



The Guardian

JUNE 2015

FROM THE RECTORY



THE ABUNDANCE OF SPRING

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

John 15:11

After a long, cold winter there is nothing quite like the relief of the warmth of the sun and the budding of flowers. It is wonderful to spend time outside again, dig in the dirt and commune with nature!

In addition to the great abundance we experience through nature in the spring, there seems to be an abundance of activity in Brattleboro and at St. Michael's in the spring. In May, St. Michael's parishioners helped put on the Spring Tag Sale, hosted two New Attenders brunches, facilitated several Small Group Conversations, participated in the Spring Clean-Up Day and more. This is in addition to all the "normal activities" of committee meetings, worship, pastoral visitation, prayer, and the daily running of the church.

Although I have been at St. Michael's almost four years now, "you all" (St. Michael's parishioners) continue to amaze me with the tremendous gifts that God has given you and your generosity in sharing these gifts with our church and our community. I am very grateful to play my small part in this ministry at St. Michael's, but am deeply aware of how much our ministry together depends on you and your willingness to participate. Thank you!

I am also thankful to God for the honor of participating in his work in the world. This ministry at its best brings us joy, a joy that transcends our own personal joy, a joy that is "made complete" by the presence of God in Christ.

*Yours in Christ,
Mary*



NEWS OF THE PARISH

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC JUNE 14

All participants, teachers, and helpers in Sunday School at St. Michael's (Godly Play, Workshop Rotation, Youth Forum) are invited to a lunch in your honor on Sunday, June 14, at noon on the Rectory Lawn. Please come and help us celebrate a wonderful year together!



A CHANCE TO SERVE: USHER AND ELEMENT-BEARER TRAINING JUNE 20

The ministries of ushering and element bearing are very important to St. Michael's, and we are hoping to recruit more volunteers for this ministry!

What is an usher? Ushers at St. Michael's arrive early for the 8:00 a.m. or 10:15 a.m. service, welcome people, hand out leaflets, answer questions, and help take up the offering.

What is an element bearer? The element bearers bring the bread and the wine up to the Altar during the worship service and assist people in coming forward to receive the Eucharist.

If I sign up, how often would I serve? You would be assigned to serve once every 6–8 weeks. You let us know when you may be out of town and we will work with your schedule.

How do I sign up? Sign up in the Common Room or call St. Michael's Administrator, Jeanie, at 254-6048, x104. Then come to the Usher Training session on Saturday, June 20, at 9:15 a.m.



SPRING TAG SALE REPORT

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped make our Spring Tag Sale a great success. We raised just over \$6,600 and expect additional funds to come in from both the consignment shop and the auction house. Whether you donated articles to be sold, baked goodies for the "food booth," worked to sort, fold,

display, and price the items for sale, or worked at the sale greeting, assisting, and checking out our customers, your time and efforts were invaluable. This sale does not happen without you. I especially want to thank Lucia Osiecki for agreeing to co-chair this event and Susan Wilmott for her continued guidance and support. It was their willingness to step up and fill in during my absence that kept the sale on track. Again a huge Thank You to everyone involved.

Anne Cook



SUMMER AT CHRIST CHURCH, GUILFORD

St. Michael's 8:00 a.m. service will again take place at Christ Church, Guilford, on the first Sundays of July, August, and September. Christ Church is St. Michael's "Mother Church" and was founded in 1817, the first Episcopal Church in Vermont. While Christ Church no longer hosts a weekly congregation, it is used for concerts, weddings, and for occasional worship by the St. Michael's congregation. Mark your calendars to take part in worshipping at this wonderful, sacred place!



CHABHA UPDATE JUNE 7

Please join us June 7 for coffee hour followed by an update by David Loewenguth, CHABHA's Executive Director, about CHABHA in Rwanda and Burundi and our children after his recent two-month visit.

See you there!
Susan Wilson



RECTOR'S VACATION SCHEDULE

Mary Lindquist and her family will be visiting Portland, Oregon, from June 23–July 3. Mary will then serve as chaplain for the Rock Point Camp in Burlington from July 5–10. Please keep Mary and her family in your prayers as they travel and enjoy some time away.



NEWS OF THE PARISH



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

Total Pledges Received: \$86,440 vs. Budget of \$71,959 (120.1% of Budget)

of which: Total Pledges Received for April: \$18,013 vs. Budget of \$17,990 (100.1%)

Total Operating Income: \$128,861 vs. Budget of \$108,554 (118.7% of Budget)

Total Operating Expenses: \$117,873 vs. Budget of \$111,307 (105.9%)



IF YOU'RE PLANNING TO BE AWAY THIS SUMMER. . .

This is a friendly reminder that the missions and needs of the parish continue throughout the summer. We truly appreciate your effort to keep pledge payments up to date. Thank you!



MAY VESTRY REPORT

- Continued our book study and discussion of *The Agile Church: Spirit-Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age* by Dwight Zscheile.
- Wayne, our Treasurer, gave us a Capital Campaign status update, with 80 pledges paid in full and 59 still open. Total payments received through April 30, 2015, are \$692,554.
- Bishop Ely will be at St. Michael's the weekend of May 23, meeting with the Vestry and celebrating the Feast of Pentecost on May 24.

- Small-group conversations about how St. Michael's is helping us integrate our faith into our daily lives have gone well, with over 50 people participating.
- The two newcomer luncheons were well attended, with 35 participants. Thanks go to John Daly, Leigh Marthe, and Craig Hammond and Liz Vick for hosting.

Submitted by Sarah Benton

VESTRY OF ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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GO GREEN—RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF THE *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.



EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

WILL DUNCAN COMING TO ST. MICHAEL'S JUNE 12-13

Three Years of Silence

Friday, June 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

An evening of stories, ideas, and relevant wisdom from three years of meditation and solitude

Coming Home

Saturday, June 13, 9:30 a.m.-noon

A Discussion on Why and How to Live a Deep-Hearted Life



Will Duncan, internationally recognized teacher of meditation and scripture from many traditions, will be at St. Michael's to share insights from his recent three-year silent retreat in Arizona and to speak about the importance of living a deep-hearted life. Duncan, who grew up actively involved in the Episcopal Church, studied for many years with the Reverend Murray Rogers, an Anglican priest who lived in India and devoted his ministry to working with Christians and Hindus, and he continues to seek spiritual wisdom in the Christian, Hindu, and Buddhist traditions. He teaches meditation, yoga, and scripture around the world, bringing down-to-earth sincerity, humor, and joy to his classes. Duncan

teaches around the world. You can check out his website at www.willduncan.org.

Will writes:

With meditation I teach systematic stillness practices to a wide variety of populations from people suffering with extreme addictions to business executives to busy moms... In the world of yoga I focus on helping people access joy in their practice and feel gratitude for, with, and in their bodies. After a three-year solitary yoga and meditation retreat I began to experience yoga as a kind of moving celebratory prayer and I attempt to share that with others... My interest in scripture is in combining the brilliance of western psychology with the profundity of ancient wisdom. I seek to make the wisdom traditions applicable to real people in a world of addiction, heartbreak, and stress.

Join us and invite your friends for two days of insightful, humorous, and deep discussions of how and why to live a deep-hearted life. This event is free and open to the public.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM)

Not only on Sunday mornings at St. Michael's do we have many opportunities to give thanks to God, to grow in our faith, and to be with others in worship. EfM is a great opportunity to do all that and more.

EfM is a four-year program of study and worship developed and organized at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. The goal of the program is to empower lay people with new knowledge and skills to discern their responses to God's call. At the end of the Eucharist we pray, "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord." In EfM we do not focus on what our work is; rather we become more and more aware of our individual direction as we deepen our religious experiences.

There are several components to the program. Yes, there is reading. We read the greatest book of all as well as other texts to help interpret the scripture. Weekly seminar meetings are central. EfM seminars involve small groups of parishioners. At St. Michael's, we have two mentors, Linda Rice and David Mattocks. Each meeting begins and ends with prayer and worship. Some of us are reading the Hebrew Bible (Year 1), others the New Testament (Year 2), some church history (Year 3), and others ethics and theology (Year 4). Despite this arrangement, the seminar meetings work well, as we find commonalities and help one another with interpretation. Early in each year, we each write a spiritual autobiography, and as we learn about one another's history, our connections deepen. We draw on scripture, our



EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

experiences, and one another's thoughts to learn to reflect on issues and thoughts theologically, called TRs. (Last night in seminar, for example, we did a TR on the Tag Sale.)

Our group meetings are similar to what we imagine the early Christians experienced. We talk, share, learn, and reflect. We are safe to share our experience God's love.

Do you think you might want to join the EfM program next fall? Talk to Linda or David or any of the participants. EfM is really wonderful.

Susanna Grannis



As we come to the close of this year's EfM seminars, we are looking forward to the fall, when we will begin again. As Susanna mentions above, having all four years of EfM participants together at once seems at times to be a challenge, but in reality it deepens our conversations.

I was fortunate recently to spend three days at the Campion Center, a former Jesuit monastery that is now a retirement home for Jesuit Priests, with close to 20 other individuals from around New England and the East Coast training to be an EfM Mentor. It was an amazing spiritual experience following EfM formats and learning how to lead people through various methods of Theological Reflection. We spent 18 intense hours "working," laughing, praying, and deepening our commitments to the EfM experience. I use the term "experience" because that is what EfM really is, an experience--exploring more deeply the Hebrew Scripture, the Gospels, the history of Christianity and the Church, and present-day theological writings, all with the intent of helping each individual expand their faith and ministry.

I invite anyone who is interested in embarking on such a journey to join us in the fall. We will be posting times for informational gatherings in the very near future.

Linda Rice

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

The final Forum of the 2014-2015 church year will be on June 14. The Forum Committee will take June and July off and then resume its work in August. We would be very happy to hear from anyone about topics or speakers that you would particularly like to have us consider. Please contact any member of the Committee; phone numbers and email addresses can be found in the Parish Directory. Thank you very much for your enthusiastic participation in our Forums this year.

June 7, St. Michael's History of Welcome—St. Michael's opened its arms when others closed their doors. Church historian Robert Anderson witnessed the several decades that led to this welcome and will tell the unusual story.

June 14, What is Education for Ministry?—Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. Come to the Forum and explore whether you might be interested in participating in this important ministry in the fall.

Committee members: Bill Ames, Nancy Barber (chair), Karen Guthrie (Vestry Liaison), Mary Lindquist, Annamarie Pluhar, Ruth Tilghman, Phillip Wilson

JUNE LECTIONARY

Sunday, June 7:

Genesis 3: 8-15; Psalm 130;
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

Sunday, June 14:

Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14;
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 11-13, 14-17;
Mark 4:26-34

Sunday, June 21:

Job 38: 1-11; Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32;
2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4: 35-41

Sunday, June 28:

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24;
Lamentations 3:21-33; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15;
Mark 5:21-43



ROTA FOR JUNE

LITURGICAL ROTA FOR JUNE 2015 • 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM SUNDAY SERVICES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Position	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
8:00 A.M. SERVICE				
Lay Assistant	Anita Crosson	Wayne Cook	Wayne Cook	Kate McGinn
Intercessor	Kiersten McKenney	Anne Brown	Bill Ames	Joanne Patalano
Sacramental Healing	Sarah Benton	Janet Cramer	Jean Smith	Sarah Benton
Usher	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Anne Cook	Bill Ames
10:15 A.M. SERVICE				
Crucifer	Fred Bump	Miranda Smith	Jessica Bennett	Mikael Mattson
Torch Bearers	Clara Fritz Caleb Fritz	Brian White Liz Vick	Jonah Johnson Avery Bennett	KC Mattson Jake Mattson
Element Bearers	Dick Burtis Chris Hart	Ken Jacobs Ricky Davidson	Betsy Bates Nancy Barber	Liz Vick Craig Hammond
Lay Assistant	Liz Vick	Annamarie Pluhar	Greg Lesch	Miranda Smith
Lector	Julia Fedoruk	Greg Lesch	Martin Leggott	Carolyn Taylor-Olson
Intercessor	Joe Grannis	Jodi Clark	Mary Carnahan	Elise Burrows
Ushers	Sarah Benton Linda Rice	Andy & Elise Burrows	Bill & Sandy MacLean	Michael & Ron Doty-Tolaro
Sacramental Healing	Robin White-Diamondstone Judith Hildreth	Carolyn Taylor-Olson Margit Lilly	Trudy Crites Janet Cramer	Robin White-Diamondstone Judith Hildreth
Altar Guild	Susan Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Judy Walker Laurie Chiperfeld	Jane Sbardella Christine Gauthier Lucia Osiecki	Jane Sbardella Christine Gauthier Lucia Osiecki	Craig Newbert Irene Burtis Judith Hildreth Sherry Stimmel
Coffee Hour	Annamarie Pluhar	Parish Life	Vestry	Mission + Outreach
Counters	Judy McGee Anne Cook	Vince Johnson Wayne Cook	Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske	Sherry Stimmel Judith Hildreth

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



Newcomers brunch



(right) Spring Tag Sale.



CELEBRATIONS

THE CHURCH AT SIXTEEN BRADLEY AVENUE

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- June 1 Nancy Duborow, Madelyn Howard,
Danny Houder
- June 2 Laura Lewis, Cary Gaunt, Jane Sbardella
- June 3 Lynne Billington, Caroline Wojcik
- June 4 Phillip Stimmel
- June 5 Jonah Johnson
- June 6 Janice Scherer
- June 7 Conor Landenberger
- June 11 Martha Moravec
- June 12 Betsy Bates
- June 16 Jake Mattson
- June 17 Jean Jersey, Herb Meyer
- June 18 Judith van Wageningen
- June 19 Elisabeth Swift
- June 20 Jared Rediske
- June 21 Nye Ffarabas
- June 22 Tracy Binet-Perrin
- June 23 Theodore Kramer, Craig Hammond
- June 25 Whitney Nichols, Kevin McElhinney,
Michael Fedoruk
- June 27 Carolyn Taylor-Olson
- June 28 Judy Hueber
- June 29 Vince Johnson

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- June 3 Bruce & Carol Hesselbach
- June 10 Greg & Kelli Allen, George & Laura Lewis,
Douglas & Ann Bonneville
- June 15 Peter & Jean Smith
- June 16 Doug & Mimi Lilly
- June 18 Al & Janet Cramer
- June 21 Patrick & Serina Keppel,
Ron Bell & Gwen Mousin
- June 22 Kevin McElhinney & Carol Beninati
- June 24 Philip & Cherolyn Stimmel
- June 26 Jim & Donna Reidt
- June 29 Peter & Judith van Wageningen


Jim Crosson

What faculty adorns this edifice
 Of brick and beam
 Which so empowers its calm
 With glad'ning dream?

 What mystery indwells its lofty space
 Of dark and gleam
 And succors with sweet balm
 Of ancient theme?

 O Christians, speak the answer for the race;
 Believers sing!
 O doubters hear their psalm
 Of Glory ring!


 No myst'ry here, within this house dwells He,
 Whom God did send;
 Who ever quells our fear
 And dries our tear.

 *The Guardian* is published monthly by St. Michael's Episcopal Church. News items, announcements, articles, etc., should be submitted to Clark Anderson, *editor*, by the 15th of the month for consideration.

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The Guardian

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



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 Sunday School and childcare

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

WEDNESDAYS—Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

THURSDAYS—9:00 a.m., Rite I service; 5:30 p.m., Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer

SATURDAYS—8:00 a.m., Centering prayer

**This Month At
St. Michael's Episcopal**

JUNE 12–13: WILL DUNCAN