for the evenings to rotate around MDI & different hosts.

If you would like to be included in the e-mail list for these evenings, please let us know. If you are able to join us for the get-togethers, this would be wonderful! (It would help us if you would let us know if you plan to attend - but this is not critical; these evenings are not 'over-organized' - show up if you can.)

Thanks,  
*Peter Vaux*

Looking ahead, here are the plans for the upcoming months - please mark your calendars for the following Fridays!

**April 29** (7:00 - 9:00) hosted by Sydney Roberts Rockefeller. Our musical theme is *Spirituals*. We'll be joined by Rebecca Edgecomb (who played for St. John's on Easter Sunday).

**May 20** - Theme: Songs of the Sea (including sea shanties by Skip Fraley). Hosts: Beth & Joe Renault (Somesville).

**June 24** - Guest musicians: Bill Myers (cello) and Julia Morris Myers (piano). Location - tba

**July 22** - Theme: Harpsichords - the art of building them and their music. Hosts: Steve and Mary Ann Mahoney (Somesville)

**August 26** (provisional date) - Guest musician - Bill Hawley

*For more information, please contact Peter Vaux, Susan Buell (scovino@prexar.com) or Stephen Sampson (stephen.sampson@jax.org)*

**LENTEN ALMS INGATHERING**

We prayed. We fasted. This Lent our prayers and fasting became alms. Now with joy we celebrate God's immense generosity by raising Jesus Christ from the grave and making all things new! It's Easter and Lent has done its work! Let us gather our alms as a congregation--so that our prayers, fasting, and alms may benefit our Island neighbors-in-need. Bring your alms to church this Easter season, and together with St. Saviour's we will designate their use to the ministries of the Westside and Bar Harbor Food Pantries. As God has been generous with you, be generous with your neighbors! Make checks payable to "St. Andrew & St. John Church." On the memo line: "Lenten Alms." Thank you. May God receive the glory and his people benefit!



## WIND AND MUSIC

While the airflow that carries Greta's music is electrically generated, manual pumping was the standard method for many centuries. The history of organ blowers goes back to the Middle Ages. Images in psalters and other Middle Age manuscripts show small organs that in some cases are blown by the player's left hand while the right plays a melody on the keys. More often, a blower operates a pair of bellows that appear to be connected directly to the wind-chest, a set-up that required skill to ensure steady airflow. Larger instruments are shown being pumped by a number of blowers whose efforts seem to have required coordination by the players.

When German and Dutch builders began to construct large organs in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, wind production did not keep pace technically with other aspects of the art – the solution was to increase the size and number of bellows. Contemporary woodcuts show provision for six or eight blowers, operating handles, pedals and occasionally mangle-like wheels. The provision of copious reservoirs allowed some flexibility in their quickness of response to varying demands.

Well into the last century, most churches and concert halls relied on a single blower - usually male - to work a handle up and down, with a "tell tale" to regulate their efforts. Reminiscences of past players show that difficulties often arose. Blowers could be inattentive and erratic in attendance, resulting in failure of the wind supply. Tales abound of blowers who arbitrarily limited the number of verses sung in each hymn and who refused to pump for tunes they disliked. Friction was often greatest when the blower, normally hidden from view behind the organ, slipped out of the vestry door during the sermon and retired to house or tavern for a refreshing glass of beer. Not infrequently, this resulted in abandonment of the last hymn and concluding voluntary.

The pleasure of organ playing was spoiled for the Victorian E.J. Hopkins by the knowledge that it could be achieved only by "the toil and exhaustion of fellow-beings" who operated the bellows. Those who shared this view seem to have been greatly outnumbered by those whose pleasure was ruined by the cost and unreliability of human organ-blowers. Attempts to replace people with mechanical devices go back to the early

history of the instrument. Two thousand years ago, both Marcus Vetruius Pollio, the Roman architect, and Hero, the Greek mathematician, wrote independently about this instrument; knowledge of both the instrument and writings then disappeared during the Dark Ages. When Renaissance scholars attempted to interpret fragments of these descriptions, interpretations varied greatly. One school of thought held that an organ blown by water-power had existed, and another that sound had somehow been produced by forcing water through organ pipes. The discovery in the 1880s of a clay model at Carthage, and of the remains of a hydraulus near Budapest half a century later, confirmed views of an instrument, manually blown with something resembling a huge bicycle pump, and having a wind-reservoir that floated on water to equalize pressure. Our history of methods of organ blowing will continue in the next Net Tender.

*Stephen Sampson*

Adapted from a history of organ blowers by David Bridgeman-Sutton, on the website of the Rieger Pipe Organ in the Christchurch Town Hall, New Zealand (<http://www.nzorgan.com/vandr/blowers.htm>).

## A PIECE OF ROOT

This staff, shepherd's crook, or as someone said, Jesse's rod, was found in the woods several years ago by Chris Peterson. I think he said it was a root that he had dug up. Chris gave it to me because the shape was so striking. He knew we love to decorate the church using natural materials. At first the root was very heavy, and I couldn't figure out how to use it. Finally, the wood dried out. During Lent, I found a way to display it.

*Susan Covino Buell*



## UPCOMING EVENSONGS AT ST. JOHN'S—5:30

**May 23** to honor Frances Perkins whose Feast Day is May 13

**June 2** Island-wide Pentecostal celebration (Optional: Arrive at 5:00 to practice)

# The Net Tender - May 2011

## St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

315 Main Street • P.O. Box 767 • Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

Phone: Church Office 207-244-3229

E-mail: [saints315@myfairpoint.net](mailto:saints315@myfairpoint.net) / website: [www.saintsmdi.org](http://www.saintsmdi.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday · Tuesday · Thursday, 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

### Priest Associate

*Emily Blair Stribling*

### Parish Administrator

*Michele Daley*

### Music Director

*Stephen Sampson*

### Editors

*Mary Vekasi*

*Susan Buell*



### INSIDE:

Anniversaries/Birthdays	6
Come Home for Supper	6
Design and Construction	4
Easter Sunday	1
Evensong	7
Forums	5
Garage/Estate Sale	4
Green Thing	3
Lenten Alms	6
MDI Musical Evenings	6
Quietside Festival	4
Sr. Warden's Musings	2
Thanks You	3/5/8
Treasurer's Report	4
Who Am I?	2/4
Wind and Music	7

If you no longer wish to receive the Net Tender or prefer to receive it by e-mail, please call the church office.

Deadline for articles for June Net Tender is May 27<sup>th</sup>

## THANK YOU FOR SHARING EASTER DINNER

Over 175 Easter Dinners were distributed through the Westside Food Pantry and Bar Harbor Food Pantry networks. This annual project led by St. Saviour's with assistance from St. Andrew and St. John allowed many of our neighbors-in-need to share our joy this Easter of the Risen Christ. God's generous gift of his Son makes all things new and is the highest celebration of Christians everywhere. The makings for this Easter Day dinner were gathered and packed in Bar Harbor and approximately 125 baskets were distributed from the Southwest Harbor Fire House on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> by volunteers of the Westside Food Pantry under the able leadership of Susan Allen. Thank you to the many who responded to our appeal to provide food stuffs for the dinners and to the anonymous donor who supplied the 110 roasting chickens. Your generous response made this a true "feast" day!

*Dean Henry and Susan Buell*  
for the Westside Food Pantry Ministry

