

The Net Tender - May 2013

## St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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# The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

May 2013

## ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

Many of us may remember the extensive process that led up to the adoption of our current *Book of Common Prayer*. The Standing Liturgical Commission began publishing a series of “Prayer Book Studies” in 1950. Revised liturgies were presented to the General Convention and authorized for trial use in 1967, 1970 (the “Green Book”) and 1973 (the “Zebra Book”). The *Proposed Book of Common Prayer* was approved in 1976, and again in 1979 when it became the Standard *Book of Common Prayer* we know today.



What some may not realize is that the process of Prayer Book revision did not end in 1979. In 1985, the General Convention charged the Standing Liturgical Commission to prepare inclusive language texts, the first of which were authorized for trial use in 1989 as *Supplemental Liturgical Materials*, and ultimately published as *Enriching Our Worship 1 (EOW 1-1997)*, which includes new texts for Morning and Evening Prayer, the Great Litany, and the Holy Eucharist.; *EOW 2 (2000)*, comprising new liturgies for Ministry with the Sick and Dying and a revised rite for the Burial of a Child; *EOW 3 (2006)*, a revised set of burial rites for adults; *EOW 4 (2007)*, The Renewal of Ministry; and *EOW 5 (2010)*, Liturgies Relating to Childbirth. General Convention has fully authorized these liturgies for use in the church, although individual bishops may choose to limit their use.



Although the desire for inclusive language was the originating reason for the *Enriching our Worship (EOW)* liturgies, as they have developed they have opened conversation about the ways that the language of our worship reflects our understanding of our relationship with God – or the ways that it doesn't. *EOW* has allowed the church to broaden our focus within our own tradition: to bring forward texts from parts of the Bible with which we may not be as familiar, like Canticles from the Book of Wisdom, from Hosea, Jonah, and Judith, as well as prayers from Anselm, Clare, Hildegard, Julian, and the Celtic tradition. *EOW* has made available liturgies for situations not covered in the Prayer Book, such as a litany used at the discontinuation of artificial life support.

If you've been at St. John or at St. Saviour in the past several weeks, you've participated in an *EOW* Eucharist, as we've been using Eucharistic Prayer 3 during the season of Easter. You may have been intrigued to hear different language and images referring to God, to Jesus, to salvation history. You may simply have been startled to hear something different from the small handful of Eucharistic prayers you've been hearing in rotation for the last forty years. Or, honestly, you may not have noticed anything different! If you were at St. John for the first Sunday of Lent, you participated in the *EOW* version of the Great Litany. If I have visited you when you were ill or prayed with you at the death of a loved one, you may have shared *EOW* prayers for the sick and dying.

As might be expected, acceptance and use of the *EOW* texts has varied in different parts of the church. At my home parish in Indiana, they had been an occasional part of our Sunday worship since the early 2000's; at my previous parish in Kentucky, *EOW* were the default liturgies. One of the challenges in using *EOW* in a parish is

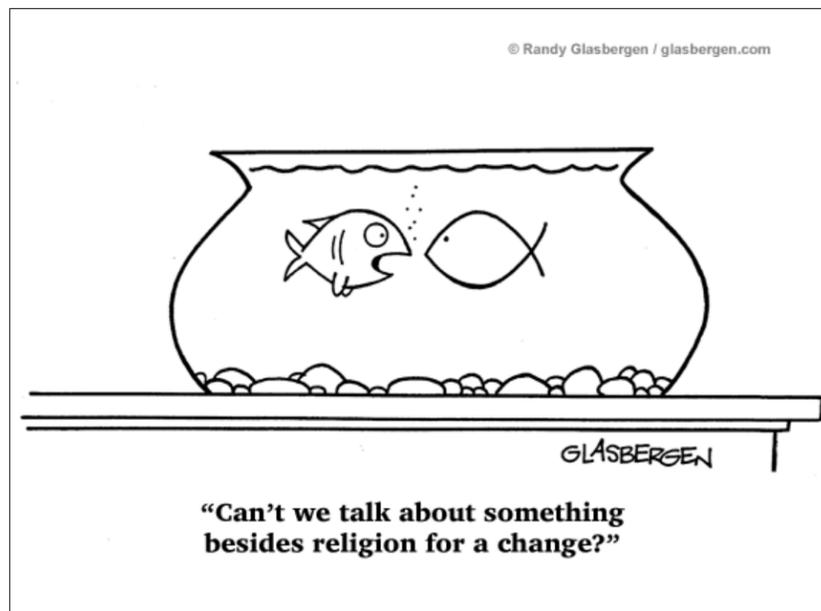
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If you no longer wish to receive the Net Tender or prefer to receive it by e-mail, please call the church office.

Deadline for articles for June Net Tender is May 26



“Can't we talk about something besides religion for a change?”

## (IN) FAQs

When we were growing up, Sandy and I were both admonished never to talk about three topics: religion, politics, money. I suspect that the topic of “sex” was so verboten that it never occurred to our parents to put it on the taboo list! Does this sound familiar to anyone?

Looking back at the “Big 3” I have to wonder what there WAS to talk about? Aunt Bertha’s rheumatism? When the tomatoes would get ripe? Nothing in the least bit controversial certainly! What did this early training do to our conversational skills as adults? In my case, and I think Sandy’s as well, it led us to avoid ALL questions of a personal nature, lest we stumble into something that would be somehow awkward or taboo.

Many of us, no doubt, over came these restrictions easily; perhaps the combination of healthy rebellion and a natural curiosity enabled us to feel comfortable with a much wider range of topics than our parents would have found acceptable.

My roommate in college was an extremely articulate young woman who was brought up in a family with three siblings and a father who was extremely opinionated and outspoken about everything. Not to be outdone in the family competition, my roommate was able to hold her own on most any topic. Not only that, she thrived on it! I was part of many of their family gatherings and excursions and shrank from such skirmishes.

Fast forward through years of work experience, parenting, volunteer involvement as I became less wary of disturbing someone’s comfort zone, and realized that most people LIKED to be asked questions and LIKED to talk about themselves. This realization brought the freedom to discover the common ground I shared with people around me. I still steered clear of “the big three” but I learned that there are abundant conversational opportunities that go well beyond ripening tomatoes!

Bunny Watts  
Sr. Warden



## THE FRIDAY STUDY GROUP...

led by Sarah Flynn and Julia Morris-Myers, will resume on May 3 in St. Saviour’s Rectory Library from 12-1. Because the Lenten study on Kathleen Norris’ *Amazing Grace* was lively and thought-provoking, there is interest in continuing. This time we will be looking at Cynthia Bourgeault’s *The Wisdom Jesus*. This book asks us to shed what we think we know about Jesus and look at him and his teachings with fresh eyes. The class will meet for 5 consecutive Fridays, through May 31. Participants are asked to buy their own copy of the book, but please let Julia or Sarah know if you have any difficulty. Also, please let them know of your interest. We hope many of you will join us for a great time of learning and reflection.

### RUMMAGE SALE

St. Dunstan’s Church Parish Hall  
134 State Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605  
Saturday, May 18,  
9 am to 1 pm

Books, games, clothes, jewelry, linens, household goods, toys, sporting goods, EVERYTHING your heart desires!

## HOLY LAND TOUR IN NOVEMBER

Good News! The Reverend Vesta Kowalski has agreed to accompany the travelers as Chaplain! This group is trying to organize a trip to Jerusalem, Galilee, and the Rose City of Petra, Jordan this coming November. The trip is being arranged through Jerusalem Tours, International. Contact Bob Schmeler at [bob.schmeler@gmail.com](mailto:bob.schmeler@gmail.com), (207) 801-2586, or go to [Holy-Land-2013.blogspot.com](http://Holy-Land-2013.blogspot.com) for details. A formal presentation will follow in a month or so, if there is enough interest.



## NATURAL CAUSES KILLED VICTOR

The Opera: A middle-aged man; an ill, frail, quiet immigrant, imprisoned for a minor crime; a callous, avoidable death. Be a part of the presentation of this folk opera written by George Swanson. There are parts for young and old, male and female. Contact George Swanson at 244-0579 for audition times. World Premier is August 16 and 17 at St. Saviour’s.

## NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Stephen Sampson

The arrival of spring and summer weather brings sounds that remind us that music is always nearby. John Keats put it this way:

### Sonnet IV. How Many Bards Gild The Lapses Of Time!

How many bards gild the lapses of time!  
A few of them have ever been the food  
Of my delighted fancy,—I could brood  
Over their beauties, earthly, or sublime:  
And often, when I sit me down to rhyme,  
These will in throngs before my mind intrude:  
But no confusion, no disturbance rude  
Do they occasion; 'tis a pleasing chime.  
So the unnumbered sounds that evening store;  
The songs of birds—the whispering of the leaves—  
The voice of waters—the great bell that heaves  
With solemn sound,—and thousand others more,  
That distance of recognizance bereaves,  
Makes pleasing music, and not wild uproar.

John Keats (1795 – 1821)

## DOWNEAST SPIRITUAL LIFE CONFERENCE

Don’t miss out! It’s time to register for the Second Annual Downeast Spiritual Life Conference which will be on August 23 & 24. This year’s conference is conveniently being held at The Atlantic Oceanside in Bar Harbor and the theme is *Spirituality in Our Times: Embracing Diversity, Creating Community*. What better subject is there in view of recent events in our country? The conference is sponsored by St. Francis by the Sea in Blue Hill but because it is being held in our backyard, we will have a front row seat to participate! To register go to <http://downeastspiritula.org> or call 207-374-5200.



## BEAN SUPPER

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

from 5:30 -7:00 PM

St. John’s Undercroft

to benefit the Food Pantry

Sign up sheet is in the undercroft.

Needed:

Eaters—Helpers

and any cash donations to defray costs.

Call Dianne/Chloe/Barbara/Jean/Carol



## YARD SALE

June 14-15

Trafton Garage

40 Seal Cove Road

It is now that time of year for all to heed the call of your attics, basements, garages, etc. They are calling you to rummage through them and pass on the “found items” to St. Andrew & St. John’s Tag Sale and the Quietside Fair. All items for the sale are to be delivered to Priscilla Trafton’s garage on Seal Cove Road.

## QUIETSIDE FAIR

July 13

## Birthdays

### MAY

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

## Wedding Anniversaries

### MAY

- 7—Betsy and John Hewlett
- 19—Steve and Wanda Fernald
- 22—Ken Cochrane and Rita Redfield

## APRIL VESTRY BULLETS

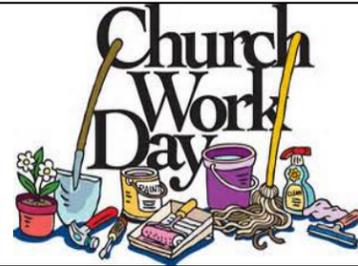
- Our piano is in need of replacement. Stephen has been authorized to look for a good used piano not to exceed \$11,000. The monies for this purchase will come from donations and fund raisers and also possibly some from the endowment.
- Tim Fleck, Rita Redfield and Mary Mitchell will be meeting to discuss furnishings for the meeting room.
- Each Vestry member has been given the assignment of liaison to one of our church ministries.
- A Celebration with music is being planned for Pentecost on May 19.

### HOLD THE DATE

Spring Clean Up  
Saturday, May 11

(Rain Date Saturday, May 18)

at St. Andrew and at St. John



## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Try committing to at least three of the following actions below to help steward our Earth:

- turn off lights, TV, and computer when leaving a room
- pick up and throw away trash found on the ground
- take a shorter shower
- adjust the thermostat by three degrees
- bike, walk, carpool, or use public transportation (**Island Explorer in the summer**)
- change at least five light bulbs to either compact, fluorescent or LED bulbs
- consciously combine trips and errands
- take the stairs
- hang clothes on a drying rack or clothesline instead of using a dryer
- use cloth shopping bags
- clean out closets and donate unused items (**St. John Garage Sale, Serendipity**)
- check car tire pressure to increase gas mileage
- buy more local and organic produce

## PRESIDING BISHOP OFFERS PRAYER FOR BOSTON

[April 15, 2013] Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori calls for prayer following the explosions in Boston, MA, and offers the following prayer:

*Gracious God, you walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death. We pray that the suffering and terrorized be surrounded by the incarnate presence of the crucified and risen one. May every human being be reminded of the precious gift of life you entered to share with us. May our hearts be pierced with compassion for those who suffer, and for those who have inflicted this violence, for your love is the only healing balm we know. May the dead be received into your enfolding arms, and may your friends show the grieving they are not alone as they walk this vale of tears. All this we pray in the name of the one who walked the road to Calvary.*

## Enriching Our Worship (continued)

that the texts are not published as a single new prayer book to be placed in the pew, but as individual texts and prayers to be inserted and substituted in the *BCP* liturgy. This means either that worship planners must print out texts in bulletins or handouts, or that the congregation become comfortable with hearing prayers spoken without seeing them written in front of us.

I plan to continue to incorporate *EOW* texts as part of our worship repertoire at St. Saviour and at St. Andrew and John. In order to ease the transition, as well as to make things easier for visitors who may not be familiar, we will be placing printed copies of some of the *EOW* texts in the pews. I encourage you, though, to experiment with worshipping “off book:” looking at the speaker and listening to words as they are spoken, rather than following along word-by-word in the prayer book or bulletin.

One more word about *EOW* and supplemental liturgical texts. A number of folks have asked me when I think the next Prayer Book revision will be, and whether it will include the new rite for the Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Covenant, which we in Maine use for the celebration of same-sex marriage. I don’t move in the highest levels of our church, but everything I have heard leads me to believe that the Episcopal Church is much less likely to tackle wholesale revision of the Prayer Book in this generation, and much more likely to continue to publish supplemental materials alongside the 1979 *BCP*. Prayer Book revision consumes huge amounts of time and energy (it took almost thirty years last time); time and energy that could be better spent on the mission of the Church in the world. And there is ample precedent for this model: The Church of England has not adopted a new official Prayer Book since 1662, but in the meantime has published dozens of “Alternative Service” books, most recently in 2000. I would not be surprised to see a new marriage liturgy published this way, perhaps as *EOW* 6 or 7.

As I said this Sunday at St. John, the Church is not God. Neither is the *Book of Common Prayer*. Whatever words and texts and music we use to worship, they are valuable only insofar as they help us to give God glory and praise in voices that are authentic and true.

Tim+



## GODLEY PLAY April 21<sup>st</sup>



## BACKPACK PROGRAM



Jesus said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me.” What did he mean by “suffer”? Did he mean that a child should suffer from hunger to find him? Did he mean that a child should suffer from poverty to know him? In a recently-published national news article on hunger in America a child recounted how she sat in class and imagined her teacher was a banana and her classmates were apples. None of the words her teacher was saying mattered to her; all that mattered was food. Now.

Suffer? Yes, she was suffering. And where is this Jesus who is calling her to “come to me”? In the St. John’s Undercroft, that’s where. Each week a few volunteers gather to pack 12-13 backpacks that kids can take home for the weekend. This program began when staff at Tremont Elementary School and at Pemetic School noticed that a few kids were coming to school on Monday having not eaten since they left school on Friday. Harbor House was asked to help, and they requested the assistance of the Westside Food Pantry and St. John’s. As it happened, both Ingrid Kerchmar

and Dianne McMullan had already wanted to initiate a Backpack Program. So the timing, the volunteers and the will to serve all faithfully met in this Harbor House project. Now week in and week out we pack mac and cheese, soup, cereal, raisins, applesauce, juice, granola bars and more into backpacks. We then deliver them to the schools, which in turn quietly and anonymously transfer them to the students.

Who are these kids? Why are their parents not feeding them? We don’t know and don’t ask. Jesus did not say, “Justify your suffering”. Instead he reached out his hand in love.

Do you want to be Jesus in the Undercroft? If so, then listen to the announcements and bring to church what is requested. Write a check to the Westside Food Pantry, which has committed up to \$250 a month to this project. Pray. Yes, every Friday at 10:00 am pray for the backpack volunteers that their work be accomplished with love and abundance.

For the Backpack Program, Alice Downs, with Jayne Ashworth, Barbara Campbell, Carroll Fernald, Dianne McMullan (Coordinator), Marilyn Mays, Dot Mead, Edie Stanwood, Diana Novella, Ingrid Kerchmar 244-4391 or 266-1705 if you can help or know of someone who can help.

*Alice Downs*

Several folks have asked for information about a couple books I referred to recently. In my sermon on Sunday, April 28, I referred to *The Great Emergence*, by Phyllis Tickle (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008. ISBN 978-0801013133 hardback, 978-0801071027 paperback). In our forum on that day, we worked from *What Every Church Member Should Know About Poverty*, by Bill Ehlig and Ruby K. Payne (Highlands, TX, Aha Process, Inc., 1999, revised 2005. ISBN 978-1929229505). In that forum, I also referred to *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* by the same authors (Highlands, TX, Aha Process, Inc., 4<sup>th</sup> ed 2005. ISBN 978-1929229482). All three are available on Amazon.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE...

**First Wedding:** A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, “How many women can a man marry?” “Sixteen,” the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly. “How do you know that?” “Easy,” the little boy said. “All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said, 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer.”



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

### Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 5

9:00 — Holy Eucharist  
Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 5:1-9  
The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

### Ascension Day — May 9

12:30 — Holy Eucharist  
Psalm 47; Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53  
The Rev. Tim Fleck

### Seventh Sunday of Easter — May 12

9:00 — Holy Eucharist  
Psalm 97; Acts 16:16-34; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26  
The Rev. Tim Fleck

### The Day of Pentecost — May 19

9:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist  
Psalm 104:25-35; Acts 2:1-21; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17, 25-27  
The Rev. Tim Fleck

### Trinity Sunday — May 26

9:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine  
Canticle 13; Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15  
The Rev. Debbie Little Wyman

### Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.

May 2, 9, 23, 30 — Holy Eucharist  
May 16 — Morning Prayers



## OUR NEW SIGN

The new St. Andrew & St. John sign finally made it back to its home on Main Street on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. This was a 10 month effort. Fr. Tim, using church guidelines for colors and fonts, created the basic graphic. *Hinckley Yachts* donated the fiberglass panel. Chuck Scott-Henderson of *Tidal Graphics* fabricated and placed them on the panel earlier last week. Todd Hardy and Mike Levesque of *Eden Builders* set it in place after they finished installing a new pull rope system to ring our recently restored bell.

Thanks to all who helped in this project.  
*Ted Bromage*