

The Net Tender - March 2014

St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

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The Net Tender

Newsletter of St. Andrew & St. John Episcopal Church

March 2014

MARCH MADNESS

When we moved to Mount Desert Island (in the month of May), a local friend told us, “Start watching the police beat in the *Islander* in March. That’s when it starts getting weird around here.” True to form, this week’s paper included a story of “shovel rage” – a local resident moved to throw snow at a town truck and strike it with his shovel in frustration that the sidewalks were not being cleared quickly enough (no damage was reported, and no arrests were made). A quick scan of incidents from last March includes a man calling police from the maintenance shed at a golf course, claiming that he was being chased (no evidence of a chase was found); a motorist slamming on his brakes because the car behind him was following too close, causing a rear-end collision and damage to both cars; a resident calling police to say that someone had been rude to her over the phone; and a report of a woman walking down Main Street in her underwear. Perhaps our most celebrated recent local-interest item, the disappearance of a tub of scallop gonads from a car at the Somesville One Stop, actually occurred in November, but in a nice bit of symmetry, made it onto Comedy Central’s “Colbert Report” in March of 2013.



Of course, many of the reports in the police beat are not funny at all. I can’t quote statistics, but it seems as though calls for domestic assault, OUI and other drug and alcohol-related crimes are high in late winter – or maybe it’s just that it’s not obnoxious tourists getting drunk in hotel parking lots, but our own folks getting into trouble near to home. It’s no secret that winters here are long and dark (this winter seems particularly long), and that cabin fever is a real danger. When Cap’n Nemo’s in Bass Harbor burned down in December, a thoughtful local reminded me to be on the watch for domestic disputes, as the folks who had previously found their social outlet at the neighborhood bar would now have to spend time in small houses with their spouses and children.

For many folks, March is also the time when the money put aside from summer jobs starts to run thin: the oil tank is empty, the refrigerator is empty, the rent is due, the light bill is due, and there is no paycheck on the horizon until May or June. In the best years, there is no margin for error for those who rely on a seasonal economy, and in years with long, cold winters, there is little hope of making the summer money stretch far enough. Both Island pantries have unfortunately become regular parts of the winter economy, and I can vouch that requests for assistance from the clergy discretionary funds peak in the late winter.

March is when it starts getting weird (or perhaps weirder). But today, most of us have some sort of shelter, some source of heat and light, and some opportunity to get out of the house occasionally. Imagine life in northern Europe in the Dark Ages, when many folks lived in one-room huts, heated with a wood or peat fire. Only the wealthy could afford glass for windows or candles for light. Food was stockpiled in the fall, with no effective means to preserve it. In this setting, winter is not just depressing and stressful; it is actually life-threatening.

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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 April Net Tender is March 23

CONGREGATIONAL PASTORAL CARE

Working with Fr. Tim, members of the Pastoral Care Teams at St. Andrew & St. John and at St. Saviour’s quietly go about their visiting, cooking, driving, etc. as needed. We are there if you need some “TLC” – and please do also let us know if you’ve someone in mind within or outside the parish who could use



CONGREGATIONAL PASTORAL CARE TEAM
St. Andrew & St. John, Southwest Harbor --- St. Saviour, Bar Harbor

May we help you?? If you or someone you know within or beyond our parish would like a friendly visit, a listening ear or a home-cooked meal, or if you have other needs, please let us know. Members of the CPC team share with Fr. Tim Fleck a ministry of loving spiritual care and friendship. (See back of card for some of the gifts offered by team members.)

Please call Fr. Tim at either church office (244-3229, 288-4215), or Joan Bromage (244-3227) or Marsha Lyons (244-0705) and we’ll be happy to help.

some support. Call Michele in the office (244-3229) or Joan Bromage (244-3227) and we’ll respond.

Thank you to all our helpers! Please take one of the pew cards and share as appropriate!

Joan Bromage

QUIETSIDER FESTIVAL?

From time to time this winter when I was poking around in our frigid garage I would come across one of the flamingos, tucked away, waiting. "No, not yet" I would think and once again put off thinking about the Quietside Festival.



Even though our relentless deep freeze is continuing into March the calendar reality tells me that it's time to do some advance planning. When I spoke to Ingrid at Harbor House recently she thought they would be going ahead with the parade since the road work will not be going on during the weekend and I think we should make plans for our part in the Festival.

The most labor intensive aspects of St. John's participation in the Fair are the Garage Sale, previously held on Seal Cove Road, followed by the Treasure Trove and its off shoot, the Boutique. Since the Seal Cove Road location is no longer available for storing, sorting and selling there is no feasible way to have this happen unless someone has a handy garage that can be used for that purpose. Also, there was some talk of doing it at St. Andrew's. That certainly has possibilities if someone would come forward to head up that effort. Are there any volunteers for either of these options?

Our other attractions - the silent auction, lemonade & pies, the garden booth, the basket raffle - are popular with both the parish and the community and are good money makers. I suggest that we put our efforts into making these a big success. Those of you who have worked hard on them in the past, think about what part you would like to play this year. If you haven't taken an active part I'm sure there's a place for your talents and energy! I welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Eleanor (Bunny) Watts

March Madness *(continued)*

The days start to get a little longer after Christmas and the midwinter solstice, but not nearly fast enough. Spring is months away, and any sort of harvest well beyond that. Late winter is a season when time seems to slow down, when death seems to be all around, and it's hard to remember that new life will ever be possible. A time when we count the days until we can crawl out of our winter cocoons, our stagnant little tombs, and celebrate resurrection and the triumph over death's finality.

The Christian tradition of Lent, of counting off the forty lengthening days before Easter, recognizes the reality that rebirth doesn't come without death, that new life doesn't always come when we are ready for it. March would be easier if we could spend it under a sunlamp, or if we just sang happy songs and ate lots of chocolate. Lent would be easier if we could just jump straight to Easter. Many of us can afford to head south in March to someplace where the sun shines and the earth isn't a bog of frozen mud. Some of us can afford to heat our houses to 73 and leave all the lights on. We can afford to create the illusion that winter has no hold on us, that death has no hold on us.

8:00 SUNDAY FORUMS

March 9—*The Shack*, The Rev. Lynn Orville

(Chapters 1-5)

March 16 — *Lamentations*, The Rev. Tim Fleck

March 23 — *The Shack*, Floy Ervin

March 30 — *Lamentations*, The Rev. Tim Fleck

April 6 — *The Shack*, The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

In an embarrassment of riches, we have Floy Ervin and The Rev. Lynn Orville leading a discussion of *The Shack* (by William P. Young) on Lent 1, 3 and 5, and Fr. Tim teaching on *Lamentations and the Psalms of Lament* on Lent 2 and 4.

Tim describes *The Shack* (written by William Paul Young) as a contemporary allegory on the Trinity, and on God's relationship to humanity, played out through the narrative of a father's great grief. He found it to be a thoughtful book with solid theology. Copies are available at the church for \$5.



Dianne, Ted and Ward
setting up for Shrove Tuesday's
Pancake Supper



A NEATER, CLEANER SACRISTY



MARCH VESTRY BULLETS

- Lenten Forums set, Vestry Dialogues (during Forums) will be 4/13 and 5/11
- Building and Grounds report: After reviewing three proposals, snow plowing, sidewalk shoveling and lawn mowing will be done by MDI Property Maintenance and Management; Sacristy renovations complete; Lock box to hold key being purchased for Michele's office; Closet sorting and cleaning underway
- After much discussion, the following motion was passed: "Regarding the unavailability of a priest for Sunday worship due to weather, it is the policy of the parish of St. Andrew & St. John that the church is open at all times and those who wish to come can worship as they see fit. When possible, Lay Ministers of the service and the Altar Guild will be notified via e-mail about the unavailability of a priest due to weather.
- FIC would like to revisit St. Andrew parcel swap with Libby Lovejoy; two new reserve funds approved: Martha Guild and Building Reserve.
- Mutual Study of Ministry: interviews have been completed. Heidi Shott and Vicki Wiederkehr will analyze the responses to the MSM surveys and prepare a summary document which will be shared with the parish.
- Parochial Report for Diocese was approved with changes

MORNING PRAYER DURING HOLY WEEK

For a few years (not last year) at 7:30 a.m. we have read Morning Prayer and sung one hymn each day in Holy Week, and on Easter Monday. It's been quite a small congregation, but a meaningful observation of the rhythm of Holy Week. We are thinking of reviving the service this year, at 8:00 a.m. – and would like to know who might come and/or like to share in leading the service. Please let Fr. Tim (812-8362) or Joan Bromage (244-3227) know.

Birthdays

MARCH

5—Jackson DaCosta
14—Penelope Place
19—Becky Buyers
20—Ann Kidder
26—Jean Storace

Wedding Anniversaries

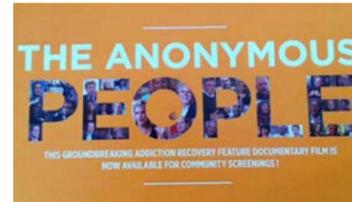
MARCH

4—Peggy & Eugene Walls
18—Thomas & Elke O'Donnell

FILM & TALK

The Anonymous People

This powerful documentary features real stories about the 23.5 million Americans living in long-term recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. Deeply entrenched social stigma and discrimination have kept recovery voices silent and faces hidden for decades. But recently, courageous addiction recovery advocates have come out of the shadows in order to save millions of lives. This film aims at transforming public discourse around addiction recovery in order to spark wide-spread change. Provided free by the Acadia Family Center at Reel Pizza, Bar Harbor, Sunday, March 9, at 1:30 p.m.



UPCOMING FOOD PANTRY EVENTS

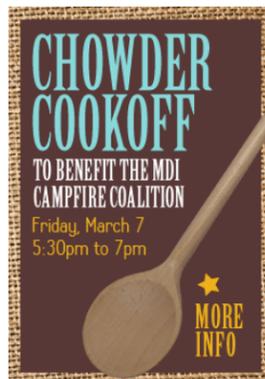
Mark your calendars for the upcoming benefits for our food pantry

1. Another in our series of benefit recitals for the Westside Food Pantry: March 22nd, 7:00 at St John; *"The Traveling Troupe"* from the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Hancock Country will perform favorites from the G and S repertoire. They will be accompanied on the piano by Stephen Sampson. Suggested donation: \$10.00 -- ALL proceeds will go to the food pantry and will help us help our neighbors.
2. Our friends from the Southwest Harbor Congregational Church host *"The Best Spaghetti Supper Ever"*, Saturday, April 12th, 5:00-7:00 at their church on the High Road in SWH. After expenses all proceeds will go to the Westside Food Pantry. Over many years their spaghetti suppers have raised thousands of dollars for our food pantry.

Please help spread the word, and please plan to attend these events. By our presence we demonstrate how much we appreciate the gifts we are given by the musicians and by the folks at the Congregational Church.

Susan Buell

CHOWDER COOKOFF



On Friday, March 7, 5:30-7:00 p.m. the Maine Sea Coast Mission, 127 West Street, Bar Harbor will have a Chowder Cookoff. Prizes will be awarded. Warm up and help others do the same at the Chowder Cookoff. Donations will be accepted at the door and will benefit the MDI Campfire coalition. For further information or to enter your chowder, contact Terri Rodick at 288-5097 or trodick@seacoastmission.org

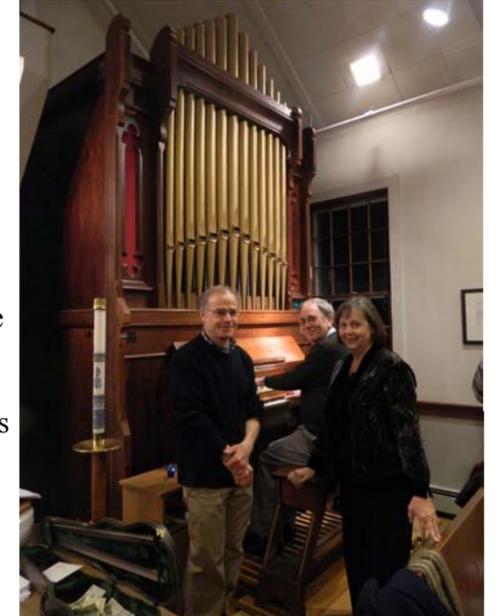


Remember to change your clocks on Saturday night, **March 8th** so you won't be late for church!

NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

St. John's continues to have a musically active life, with guest musicians playing occasionally during services and recitals held to benefit the Westside Food Pantry. The Blueberry Jammers, a group of dulcimer players who perform in the area and rehearse weekly in the St. John's undercroft, joined us for the 10:00 a.m. service on March 2. A group of nine played three sets of diverse tunes, including 'Ashokan Farewell', 'The Ash Grove', 'Peace Like a River', 'Edelweiss', and 'You Are My Sunshine'. The sweet sounds of the strummed dulcimers were extremely well suited to the space in St. John's. Many in the congregation sang or hummed along.

On Friday, February 28, 'The Three Organists' presented a recital to benefit the Westside Food Pantry. Julia Morris-Myers, organist and choirmaster at St. Saviour's Episcopal Parish in Bar Harbor; Peter Vaux, organist & choir director at St. Mary's in Northeast Harbor; and I performed a diverse collection of pieces on the Hook & Hastings pipe organ. In addition, the large community of people present joined together in singing the Welsh hymn 'Pant-y-fedwen' and the traditional round 'Dona Nobis Pacem'. The selection of organ pieces illustrated the wide range of sounds possible with this organ, and in particular highlighted the instrument's unique mellow sound. The evening overall was characterized by a warm sharing of music and community spirit. A well-attended reception was held in the undercroft following the recital. The recital was organized and publicized by Westside Food Pantry co-chair Susan Buell, who also conceived the idea of a recital with three organists. The reception was organized by Dianne McMullan; 'organized' included preparing, serving, cleaning up, and putting away. A big 'Thank You' is extended to Susan and Dianne for their generous contributions of time and creativity in making this unique community event possible.



Stephen Sampson, Peter Vaux, Julia Morris-Myers
photo by Carmen Greene

Several other Food Pantry benefit recitals are planned for the near future. On Saturday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m., members of the area Gilbert & Sullivan Society will perform selections from operettas by Sir W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan, accompanied on the piano. In May, at a date to be determined, harpist and Bar Harbor native Phoebe Durand will perform a benefit recital. And, sometime this summer, Joshua Miller, a baritone from Southwest Harbor, will present a song recital accompanied on the piano. We will keep you updated on the dates of these performances and on other recitals currently in the works.

Stephen Sampson

Parish Officers

Eleanor Watts, Sr. Warden (244-3699)
Rita Redfield, Jr. Warden (244-4025)
Elizabeth Erickson, Treasurer (244-5168)
Jim Vekasi, Asst. Treasurer (244-3499)
Jayne Ashworth, Clerk (244-5985)

Vestry Members

Susan Buell • Gen Mackenzie • Marilyn Mays • Elaine Theriault
Floy Ervin • Chloe Hatcher • Diane Krueger • Doris Walton

NOTE FROM HELENE SWANSON

Many of us were at the funeral at St. John's in August for William Swanson, son of The Rev. George Swanson and the late Rev. Katrina Swanson. At that time, some of us had the chance to speak with William's widow, Helene Swanson, about her plans for a walk across America to promote passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, a dream of Katrina's. Helene writes,

"God willing, I will be leaving soon on my pilgrimage across America to promote the Equal Rights Amendment. Like my last walk I will be walking from church to church and at times sleeping outdoors. Unlike the last walk I no longer have a partner to support me, as many of you know my sweet William passed away last year. So anything you can do to promote this walk and assist in meetings when I arrive at state capitols would be most appreciated.

Please see the below link which goes straight to the petition I drafted as a companion effort to promote the passage of the ERA. <http://www.katrinadream.org/1st-21st-century-church/era/equal-rights-amendment-moveon-org-petition-2/>

I am hoping to attract many signatures to this petition so that when I arrive I can personally deliver them to the White House and to Capitol Hill. I am hoping that other groups will join me in solidarity when I arrive in Washington DC and at each of the 15 state capitols that have yet to ratify the ERA. I have included a link to the Facebook event page for my pilgrimage across America <https://www.facebook.com/events/370467279764897/> for those who would like to follow my walk for Equality for All.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and support. Most importantly, may God bless you.
Love and Light in Christ,
Sister Helene"

THE LIGHTER SIDE...

Questions and Answers

Q: Why do they say "Amen" at the end of a prayer instead of "A Women"?

A: The same reason they sing Hymns instead of Hers!

Q: Why didn't Noah go fishing?

A: He only had two worms!

Q: When was the longest day in the bible?

A: The day Adam was created because there was no Eve.

Q: Why did God create man before woman?

A: He didn't want any advice.

Q: What do you call a sleeping walking nun?

A: A roamin' Catholic!

Q: Why did Moses wander in the desert for 40 years?

A: Even then men wouldn't ask for directions!



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Last Sunday after Epiphany—March 2

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 2; Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

The Rev. Alice Downs

Ash Wednesday—March 5

6:00 p.m. — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 103; Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 1 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Rev. Tim Fleck

Lent 1—March 9

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 32; Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

The Rev. Lynn Orville

Lent 2—March 16

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 121; Genesis 12:1-4a; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

The Rev. Tim Fleck

Lent 3—March 23

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 95; Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

Lent 4—March 30

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

The Rev. Tim Fleck

Lent 5—April 6

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 130; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6i-11; John 11:1-45

The Rev. Vesta Kowalski

Palm Sunday—April 13

7:30 & 10:00 — Holy Eucharist

Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

The Rev. Tim Fleck

Taizé—An Ecumenical Prayer Service

On Friday, March 21, at 6pm. There will be an Ecumenical Prayer Service at St. Saviour's in Bar Harbor. Simple, yet profound. Experience the spirituality and the meditative songs of the Taizé community of France, an interdenominational and ecumenical monastic order known around the world for its message of trust, peace and reconciliation. All are welcome!

Candlelight • Scripture • Silence • Song • Prayer

