

The Net Tender - October 2013

## St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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# The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

October 2013

## WHO YA GONNA CALL?

It should not shock you to know that when clergy get together, they sometimes talk about things their parishioners do that drive them crazy. It's not the only thing we talk about, but it is an evergreen source of conversation (sometimes we talk about things our *bishops* do that drive us crazy, and often we actually talk about the Kingdom of God and how we see it breaking into the world).

It's safe to say that the top ten pet peeves would have to include parishioners who have some sort of pastoral crisis and don't call to tell us about it. Especially in a small community where "everybody knows everything," it can be so disheartening to hear at coffee hour that Betty has been in the hospital for four days, or that Earl's mother died two weeks ago, or that the Browns have moved into assisted living in Bangor. Whether it's literally true or not, it often feels as though the pastor is among the last to know, and it's hard to escape the irrational sense that somehow he or she *should* have known.

Allow me to disillusion you: your priest is not clairvoyant. Nor do I have electronic tracking devices implanted in parishioners that send a distress signal if they are in trouble.



I would refer you to page 453 of *The Book of Common Prayer* (a well-thumbed copy of which I'm sure all of you have sitting next to your favorite chair): "In case of illness, the Minister of the Congregation is to be notified." Similar notes on pages 462 and 468 direct us to contact the church at or near the time of death. The expectation is that the Church is to be involved at these times, and that it is the responsibility of the parishioner or family to contact the clergy person.

Usually I'm sure that not calling is merely oversight. Because our community is so close-knit, one simply assumes that word will get around. I would ask you to remember, though, that the church is a special kind of community, bound together in a special way. Contacting the priest, or at least the parish office, is not just a matter of spreading the word among friends. We are called to live all parts of our lives in relationship with Christ, and that part of that means sharing the difficult times as well as the good times with the Church. Whether or not you believe that you "need anything" from the parish, the Body of Christ needs to know what is happening to its members.

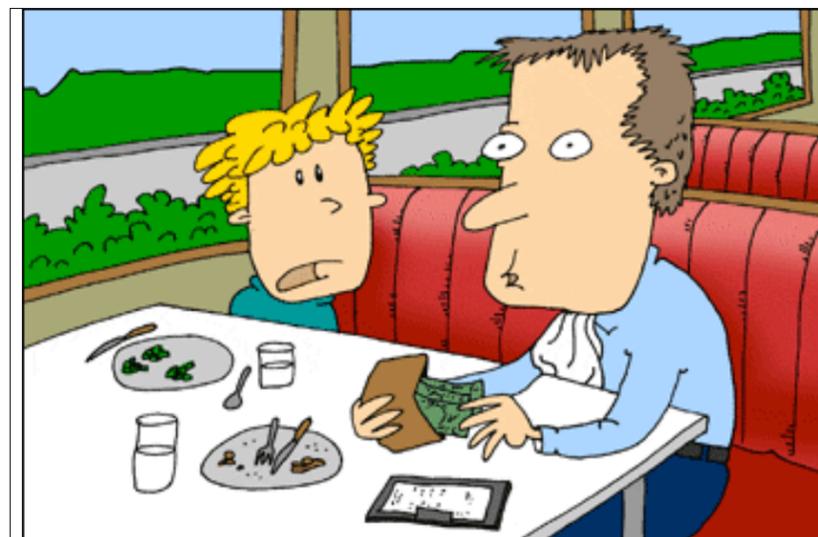
I have also heard people say that they just didn't want to bother me, because "you've got so much on your plate already." Let me be clear: BOTHER ME! Pastoral care is an important part of my ministry here among you, and I can't do it effectively if I don't know what's going on. I can't guarantee that I will be at your door in thirty minutes or less, but I can guarantee that I will hold you and your situation in prayer. St. John has an effective Congregational Pastoral Care team (see the swell new cards in the pew backs?), and I rely heavily on them to provide care and companionship when I don't have enough time to visit everyone, but I still need to know what's going on.

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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 November *Net Tender* is October 27



Thanks to Shirley Ostrander 01-15-2004  
**HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?**

## SR. WARDEN'S REFLECTIONS...

*"I went to the Ministry Fair*

*The Wardens and Vestry were there...."*

And so were LOTS of other people, all enjoying themselves, sharing, learning and even volunteering!

As you came downstairs after the 8 a.m. service - or in from the wet - you entered a room full of brightly decorated tables, each representing one or more of St. John's ministries. You would see Patsy Fogarty explaining the benefits of testamentary gifts while at the other end of the table Liz Erickson was sharing pie charts to show just where our income is spent. Margot Haertel's Altar Guild display - which included an iron, needle and thread and fine linen - made us all aware of the amount of careful preparation that happens to make the church ready for each service.

Communication was the theme of Jayne Ashworth's balloon bedecked table where we had the chance to add our word to the church anagram. From time to time there would be an announcement from the kitchen - HQ of the Martha's Guild - announcing that coffee and refreshments were available and that lessons were being given on use of the really-very-friendly coffee machine and dishwasher. By the end of the morning the coffee hour list had several more volunteers!

Susan Buell, wearing her Food Pantry hat, capitalized on the opportunity for more raffle ticket sales. With another month to go the current sales total approaches \$2,500! Karen Craig and Marilyn Mays welcomed ideas for fund raising events which included movie nights and mahjonn lessons. Bunny's worship table encouraged new participants to join St. John Singers or to sign up to become an usher, acolyte, lector or chalice. Mary Mitchell's gentle nudging encouraged people to take part in the B & G committee.

The Godly Play exhibit, featuring Noah's Ark with animals and ocean, gave a glimpse of the shared pleasure that joining this ministry could provide. Joan Bromage, dedicated coordinator of Pastoral Care was on hand to describe the needs and rewards of being part of her team. In another area "office sitters" volunteered to come if needed when Michele is on vacation or needed extra help.

How do we measure the success of such an event? Certainly the fact that people - lots of people - came both at the announced Forum time of 9:00 and after the 10:00 service indicated a significant level of interest. Many ministries had new names on their sign-up sheets. Perhaps reading this will encourage others to find ways to express their interest in the work of St. John's. The results, however, are essentially intangible. A pervasive spirit of good will and enthusiasm predominated as church members shared the stories of their ministries and explored the possibilities for continuing to make St. John's a vital force in the community.

*Eleanor (Bunny) Watts*

## 194<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF MAINE

*God's Kingdom Surrounds Us:  
Let's Take it to the Streets*



On October 25 and 26, St. Andrew & St. John will send Patsy Fogarty, Edie Stanwood and Rita Redfield as delegates to the 194<sup>th</sup> annual convention at Point Lookout, Northport.

At the annual convention four clerical and four lay deputies shall be elected to represent the Diocese in the General Convention. The Rev. Tim Fleck and Rita Redfield are nominees this year.

There are three proposed resolutions this year:

- (1) Amendment of several Articles of the Constitution
- (2) Lay Compensation;
- (3) Clergy Compensation.

The 2014 Budget will be discussed and voted on and multiple workshops and meetings to attend.

Bishop Lane hopes that the delegates will spend time in conversation with members of their own congregations and delegates from other congregations about how the Episcopal Church in Maine will continue to push out the front doors of our churches.

The delegates will worship together, break bread together, laugh together, and, perhaps even go bowling together.

A complete copy of the events and workshops are posted on the bulletin board in the undercroft.

## FORSYTHE FIELD

We have had some requests about interment in Forsythe Field. It is important that we review and update the current guidelines. We are discussing ways of making the area a more reverent place and would like to have your input. If this is something that interests you, please contact me at [chloe-hatcher@gmail.com](mailto:chloe-hatcher@gmail.com) and you will be included in our discussions.

## WHO YA GONNA CALL *(continued)*

This is particularly important at the time of death or planning for a funeral. A clergy friend tells the story of learning in the *New York Times* that a funeral was scheduled in his church that afternoon, and that he was officiating. This is an extreme situation, but I do receive calls from the funeral director telling me that everything is already taken care of, and all they need to do is confirm the date and time. I have even been contacted by other clergy, telling me that a parish member has made arrangements with them to do a funeral at St. John on a particular date, and they are checking to see if the church is available.

If you will indulge me in a little bit of systems psychology, I have wondered if part of the issue at St. Andrew and John is the fact that this parish has been through several long periods of supply and interim clergy, when you have gotten used to the idea that you need to take care of yourselves and one another and that a clergy person is a bit of an add-on. I certainly do not want to make the case that a congregation shouldn't take care of one another, or that a parish needs a clergy person to do effective ministry. I would just remind you that you do have a priest-in-charge now, and that I need and want to be your pastor as well as your Sunday morning preacher and presider. **CALL ME!**

*Tim+*

Cell phone: 812-8362; Home phone; 801-2586; Office: 244-3229

## THE LIGHTER SIDE...

### Historical Flight

Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent.

"The flight to Egypt," said Kyle.

"I see ... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus," Ms. Terri said.

"But who's the fourth person?"

"Oh, that's Pontius-the Pilot.



## CONGREGATIONAL PASTORAL CARE

Please know that members of the CPC team are available to help parishioners and friends who are in need of pastoral care and support. Many thanks to Fr. Tim for the great graphics on the new card we've created as a "helpful" reminder! Please share this information with others! You may call/email Fr. Tim Fleck or Michele Daley (244-3229), or Joan Bromage (244-3227).

## EVALUATIONS

Thank you for the wonderful participation in the evaluation of the one-service worship experiment that was held last spring!

The results are being tabulated.

**Birthdays**  
**OCTOBER**  
 5—Chloe Hatcher  
 7—Wanda Fernald  
 12—Bob Stanwood  
 12—Neela Zinsser

**Wedding Anniversaries**  
**OCTOBER**  
 1—Alice Downs & Dean Henry  
 16—Carl & Jean Storage

## THIS MINISTRY OF SERVICE

*This article, shared by Margot Haertel, first appeared in The Messenger, Volume 1 Number 10, the newsletter from St John and St. Andrew dated September 21, 1958. The Rector Elect was Robins H. Thatcher L.S.T.*

Church work is mainly carried on by volunteers who give their services because of their devotion and love for Christ (not the minister), and the Church. This makes the Parish quite different from a business which pays dividends and wages. It requires tact, management and leadership to secure all the volunteer cooperation and teamwork that is obtainable and needed. The business expert can offer promotion and higher wages, the Pastor depends on interest and loyalty striving to attract people in the worship and work of the Church studying the talents of his members and placing them in unpaid tasks and worthy opportunities for greater service, not to him, nor the parish but to Christ who is our Heart & Head.

## MINISTRY FAIR

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Ministry Fair held on Sunday, 22 September 2013. Our thanks go to Bunny and Sandy Watts who made the wonderful signs identifying each ministry area. There were creative displays of each of the work areas, much energy and enthusiasm, and great fellowship! There were also good ideas shared and many people volunteered to work in various areas. The Communications people asked that we share a word that came to mind when we think of the Parish of St. Andrew and St. John. Among those words shared were: joy, energy, love, caring, friends, giving, music, bells, open, Son, next, stuff, gifts, peace, and warmth. How about you? What one word comes to mind when you think of our Parish? And how do you participate in that word?



## MUSICAL NOTES

Last week while eating lunch at a Bar Harbor restaurant I noticed that underneath the plate of glass covering the tabletop were several photographs and a small square of paper with the heading ‘Conversation Starters’. This particular conversation prompt was: ‘What song brings you the most memories?’ I was already having a good conversation with my son, so did not pursue this question with him, but I did file it away as a possible ‘Net Tender Starter’. However, as the Net Tender deadline approached, I decided that rather than try to name my favorite songs and explain why they mean so much to me (‘Red Rubber Ball’, by The Cyrkle, for example), or ponder the mysteries of why different people have different favorite songs, I would instead tell a little about ‘The music teacher who brings me the most memories.’

Most of us have had a teacher who has changed our lives in important ways, perhaps opening new avenues for activities to engage in, or helping us understand what makes for a meaningful life. For me, this teacher was Natasha Chances, my piano teacher beginning in the second grade and continuing through the end of high school, and then my friend and mentor in both music and ‘a meaningful life’ until her death in 2007. Natasha was born in Russia and moved to Paris as a teenager to study piano, later moving to Lewiston, Maine with her husband. She brought with her not only a profound knowledge of music and piano playing, but a passion for life in general that was an integral part of her teaching. Her small, dimly lit, and cozy living room was dominated by a baby grand piano and was filled with stacks of music, shelves and shelves of books, a small record player, and stacks of LPs of classical music. The room was a warm, inviting, musical sanctuary, a feeling that was reinforced by Natasha’s warm, soothing, and somewhat exotic (because of the combined French and Russian accents?) voice. Natasha was an extremely encouraging and supportive teacher, but she was also very demanding. We learned the importance of working slowly, paying careful attention to the rhythms and fingerings and the tone we produced at the piano. We also learned the importance of respecting the intentions of the composer. When we played a piece by a particular composer for the first time, she asked us to write a short biography of the composer, to help us understand a little about the person who wrote the music. She also gave us wonderful postcard portraits of the composers, which helped us gain a sense of their personalities. But most critical was that our playing reflected the style appropriate for the composer. I remember seeing Natasha after college, and playing a composition by Schubert. After I finished, she said, kindly but pleadingly, ‘Stevie, how could you do this to Schubert?’ (These may not have been her exact words, but this was the gist.) Meaning: I had played too loudly, and with too ‘percussive’ a sound—a style that might be appropriate for some composers, but not for Franz Schubert. I realized that during my time away from Natasha’s teaching I had lost sight of the importance of playing with the composer’s musical, and human, personality at the front of my mind. That comment of Natasha’s has stayed with me; whenever I play now, I imagine her listening nearby, and try to satisfy her that Bach, or Chopin, or Schubert, or Schumann, would not be unhappy with the sound.

And now we transition to another ‘Musical Memories’ topic. Many ‘Net Tender’ readers will remember the column in this space in the July, 2013 issue in which Susan Buell and I related the tale of the visit to St. Johns by Finn Brown Ward, a grandson of Louise and Willard Brown. It was Louise Brown whose generous donation of \$30,000 supplied virtually all of the funds necessary for the purchase and rebuilding of Greta, our venerable pipe organ, and for the costs of the renovations necessary to accommodate her. Well, a few weeks ago we witnessed a replay of this visit, with slight variations. A man, a woman, and their young daughter came into St. Johns, where they were greeted by Susan. (Careful readers will detect the similarities in the plot lines of this and the Finn Brown Ward story.) It turned out that this young daughter, three-year-old Edie, is yet another grandchild of Willard and Louise Brown. Her father, Bill Brown, is a son of Willard and Louise, and he, his wife Nancy, and Edie had come to St. Johns to see the organ. Susan told them that if they returned the next morning they could meet the organist, who would be rehearsing with another musician at 10:00 a.m. Right on schedule, the three visitors entered as I was about to rehearse with Eileen Brennan, a recorder player, with Susan also present. Edie had picked out her special ‘organ dress’ for the occasion. I played the organ for them; Edie was entranced by the sound and Bill was filled with lots of interesting questions. We all talked together for a while, and then this Brown clan moved on. Perhaps there are additional Brown descendants out there, biding their time until a strategic visit to the family organ. Stay tuned.

*Stephen Sampson*

## FOOD PANTRY

Everyone is invited to attend the Westside Food Pantry Volunteers meetings that will be held Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, October 16 at 1:00 p.m. at St. John Church (315 Main Street, Southwest Harbor). The two meetings are being offered to allow those who cannot attend one of the meetings to attend the other. The same information will be shared at each meeting, so you need attend only one - whichever best fits your schedule.

Susan Buell and Dean Henry will give a report on the upcoming distribution season, the Food Pantry's financial situation, and will hold a general discussion on operations.

We are thankful for those who have helped Susan raise funds this summer, who are helping to prepare for the annual appeal mailing, and who have kept the summer backpack program for some of our youngest neighbors going. If you have family or friends who would be willing to serve on this committee, please let Dean know. We need a few new members to help carry on this important sharing.

Blessings to you as we prepare to launch this new Pantry season on Sunday, November 3.

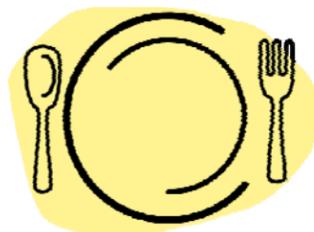
*Dean Henry*

## FREE MEALS IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Every Monday:** Everybody Eats from 3 – 6 pm at St. Dunstan's Parish Hall, 134 State Street, Ellsworth. Everyone Welcome!!

**Every Wednesday:** The Welcome Table from 3 – 6 pm at The First Congregational Church of Ellsworth, 2 Church St, Ellsworth.

**Every Thursday:** Holy Redeemer Church from 4:00 – 7:00 pm, 21 Ledgeawn Street, Bar Harbor.



## SEPTEMBER VESTRY BULLETS

- Safe Church Training will be held at St. Saviour's on October 12 from 10:00 AM until 3:00PM.
- The Vestry voted to authorize the Altar Guild to have the altar Bibles repaired for both churches.
- Personnel Reviews will be done before the next Vestry meeting.
- We will continue our current relationship with the Farmer's Market.
- The Vestry spent a great deal of time discussing the budget with Liz Erickson and Jim Vekasi.

## HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**Wednesdays,** October 9-December 11, 3:30-7:00 p.m. (patient care training)

**Tuesdays,** October 8-December 3, 3:30-7:00 p.m. (bereavement facilitators training)

For more information contact the hospice office, 667-2531.



## Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

### Jazz, Justice, and the Journey of Tradition

Theodicy Jazz Collective is a group committed to making justice real through the creative, spiritual power of music. Part of that commitment is the teaching and sharing of ways to incorporate into our worship the jazz ideals of community, flexibility, and listening, to help the church thrive in our rapidly changing world. More information about them is available at <http://theodicyjazz.com/>

They will present a concert on Wednesday, October 2 at St. Saviour Episcopal Church, 41 Mt. Desert St., Bar Harbor. The musicians will be available for a public conversation about jazz and justice at 6:15, with the concert beginning at 7:00. A free will offering will be received; after expenses, all donations received will be given to the Emmaus Homeless Shelter in Ellsworth.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

### Pentecost 20—October 6

8:00 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine  
Psalm 137; Lamentations 1:1-6; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10  
The Rev. Burl Salmon

### Pentecost 21—October 13

8:00 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine  
Psalm 66:1-11; Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19  
The Rev. Tim Fleck

### Pentecost 22—October 20

#### \*\* MDI Marathon \*\*

9:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine  
Psalm 119:97-104; Jeremiah 31:27-34; 2 Timothy 3:14:4-5; Luke 18:1-8  
The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

### Pentecost 23—October 27

8:00 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist at St. John the Divine  
Psalm 65; Joel 2:23-32; 2 Timothy 4:6-8; Luke 18:9-14  
The Rev. Tim Fleck

### Thursdays: 12:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist

Each week we will celebrate the feast of a particular saint.

October 3 — Francis of Assisi

October 10—Philip

October 17—Ignatius of Antioch

October 24—Catholic Martyrs of England

October 31—Vigil of All Saints

## 9:00 SUNDAY FORUMS

**September 29—2014 Budget.** The FIC will make a brief presentation on the current (2013) budget, and all will be invited to discuss mission and budget priorities for next year.

**October 6—Godly Play for Adults** will feature a demonstration of Godly Play, the stories we share with our youngest during worship, before they return to the congregation for the celebration of the Eucharist. Come and join us as Floy Ervin and Jayne Ashworth talk about the program and share one of the stories with you.

**October 13—One Service Experiment.** Members of St. Andrew and St. John will be invited to talk about the 9:00 service experiment St. John conducted last Spring.

## Mount Desert Island Marathon

The Mount Desert Island Marathon will be run on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. The finish line is in front of the Pemetic Green, so be prepared! Since the finish of the race at the town green conflicts with the 10:00 service, we will be doing as we did in the past and have one combined service (with music) at 9:00.

