

# The Guardian

MAY 2021

## FROM THE RECTORY



### OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH RETURNS!

Starting on Sunday, May 2, St. Michael's will begin offering outdoor worship. As many of you remember, we experienced outdoor worship at Christ Church last summer and fall and it was really great to be together. Although we still need to abide by many restrictions, we can accommodate 100 people at each service, so no one will be turned away.

#### What is the schedule?

All the 8 am services will be held at Christ Church, weather permitting. The 10:15 am services on **May 9 and May 23** (The Feast of Pentecost) will be held outside at Christ Church. We are keeping some of the 10:15 services as Zoom services to allow for opportunities to sing and to accommodate those who might not be able to attend outdoor worship.

#### Why Christ Church?

We found last summer that Christ Church was a wonderful venue at which to gather outside. The north lawn is quiet, flat and easy to access, unlike the grounds

we have available at St. Michael's. Once you park, it is a short walk to the seating area. There is also the option to stay in your car and listen to the service from there!

#### What about virtual church?

We will continue to film the services from outside for anyone who would like to tune in to church through Zoom.

#### How will we ensure that this gathering is safe?

As per Diocesan guidelines:

- Everyone must wear masks for the entire service.
- We may not (yet) sing.
- Each family group can sit together, but there will be 6–10 feet between family groups.
- Hand Sanitizer and extra masks will be available for attendees.
- Every person/couple/family who attends will sit in their own pod of chairs.

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## FROM THE RECTORY

**Do I need to sign up?**

We really appreciate people letting us know if they plan to attend so that:

- 1) We have plenty of chairs
- 2) We can easily do contact tracing
- 3) We can contact you if there is a weather cancellation.

**What about the weather?**

If the weather looks like rain, we will make a decision about whether or not we will gather **by Friday morning**. If outdoor services are cancelled, we will send out a special eNews and hold our services on Zoom.

**How long will these services be offered?**

We will continue to offer outdoor services as long as we can. It is possible that it may be too hot for parts of

the summer to gather outside, especially for the 10:15 am service, but we will see!

**I want to attend! What do I do next?**

Great! The next step is to email or call Jeanie at the church (jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org & 802-254-6048, ext 104). In your message, please let us know how many people are in your family group. Also, let us know if you have any special requests (sitting toward the front, staying in your car, etc.). If you think you will be attending on a regular basis, we'll sign you up for a season pass!

*Mary*  
Mary Lindquist  
Rector

## NEWS OF THE PARISH

**ADULT FORUMS IN MAY**

**May 2 “Beyond Monarchs”:** Working in tandem with David Treadwell’s Forum on Monarch Butterflies, we will talk about continuing steps that we can take both locally and further afield to promote a stronger, more sustainable environment. *Led by Nancy Ames*

**May 9** — there is no Forum as both services are at Christ Church

**May 16 “Celebrating Women’s Journeys”:** In this Forum we enlarge “Mothers’ Day” to “Celebrating Women’s Journeys” which for some women include motherhood, others not. A panel of women looks at challenges, expectations and barriers they have faced in their lives as women. St. Irenaeus said, “The Glory of God is in men and women fully alive.” The panel is asked: “What they experience as still needing to happen for women to achieve this?”



**VIRTUAL MOTHERS’ DAY DIAPER SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 28–MAY 8**

The Outreach Committee invites you to celebrate Mothers’ Day by bringing packages of disposable

diapers (any size) and/or baby wipes to one of four collection points. On any day during this ten-day period, you may leave them on the front porches of:

Judy Davidson, 42 North St, Brattleboro;

Shirley Hodgdon, 34 Hampshire Circle, West Brattleboro;

Alix Fedoruk, 169 Park Laughton Rd, Dummerston;

or Susan Wilson, 105 Westminster Road, Putney.

On May 10, we will deliver them to Parks Place Diaper Bank and to Groundworks. In this time of financial stress, many parents have difficulty affording this basic health and comfort needs for their children. Thank you for thinking of them as you do your own family’s shopping!

If you prefer to make a monetary donation in lieu of diapers, please send a check with “Diaper Sunday” written in the memo line to:

St. Michael’s Episcopal Church  
16 Bradley Avenue  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

## NEWS OF THE PARISH

## TAKING CARE &amp; MAKING PLANS

Mary Lindquist

*Love one another as I have loved you.* John 13:34*Be prepared.* — The Scout Motto

Sickness, death and physical vulnerability...Haven't we all become more aware of these things in the last year? Although this awareness may make us uncomfortable, it is also part of the values of our faith to remember that our lives in this world are limited and, as the Psalmist says, our lives are "like a breath" and "our days a fleeting shadow."

To this end, and quite independently of each other, the Pastoral Care Team and the Stewardship Committee have both been exploring the role of planning: planning for emergencies and planning for our own legacies as we pass from this life. Read more about our plans below.

**Becoming an Ancestor: Legacy Giving**

I remember when Dottie Morris came to speak at St. Michael's on Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, she spoke of "practicing becoming a good ancestor." As a middle-aged person, this was a new perspective for me. But the more I have thought about it, the more it seems like a wise perspective: not only honoring the ancestors who have come before us, but thinking about ourselves as future ancestors. What do we want to leave behind? How do we want to support and honor those who will come after us?

St. Michael's has benefitted greatly from people who have loved the church and given of their time, gifts and treasure. Some of these people have even remembered St. Michael's in their wills so that their support and love can continue even beyond their lives on this earth. One of the families that have made a difference to St. Michael's through their gift is highlighted in this issue in an article by Susan Wilmott.

On Sunday, May 16th, we will celebrate Legacy Sunday. This will be a time when we can focus on the importance of aligning the gifts God has given us with our deep values, naming and celebrating some of the ancestors who have made our ministry together possible through their generosity.

**Just in Case...Making Plans for Emergencies**

As Christians, one of the ways we show love for one another is by caring for one another in times of trouble, sickness or struggle. Sometimes the church family acts as a safety net and a "next of kin" in cases of emergency. Although we are happy to do this to the extent that we can, it is really helpful to have a plan in place *just in case* an emergency medical condition arises. A clear plan of action is a gift to your family, friends and church when emergencies happen.

St. Michael's Pastoral Care Team has been working on a set of forms to help assist our parishioners (and others!) with thinking through plans in cases of emergency. We are working on three sets of questions: one for personal use for you and your closest family or friends, one for the church, and one for easy access for first responders. We are in the beginning stages of implementing these questionnaires so that they will be as user-friendly as possible. If you would like to be someone who tests out the forms for us and gives us feedback, please let us know!

Once the forms are ready for distribution, we plan to have an Adult Forum and possibly a workshop to help support us as we fill them out. We know that filling out forms and thinking about the possibility of emergencies is not on anyone's list of favorite things to do. Nonetheless, it is important for all of us (regardless of age) to do and it is a way for us to show love for one another.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT LEGACY GIVING

If you are interested in finding out more about Legacy Giving in support of St. Michael's mission and ministry, please contact Chris Chapman, parishioner and longtime financial advisor on estate planning, for more information. He has offered to meet with any parishioner to discuss how best to accomplish a legacy gift of any kind or size.

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**COMING SOON!**

To the St. Michael's Family—

The Communications Team is creating a survey to discern how we're doing with our various modes of communication and dissemination of information, news, and stories of interest.

Please be on the lookout. The survey will be launched in late May. And we will be so grateful for your participation!

*Peace,*

*Annie Landenberger for the Communications Team*

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**THE LYON TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS**

*Application Deadline is May 24*

Many years ago, Mr. Edward Lyon left funds to be used as scholarships to help support young people of Windham County in obtaining job-related training. The Committee members responsible for allocating the funds each year are 3 clergy members from the region, including Mary Lindquist.

More specifically, applicants must be under 40 years of age and must reside in Windham County. Applicants must be already accepted in job-related courses, certificate programs or associate degrees, and the funds cannot be used for baccalaureate degrees. Recently, scholarships have been awarded for attendance at the Line Men Institute of the North East, the LPN program of Vermont Tech, accounting courses at CCV, and the heating and plumbing programs at Granite State Trade School. Scholarships cannot exceed \$3,000 a semester and most are for smaller amounts.

A student can request an application by sending an email to [jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org) or calling 802-254-6048, ext 104 and leaving a message.

Completed applications are due to the Committee by May 24.

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**STEWARDSHIP MINUTE:  
LOOKING AHEAD**

Twelve or fifteen years ago, my wife and I, feeling responsible and grown up, decided it was time to draw up wills. It was a bit daunting to contemplate the both necessary and inevitable but, in the hands of a capable attorney, it worked fairly smoothly and forced us to think about things we'd rather not. It caused us to consider health care proxies which are crucial in family medical care as well as what to do about property. It caused us to examine family relationships as we had not had to before which is a bit disturbing but, again, necessary — who's going to do or get what, and what will it mean to them.

I mention this because we chose a year or so ago to reconsider what we'd done as there had been changes in the family, relationships had shifted, some health issues occurred. And we were a bit older, closer to when things might actually happen. In this case I, in particular, chose to make some contributions in the will to institutions that have meant a lot to me. One of those is St. Michael's Episcopal Church. I found myself pleased to think that my departure from this life will leave some marks behind for others in this parish.

I did consider adding restrictions to my gift but in the end, knowing it would not be huge, chose to leave actual use up to the parish's decisions depending on conditions at the time. I encourage you all to begin this process of thinking about Legacy Giving as part of estate preparation.

*Jeffrey Lewis*

## NEWS OF THE PARISH

## THE HOGLE FUND

*Susan Wilmott*

Dr. John R. Hogle was a respected Brattleboro physician for many years. He and his wife Grace resided in a lovely brick home on Eaton Avenue overlooking the Retreat Meadows and West River. During World War II, John volunteered for service, was an army captain, and contracted malaria while serving. He lost a lung and was in fragile health the rest of his life.

Dr. and Mrs. Hogle loved and maintained the 3+ acres behind their home which bordered the Retreat Meadows. As frail as he was, Dr. Hogle would trim brush, cut trees, and maintain a mowed path so anyone who wished could walk and enjoy the wildlife and scenic beauty of the area.

Dr. Hogle's wife Grace was from Nova Scotia, a devout monarchist, and a member of the Presbyterian church there. When the couple moved to Brattleboro, however, they became members of St. Michael's. Prior to their deaths, they established a trust to ensure that the Hogle Wildlife Sanctuary would be maintained in perpetuity. The terms of the trust state that after maintenance of the trail is completed each year, the balance of the income for that year is to be shared between St. Michael's and Bethel Presbyterian Church in Nova Scotia.

Each year, St. Michael's has received between \$4,000–\$13,000 from the Hogle Trust, depending on income earned and the maintenance needs at the Sanctuary. In recent years, it has averaged around \$12,000. This money is used for property upkeep and improvements at St. Michael's, since in another bequest Dr. Hogle made to St. Michael's, he indicated that was his priority.

The Hogle Fund is truly a gift that keeps on giving to St. Michael's, to a small church in Nova Scotia, and to the countless people from near and far who enjoy the Hogle Wildlife Sanctuary right here in Brattleboro.

SUMMARY OF APRIL MEETING  
OF THE VESTRY

In this month's vestry meeting, we started off a little differently than we normally do. We began with a update from Adwoa on her studies at seminary, heard about current course work for the spring, and what summer studies will look like. Adwoa also gave us a report on a recent study on Bishop Hopkins, the first Bishop of Vermont.

Then Rebecca led us in check ins and a discussion on "Being Church in a Pandemic" from the Vestry papers. After a really good discussion, Bruce shared his treasurer's report. We were happy to hear that we are doing well with our budget.

Judy Davidson then shared a request that Centre Congregational Church made to the Outreach Committee about support for Loaves & Fishes. We had a wonderful discussion and did some problem solving as well as having some questions that Judy will research. We will continue our discussion next month.

Mary's Rector's report included a discussion of how Holy Week services went. There has been a lot of positive feedback and Mary with the team will evaluate what things that were new and different this year will be kept after the pandemic. We were also told that we can start Hybrid (outdoor) Worship and Mary is hoping the weather will be on our side to start having outdoor services at Christ Church in May. Stay tuned and pray for great weather. Mary also let the vestry know that the AV project is complete and many of us saw it in practice during Easter services. We also got an update from the Stewardship Committee about planned giving education for the parish in the coming months. Mary then shared some facility work to be addressed including having our fire alarm system annual check, a leak in the kitchen plumbing that is being looked into, and the outside grounds work day on Saturday April 17.

We then went into committee reports. Ricky reported that the Endowment Committee recently met and got

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an update on our investments, and he is happy to share that they are working for us. Then Alan updated us on the work of Buildings & Grounds on the roof project as well as the upcoming outdoor work day. Annie shared an update from the Communication Committee and the number of ways they are sharing all that St. Michael's is doing in the community. Christy shared a book she is using with the children's education and Godly play, and it sounds like a wonderful new way to share positive stories to the youngest in our parish.

Ricky Davidson will be handling this month's thank you letters to folks in our St. Michael's family who recently went above and beyond for all of us.



*Pre-work Day*

*Many thanks to Josh and Caleb Fritz who helped trim the Rectory trees!*

## EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

## LECTIONARY FOR MAY

**Sunday, May 2:** Acts 8:26–40, Psalm 22:24–30,  
1 John 4:7–21, John 15:1–8

**Sunday, May 9:** Acts 10:44–48, Psalm 98,  
1 John 5:1–6, John 15:9–17

**Sunday, May 16:** Acts 1:15–17, 21–26,  
Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9–13, John 17:6–19

**Sunday, May 23:** Acts 2:1–21 or Ezekiel 37:1–14;  
Psalm 104:25–35, 37; Romans 8:22–27 or  
Acts 2:1–21; John 15:26–27 and 16:4b–15

**Sunday, May 30:** Isaiah 6:1–8, Psalm 29 or  
Canticle 13, Romans 8:12–17, John 3:1–17

## MAY 2021 CELEBRATIONS

## BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Holden McDowell
May 2	Francine Vellario
May 4	Carol Beninati, Bruce Landenberger
May 5	Bill Ames
May 6	Mark Mayer
May 7	Diane Pitcher, Beatrice Johnson
May 8	Opal Mayer
May 11	Brian Morgan, Diana Bingham, Julian Siegel
May 12	K.C. Mattson
May 17	Brian White, Clara Dutton
May 19	Susan Dyer
May 21	Ruth Struthers
May 22	Oliver Pomazi, Lucy Barone-Benoit, Marek Barone-Benoit
May 23	Chloe Hull
May 26	James Crosson, Sylvester Mayer
May 27	Karin Bleecker
May 29	Colby McGinn



## ANNIVERSARIES

May 2	Karren & Steven Meyer
May 24	Janet Brocklehurst & Sissi Loftin
May 27	Teri Robinson & Ross Kinney

## LEADERSHIP

## VESTRY

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*The Guardian* is published monthly by St. Michael's Episcopal Church. News items, announcements, articles, etc. should be submitted to [jeanie@st.michaels-vt.org](mailto:jeanie@st.michaels-vt.org) 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 ONLINE

SUNDAYS	8:00 am	Quiet service of prayer and virtual Morning Prayer or Eucharist
	10:15 am	Prayer, music and virtual Morning Prayer or Eucharist.
WEEKDAY MORNINGS	8:00 am	Morning Prayer
WEEKDAY EVENINGS	5:00 pm	Evening Prayer
THURSDAYS	5:30–6:00 pm	Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer