

Dragon Tales

Serving the Southern Maine Seacoast Region

From the Rector: Partners for Sacred Places

For the last year or so we've been gently discussing a capital campaign, getting us all used to the idea. We also brought together a Long Range Planning Committee to evaluate possibilities for our parish's future needs, given our mission and vision that arose from our Mutual Study of Ministry, of St. George's being a "welcoming, inclusive, vibrant community in which every person of every age is engaged in mission and ministry." The LRP produced a report ([click here](#)) that lays out a couple of options for our consideration.

I don't need to tell you that we are living in complex times, or that those complex times are also impacting our parish's life. We find ourselves in a very complex economic reality, and we find ourselves with some very real capital needs. In conversation with the Wardens, Vestry and other leaders, we've tentatively developed component parts of a capital campaign that is both "maintenance" and "mission" in character. Some of the projects might include:

- * Painting the inside (as needed) and outside of the church (needed!);
- * Beautifying the downstairs bathrooms;
- * Making modest improvements to the organ to move some pipes out of the chamber, shrinking the organ loft a bit, but making significant sound and appearance improvements;
- * Adding seating in the nave to replace failing pews. These would help make the space more flexible, more attractive and would be easy to "add to" when the time comes for us to significantly expand the space. (Check out Holy Trinity Lutheran in Newington, or St. David's, Kennebunk, for lovely examples.); people with church building
- * Bringing the worship space into the 21st century, tastefully. We have some offers to make this happen, e.g., installing, discreetly, a screen and projector, perhaps covering it with a liturgically appropriate drape/banner when not in use. It would look like decoration to those attending our more traditional services.
- * Loving on the Rectory a bit—paint outside,

looking at some energy improvements around the place, some improvements to make it less of a morale liability;

*** One thing bold: joining the local Methodist Church and others in improving our energy efficiency and increasing use of renewable energy. This is not only the right thing to do, but it will also help us engage faithfully this complex economic and energy reality in which we find ourselves.**

I have asked several parishioners with particular expertise to work with us to price out such a campaign.

Just as this discussion began taking shape, becoming more concrete, the bishop encouraged us to investigate our diocesan relationship with Partners for Sacred Places (www.sacredplaces.org). Their website states "Partners for Sacred Places is the only national, non-sectarian, non-profit organization dedicated to the sound stewardship and active community use of America's older religious properties. Partners provides assistance to the people who care for sacred places while promoting a new understanding of how these places sustain communities."

Partners helps churches transform their buildings to be financial assets, rather than financial drains by empowering churches in the areas of:

1. Resource training, fundraising, restoring and promoting historic church buildings (their definition of historic is older than 50 years);
2. Promoting maintenance, upkeep and facilities preservation of historic church buildings as icons of mission in a particular community;
3. Empowering, training and consulting with local church members so they are aware of possibilities for accomplishing items 1 and 2.

All in all, this work prepares a church to launch a capital campaign well, a campaign that is rooted in mission, in the church's relationship with the larger community and, ergo, able to better access the resources of the larger community as well.

Beginning this fall, ten churches in Maine will participate, each with four lay leaders and their clergy. The program is 18 months, with only three three-day "away" meetings. During that time, however, Partners'

consultants are available 24-7 to support the work of the churches' participants. Other churches include St. Matthew's, Hallowell, Christ Church, Biddeford, The Cathedral Church of St. Luke, and St. Mary's, Falmouth.

The Diocese will pay at least half of the cost of the program, with the maximum cost for each church being \$1,000 (there will be a sliding scale). As the Bishop said in a letter to participating churches: "If you were to hire a Capital Development Consultant on your own, the costs per congregation would be much greater."

Given where we are now in our parish's and our world's history, this seems like a wonderful way to spend 18 months, an incredible opportunity to ready ourselves for what is next, so that we are ready to take the steps we are called to take when the economy settles down. Faced with this opportunity so well-suited to our situation, at the July meeting your Vestry voted to participate in Partners for Sacred Places.

What do we need from you? We need your nominations for people who would be lay participants in this program. Please contact me with your ideas at pblair1@earthlink.net or 207-363-7376. Please hold St. George's in prayers. This is an exciting time and an interesting time. God is good. And prayer always helps. Pray about strong ties to our community. Pray about our church meeting the community's needs. Pray about St. George's being a great steward of all our resources. Pray about how you might be involved in this adventure. In this way you can be a partner to this sacred place.

In Christ,
Paige+

Heading For the Hospital? Let Us Help!

by the Rev. Sudie Blanchard, Deacon

Every now and then, a parishioner is admitted to the hospital and your clergy don't learn about it until after the person is home again. This can cause hard feelings—the patient may feel ignored by his or her church family, and we are unhappy that we missed a chance to be with that person in their time of need.

As a deacon who visits lots of patients in the hospital, this is a real concern for me, so I spent some time a few weeks ago with Pat, a member of the admitting staff at York Hospital. I wanted to learn more about the admitting process there. Here's what I discovered: There are several places where a person may be admitted as an inpatient: the Emergency Room, the Surgical Center

and Admitting. During the regular admitting process, patients are asked about their spiritual needs, but those questions may be phrased very subtly so as not to offend. If a person has a critical illness or injury and is admitted through the Emergency Room, in the urgency of the moment the question may simply not be understood by the patient or family members.

Hospitals take patient privacy very seriously. There's only so much information about you that the hospital may divulge without your express permission—even to your clergy. York Hospital doesn't employ a chaplain who follows up with newly admitted patients to be sure their spiritual needs are being met, so we may not hear of your illness without your help.

Here's how you can help us help you when you are ill and hospitalized:

- * If you know ahead of time that you'll be heading to the hospital for a procedure, let the church know.

- * Let members of your family or close friends know ahead of time that you'd like the church to know about any illness that involves hospitalization.

- * If you are released from the hospital to a rehab facility, let us know where you're headed. The hospital won't tell us where you've gone.

- * If you are in the hospital and realize that you'd like to talk to one of us, let your nurse know. He or she will make sure we see you.

Like the hospital, the clergy at St. George's respect your privacy. If you share a health concern with one of us in confidence, we will always respect that, unless doing so presents a danger to you or others. We'll work with you to give you support according to your wishes.

Finally—please don't ever worry about "bothering" us with your concerns when you are ill. Those concerns are real, and we care! There are many practical and prayerful ways both lay and clergy members of the Pastoral Care Team can support you and those you love when you are ill—we are blessed with many helping hands and hearts in the St. George's community. We'll be there when you need us!

Deacons Corner: Seeds or Weeds?

by the Rev. Aaron Perkins

As I write this, I'm also preparing to preach this coming Sunday, July 20. The Gospel for this Sunwheat

plantday is the Parable of the Sower from Matthew (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43). In the parable, Jesus tells us of someone who sowed good seed in his field, and when everyone was sleeping, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat. The master directed the workers to let the weeds come up with the wheat, and the weeds could then be separated at the harvest.

This parable can be thought of as Jesus telling us that the good will be separated from the bad in the end but also that we shouldn't be hasty in determining what is good and what is bad. When a seedling is small, it's pretty hard to tell what a weed is and what a wheat seedling is.

I'm currently preparing three women at the correctional center for baptism and one woman for confirmation. They have decided all on their own that becoming part of the family of God is something that has been missing from their lives. They have also decided that they are tired of people labeling them weeds when they know that they are not. They have all made a bad decision somewhere along the way that has caused them to be in prison, but they are all still young—still seedlings.

Even though we think that we can tell which plants are weeds and which ones are wheat, I think that we need to remind ourselves that making that judgment is not our job.

Only God knows which is which.

U2charist on Sunday, August 3!

Our next U2charist will happen on Sunday, August 3, 5:00 p.m. Please come to a beautiful service that is also a rockin' good time. Bring anyone and everyone with you! This is a special 3rd anniversary of the U2charist! An ice cream social celebrating our AIDS Walk Team's being the #1 fundraising team from a faith community will follow the U2charist—all are welcome!

Congratulations, AIDS Walk Team

Congratulations to the St. George's AIDS Walk Team! St. George's team was the #1 fundraising team, and the team with the most participants in the AIDS Response Seacoast AIDS Walk in May. The Team won an ice cream social, hosted by the AIDS Response Board, which will take place after the August 3 U2charist. Please come and celebrate our AIDS Walk Team!

PlayPumps International Success

Between March 22 and June 29, many of our supporters came together in an effort to bring individuals and families in sub-Saharan Africa access to clean drinking water. June 29 marked the completion of our "100 Pumps in 100 Days - Second Spin" campaign. [*St. George's offering from the January 2008 U2charist helped fund this effort by PlayPumps International!*]

We surpassed our goal of 100 pumps in 100 days for the second year in a row and raised enough money to fund 109 new PlayPump® water systems!

"All children have the right to clean water and the right to play." (Children's Charter of South Africa) These pumps will improve the lives of millions and you made it happen. Soon, more children will be spinning and smiling, and clean drinking water will be flowing in 109 new communities in sub-Saharan Africa due to your compassion and support in 2007 and again in 2008.

Today, we are closer to our ambitious goal of raising funds for 4,000 PlayPump water systems in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa by 2010, bringing the benefits of clean water to up to 10 million people.

Thank you for making the "100 Pumps in 100 Days - Second Spin" a success and taking a seat at the pump!

The Chocolate Fest is Coming!

by Christina DeSoto Reilly

Chocolata, Chocola, Schokolade, Chocolae! No matter how you say it, CHOCOLATE can't be beat! We will hold our annual Chocolate Fest on Friday, August 15, 6:00-8:30 p.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit our Church Library and other church programs.

We need your help to make this event a huge success. Would you consider donating any item you have that has any type of chocolate in it, on it or around it? Candy, cake, cookies, coffee, coffee beans, bagels, bread, ice cream treats—and gifts or gift cards for our raffle, too.

We also need volunteers to pick up donations, set up on the day, work during the fest and clean up. Please see the sign-up sheets in the parish hall.

What is a Pastoral Associate?

by the Rev. Paige Blair

If you have been reading previous articles in Dragon Tales, or your Vestry minutes, you know that

the Rector, Wardens and Vestry have been working on a staff reconfiguration, shifting around some responsibilities and doing our best to be sure that everyone's gifts and skills are being used to their utmost for the sake of our mission and ministry.

One change has been the roles and responsibilities of the ordained staff. A good number of responsibilities that had been overseen by the Associate for Spiritual Formation and Family Ministries (namely pastoral care and programming for new members and young families) will be overseen by the Rector going forward, and a good number of responsibilities that had been overseen by the Rector (namely pastoral care and programming for established members) will be overseen by a new clergy position: the Pastoral Associate.

The Pastoral Associate will be a halftime position, with primary responsibility for the pastoral care and programming for established members, including home, hospital and nursing home visits, most of the Thursday morning healing Eucharists, and oversight and support of the many ministries that make up our vibrant and well-grounded Pastoral Care Team, including the support and encouragement of the pastoral care coordinator, and recruiting for these ministries. Sunday morning responsibilities and a share of the preaching will be included as well.

It is important for all of us to keep this shift of roles and responsibilities in mind. After the Rector has met with candidates for this position, they will meet with members of the Vestry and other lay leaders. The Rector has reminded these lay interviewers that they are not looking to replace Steve Godfrey as Associate for Family Ministries, but instead are looking for a Pastoral Associate who will be relating to and ministering to a different population.

This staff reconfiguration will allow the Rector to use some of her gifts that have been rather dormant during the time we've had an Associate for Spiritual Formation and Family Ministries as part of our staff configuration.

Please keep your leadership in your prayers as we discern who is called to be our pastoral associate. Please keep our candidates in your prayers as well.

Good-bye +Chilton, Hello +Steve

Good-bye +Chilton. Retirement parties for Bishop Knudsen have been arranged throughout the dio-

cese so that all will have the opportunity to attend one. Reservations will be taken so that adequate food can be provided at these events. Contact Amy at 207-882-7184 or amy@episcopalmaine.org to reserve—she will need the date, location of event and number of attendees to complete your reservation.

Saturday, August 23, St. David's, Kennebunk. 4:00 p.m. Eucharist; 5:00 p.m. Reception; 6:00 p.m. Presentations.

Friday, September 5, Church of the Good Shepherd, Houlton. 5:00 p.m. Eucharist; 6:30 p.m. Meal; 7:30 p.m. Presentations.

Saturday, September 6, Holiday Inn, Waterville. 1:30 p.m. Luncheon Buffet and Reception at the Holiday Inn; 3:30 p.m. Presentations at the Holiday Inn; 5:00 p.m. Eucharist at St. Mark's.

Friday, September 12, St. Luke's Cathedral, Portland. 5:00 p.m. Unveiling of Bishop Knudsen's portrait in the Upper Hall of the Cathedral; 5:30 p.m. Evensong at St. Luke's Cathedral; 7:00 p.m. Buffet meal in the Grand Ballroom of The Eastland Park Hotel; 8:00 p.m. Presentations.

Hello +Steve. *Saturday, September 13*, St. Luke's Cathedral in Portland. No reservations necessary, all are welcome. 9:00 a.m. Walk-through rehearsal for Investiture Service. 10:00 a.m. Clergy assemble and vest (red) in Cathedral lower halls. 11:00 a.m. Investiture and Seating of a Diocesan Bishop.

Dear Friends...

by the Rev. Steve Godfrey

Dear friends at St. George's,

Thank you all so very much for the wonderful sendoff for Dave and me on June 8, for the many cards and gifts, and the generous purse.

What a month it's been! I had a wonderful time at CREDO, the clergy renewal and wellness conference at The Bishop's Ranch in the wine country of northern California, a beautiful setting and the perfect place to spend time with colleagues, reflect on my vocation as a priest and develop goals for ministry and how to balance my work with the rest of my life. Then Dave and I spent two weeks visiting with friends and family in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. We returned to Maine just in time to begin packing up our house.

I drove to Illinois over the July 4 weekend and be-

gan working at St. Martin's in Des Plaines on July 9. This past Sunday, July 13, was my first Sunday and it was spectacular. There were banners and the church sign to welcome us, the church was full for both services and there was a bountiful buffet of food in the garden. (The parish hall renovation project began last month and will wrap up in October with accessible entrances and restrooms and updated, brighter décor.)

We have bought a house here that is also under renovation. A quick redecorating project should be done just in time for the furniture to arrive next week. We'll live there during a larger project to add on to the back of the house. This work is enabling us to live close to the church and to downtown Des Plaines, including the train into Chicago. We're really enjoying getting to know the area and meeting our neighbors. Yesterday I was able to spend my day off with my mother in Indianapolis. I miss my friends in New England, but it does feel good to be "back home" in the Midwest, for the first time since high school.

I am SO grateful for everyone at St. George's. You have a very special place in my heart. It was wonderful to be there in ministry with you in York, the Berwicks and surrounding towns, and as far away as New Orleans! I will keep you in my prayers and look forward to hearing how things are going there.

Abundant blessings,
Steve+

Why I Love Camp Bishopswood

by Abbie Duquette

This year is my eighth and final year as a camper at Camp Bishopswood. As a younger camper, I always loved that it was a loving and caring environment where I could meet a lot of new people and participate in all of the fun activities. But now, as an older camper, I am able to see what a huge difference Camp Bishopswood has made in my life. I have spent eight great summers having fun, being carefree and feeling loved and accepted for who I am. It fostered independence in me and gave me such confidence in myself. I have so many great memories and funny stories to always remember. It has been my home away from home for eight years.

And now, as my camper days are ending, I am looking forward to the prospect of being a camp counselor where I can help to give those same great times and memories to lots of kids while still having a blast

myself!

The theme at Bishopswood this summer is gratitude. Thank you, Georgia and Sarah and all the wonderful staff at Camp Bishopswood, for everything that you have given me!! I am very grateful for the past eight years.

Time to Bang the Gavel!

by Barb Poulin

All right—it's time to get serious! The Third Annual St. George's Auction is not that far off. Now is the time to step up with offerings such as services, quilts, high-quality antiques (not garage sale), trips, sports or theatre tickets, airline tickets, or a week at your time-share.

Be creative, re-gift, think outside the box and come up with something unique. Last year we had paintings, artistic photos, creative needlework pieces, customized clocks, many ever-popular gift certificates, two cases of wine and more. There are many ways to help: volunteer to join our auction team and help us find things to auction off.

Save the date: Friday, November 7, 2008. This is also a great time to do some Christmas shopping! Contact me at barbpoulin@aol.com or leave me a message on my cell at 337-2623.

A Pastoral Care Invitation

by Lorrie Whittaker

Pastoral care means something a little different to every person, but one thing we can all agree on is that pastoral care is an important and integral part of belonging to our church family. The Hospitality Ministry, the Prayer Chain, the Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) and the Pastoral Visitors are some of the ways in which both our clergy and our lay parishioners care for and support each other.

Everyone can help! Take the Pastoral Care Information Flow sheet, and tape it to your fridge or pin it to your office corkboard. Let it remind you of the different ways in which we can all care for each other pastorally.

If you would like to become involved with Pastoral Care more directly, contact the coordinator of the subministry which interests you—the more, the merrier!

Diocesan Youth Calendar of Events

August 19-23: Bion Teen Camp for youth completing grades 6-12, Camp Bishopswood. Sing, laugh, have crazy contests, choose from activities like shaving cream Frisbee or duct tape wallets, swimming, kayaking, worshipping and learning about God. You'll meet great new people and enjoy living in cabins and sitting around campfires.

September 26-27: Leadership Training for Awakening. Grace Church, Bath, ME. Youth and adults prepare to lead.

FMI on youth events, call 800-244-6062 x-29 or go to www.maine-youth.org.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

by Kit Wang

To the Parish Family at St. George's,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your overwhelming generosity and hospitality during and surrounding my recent ordination to the transitional diaconate. The Holy Spirit was definitely in the room—smiling and having a good time, I do believe. It was an incredible, wonderful, profoundly moving day for me and my family—and it wouldn't have been so wonderful and special without your support and care!

I am incredibly blessed that so many of you could come out on what I know was a ferociously busy weekend. I am also blessed that those of you who weren't able to be there in person were with us in thought and prayer and have shared your good wishes with me.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the liturgy—up front and in the pews, and for those who took care of things “behind the scenes.”

Special thanks to Danny Poulin and Lisa Emmons for organizing the picnic and for all those who helped standing up behind the grill, moving tables early, and facilitating a fine feast! Thanks also to Julie and Daryl McKay and the folks who organized the children's activities!

I also must give special mention to Kathy Fink and the choir. I included a lot of music in the service and requested a challenging anthem that took longer to obtain music than I had anticipated. I appreciate Kathy and the choir's very hard work!

Kudos to Lorrie Whittaker, who puts the “minister” in administrator—and who made the bulletin lovely and painless for me!

And last but not least, special thanks to Paige—not only for being a friend, colleague and mentor along the way, but for writing and preaching a truly amazing sermon in the midst of [her stepdaughter] Ariana's high-school graduation and a houseful of out of town family!

Thank you so much for the stole Carla Jillson made—I've already had occasion to wear it, with many compliments.

AND...many thanks for the St. George's print and the “unnamed gift,” The Rite Stuff, which is a CD containing the Book of Common Prayer, Lectionary, Hymnal, Lesser Feasts and Fasts, Wonder, Love and Praise, and a few other critical liturgical materials that I am certain will be invaluable in my new job as Vicar of St. Stephen the Martyr in Waterboro, Maine.

There really aren't enough good words to adequately thank you all for the myriad ways you all have supported and upheld me in this journey, and in many ways made it possible for me to be where I am right now! The past five years or so with you all here at St. George's has been a huge gift and full of growth and wonderful stories. Please keep doing what it is you do best! And thank you for sharing it with me and my family.

I will always keep you in my prayers and thanksgivings.

Faithfully,
Kit Wang

Please Rummage Around!

by Mary Anne Smith & Marj Downes

If you are planning to clean out your closets to donate to the annual Fall Rummage Sale, now is the time to put it on your calendar. The sale date is Saturday September 20, and your clothes, shoes, boots, coats, accessories (jewelry, scarves, purses etc.) and linens (towels, sheets, curtains etc.) would be welcome.

If you want a good time, volunteer to help us sort and price during the week of September 14 or to work on the day of the sale. Sign-up sheets will soon be up in the parish hall.

Choir Potluck

by Kathy Fink, Music Director and Organist

On Thursday, August 28, 6:00 p.m., the parish choir will meet for a potluck and a sing-through of new music. Those interested in joining the choir are welcome!

Free Dryer!

Bill and Susan Yorston have a dryer they are willing to give to anyone to might need one. It is a Frigidaire, front-loading, large capacity, stand-alone or mount. It is in good working condition. They may be able to help move it if the person who gets it doesn't live too far away. Contact them for details, 363-7609.

Wrestling Report

(Here is what your Vestry has been "wrestling" with...)

On July 2, the Vestry opened with prayer, led by Deacon Aaron.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to nominate Ken Barrett for one more year as Diocesan Treasurer.

Aaron gave the Deacon Report. For now Aaron is the only clergy at the prison since the Chaplain has resigned. Aaron is spending about 20 hours per week there, preparing inmates for baptism. He sees 60-80 people a week. He is also assigned to Trinity for the summer. There has been good attendance at the concerts for the 100th anniversary celebrations for Trinity. On August 10 there will be a Celebration of Family with various activities planned.

George Dow gave the Treasurer's Report and reminded us that we are behind a bit in pledges and suggested that a letter be sent with the quarterly giving statements, gently reminding parishioners if they need a bit of catching up. [Done on July 10.]

Robert Palmer gave the Finance Report, noting that external auditor Claire Blaisdell is almost finished with her audit of the books for St George's. Paige+ has asked Seacoast churches to be in touch with Robert if they are interested in forming a larger bargaining unit to see if a better deal on fuel prices could be worked out if several churches got together as a group. (Looks like we did get a better deal of \$4.09 instead of \$4.49/gal.)

Paige+ has asked a few people to get together with her to brainstorm to see how we can best conserve energy—especially fuel—this winter.

The Finance Committee meeting was held on July 17 to set a preliminary budget for 2009. All committee liaisons were to have their requests for their budgets to Robert Palmer by July 16.

The Stewardship Committee Report included conversation about who should be involved with

pledges—for now only three are involved. Currently they are the Rector, Steve Boyle, who does pledge analysis, and the parish administrator, who inputs the data.

Paige+ gave the Rector's Report including an update on the Pastoral Associate Search. On July 10 lay leaders, including the Vestry, interviewed the candidates for the newly designed Pastoral Associate position. (This is not the same position Steve+ held—our staff reconfiguration is shifting new member and young family responsibilities to the rector—see the article in this issue: What is a Pastoral Associate?). Vestry members were encouraged to participate in the interviews.

Regarding the Capital Campaign: Paige+ asked that we visit website for Partners for Sacred Places www.sacredplaces.org. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that we participate with Partners for Sacred Places. We will need four parishioners to be involved. Anyone with ideas as to who would be good candidates, please let Paige+ know. (Please see "From the Rector" in this issue for more information.)

We discussed a future conversation on church and state issues. Our vote last month to participate in the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and online vote to sponsor the recent Workforce Affordable Housing informational meeting have inspired a conversation about the role of the church regarding matters that seem political. Two vestry members asked that we have a conversation about this in the context of Vestry. The Rector is preparing a reading/watching list and discussion questions so that the conversation may happen with some common ground. The idea is to have one reading in common (likely the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Letter from Birmingham Jail, found at http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html) and have a choice of reading or watching something else, depending on each person's interests and time. This conversation will continue at either the September or October vestry meetings.

We adjourned and Aaron led Compline. The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for August 6. The Vestry minutes are attached to the EBB which follows finalization of those minutes each month.

Spiritual Formation: Coming in the Fall...

Plans are afoot to present a wide variety of offerings at the 10 a.m. Spiritual Formation hour on Sunday

mornings, beginning on September 21. While our schedule is not yet set in stone, you can expect some (or all) of the following during the year:

- * a series on the spirituality of parenting;
- * a presentation by our rector on generational theory and what it means for the Church;
- * a series on the joys and challenges of aging;
- * a series by Jim Gambrill on Paul's letter to the Romans;
- * a series on the Psalms as prayer;
- * and more!

In addition to the Sunday morning sessions, on the second Tuesday of every month (beginning in September), look for "Meal and a Movie," a potluck and movie night. Plan to bring a friend, share a meal and enjoy a movie with the St. George's community.

Want to help us plan the programs? We welcome people who will offer ideas, be willing to help with the week-to-week practicalities and share our enthusiasm for the task. Call or email Kate Bishop (363-1759 or srkateb@maine.rr.com.)

Music Notes: Ah, Summer!

by Kathy Fink, Music Director

Greetings all! I hope you are enjoying your summer. Over the next six weeks or so, you will see members and guests of St. George's sharing their musical gifts with us at the 9:00 a.m. service. Some of these will include Melissa Manseau, Rich Desoto, Barb Kautz, the Funky Divas and more. If you would like to participate, please let me know.

I will be teaching piano lessons at St. George's on Thursdays (before choir practice) beginning in September. Let me know if you are interested and we can speak further (603) 534-4526 or pianotchr@aol.com. Thank you.

Staff Absences

Paige+ on vacation and at Continuing Education August 8-13

Lorrie on vacation July 31-August 6

Recipe Corner

I want your recipes! If you have a recipe you are willing to share, please email it to the parish administrator, office@stgeorgesnyorkharbor.org.

Illuminations...

Walk together, talk together, O you people of the earth, and then, only then, can you have peace. —Vedic teaching

Waking up this morning, I smile. Twenty-four brand new hours are before me. I vow to live fully in each moment and to look at all beings with eyes of compassion. —Thich Nhat Hanh

When hope is gone, there is still love. Always, beyond faith, beyond hope, always, there is still love. —Edward Mason Morgan

The whole practice of spiritual surrender is about letting go of fear and opening our hearts up to the miracle of love that is all around us. —Kathy Cordova

We are put on earth for a little space, that we may learn to bear the beams of love. —William Blake

You spent the first half of your life becoming somebody. Now you can work on becoming nobody. For then, there is no tension, no pretense, no one trying to be anyone or anything. The natural state of the mind shines through unobstructed—and the mind's natural state is pure love. —Ram Dass

At the end of our life, we shall be judged by love. —Saint John of the Cross

At the end of life, our questions are very simple: Did I live fully? Did I love well? —Jack Kornfield

A thankful person is thankful under all circumstances. A complaining soul complains even if he lives in paradise. —Baha' u'llah

Do you have the patience to wait till your mud settles and the water is clear? Can you remain unmoving till the right action arises by itself? —Lao Tzu

If I am not concerned for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only concerned for myself, what good am I? And if now is not the time to act, when will it be? —Hillel

May we all grow in grace and peace, and not neglect the silence that is printed in the center of our being. It will not fail us.—Thomas Merton

Make a [silent] prayer acknowledging yourself as a vehicle of light, giving thanks for all that has come today. —Dhyani Ywahoo

From the Editor...

by Lorrie Whittaker

I would be happy to put each and every person in your household with an email address on our distribu-

tion list, so that everyone can get their own email copy of Dragon Tales. If you're not sure that I have all of your email addresses, just email me with that information and I will update my list.

Note for parents: If your child or teen has an email address, I am happy to include it in my distribution list. For your peace of mind, know that even if your child is getting parish emails via his/her own email address, that child's email address will NOT automatically be published in our Members Directory—I will only publish a child or teen's email address if that child asks me to do so AND his/her parent expressly gives approval. Adult members' email addresses are published in our Members Directory unless they explicitly ask for their email address not to be so published. In such case, I will use their email address for parish emailings, but not publish it.

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.

Mary Baker, Jeff Bishop, Ruby Bishop, Pauline Breary, Scott Bridges, Gerry Burch, Roz Bush, Ken Capon, Jerry Cronin, Debby Ehret, Anne Erwin, Jennifer Gervais, Marion Grecko, Mike Gizzi, Arlene Gordon, Loren Gregory, Sue Gustafson, Kirsten Hartcare, the Haugh family, Mary Hoffman, Ana Jensen, Jeff Johnson, Jennifer, Joshua Kelly, Cassandra Kirby, Mary Jane Kruger, Jack Lewis, Gerry Lipsett, Kathy Little, Robert Littlefield, Rosie Littlefield, Rita Loew, Martine, Bob McMurtry, Millie Lou Morse, Mike O'Neill, John Parris, Rosemary Perrin, Bob Porter, Priscilla Ropke, Andrew Tennant, Thelma Thompson, Greg Wallace, Barbara Ward, Mark Williams, Marion Wyman

for those who have died: Tony Conk

in thanksgiving the Rev. Kit Wang's ministry at St. Stephen's in Waterboro

for Habitat for Humanity

for ++Katharine Jefferts Schori, our Presiding Bishop, +Chilton Knudsen, our Bishop, and for +Stephen Lane, our Bishop Coadjutor

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 fami-

lies, especially Jerry Babcock, Hal Brewster
for church unity (Book of Common Prayer, p. 818)

for peace in Darfur and Zimbabwe

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

Newsletter Deadline

Dragon Tales deadlines on the 15th of every month at 5:00 p.m., no matter what day of the week the 15th falls on. Please email your articles and notices to office@stgeorgesnyorkharbor.org.

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. Sudie Blanchard, Deacon; the Rev. Aaron Perkins, Deacon; Kathy Fink, Music Director; and Lorrie E. Whittaker, Editor.

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Fax number: 207-363-6886

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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

Calendar

Aug 3	Sun, 5:00 p.m.	U2charist with ice cream social following
Aug 11	Mon, 12:00-1:30	Brown Bag Craft Group
Aug 15	Fri, 6:00-8:30	Chocolate Fest
Aug 28	Thur, 5:45 p.m.	Gathering in the Berwicks
Sep 4	Thur, 7:00 p.m.	Bible Workbench pilot program
Sep 9	Tue, 7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Meeting
Sep 11	Thur, 7:00 p.m.	Bible Workbench pilot program
Sep 14	Sun, 8:30-12:00	Time & Talent Festival
Sep 16	Tue, 6:00 p.m.	Youth Group Meeting
Sep 18	Thur, 7:00 p.m.	Bible Workbench pilot program
Sep 20	Sat, 9:00-2:00	Fall Rummage Sale
Sep 23	Tue, 7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Meeting
Sep 25	Thur, 5:45 p.m.	Gathering in the Berwicks
Sep 25	Thur, 7:00 p.m.	Bible Workbench pilot program
Sep 29	Mon, tba	Les Petits Chanteurs' performance
Sep 30	Tue, 7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Meeting
Oct 7	Tue, 6:00-9:00 p.m.	Youth Group potluck

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, Mission
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, Newcomer Task Force
Daryl McKay, 363-4256, daryl@spimages.com, Church School; 9:00 Steering Committee
Eve Ray, 363-7038, evejray@yahoo.com, Outreach, Newcomer Task Force
Pat Kriensky, 641-2246, pkriensky@verizon.net, Parish Events & Relations, Newcomer Task Force
Susan Wilson, 363-1669, wcfields@maine.rr.com, Youth, Mission
Kate Bishop, 363-1759, srkateb@maine.rr.com, 11:00 Steering Committee, Adult Spiritual Formation
Robert Palmer, 363-3292, rpalmer3@maine.rr.com, Finance; 7:45 Steering Committee
Matt Reilly, 384-5701, mattmasonman@aol.com, Building & Grounds; 9:00 Steering Committee

Treasurer's Report

June 2008	Budgeted	Actual
Pledges	\$20,833.33	\$16,327.00
Pledges YTD	\$124,999.98	\$113,114.80
Total Contributions	\$23,635.00	\$17,733.86
Total Contributions YTD	\$141,810.00	\$137,226.32
Total Income	\$28,518.75	\$26,330.45
Total Income YTD	\$171,112.50	\$193,847.25
Expenses	\$28,833.76	\$26,811.48
Expenses YTD	\$173,002.56	\$170,894.92

June 2007	Budgeted	Actual
Pledges	\$20,201.00	\$11,974.00
Pledges YTD	\$121,206.00	\$116,379.56
Total Contributions	\$21,951.00	\$14,247.25
Total Contributions YTD	\$131,706.00	\$129,281.82
Total Income	\$25,868.51	\$17,729.83
Total Income YTD	\$155,211.06	\$160,838.48
Expenses	\$26,321.90	\$24,259.98
Expenses YTD	\$157,931.40	\$159,816.98

Current Worship Schedule

Summer Schedule: June 15, 2008 - August 31, 2008

Sunday	7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, spoken
	9:00 a.m.	Family Eucharist, with music
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist with optional healing

Program Year, September 7, 2008 - June 14, 2009

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
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist with optional healing