



The Guardian

JULY 2016

FROM THE RECTORY

THE HOSPITALITY EXPERIMENT

A couple weeks ago during the sermon, I invited the congregation to try an experiment this summer. Just in case you weren't in church that day, here is a bit of background and an invitation to participate.

In the early church, being disciples of Jesus meant going out into the world, sharing the love of God in Christ and being dependent on the hospitality and welcome of those to whom one went. Over time, as the church became more established (with buildings to maintain and organizational structures to support), the role of hospitality changed. Instead of Christians going out into the world depending on the hospitality of others, *Christians invited people into the church and hospitality became something Christians offered instead of received.*

Now, there is nothing wrong with emphasizing welcome and hospitality in our churches; these are deeply Christian values and vitally important to the health of the church. However, this role reversal in hospitality points to a deep historical shift in the way Christians have functioned in their relationships with people in the surrounding community.

When Jesus called the disciples to be dependent on the hospitality of others, he *called them to be vulnerable* and to rely only on the power of the Gospel. When we in the church today only identify ourselves as hospitality-givers and not hospitality-receivers, we essentially hold the power in the relationship and no longer need to become vulnerable in our relationship with others. In other words, we expect people to come to us, to fit into our already established way of life, instead of meeting people where they are and developing relationships of mutuality, listening, and sharing.

So here is the experiment I'd like you to try this summer. Prayerfully put yourself in a situation where you are dependent on the hospitality of others. Ideally, these wouldn't be people you already know, or people who are part of a faith community. As you intentionally give the power of hospitality to another, notice if or where the Holy Spirit turns up. Write down what you experience and bring your thoughts back to St. Michael's in the fall to share your experiences with us and to hear about the experiences of others in the congregation.

*Yours in Christ,
Mary*



NEWS OF THE PARISH

SUMMER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST CHURCH, GUILFORD

Again this summer we will take advantage of worshipping in our beautiful “Mother Church,” Christ Church, Guilford. Christ Church was founded in 1817 and was the second Episcopal Church established in Vermont. While Christ Church no longer hosts a weekly congregation, it is used for concerts, weddings, and occasional worship by the St. Michael’s congregation. Mark your calendars to take part in worshipping at this wonderful, sacred place:

- the 8:00 a.m. worship service on the first Sundays of July, August, and September
- sung Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m. on July 3, July 31, and August 21. The service will follow Rite II in the hymnal and the Book of Common Prayer and will be led by parishioner Valerie Abrahamsen. The service lasts approximately half an hour; all are welcome!



PARISH PICNIC AUGUST 21

St. Michael’s Parish Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 21, from 12:00–4:00 p.m. at Kate and Dana McGinn’s beautiful home on Lake Spofford. The rain date will be Sunday, August 28. Please hold this date on your calendar, as this is a wonderful summer event for St. Michael’s!



RECTOR’S SUMMER VACATION

Mary and her family will be away July 7–10, July 24–31, and August 9–18. Please keep them in your prayers as they enjoy some vacation time with family and friends.



ROCK POINT CAMP

This summer we have seven St. Michael’s children attending the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont’s Rock

Point Camp in Burlington. Please keep these children in your prayers as they participate in wonderful camp activities with kids from all over Vermont. Julian Siegel, Keegan Beecher and Jonah Johnson will be attending the Jr. High Camp July 10–15, and Callan McDowell, Marian Wojcik, Nathaniel Johnson, and Bibi Johnson will be attending the Elementary Camp July 17–22.



THANK YOU FROM CHABHA

CHABHA children thank you for your contribution to the coin roll on June 5. Your support totaling \$454.77 means that more children orphaned by AIDS in Rwanda will go to school, have medical cards, and have some job training.

*Thank you so much
Susan Wilson*



JUNE VESTRY UPDATE

- We continue our reading and discussion from the book *Joining God, Remaking the Church, Changing the World: The New Shape of the Church in Our Time* by Alan J. Roxburgh. This month’s chapter the “Great Unraveling” talked frankly about the changes the church has already seen over time worldwide.
- We are blessed to have Jeannette Landin as our new Treasurer. She shared the May financial reports showing strong contributions and felt May was a better month overall.
- We discussed the request that we install a plaque with names of loved ones buried in the Memorial Garden here at St. Michael’s. A member of the newly formed Men’s Group who is also serving on the Vestry thought the Men’s Group would like to take this on as a project!
- The Nursery School/Day Care transition was discussed and we outlined a way to proceed with a plan to renovate and refresh the space. As a new lessee the school will be expected to meet certain



NEWS OF THE PARISH

new codes that had been grandfathered for the school we had in the space. We plan to have the space painted, a new carpet for classroom # 2 and new flooring for Classroom #1. It has been many years since we have done anything to the space. Fence code requirements now require 4 feet tall fencing. The wood fence is only 3 feet tall. Sometime between now and mid-August new playground fencing will be installed. There is an extremely tight time line to get things in order for this school's opening day!

- Building and Grounds reported the front lights highlighting the St. Michael's sign installation is complete. Thanks go out to Vince Johnson, Lucia Osiecki, and Ross Kinney who hand dug and re-covered a 1 foot deep x 30 feet long ditch to make that possible! Also we had a "biopsy" done to evaluate what really needs to be done on the Sanctuary roof; more details to follow.
- Several Vestry members will be attending the important ongoing Pastoral Care Conversation set for June 25. We hope to see many of you there too.
- Our Senior Warden Sarah Benton talked to us about the newly formed Social Justice Steering Committee that will begin meeting over the summer.
- We also formalized our Vestry Covenant we had started at our Retreat.

Well, that's it for now. Please bring any questions or concerns to any Vestry member—we are here to serve and learn from all of you. We wish you a wonderful summer season and hope to see you at one of the early Christ Church Services or Lemonade on the Lawn!

*Submitted by Deb Jones,
Junior Warden*

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE: OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSES FOR JANUARY–MAY

Total Pledges Received: \$107,619 vs. Budget of \$99,167 (108% of Budget)

of which for the month of May: \$19,394 vs. Budget of \$19,833 (98% of Budget)

This is the amount of income from pledges alone that we have received.

Total Operating Income: \$156,546 vs. Budget of \$138,771 (113% of Budget)

This is our total income and includes rental income, fund raising (including pledges), memorial gifts, altar guild flower income, hospitality, tag sale, and other miscellaneous income.

Total Operating Expenses: \$148,862 vs. Budget of \$137,826 (108%)

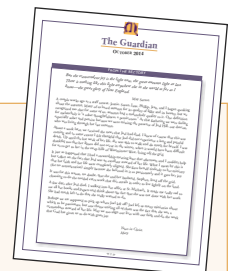
This is the dollars needed to run the church, including salaries, utilities, repaying our building loan from the Diocese, outreach, rectory expenses, administrative expenses, mission and ministry, worship and music, congregation development, grounds upkeep, and snow removal.

St. Michael's Vestry



GO GREEN—RECEIVE YOUR *GUARDIAN* BY EMAIL!

If you would like to receive the *Guardian* as a PDF file that would be sent to you by email, please contact Jeanie Crosby at jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org or (802) 254-6048, x104.





OUR MISSION & WORK

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGICAL MINISTER?

When we gather together on Sunday mornings, I think of our worship services as something we create together—each of us brings our presence to the worship and some of us have roles in leading the service. If serving as a liturgical minister appeals to you, please let us know! Below is a description of the many different ways that one can serve in the liturgy on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in learning more about serving, please sign up in the Common Room or email me at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org. Training will be provided for each of these ministries and you will be scheduled approximately every 6–8 weeks (we send out emails ahead of time to have you let us know which weeks you will not be available).

Lectors: Read the first lesson (usually the Hebrew scripture). This ministry is open to kids who enjoy public reading.

Intercessors: Lead and read the Prayers of the People. This ministry is open to kids.

Crucifer/Chalice Bearers: Carry the cross in the processions and offer the chalice of wine during Holy Communion.

Acolytes: Carry the torches during the procession and offer grape juice during Holy Communion. Often acolytes are young people (ages 8 and up), but we also have adult acolytes.

Ushers: Greet people before the service, hand out leaflets, help with the offering.

Element Bearers: Bring up the gifts of bread and wine before Communion and help with directing people during Communion.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

CONTEMPLATIVE APPROACHES TO CLIMATE CHANGE

*Reclaiming our intimate,
co-creative relationship
with the natural world*

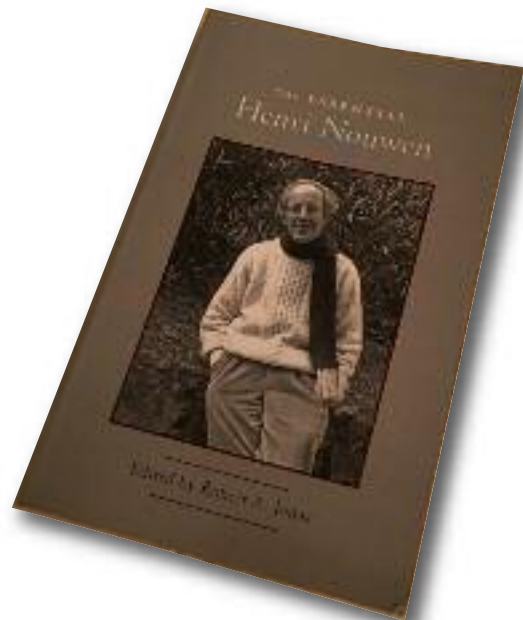
*Saturday, July 23, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.,
St. Michael's*

Facing news about the climate crisis is often overwhelming and deeply distressing. How can we move through our sadness and despair to, in Pope Francis' words, "enter into dialogue with all people about our common home?"

In this half-day retreat, Dr. Robert Jonas will draw on the work of Pope Francis and James Finley to explore ways in which contemplative approaches to the world can help us meet the challenges set before us, to step through our fears, and to bear our suffering, no matter what the future holds.

Robert A. Jonas, Ed.D., M.T.S., is the founder of The Empty Bell, a contemplative sanctuary (www.emptybell.org). Trained as a psychologist and theologian, Jonas is a retreat leader, musician, and video artist. His publications include, among others, *Rebecca* (Crossroad), *Henri Nouwen* (Orbis) and *The Essential Henri Nouwen* (Shambhala).

This retreat is free and open to all.





OUR MISSION & WORK...AND HOW YOU CAN HELP





ROTA FOR JULY

LITURGICAL ROTA FOR JULY 2016 • 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM SUNDAY SERVICES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

POSITION	JULY 3	JULY 10	JULY 17	JULY 24	JULY 31
8 A.M. Service at Christ Church					
8:00 A.M. SERVICE					
Lay Assistant	Anita Crosson	Wayne Cook	Kate McGinn	Anita Crosson	Kate McGinn
Lector				Jeff Lewis	
Intercessor	Kiersten McKenney	Joanne Patalano	Doug Lilly	Anne Brown	Doug Switzer
Healing Team	Betsy Bates	Carolyn Taylor-Olson	Jeff Hiam	Carolyn Taylor-Olson	Margit Lilly
Usher	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Judy McGee
10:15 A.M. SERVICE					
Crucifer	Jeff Hiam	Jessica Bennett	Miranda Smith	Darcey Mercier	Mikael Mattson
Torch Bearers	Darcey Mercier Brian White	Marian Wojcik Avery Bennett	Julian Siegal Jonah Johnson	Fred Bump Ken Neilson	KC Mattson Jake Mattson
Lay Assistant	Miranda Smith	Sarah Benton	Liz Vick	Jeff Hiam	Annamarie Pluhar
Lector	Carolyn Taylor-Olson	Annie Landenberger	Valerie Abrahamsen	Jenn Karstad	Jeanette Landin
Intercessor	Jeff Hiam	Sue Dyer	Miranda Smith	Jeff Hiam	Annie Landenberger
Ushers	Dick Burtis Elaine Curry-Smithson	Ricky Davidson Nancy Barber	Fritz Family	Craig Hammond & Liz Vick	Judith & Alan McBean
Element Bearers	Sherry Stimmel Sue Dyer	Andy & Elise Burrows	Bill & Sandy MacLean	Chris Hart Sarah Benton	Craig Hammond & Liz Vick
Altar Guild	Mary Carnahan Charlene Kemp Rebecca Olmstead Zadie Olmstead	Carol Hesselbach Madelyn Howard Lynn Billington Judy Walker	Carol Hesselbach Madelyn Howard Lynn Billington Judy Walker	Susan Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Laurie Chiperfield	Susan Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Laurie Chiperfield
Sacramental Healing	Judith Hildreth	Megan Buchanan	Robin White-Diamondstone	Sissi Loftin	Robin White-Diamondstone
Lemonade	Ronny Johnson Deb Jones	Lynn Billington	Doug Lilly		
Counters	Anne Cook Judy McGee	Wayne Cook Judith Hildreth	Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske	Sherry Stimmel Jeanette Landin	Wayne Cook Gwen Mousin

If you cannot make it, please find your own replacement; then call Jeanie in the Office at 802-254-6048, ext. 104. Thank you.





CELEBRATIONS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- July 1 Meaghan Landin
- July 3 Rosie Wojcik
- July 4 Matthew Wojcik
- July 5 Thea Porter, Rebecca Porter
- July 7 Lori Palmer, Joanne Patalano
- July 8 Judith McGee
- July 9 Anita Crosson, Irene Burtis
- July 12 Ann Switzer
- July 13 Jessica Mattson
- July 14 Marian Wojcik, David Carr
- July 15 James Nohl
- July 16 Olivia Capponcelli
- July 20 Richard Gauthier
- July 22 Susan Wilmott
- July 23 Sandra MacLean
- July 25 Phillip Wilson
- July 26 Barbara Hoag
- July 27 Kerry Capponcelli
- July 30 Shirley Hodgdon
- July 31 Nancy Barber

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- July 1 Pam & David Carr
- July 13 Susan & Paul Dedell
- July 20 Susan & Phillip Wilson
- July 23 Mary Lindquist & Kurt Johnson
- July 26 Susan Heimer & Tim Ragle
- July 27 Ann & Douglas Switzer,
Kristen McKenney & John Byrnes
- July 29 Betty & Corwin Elwell

VESTRY OF ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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JULY LECTIONARY

Sunday, July 3:
Isaiah 66:10–14, Psalm 66:1–8, Galatians 6:7–16,
Luke 10:1–11, 16–20

Sunday, July 10:
Deuteronomy 30:9–14, Psalm 25:1–9,
Colossians 1:1–14, Luke 10:25–37

Sunday, July 17:
Genesis 18:1–10a, Psalm 15,
Colossians 1:15–28, Luke 10:38–42

Sunday, July 24:
Genesis 18:20–32, Psalm 138,
Colossians 2:6–15, Luke 11:1–13

Sunday, July 31:
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–23, Psalm 49:1–11,
Colossians 3:1–11, Luke 12:13–21



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Saint Michael's Episcopal Church

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The Guardian

a Christ-centered community of practice awakening to the abiding presence of God



Coming Up at St. Michael's Episcopal

JULY 23: Contemplative Approaches
to Climate Change workshop

AUGUST 21: Parish Picnic

Our Worship Together

SUNDAYS 8:00 a.m., Quiet service of prayer and Holy Communion
10:15 a.m., Prayer, music, and Holy Communion, with childcare

WEEKDAY MORNINGS 6:00 a.m., Silent hour in chapel

WEDNESDAYS Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

THURSDAYS 5:30 p.m., Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer

SATURDAYS 8:00 a.m., Centering Prayer

Summer at Christ Church, Guilford

JULY 3: 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship &
5:00 p.m. Sung Evening Prayer

JULY 31: 5:00 p.m. Sung Evening Prayer

AUGUST 7: 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship

AUGUST 21: 5:00 p.m. Sung Evening Prayer

SEPTEMBER 4: 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning
worship