

Dragon Tales

Serving the Southern Maine Seacoast Region

From the Rector:

It's spring, right? Dare we hope? As I type this in mid-March, anticipating early April, that hope still seems a bit far off, for after all, it snowed/rained/slushed all morning long.

But returning from Sudie's father's funeral this afternoon I saw it—the flock of robins, pecking away at a field on the way into town.

No first robin of spring, these. It's a first flock of robins. And they've been around town for about a month now. Have you seen them? There must be fifty of them. Unimaginable, but there they are.

So spring, like resurrection, makes its appearance, and this time not with a mere first robin, but with a flock.

And after such a snowy winter, oh, we've earned that flock, that bold, outrageous, prodigal sign of spring's return.

Resurrection is like that too. The deeper the pain, the darker the night, the more stunning the betrayal, the heavier the disappointment—resurrection, when it comes, comes like that flock. No mere first robin, no—a first flock.

So if you are waiting for resurrection to find you in the midst of life—trust. And look for the signs. Those robins have been with us awhile—through several snow storms, but they're here. Like the promised springtime. And God's gift of resurrection, in this life and the next, will be just as outrageous and prodigal, abundant and surprising, when it comes.

Sounds like the beginning of an Easter sermon to me...

In Christ,
Paige+

Summer?! *by the Rev. Steve Godfrey*

There is still a foot or two of snow in my front yard (just as there has been almost since Thanksgiving) but as I know that our Savior lives, so I also know that summer is coming! (Really, I do!) Summer is a great time for kids and families to explore and deepen their faith. Here are some things to consider getting involved with or organizing.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of July 21, at St. Christopher's, who invited us to join with them this year. Check out the article by Lynn Dube in this Dragon Tales for details about VBS and VBS Sunday coming up this spring at St. George's.

Some folks have already talked to me about summer camps. To learn more about this exciting possibility, check out www.campbishopswood.org, the website for Camp Bishopswood, the summer camp for the Diocese of Maine. There's a lot of information there about the 2008 camping season, rates, and an open house on June 8.

Youth completing grades 6-12 should definitely check out BION (Believe It Or Not) camp at Bishopswood, Tuesday to Saturday, August 19-23. This will be the ninth summer of this popular camp. Teens can choose activities like ultimate frisbee, beads & hemp, tie-dyeing, canoeing, watermelon polo, photography, and many more. Mornings will include exploring and talking about God in focus groups led by clergy and lay adults. Nights will include playing capture the flag, worshipping God, enjoying campfires, toasting s'mores and hanging out. Last year, 65 campers came, half of whom were high-schoolers and many of whom were there for their second, third or fourth year. For more information see www.maine-youth.org—navigate to Events/Current Applications or ask me about it. I was there last year along with one youth and a young adult staffer from St. George's.

The National Episcopal Youth Event will be July 7-14 in San Antonio, Texas. Youth who have completed

Editor's Note:

The parish office recently got a new computer and, as always happens in these situations, it takes awhile to work out the problems. I cannot, right now, access our website to update it or create the monthly newsletter in email form—hence the pdf version this month. Hopefully, by the next edition, the newsletter will be in email format once again. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

ninth grade are eligible to represent the Diocese of Maine. If you interested in this (and active at St. George's and in diocesan youth programs), speak with me right away because applications are past due. There is more information at www.maine-youth.org.

The mission trip to New Orleans was a huge success as an intergenerational and family opportunity to deepen faith through service. Would anyone be interested in organizing a similar mission trip during the summer in conjunction with the Maine Sea Coast Mission (www.seacoastmission.org)? This would be a less-expensive and easier to organize trip but surely equally rewarding.

Are there any little ones and parents interested in forming a play group? Anyone interested in organizing summer sports? Softball? Volleyball? Croquet? Ultimate frisbee? The summer can be a great way for Christians of all ages to gather to play, just as we gather to pray.

Looking ahead to 2009, high school youth might want to consider the International Youth Mission Team 2009, which will serve in the village of Jalonga in the Dominican Republic in summer 2009. The deadline for application is April 15, 2008 – that's coming right up. The first meeting will be in May 2008. Further activities will include a Wilderness Experience in summer 2008, about six other overnights, and fundraising responsibilities. This is an amazing opportunity for high-schoolers to serve Christ by serving others and (ironically) to get more than you give. For more information, check out www.maine-youth.org – navigate to Events/Current Applications.

Can you tell I'm looking forward to summer? I'm especially looking forward to being around St. George's this summer (albeit part-time) after being away last year during the summer.

Steve+

Listening to a Broken Record

by the Rev. Aaron Perkins, Deacon

Sometimes I feel like a broken record, but here goes: our jails are too crowded and we, as a state, fail terribly at integrating people back into the community.

Our state Legislature continually tries to demonstrate that they are interested in protecting all of us by taking a 'tough on crime' stance. They continually pass minimum sentencing laws for a host of different offenses,

yet don't seem to stop and consider that we have a state prison system that is at full capacity. It creates crowding problems that are inhumane and dangerous.

In a report published recently by the nonpartisan think-tank Pew Center on the States, the United States now leads the way in incarcerating people. The U.S. incarcerates more people than any other country in the world. This includes China, a much more populous country.

Also, five states—Vermont, Michigan, Connecticut, Oregon and Delaware—spend as much or more on corrections than they spend on education. Something is wrong with this.

We know that violent offenders need to be incarcerated for the protection of us all; but we also know that more than half of those incarcerated at any given time are first-time, nonviolent offenders. For those folks, it would be cheaper, smarter and more effective to treat them for their addictions and emotional issues instead of incarcerating them. This would result in smaller prisons, more humane treatment of those with genuine issues and a huge savings for all of us who pay taxes.

Okay, but what can WE do?

The best thing that any of us can do is educate ourselves. Spend some time at www.justicefellowship.org and pay particular attention to the 'issues in criminal justice reform' section. (I must insert a disclaimer here. The Justice Fellowship is operated by Prison Fellowship, which is the organization that Chuck Colson founded. Colson typically aligns his organization with some of our more fundamentalist Christian brothers and sisters. However, the organization does much good work and has done an incredible amount of good research.)

The next thing to do is let our legislators (both state and federal) know that we want to see criminal sentencing reform and more use of treatment for first-time nonviolent offenders because it's less expensive and more effective.

Please help us to bring about this change, and thanks for letting me be a broken record.

Poems from the March 2 Presentation About the Mission Trip to New Orleans

Hope Floats *by Savannah Young*

Years, months, weeks and days,

Have passed since those walls gave way,

Unleashing the water that left behind all the pain.
The rusty, brown line still holding the shame,
And even when it begins to fade,
The horrid memories will always remain.
Sunrises, sunsets, dusks and dawns,
Remind us of the time now gone,
When we could have been righting our wrongs.
As the moments pass, we are forced to move on,
And have faith in the city to which we all somehow
belong.

Heartaches, bruises, scars and tears,
Stole the security and replaced it with fear,
Seiged every moment, every memory held so dear.
The waters now subside and the winds, too far away
to hear.

A city joins as one causing the pride and spirit to
grow near.

This is the firm foundation of a city united,
That will last through all the years.

Ghost Tour *by Gene Fox*

Houses in the Lower 9th are teeth:
stained, cavities, busted, or gone.
That one lit up is a golden molar. But,
it's the canal's breath cool on our brows,
the scent brown-green, vaguely chemical.

We stand where boats passed overhead.

Nearby, the ghosts, displaced too,
wait like a great flock of egrets.

There is no word on the street.

The jaws of the Upper 9th grimace,
or maybe they grin. Amateur dentists pack
cavities with gum-colored scraps. The breath
on our faces smells of sunshine on puddles.

The ghosts are coming home to roost.

We're pale as a migratory flock of ghosts.

We leave a ghost-graffiti on the walls of
one house: You are not forgotten.

The word on the street here, the *logos*,
is the busy, breathing, returnees.

Some of them make for shifts in the Quarter,
with its painted grins and dripping beads, its
gumbo-breath, and where we raise clouds
of ghosts like invisible pigeons.

Vacation Bible School 2008 *by Lynn Dube*

The parishioners of St. Christopher's Catholic Church in York have graciously invited the children of St. George's to join their Vacation Bible School Program for this summer! This is a wonderful opportunity for us, and I am very excited to be a part of the planning. VBS "Bible Blast" will take place at St. Christopher's the week of July 21-25, Monday-Friday, and runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. All children who will be age four by July 21 through those going into the fourth grade are welcome to attend this year's VBS. We will be running a "sneak-peek" of Bible Blast, which will replace our regular church school time on May 11. This will be a great opportunity for children to experience what the VBS week will be like. Registration forms will be available as well.

St. Christopher's has a few more adult and junior volunteer positions to fill in order to make this event successful. I would love it if we at St. George's could fill in those spots, as a thank you for inviting us to join them. Please contact me, Lynn Dube, 384-4741, if you are willing to help out in any way.

Opportunities for Youth at Bishop's Consecration

Young adults and 6th-12th graders are invited to serve at the Consecration of the ninth Bishop of Maine on May 3, 2008. Crucifers, torchbearers, streamer carriers and parking greeters are needed. The application deadline is April 1! Check out www.maine-youth.org – events – current applications.

Confirmation and Reception Service

Bishop Knudsen will preside, and the Rev. Stephen Lane (about to become the ninth Bishop of Maine) will preach, at a regional service of confirmation at St. George's on Saturday afternoon, April 5, at 4:00 p.m. Four adults and three youth from St. George's will be either confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. Members of St. Ann's in Windham will also be confirmed or received at this service. Please come and support our members making this important commitment to Christ and the church, welcome other members of the diocese, and greet our bishop. **To honor the confirmands, as well as Bishop Knudsen and Bishop-Elect Lane, we would like to put on a good reception after the service. If you can help, please sign up in**

the parish hall; if you would be willing to coordinate or co-coordinate such a reception, please contact Nancy Merrill ASAP at 351-1017 or jnmerrill@aol.com. Let's make this occasion a special one!

Diocesan Youth Ministries' Annual Planning Meeting

The annual meeting to guide and direct Diocesan Youth Ministries will be Saturday, April 12, 2008, from 10:00 to 2:30, at Christ Church, Gardiner. Adults and teens (grades 6-12) who are active in youth ministries at St. George's are encouraged to come and be part of it! How can we help teens to grow closer to Jesus Christ? What diocesan youth events and opportunities should we offer? How can the Diocesan Youth Ministries support congregations' ministries to youth? Where is God leading us? Please let Steve+ know by April 1 if you are interested in attending. Maybe we could carpool.

Divorce, Separation and Mixed Families Group

Have you experienced divorce, separation or the mixing of families? You may be surprised at how many members of our community have, too. A group has formed and continues to welcome new members on the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Speak with Steve+ or just drop by. The next meetings are March 26, April 23, and May 28.

"Berwicks Church"

Do you live in South Berwick or Berwick, North Berwick or Eliot or in that general neck of the woods? As many as twenty St. George's parishioners are gathering the last Thursday of each month at 5:45 at the First Parish Federated Church in South Berwick (on Route 4/236, across from the Dunkin Donuts). We meet in the "Vestry" or fellowship hall under the sanctuary to celebrate the Eucharist in a simple, kid-friendly way and then share potluck supper. On March 27, Dave Dube will lead the Liturgy of the Word using Godly Play. The next gatherings will be April 24 and May 29. Everyone is welcome. Come drive across Route 91 and join us! Invite friends too, especially folks who live in or near the Berwicks who might not have found St. George's because it's a little too far to drive.

AIDS Walk

Time to start planning to participate in the annual AIDS Response Seacoast AIDS Walk, one of its most important fundraisers each year. Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 4, 2:00 p.m. St. George's always sends a large contingent—let's continue that tradition. (Remember, dogs can walk, too!) Lauren Segalla 363-8642 and Abbie Duquette 363-2556 are the St. George's Team coordinators. Contact them for more info, or go to <http://aidsresponse.kintera.org/walk08>.

Let's Clean Up the Church!

by Lorrie Whittaker

It's spring again and that means it's time to spring-clean our church. On Saturday, May 17, 9:00-12:00, we will gather to clean our church of its winter grime and grit. There will be many jobs to do, both indoors and outdoors. Adults and kids are all welcome—and needed. John Cashman, 363-5619, our Building and Grounds chair, will coordinate, but we need lots of volunteers to really make this happen.

If you have a safe, sturdy ladder, please bring it. Brooms, dustpans, mops, cleaning rags, cleaning formulas, glass cleaner, etc., are all very welcome. Check with John if you have an idea of something to bring but aren't sure. Please put this on your calendar—hope to see you there!

Music Notes *by Kathy Fink*

Greetings from the piano! Many of you have expressed an interest in getting involved in the music program at St George's. As I look ahead to planning next year, it would be great to find out exactly what kinds of things we can do. After Easter, I will be conducting a survey that will ask all of you whether or not we want to add to the music program in some of the following ways: youth choir, teen choir, parish band, world music, gospel music, musical plays, etc. Please think about what you would like to see us do together at St George's and take the time to complete the survey when it comes your way. Thank you!

Craft Outreach Thank You *by Ellie Butler*

Thank you, thank you, thank you—to everyone who gave of their time and talent to make items for the Craft Outreach Project. At the ingathering on March 9, we collected two quilts, eight blankets, 23 hats, two baby

sweaters, 16 baby hats, and 10 scarves—what a wonderful sight. We also collected and blessed 10 prayer shawls. To borrow a phrase from Kari Pritchard of the Table of Plenty, “Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something.” Obviously a lot of people did something. What a wonderful difference you have made in people’s lives!!

The project is ongoing, so keep those needles busy. We are making knitted or crocheted blankets or quilts for Project Linus, knitted or crocheted hats either for cancer patients through Hats With Hugs or to go to the Preble Street Resource Center in Portland, and prayer shawls. The baby items go to Newborns in Need. I have patterns for easy blankets, knit with large needles, and several hat patterns to share. Anyone interested can contact Ellie Butler at 363-7114.

United Thank Offering (UTO) *by Linda Huls*

Plink! One expression of thanks goes into the little blue box for Robin Johnson’s visit to St. George’s on March 9. Robin gave us history, suggestions, and enthusiasm concerning the United Thank Offering program.

During the month of April you will find the UTO display in the church, including information, placemats, bookmarks, and new and additional little blue boxes. Please help yourself. I would love to restock the supplies.

Our formal ingathering will be April 27; however, you are welcome to place your UTO envelope in the offering plate anytime during April. There will be UTO envelopes in the pew racks. Please count the coins in your box and write a check for the total, putting “UTO” on the memo line. Thankfulness is a wonderful habit.

Wrestling Report

After our opening prayer at the March vestry meeting, we invited Kit Wang to join us, as we prepared to vote on her endorsement for ordination to the transitional diaconate. Kit provided an overview of her field education at St. Stephen’s the Martyr in Waterboro. She is incredibly excited to be at this point and has really enjoyed working in a small parish where she can “jump” in. The motion to endorse Kit Wang for ordination to the transitional diaconate was unanimously approved.

The rector reported that we continue to make the transition to lay leadership, as evidenced by new lead-

ership in the areas of finance, events and outreach.

NOLA Mission Trip Report: A total of 23 missionaries went to New Orleans. Under the leadership of two wonderful crew chiefs, we sheetrocked Miss Dorothy’s house. She is an elderly lady who had been cheated out of her money by a less-than-honorable contractor. The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is assisting her in rebuilding so she and her daughter and grandchildren can return to their home. The team finished sheetrocking most of the ceilings and walls in her home by end of day on Friday. Everyone we met offered their sincerest thanks to us as a team and to those they knew supported our efforts back home.

Deacon news: Please continue to keep Sudie (and Peter) Blanchard in your prayers in light of the death of Jim Mixter, Sudie’s dad. Aaron Perkins has been asked to help organize the provincial gathering for Deacons in October.

The Parochial Report for 2007 was unanimously approved and will be submitted to the Diocese of Maine and the Episcopal Church.

The Vestry unanimously approved splitting the Special Easter Offering between the Maine Sea Coast Mission, which provides both religious and medical services to the islands of Penobscot Bay and Washington County, and Caring Unlimited, which provides assistance to men, women and children of York County who are struggling with domestic violence.

Stewardship update: We are currently at \$249,657 in pledges. This still represents a deficit of \$6000 in our budget presented at our annual meeting. In light of this, the Vestry has decided that it will continue to monitor pledges and expenses and reconsider the possibility of contributing to healthcare for Steve’s family if circumstances change. George Dow is scheduling a meeting for our Stewardship Committee. Kate Bishop, Pauline Cashman and Brenda Ervin joined Paige and Steve at the Province One Conference on March 6-8, 2008.

The Vestry wishes to thank John Cashman of the Building and Grounds Committee for his work in creating a list of priority projects requiring attention. The Vestry approved the use of approximately \$1300 in designated gifts to be used to repair the parking lot and requests that the Building and Grounds committee provide an estimate if the repairs will exceed the gift funds. The Vestry also approved work on the remainder of the

priority list with funding coming from the building maintenance budget line and requests that estimates be provided if any of the repair estimates are exceeded by \$50.

The Long Range Planning Committee met on February 27, 2008. They have begun work on the request of the Vestry to provide:

- A cost/benefits analysis pertaining to the recommended options. It is understood that this will be an objective outline that the Vestry can work with.
- A valuation of our physical assets (church and rectory).
- A demographic analysis of where our parishioners live today, as well as information about Episcopalians living in York, Eliot, Kittery, Berwick, South Berwick, North Berwick, Wells, Ogunquit and Cape Neddick.

The Vestry confirmed the Planning Committee's assumption that the planned report should be best effort and that no money should be expended in its preparation. Ken Barrett provided information about our last capital campaign (approximately 10 years ago). At that time, the goal was \$200,000. About \$220,000 was raised.

Robert Palmer reviewed the existing and planned financial procedures. The efforts in this area are greatly appreciated. Policies and procedures will be kept in a binder in the Church office.

The next meeting of the Vestry is April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Staff Absences

Steve+ gone from April 14 through April 21.

Thank You Letters

When we hear the responses from those who have benefitted from our outreach work, it benefits us as well. It makes it real—we have connected ourselves to real people beyond our church and ourselves. (The complete text of these letters will be on the downstairs bulletin board throughout April.)

From Preble Street (shelter) (April 2007):

“Thank you for your donation of handmade hats and scarves. Your generosity and dedication in sharing your resources has had a transforming effect on lives.”

—Julie Kudrna, Breakfast/Clothing Closet Manager

From Voices From the Heart (5-28-07):

“Thank you for your donation of \$1,220 in support of the UN Association program, Adopt-a-Minefield. Each dollar donated to Adopt-a-Minefield through Voices From the Heart goes directly toward landmine clearance, education and the rehabilitation of injured victims.”

—Joanne Connolly, Director, VFTH

From the Southern Maine Agency on Aging (6-14-07):

“Your gift [of \$500] helped us continue our work to keep older people in their homes with the care they need. Meals on Wheels is an important part of that care. We deliver nearly 1,000 meals *every weekday*. Our volunteers deliver not only a nutritious hot meal, but a welcome visit to homebound seniors in southern Maine.”

—Laurence W. Gross, Executive Director

From PlayPumps International (6-26-07):

“Thank you for the gift of \$600 to PlayPumps International. Your gift will improve lives with clean drinking water and enhanced public health, and provide play equipment to children.”

—Kendall E. Mattos, Program Coordinator

From Keller Williams Realty (12-19-07):

“Many, many thanks to you [Karen Gilroy] and all the wonderful parishioners at St. George's Church for providing a special Christmas for a Head Start family again this year [through St. George's Giving Tree project]. Many of these families would not have any Christmas except for people like you.” —Pat Pelletier

From PlayPumps International (1-3-08):

“Thank you for being part of the PlayPumps International's efforts to bring clean drinking water to children, families and communities in Africa. With your donation of \$1,000, we are one step closer to our ambitious goal of installing 4,000 PlayPump water systems in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa by 2010.”

—Shudine Covell, Program Coordinator

From the York Food Pantry (1-29-08):

“Thank you for your ongoing support of the York Food Pantry. It is the continued help from churches and organizations that keeps us afloat all year long.”

—Tom Whalen, Director

From Operation Blessing (2-8-08):

“We are very appreciative of the knitted hats, mittens and scarves that you recently donated. It can oftentimes be challenging to keep the racks adequately stocked with appropriate winter gear and this thoughtful gift is a real help to us. ‘He who is gracious to the needy honors God - Prov. 14:31.’”

—David R. Sparkowich, for Operation Blessing, Inc.

From St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Londonderry, NH (2-20-08):

“It was a delight to work with Eric Hopkins and your U2charist team. Enclosed please find a check [\$200] as a donation [from the U2charist] to PlayPumps International. Thank you for this ministry that you and your congregation have given to the Church.”

—The Rev. Sarah Rockwell, Vicar, St. Peter’s

Prayer List

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Ursula Apgar, Mary Baker, Jeff Bishop, Ruby Bishop, Pauline Breary, Scott Bridges, Gerry Burch, Ken Capon, Beverly Collymore, TenBroeck Cornell, Marion Dorr, Susan Duffy, Debbie Ehret, Anne Erwin, Frank Fauenfelder, Marion Grecko, Mike Gizzi, Culver Godfrey, Heather Godfrey, Loren Gregory, Mary Hoffman, Jeff Johnson, Jennifer, Kuffer Kaltenborn, Joshua Kelly, Mary Jane Kruger, Jack Lewis, Gerry Lipsett, Kathy Little, Rosie Littlefield, Rita Loew, Martine, Bob McMurtry, David Moore, Stephanie Morgan, John Parris, Rosemary Perrin, Bob Porter, Tony Ray, Priscilla Ropke, Ruth Santoro, Hannah Stone-Carter, Andrew Tennant, Thelma Thompson, Jane Wagner, Greg Wallace, Barbara Ward, Mark Williams, Marion Wyman, Susan Yorston

for those who have died: Muriel Brazer, Eric Johnson

for Kit Wang in her ministry at St. Stephen the Martyr, Waterboro

for Habitat for Humanity

for ++Katharine Jefferts Schori, our Presiding Bishop, +Chilton Knudsen, our Bishop, and for Steven Lane+, our Bishop Coadjutor-Elect

for our President and the heads of state of all countries in the world, that they may make peace and justice for everyone

for everyone serving in the armed forces and security personnel at home and overseas, and their families,

especially Jerry Babcock, Hal Brewster, Pattie & David Davis, Jackie West, Michael West

for church unity (Book of Common Prayer, p. 818)
for peace in Darfur

The world now has the means to end poverty; pray that we have the will to do it.

Smiles From the Bible

Q. What are pastors in Germany called?

A. German Shepherds

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah - he was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Thoughts From Three Wise Women

Birds sing after a storm; why shouldn’t people feel as free to delight in whatever remains to them?

—Rose Kennedy

Always be joyful. That is the only truly saintly state.

—Teresa of Avila

We plant seeds that will flower as results in our lives, so best to remove the weeds of anger, avarice, envy and doubt, that peace and abundance may manifest for all.

—Dorothy Day

Thoughts From Three Wise Men

Those who deeply love never grow old; they may die of old age, but they die young.

—Sir Arthur W. Pinero

Inside each of us there are two “warring” entities, the strong and the weak, the bold and the fearful, the large and the small. Each of us has a “big me” and a “little me” inside, and often the “little me” frustrates and paralyzes the “big me.” When a person’s inner image drops below a certain level, the result is pure misery.

—The Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

—The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Substitute Organist

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute.

The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Dear God...(aka From the Mouths of Babes...)

Dear God: If we come back as something, please don't let me be Jennifer Horton, because I hate her.

—Denise

Dear God: I would like to live 900 years like the guy in the Bible.

—love, Chris

Dear God: If you will give me a genie lamp like Alladin [sic] I will give you anything you want except my money or my chess set.

—Raphael

Dear God: We read that Thomas Edison made light. But in Sunday school they said you did it. So I bet he stoled [sic] your idea.

—Donna

Dear God: If you let the dinosar [sic] not extinct [sic] we would not have a country. You did the right thing.

—Jonathan

Dear God: Please send Dennis Clark to a different camp this year.

—Peter

Dear God: I do not think anybody could be a better God. Well I want you to know but I am not just saying that because you are God.

—Charles

Dear God: Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each [other] so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother.

—Larry

Church Signs...

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.

Try our Sundays; they are better than Baskins-Robbins.

Come in and have your faith lifted.

This is a CH__CH. What is missing?

You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.

Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings...

Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back.

Life is hard. Afterlife is harder.

Aspire to inspire before you expire.

Where will you be sitting in eternity? Smoking or non-smoking?

Under the same management for over 2,000 years!

You Know You're Living in 2008 When...

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.

2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.

3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.

4. You email the person who works at the desk next to you.

5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have email addresses.

6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.

7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.

8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.

10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.

11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)

12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.

14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.

15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list—AND NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself.

Treasurer's Report

February 2008	Budgeted	Actual
Pledges MTD	\$20,833.33	\$13,856.00
Pledges YTD	\$41,666.66	\$42,423.80
Total Contributions MTD	\$23,635.00	\$15,418.50
Total Contributions YTD	\$47,270.00	\$57,542.10
Total Income MTD	\$28,518.75	\$30,405.73
Total Income YTD	\$57,037.50	\$87,106.87
Expenses MTD	\$28,833.76	\$33,360.72
Expenses YTD	\$57,667.52	\$58,032.24

February 2007	Budgeted	Actual
Pledges MTD	\$20,201.00	\$15,491.00
Pledges YTD	\$40,402.00	\$38,811.15
Total Contributions MTD	\$21,951.00	\$17,052.50
Total Contributions YTD	\$43,902.00	\$41,539.25
Total Income MTD	\$25,868.51	\$23,580.83
Total Income YTD	\$51,737.02	\$52,653.53
Expenses MTD	\$26,321.90	\$18,249.03
Expenses YTD	\$52,643.80	\$50,783.38

Current Worship Schedule

Program Year, September 9, 2007 - June 8, 2008		
Sunday	7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, spoken
	8:45 a.m.	Spiritual Formation
	9:00 a.m.	Family Eucharist, with music
	9:45 a.m.	Church School
	10:00 a.m.	Spiritual Formation
	11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, with music and choir
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Silent Prayer
	9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist with optional healing

Email Newsletter

You are receiving this paper copy of *Dragon Tales* because the parish administrator does not have an email address for you. To receive the newsletter by email, please get your email address to the parish administrator: office@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org.

Vestry Members—Contact Info

(Below is a list of current Vestry members, their phone numbers, email addresses and the committees and/or ministries for which they are the Vestry liaison)

Brenda Ervin, 439-1205, rnb6263@comcast.net, Senior Warden; 11:00 Steering Committee

Ken Barrett, 439-2034, barret1719@aol.com, Junior Warden; 7:45 Steering Committee

George Dow, 439-7866, george.dow@tdbanknorth.com, Treasurer; Stewardship

Pauline Cashman, 363-5619, cside@maine.rr.com, Pastoral Care

Daryl McKay, 363-4256, daryl@spimages.com, Church School; 9:00 Steering Committee

Eve Ray, 363-7038, anthonymray@yahoo.com; Outreach

Pat Kriensky, 641-2246, pkriensky@verizon.net, Parish Events & Relations

Susan Wilson, 363-1669, wfields@maine.rr.com, Youth

Kate Bishop, 363-1759, srkateb@maine.rr.com; 11:00 Steering Committee

Robert Palmer, 363-3292, rpalmer3@maine.rr.com; Finance;; 7:45 Steering Committee

Matt Reilly, 384-5701, mattmasonman@aol.com; Building and Grounds; 9:00 Steering Committee

Contact and Copyright Information

Dragon Tales is a monthly publication of St. George's Episcopal Church of York Harbor, Maine. Regular contributors include the Rev. Paige Blair, Rector; the Rev. Steven Godfrey, Associate Rector; the Rev. Sudie Blanchard, Deacon; the Rev. Aaron Perkins, Deacon; Kathy Fink, Music Director; and Lorrie E. Whittaker, Editor.

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Calendar

April 2	Wed, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry meeting
April 5	Sat, 4:00 p.m.	Regional confirmations with Bishop Knudsen
April 6	Sun, 8:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
April 6	Sun, 10:00 a.m.	All Parish Coffee Hour
April 13	Sun, 10:00 a.m.	Prison Ministry - the Rev. Aaron Perkins
April 14	Mon, 12:00 p.m.	Craft Group meeting
April 19	Sat, 10:00-5:00	Rehearsals for "Murder in the Cathedral"
April 20	Sun, 10:00 a.m.	Hispanic Ministry - the Rev. Virginia Marie Rincon
April 23	Wed, 6:30 p.m.	Divorce/Separation Group
April 24	Thur, 5:45 p.m.	"Berwicks" Church gathering (in South Berwick)
April 27	Sun, All Day	UTO Ingathering
April 27	Sun, 10:00 a.m.	The Maine Sea Coast Mission
May 4	Sun, 10:00a.m.	All Parish Coffee Hour
May 4	Sun, 2:00 p.m.	AIDS Walk (Portsmouth)
May 7	Wed, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry meeting
May 17	Sat, 9:00-12:00	Clean Up The Church day
May 28	Wed, 6:30 p.m.	Divorce/Separation Group
May 29	Thur, 5:45 p.m.	"Berwicks" Church gathering (in South Berwick)

Weekly/Recurring Meetings

Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	AA upstairs
Wednesday	7:30-8:30 p.m.	AA upstairs
Thursday	4:45-7:15 p.m.	Weight Watchers
	7:00-9:00 p.m.	AA upstairs
	7:00 p.m.	Parish Choir (Sep-June)
Friday	7:00-9:00 p.m.	AA upstairs
Saturday	12:00-1:00 p.m.	AA downstairs

Spiritual Formation Sundays in April

April 13: Prison Ministry, with the Rev. Aaron Perkins

April 20: Hispanic Ministry, with the Rev. Virginia Marie Rincon

April 27: The Maine Sea Coast Mission

Watch the weekly Dragon News (in your Sunday bulletin) and the weekly EBB (Email Bulletin Board) for details!