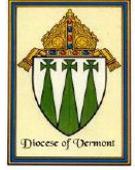


St. Paul's Epistle



JUNE 2014

LEE and I moved to Addison in June of 1972. On Palm Sunday the next year our two youngest were baptized by Fr. Lamb at St. Paul's. One of the first people I met there was Martha Clark. Back in 1972, St. Paul's was not the welcoming, child friendly place it is now. Or at least *I* didn't feel that way. Martha, however, was always warm and pleasant and Albert always had a smile as he walked down the aisle-late of course, just as I am. Martha was the first from St. Paul's to visit at our home; I was on her list for some kind of diocesan fund raising thing. I don't remember what it was, but I do remember chatting with Martha, and how welcoming she was.

Fast forward to 1989 when I got drafted into playing the organ at St. Paul's. (It was a question of if you don't who will..). Martha always came up, often with Ann Palmer, to sit in the choir pew right behind me to offer moral support and help, whether the choir was singing or not. (I can remember on at least one occasion being poked with a "not yet!" when I was starting something too early. And offered advice, willingly received, on how fast a certain hymn should be played. Although in my case that was, more often than not, how slowly it was supposed to go.)



Martha was a fixture at St. Paul's, mostly behind the scenes: ECW, Choir, Altar Guild, UTO, clerk of the Vestry. She was a consummate hostess, both at home and at parish receptions. I wonder if anyone remembers the English Tea in the rectory (crumpets. Yum. Martha was quite an Anglophile). and who could possibly forget her Simnel cake? Martha liked things done right. No, you don't put flowers THERE; No, we don't do it THAT way...and, of course, she was right.
R.I.P. Martha

"And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish, but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment: and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail." *Hebrews 1:10, (a favorite of Martha's)*

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

I found myself complaining a lot this winter about the cold and the grey days and the lack of sunshine and wondering if and when spring would ever get here. It was a long time coming! And yet, now, as I look outside on the very green grass and listen to birds and dig in my garden, I realize it's all been worth the wait. I feel lucky about living in Vermont, and I feel lucky to have the comforts of home and hearth during those long winter months. But I realize others are not so lucky, and I try to remind myself about those who have trouble making ends meet and what difficulties and burdens they bear. I often think about our Outreach efforts at St. Paul's and the ways we try and make a difference in our community and elsewhere in the world. As Sarah Cowan recently said of St. Paul's, by way of an introduction to other churches participating in a Diocese-sponsored event, we are "a small and mighty congregation." And that's a good way to feel about St. Paul's. It's easy to complain, and I do myself, about wishing there were more people to participate in the life of our church, but it's also really great when you get to a place of abundance and you forget all the difficulties and challenges you had getting there—like getting through the awful winter and finally getting to enjoy the summer sun. That's a journey that stewardship takes you on. Getting to that place of abundance, in whatever form it takes.

And abundance does come in many forms. I have participated in two conferences this spring, along with other stewardship and vestry members (Sue Berkenbush, Judy Langeway, Chris Hale, Madelaine Calise, Sarah Cowan, and Father Alan) and representative churches included Episcopal churches from around Vermont as well as those churches from the Vermont Conference/United Church of Christ. The first meeting at Lake Morey, was entitled "Recalculating the Way." An interesting title—but it speaks to how best to move forward in the times we live in where church, in the words of one of the speakers, has become "irrelevant," to many. Amidst all the discussion of challenges and changing times, we were given an opportunity to listen to four churches who had made some interesting changes in approaches and engagement in their communities. If you are interested, their stories can be watched at our Diocese website. The second meeting at Randolph was to meet with representatives from the Partners for Sacred Places, a national not-for-profit organization that works with places of worship throughout the United States, helping them to evaluate their assets—buildings, programs, people etc. and how best to use those assets, in small and large ways. The actual program, Strategic Investment

in Sacred Places (SiSP) brings together Partners for Sacred Places, the two denominational sponsors (Episcopal Diocese of Vermont and Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ), and the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Like the themes at the Recalculating the Way Conference, churches are being challenged to become more engaged in their communities, sometimes by partnering with other community efforts; sometimes actually re-envisioning their buildings and space for a community project, and working with secular as well as ecumenical community partners. St. Paul's is in a good position to be part of these types of efforts, and already partners through Outreach in ecumenical efforts, in our food ministries, for example. A program like this could benefit St. Paul's in terms of overall strategic planning as well.

So, out of the winter and into the spring, we have some ideas floating around and more to come, possibly. In addition to all of the above, the Stewardship committee has decided to look at the



"Walking the Way" series for our Stewardship campaign this fall. It is a series that is brought to us by TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship). Before we decide to use the materials for our congregation, we felt we needed to do some of the readings and have the conversations ourselves and see where it might lead us. We will keep you posted.

And finally, it wouldn't be a Stewardship column without mentioning the word, "gratitude." I guess I have already hinted at my gratitude for the changing seasons and earth-filled abundance. But, I did want to say how grateful I felt for all the efforts from this past spring, the many services and holy days that were offered at St. Paul's with Father Alan and others who served to make Lent, thoughtful and reflective and Easter, joyful and celebratory.

In gratitude,
Bo Price for the Stewardship Committee



The Earle family is delighted to welcome a brand new member: Zander James Earle, born to Tristan and Ashli Earle on March 26. He joins a sister Adrianna. The proud grandparents are Laurie and Tim Earle.

To our St Paul's Church Family,

Your kindness and sympathy are more deeply appreciated than any word of thanks can ever express...

Thanks to any and all who supported us with food donations and participated in the service. As all know, St. Paul's was a huge part of Dad's life.
The Hanson Family

AFTER much thoughtful discussion and consideration your Vestry decided to accept the invitation of the Diocese of Vermont to join four other Vermont parishes in a two year study: **Strategic Investment in Sacred Places.** Together with five churches from the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ we shall be receiving guidance from Partners for Sacred Places in exploring potential grants, group leadership training, networking opportunities within our community as well as expert professional advice regarding our buildings and capital campaign efforts and evaluating our assets.

All of these benefits to the parish as a whole will require the efforts of the entire congregation! This is NOT a sit-back-and-watch project! St. Paul's will raise \$2,500 outside of our adopted 2014 budget which will be offset by a matching grant from the Diocese. But the major 'expense' of this two year adventure will be YOUR time and energy in collecting information, attending training sessions and in learning how we may better serve our parish and local community.

We believe that our Lord has called us to this endeavor and we are gladly ready to roll up our sleeves and work....

Sue Berkenbush on behalf of the Vestry

VERGENNES COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF



Thanks to the many food drives this past month the food shelf is in good shape at the moment. Each week we see 3 or 4 more families in need; with the current economic climate and the SNAP (food stamp) cuts, the need, however is ongoing. Soon the children will be out of school and not getting breakfast or lunch at school and that puts even more of a burden on less fortunate families. Any contribution, unopened and within code, is welcome. Sandwich spreads, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard and relishes are particularly useful (we usually have hotdogs!)



Choir will meet for the last time on Wednesday May 28th. We will miss them, especially the Anthems we have been so blessed to hear. Rehearsals will resume in the fall.

JUNE 2014 AT ST. PAUL'S, VERGENNES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter 7 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday school 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	2	3	4	5	6 8pm AA	7
8 Pentecost 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday school 10am Eucharist 7pm AA 7:30 Taizé Evensong, Cathedral	9	10	11 Feast of St. Barnabas 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	12	13 8pm AA	14
15 Trinity Sunday 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday school 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	16	17 7pm Vestry	18	19	20 8pm AA	21 ABSOLUTE EPISTLE DEADLINE jerm@gmavt.net
22 Pentecost 2 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday school 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	23	24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	25 10:30am Morning Prayer Vergennes Res. Care Home 3pm Cathedral Chapter Mtg.	26	27 5:30-6:30pm Community Meal, Congo Church 8pm AA	28 10am Diocesan Council, Trinity, Rutland
29 Pentecost 3 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday school 10am Eucharist 7pm AA 7pm AA	30					

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE DAY SHOWN PLEASE ARRANGE TO SWITCH SUNDAYS WITH SOMEONE. THANK YOU.

JUNE SUNDAY CHART

<u>Date</u>	<u>Flower Guild</u>	<u>Sunday School/ Child Care</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Chalice</u>	<u>Welcome Comm.</u>	<u>Acolyte Crucifer</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Readings</u>
June 1 Easter 7	Mary Beth Hamilton	Pam & Bob Macauley	Diane Merrill Mary Beth Hamilton	Cricket Laidman Carol Knauss	Tim Earle Carol Knauss	Steve Lowe	Catie Macauley Carol Knauss	Sarah Stroup	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11
June 8 Pentecost	Kim Hatgen	Sarah & Chris Hale	Sarah Cowan	Steve Lowe Nate Guilmette	Tim Earle Judy Langeway	Lee Martel	Clarinda McAllister Alisdair Chauvin Tim Earle	Steve Lowe	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:25-35,37 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23
June 15 Trinity Sunday	Carol Knauss	Sarah & John Stroup	Cricket & Bob Laidman	Mary Gordon Kim Hatgen	Carol Knauss Tim Earle	Lenore Morse	Catie Macauley Carol Knauss	Bob Laidman	Genesis 1:1--2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20
June 22 Pentecost 2	Lenore Morse	Lenore Morse & Margaret Lowe	Pam Macauley	Laurie Earle Lenore Morse	Judy Langeway Carol Knauss	Steve Lowe	Clarinda McAllister Tim Earle	Steve Lowe	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:8-20 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
June 29 Pentecost 3	Mary Gordon	Nan & Nate Guilmette	Margaret Lowe	Cricket Laidman Carol Knauss	Tim Earle Carol Knauss	Lee Martel Margaret Lowe	Alisdair Chauvin Carol Knauss	Sue Berkenbush	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

YOUR VESTRY

Rector

- The Rev. Alan Kittelson 877-3322

Sr. Warden

- Timothy Earle 453-6002

Jr. Warden

- Marcia Merryman-Means 877-8398

Clerk of the Vestry

- Lenore Morse 802-578-7225

Treasurer

- John Stroup 870-7055

Class of 2015

- Timothy Earle 453-6002
- Mary Beth Hamilton 877-6668
- Lee Martel 759-2408

Class of 2016

- Susan Berkenbush 870-7151
- Madelaine Calise 475-2901
- Marcia Merryman-Means 877-8398

Class of 2017

- Sarah Cowan 877-2382
- Cricket Laidman 877-3566
- Judy Langeway 877-3737

CHURCH COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- **Outreach:** Laurie Earle at 453-6002 or learle@gmavt.net
- **Education:** Marcia Merryman-Means at 877-8398 or mmmcubed27@comcast.net
- **Liturgy:** Alan Kittelson at 877-3322 or alankittelson@gmail.com
- **Stewardship:** Bo Price at 877-2031 or boltonprice@comcast.net and Bob Laidman at 877-3566 or bobl@pshift.com
- **Sunday School:** Sarah Stroup at 870-7055 or sarahsnip@hotmail.com

WOULD you prefer to receive the epistle via e-mail?
Let me know, jerm@gmavt.net.

If you would like to see the pictures in color, just go to
St. Paul's website: www.saintpaulsvergennes.org

