



## Convention challenged to "wade in the water" of baptismal ministry

by Anne Clarke Brown

Members and friends of Vermont's Episcopal congregations met at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Burlington November 15-16, for the 169<sup>th</sup> annual Convention of the Diocese of Vermont. They met not only to set policy and goals and to adopt a budget for the coming year, but also to worship together and celebrate many shared ministries. "Wade in the Water: Living More Deeply in the Baptismal Covenant" was the focusing theme for this year's gathering.

Friday afternoon was devoted to hearings on proposed resolutions and a series of workshops on topics such as Dismantling Racism, Vermont Interfaith Action, and the Safer Church. A festive choral evensong, at which Bishop Thomas Ely gave his annual address to the diocese, concluded with prayers for the calling and sending forth of the Diocesan Ministry Support Team.

The convention banquet featured presentation of the first annual Mountain Echo Congregation Newsletter and Website Awards [see below] and an enthusiastically received performance by a choir of young men from Sudan, many of whom worship

with Vermont congregations. The offering taken at the convention Eucharist will go to the Sudanese Education Fund.

### Bishop's address

Bishop Ely spoke of himself as an "advanced beginner" as a bishop and said, "Thinking about our life together as a diocese and the theme of our Convention... I can imagine us as a group of advanced beginners. In my imagination's picture we love the water of baptismal living. We are eager to learn more. We are open to new experiences, and we have placed our trust and confidence in one another... We know that we need to go deeper into the water. And we are willing to do all those things because we love the water of baptismal living, and know that going deeper holds the promise of greater joy."

The bishop described the reconstituted Spiritual Life Committee, the revised Diocesan Study Program, and several outreach initiatives as ways the diocese is wading into the water of baptismal ministry and living into the diocesan mission of praying the prayer of Christ, learning the mind of Christ and doing the deeds of Christ. He chal-



Anne Clarke Brown photos

Evensong at the Cathedral was the setting for Bishop Ely's Convention Address.

lenged the diocese to wade even more deeply by passing a resolution to work toward dismantling racism, by being peacemakers, by embracing "the ministry to, with, for and by young people," and by participating in a long-range planning process for the diocese.

Bishop Ely concluded, "Thanks for helping this advanced beginner get his feet wet and for wading together as baptized sisters and brothers in Christ into the deep and cleansing water of God's love and grace." (The full text begins on Page B.)

### "Delicious Dish" interviews

In place of a homily at Saturday morning's Eucharist, members of the del-

egation to last summer's Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) staged an "NPR" interview show, "The Delicious Dish." Liz Hall and Gretchen Calcagni drew many laughs as they interviewed Nathaniel Broughton, Ian and Heather Ogelby and Bishop Ely about their experiences at EYE.

Nathaniel Broughton spoke about the joy of the music, and Ian Ogelby said the most meaningful part of EYE was the healing service. "It helped me heal from September 11." Heather Ogelby spoke of her role on the EYE design team: "I helped plan and organize an event. I'm a leader. Wow!" Bishop Ely told his interviewers that he felt

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Above: Bishop Ely is interviewed about the Episcopal Youth Event by Liz Hall and Gretchen Calcagni for "The Delicious Dish" during the convention Eucharist. Deacons Catherine Cooke and Zarina O'Hagin are behind the altar.

Below: Peter Galbraith (left) introduced the Sudanese men's choir, who sang in English and Dinka at the convention banquet.



## Newsletters and websites honored in new awards program

by Anne Clarke Brown

Bishop Thomas Ely and Communications Minister Anne Brown presented certificates to recipients of the first Diocese of Vermont/Mountain Echo Newsletter and Website Awards at the Diocesan Convention banquet Friday evening, November 15. The goal of the awards program, said Brown, "is not to pit editors and webmasters against one another as competitors but to honor the excellent work that is being done by volunteer editors and webmasters and to inspire both those who are being honored and those who might want to consider sharing their efforts next year."

Editors and webmasters submitted twenty-three entries in six categories. "Everyone who entered is receiving some sort of recognition," Brown said, though not every entry received an award. The judges, Episcopal communicators from outside the diocese, were: Dr. Pam Darling of Philadelphia, writer, consultant and former assistant to the president of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church; Herb Gunn, editor of the newspaper of the Diocese of Michigan and immediate past presi-

dent of Episcopal Communicators; Dr. June Steffensen Hagen of New York, writer, retreat leader and retired professor of English; Heidi Schott, communications officer, editor and webmaster for the Diocese of Maine; and Laurie Wozniak, communications officer, editor and webmaster for the Diocese of Western New York.

Brown announced awards and read comments from the judges as images of award-winning entries were projected on a large screen. She congratulated all those who participated and concluded, "I hope you feel encouraged and inspired—as I do—about the wonderful ministries of communication in our diocese."

### General Excellence: Congregation Websites

**Award of Excellence** to the website of Christ Church, Montpelier ([www.christchurchvt.org](http://www.christchurchvt.org)), Jan Armstrong, webmaster.

**Award of Merit** to the website of St. James', Essex Junction ([www.stjamesvt.org](http://www.stjamesvt.org)) Susan Kent and Jeremy Bull, webmasters.

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# Diocesan Convention Address: Wade in the Water

by the Right Reverend Thomas Clark Ely, Bishop of Vermont

[The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, November 15, 2002]

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ: Grace, mercy and peace to you from God, the author and sustainer of all life and from Christ Jesus our Savior. In the power of God's Holy Spirit, we gather to celebrate our common life in Christ, our varied gifts and ministries and the joy that is ours in wading in the water of our baptismal covenant with God.

As a child, I liked the water, but I wasn't much of a swimmer. When I went off to Church Summer Camp at age nine, I was classified as an advanced beginner swimmer. Standing before you on the occasion of my second Diocesan Convention in Vermont, I think that is a good description of me as a bishop—an advanced beginner!

My childhood memory is that most advanced beginners were eager to learn new skills, were open to trying new things and placed a great deal of confidence in those around them. Advanced beginners were cautious, but curious; careful, but adventurous; deliberate,

but persistent; nervous, but eager. For advanced beginners there was always something new to experience and a great sense of accomplishment with each new day of going more deeply into the water.

Years later, when I went back to work at Camp Washington, I always made it a point to go with the boys in my cabin to free swim. I remembered how others had encouraged me and stayed with me, helping me to develop my swimming skills. I remembered too, how much their trust and example had helped me wade more deeply into the water. As a counselor I especially liked spending time with the beginners and advanced beginners, encouraging them to try new things and to bravely wade more deeply into the water. I remember one year spending a whole week of camp with Robert, a young boy from Bridgeport, just trying to get him to put his face in the water. He finally did, and when his parents picked him up on the last day of camp he rushed to them shouting at the top of his lungs, "I can swim! I can swim!"

#### A group of advanced beginners

Thinking about our life together as a diocese and the theme of our Convention, "Wade in the Water: Living more fully into our Baptismal Covenant," I can imagine us as a group of advanced beginners. In my imagination's picture we love the water of baptismal living. We are eager to learn more. We are open to new experiences, and we have placed our trust and confidence in one another. We know we can learn from one another. We encourage one another, and sometimes we get nervous. We know that we need to sharpen our skills. We know that we need to practice. We know that we need to go deeper into the water. And we are willing to do all those things because we love the water of baptismal living, and know that going deeper holds the promise of greater joy.

For me, baptismal living is all about being and living in the world as the sacramental presence of Christ's Body. I have come to understand the water poured upon my head and the sign of the cross traced on my forehead in baptism as an incredible gift. Each morning when I look into the mirror I look for that cross as a reminder of who I am and whose I am. Buried with Christ in death, I live with Christ in resurrection. Not only does that change me, it changes how I live. That is baptismal living.

I recall someone once describing the baptismal font as the womb of God. What a wonderful image! It is the fluid of divine life that sustains me, helps to form me, gives birth to me and ultimately transforms me. Living as a member of Christ's crucified and risen body is the sacrament of baptismal life.

This afternoon, I want to offer some thoughts about how we as a

diocese are living that sacramental life and wading more deeply into the water of baptismal living. And, I want to offer some thoughts about ways in which we might go even deeper. This is not meant to be an exhaustive description, but rather a sampling of some ways that I see us being faithful to the promises of our baptism. I invite and encourage you to do your own thinking about all this and then share your thoughts with one another and with me.

#### Our life in the Spirit

First: our life in the Spirit. Last year at Convention, I announced that a Diocesan Council Task Force would look at the various

***"Outreach and social justice are not extracurricular activities for the Body of Christ."***

spiritual life ministries in the diocese and make some recommendations for strengthening that dimension of our life together. They did that work, and Council has implemented their recommendations. We now have a newly reconstituted Spiritual Life Committee in the diocese, with membership from throughout the diocese, chaired by the Reverend Jean MacDonald. Please keep them and their work in your prayers. In addition, our Cathedral is becoming a Diocesan Center for Christian Spirituality. The Bishop Booth Conference Center continues to develop as a spiritual life resource, under the leadership of its newly appointed Director, Debi Paterson. As advanced beginners in the art of baptismal living, our spiritual lives need to be nurtured and strengthened. These ministries and those taking place in congregations throughout our diocese are important in helping us wade more deeply into the water and pray the prayer of Christ.

#### Our life of learning

Second: our life of learning. I also announced at last year's Convention the formation of a task force to strengthen and expand the ministry of our Diocesan Study Program. The first part of that work was accomplished, and the "new revised version" of DSP is set to launch this January. I hope you will encourage members of your congregations to take advantage of this great resource. We are also looking for more opportunities to expand the offerings of the Diocesan Study Program, including the use of Vermont Interactive Television sites to offer other courses and educational programs.

Knowledge is essential for advanced beginners, indeed for all who seek to live more fully into

the covenant of baptism. One of the things I enjoy doing is reading parish newsletters (yes, I do try to read them all!) and learning about the educational offerings at the local and deanery level. From Bible study groups, to Sunday forums, to Alpha courses, to seasonal offerings, to one time events, there is a whole lot of teaching and learning going on in this diocese. I give thanks for those opportunities that help us wade more deeply and confidently into the water of baptismal living and learn the mind of Christ.

#### Outreach and social justice

A third area in which we continue to wade more deeply into the water of baptismal living is outreach and social justice. This area of our life in Christ was highlighted in the profile you prepared as part of the episcopal election process over two years ago. In that profile you indicated that one of the characteristics you sought in a bishop was a willingness to "speak out with a prophetic voice on issues of social justice." I have tried to do that, and with your support and help I will continue to do so.

Several initiatives are underway in this regard, including the development of Vermont Interfaith Action and a newly formed Committee on Environmental Stewardship. We participate in many outreach and social justice programs throughout the state including those seeking to address the affordable housing crisis in Vermont, a livable wage, health care issues, hunger—especially childhood hunger—and refugee resettlement. Tomorrow we will hear a report and some practical suggestions regarding the farming and agricultural concerns we discussed at Convention last year. The Jubilee Ministry initiative we are bringing to Vermont and the dismantling racism initiative that will be before us in our business session tomorrow are two more excellent examples.

It may seem risky for us to wade more deeply into the baptismal water of outreach and social justice. It was risky for Jesus too, but He did and we must as well. Outreach and social justice are not extracurricular activities for the Body of Christ. They are part of the heart and soul of our evangelism effort to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ. I know that many of you are deeply involved in these and other issues at the local level, and for that I give thanks and encouragement. Clearly, this is one example of that ministry of servant leadership I talked about in my homily at the Diocesan Regional Days and to which I believe we each are called as we seek to do the deeds of Christ.

For a few minutes, I want to talk with you about two specific, important social justice matters. One



is the dismantling racism resolution that you will consider tomorrow. The other is the prospect of war with Iraq.

#### Dismantling racism

Some people in Vermont say that racism is not a problem. They say this, in part I think, because they look around and see that there are not many people of color living in Vermont. I suspect as well they have little awareness of the experiences of racial discrimination and injustice that people of color actually experience here in Vermont. This is one of the liabilities of "white privilege" in this country. We are often unaware of

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## MOUNTAIN ECHO

News of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont

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## Views from the Frontier

by Gina Logan

I'm getting ready for the annual ritual of The Sending of the MidWinter Holiday Cards, which at my house involves several steps: first, I need to **find** the boxes of cards that I so thriftily ordered **after** the holidays last year, when they were on sale, and then put safely away—where? After I actually locate the cards, I need to hunt up my collection of seasonal stickers **and** address seals **and** the address book—the one that actually contains **everyone's** address: family and friends, my high school English teacher, an old boyfriend who still sends a card to my mother every year (!), several remote second cousins, and all those relatives in Europe whom I've never actually MET, but we send each other cards anyway. Finally, I need to go to the Post Office and get the right stamps.

This year, at least the last part of all this card-sending frenzy will be easy. The U. S. Postal Service has reissued the perfect stamp for my holiday cards.

The stamp I'll be using is attractive, as befits a holiday stamp. It features a flowing gold script on a deep blue background. The calligraphy, in Arabic, says "Eid mubarak," with the English text above: EID GREETINGS. The stamp, first issued on the first day of September 2001, honors the Islamic celebration of Eid al-Fitr, the festival that ends the fast of Ramadhan. "Eid mubarak" means "blessed festival," or, more colloquially, "May your religious holiday be blessed." This year, Eid al-Fitr falls on December 6th.

Ramadhan is the month during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset, as prescribed in the Holy Qu'ran. No healthy adult may eat or drink (even water) from first light until the end of the day; then, at sundown, Muslim families at last may pray and eat together. Ramadhan ends at the first new moon following, when Eid al-Fitr is observed by offering special alms to the poor, by feasting, and by exchanging gifts and visits with family and friends. Eid al-Fitr is one of the two most important festivals in the Islamic calendar (the other eid, Eid al-Adha, comes at the end of the hajj, the annual period of pilgrimage to Mecca).

Muslims view our Christmas festivities with a certain wariness. To them, Isa (Jesus), peace be upon him, is a great prophet, but Muslims do not view him as divine. There is no god BUT God, and Muhammad is the prophet of God: that is the Islamic view. I have read several articles by prominent Muslim clerics and scholars who warn American Muslims in particular to shun the American Christmas celebrations, to avoid Christmas office parties and school functions, to refuse to be consumed by the materialistic frenzy of Christmas shopping, to turn away from the endless and soul-destroying pursuit of competition for more, bigger, better gifts. This advice seems to me wise in many ways. We have turned Christmas, these articles allege, into a parody; we are idolatrous and excessive, consuming too much and expecting more.

The authors of these articles worry that American Muslims in particular will forget what their faith teaches: that it truly IS better to give than to receive. It is better for one's soul, and it is better for one's community. Islam is the only major world religion

that requires the giving of alms to the poor and less fortunate of the community as a condition of faith. Such sharing of resources is one means by which the whole community becomes one in the sight of God. Almsgiving is to be done joyfully, for love.

I think that those Muslim critics who worry about the impact of Christmas on the faithful of Islam are missing at least part of the point. The exchanging of gifts that Christians do at Christmas is parallel to the gift-giving at Eid al-Fitr. Both are signs of joy at the abundant gifts that God has given us. To Muslims, the Word of God given to Muhammad (peace be upon him) in the Qu'ran is the great gift, while to Christians the gift is the Incarnation. We can (and unfortunately do) quarrel along religious lines, but it seems to me that at times of great happiness we ought to be able to see past those differences to what it is that unites us: faith in one God Who is compassionate and merciful; faith in the will of the community to give to those in need and to those whom we love; faith in a world that offers increasing opportunities for connection and communication as well as for separation and silence. Recognizing our differences does not mean that differences are **all** that we possess, or all that we are.

So let us feast together this December, let us be lavish with our gifts and with our prayers for peace on earth and goodwill to all people. And let us remember that the God of Abraham is the God and Father of us all: Jew and Christian and Muslim alike.

So as we remember Abraham and Sarah (praise be upon them), whose descendants are indeed as numerous as the stars of the heavens, let us say to our Muslim sisters and brothers: As-salaam aleikem! Peace be upon you! Eid mubarak! May your religious holiday be blessed. Amen.

Gina Logan is a member of St. Mary's, Northfield.

## St. Luke's hosts forum on Iraq policy

by Joe Grannis

About 35 people from St. Luke's and the Chester community attended a forum held October 15th, on "What Should We Do About Iraq? Policy and Civic Action Issues." Three panelists presented different perspectives on the debate and responded to a barrage of questions from the audience.

Jack Reed, a former Director of Middle-East and South Asia Affairs in the U. S. Department of Defense, and currently the Chairman of the Windham World Affairs Council, outlined the case against Saddam Hussein: his violation of the United Nations agreement to end the Gulf War, his defiance of subsequent United Nations resolutions, his use of chemical weapons against Iraqi Kurds and Shiites, and the threat he poses to neighboring nations.

Mel Wittler, a United Church of Christ ordained minister who lived in Istanbul, Turkey for 37 years as Middle East Coordinator for the UCC Board of Foreign Missions, and who had just returned from a month's visit to the area, concluded that only a handful of nations would support a war before the possibilities of renewed U.N. inspections in Iraq were exhausted.

## Letters to the Editor

*Letters to the Editor* (300 words or fewer) and *Opinion* articles are welcome and encouraged on any relevant topic. Did something in an article inspire you, aggravate you, or move you in some way? Share your reactions with other readers. **Letters must be signed** and contain a phone number so that I can check details, if necessary. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names may be withheld upon request. Submissions may be edited for reasons of space.

Anne Clarke Brown, Editor, Mountain Echo

## Diocesan leadership reviews ministry

by Diana Bingham

At the risk of dating myself, do you remember an old song by Harold Arlen, with music by Johnnie Mercer, sung by Bing Crosby that went like this, "You've Got to Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive, E-lim-mi-nate the Negative, Latch on to the Affirmative, and don't mess with Mr. Inbetween?" Let me tell you why this tune from the 40s popped into my head while trying to "tell the story" of a gathering this fall.

Bishop Ely invited me, along with others from the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, youth ministry, the trustees, and the Diocesan Ministry Support Team to participate in a diocesan leadership mutual ministry review. Professor Fredrica Harris Thompsett from the Episcopal Divinity School acted as facilitator.

Contrary to what I thought, we were not there to look at each other—bishop at his flock, flock at its bishop—with critical and slightly jaundiced eye, to find every human failing possible to drag us down. While there would certainly be aspects of our past that we might not have performed as skillfully, effectively, thoughtfully or compassionately as we might, the directives of a method called Appreciative Inquiry would smooth the way through an evaluation process intended to "assess how well the Bishop, Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and other diocesan leadership are fulfilling their responsibilities to each other and to the ministry they share." We were being asked not "to focus on our problems" (or, to me, "mess around with Mr. Inbetween") but to hold each other up in our ministries, affirming our strengths as we

looked at where we had been, where we were and where we hoped to go in the future.

Professor Thompsett has an amazing gift as an encourager of leadership for development of ministry driven not hierarchically but collaboratively. This certainly didn't sound like the "old" church to me, where we were simply attendees, passive participants and lookers on. From the start, I felt raised up. This was to be a very special learning experience.

Her first challenge to us came in the form of questions. "What gave us joy? What was our life together? What were our stories?" Small groups held energetic and productive exchanges and sharing that were then presented to the large group. Certain themes recurred: fellowship, being engaged in the process, mutual support, the growth and transformation possible within the group, affirmation of and openness to explore our personal ministries, our Anglican liturgy and heritage, and a prevailing noncompetitive and invitational atmosphere. If we didn't "E-lim-mi-nate the Negative," at least we didn't allow it to drive the process.

Professor Thompsett's final challenge question was, "What would help us rebuild a more positive community in the future?" To answer this, we worked with others on our committee or team, thereby giving us the opportunity to address some of our particular concerns. Among them were better relationship building, better communication and clearer articulation of goals.

Every group emphasized the role of youth in the diocese. Specifically articulated were the inclusion of, attention to, and appreciation of our youth. The youth participants themselves felt they should perform more community service and bring in outsiders with fresh ideas, but they also asked for more support from us, the adults.

How satisfying were Professor Thompsett's concluding words of encouragement and praise for this diocese: the evidence she observed of good relationships, mutual respect, an ability to do our work with good humor and trust in a relaxed atmosphere (due in large part to our small size), our willingness to share and pursue our ministries, a prevailing spirit of openness, the availability of so many valuable resources and a high level of morale and energy.

Proponents of Appreciative Inquiry (AI) "Ac-cent-tchu-ate the Positive" because they believe organizations grow in the direction the questions they ask. If our focus is on problems, we will inevitably create new ones! So when it is time for groups to evaluate their life and ministry, they should not "mess around with Mr. Inbetween," but help the future grow out of what is best about the present and the past.

[Articles about AI may be found on the web at <[www.thinbook.com/chap11fromle.html](http://www.thinbook.com/chap11fromle.html)> and <[www.bus.sfu.ca/homes/gervase/ai-odj.html](http://www.bus.sfu.ca/homes/gervase/ai-odj.html)>, or search the web under "appreciative inquiry." Ed.]

Diana Bingham is a member of the Standing Committee and of St. Michael's, Brattleboro.

# Bishop Ely's Address to Diocesan Convention

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Bishop Ely, his moose mascot, Canon Lynn Bates and Convention Secretary Jim Larkin enjoy a light moment during the Convention session.

Anne Brown photo

the daily experiences of persons of color.

But we do have a problem of racism in Vermont, and we will understand that better as we take the time to listen and hear the stories of those who have been on the receiving end of racial injustice. I encourage you to read the Vermont Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights report, *Racial Harrassment in Vermont Public Schools*. Listen to the voices of people of color in our communities when they tell about being followed in stores or ignored by sales persons in favor of white patrons. Ask the young woman at UVM who was thrown to the ground and handcuffed by a police officer who thought she was the "black man" they were looking for in connection with a robbery last week.

Listen to how a UVM spokesperson described her ordeal in the Burlington Free Press: "It was a relatively brief encounter. As soon as the officers realized they had the wrong person, they immediately released that person." The spokesperson estimated that the young woman was in handcuffs no more than a few minutes. However, she will have to live with the trauma for a lifetime.

Last Saturday I participated in a walk against racism here in Burlington. One of the speakers at the rally was Dr. Larry McCrorey, an educator and veteran of the struggle for racial justice in Vermont. After talking about the struggle he has shared in for decades in Vermont, he said this:

"All of us need some preparation for this struggle. To my fellow people of color, I say: we must come to know and understand our past and present, and take control of our future; we must learn, and teach our children, to fight racism with every ounce of strength we can muster, but never let it be an excuse for failure. We're better than that.

"To my colleagues of the dominant society, I say: you have a tremendous responsibility in this struggle. Ultimately the side that created this distortion in human relations must make the great changes. Look at yourselves, my friends.... Not with guilt, for there is no time for that. Guilt is merely an excuse for **not** acting—a way to comfort yourself because you felt bad about something. Guilt is useless as a means of progress. No, look at yourselves with a resolve to understand racism.... to understand that there is nothing scientific about race; it is a social construct, existing only in the mind. As such, it can be deconstructed, and we need to be in the business of doing just that. Join the struggle; there is everything to gain from reducing and eradicating racism.

"This is a battle that will not be won by one or the other of us, but by **all** of us. Dedicate yourselves to change. You **can** make it better. You **can** help to make this a city and state that would be a model for the nation. Ah, it could happen, my friends...almost before our eyes. We **can** create the future rather than merely inherit it!"

The goal of our dismantling racism resolution is to join with community leaders,

ecumenical and interfaith partners, and others in creating that future and to better prepare ourselves for the struggle. I hope you will pass this resolution; and I also hope you will wade into the water with it, embrace it and commit to what it says we will do as a diocese.

## Peaceful solutions to conflict

On the subject of our pending war with Iraq, I simply want to acknowledge that this is a matter that weighs heavily on my heart and mind, and I suspect on yours as well. The House of Bishops has spoken its mind on this subject; and I communicated that sentiment to our congressional delegation, along with my own strong caution against unilateral action on the part of the United States. I am pleased that the United Nations is playing a stronger role, although I continue to be concerned about the rhetoric coming out of both Washington and Baghdad.

Dear friends in Christ, matters such as this are never simple matters, and good people of faith will often disagree on how best to respond. For Christians, peace and peaceful solutions to conflict must always be our heartfelt prayer and the goal of our efforts in confronting the prospect of war. Disagreement about the means to achieve that peace is what most often pulls us apart. My hope for us is that our discourse around such matters with one another will always be civil and that we will do our best to listen to those with whom we do not fully agree. The best discernment, I believe, is never a matter solely of one's own conviction, but of the community in conversation, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. May it be so among us.

Our life of prayer and worship, our life of learning, and our life of witness and action are all part of the great gift we offer as the Episcopal Church. Vermont is a state with many people who have no church affiliation. I am convinced that many of these people have a deep spiritual hunger and thirst that the Episcopal Church can help nourish. We need to proclaim, with confidence, the story of God's love for us and our love for God.

We need, without embarrassment, to acknowledge our participation in the reconciling mission of Jesus Christ and our empowerment by the Holy Spirit for ministry. I want us to be bold in our efforts to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Good News of our baptismal life, with others. Reach out to those who may be searching for a spiritual home. Welcome those who seek us out. Nourish those already among us, and all for the love of God. This priority must always be prominent in our life together. Please, don't be bashful about wading into this water!

## Youth ministry

Another priority for our life together, one highlighted in the episcopal election profile of the diocese, is youth ministry. Here too we are wading more deeply into the water of baptismal living. Thanks to the

action of Convention last year, we began the search for a new half-time Canon for Youth Ministry. Inspired by that resolve and their own commitment to youth ministry, the people of Holy Trinity, Swanton approached the Diocesan Council and said they wanted to use part of the income from the bequest they had just received to help fund a full time Youth Ministry position in Vermont. "If you will make the long term commitment to this ministry," they said to us, "then we will help get it started." Council said "yes," and in September we called Connie Saeger-Proctor to be the first full-time Canon for Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Vermont! Hallelujah! I am happy about that. Most of you know that this is an area of ministry very near and dear to my heart. Naturally, expectations are running high. Connie cannot do this ministry alone. I know that. Connie knows that. The young people and adults of our Diocesan Youth Committee and those who recommended her for this position know that. And I want to make sure that you know that.

Advanced beginners don't shove each other off the dock! If we are to wade more deeply into the water of this ministry then we must do it together. Connie brings ideas, experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to this ministry. Our ministry is to work with her and the youth leaders of our diocese, both young and old, to foster an atmosphere of welcome and openness to young people and their gifts for ministry.

We need to be willing to examine and then change behaviors that work against the full inclusion of children and young people in the life, worship and governance of our church. We need to be willing to reach out to hurting young people, to young people on the margins and to those in any need or trouble and demonstrate to them the reconciling and unconditional love of God—whether or not they ever become Episcopalians. We need to embrace this ministry to, with, for and by young people, not just for the sake of the future of the church, but for our very life and health right here and now. I hope you are ready to wade more deeply into the water of this ministry. In the Eucharist tomorrow we will experience some of that ministry first hand.

## Diocesan Ministry Support Team

As I have already noted, one of the characteristics of advanced beginners is that they stick together. They trust, help and encourage each other. They are resources to and for each other. And sometimes they are nervous. I believe all those are marks of a healthy diocese. I experience that health among us in the financial and human resource support congregations provide, enabling us to carry out the shared ministry in which we are engaged as a diocese. I am very mindful that those financial and human resources represent a deep, deep commitment on your part to mutual ministry on the part of the congregations of this diocese. I am tremendously grateful for that. I am also mindful that ministry at the local level is a priority for you and for me, and so I pledge to you the full support of our Diocesan Ministry Support Team in helping to strengthen and empower ministry in the congregations of our diocese. And, I encourage you to help and support one another.

At the conclusion of my address, I will ask you to share in a "Liturgy of Calling and Sending Forth" the members of the Diocesan Ministry Support Team. That team is now fully in place and many of you are

already experiencing the ministry of these fine people and the resources they bring to our common life. We are **your** Diocesan Ministry Support Team. We live throughout the diocese. We worship throughout the diocese. We meet throughout the diocese, and we serve throughout the diocese. Advanced beginners one and all, we cherish this ministry we share with you.

## Diocesan Council long range planning

Finally, let me turn our attention to the future and two envisioning initiatives that are underway. During the past year, our Diocesan Council has been working hard at taking on a larger leadership role in the life of the diocese. We have done some restructuring, and we have begun to meet more often. As a result, Council is sharing more and more in the decisions that shape and direct the ministry of our diocese. In September, Council took action to enter into an exciting process that will help us envision and plan for our life together as a diocese five years from now. A steering group for this began to meet in October, assisted by the Rev. Craig Collemer, an American Baptist Pastor and an experienced guide in helping organizations envision and plan for the future. The model we are using provides a powerful and engaging process for assuring that people reach agreement on the direction an organization should take and that there are measurable criteria for evaluating progress and improvement. This is a living process; not one that ends up with a great plan stuffed in a file cabinet somewhere!

So your help is needed. Tomorrow you will be asked to help kick off this process and bring word of it to your congregations. After lunch, we will distribute scrolls for each delegation to take home. When you report about this Convention to the members of your congregation, please bring attention to these posters. On them there are three questions. We hope you will ponder these questions and offer your response to them. Hang the posters in your church or parish hall. Encourage conversation about the questions. Encourage people to add their thoughts to the posters. Together we will think and dream about what our diocese would look like five years from now if we were engaged in mission in a way we would describe as "ideal." We will think and dream about the ministry priorities we envision in that "ideal" diocese. And, we will think about the kind of support that will most enhance our vision for this diocese five years from now. Have fun with these questions. Take them seriously and with an appropriate dose of New England realism and practicality in mind. Over the next few months, the process of gathering this information from you will begin, facilitated by members of the Steering Committee and Diocesan Council. Expect to hear more soon.

## Rock Point Board strategic planning

The other initiative underway is also exciting. Last year Convention authorized a new Canon 29 C for the oversight of Rock Point. The new Rock Point Board went right to work strengthening its internal functioning and addressing many of the issues, concerns and opportunities for ministry at Rock Point. They are a hard working, well-organized Board with lots of opportunity for others who want to be part of the action. The Board is now engaged in a process of strategic planning for the future. That process begins with some mapping of the prop-

Continued on Page E

# More Coming Events

## Jubilee Ministry Conversations

Friday, December 6, 2002, 7-9 P.M., Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls

Saturday, December 7, 10 A.M.-12 Noon, Trinity Church, Rutland

Saturday, December 7, 3-5 P.M., St. Andrew's, St. Johnsbury

Sunday, December 8, 2:30-4:30 P.M., Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington

The Rev. Carmen Guerrero, National Officer for Jubilee Ministry will speak about Jubilee Ministry in the Episcopal Church and describe how congregations can join the over 700 Jubilee Ministry Centers across the country that are involved in ministry programs of social outreach, advocacy, evangelism and empowerment. Jubilee Centers are eligible for special grants. All are encouraged to attend one of these special events.

**Sunday morning, December 8, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington**

Carmen Guerrero will preach at the 8:00, 9:15 and 11:15 services and will lead an adult forum at 10:15 A.M.

## Arts at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

2 Cherry St., Burlington, Vermont

### The Great "O" Antiphons

Sunday, December 8, 5:00 P.M.

A service of music and lessons for Advent offered by the Cathedral Choir under the direction of Mark Howe.

**Free Tuesday Concerts, 12 noon - 1 P.M.: December 3,** Christmas Choral Concert by the UVM Catamount Singers. **January 7,** Young Artists Program.

**Art Shows: December:** Rachel Doran: Nature photographs, "9/11 Revisited;" and Michael Doran: poems. **January:** Janet McKenzie: "Jesus of the People" and new paintings. [See article, this page.]

For more information on Cathedral Arts programs, call 802-864-0471, or email info@CathedralArts.org.

## Epiphany Quiet Day: A Window into the Castle

Saturday, January 25, 2003, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

Cathedral Church of St. Paul

2 Cherry Street, Burlington

The Rev. Suzanne Guthrie, will use meditations from St. Teresa of Avila's *Interior Castle* and from her own work, *Grace's Window*, to show how ordinary life is a window of grace into the holy, where nothing is wasted because everything teaches the art of prayer. Guthrie's books will be available for purchase and signing.

The registration fee of \$15 includes the cost of lunch. Scholarships are available. For more information and to register, contact the Rev. Canon Tanya Wallace, 802-864-0471, ext. 16, or twallace@stpaulscathedralvt.org.

## Bishop Ely's address

erty and defining of the core values that will direct and shape the future of Rock Point. Again, we will want to hear from many voices throughout the diocese. When the opportunity comes for you to participate, I urge you to do so fully.

### Wading more deeply into the water

Well, for a crew of advanced beginners we sure do seem to have a lot going on. Wading more deeply into the water of baptismal living with you is an exciting prospect for me. I hope the same is true for you. As I thought about all this in the context of the two Bible readings we heard tonight, I was struck by two great truths that emerge for me from those readings. I leave them with you as my concluding thought.

The first is from John's Gospel, where Jesus says, "my food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work." The truth here is that we have received the fruit of Christ's work. It is called salvation—communion and community with God. We share in it now, even as we anticipate sharing in it more fully. Sharing in salvation, sharing in communion and community with God, means that we share in the joy and new life of God's reconciling love. Baptismal living, wading deeper and deeper into the water of life, is all about appropriating that salvation for ourselves and for the world. It is about our day-in and day-out

### Continued from Page D

living as the sacramental Body of Christ. What a joy to share in that redeeming fruit! What a joy to wade into the water of that new life!

The second great truth that emerged for me is from that wonderful story in the book of Numbers. It is this. Collegiality, shared leadership, mutual ministry, is a very powerful and effective model for the community of God's people. In fact, it is God's practical solution to the beleaguered Moses when he felt weighed down by his attempt to do it all himself. "Would that all God's people were prophets." I say, would that all God's people share fully their gifts for ministry for the building up of the community of faith and the living out of our covenant with God. I think it is an especially good model for advanced beginners.

Thank you for your prayers, your love, your support, but most of all for your witness. Sunday after Sunday, I am privileged to be in one or another of our congregations where I share in your worship life and hear and experience the joys and challenges of your local ministries. It is truly the best and most sacred part of this ministry. Thanks for helping this advanced beginner get his feet wet and for wading together as baptized sisters and brothers in Christ into the deep and cleansing water of God's love and grace. ☩

## "Jesus of the People" will be at St. Paul's Exhibit coincides with January Cully Lecture on racism

by Ernie Hathaway

The whole world has been clamoring for "Jesus of the People," Vermont artist Janet McKenzie's winning painting in a global competition for a new image of Jesus at the millennium. The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, Burlington, in conjunction with Cathedral Arts, will sponsor a showing of McKenzie's controversial image of the Christ, along with several of her most recent works, from January 6 through February 3, 2003. The public is invited to a reception for the artist on Saturday, January 11, 2003, from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M. She will sign prints and cards of the painting.

The exhibit will coincide with the Kendig Cully/Christian Century Lecture, "Whatever Happened to Racism?" to be given at the cathedral by the Rev. Dr. Harold Lewis on Friday, January 17, 7:30 P.M., and with events honoring civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Lewis is rector of Calvary Church, Pittsburgh and former national church officer for Black Ministries.

Sister Wendy Beckett, internationally acclaimed art educator and critic, chose Janet McKenzie's "Jesus of the People" as winner of the National Catholic Reporter's "Jesus 2000" contest from over 1,600 entries, representing six continents and 19 countries. Painting in near obscurity, this pivotal Vermont artist—a cradle Episcopalian—was catapulted overnight into worldwide fame.

News of the controversial painting and its prominent award sparked a flood of let-



ters and email praising and damning the image. Since winning the award, "Jesus of the People" has toured the world non-stop. Thousands of prints of the image have been sold worldwide.

Saint Paul's Cathedral is located at 2 Cherry Street, Burlington, and is open to the public from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday. For more information, please call 802-893-3802.

Ernie Hathaway is a member of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington.

## Diocesan Convention



The Rev. Susan Tobias of Hardwick, Joe Grannis of Chester, and Nanci Gordon of the Resolutions Committee work on "A Resolution to Build Peace."

much joy at EYE. "That's my hope for youth ministry—joy!"

### Convention business

Delegates elected the Rev. Diane Root to serve as a deputy to General Convention and chose Elizabeth Hall and the Rev. John Morris to be first lay and clergy alternates. Full election results are posted on the diocesan website, [www.dioceseofvermont.org](http://www.dioceseofvermont.org).

The resolution establishing a Commission on Dismantling Racism passed with no dissenting votes, and the delegates approved the proposed budget for 2003. For the first time, the budget exceeds one million dollars. (The resolution and the budget were printed in the November Mountain Echo. Both are posted on the website.)

With only a handful of dissenting votes, the nearly 200 delegates adopted "A Resolution to Build Peace" sponsored by delegates from Hardwick and Chester. It commends the multilateral negotiations that resulted in United Nations Resolution Num-

### Continued from Page A

ber 1441, and it asks that the President of the United States be informed that, "We do not believe that a war with Iraq can be justified at this time, since we have not exhausted the possibilities for a peaceful solution to the present problem."

The resolution urges congregations "to pray for peace and to pursue ways of building peace in the world through forums that examine the conditions that foster war and oppression." It further urges congregations to work "through local, national, and international efforts to ameliorate these conditions."

An amendment offered by the Rev. Canon Thad Bennett asks individuals and congregations to "pray for and support those Christians who, exercising their right of conscientious objection, refuse to support war through war tax resistance or through funding an alternative to military service." (See the website for text and explanation.)

A series of courtesy resolutions commended the bishop "for his uplifting address," the diocesan staff for surviving the temporary office quarters, and the young men from Sudan "for enriching our lives." Good wishes were offered to Bishop Douglas Theuner and the Diocese of New Hampshire in their bicentennial year, to Bishop Barbara Harris on her retirement, and to clergy who have retired or moved from the diocese. ☩

### Safe Church Training

St. Thomas', Brandon, December 14. Contact Anne Brown for information: 672-5250, [abrown@vermontel.net](mailto:abrown@vermontel.net).

## Northwest Deanery 1

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ST. THOMAS' & GRACE, Brandon/Forest Dale, will join other congregations that are using the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Sunday lessons. St. Thomas' is also exploring the Alpha Program with the Rev. **Marnie Keator**.

ST. STEPHEN'S, Middlebury, received a special thank you to **Bonnie McCardell, Martha Hill** and the members of the congregation from the Addison County Community Action Group, Inc., for the wonderful "Backpack Project." All the backpacks were distributed to school-age children, and they and their parents were very happy to receive them.

TRINITY, Rutland, welcomed the Rev. **Hugh Tudor-Foley** as interim priest. His first Sunday was Nov. 10, and receptions of welcome followed both services.

ST. PAUL'S, Vergennes, has a new web site designed by the Rev. **Bob and Pam Macauley** at [www.saintpaulsvergennes.org](http://www.saintpaulsvergennes.org). The Macauleys are hosting small groups for brunch to get to know members of the congregation.

## Southwest Deanery 3

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ST. JAMES', Arlington, hosted a concert to benefit the Coalition for the Homeless in Bennington. Rector **Brad Clark** has been chosen to act as mentor in the diocese's Fresh Start ministry to clergy in new positions and their congregations. A four-part video presentation and discussion series featuring the work of **Caroline Myss**, author of *Exploring the Anatomy of the Spirit* and *Why People Don't Heal and How They Can*, will be held Saturday evenings from 6-8, P.M., Nov. 23 & 30 and Dec. 7 & 21.

The Youth Group at ST. PETER'S, Bennington, is planning a visit to Congregation Beth El to experience the worship service. It is a response to the visit by **Rabbi Cohen's** youth group to St. Peter's and a valuable lesson in diversity for the young people. Monies collected through donations to the annual Parish Christmas Card will go to the Ecumenical Food and Fuel Fund. The Mission and Outreach Committee collected warm winter outerwear to give to the school nurses at local elementary schools to help them in emergency situations. The Angel Tree will appear in the Narthex on Nov. 24 with suggestions for gifts for children and young people in the area and from Brookhaven and Rock Point School.

The Youth Group at ZION, Manchester, took a canoe trip in October, and in November, they went to the Green Mountain Climbing Center in Rutland. Zion co-hosted a Renewal and Healing Conference led by Canon **Mark A. Pearson**.

# ❖ deanery doings ❖

News of Parishes and People in the Diocese of Vermont  
compiled and reported by the Mountain Echo "Deanery Bureau Chiefs"

## Southeast Deanery 4

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Youth and adults from IMMANUEL, Bellows Falls, ventured to the Heifer Project Educational Center in Rutland, MA, where they presented \$500 for the purchase of a cow. They spent the day in an interesting and challenging "third-world" situation and work project. To raise funds for their next purchase—goats—they held a "Pasta for People" Public Supper. Immanuel's Covenant Group has taken its next step with the ordination of transitional deacons on Nov. 19. They are quick to point out that this is about the whole congregation deepening their commitment to baptismal ministry.

The Welcoming Ministry Team of ST. MICHAEL'S, Brattleboro, has completed its first cycle of orientation for over a dozen new folks associated with the parish. **Tom Peltz** is now offering spiritual direction at St. Mike's for those interested.

**Curt Cowles** of ST. LUKE'S, Chester, was just named one of this country's top 100 ski instructors by *Ski Magazine*. He and his family are also responsible for the newly completed landscaping at St. Luke's. **Mary Pill** and **Joyce Tiemann** are coordinating "Operation Christmas Child"—shoe boxes filled with children's treasures which will be sent to needy children around the world.

The Rev. **Leander Ecola**, a Lutheran Pastor and brother-in-law of parishioner **Sandi Paczkowski**, led GETHSEMANE, Proctorsville, in a typical Lutheran worship service, followed by an "Oktoberfest" Pot Luck. The "Crafters of Gethsemane" are hard at work preparing items for the upcoming community Ecumenical Holiday Fair.

Organist **Dr. Harriette Slack Richardson** performed another flawless "between the services" public organ recital at ST. MARK'S, Springfield, but at the second service's first hymn, the organ stuck on one note and stayed there. **Rick Hunter**, parishioner and organ builder, quickly diagnosed the problem and performed successful "surgery" (all the while giving a running commentary). St. Mark's has completed its first Alpha Course thanks to the Rev. **Marnie Keator** and her crew from St. Luke's, Chester.

ST. MARY'S IN-THE-MOUNTAINS, Wilmington, members **Susan Rand** and **Ian Schrauf** attended the Rally for Peace in Washington, DC., aided, both monetarily and prayerfully, by the congregation. St. Mary's will construct a Celtic "Peaceable Kingdom" Advent wreath, progressing from the addition of stones to plants, then to animal and human figures, and finally the Christ Child on Christmas Eve.

After several months of committee work, with thanks to Bishop **Stewart Wood, Rebekah Low**, and **Phil Call**, ST. PAUL'S, Windsor, has adopted a policy statement on being a "Safe Church." Senior Warden **Renate Hastings** has moved to Florida, and **Maggie Giffin** has taken her place in this important leadership role.

## Three Rivers Deanery 5

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The children and young people at CHRIST CHURCH, Bethel, have been together a lot lately. September and November brought weekend gatherings at the home of Senior Warden, **Jan Babcock**, and from this group a musical ensemble has emerged called *The Holy Eighth Notes*. Under the guidance of **Karen Speerstra** and **Nancy Wuttke**, their choral debut performance was Sunday, Nov. 10.

The InterParish Council of THREE RIVERS REGIONAL MINISTRY (Our Saviour, Killington and Christ Church, Bethel) has received grants for campus ministry at Vermont Law School in South Royalton and Vermont Technical College in Randolph.

Folks at ST. MARTIN'S, Fairlee, continue their process of storm-braining... *oops!*...brainstorming (see the Rev. **John Morris** for this story!) around issues related to their growing attendance. What a great situation to have! They are forming a Welcoming Committee to explore ways to incorporate newcomers. The mutual ministry review considered all that participants celebrated about the past six months of common ministry. They began by thinking about Bible stories that involved "mutual ministry, stories in which people worked together to carry out God's will."

ST. PAUL'S, White River Junction, has spent the fall considering the mission of the congregation and how the old rectory building fits into that mission. The Good Neighbor Health Clinic is moving to larger quarters, so St. Paul's "will seek to rent the second floor to organizations whose missions enhance ours," and use the first floor for, perhaps, office and quiet space.

Deacon **Diana Collins** headed to Honduras in November to celebrate with the first graduates of LAMB Institutes. Financial support from the parish enabled a local teen to attend the Wilderness Discovery Camp program of the Court Diversion Program. The teen's thank-you letter reflected the good evaluation from the school, noting the camper was invited back for next summer.

ST. JAMES', Woodstock, has a new free-standing altar, crafted by Vermont artisan **Robert M. Gasperetti** and given in memory of **Dick Umland, Jonathan McDill** and **Caroline Camp**. **Bishop Ely** consecrated the cherry wood altar, which will be used twice a month, during his annual visitation Nov. 3. The Sunday morning adult forum has been exploring N. T. Wright's *Jesus, the New Way*.

The new youth group at St. James sounds like it's raring to go, with plans for a trip to New York City's General Theological Seminary, Ground Zero, and the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, a Boston trip with a visit to the monastery of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE), and outreach and mission projects in the parish and the community. Nearly 40 people have signed up for Foyer groups to "get to know each other better, become closer friends, and renew our ties to the St. James' family."

## Central Vermont Deanery 6

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At an October deanery meeting, the Rev. **Steve Kelsey**, accompanied by **Zeke Hanzl**, articulated the vision of the Harvesters Partnership of New England: to be a catalyst, affirming the gifts of the Spirit in every person, and building new working relationships that encourage the development and sharing of effective, innovative ways to equip congregations to deepen the spirit and extend the ministry of every person.

ST. MARY'S, Northfield, officially installed **William Spear** as organist at the All Saints' Day Eucharist. He has been "Interim Organist" for the past 27 years! As a sign of his "new" position, he was presented with a real organ stop key fob.

CHRIST CHURCH, Montpelier will celebrate the Feast of Nine Lessons and Carols on Dec. 19 at 7:00 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S IN THE MOUNTAINS, Stowe, will host its annual St. Nicholas' Tea on Friday, Dec. 6, starting at 3:30 P.M. This festive event offers fellowship, fun holiday activities for children, goodies to eat and a visit from St. Nicholas himself. The Dove Tree will be covered with doves, each labeled with a Christmas gift item for Stowe Middle School families in need of help during this holiday time. A Festival of Lessons and Carols is planned for Dec. 22, at 10 A.M. St. John's is searching anew for land to secure its future growth. Anyone with suggestions please call the church at 253-7578.

## Northeast Deanery 7

Janet Smith, Bureau Chief  
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**Jim McKimm**, organist-music director at ST. MARK'S, Newport will direct "Nine Lessons and Carols" on Sunday Dec. 8 at 4 P.M. St. Mark's will host their annual Christmas Fair and Luncheon on Dec. 14, 10 A.M.–3 P.M. Proceeds will benefit Heifer International, the Sudanese Education Fund, and various community family projects.

At ST. ANDREW'S, St. Johnsbury, every Wednesday evening from 6–7 P.M., the church is open for reflection and quiet prayers for peace and reconciliation. On Fridays, from 12–12:30 P.M., members join Women in Black and the Justice and Peace folks in front of the post office to stand in silent vigil, a testimony to peace and non-violence. On the first Sunday of each month during the winter, St. Andrew's will offer a simple, candlelight Taizé prayer service at 5 P.M. Chants, prayers for peace and thematic prayers for the liturgical season are featured. During Lent, **Robin Bergman** will lead a study group on the gospel of Mark on Tuesday evenings. Please call **Jeanette Tweedy** at 802-748-2121 for information.

## Champlain Deanery 8

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The CROPWALK raised more than \$36,000! Because we were below last year's

Continued on Page G

# Trinity dedicates community center

by Margery Sharp

On Sunday, October 27, parishioners, neighbors, town officials, clergy and the Right Reverend Thomas Ely, Bishop of Vermont, celebrated the completion of a new Community Center at Trinity Church, Shelburne. A reception, tours and entertainment in the new facility followed a dedication service in the church. The center is the culmination of a phased project that included the renovation of the historic church built over a century ago.

"The mammoth efforts of the parish family to see this project through to completion were unbelievable," said Trinity's rector, the Rev. Craig Smith. "So many gave of themselves, I am overwhelmed."

Parishioner Jenny Ockert concurred. "We exceeded our expectations. People said we couldn't do it, but we did."

Longtime vestry member Dick Aldrich said, "October 27 was a great day. Out of the work of planning, it was wonderful to see both the renovation and construction completed."

A group of young men from Sudan joined the celebration with some renditions of African songs, which they sang in their native language, Dinka. Many of these young men were members of the Anglican Church in Africa, and several of them worship regularly at Trinity.

The two-storied facility measures 6,912 square feet. The first floor includes offices, a large 2000 square foot multi-use room and a fully-equipped kitchen with a state-of-the-art commercial oven donated by the Blodgett Oven Co. A handicap access elevator serves the second floor common area and four classrooms. The childcare nursery is off the Webb Lounge—an earlier gift of Shelburne's Webb family.

A bricked walkway entrance and memorial garden designed by Barbara Carson and her committee welcomes visitors. There is a handicap entrance, an English Hurdle fence to the south, additional parking, a water drainage system and new landscaping. Neagley and Chase Construction Co. did the construction and Dubois Excavating Inc. the grounds work.

Architect Martin Tierney, the building's designer said, "I wanted to enhance and complement the existing church and its setting within the village." George Faris assisted with the design review so the church could retain its position on the National Register of Historic Places.

"This new building honors the dream of Trinity's former Rector, Lynwood Smith [1933-1970], who believed a church center should benefit its community," said Mrs. Ockert. The old facility was the initial meeting place for the Lake Champlain Waldorf School, among its many uses. The new one



Susan Davis photo

A brick walkway leads to the entrance to the new community center at Trinity, Shelburne.

will be used for community-oriented programs such as the popular senior lunches.

Gary Nelson and his committee designed the kitchen. Other committees chose furnishings, equipment, color schemes, windows and doors and outside plantings. Building and Grounds Committee members Katie O'Connor and Carl Schneider planned the temporary storage of furniture, records and equipment. Gwenn Webb headed the dedication committee.

#### Campaign efforts

Four years ago parishioners Lois and J. Warren McClure led off the building fundraising with a matching pledge. Church member teams, spearheaded by campaign chairs Ann and Bill Hogan, asked parish

families to contribute by spreading payments over three years or giving in one pledge. In the spring of 2002, Maxie Ewins and Bob Britt led a supplemental campaign.

The entire parish was involved in the planning and construction process. The church vestry and Senior Warden Emily Magowan kept contact with the committees during all phases of the project, and campaign treasurers Nat Norton, Ann Hogan and Missy Sisters kept the financial records.

Echoing the Rev. Smith's words, building construction chair Joan Britt said, "There's been a wonderful coming together of many people with their time and talent."

Margery Sharp is a member of Trinity, Shelburne.

## Liturgical Calendars

### From El Salvador

The Fundación Cristosal offers a liturgical calendar for 2003.

12 pages, wall-hanging size

Suggested donation \$10.00 each (including postage), 5 or more \$5 each.

Proceeds support the Office of Communication of the Anglican/Episcopal Church of El Salvador—a project of Cristosal. (<http://cristosal.org>)

To reserve your calendar for this year, or obtain some for friends, send a message to [info@cristosal.org](mailto:info@cristosal.org) or call Cristosal at 802 228-5452.

## deanery doings

Continued from Page J

\$45,000 donations would be appreciated and can be mailed to Champlain Valley CROPWALK '02, attn. Lucy Samara, c/o First Congregational Church, 38 South Winooski Ave., Burlington.

December adult forums at the CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, Burlington, feature Carmen Guerrero on Jubilee Ministries, Dec. 8, and Anne Clark and Sr. Ellen Stephen on monasticism in the Episcopal Church, Dec. 15 and 22. A monthly Program Night will gather the committees for children and youth, adult education, outreach, social justice, newcomers and stewardship for the opportunity to create an environment for each group to find a place in the greater parish community.

ST. ANDREW'S, Colchester, held a kick-off dinner to celebrate their capital campaign. Both the church school, with Michelle Viani as coordinator, and the youth group, with Holly Morehouse and Ginie Olson as leaders, are underway and active.

ST. JAMES', Essex Junction, will sell Christmas wreaths to benefit 7 year-old Jorge Daniel Cruz of the Episcopal Home of Love and Hope in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. As his sponsors, money is provided annually for food, shelter, clothing, medi-

cal care and education. Heather Fitch is new head of the youth group.

TRINITY, Shelburne, will resume hosting the Senior Community Luncheons Dec. 9, in the new common room and using the new kitchen. Missionary Mary Sherwood visited Nov. 10, to share her ministry in Madagascar, which Trinity has supported financially for several years.

ALL SAINTS', So. Burlington, had a special service to celebrate a Season of New Ministry with the Rev. Stuart Pierson on Oct. 27, with Bishop Ely in attendance. The Hanzls organized a Thanksgiving dinner for members and friends of the All Saints' community. Constance Germain (802-864-5118) continues to accept donations, particularly books, for the New Brighton School in South Africa.

CALVARY, Underhill, held their annual fundraiser during Underhill's September Harvest Market weekend. The Men's Group set up their Sausage and Pepper Booth and grill in front of the church in the morning, and in the evening, parishioners served a spaghetti dinner to approximately 350 people in a local school. Dinner items were donated by local businesses and parishioners brought homemade desserts. Dinner was accompanied by a silent auction and live music. ☩

## Newsletters and websites honored

Continued from Page A

**Special Mention** to the website of St. Peter's, Bennington ([members.truepath.com/St\\_Peters\\_Bennington](http://members.truepath.com/St_Peters_Bennington)), Randall B. Krum and Doug Eash, webmasters.

**Special Mention** to the website of St. Michael's, Brattleboro ([www.together.net/~smichael/](http://www.together.net/~smichael/)), Craig Newbert, webmaster.

#### General Excellence

##### Large Congregation Newsletters

(over 100 Sunday attendance)

**Award of Excellence** to the *Zion Episcopal Church Newsletter*, Zion, Manchester Center, Jennifer Richardson, editor.

**Honorable Mention** to *The Keystone*, of St. Peter's, Bennington, Janice Lincoln, editor.

**Honorable Mention** to *Logos* of Trinity Church, Rutland, Krey Kellington, editor.

#### General Excellence

##### Small Congregation Newsletters

(under 100 Sunday attendance)

**Award of Excellence** to *Light in the Shadows* of St. Luke's, Chester, Pat Fromberger, editor.

**Award of Excellence** to *Tides & Tidings* of St. Luke's, St. Albans, Sherrie Brown, editor.

**Special Mention** to *The Shepherd's Crook* of Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre, Alban Richey, editor, with associates Russell and Lori Belding.

**Special Mention** to *The Font* of St. John the Baptist, Hardwick, Margaret M. Schifft, editor.

**Special Mention** to *The Apostle* of St. John's in the Mountains, Stowe, Jenny Grosvenor, editor.

**Special Mention** to *St. Paul's Vine* of St.

Paul's, White River Junction, Dick Davis, editor.

#### Newsletter Appearance and Layout

**Award of Excellence** to *Zion Episcopal Church Newsletter* of Zion Church, Manchester Center, Jennifer Richardson, designer and editor.

**Honorable Mention** to *Light in the Shadows* of St. Luke's, Chester, Pat Fromberger, designer and editor.

#### Special Interest Story

**Award of Excellence** to "Chelsea's Sermon to St. Paul's" in *St. Paul's Vine* of St. Paul's, White River Junction, Chelsea Rector, writer, Paula Stevens and Dick Davis, editors.

**Award of Merit** to "Profile of Marjorie Strong" in *The Shepherd's Crook* of Good Shepherd, Barre, Russell and Lori Belding, writers, Alban Richey, editor.

**Award of Merit** to "A St. Luke's Profile: All About Robin White" in *Light in the Shadows* of St. Luke's, Chester, Bonnie Watters, writer, Pat Fromberger, editor.

**Honorable Mention** to "Nenorod Comes to Life" in *Zion Episcopal Church Newsletter*, Zion Church, Manchester Center, Jennifer Richardson, writer and editor.

#### Spiritual/Devotional/Theological Reflection Column

**Award of Excellence** to an untitled sermon excerpt in *The Shepherd's Crook* of Good Shepherd, Barre, the Rev. Dr. Nancy Bloomer, writer, Alban Richey, editor, with associates, Russell and Lori Belding.

**Award of Merit** to "Comfort Ye, My People" in *Zion Episcopal Church Newsletter* of Zion Church, Manchester Center, the Rev. John S. Mitchell, writer, Jennifer Richardson, editor. ☩

## Diocesan Calendar

### December 2002

- 4 Executive Committee, Christ Church, Montpelier, 1 PM  
**4 Deadline, January Mountain Echo**  
 6-8 Jubilee Weekend [see Page E for schedule]  
 7 Diocesan Council, Trinity, Rutland, Noon  
 8 Bishop's Visitation, Zion, Manchester  
 14 Diocesan Study Program, St. Mary's, Northfield  
 14 Safe Church Training, St. Thomas', Brandon, 8:45 AM  
 15 Bishop's visitation, St. Andrew's, Colchester  
 17 Clergy Day, St. John's, Randolph, 10 AM-2 PM  
 17 Standing Committee, St. John's, Randolph, 2 PM  
 20 Rock Point Board, Diocesan Center, 10 AM  
 25-31 Diocesan Center Closed for Christmas Holidays

### January 2003

- 1 Diocesan Center Closed for New Year's Day  
 5 Bishop's visitation, Calvary, Underhill  
**8 Deadline, February Mountain Echo**  
 8 Executive Committee, Christ Church, Montpelier, 1 AM  
 10-11 Standing Committee & Commission on Ministry retreat with postulants and candidates, BBCC  
 12 Bishop's visitation, Christ Church, Montpelier  
 17 Cully Lecture, St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington, 7:30 PM  
 18 Workshop with Dr. Harold Lewis, Central Vermont location to be announced, 10 AM-2 PM

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## Diocesan Youth Committee Calendar

For more information about the activities of the Diocesan Youth Committee, contact Keri & Alden Franzoni  
 1491 Vermont Route 108  
 Jeffersonville, VT 05464  
 802-644-8989

- Jan. TBA Senior High Event Planning Meeting  
 March 7-9 Senior High Event  
 May TBA DYC Year End Meeting

## The J. Warren and Lois McClure Discipleship-Discovery 2000 Fund

### Funds Available for Parish Use As of October 1, 2002

<b>Total Pledged</b>	<b>\$1,600,000</b>
<b>Pledges Received (92%)</b>	<b>\$1,464,545</b>
<b>Funds available:</b>	
Initiative I	
The Bishop Butterfield Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 395,292
Initiative II	
The Talent and Resource Network	\$ 16,194
Initiative III	
The Congregation Renewal and Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 9,200
Initiative IV	
The Diocesan Outreach Fund	\$ 12,116

Appropriate uses for each initiative, application forms and requirements may be found in the Diocesan Handbook. For further information, please call the Diocesan Office.

## Archbishop visits Vermont

by Lee Alison Crawford

During a brief weekend-long visit in late October, the Most Rev. Martín Barahona, Archbishop of the Anglican Church of the Central Region of America (IARCA), experienced both Vermont hospitality and snow.

In Vermont meeting with the Executive Committee of Fundación Cristosal, a foundation for the support of the Anglican Church of El Salvador, Bishop Barahona also presided and preached at a bi-lingual (English and Spanish) Holy Eucharist at Church of Our Saviour, Killington. Members of the Three Rivers Regional Ministry turned out for a festive service and potluck, despite the inclement weather.

The next morning, Bishop Barahona presented a forum and preached at the 11:15 service at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington. He spoke of the history of the Anglican Church in El Sal-

vador, noting particularly its emergence from an English-speaking church that ministered to ex-patriots to a church that is fully Salvadoran. Barahona is the first native Salvadoran Anglican bishop, consecrated in 1992; at the time, he was serving in Panamá, as a priest in exile.

The Anglican Church of El Salvador (IAES) is known for its inclusivity and willingness to engage in struggles for justice. It played an important role during the peace negotiations of the early 1990s. More recently, it provided great spiritual and material support in the aftermath of the 2001 earthquakes. In conjunction with IAES, Episcopal Relief and Development is working on three reconstruction projects, one of which will be dedicated early next year.

Bishop Barahona was elected in April 2002 as the second Archbishop of IARCA, succeeding the Most Rev. Cornelius Wilson of



Lee Crawford photo

Costa Rica, who died in August 2002. IARCA was officially recognized as an independent province of the Anglican Communion in 1997 at the Philadelphia General Convention.

The Rev. Lee Crawford is rector of St. Mary's, Northfield.

## St. Mary's celebrates 151 years of ministry

by Anne Brown

St. Mary's Parish, Northfield, celebrated its 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of incorporation on the Feast of Saint Luke, October 18, with a 1789 Eucharist followed by a potluck supper. Bishop Thomas Ely presided at the historical liturgy, and St. Mary's current and 25th rector, the Rev. Lee Alison Crawford, preached.

Former rector, Frank Wismer (1978-1983), interim rector, Nancy Bloomer (1993-1994), and former parishioner, now priest, Gordon Bardos (St. Thomas' and Grace) participated in the service. Family members of former rectors also attended the festivities: George Nitchie, whose father, Francis Nitchie, served St. Mary's for 29 years before leaving the parish in 1952, Maggie Miller, whose husband, Herschel Miller, led the congregation from 1956-1961, and Nadya Goldsmith, whose husband, Daniel Goldsmith, was rector from 1961-1964. Together with present members, they



Anne Clarke Brown photo

Scott Neal (left foreground) led the St. Mary's choir in two works by William Billings. Others are (left to right) Gina Logan, Brett Murphy, Phil Ambrose, Lee Alison Crawford, Carol Murphy, Liz Reid, and Beth Neal.

represented nearly 70 years of St. Mary's history.

The 1789 liturgy celebrated is one the founders of St. Mary's would have used. In keeping with the historically appropriate atmosphere, St. Mary's choir sang two acapella choral pieces by late 18<sup>th</sup>-century American composer, William Billings.

After the service, about 100 parishioners, family and friends gathered at the Community Room at the Brown Public Library for an 1850s-style Harvest Dinner. Pa-

rishioner and historian Mary Denny assembled a gallery of photographs dating from the late 1800s to the present day which was on display. Guests also had an opportunity to contribute their memories to a "living time-line."

Lee Crawford said, "St. Mary's truly is in its prime and has recommitted itself to sowing seeds of God's grace, that the Parish may continue to be a witness to the God of Hope in this century and the years to come." ☩

## Trustees announce distributions from the diocesan Unit Funds

The Investment Committee of the Trustees of the Diocese of Vermont received from the Chittenden Bank the report of the performance of the diocesan Unit Stock and Bond Funds in late October. According to the Trustees, high unit valuations in the Unit Stock Fund during 1999 and 2000 are being replaced by lower current valuations. The effect will be a gradual reduction in distributions from the funds over the next year or two.

Distributions are set at 5% per year of a moving average of unit values.

The December 31, 2002 distribution from the Unit Stock Fund will be \$ 0.12514 per unit, compared to the \$ 0.13667 distribution for the same period in 2001. The December 31, 2002 distribution from the Unit Bond Fund will be \$ 0.10518 per unit, compared to the \$ 0.10318 distribution for the same period in 2001.

☩

### Thank you!

Many thanks to the clergy, staff and people of St. Paul's Cathedral for the hospitality offered to the Diocesan Convention and to those at Trinity, Rutland, Christ Church, Montpelier, and Saint Michael's, Brattleboro for hosting this year's Diocesan Regional Days. Thanks to all who contributed to the success of the Regional Days and Convention.

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