



The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

September 2011

BEAUTY IN THE CHURCH YARD

As we anticipate the groundbreaking for our much needed addition, this might be a good time for a tour of the church yard.

Our beautiful flowering trees, shrubs and perennials were planted for our enjoyment and for the enjoyment of the entire community. Over the years, green space has diminished in downtown Southwest Harbor. I am grateful that our church yard continues to provide a lovely oasis. The plantings have also provided year round flowers and berries for altar arrangements which was another goal of the designers, George Price and Penelope Place.

Bordering Ann and Ted's property is a row of flowering shrubs. The bush closest to the street is a winter berry--much loved by the birds! We often use these branches in wreath making and on the altar for Christmas Eve. Next is a forsythia, an early Spring shrub and one of four forsythias in the churchyard. At the beginning of Epiphany, we sometimes "force" some forsythia branches. The next is a beautiful holly bush which we also use at Christmas time. Along the border are several lilac



bushes--old fashioned lilacs, french lilacs, and tall white lilacs growing near the huge spruce tree. In between the lilacs, is a white viburnum which was especially beautiful this year.



Rugosa roses and small crab apple trees fill the border between the street and our parking lot.

The garden bordering the parking lot and the church yard contain beautiful perennials: white phlox, day lilies, Queen Anne's lace, and yellow heliopsis. Brown and yellow rudbeckia create late summer color in the flower bed under the nearby apple tree. These are all great cut flowers and make frequent appearances on the altar.

Even though the perennial garden which bordered the school was taken out, some flowers survive: bells of Ireland, yarrow, anemone, phlox, lady's bells, Queen Anne's lace, day lilies, lady's mantle are all used on the altar in their season.

Along the side of the sacristy, is the shade garden that Penelope Place planted several years ago. It contains a variety of hosta and lovely pink and white astilbe. By the sacristy stairs, is another forsythia; nearby is a smoke bush which has reddish- brown, puffy "flowers".

Near the front of the church is the "burning bush", the euonymus, which will soon be living up to its nickname. Hydrangea bushes are at the left and right of the front stairs. Along the border of the school loop are two more forsythia; at the door of the church office, is a box-wood--a rarity in our area.

Over the years and to the present, many have worked hard maintaining the gardens. I am very thankful to everyone who planned, paid for, planted, weeded, mowed, watched over, and appreciated our beautiful churchyard.

Susan



FINDING AND REMOVING BARRIERS



With the groundbreaking for the building project at St. John's at hand, I look forward with great anticipation to having a building that can more fully serve the parish and entire Westside community. We'll be able to offer our clergy space they can actually work in, we'll enjoy additional meeting and education space, and we'll be able to lavish some much-needed love and care on the existing building. Most of all, I'm happy we'll have a facility that everyone who is able to leave their home will be able to access. Finally, the physical barriers to full participation in our congregational life will be gone.

For obvious reasons, I became much more aware of the physical barriers in our surroundings after my son Ezra was injured. Before his years in a wheelchair, I just didn't see the small steps into stores or the curbs without ramps. But now, as we remove the physical obstacles at St. John, I wonder what other barriers I'm not seeing that keep people from being part of this community that gives me so much joy.

Some I can see. We often say we'd like more families at St. Andrew and St. John, but we don't currently offer nursery care during any of our services. When I had small children, I doubt I would have attended any church regularly where I had to juggle toddlers and worship. Now that I'm working full-time, I see how our schedule excludes working people. If you would like to attend an additional, quieter service during the week and work, or have other obligations on Sunday mornings, your only option is a service in the middle of a weekday, when most people are at work. Likewise, we have no programs for education or spiritual development (beyond the Sunday morning offerings) outside the usual workday.

I often wonder what it's like to come into an Episcopal church if you haven't ever been in church before. What do the words we say mean to people who don't have a lifetime's worth of associations with them? Does our familiarity with our liturgy, the fact that we often take that familiarity for

granted, set up barriers? Are there ways we could make it more accessible to others? Some barriers are beyond our control. Lots of people have negative associations with Christianity because of fundamentalism, oppressive institutions, or simplistic media representations. We didn't erect these barriers, but we have to contend with them.

I am certain that people with experiences different than my own are aware of other obstacles that we unwittingly place in each other's path. Barriers constrict growth and turn people away. When we remove them, we can grow more fully in the life of Christ, both as individuals and as a parish. It's great to see the *Open Hearts Open Doors* capital campaign come to fruition, and it's lovely to contemplate a time when joy flows freely and no barriers impede its way.

Ann Cox Halkett, Jr. Warden

PARISH SURVEY

1. What do you believe are the three greatest strengths of our Parish?
2. What do you believe to be the three greatest challenges facing our Parish?
3. What would you consider to be our top priorities over the next three years?
4. From the choices* below, which three qualities/skill sets do you think are most important for the person called to be our joint Priest-in-Charge:
 - Preacher
 - Teacher
 - Pastor
 - Counselor
 - Administrator
 - Facilitator
 - Worship Leader
 - Community Ambassador
 - Other
5. Is there anything else you would like to add?

The above survey has been sent to members and friends of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church. Please fill it out and return by Friday, **September 9**, either to the Parish Office by e-mail (saints315@myfairpoint.net) or mail (PO Box 767, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679) or by dropping in a box at the back of St. John's. If you did not get a copy, please stop by the church and pick one up. We need your comments.

LATE SUMMER 2011

Looking out at the late-summer flowers and at the birds flocking around the birdfeeder brings to mind the French organist and composer Olivier Messiaen (1908 –1992). Many of his compositions reflect what he termed "the marvelous aspects of the faith", drawing on both his deeply held Roman Catholicism and the natural world. Messiaen did not belong to any particular 'school' of composition, but rather developed his own musical style, adopting musical ideas from India, ancient Greece, Hinduism, and, most importantly, the songs of birds from around the world. He found bird songs fascinating, believed birds to be the most outstanding musicians, and considered himself as much an ornithologist as a composer. He notated bird songs from around the world and incorporated transcriptions of birdsongs into much of his music.



Messiaen also said that he perceived colors when he heard certain musical harmonies, and that combinations of these colors were important in his compositional process. Here is some of what Messiaen said about colors. "When I was 20 years old I met a Swiss painter who became a good friend.....he was synaesthete, which is a disturbance of the optic and auditory nerves such that when one hears sounds one also sees corresponding colors in the eye. I unfortunately didn't have this. But intellectually, like synaesthetes, I too see colors, if only in my mind---colors corresponding to sound. I try to incorporate this in my work, to pass on to the listener. It's all very mobile. You've got to feel sound moving. Sounds are high, low, fast, slow, etc. My colors do the same thing, they move in the same way. Like rainbows shifting from one hue to the next. It's very fleeting and impossible to fix in any absolute way. It's true I see colors, it's true they're there. They're musician's colors, not to be confused with painter's colors. They're colors that go with music. If you tried to reproduce these colors on canvas it may produce something horrible."

Stephen Sampson, Music Director

FLASH IN THE PANS PERFORMS "COOL POTLUCK" for EVERYBODY EATS...



Blue Hill's community steel band will perform on Labor Day, Monday, September 5th at Ellsworth Harbor Park at 7:30 p.m. Bring a picnic and chairs and settle in for an evening of great entertainment by noted area steel band *Flash In the Pans* – always a hit wherever they perform. Donations will be welcomed for *Everybody Eats*, which provides a free community meal each Monday from 3-6 p.m. in the Parish Hall of St. Dunstan's Church, 134 State St., Ellsworth.

St. Saviour's Parish is inviting the wider community on MDI to a "Cool Potluck" on Friday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a film screening of the 16-minute film *Nourish* and a panel discussion by local farmers. If you can, go to the local farmer's markets, make a dish with local, organic, or seasonal foods, bring a friend or two and join in this community celebration making the food, faith, and climate change connection. It promises to be fun, delicious and educational.

THANKS FOR WRITING...

After writing over 1000 thank you notes to donors to the Westside Food Pantry, Cass Wright has let us know that she is turning in her pen and notepad and retiring from this huge responsibility. Over the past few years, every donor has received a handwritten thank you note written by Cass, Ellen Gilmore, Barbara Campbell or Mary Vekasi. This behind the scenes work is a very important part of our fundraising effort. We thank you so very much.

With love,
Susan

St. Andrew and St. John's Parish Meeting

August 14, 2011

Attendance: There were thirty-three members of the parish present (list attached) for this parish meeting in the nave of St. John's following the ten o'clock service. The meeting was called by the vestry to answer questions about our plan to call a priest-in-charge in partnership with St. Saviors in Bar Harbor and to hear about members' hopes for the future of St. John's. Materials circulated before the meeting included a briefing statement on the planned collaboration and a comparison of cost for various clergy model alternatives.

Overview of the collaboration: The Senior Warden, Ted Fletcher, reviewed the reasons that the vestry has resolved to enter into a three-year collaboration with St. Saviors and explained that we did not yet have all the answers as to exactly how the collaboration would work but we would seek to keep the membership informed and receive its input all along the way. There will be a joint search committee that hopes to call the priest by early 2012. The priest will help with the additional hiring of a part-time associate, be that a retired priest, deacon, supply priests, or intern. At the end of the three-years, if the model is not working for St. John's, we can pull out to consider other options. Treasurer Jim Vekasi reviewed the potential costs and savings to the parish of various models of staffing.

Questions: Many of the questions had to do with how we would ensure that St. John's received our fair 50% share of the clergy time. Having been without a full-time priest for a year and a half, we are eager for a hands-on Clerical presence.

Hopes for the future

- A priest with a strong leadership qualities who is adaptable and experienced, capable of being effectively in charge of a non-traditional model. Spend what is needed for the best available.
- A priest we can love, get mad at, who can pick up the pieces and make our parish grow by drawing from all over the Island.
- A priest who will be a strong spiritual presence in our community.
- A priest who can empower lay people to do more in pastoral care.
- A priest who can deal with the workload of two separate vestries. We should consult other parishes that use this model to see how their priest manages this issue.
- A priest with a full commitment to recruiting new and younger members for the parish. The Somesville Congregational Church is an example of success at this.
- A priest who focuses on recruiting young adults and their families.
- A priest with strong interest in participating in service in the community.
- A priest who will pour "oj" (sustaining energy) all over the Island.
- A priest who can co-ordinate and deploy the many spiritual gifts and talents that already exist in this parish.
- A priest who would consider staying after the expiration of the 3-year contract so we could have consistency.
- A really good administrator and organizer, someone who can take Christ out to the community.

Other suggestions

- Provide more education programs that are convenient for working people
- Be ready to grow and change if we bring more energy and youth to the parish
- Use local supply and retired priests who know our side of the Island.
- Consider merging vestries or coordinating meetings to lessen priestly burden.
- Look at other churches with part-time clergy in the diocese to find models that work.
- Be prepared to spend the maximum to get the best priest we can.

The meeting was adjourned after all had a chance to have their say.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy Fogarty, Clerk

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Pentecost 12, Sunday, September 4

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake

10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine

Psalm 149, Exodus 12:1-14; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

The Rev. Deborah Little Wyman

The Rev. Scott Planting

Pentecost 13, Sunday, September 11

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake

10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine

Psalm 114; Exodus 14:19-31; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

The Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault

Pentecost 14, Sunday, September 18

10:00 a.m.—JOINT SERVICE and picnic at St. Mary's

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:2-15; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

The Rev. Patricia Robertson

Pentecost 15, Sunday, September 25

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Exodus 17:1-7; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

TAIZÉ SERVICE AT ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH

Friday, September 2nd at 7:00 p.m. A time for silence, reflection, prayer and song. All are welcome. Sit, stand, lie down, bring your own pillow, make yourself comfortable, take part silently or aloud.

When I speak, it is a demand that others remain silent so I alone may be heard. When I am silent, I hear my true self and reach my soul. When I am silent, I hear with a caring heart. (paraphrasing Thomas Merton)

REMEMBERING 9/11

Sunday, September 11, a Community Memorial Service will be held at St. Saviour's in the evening to honor those whose lives were lost on September 11, 2001. Plans for this event are underway. To help plan and/or coordinate this service, meet with Jenny Reece in St. Saviour's Parish Library at 4:30 on Friday, September 2.

STUDY GROUP ON THURSDAYS

A discussion on Episcopal Practice: Liturgy, Spirituality, and Theology will be held on Thursdays following the 12:30 Eucharist service. Bring a bag lunch, along with your curiosity, questions, and concerns. What is alive in you? Jonathan Appleyard leads this discussion each Thursday through October 6th. All are welcome.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

We thank-you one and all for hosting a coffee hour this summer! Sonja, Mary M., Joan, Margot, Doris, Karen, Dean, Alice, Peggy, Neela, Marilyn, Sue and for all of the summer receptions organized and given by Dianne and Crew.

SUMMER FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

This summer St. John the Divine has been adorned with a variety of lovely flowers. Thanks to the creative hands of Ginny, Susan, Floy, Betsy, Scott, Tina, and Ellen the worship space is enhanced by nature's bounty.





Birthdays



SEPTEMBER

- 1—Vesta Kowalski
- 6—Paul Haertel
- 7—Sarah Vekasi
- 10—Sonia Loizeaux
- 14—Margot Haertel
- 20—Samuel Lawrence
- 21—Susan Hazard
- 25—Georgie Seavey
- 26—Barry Pollard
- 20—Alice Downa

Wedding Anniversaries

SEPTEMBER

- 12—Spencer & Floy Ervin
- 18—Ann Kidder & Ted Fletcher
- 19—Stephen & B.J. Fallica
- 23—Vicky Vendrell & Haywood May

THE LIGHTER SIDE...

Top Ten Reasons Eve Was Created

10. God was worried that Adam would frequently become lost in the garden because he would not ask for directions.

9. God knew that one day Adam would require someone to locate and hand him the remote.

8. God knew Adam would never go out and buy himself a new fig leaf when his wore out and would therefore need Eve to buy one for him.

7. God knew Adam would never be able to make a doctor's, dentist, or haircut appointment for himself.

6. God knew Adam would never remember which night to put the garbage on the curb.

5. God knew if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle the pain and discomfort of childbearing.

4. As the Keeper of the Garden, Adam would never remember where he left his tools.

3. Apparently, Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.

2. As the Bible says, It is not good for man to be alone!

And the #1 reason why God created Eve...

1. When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched his head, and said, "I can do better than that!"

AUGUST VESTRY BULLETS

- The ground breaking for our new addition and universal access will occur on October 14, 3:30 PM, with the Bishop in attendance.
- It is hoped that the ground breaking will spur new contributions to the Capital Campaign, which has already raised an amazing \$450,00 in pledges but is still behind our \$600,00 goal. Building priorities and alternative funding will continue to be discussed as we will soon look at hard construction numbers from our builder, Todd Hardy.
- The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling offered reflections on her ministry to our parish and suggestions to consider as we move forward.
- Following up on one of Emily's suggestions, we will consider a joint training and program with St. Saviour's in lay pastoral care.
- The parish survey of member priorities is being distributed to help guide our search for a joint priest-in-charge. Please return your completed survey by September 9th.
- Formation of a joint search committee, a search time line, and the parish survey results will be discussed in a joint vestry meeting on September 15th.
- Viewings of the Sawyer House continue at a good pace.
- A bean supper to benefit the Westside Food Pantry is planned for October 21.

MCHUMOR.COM by T. McCracken



How the serpent tempted Eve.

AUGUST WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S & ST. SAVIOUR'S



Elaine, Lucy, Anne, and Phoebe



Rita and George



Don and Jim



Jonathan and Ann



Andy Mead

THERE'S HOPE FOR HAITI

The *Hope for Haiti* Art Show and Sale on Saturday, August 27th was a wonderful success, and our thanks go out to each and every one of you who helped in any way or who attended the show on Main Street in Northeast Harbor, and lent your support in heart and spirit and checkbook! Our proceeds from the day and from individual contributions will go to benefit St Vincent's School for the Handicapped in Port-au-Prince where the needs are very great and ongoing. We were excited and gratified at the joint effort made by all the Episcopal parishes on MDI, and enjoyed working shoulder to shoulder with folks from St Andrew's and St John's in Southwest Harbor, Church of Our Father in Hulls Cove, and St Saviour's in Bar Harbor. St Andrew and St John in particular contributed generous help in so many areas: food preparation, setup, and general presence at the event were very much appreciated! If you were unable to attend and would still like to make a contribution towards St Vincent's School you may send checks made out to Parish of St Mary and St Jude but be sure to enter 'Hope for Haiti' in the memo line THANK YOU!!

Linda Lewis



The Net Tender - September 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 / website: www.saintsmdi.org

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

Parish Administrator

Michele Daley

Music Director

Stephen Sampson

Editors

Mary Vekasi

Anne Wetzel



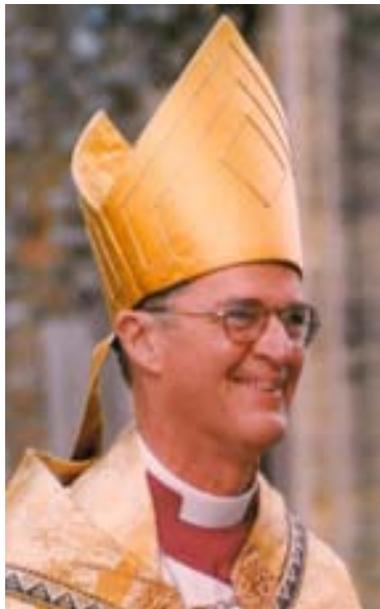
INSIDE:

Anniversaries/Birthdays	6
Church Yard	1
Cool Potluck	3
Haiti Art Show	7
Jr. Warden's Notes	2
Lighter Side	6
Organist's Notes	3
Parish Meeting	4
Parish Survey	2
Study Group	5
Taizé and 9/11 Services	5
Thank Yous	3/5
Vestry Bullets	6
Worship & Fellowship	7/8
Worship Schedule/Scripture	5

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 November *Net Tender* is October 23

VISITING BISHOPS ON MDI



The Rt. Rev. Frank T. Griswold
at St. Saviour's Joint Service
August 28th



The Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer
at St. John's
August 14th