



The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

June 2012

SO, WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

I have long believed that we make connections by sharing stories. On my first Sunday with you, many of you were understandably curious about how Bob and I got here, so let me share the short version of how I came to the church.

I grew up in Columbus, Indiana, just south of Indianapolis, a town famous for its modern architecture. My father taught high school social studies; my mother taught English as a Second Language in the adult high school. I have one younger brother, Bradford, who is developmentally disabled and lives in a small group home in Columbus, where my parents still live in retirement.

I was baptized in the Methodist Church, but my family stopped attending when I was small. When I was older, we occasionally attended the Unitarian-Universalist fellowship, but were not attached to any faith community. Church was something that other people did.



I went to Harvard, and by the luck of the housing office, my first-year roommates were all Roman Catholic. The group looked as though it had been put together by a TV sitcom scriptwriter: an Irish-American Catholic boy from South Boston, an Italian-American Catholic boy from New York, a Mexican-American Catholic boy from Los Angeles, and me, an un-churched “other” from Indiana. I got into the habit of attending mass with my roommates on Saturday evening just for the sake of having something to do, but I also got into the habit of attending First Parish, the Unitarian church in Harvard Square, on Sunday morning. I found things that fed me in both traditions, but also felt things missing in both. More than one person has remarked that, as a Roman-Catholic/Unitarian-Universalist hybrid, I was destined to be Episcopalian.

Something else which seems more significant in hindsight than it did at the time: my concentration was in the History of Science, and my particular interest was in the Middle Ages. Somehow, I became interested in the overlap of science and theology (which of course were one and the same in that period), and wrote an undergraduate thesis on medieval explanations of the transubstantiation of the Eucharist. I found the topic fascinating, but from a historical and philosophical standpoint; not as a discussion that had any relevance to my own life.

After college I studied architecture at Columbia University. I lived a block from the Cathedral of St. John the Divine – if I leaned out on my fire escape, I could see it – but did not worship there or anywhere. I returned to Indianapolis where I began practicing architecture in 1990. I joined a firm that was well known throughout the Midwest for the design of churches, and I had the great opportunity to work with congregations of many traditions: everything from Roman Catholic to Quaker, from Pentecostal to Conservative Jewish, but I was not a regular worshipper. I met Bob in 1993, and we had a formal commitment ceremony in our home in 1994 (I'll let him tell you his own story).

Continued on page 5

SENIOR WARDEN TRIES TO OCCUPY THE MIDDLE

“This penchant to shy away from complication and adhere to reduction brings us back to the Church's proclivity to settle for charity at the expense of advocacy. Rev. Peter van Eys wrote, ‘Churches need (afflicted) people around in order to be involved in charity rather than justice.’ Such acts salve consciences, momentarily answering the smaller questions, but they do nothing to address the larger ones. For Martin Luther King, society is not educated by the Samaritan story (charity) but by the larger question of why injustice plagues the entire Jericho Road (justice).” The Rt. Rev. George Packard, discussing negotiations between Trinity Wall Street and Occupy Wall Street, wrote on the Episcopal Café blog in February 2012.

Hypothetical: You, humble Junior Warden, return home Thursday evening to listen to this 5:25 PM message on your answering machine or cell phone:

“Hi, this is Clarence, Chief of Police for Oyster Harbor, and I just wanted to let you know that there are several ‘hippies’ in two big tents on the St. Swithin’s side lawn. They have run a hose to the Church’s outside spigot and extension cords to a nearby outlet. I tried reaching Bill the priest and Fran the Senior Warden. Sorry to bother but I thought someone should know. . . Let us know if you want us to take care of this. Bye.”

You now dimly remember that Bill is away biking in France with friends and Fran has her yearly fly fishing trip with “the girls” to the Miramichi. It is a warm end to August. Summer visitors are starting to leave for school and home. By now, who doesn’t “know?” What to do? After mowing your lawn and a second glass of wine, you decide it can wait until morning.

On your way to work in the morning, you stop by St. Swithin’s in the Harbor. Not wanting to blow your cover, you park at a distance and walk over to the church’s elegant, substantial grounds. Along the way you admire the collection of brightly-painted vehicles parked along a side street in town and in the parish lot. You note the bumper stickers, license plates, and parking decals – “from away.” From a distance, you notice five tall tents in various colors. Young children seem to be enjoying digging in the St. Swithin’s sacramental herb bed. Older children are playing soccer around the churchyard’s grave markers. You locate the hose and extension cords as you enter the side lawn, but decide to leave them alone – for now.

Before beginning the search for someone “in authority” you ask yourself: “What part of radical hospitality don’t I understand?” Does it have to include hospitality for “radicals?” It is time to wade in. “Maybe I missed a meeting and all of this was discussed,” you wonder. You

start making introductions with the middle-age women, who you assume are the mothers of the young children. You overhear that several men have gone off for “supplies.” Progress in gender roles? You politely ask a woman in her late-thirties (?), hanging towels on a drying rack: “Who is ‘in charge?’” The answer shoots back: “Dunno, but the General Assembly meets at the picnic table at 5 PM.” You ask “Does Bill or Fran know about this?” “Bill who?” Just then her friend Steve shows up with a towel around his waist, saying, “I found an outdoor shower next door at the yacht club – the hot water is great.”

It is now half-past eight. In the distance you spy Mrs. Brown, head of the St. Swithin’s Garden Committee (and wife of the Commodore of the Walpurgisnacht Yacht Club), charging up the street. She looks angry. You slip behind a tent, turn to Steve, and hand him your business card; but he has one hand holding up his towel and a bowel in the other. He rearranges himself and takes the card. You tell him that you are the Junior Warden, ahem, and will take all calls and inquiries. You go back to Candice at the towel rack and do the same thing. Already late for work, you try to fend off Mrs. Brown saying: “It’s all ‘under control.’”

On the way to work, you pass the Channel 9 satellite TV truck going the opposite direction. From the office you try to reach Bill and Fran, call the vestry, and leave a message with the Bishop’s secretary. You start arranging for a vestry meeting. You plan to attend the 5 PM “General Assembly” meeting.

Now what?

At least two congregations have hosted Occupy Movement participants: St Paul’s Cathedral, London and Trinity, Wall Street, New York. In both cases, the clergy leadership either quit their positions or their leadership has been seriously impaired. Gillian Fraser, Dean at St. Paul’s resigned last October after conflict with the Bishop and Cathedral Chapter; over half of the Trinity Wall Street Vestry has resigned this spring in conflict with priorities set by the Rector, Jim Cooper. There has been significant conflict between institutional priorities and the Occupy Movement’s insistence on pressing for social change and economic justice. St Paul’s and Trinity Wall Street felt they were helping and being good stewards, but it wasn’t enough. They were perceived as part of the problem - part of the 1%. No less significant, many clergy and lay people are participating in Occupy Movements and share those concerns and priorities.

I realized several months ago that in the end, faced with this situation, I would insist on institutional boundaries, prerogatives and concerns. And that that impulse might be a besetting sin. That I would vote to end the encampment when it could be done with the least amount of conflict and embarrassment. But that choice might not be the one God would be

continued on page 3

Sr. Warden...(continued)

calling a parish to make or one that Jesus would make. I suspect, reluctantly, that Bishop Packard is right: we need to stand with the Occupy protesters. How to do that, in a way that is not self-destructive, is a great challenge.

Trinity and St. Paul's thought they were being helpful to the Occupy protesters, but their gifts were seen as extensions of their institutional power – as charity rather than acts of justice. Charity, if it is truly charity, has its roots in love.

I do not have any answers to the ethical challenges offered here. Rather I offer the hypothetical as a way of breaking open some of the issues and starting a discussion. You will note that I have offered selected details in a way that probes stereotypes that color and limit how we approach other people and the situations they present. But in our limitations that's how we approach the world, especially for "your humble senior warden." One task God gives us is to transcend those limitations.

May your summer be filled with exploration, adventure and challenges.

Ted Fletcher

Editor's Note: The full text of the article *Church on the path to irrelevance* by Bishop George Packard can be found at: http://www.episcopalcafe.com/daily/episcopal_church/church_on_the_path_to_irrelevance.php

FIRST WORSHIP AT ST. ANDREW'S



**SUNDAY,
JUNE 3rd**



TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Susan Buell and Dean Henry

"Touch-A-Truck" launched the Westside Food Pantry fundraising season with a joyful day of family fun. Working in partnership with Mary Ellen Martel and Harbor House Day Care volunteers, our volunteers helped raise over \$4,000. More than 800 folks, tall and small, enjoyed "checking out" over 60 vehicles. Oil trucks, fire trucks, a vintage station wagon, an ambulance, cement mixers, limousines, an Island Explorer bus, and a bi-plane were just some of the vehicles at the event. Many thanks to the Bar Harbor Airport for donating their space. Susan Reiff Allen and the Touch-A-Truck committee deserve great thanks and a hearty round of applause!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- I am an FTD Master Florist.
- I traveled to school on a kicksled over streets groomed with a snow roller.
- I preached a sermon at the church on the High Road.
- I have 2 sons and 2 grandchildren who are direct descendants of the first settler of Gott's Island.
- I have an adopted daughter.
- I have been a Sunday School superintendent.
- I lived in 9 different houses, had gone to 3 different schools in 3 different towns by age 7.
- I have greeted the troops.
- I have been a police dispatcher.
- I brought a check of \$25 to the ballfield every Friday to pay the first program director of Harbor House.
- For several years, I was a substitute teacher in all our local schools.

Who Am I?

NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH *by Stephen Sampson*

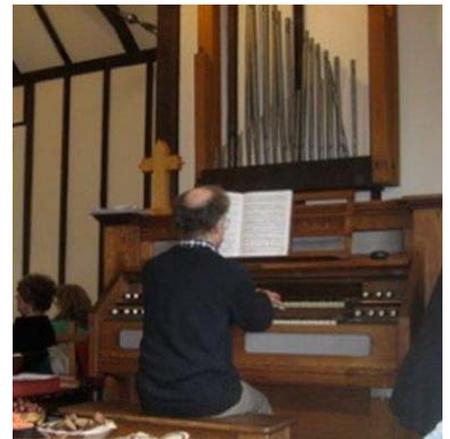
The arrival of summer heralds an increase in the number of singing voices and musical events at St. Andrew's and St. John's. The St. John's Singers, who have been meeting and singing at the church every other Monday evening throughout the year, welcome one and all who wish to join us in rehearsing the upcoming hymns and trying out possible new music. This is an informal and friendly crew; singers, experienced or not, are welcome on a regular or irregular basis. There will be several recitals at St. John's this summer---keep your eye on the weekly bulletin for specifics on the music, performers, and dates.

A constant throughout the year are the sounds of the wonderful pipe organ at St. John's. For those of you unfamiliar with this instrument, here is some vital information. The organ is known as 'Greta', and has a well-deserved reputation as a particularly sweet-sounding instrument. Greta was built in 1885 by the Hook & Hastings organ company, which in the mid-1870's was the largest and most successful organ company in America. The company built 40 organs in 1875, including a 50-stop organ for Yale University and an 83-stop organ for Boston's Holy Cross Cathedral. Greta is well cared for by David Wallace, of David E. Wallace and Co. of Gorham, Maine.

And a verse appropriate to the musical life of our community:

Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.
Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments
Will hum about mine ears, and sometime voices
That, if I then had waked after long sleep,
Will make me sleep again: and then, in dreaming,
The clouds methought would open and show riches
Ready to drop upon me that, when I waked, I cried to dream again.

(William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*)



THE ST. JOHN'S SINGERS

Susan Buell

At a recent gathering, I was asked this question by an Island priest and a music director/organist: "How do we achieve the big volume of sound at St John? As he said: "I am always blown away by the singing". We have heard the same question and observation from many of the supply priests and Bishop Knutsen and Bishop Lane.

The priest, music director and I talked about St John's "secret ingredients." Part of the answer is the outstanding acoustics in our sanctuary. Because the acoustics are so phenomenal, just a few voices will create a big sound. The location of the organ in the back of the church also helps support singing. We do not have a choir; this is an intentional decision. Our tradition and expectation offers the congregation the joy and responsibility of singing hymns together. And we have *St. John Singers*.

St. John Singers was organized at least 20 years ago by the organist and priest at that time, Marilyn Dolliver and George Price. The goal then, as now,

was to encourage singing by the congregation and to support the introduction of unfamiliar hymns; to use more of the hymnal and to try hymns from other sources, as well. *St. John Singers* are folks who love to sing and who gather at St John's on the second and fourth Monday of every month from 5:00-6:00. It is not a choir, there is no audition, and no experience is necessary. ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND SING. We are led by Stephen at the piano as we sing through the hymns that have been chosen for the upcoming services. Because we have rehearsed the unfamiliar hymns, on Sunday we are prepared to support other singers in the congregation. At the church service, *St. John Singers* do not sit together. We sit wherever we wish throughout the church. Because we are scattered around the church, we are better able to help support everyone's singing. And that is the goal: everyone in the congregation who wants to sing will know that there are singers around them who "know what's going on!"

St. John Singers next practice is June 11, 5-6. Please join us...



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Pentecost 2, June 10

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 138; 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35
The Rev. Johanna K. Johansson

Pentecost 3, June 17

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 20; 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34
The Rev. Timothy Fleck

Pentecost 4, June 24

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 17:32-49; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41
The Rev. Deborah Little Wyman

Pentecost 5, July 1

8:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist at St. Andrew by-the-Lake
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 130; 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43
The Rev. Timothy Fleck

Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

NAMETAG REMINDER

Please remember to wear your name tag when you attend worship services. Wearing your name tag helps us to know each other and will help Fr. Tim and Bob to know us. Should you need a name tag made, please contact a member of the Vestry or the church office.



So, What's Your Story? *(continued)*

About this time, it started to seem that I was seeing the Episcopal Church everywhere. General Convention was in Indianapolis, and I read in local and national news about controversies there. I was doing architectural work with an Episcopal parish, and was drawn to the combination of rational preaching, mysterious liturgy, and a well-developed aesthetic theology. At about this time, Bob and I moved to a new community, and I became aware of the little shingled Episcopal church at the corner where we turned to go into town.

Finally, a friend invited me to attend that little shingled church: St. David's, Bean Blossom, Indiana. (*That's really the name. You can look it up.*) The first Sunday I attended, the place was in a dither over the Bishop's visitation that Sunday, and the friend who invited me was not there. The vicar's wife saw me looking lost, and "assigned" me to a long term member named Alice, who helped me with the Prayer Book and hymnal, when to stand up and sit down, all those things that are so intimidating to a first-time visitor. All I can say is that something clicked. I felt at home in a way that I hadn't in any other tradition. I felt surrounded by people who loved and laughed a lot, and who took seriously Christ's call to live the Gospel in the world. Soon I found myself there every week.

In some future newsletter, I'll share the story of my call to ordained ministry. In the mean time, I want to hear your stories. How did you end up here? What brought you into the church? Can you remember a time when you were not in the church? Do you remember what it felt like to be a first-time visitor? What makes you angry or sad about the church? What makes you stay?

Tim+

Birthdays

JUNE

- 1—Ted Bromage
- 11—John Hewlett
- 15—Mary Vekasi
- 16—BJ Fallica
- 22—Betty Whittlesey
- 24—Ted Fletcher
- 25—Jim Vekasi
- 27—Dean Henry
- 27—Bill Voorhies

Wedding Anniversaries

JUNE

- 7—Dana and Kathryn Hiscock
- 9—Scott and Chloe Hatcher
- 27—Bill and Diane Krueger
- 30—Sam and Mary Lawrence

ACADIA CHILDREN'S CHORUS PERFORMANCE

You are invited to The Spring Concert of The Acadia Children's Chorus, directed by Edith Dunham, which will be held on Tuesday, June 12th at 4:30 p.m. at St. Saviour's in Bar Harbor. Musicians accompanying the Chorus include Phoebe Durand (harp), Emma Walsh (violin), Peter Lindquist (banjo), and Mary Booher (piano.)

STORIES FROM ECUADOR

Jean Rohrer

[Editor's Note: One of the "interesting stories" from the Hancock Medical Mission's trip to Ecuador in February 2012. Mary Mitchell, being part of the surgical team, was privy to this story directly.]

Animal husbandry continues in Ecuador using time-honored methods. When a cow is thought to be pregnant, the vet, or owner, reaches deep into her gut via the rectum, to feel the uterus. So this fellow was checking his cow in hopes of finding her pregnant. The cow fainted and fell down, taking him (arm in cow up to shoulder) down as well, dislocating his shoulder! The suffering man was taken to the hospital in Riobamba, where his shoulder was replaced in the socket.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAMS

Care teams from St. John's and St. Saviour's are invited to the St. Saviour's Choir Room at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13 for a simple pot-luck supper and a conversation with Tim, our new Priest-in-charge about our ministry so far and our plans for the future. This meeting is also open to you if you were not able to attend the team building meetings of 2011-12 but have an interest in this ministry as a way to live out your calling as a member of one of our congregations.

Jennifer Reece

FROM MIMI'S ATTIC....

Joan Bromage

Our grandchildren grow oh so fast...and outgrow, also. If you are expecting young grandchildren or small friends to visit this summer, I have available the following equipment waiting to be used:



- Lightweight folding stroller
- Booster seat that attaches to a dining room chair
- Small step stool with enclosed potti-seat
- Metal high chair with padded seat and back
- Car booster seat (for toddlers, not babies)
- Bouncer seat with wheels



THANK YOU from Dianne McMullan

A big thank you to those who helped with the first two receptions to welcome Fr. Tim and Bob. The Bakers/Boilers/Busers included Elaine, Jayne, Karen, Peggy, Barbara, Joan, Margot, Ann B., Patsy, Floy, Anne W., Sue, Edie, Mary V., Jean, Mary M., and Chloe. The food and excitement were blessings. Thanks Be to God!

UPCOMING FUND RAISERS FOR THE WESTSIDE FOOD PANTRY

Susan Buell and Dean Henry

During the food pantry season that ran from November 2011- April 2012, the Westside Food Pantry gave out vouchers totaling almost \$90,000 to our neighbors in need from Mt Desert, Tremont and Southwest Harbor. We will need to raise at least that amount to fund the upcoming season.



Thanks to the generosity of so many members of our community we will be able to work on several fundraisers during the Summer and Fall.

1. The Island Quilters have donated a beautiful quilt to the Bar Harbor Food Pantry and the Westside Food Pantry. Working with Bar Harbor Food Pantry volunteers, we will be selling \$1.00 raffle tickets through the upcoming months. All proceeds from the quilt raffle will be divided equally between the two Island food pantries.
2. Pianist Deborah Fortier and vocalist Rosalind Gnatt, both accompanied by Stephen Sampson, will perform in separate recitals at St John's. Again, all proceeds from donations at the door will go to the Westside Food Pantry.
3. The Arthur Russell Strings is presenting a recital at 4:00, Thursday, July 5th to benefit the Westside Food Pantry.
4. Brenda Merritt, an artist friend of Jean Rohrer, has donated an original painting for us to raffle off for the Westside Food Pantry. We will be selling raffle tickets at the Quieside Festival.
5. Chloe Hatcher and Phil Fox will perform "Love Letters" at St John to benefit the Westside Food Pantry.

We are very grateful!

MAY VESTRY BULLETS

Chloe Hatcher

- We will be making a \$500 donation to The Maine Seacoast Mission for their help with the search process.
- June 2nd is cleanup day at St. Andrew's.
- The treasurer reported that we are in good shape financially mostly due to the fact that the Priest in Charge pay will be about seven months rather than the nine budgeted.
- Susan and Floy will co-chair a committee to look into additional landscaping needed at the completion of the addition.
- The dedication for the new building will be held October 7th when the Bishop is here.

LANDSCAPING

Susan Buell and Floy Ervin are beginning to consider landscaping for St. John's. If you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Susan (244-3124) or Floy. (244-4195)

WHO AM I?



Karen Craig

The Net Tender - June 2012

St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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Priest-in-Charge

Timothy Fleck

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INSIDE:

Anniversaries/Birthdays	6
Care Teams	6
Children's Choir	6
Ecuador Story	6
First Worship	3
Notes from Organ Bench	4
Landscaping	7
Rector's Notes	1/5
Sr. Warden's Notes	2/3
St. John Singers	4
Thank You	6
Touch-A-Truck	3
Vestry Bullets	7
Westside Food Pantry	7
Who Am I?	3/7
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 July Net Tender is June 24

GARAGE SALE

Friday & Saturday, June 15 & 16

Mark your calendars for this annual fun/fund raising event to be held at the Trafton homestead. We are looking for volunteers. On Thursday the 14th we'll need a good strong group to erect tents and set up tables, and on Friday and Saturday a few of the strong are needed to move goods in and out for display. That's it for the muscle. Beforehand, we'll need people to price items, and during Friday and Saturday plenty of helpers on the "sales floor." No experience required, just a joyful spirit. Please contact Mary Mitchell, 244-9951.

Ted Bromage



QUIETSIDE FAIR TIME



While you've got your calendars out, please save Saturday, July 14th for "The Fair" to be held in conjunction with the Harbor House's Quietside Flamingo Festival (July 13-16). Once again we look for your generous gift of smiles and help to bring this significant fundraiser to fruition. If you haven't volunteered before, contact us-- if you have, chances are we'll be contacting you. We'll also need items for the following booths: Theme Baskets, Pies, Silent Auction, Plants, Boutique, Crafts, and Treasure Trove!

Mary Mitchell (244-9951), Ted Bromage (244-3227) or ted@bromage.us