

**Let's Clean Up the Church!** 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! If you cannot come for the whole morning, by all means come and clean for just an hour or two.

**Since 1993 St. George's has been in a Covenant Church relationship with the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity,** Habitat for Humanity York County. As a Covenant Church we are committed to providing support through prayer, through financial resources and most especially by giving of our time and talent. **Blitz Build 2008 will take place May 31st-June 7th on the Gebung Road in Alfred.** The Family Selection Committee is currently interviewing families who submitted applications for consideration. FMI about Blitz Build 2008 and our local project visit <http://www.habitatyorkcounty.org/>.

**Looking for a piano.** Camp Bishopswood Chapel is a home looking for a tuneful piano in good condition. To see if your piano might be the perfect match, please contact Georgia Koch at [georgia@bishopswood.org](mailto:georgia@bishopswood.org) or 207-772-1953 x-27.



**Dragon News**  
Weekly Notices  
Week of May 4, 2008

## EVENTS, DATES & ACTIVITIES

**Youth Classes. Godly Play & Godly Time:** May 4: Paul's discovery. May 11: The Mystery of Pentecost.

**The Rector's Discretionary Fund** allows the Rector to expand our ministry beyond what is budgeted, for things such as hospitality (such as providing meals, or housing for visiting preachers) and, most importantly and most frequently, aid. The first Sunday of every month's "loose plate" offering (the cash, and checks from visitors) supports this fund. In addition, when the Rector officiates at a funeral or wedding at St. George's, instead of giving her an honorarium, the families involved make a contribution to the RDF. If you would like to contribute to this fund, make checks out to "The Rector's Discretionary Fund," and place in the offering plate, or mail to the office.

**AIDS Walk. This Sunday, May 4, is** the annual AIDS Response Seacoast AIDS Walk, one of their most important fundraisers each year. It starts at 2:00 p.m. (registration at 1:00 p.m. at 1 Junkins Ave., Portsmouth). 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>. Notice the beautiful display in the parish hall, also.

**The parish administrator will be on vacation May 1-7.** This will not affect weekly deadlines for Dragon News or the Sunday bulletin.

**Mother's Day Roses.** This year we are again giving everyone the opportunity to "remember Mom" on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11. You can purchase a rose, in memory of or in thanksgiving for your Mom, Grandmother, or a special someone who has been like a Mom in your life. Please fill out the form that is in the Sunday bulletin. Return the form to the church office, or place in the Sunday offering plate, with a donation of \$5 for each rose you would like to dedicate. **Requests need to be in by Sunday, May 4.** On Sunday, May 11, we will have special bouquets of roses in the sanctuary honoring all the "Moms" in our lives. After the 11:00 service on Mother's Day you are welcome to take the rose(s) that you dedicated to enjoy. Your dedications will appear in Dragon News on May 11. Happy Mother's Day!

### Schedule for St. George's This Week

**Sunday:** 8:45 a.m. - Coffee Hour  
10:00 a.m. - All Parish Coffee Hour  
2:00 p.m. - AIDS Walk, Portsmouth

**Wednesday:** 12 noon - **Deadline: May 4 bulletin**

**Thursday:** 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist & Healing  
7:00 p.m. - Parish Choir rehearsal

### Serving the Southern Maine Seacoast Region

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The Rev. Paige M. Blair, *Rector*; The Rev. Steven Godfrey, *Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Sudie Blanchard, *Deacon*; The Rev. Aaron Perkins, *Deacon*  
Kathy Fink, *Music Director/Organist*; Lorrie Whittaker, *Parish Administrator*

***Proclaiming the Gospel in Many Tongues!*** We will proclaim the Gospel in many tongues on Pentecost this year (May 11). Would you like to add your foreign language skills to this experience? Please email Paige+ at pblair1@earthlink.net or call 363-7376 x2 to let her know what language you would like to offer. The text is John 7:37-39, and you can look up the passage here [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) in many, many languages.

***Spiritual Formation, May & Early June:***

**May 4:** All Parish Coffee Hour at 10:00 – bring something yummy to share

**May 11:** Vacation Bible School presentation for kids and parents at 9:45ish

**May 18:** Theological Education Sunday – program at 10:00 about how church leaders are educated

**May 25:** Doubt and Faith (i.e., Believing), Part 1 – conversation at 10:00 facilitated by Steve+ and perhaps others

**June 1:** All Parish Coffee Hour at 10:00 – bring something yummy to share. Graduating Seniors Brunch at noon – bring a good dish to help honor our graduates

**June 8:** Doubt and Faith (i.e., Believing), Part 2 – conversation at 10:00 facilitated by Steve+ and perhaps others. Last day of Church School and Adult Spiritual Formation before summer!

***Confirmation, Part 2.*** On Sunday, May 11, parishioner Beverly Collymore will be confirmed at 10:30 a.m. at St. Alban's in Cape Elizabeth. Beverly was sick on the date of the regional confirmation service at St. George's in April, so we're taking St. George's on the road, as we have done before, to seek out the bishop's hands. At least a small group of us, including Steve+, will worship with Beverly and her family and the community at St. Alban's on that Sunday. Please come if you can and support Beverly and hold her in your prayers that day in any case.

***Vacation Bible School Sunday*** is on May 11 and will replace our normal church school hour, from 9:45-10:45. This event will give parents and children the opportunity to get a “sneak peak” of what this summer's VBS *Bible Blast* will be all about! 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. During our “sneak peak” on May 11, the children will make a craft to take home, listen to some of the music that will be part of this year's Bible Blast curriculum, have a special “theme” snack, and maybe play a game or two. Registration forms for VBS will be available as well. The sign-up fee is \$25 per child, \$10 for children of adult volunteers, and free for junior counselors (children grades five and up). St. Christopher's has a few more adult and junior counselor positions to fill in order to make this event successful. I would love it if we at St. George's could fill in these spots, as a thank you for inviting us to join them! Please contact Lynn Dube, 384-4741, if

you are willing to help out in any way.

***Newsletter deadline.*** If you wish to place an article in the June issue of *Dragon Tales*, please email it to [office@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org](mailto:office@stgeorges-yorkharbor.org), to the parish administrator, by Thursday, May 15, at 5:00 p.m.

***“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. The next gathering will be 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 to far to drive.

***Sing Into Spring on May 18, 7:00 p.m.*** This will be our next musical evening. We will vote on our favorite Easter/spring hymns, so look for the ballots in your Sunday bulletins in the near future. Live musical acts will perform, interspersed with the winning hymns that we will all sing together. It will be another fun evening of music and fellowship. Would you like to perform? Can you sing or play an instrument? Alone or in a duet/trio/group? Music Director Kathy Fink would like to hear from you right away! Sign up in the parish hall.

***Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Southern Maine chapter***—an exploratory meeting of the new southern branch of Maine EPF Chapter on Saturday, May 17, at St. Davids, Kennebunk, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Please come, and invite others who may be interested. A map and directions may be found here at <http://www.stdavidskennebunk.org/mapdirections.html>.

***Understanding Islam, a five-part series*** designed to explore the rich cultural heritage offered by this faith tradition, and make us conscious of the challenges our Muslim brothers and sisters face in this country and beyond (May 3, 10, 15, 17 & 29) will be offered by the York Diversity Forum along with the York High School Civil Rights Team. Next up on Saturday, May 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., *Islam, Al Qaeda and the West*. A showing of the PBS film *Jihad: The Men and Ideas behind Al Qaeda*. This documentary explores the ideas and beliefs that are driving modern, radical Islamic groups, and examines the challenges they pose for the Middle East and for the West. The film tells the inside story of Al Qaeda's leaders and their evolving ideology. Panel discussion will follow. Samples of foods from Islamic culture and tradition will be available at all programs. All five sessions in the series will be held at the York Public Library and admission is free.

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