

# The Guardian

JUNE/JULY 2024

## FROM THE RECTORY

### SUMMER EDITION, SUMMER DELIGHT

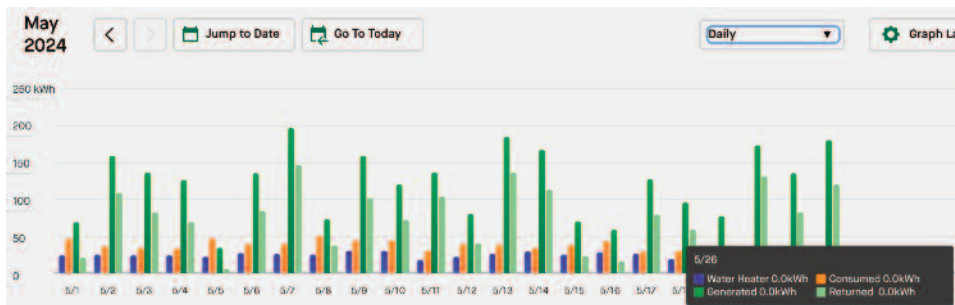
We've enjoyed such a long and temperate spring, but the last few days have definitely felt like summer! Liturgically speaking, we have now moved into Tempus per annum, or the season of Ordinary Time. Ordinary time runs from the day after Pentecost to the beginning of Advent and from Epiphany until Ash Wednesday. The tone of this season is one of growth and ripening into the deep mysteries of our faith, as well as savoring the delight of God's presence in our daily life.

Rest assured, church does not take vacation in the summer, though there is definitely more spaciousness to our common life, as we live into Ordinary Time. As you will read in this special summer edition of the Guardian, there will be opportunities to come together for celebration, singing, community life, formation and exploration.

One of the things I am delighting in during this Ordinary Time is looking at the Green Mountain Power website. Since we hooked up the solar panels last winter, I have been checking this website to see how our solar panels are doing. I'm pleased to announce that in the last month we are consistently generating more energy than we are using! (Please take a look at the diagrams below.) This is so heartening and the result of St. Michael's parishioners' great generosity and hard work. I am amazed how this technology allows us to capture God's gift of sunlight to power our electrical needs.

The Building Hope Team will be analyzing the solar energy in relation to St. Michael's energy needs as we experience each season during this first year of having solar panel and heat pump technology and then figure out next steps. In the meantime, I delight in experiencing much of the vision of our Building Hope for the Earth initiative come to fruition in this most extraordinary Ordinary Time!

*Mary*  
Mary Lindquist  
Rector



## NEWS OF THE PARISH

**NEWCOMERS' LUNCH  
JUNE 2, FOLLOWING THE 10:15 SERVICE  
THE RECTORY YARD**

Following the 10:15 am service on June 2, all people who are new to St. Michael's in the last two years (or feel new!) are invited to a simple lunch on the Rectory yard (across the parking lot from St. Michael's). This is our chance to welcome you and introduce you to one another and to St. Michael's Vestry. Please RSVP to [mary@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:mary@stmichaelsvermont.org) or by signing up in the Common Room by May 31.

STM

**TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING,  
JUNE 4, 4-8 PM, AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

Vermont Interfaith Action's Director Debbie Ingram, local organizer Mike Mrowicki, and other area leaders will be offering a training on best practices in community organizing on Tuesday June 4 from 4-8 pm at St. Michael's in the Undercroft. Come for a light meal and fellowship with those working in faith on systemic justice approaches to race, housing, climate, and immigration justice issues. You can go to the May 15 issue of "The Mountain" from the Diocese of Vermont to register so that we have an idea of how many are coming.

STM

**SUNDAE SUNDAY CELEBRATION  
FOR KIDS, TEACHERS AND FAMILIES!  
SUNDAY, JUNE 9**

Come and celebrate the end of school with an ice cream celebration in the Rectory Yard! All kids, parents, families and teachers are invited to join in a time of fellowship, play, bouncy house and food. We especially want to honor our Godly Play, Upper El, and Youth teachers by showering them with our thanks for their dedication and love for St. Michael's children and youth.



**SUMMER FUN FOR ST. MICHAEL'S KIDS**

Ah, Summer! How wonderful it is to have a contingent of families with children regularly attending church. Now that formal Sunday School is coming to an end, we are hoping to continue to offer some summer activities to build community and continue to keep the Sabbath and join the church on Sundays for the Peace, Communion and Blessing.

Summer Fun will take place in the Undercroft and, depending on the ages of the group and the weather, we will have a story, simple snack, crafts, outside time and/or games. Volunteers will rotate helping out.

We are still in need of some volunteers to fill out the summer. Judith Reichsman and Susan Heimer are on board as volunteer coordinators. Please contact Susan at [heimer.susan@gmail.com](mailto:heimer.susan@gmail.com) if you are willing to help!

STM

**CELEBRATING GRADUATING SENIORS**



Marian



Zadie

Marian Wojcik and Zadie Olmstead will be graduating from Brattleboro Union High School on June 21. Marian plans to attend the University of Vermont's Honors College and Zadie plans to study (and play soccer) at Simmons University in Boston. Please come to the 10:15 am service on June 9 as we celebrate their achievement and say prayers for them.

STM

**PRIDE SUNDAY, JUNE 23**

On Sunday, June 23, St. Michael's will be celebrating PRIDE Sunday. During this service we will offer special prayers for our ongoing support and celebration of the LBTQ + community at St. Michael's

## NEWS OF THE PARISH

and in the world, as well as hear from parishioner Laura Andrews for the sermon.



Laura

Laura Andrews lives in Keene NH with her partner, Cary Gaunt. Laura is the University Director of Institutional Advancement for Antioch University where she has worked since 1998. Laura has been attending St. Michael's since Susan Dedell invited her to sing on Palm Sunday back in 2012.

She loves the welcoming community of Faith! Laura sings with the Brattleboro Concert Choir and enjoys gardening, pickleball, and woodworking.



## EXPLORING THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH — SUMMER SESSION BEGINS JUNE 18!

**TUESDAYS 6-7:15 PM  
IN THE MEETING ROOM**

Exploring the Episcopal Church is a great class for those who are new to St. Michael's, new to church or

not new, but want to brush up on the basics of theology, church history, scripture, prayer and worship in the Anglican tradition. Summer is a great time to study for those who have a lighter work schedule during this season (educators, for example). We will meet in person on Tuesday evenings (June 18, 25, July 2, 9, 23 & 30). If you cannot attend in person, but would like to participate via Zoom, this is also possible. Please let me (Mary Lindquist) know if you would like to participate, [mary@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:mary@stmichaelsvermont.org)



## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

Summer is a great time to sing, to listen, and to learn and to delight in music. To that end, Keane Southard, St. Michael's Director of Music, will be offering a summer class which include listening to music from different genres and singing together (including instruction on helpful singing skills). All are welcome regardless of singing and/or music background. More information, including dates and times, will be forthcoming in the eNews and announcements in the coming weeks. Please contact Keane if you have any questions at [Keane@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:Keane@stmichaelsvermont.org)



## 2024 TAG SALE



Thank you to all those who donated items and to the many volunteers who helped the Tag Sale raise \$10,000 this year. All proceeds are going to the Loaves & Fishes community meals program this year.

**SUMMARY OF THE VESTRY MEETING OF APRIL 18**

- Chris Hart called the meeting to order at 6:00.
- Chris Hart led us in devotional time, centered around the spiritual aspects of the recent solar eclipse.
- The minutes of the March 21 meeting were approved as amended.
- Gwen Mousin, Treasurer reported on the finances, which are proceeding according to the budget. The accounting process is being refined, and procedures for streamlining reports are continuing apace. The result will be easier understanding of the budget and spending, as well as improved reporting of our finances to the Diocese.
- Mary Lindquist presented the **Rector's Report**:
  - Mary expressed her appreciation for all who participated in Holy Week services.
  - She will be away on vacation from April 22 to May 6.
  - Plans are being made for a Newcomers event in June.
  - A policy will be prepared for accepting donations on behalf of other organizations that have asked us for fiscal sponsorships.
- **Senior Warden's Report**
  - The Listening Corner is being improved. The "corner" was moved closer to where parishioners actually gather.
- **What's on their minds?** Choir audio fidelity in the video streams will be improved in the near future with a new camera and microphone. An email address and link will be added to the stream to make it easier to ask questions of the clergy and staff.
  - Jeff Lewis' book discussion group on aging is continuing their discussion of a second book. Another book will follow. (This is a reminder than it's easy to start a discussion group around books relevant to the St. Michael's community!)
- **Junior Warden's Report**
  - Skyberry House will have a movie night on May 9 in the Undercroft featuring a movie about Dorothy Day. On May 12, the Adult Forum will be led by Elizabeth Moriarty, who grew up in a hospitality house.
  - The Tag Sale is fast approaching! Preparations are being made apace.
- **Committee Reports**
  - Paul circulated an update about the ministry, including profiles of new families we're sponsoring. A benefit concert is coming up. Rental and transportation remain high priorities.
  - Hospitality Committee had a successful orientation of new coffee hour hosts.
- Closing Prayer was offered by Margery McCrum
- The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm



## SUMMARY OF THE VESTRY MEETING OF MAY 16

- **John Lent** joined us and opened the meeting leading us in a time of reflection and discussion about Christian **Stewardship**. John will be taking on more of a leadership role on the Stewardship Committee this year, seeking to take some of the load from Mary's shoulders.
- **adwoa** joined us to give an update on her work, both in her role as assistant priest here at St. Michael's and how her work at the diocesan level is evolving with the ministry funded by the Lilly Grant which she and Jeanie worked so hard to secure last year. We also heard about the life of the Wednesday morning group which meets at The Works, adwoa's evolving role as a visible clergy person serving at Loaves & Fishes, and her liturgical work in which she is acting as celebrant more often. She talked about her Diocesan work with the Green Mountain Online Abbey and about how the initiative she's developing with the Lilly funding will be working to provide pastoral support, resources, connection and more to lay leaders who are taking on important work in smaller congregations around the diocese.
- The **Minutes** of the April 18 Vestry meeting were approved.
- Gwen Mousin joined us via Zoom to present the **Treasurer's Report**.
- Christine Hart, our **Senior Warden**, gave an update on the **Finance Taskforce's** work and reported that our **bookkeeping team** going forward will be Deb Bunker and Casey Parris. Vestry members voiced appreciation for the work reformatting financial reports to make them more accessible for incoming Vestry members in particular.
- In the **Rector's Report**, Mary updated us on some **upcoming events** on the Rectory lawn after upcoming 10:15 services — a Newcomers Lunch on June 2 and Sundae Sunday on June 9 to celebrate end of the school year.

Mary also brought up the need for some protocol for difficult situations that may arise at church. There was some discussion of the value of **creating policy/guidance** in general. This led into some followup on questions previously raised about the church acting as a fiscal sponsor.

- **Junior Warden**, Susan Heimer gave updates on
  - **Skyberry House** group, including a visit to a House of Hospitality in Worcester MA and the successful movie night and Sunday morning Forum.
  - Plans for a **Summer Program** for youth during the first half of our 10:15 services with activities for combined age groups. Looking for a few more adult volunteers to help supervise/lead activities.
- Margery McCrum gave **ministry liaison reports**
  - The **Pastoral Care** team continues to meet, usually on Zoom, led by Mary and Lars. The team currently has 7 active church members and would welcome some new members. The team keeps in contact with members of the congregation who are homebound or in nursing homes and who may be in need of additional support. Discussion of parishioners' needs in meetings are kept in confidence, so names will not be added to prayers of the people by the team, but only by direct request or permission of the person in question.

## NEWS OF THE PARISH

- The **Choir** continues to grow into its work under Director of Music Keane Southard. We heard about the meeting of the choir Mary organized in March to take time to reflect on the time of transition and to discuss Keane and the choir's shared vision for our music ministry and how to work together to achieve those goals.
- Paul Gallagher reported that proceeds from the River Singers recent concerts had been donated to support the work of the Refugee Ministry. Some River Singers members, including the director, have become connected to the ministry's work as volunteers.
- Thank yous were addressed to Tag Sale organizers and to Tom and Lars for subbing for Mary while she was away recently.
- Cary Gaunt closed the meeting with prayer

STM

*Pentecost Day*

## LEADERSHIP

## VESTRY

**Christine Hart, Senior Warden**  
chrishart312@gmail.com | 802-257-0452

**Susan Heimer, Junior Warden**  
heimer.susan@gmail.com | 802-387-2650

**Paul Gallagher**  
pkgall07@gmail.com | 203-809-8531

**Cary Gaunt**  
chg.watershed@gmail.com | 802-734-5009

**Mary Lindquist**  
marydail7@gmail.com | 802-254-6048

**Margery McCrum**  
sullariadoc@gmail.com | 802-258-4593

**Chris Meyer**  
cuba.vermont@gmail.com | 802-380-2385

**John Spooner**  
jspooner52@gmail.com | 917-847-9467

**David Treadwell**  
davidtreadwell@me.com | 734-657-0023

**Rosie Wojcik**  
rosie@wojnet.org | 802-380-1363

**Gwen Mousin, Treasurer**  
gmousin@gmail.com | 802-380-5888

**Carol Beninati, Clerk**  
writers@sover.net | 802-258-4636

## JUNE/JULY 2024 CELEBRATIONS

**BIRTHDAYS**

April 2	Becky Anderson
June 1	Katra Faust
June 2	Laura Lewis, Cary Gaunt, Jane Sbardella
June 3	Caroline Wojcik
June 4	Phillip Stimmel
June 5	Jonah Johnson, Deborah Jones
June 7	Louise LaChance
June 9	Larry Earle
June 10	Jon Davis, Ed McCatty
June 11	Martha Moravec, Susan Gantt Kubert
June 12	Betsy Bates
June 13	John Byrnes
June 15	Aldrich Wright
June 16	Jake Mattson
June 17	Jean Jersey
June 20	Jared Rediske
June 21	Nye Ffarabas, Yoojin Lee
June 23	Craig Hammond, adwoa Wilson
June 24	Heather Lesage-Horton
June 25	Whitney Nichols, Kevin McElhinney, Michael Fedoruk
June 27	Carolyn Taylor-Olson
June 28	Judy Hueber, Oren Hesselbach
June 29	Vince Johnson
June 30	Zadie Olmstead
July 1	Meaghan Landin, William Stearns, Patrick Ackerman-Hovis
July 2	Beth Houder
July 3	Rosie Wojcik

July 4	Matthew Wojcik
July 5	Thea Porter, Rebecca Porter
July 6	Duncan Hilton
July 7	Lori Palmer, Joanne Patalano
July 8	Judith McGee
July 9	Anita Crosson, Irene Burtis
July 11	David Treadwell
July 12	Ann Switzer
July 13	Jessica Mattson, Beth Ruane
July 14	Marian Wojcik, David Carr
July 16	Olivia Capponcelli
July 20	Richard Gauthier
July 22	Susan Wilmott
July 25	Phillip Wilson
July 27	Kerry Capponcelli
July 30	Shirley Hodgdon

**ANNIVERSARIES**

June 10	Greg & Kelli Allen
June 15	Peter & Jean Smith
June 21	Ron Bell & Gwen Mousin
June 22	Kevin McElhinney & Carol Beninati
June 24	Philip & Cherolyn Stimmel
June 27	Cliff & Wylene Wood
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, Kiersten McKenney & John Byrnes

**EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER****LECTIONARY FOR JUNE & JULY**

To see all the readings for each Sunday, go to

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/#june>

and <http://www.lectionarypage.net/#july>

You will find there the collects, lessons and psalms  
for each Sunday and feast day.



*The Guardian* is published monthly by St. Michael's Episcopal Church. News items, announcements, articles, etc. should be submitted to [jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org) by the 15th of the month for consideration.

*The Guardian mailing list:* Contact Jeanie Crosby with address changes or requests to be added or removed from *The Guardian* mailing list. [jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org) or 802-254-6048.

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ST. MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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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 am	Quiet service of prayer and Eucharist
	10:15 am	Prayer, music and Eucharist. (in-person and online)
WEEKDAYS	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (online) and Tues.–Thurs. in Chapel
WEDNESDAYS	11:30 am	Centering Prayer (in-person)
	12:00	Eucharist (in-person)
THURSDAYS	5:30 pm	Contemplative service (in-person and online)
SATURDAYS	8:00 am	Centering Prayer (in-person)