



The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

August 2011

BRIEFING STATEMENT

**Planned Clergy Collaboration
between St. Andrew & St. John and St. Saviour's**

The Plan.

Jointly call a joint Priest-in-Charge for a approximate three year term to serve both St. Andrew & St. John and St. Saviour's Churches. Accomplish the process fairly quickly with the help of the Diocese with the goal of having a person in place by very early 2012. Clergy services would be supplemented by others such as deacons, interns, supply priests, retired priests or part-time priests in a combination to be determined after the Priest-in-Charge is in place.

The Status. The Vestry resolved on March 24, 2011 and reaffirmed on July 11, 2011:

The vestry of St. Andrew and St. John affirms its commitment to collaborate with St. Saviour's in joint mission on Mount Desert Island. Goals for this collaboration include, but are not limited to, jointly calling and working with clergy, exploration of common outreach, and investigating ways to share staff.

The Reasons:

- The family of Episcopalians on MDI have more energy and strength when we work together.
- A full-time priest for St. Andrew & St. John alone requires about one half of our annual budget. We can be wiser stewards of our available funds by reducing the clergy portion of our annual budget.
- There is a richness to having regular access to multiple clergy. Given that the membership of our two churches together is smaller than many churches with one priest, there will be ample opportunity to interact personally with clergy.
- The Bishop has pointed out that, by working together, we can create opportunities for full-time clergy. By working alone, it is possible we would only afford part-time clergy.
- This is a small island; we want to know each other better and work as a larger group.
- St. Saviour's and St. John people fit well together.

This is NOT: In response to specific stated concerns, we want to clarify that:

- We are **not** merging organizationally or financially; we are collaborating on Clergy.
- We are **not** giving up our separate identity, governance, or worship style.
- We are **not** entering any process where we will be less than a full partner.
- We are **not** closing any churches.
- We are **not** doing this due to pressure from the Bishop or any other person.

Opportunities to discuss and provide input

There are a lot of implementation details to work out and it is important that all parish members have an opportunity to hear and be heard.

- Parish meeting, August 14 after the 10:00 service at St. John's.
- Joint 10:00 a.m. service with St. Saviour's and Bishop Griswold on August 28 at St. Saviour's.
- Parish meeting, September 18 after the 10:00 service at St. John's.
- Survey. Need to be determined in parish meetings.

GENEROUS RELATIONSHIPS

We are all persons in the making
And in a real sense we are
Making and re-making one another.
But how often personal relationships are marred
by hasty partial
Or over-severe judgments.

Invitations to Prayer: Selections from the writings of Eric Symes Abbott; Dean of Westminster, Cincinnati USA, p 27

There is no guile upon his tongue;
He does no evil to his friend;
He does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

Psalm 15:3

My mother was a veteran “people-watcher” and window-shopper. I have early memories of being carted around in a double stroller as young child in New York City listening to a sotto voce stream of commentary about the passing parade of people and the shops on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Out of these experiences would come characters for stories that she would make up to entertain wiggly and restless children. I do not remember the stories or comments as being unkind or mean, but then how would a four year-old know or a fifty-year old remember.

Recently I have become fond of Bill Cunningham’s weekly two minute video clips with commentary on street fashion in mid-town Manhattan. You can find them on Saturday and Sunday on the New York Time’s website. They are an improved version of his photos in the Sunday paper. (A documentary on Bill Cunningham was recently released: google “*Bill Cunningham New York*.”) You will instantly realize that I have yet to take any of Cunningham’s helpful sartorial tips. Cunningham rides around the city on a bicycle snapping photos of people and what they are wearing – or not wearing. His winter photos of people leaping over slush puddles are especially delightful. At some point in his weekly frolic he begins to recognize a pattern and this becomes the theme of that week’s story about what he saw on mid-town streets. For example, he may become aware of feathers in women’s hair or a lot of straw hats on men, and then he begins to focus on straw boaters. Cunningham’s narration is wonderfully generous in spirit as he daily discovers the infinite array of ways we decorate ourselves with clothes.

The people I encountered in the city were surely shaped or “re-made” by having to avoid collisions with the double-wide stroller, and no doubt a few shins were altered. I also remember the wonder my twin sister and I often provoked: “Are they identical?” I suspect Bill Cunningham leaves a slightly more lasting mark on his subjects: “Saw you in the *Times Sunday*, where did you get that fuchsia-colored blazer? And who were you with???”

Our parish attracts a lot of summer visitors, as does St. Saviour’s. We are blessed with these visitors not primarily because they swell our ranks and help carry our tunes, but because they expand our horizons and help us to make and remake ourselves in Christ’s image. Our visitors offer us a sense of renewal, but that seasonal ebb and flow of visitors now needs to become a year round pattern.

Parishes over time can tend to be self-selecting collections of relatively like-minded people who can tolerate each other. At the center or up-front usually is the priest or rector, and one measures one’s relative position and patience by how compatible one feels with the preaching and leadership and how present that person is when we call upon her or him.

If we are truly to live out the Gospel message we need to find inner resources for a spiritual generosity to live beyond our “comfort zones” and for a hesitation to characterize or label or demonize. That generosity should include a sense of wonder about what lies ahead and a recognition that events most certainly will not turn out as we expect – but it in the end will surpass our expectations. As the parish works toward calling its next priest in concert with St. Saviour’s, we need to find room to welcome those whom we may find a bit odd or strange or whom we fear or whom we believe have hurt us in the past.

We need to be a bit more like Bill Cunningham who makes friends with his camera and finds life-giving patterns in how we decorate our lives and bodies. One measure of our life together is how we care for each other and our neighbors as ourselves. In that respect we can offer our expressly sacramental presence to our community as one benefit that neither Bill Cunningham nor my mother had.

Faithfully, *Ted Fletcher*

DIVINE LUNCHEON THANK-YOU!

Mary Mitchell, Jean Rohrer and Dianne McMullen would like to thank everyone that helped with this years Divine Luncheon on the Lawn: Dottie, Joan, Edie, Michele, Ida, Elaine, Margot, Mary V. Karen, Marilyn, Sarah, Peggy, Gen, Chloe, Neela, Susan, Jan, Anna, Eleanor, Dean, Mark and Barbara, Ian and crew, Cheryl, Carol, Kathy, Ursella, the Obbards, MDI Spring Water and author Katie Moose. The Library was very supportive in encouraging people to include us in the garden visit and took the luncheon announcement out to their garden artists. We raised close to \$ 900.00 for the Food Pantry and spotlighted St. John's in the community. Thanks be to God.

Dianne McMullen

FAREWELL TO EMILY BLAIR STRIBLING, SUNDAY, JULY 31ST



Stephen Sampson, Susan Buell,
Chloe Hatcher



Anne Wetzzel, Karen Craig,
Emily



Emily, Margot Haertel



Summer Visitors



PARISH MEETING – AUGUST 14

A Parish meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 14th after the 10:00 service at St. John's. The meeting is expected to take one hour. There will be a 15 minute introduction including an explanation by Jim Vekasi of options for clergy compensation. We will be divided into groups for 20 minutes and answer three questions with a Vestry member as facilitator:

1. What are your reactions to the collaboration with St. Saviour's Episcopal Church?
2. What do you hope for in collaboration with St. Saviour's?
3. What do you wish will happen to St. John's in the next three years?

There will be a 15 minute summary and 10 minutes for discussion.

QUIETSIDE FESTIVAL THANK-YOU

To all who worked so hard and giving their time to make the Quietside Fair a success a BIG THANK-YOU! Where would be without your dedication! Many Thanks!

Thanks also to the following commercial donors to the Silent Auction:

Kristin Hutchins, Westside Florist, Galyn's Restaurant, The Bluenose Inn, Quietside Cruises, Trenton Marketplace, No Frills, National Park Canoe Rental, Morrison Chevrolet, Acadia Air Tours, Rooster Brother, Union River Lobster Pot, K&B Auto, Seal Cove Auto Museum, Bar Harbor Whale Watch Company, Pamela Smith, Mt. Desert Islander, Hamilton Marine, Brandon & Laura's Café, Café This Way, Cleonice, Ellsworth Chair Saw Sales & Service, Frank Pierson Optician, Pioneer Print Shop, Salsbury's Organic Garden Center, Mainely-Meat Bar-B-Que, Fiddler's Green Restaurant, Scotty's Dockside Restaurant, Gilley's Head of the Harbor, Red Sky Restaurant, Maine'ly Delights, Mother's Kitchen, Artful Designs Hair Care, Top of the Hill, Grumpy's Restaurant, Quietside Ice Cream, Eat-A-Pita/Cafe2, Sea Biscuits Café, C.H. Rich Company, 3D's Baking Company, Acdia Repertory Theatre, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, The Sand Castle, West Marine, A-Cappella.com, NAPA, Salsbury Organic Garden, Hinckley Yachts, Moody Mermaid, H. G. Reed, Ellsworth Builders Supply, Sawyer's Specialties, SWH Bicycle Shop, Under the Dogwood Tree, Morris Yachts, Causeway Golf Club, Aquaterra Adventures, Stanley Subaru, A. C. Parsons Landscaping, Carroll's Drugstore, The Crocker House.

Mary Mitchell and Ted Bromage

For those of you who contributed a basket to the raffle or an item for the silent auction, etc. and would like to be credited for tax purposes, please let Michele know the \$\$ value and she will post it in the computer. Your end of the year statement will list it as an "in-kind" donation.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

Pentecost 8, Sunday, August 7

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 4; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33
George Swanson

Pentecost 9, Sunday, August 14

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 133; Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:10-28
The Right Rev. Michael Klusneyer

Pentecost 10, Sunday, August 21

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 124; Isaiah 51:1-6; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20
The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

Pentecost 11, Sunday, August 28

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. Saviour's
Psalm 26:1-8; Jeremiah 15:15-21; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28
The Right Rev. Frank T. Griswold

Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

SEPTEMBER CELEBRANTS:

September 4th—Scott Planting
September 11th—Cynthia Bourgeault
September 19th—Joint service at St. Mary's

TREASURERS REPORT

So far for 2011, non-pledged income is about \$10,000 below budget, but is balanced by \$14,000 savings year-to-date due to part-time clergy and \$6,000 savings in facility operations. As was the case in 2010, we are on track to show a substantial surplus this year that should help us build an operating reserve to make it through leaner years.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

We have received a first draft cost proposal from our design/builder that is quite close to the estimates used to develop the capital campaign. This is very good news and puts us on track to accomplish the first phase of work - constructing the addition along with roofing and painting the exterior of the existing building. The pledges received to date are close to covering all of this work. Next steps for this first phase include finishing the design, negotiating a final price, signing a contract, and breaking ground.

Next we will work on the second goal of the capital campaign – making needed repairs and improvements to the existing building. Beyond exterior roofing and painting, these needs include improving safety and energy efficiency, updating finishes, and making our undercroft and kitchen more usable. As we develop priorities and costs, we will share these with the congregation in hopes of raising funds to accomplish all or most of this work.

Jim Vekasi

Birthdays

AUGUST

- 18—Tina Baker
- 20—Dianne McMullan
- 22—Gus Carreno
- 27—Brooks Saltsman
- 30—Rita Redfield
- 31—Peter Obbard

Wedding Anniversaries

AUGUST

- 13—Ted and Joan Bromage
- 25—Chris Peterson/Vanessa Pinkham

HAITIAN ART FESTIVAL

On Saturday, August 27, the MDI Episcopal Churches will host a Haitian Art Festival in Northeast Harbor. The Festival will benefit St. Vincent's School for the Handicapped in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

This school was totally demolished in the earthquake and there is a national church effort to rebuild the entire Cathedral complex (which includes the school and seminary). In the meantime, regular supplies of food and clothing continue to be needed by this most vulnerable of the population.

Volunteers are needed for: *Set-up* Friday evening and Saturday morning; *Food Preparation* (simple Haitian recipes to be supplied) and delivery to the event on the 27th; *Take-down* tents, tables and general cleanup on Saturday at 5 pm. Questions? Contact Linda Lewis at 244-0005 or rosalindwlewis@yahoo.com. Please see the sign-up sheet in the undercroft and volunteer for this worthwhile cause and fun event!

VESTRY BULLETS

- Ted Fletcher reported that a Parish meeting is scheduled for August 14th after the 10:00 service at St. John's.
- Ted reported on pastoral concerns. A Vestry member will be on call to answer pastoral requests each week. Jean Rohrer will be on call the week of August 1.
- Ted has scheduled the clergy for services through September 25th:
- Sawyer House Update: Many people are looking at the house.
- Budget continues to be on track with a surplus due to part-time clergy savings.
- Finance and Investment Committee will be discussing setup and management of Operating Reserve funds.
- Floy Ervin volunteered to chair the Stewardship campaign for the 2012 year.
- Design and Construction Committee: plans have been approved by the Planning Committee of the Town of Southwest Harbor.
- Jim Vekasi presented a "Comparison of Cost for Various Clergy Alternatives." A copy of this analysis is available in the office.
- The base salary for Stephen Sampson's compensation was raised.

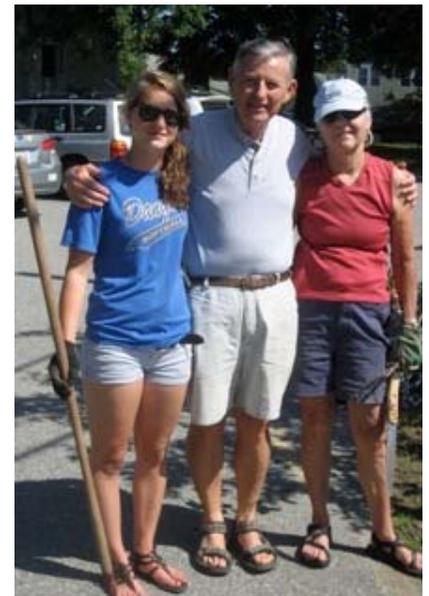
THURSDAY CLASS

Jonathan Appleyard will conduct a class on Episcopal history, tradition and beliefs on Thursdays, after mid-day worship, at St. John's, from August 18 through October 13. It is open to anyone who is interested.

LIGHTER SIDE...

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again.

Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago..." "Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes, indeed honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"



Cassidy, Ward and Gen Mackenzie keeping the front garden neat and trim.



A Summer of Recitals at St. John's Benefit the Westside Food Pantry

Monday, August 8th at 7:00 p.m. PIANO RECITAL--Pianist Deborah Swanger Fortier of the Bar Harbor Music Festival will perform Bach, Chopin, Schubert, and Grieg. Ms Fortier is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Villa Schifanoia Graduate School of Applied Arts in Florence, Italy; her teachers include Maria Clodes and Orazio Frigoni. She has a private piano studio in New York City and has been teaching piano at St David's School since 1991. Ms Fortier has also served as an accompanist for her husband, Frances Fortier, on the Bar Harbor Music Festival's National Touring Program.

Many, many thanks to Amos Lawrence and Stephen Sampson for their remarkable violin recital which was held on July 19th. The recital, which was a benefit for the Westside Food Pantry, was Amos' birthday present to his mother, Susannah Jones. Amos and Stephen's performance was a gift as well to all of us in attendance and raised \$1000 for the food pantry.

Rosalind Gnatt's vocal recital on August 1st was a joy. Rosalind's choice of songs, the arrangements by Britten and Niles, Stephen's piano accompaniment, the acoustics in St John, and her beautiful voice and presentation combined to create a magical evening of song. Thank you to Rosalind and Stephen for sharing their gifts with us.

Westside Food Pantry Raffle:

Seal Cove artist and Department of Labor muralist, Judy Taylor, has donated a signed, original watercolor painting to the Westside Food Pantry. We are raffling off the painting. Our goal for the raffle is \$10,000. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each--the drawing is October 23. Tickets are available from Susan Buell, Mary



Mary Vekasi and Marilyn Mays selling raffle tickets

Vekasi, Ida Smallidge, Marilyn Mays, Barbara Campbell, Jean Rohrer, Stephen Sampson, our church office, the Bass Harbor Library and Sawyer's Market. Raffle tickets may also be purchased on most Fridays at the SWH Farmers' Market.

We need help selling raffle tickets on Fridays at the Farmers' market--Every Friday that we have been there we have made \$200-250. Having 2 people working is ideal--as Barbara pointed out it is harder for folks to avoid eye contact as they pass by if there are 2 of us! And of course sitting at the table gives us a chance to visit with each other--always a good thing. If your schedule permits and you are free on any upcoming Friday, please contact Susan Buell, 244-3124, or scovino@prexar.com.

Thank you for your help with this summer of fundraising--the raffle, the Divine Luncheon, the music recitals, the cans-- and for spreading the word about the work of the Westside Food Pantry.

Susan Buell

Dear Food Pantry,

For the past few weeks my daughter has been brainstorming about having her first lemonade stand and all the money was to go to the people who needed it in SWH. She has been busy collecting rocks and then incorporated the help of her sister Naomi, and friend Jacob to paint them. They also assembled maracas made of recycled water bottles and rice. Saiba, Naomi and Jacob had their lemonade stand open at Dysarts great harbor marina for two days (at the end of July). They raised \$118.58! We know you will find great use for this money.

They hope to do it again.

Michele Dean



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St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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Deadline for articles for September *Net Tender* is August 26



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