



The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

February 2013

OBSERVING HOLY LENT

Every spring, our church invites us “to the observation of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word” (BCP p. 265).

Lent has its Christian roots in the time of preparation expected of those seeking baptism in the early church. Remember that Christians were an often-persecuted minority, and that making an affirmation of Christian faith was not something to be done lightly. Lent was a time of reflection through prayer, fasting, vigil, and other spiritual practices intended to purify the heart and open the soul to discernment of God’s will. Practically speaking, the underground church needed to be on guard against imperial spies, and choose carefully who they trusted with the holy mysteries. Those who had not yet committed themselves through baptism were allowed to hear the liturgy of the Word, but were asked to leave the room at the Peace, before the Holy Eucharist. Lent was a time of teaching and preparing folks for Eucharist as well as Baptism, and a way of deepening their resolve to give their life to Christ.



As Christianity became an imperial and state religion, and when most Christians were baptized as children, Lent in many cases became less a matter of fasting for the sake of spiritual clarity and more about obedience for its own sake. During the Middle Ages, elaborate and detailed regulations were written to state what was and was not permitted during Lent (including bathing and sexual relations between spouses), along with equally detailed exceptions to those rules.

In our Protestant, pluralistic culture, the observation of Lent (or not) has become a matter of personal choice. Nonetheless, many of us may have grown up with the idea of “giving something up for Lent:” often a symbolic fast from meat or from indulgences like chocolate or coffee. Too often, though, it seems that the focus of such exercises is on our own will-power: as though our efforts to “tough it out” are somehow pleasing to God.

Alternately, we adopt Lenten disciplines that we believe will make us “better people,” again with a misplaced sense that we need to impress God.

Perhaps a healthier way of thinking about Lent is as a time to examine our lives for those habits and behaviors that come between us and God; those idols that demand the time and energy that could be better spent on our relationship with God and with God’s people in the world. Seen this way, Lent is less about giving something up or improving ourselves, and more about making time and space for God in our lives. It is about stewardship of our time, energy and attention.

For example, we may realize that we are spending leisure time watching unedifying TV or playing video games, only to find that we “just don’t have time” for daily prayer and meditation. Or we may be in the habit of spending five dollars for a fancy coffee, and then find ourselves anxious about finances and resenting the pledge we made to the church in faith. Turning away from these habits is not about making ourselves miserable – it’s about making room in our lives for the real joy that comes from relationship with God.

Continued on page 2

TED'S POEM

written 26 January 2013

I write to heap praise on our ex Senior Warden
For errors in syntax I do beg your pardon

When Ted came on board he had no intention
Of filling his life taking on a whole new dimension.

None of us thought, four long years ago
That Ted would soon have such a hard row to hoe.

The departure of Richard, a sudden surprise
Put Ted at the center of all of our eyes.

Whenever the crisis, whatever the chore
We were ever so lucky that Ted lived next door.

The easing demands of Ted's legal practice
Gave him some time for diocesan tactics.

After long years of waiting construction began
Chaos! disruption according to plan

A new kitchen! a lift! and an office or two
Were all put in order by Michele and the crew.

When the call went out to find clergy on deck
What a blessing it's been to have landed Tim Fleck

And now that we're joined at the hip with St. Savior's
We will all have to be on our best of behaviors.

As I try to envision the two years ahead
There is much ground to cover and little to dread

My remarks will be briefer and doubtless less clever.
And I count on your help for every endeavor!

Eleanor Bunny Watts

***The Christmas Wreaths
were given
to the Glory of God
and in memory/honor of:***



*Gerry Stanley
David Gilmore
Tibby Russell
Drayton Grant
Samuel Vaughan
Our Grandchildren
Maxwell Evarts Cox
Frances Perkins Cox
Peter de Lanoy Welles, Jr.
Justin and Gregory Weisner
Madeline and Raleigh Stanwood
Arthur and Anna Griswold Fletcher
XXX*

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

- I've been married twice
- My grandchildren are in SW Harbor and Buffalo
- My season is Easter

Who Am I?

Observing Holy Lent *(continued)*

Lent is also about turning towards a life of discipleship, and many people find this to be a time to get back into spiritual habits— not because we are “supposed to,” but because they give us joy. Books of daily Lenten meditations from Episcopal Relief and Development are available in the back of the church for those who would like to use them as a framework for the discipline of daily prayer during Lent (you can download the entire booklet or sign up for daily meditations to be e-mailed to you at <http://www.er-d.org/Lent>). Sarah Flynn and Julia Morris-Myers will be leading a Lenten book discussion on Fridays, and you can find more information about it elsewhere in this newsletter. And although it may not be something with which you are familiar, the Rite of Reconciliation (sacramental confession) is always available by appointment with me, and Lent can be a particularly appropriate time for the sort of self-reflection that confession represents.

May each of us find the joy in our observation of a holy Lent.

Tim+

FOR THE TIME BEING: A CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

W.H. Auden (excerpt), 1942

Well, so that is that. Now we must dismantle the tree,
Putting the decorations back into their cardboard boxes –
Some have got broken – and carrying them up to the attic.
The holly and the mistletoe must be taken down and burnt,
And the children got ready for school. There are enough
Left-overs to do, warmed up, for the rest of the week –
Not that we have much appetite, having drunk such a lot,
Stayed up so late, attempted – quite unsuccessfully –
To love all our relatives, and in general
Grossly overestimated our powers. Once again
As in previous years we have seen the actual Vision and failed
To do more than entertain it as an agreeable
Possibility, once again we have sent Him away,
Begging though to remain His disobedient servant,
The promising child who cannot keep His word for long.
The Christmas Feast is already a fading memory,
And already the mind begins to be vaguely aware
Of an unpleasant whiff of apprehension at the thought
Of Lent and Good Friday which cannot, after all, now
Be very far off. But, for the time being, here we all are,
Back in the moderate Aristotelian city
Of darning and the Eight-Fifteen, where Euclid's geometry
And Newton's mechanics would account for our experience,
And the kitchen table exists because I scrub it.
It seems to have shrunk during the holidays, the streets
Are much narrower than we remembered; we had forgotten
The office was as depressing as this. To those who have seen
The Child, however dimly, however incredulously,
The Time Being is, in a sense, the most trying time of all.
For the innocent children who whispered so excitedly
Outside the locked door where they know the presents to be
Grew up when it opened. Now, recollecting that moment
We can repress the joy, but the guilt remains conscious;
Remembering the stable where for once in our lives
Everything became a You and nothing was an It.
And craving the sensation but ignoring the cause,
We look round for something, no matter what, to inhibit
Our self-reflection, and the obvious thing for that purpose
Would be some great suffering. So, once we have met the Son,
We are tempted ever to pray to the Father:
“Lead us into temptation and evil for our sake”.
They will come, all right, don't worry; probably in a form
That we do not expect, and certainly with a force
More dreadful than we can imagine. In the meantime
There are bills to be paid, machines to keep in repair,
Irregular verbs to learn, the Time Being to redeem
From insignificance. The happy morning is over,
The night of agony still to come; the time is noon:
When the Spirit must practice his scales of rejoicing
Without even a hostile audience, and the Soul endure
A silence that is neither for nor against her faith
That God's Will will be done, that, in spite of her prayers,
God will cheat no one, not even the world of its triumph.

JANUARY 20th ANNUAL MEETING

Senior Warden

Eleanor Bunny Watts

Junior Warden

Mary Mitchell (continuing)

Treasurer

Elizabeth Erickson

Assistant Treasurer

James Vekasi

Clerk

Chloe Hatcher (continuing)

Vestry

Marilyn Mays and Jayne Ashworth

Vestry (continuing)

Karen Craig, Floy Ervin,
Susan Buell, and Patsy Fogarty

Associate Vestry Members

Diane Krueger and Doris Walton

Delegates to Convention

Patsy Fogarty, Mary Vekasi, Edith Stanwood

Alternate Delegates to Convention

Candice DaCosta and Robert Theriault



NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Music moves us, and stirs our emotions, in mysterious ways. For this Net Tender piece, here are one poet's thoughts.

Stephen Sampson

At the Young Composers' Concert

The melancholy of these young composers
Impresses me. There will be time for joy.

Meanwhile, one can't help noticing the boy
Who bends down to his violin as if

To comfort it in its precocious grief.
It is his composition, confused and sad.

Made out of feelings he has not yet had
But only caught some hint or rumor of

In the old scores----and that has been enough.
Merely mechanical, sure, all artifice----

But can that matter when it sounds like this?
What matters is the beauty of the attempt,

The world for him being so far mostly dreamt.
Not that a lot, to tell the truth, has passed,

Nothing to change our lives or that will last.
And not that we are awed, exactly; still,

There is something to this beyond mere adult skill.
And if it moves but haltingly down the scales,

It is the more moving just because it fails;
And is the lovelier because we know

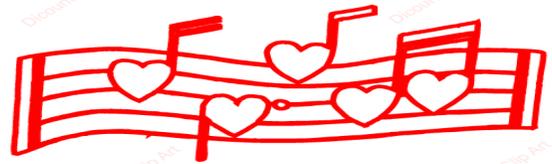
It has gone beyond itself, as great things do.
Donald Justice (1925 – 2004)

ST. JOHN'S FEAST THANK YOU!

Thank you to all helpers for our "Feast of St. John" rescheduled to Annual Meeting Brunch on January 20th. Barbara, Marilyn, Chloe, Elaine, Jean, Vesta, Rita, and Ellen baked, chopped, served and cleaned with skill and light.

Dianne McMullan

MUSICAL EVENINGS



The Musical Evenings group is a very informal group that gathers once a month from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on the last Friday of the month. We enjoy listening to guest performers and, after a break for snacks and visiting, we all sing together. YOU are most welcome! Our February Musical Evening will be in the home Maude and John March in Seal Harbor. Our musical guests are singers from the Jackson Lab! There is no fee, however we ask people to bring a simple snack or drink to share. For more information and/or directions to the March's home, please contact Stephen Sampson (stephen.sampson@jax.org) or Susan Buell (scovino@prexar.com)

Thank You!

We would like publicly to thank

Michele Daley

for extraordinary service above and beyond her job description during the recent construction period.

The quiet can-do attitude that we have come to expect from Michele has never been in greater evidence than during the past year when she has been displaced, boxed, disconnected, covered in dust, drowned out by power tools, and sent to work from home.

Thank you, Michele.

We couldn't have done it without you.

*The Vestry, Wardens, and Priest-in-Charge
of the Parish of St. Andrew and St. John*

WHO AM I?



Eleanor Bunny Watts

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Epiphany 4, February 3

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 — Holy Eucharist
Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30
The Rev. Persis Williams

Last Sunday after Epiphany, February 10

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 — Holy Eucharist
Psalm 99; Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-43a
The Rev. Persis Williams

Ash Wednesday, February 13

Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
12:00 noon — St. Saviour's (The Rev. Dean Henry)
5:30 p.m. — St. John's (The Rev. Alice Downs)
Psalm 103:8-14; Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Lent 1, February 17

8:00 and 10:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
The Rev. Tim Fleck

Lent 2, February 24

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine
Psalm 27; Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35
The Rev. Debbie Little Wyman

— HOLY WEEK —

The Sunday of the Passion, March 24

7:30 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. Saviour
8:00 a.m. and 10:00—Holy Eucharist at St. John

Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:30 p.m. — Holy Eucharist with foot washing at Church of Our Father

Good Friday, March 29

5:30 p.m. — Taizé style Solemn Liturgy at St. Mary and St. Jude

Holy Saturday, March 30

7:30 p.m.—The Great Vigil of Easter at St. John's

Easter Sunday, March 30

7:30 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. Saviour's
8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist at St. John's

Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

*While Father Tim is away on a well-deserved vacation and retreat,
Mid-Week Worship at St. John will continue to be held.
Tim has arranged for Supply Priests to celebrate. Please join us.*

The Rite of Reconciliation (private confession) is always available by appointment, and is particularly appropriate during Lent. The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is reserved in The Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin at St. Saviour's for private devotion at any time that the church is open.

Birthdays

FEBRUARY

- 3—Michael Shook
- 5—Sally Hopkins
- 7—Andy McMullan
- 19—Candy DaCosta
- 24—Mike DaCosta
- 28—Bob Theriault

THE LIGHTER SIDE...

Between the Pages: A little boy opened the big old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages.

“Momma, look what I found,” the boy called out.

“What have you got there, dear?” his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy’s voice, he answered, “I think it’s Adam’s suit!”



LENTEN CLASS

Julia Morris-Myers and Sarah Flynn will be offering a Lenten study on Kathleen Norris' *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*. Do you struggle with the words of our faith, such as judgment, dogma, salvation or sinner? If so, this is the class for you! Norris blends history, theology, storytelling and memoir in this fascinating book which encourages us to embrace ancient traditions and find faith in our contemporary world.

The class will meet on Fridays in Lent, beginning February 22, from 12-1 in the Rectory Library at St. Saviour's. Please order your own book (used, for as little as \$.01 on Amazon) and look for the vocabulary you'd like us to talk about. Please talk with Julia (667-9529) or Sarah (244-9496) for more information. This is a great book and we anticipate lots of lively discussion!

VESTRY BULLETS

December

- In a joint effort with Harbor House, the Food Pantry, High Road Congregational and Tremont Congregational, St. John's is sponsoring a back pack program to send healthy food home on weekends with needy children at Pemetie and Tremont Schools.
- The Vestry continues to have discussion about additional clergy help for Tim.
- In February, Tim will be forming various committees to assist with tasks around the church.
- The front right pew will be removed and stored at St. Andrew's in order to make room for wheelchairs. Comfortable, movable chairs will replace the pew.

January

- Eleanor Watts and Patsy Fogarty will be organizing a "phone tree" as a method of notifying the congregation of important information.
- Two events are scheduled as fund raisers to benefit the food pantry. On March 9, Bonnie Hersey and Stephen Sampson will perform a recital of love songs at St. John's. On April 6, the High Road Congregational Church will hold its annual spaghetti supper.
- There has been a drop in the number of pledges but the amount of the pledges has increased. This drop is primarily due to people dying or moving.
- St. John's will be hosting Story Camp, a summer literacy program sponsored by the SWH library, the last week in June and for four weeks in July.

Chloe Hatcher, Clerk

FROM BACH TO BROADWAY

"From Bach to Broadway" is a recital performed by soprano Bonnie Hersey and pianist Stephen Sampson that will benefit the Westside Food Pantry. It will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9th at St. John's. Donations will be accepted at the door – all proceeds go to our Food Pantry. Please join us!

Thanks,

Dean Henry and Susan Buell

WESTSIDE FOOD PANTRY

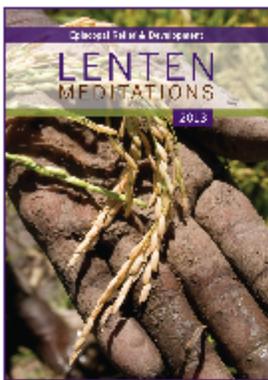
Recently someone asked me after church: "How do people who come to the Westside Food Pantry know that they are welcome to worship with us here at St. John? I didn't have an answer right then, and I am sure that whatever I said didn't shed any clear light on her question. So after further reflection I offer this answer:

I believe there is only one way that a visitor can know if they are welcome here or at any church. They feel that they belong. They feel they belong because they recognize faces and friends; because they have heard that we take people as they are not requiring them to fit into any mold; because they trust that we will help them meet new friends; because they believe we will not require more of them than they can give. We have all been new-comers at times in our lives? How did we know we belonged? The answer to that will show us the answer to my recent questioner's concern. How did we lose our fear of rejection when we entered as a stranger? When? When we knew we were allowed to belong as the people we are. And we stay because this is where we belong.

So how do the people who visit the Westside Food Pantry know they they are welcome to belong at St. John? Because of us and of how you and I help take away their fear that they might not be accepted for who they are. What better way to get to know St. John as a place of unconditional belonging than in our Pantry ministry!

The Reverend Dean Henry

Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday 2013



Celebrate Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday this Lent

We invite all Episcopalians to gather on February 17, or another convenient Sunday during the season, to pray for people around the world who are struggling with poverty, hunger and disease.

Episcopal Relief & Development works with local partners in over 40 countries to tackle these issues. You can support this work by contributing to a plate offering or by mailing

your gift with the attached response form. Your participation is a simple way to help convey Jesus' love for our most vulnerable neighbors.

2013 Lenten Meditations

This year's Lenten devotional provides a particular focus on hunger while we prepare our souls for healing. It was written by a group of leaders from across The Episcopal Church with a variety of backgrounds and theological perspectives. Episcopal Relief & Development is very grateful to these friends for generously sharing their time and thoughts.



Reflecting a range of diverse voices, the meditations provide insights on Scripture passages and prayers, and how we might apply them to our lives as we face a world in need. As we consider Jesus' life of healing and sacrifice during this Lenten season, Episcopal Relief & Development asks you to reflect on your faith and how you might take action in responding to a hurting world. The traditional Lenten practice of almsgiving provides an opportunity to renew your commitment to people in need by supporting our work.

Photos courtesy of Episcopal Relief & Development and Harvey Wang for Episcopal Relief & Development.

Help heal a hurting world: www.episcopalrelief.org/Sunday

Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday

During this Lenten season, please consider making a donation to Episcopal Relief & Development.

Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners work to alleviate hunger and improve food supply, through integrated community-based programs that empower people to live healthier and more productive lives. Working together with church partners, local organizations and community members, we fight poverty and increase self-sufficiency by:

- Providing tools, seeds and training to support small-scale and family farms.
- Giving families and communities healthy animals to help generate other forms of income.
- Improving nutrition and diversifying the types of crops that families grow, sell and eat.
- Training farmers in agricultural techniques that increase overall food production.
- Helping communities embrace sustainable agriculture and environmentally sound practices that improve crops.

Gifts can be earmarked for Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday by completing the form below. Your contribution today supports us and our program partners worldwide to alleviate hunger and improve food supply. To learn more about our work, please visit www.episcopalrelief.org.

My Lenten Response

During this time of reflection, I want to answer Jesus' call to serve those in need and help heal a hurting a world. Enclosed is my Lenten gift to Episcopal Relief & Development:



\$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other \$ _____

Name _____		FOR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CREDIT CARD DONATIONS:	
Address _____		Please charge my gift to my:	
City, State, Zip _____		<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard
E-mail address _____		<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Name of your church _____ City _____		Account number _____	Expiration date _____
Please make your check payable to Episcopal Relief & Development, and mail to P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.		Name on card _____	
		Signature _____	
		Phone number (required for credit card donations) _____	

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The Net Tender - February 2013

St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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

Priest-in-Charge

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Stephen Sampson

Parish Administrator

Michele Daley

Editors

Jayne Ashworth

Anne Wetzel



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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 March *Net Tender* is February 24



LENTEN MEDITATIONS 2013

The 2013 Lenten Devotional booklets will be available at the back of the church on February 10th.