



## Immanuel Ministry Support Team commissioned and ordained

by Lee Alison Crawford

In a festive Holy Eucharist on the Vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, Saturday June 7, 2003, the congregation of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, celebrated everyone's baptism with the commissioning and ordination of the Ministry Support Team. Bishop Thomas Ely invited all present to reaffirm their commitment to the apostolic ministry of guarding the faith, unity and discipline of the church by proclamation of Christ's resurrection, interpreting the gospel and sharing in the renewal of God's world. He then commissioned Gloria Mansfield to be Education Coordinator and Jean Fuller, Steven Fuller, Charles Mansfield and Gloria Mansfield to be Stewardship Coordinators. Theodore (Ted) King was commissioned as Ecumenical Coordinator. Mary Haas, Victor Horvath and Ted King were licensed as Preachers. Bishop Ely ordained Mary Haas and Charles Mansfield to the sacred order of deacons and Steven Fuller and Victor Horvath to the sacred order of priests. Lastly, Margaret (Peggy) Crane was recognized as Rector of Immanuel.

The liturgy marked the culmination of a long journey and the start of an exciting new chapter in the life of Immanuel Church. In July 1997, everyone in the congregation was invited to join in the task of 'making the map as we walk the path.' The nine who responded to this invitation called themselves 'The Mapmakers.' Work done in this small group, along with church-wide discussion, took place over the next two years, culminating in a discernment process. The congregation identified those in their midst who had particular gifts, and out of this prayerful examination 18 people were invited in 1999 to form a covenant group. Ultimately, eight

people were able to make the commitment of time and energy to a three-year program of study. Those who were identified as deacons and priests went through the necessary examinations required by the canons of the church; however, whenever the group went before the Commission on Ministry, it went as a whole, not just as those who would be ordained.

Preaching at the June 7 service, the Rev. Steve Kelsey spoke to all about their baptismal ministry, pointing out that God calls each person to be a witness to God in the world. He emphasized how the ministry that is happening in the church needs to be shared with the world—no matter what people do, they should share it in the world about them. Finally, he told the Covenant Group that what was about to happen, their commissioning and ordination, had ramifications beyond the Diocese of Vermont. He said that he had been in Maine the day before and when he told people where he was going, they responded, "Oh Bellows Falls! We know about them."

While each congregation in the Diocese of Vermont might go through a slightly different process of discernment, Immanuel has shown what is possible when people listen to God's call in their lives. The words of the sung final blessing, written by Peggy Crane in 1978, fittingly reminded all of their baptismal ministry: "Let us go forth together to love and serve the Lord; to use with wisdom the gifts and talents entrusted to us; to work as one body, to heal hurts and strengthen one another, that we may increase in love daily, until God's peace is complete on the earth."

The Rev. Lee Alison Crawford is Chair of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry.



Anne Clarke Brown photo

Participants in the commissioning and ordination service at Immanuel, Bellows Falls (an asterisk indicates Ministry Support Team member). Seated: Barbara Plumley (presenter) LeAnn Winter (reception coordinator), Margaret Crane\* and Gloria Mansfield\*. Standing: Steve Kelsey (preacher), Jean Fuller\*, Diana Collins (deacon), Charles Mansfield\*, Bishop Thomas Ely, Mary Haas\*, Victor Horvath\*, Ed Tarvitt (presenter), Steven Fuller\*, Ted King\*, and Sara Crosby (acolyte).

## Council continues budget discussion

by Anne Clarke Brown

Members of Diocesan Council addressed a very full agenda at their meeting June 14, at Trinity Church, Shelburne. Included along with reports from the bishop and the various diocesan committees were a report on the status of the strategic planning pro-

cess, a presentation on stewardship, and continued discussion about how to achieve a balanced budget for 2004.

### Strategic Plan

The Rev. Craig Smith told the council that over 75% of the congregations in the diocese had sessions with the facilitators trained in the "planning" process. "It was a good experience for those who went out to do the process in the parishes, and they came back energized." He noted that the consultant, Craig Collemer, was impressed by the lack of negative response and said the diocese is "in a very good place."

Peter Galbraith said the session for facilitators to report their findings "was very exciting and energizing. It told me that council member visits to parishes might be worthwhile continuing." Nancy Bower agreed, saying, "It counts as someone other than their parish caring about them."

The summaries of the data compiled by the planning gatherings have been forwarded to congregations for feedback by August 15. Smith said that before the Strategic Planning Committee moves ahead with a draft plan, they want vestries to look at the summaries to let the committee know, "Yes, we are on target—or not."

### Stewardship

The Rev. Con Quinby, who co-chairs the diocesan Stewardship Committee with Genie Rayner, spoke to the council about developing a council stewardship statement.

## Vermont contingent prepares for General Convention



Anne Clarke Brown photo

Vermont Deputy Lee Alison Crawford (left), Bishop Thomas Ely, and New Hampshire Bishop Coadjutor Elect Gene Robinson (center) join others at the Province One pre-General Convention gathering in singing Hymn 603. Seven other Vermonters attended the provincial orientation event.

by Anne Clarke Brown

The Diocese of Vermont will be well-represented at the 74<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church, not only in the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies, but also behind the scenes and at the Triennial Meeting of Episcopal Church Women. Many members of the Vermont contingent attended a pre-General Convention conference for members of the Province of New England in Holyoke, Massachusetts, June 20-21, where they had an opportunity to learn about the workings of Convention and discuss some of the issues that will be addressed.

The General Convention will meet in Minneapolis, July 29-August 8, under the theme, "Engage God's Mission: receive, repent, reconcile, restore." The House of Deputies—more than 800 clergy and lay members—and the House of Bishops—some 300 active and retired members—meet once every three years to elect members of various church bodies and

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# Looking towards the General Convention

by the Right Reverend Thomas Clark Ely, Bishop of Vermont

On July 28<sup>th</sup> Ann and I will leave for Minneapolis to join our diocesan deputation and the other bishops and deputations of the Episcopal Church for the 74<sup>th</sup> General Convention. This will be my first General Convention as a bishop. In 2000, I was a deputy from the Diocese of Connecticut. As we head to General Convention, I am mindful of the many important matters that will be before us as we meet around the theme of **Engage God's Mission**. Two matters that directly affect our church's mission and ministry to, with and by gay and lesbian persons have already gained broad attention. I thought it would be helpful to be clear with you about my thinking regarding these matters.

The first is the election of the Reverend Canon Gene Robinson as Bishop Coadjutor of New Hampshire. By our Episcopal Church Canons, the General Convention must vote its consent to this election before his ordination and consecration can proceed. There are nine other recently elected bishops whose elections must also be confirmed by General Convention. The New Hampshire election has drawn the most attention of these ten, because Gene is living in a committed relationship with his partner, Mark Andrew.

Many of us in Vermont know Gene through his ministry as Executive Secretary for Province One. I have known Gene for over twenty years, since our early days of youth ministry together. More to the point,

the people of New Hampshire know Gene and his ministry. After following the same canonical procedures that Vermont did when you elected me to serve as your bishop, the Diocese of New Hampshire elected Gene Robinson to serve as their bishop. I believe Gene will be a fine bishop, and I intend to give my consent to this election. Our Diocesan Council and Standing Committee have both voted and communicated their support of this election and have sent their congratulations and best wishes to our neighbor diocese to the east. I am mindful that not everyone in the Diocese of Vermont will agree with me on this matter, and I welcome conversation with those who hold a different point of view.

The second matter of importance in our engagement of God's mission among gay and lesbian persons is the church's blessing for those living in faithful, committed same gender relationships. Proposed legislation would authorize the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to draft a liturgy (or liturgies) for the blessing of same gender relationships for inclusion in the Book of Occasional Services. The next General Convention in 2006 would then vote whether to approve the proposed liturgy.

Since all proposed legislation is first

referred to committees, it is impossible to say at this point exactly what legislation (if any) will be debated and acted on at General Convention with respect to this matter. None the less there is, and will continue to be, considerable discussion around this topic.

Let me be clear about what I desire in this regard. My deepest longing is that we will find a way through this conversation that is affirming of the full inclusion of gay and lesbian persons in the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church and of their ministries that are already so much a part of who we are as the Episcopal Church here in the Diocese of Vermont and beyond.

That means, among other things, finding a way to offer the Church's blessing upon persons living in committed same gender relationships. From my perspective, there is simply too much at stake for the church not to move forward in this direction. The tension between continuity and innovation will always be part of who we are as God's people on a journey, and now is one of those times when we need to heed and embrace God's word from the prophet Isaiah, "*Behold I am doing a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it.*"

My other desire is that the Episcopal Church not experience deeper separation and division as a result of offering pastoral ministry to our gay and lesbian members. The way for that to happen is not to force people to go to a place they are not yet ready to go, but rather to make provision for those who are prepared to move forward to do so with integrity and without fear of reprisal. Perhaps if those who in good faith do not believe the church should move forward in this area of pastoral ministry could "suspend judgement for a season" it would allow the space we need in order to let the Holy Spirit "*lead us into all truth,*" as Jesus promised.

The ministry of gay and lesbian persons, lay and clergy alike, is significant in our diocese and for that I give thanks. Likewise, it is pastorally important for us to move forward with clarity about the church's blessing of those who wish to be joined in civil unions in our congregations. Therefore, in

*"The tension between continuity and innovation will always be part of who we are as God's people on a journey..."*



consultation with the Standing Committee and members of our General Convention Deputation, I am establishing a **Task Force on the Blessing of Persons Living in Same Gender Relationships**. The charge to this Task Force is to advise the Bishop and the Diocese regarding next steps in response to the actions of General Convention regarding the blessing of persons living in same gender relationships. I have asked the Very Reverend Kenneth Poppe, Dean of the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul and President of the Standing Committee, and Anne Clarke Brown, one of our Vermont Lay Deputies to General Convention, to co-chair this Task Force.

I want this Task Force in place prior to General Convention so that they are ready to meet following the convention. If the Minneapolis General Convention decides to move the Church forward in this matter, the Task Force will advise us on how we might do so most appropriately in Vermont. If the convention does not move the Church forward in this matter, then the Task Force will advise us on what direction we might take as a diocese with regard to the pastoral needs of our diocese and its people. Because of the good and effective track record of ministry with and by gay and lesbian persons, I believe the Diocese of Vermont is uniquely poised to offer leadership to the larger church in this matter. I will take an active role in this work of this Task Force.

As we head to General Convention, I ask your continued prayers for our diocesan deputation and me. We are hard at work reading through and digesting the volumes of reports, recommendations and resolutions that will come before us in Minneapolis. Knowing that you are holding us in your prayers means so very much to us.

Faithfully,

+ Thomas

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The Right Reverend Thomas Clark Ely, Bishop

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## MOUNTAIN ECHO

News of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont

Anne Clarke Brown, Editor

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## Views from the Frontier

by Martha Holden

At times I feel like a cable car. In a way we are all like cable cars. We are like cable cars because there is something running underneath the surface of our lives which, if grasped and latched on to, will draw us to our fulfillment and joy. In some ways we are unlike usual cable cars. Our cables do not run untouched by others. They may interweave with each other to create community and, potentially, the Kingdom of God. Another difference I have noticed is that sometimes we think that we are buses and that it is possible to find our fulfillment and joy roaming the streets. I have noticed too that our grasp on the cable needs regular

attention or else it slackens and we slide off course. But, I have also noticed, when I do slide off course, the cable is still right there, running directly underneath the surface of my life, wherever I am.

One way I refresh my grip on the cable is through prayer:

Open my mouth and this life, O Lord, to bless Your holy Name; cleanse my heart and my being from all vain, evil, obstructive, distracting or limiting thoughts, influences, patterns, habits, reflexes and accretions. Enlighten my understanding and kindle my affections that I may fittingly recite this office

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## Ask Sr. Bible Person

Do you have questions about the Bible?

If so, ask Sr. Bible Person and get the answers!

**Question:** I have attended three funerals in the past two weeks and was not surprised to hear Psalm 23 in the King James Version read on all three occasions. It's a beautiful and powerful psalm, but I do get tired of hearing the shepherd referred to *ad nauseum* as "he." There must have been some female shepherds in those days, which means the psalmist could have had a more inclusive image of God instead of just the usual "guy thing," right?

Impatient

**Dear Impatient:** I am a little reluctant to take this one on because "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want," is such a sacred cow in our culture and church, but, with real fear and trembling, I will give it a try.

Were there female shepherds in the psalmists' time? Of course. When Jacob went to his homeland to find a wife, he met Rachel at the well. What was she doing? Coming with the sheep. (Genesis 29:6) When Moses fled from Pharaoh, he went to Midian and sat down by a well. Then, "the seven daughters of the priest of Midian came to the well to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock." (Exodus 2:16) Eventually Moses married one of those daughters, Zipporah.

It is important at this point to recall that Zipporah later invented a new garment for shepherds. It was a cloak that was easily removed at a time of danger, such as when the shepherd/shepherdess had to chase away a predator. The garment she invented was fastened, of course, with a "zipper," the forerunner of our modern "zipper." Before this marvelous invention, many sheep were lost because it took so darned long for shepherds to get their cumbersome cloaks off! Fortunately, the shepherd boy David was wearing one of these cloaks when he encountered Goliath. (Note: according to the King James Version, Psalm 23 is a "psalm of David." If that is true, then David obviously knew that his cloak had been invented

by a female shepherd, therefore there is a good chance that he had a female image of the divine Shepherd in mind for Psalm 23, right?)

With these good female-shepherd precedents, even if they were the exceptions to the male-shepherd rule, I have often wondered why church nativity pageants don't include a few female shepherds. I mean, really. Can't a girl wear an old bathrobe just as well as a boy? Let's encourage our pageant directors to be a bit more faithful to the biblical tradition next Christmas, o.k.?

Moving beyond the biblical witness, though, let's remember some modern precedents that may be a bit fresher in terms of encouraging us to celebrate the work of female shepherds. For instance, in that wonderful hymn, "I sing a song of the saints of God" (the tune of which has such excellent Vermont roots!), we give honor in the first verse to "a shepherdess on the green." Most scholars have concluded that the author of this great hymn was referring to Joan of Arc, who indeed can be a dramatic symbol of a female shepherd, but I draw a different conclusion. Based on extensive research in the family diaries of Lesbia Scott, the author of the hymn, I have uncovered the fact that good old Lesbia loved nursery rhymes and that she actually was referring to Little Bo Peep in this hymn.

Regardless of which theory you accept—the Joan-of-Arc Theory or the Little Bo Peep Theory—I think you are certainly entitled to envision the divine Shepherd in either feminine or masculine terms. So, whether it is a divine "he" or a divine "she" who "maketh you to lie down in green pastures and leadeth you beside still waters," I do hope this little response to your question will be an aid to the work of our God, who "restoreth our souls" and "zipporeth the cloaks of righteousness about us..."

Send questions for Ask Sr. Bible Person in care of the editor (address on Page B.)

## Views from the Frontier

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and live this life with humility, attention, devotion, integrity, obedience, confidence, clarity, and joy, and so may be before the throne of your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ my Lord, Amen.

I have been thinking about this because I am now latched on to the cable in a new way. Our good Bishop has accepted me into the novitiate in order to test my vocation as a Diocesan Religious. A Diocesan Religious is someone who lives in the community, "in the world," supported by the traditional vows of poverty, chastity and obedience taken before the bishop. This novitiate supports my commitment to the cable and supports my letting go of any illusions that I am a bus. With the support of the novitiate, like with the vows I hope to take in a year or so, my grip on the cable becomes firmer. When my grip is more steadfast it seems that the cable is able to draw me through increasingly interesting landscape, and to use me in more interesting ways in the weaving of the Kingdom of God. This is my idea of fun.

Accept, O Lord, my entire being, my entire liberty, my life, my memory, my understanding, my body, my resources,

my health, my comfort, my defenses, my relationships, my attitudes, my reputation and my will. All that I am and have You have given to me, and I give all back to You to be used or disposed of according to Your good pleasure. Grant me only the comfort of Your presence and the joy of Your love. With these I shall be more than rich and shall desire nothing more.

There are other aspects of life as a cable car that further delight me. As cable cars, we each have our own route: everyone's way is unique and no one is left out of the weaving. Each of us gets to develop our own grip on the cable, and to be drawn toward our own unique fulfillment and joy. We do not need to know where the cable is taking us; we can just grab on, each in our own way, and trust it to take us where we most long to be. And nothing is wasted: even our slides away from the cable can be woven into the fabric of the kingdom. It is all good. May we trust and enjoy it. Amen.

[Prayers adapted from *The Monastic Diurnal Revised*, Sisters of St. Mary, 1989, p. xxxviii.]

Martha Holden is a member of Christ Church, Montpelier.

## John Morris is new DSP dean

by John Morris

The Rev. Larry Yarbrough has stepped down as Dean of the Diocesan Study Program (DSP) because of new commitments in his work on the Middlebury college faculty. Bishop Ely has appointed me as the new dean, and I am delighted to be reconnecting to the program and working with the teachers and students.

I taught the scripture courses to the Montpelier class in 1996 and to the Rutland class in 1999. Also, I served as interim dean for a year after Gunnar Urang retired and before Larry Yarbrough began serving as the dean three years ago.

In thinking about the way the Diocesan Study Program has recently been reconfigured, I am wondering if "dean" is actually the most appropriate title for what I will be doing. For many years, the DSP was a three-year study program that was somewhat "curriculum driven." The emphasis was on inviting students to do academic work in the areas of Spirituality, Scripture, Church History, Theology, Anglicanism, Ethics, and Liturgy, and the faculty was composed of teachers with expertise in these various areas. In that model, it made sense to give the coordinator of the program the title of "dean." But now things are different.

Two years ago, after a thorough evaluation of the program, DSP was reconfigured to make it less focused on a curriculum and

more focused on creating a community of people who want to journey together for two years and explore the Christian faith at a deeper level. In this new model, the students are accompanied by the same leaders for the entire program, with resource people invited to share their knowledge and experience with the class as specific needs arise.

Since this new model of DSP is centered less on an academic curriculum and more on bringing to birth a community of people who are on a faith journey together, I am wondering if a new title for my work is needed. I toyed with the idea of "midwife," but that word has some gender difficulties if applied to me. (Is there such a word as "midhusband?") Anyway, regardless of the title, I look forward to the "birth" of the next group of DSPers.

We are now in the process of putting together a leadership team for the new class. Our hope is to begin the class this fall, instead of waiting until winter. (The current DSP class, led by Lee Crawford and Anne Brown, began work together in Killington in January.) I invite people who have any interest in the program to contact me (home phone: 802-439-6599) so I can respond to specific questions and inform prospective students about arrangements for the new class.

The Rev. John Morris is priest-in-charge at St. Martin's, Fairlee.

## Reflections on ecumenism (Part 1)

by Ben Chase

God has a noticeable way of grinding down behavior that is obstructive to the deepening of religious faith. It is called "death." Despite our luxury to exercise our free will, God has a potent way to even things out. I expect that my guardian angel will voice a sigh of relief when my own humanity stops getting in the way of God, and in some cases the same might be true of yours. This is not to imply that we are nasty earthly creatures, but to remind us that we can be dangerously provincial when it comes to our religious beliefs and woefully self-purposed. We undertake our religious activity in a most casual manner. All too often we operate inside our own created space, avoiding the territorial breadth of the Kingdom of God. We repeatedly exercise our own will and represent it as God's will without binding it first to a thoroughgoing search of what God might want. It's OK to dress casually, but "Casual Christianity" is a bit too relaxed to be tolerated totally.

The word "casual" is derived from a Latin word meaning "depending on chance," and as a noun or adjective it means something that happens without "design or previous intention." There is nothing accidental about Christianity. God's revelations in Christ are manifestations of deliberateness.

I suspect that one of the bigger gripes my guardian angel has about me is my laxidastical attitude towards ecumenism. Ecumenism is not an issue to be sidelined. Church history books, written in the twentieth century, suggest that that century is

highlighted by its ecumenical activity. Now that we are in the twenty-first century, it is worth speculating whether or not the ecumenism of our present century will be defined by missed opportunities.

At the recent National Workshop on Christian Unity held in Savannah, Georgia, 300 delegates assembled for the fortieth annual national gathering of leaders of Christian communities dedicated to ecumenism. Bishop Ely is the leader of such a community, and I was sent as the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer of our diocese. Once again, I heard the following proclamation: "Ecumenism is not a church program, it is a mandate of Christ." In the next issue of the *Mountain Echo* I will seek to convey the gist of that meeting, but there is a need to preface this report by stating that most of us are much too casual about ecumenism.

Bob Clayton, whose ministry carried Vermont forward in ecumenical matters for so many years, was a determined ecumenist. Peg Hamlin, his co-worker, continues to be at the forefront of ecumenism in this diocese. Her guardian angel is certainly well pleased with her. Prayerfully, under Tom's Episcopal leadership and his role as Vice President of the Vermont Ecumenical Council, our diocesan family will increasingly find itself incarnating Christ's directive that we be one. We might not like mandates, but this is one that won't go away.

The Rev. Ben Chase, a former rector of Christ Church, Montpelier, has recently served the Anglican Church in the Persian Gulf region.

*Letters to the Editor* (300 words or fewer) and *Opinion* articles on any relevant topic are welcome and encouraged. **Letters must have a name and phone number or email address so 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*

Brookhaven

1953 – 2003

The Trustees and Staff of Brookhaven Children and Family Services  
invite you to share our Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, August 10, 2003

Main Street

Chelsea, Vermont

Open House and Tours at 3:00 P.M.

Program at 3:30 P.M.

Refreshments at 4:00 P.M.

Special Guest: The Right Reverend Thomas C. Ely

Please R.S.V.P. by July 25 — 800-585-4458

## More Coming Events

### Arts at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

2 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont

#### Art Shows

**July:** Monotypes by Lina Lou Nordstrom.

**Aug. 5–Sept. 1:** Twenty-five photos by Linda Hollingdale from *Creating Civil Union: Opening Hearts and Minds*, a recently published collection of photos and essays.

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

### Peasant Market

Saturday, July 5, 2003, 9:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M., rain or shine

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Middlebury, Vermont

Please come and enjoy a fine fair—in the church and on the Town Green—and help St. Stephen's raise money for local causes. The large variety of booths includes: country cupboard (homemade crafts), baked goods, antiques and collectibles, toys, vintage clothing, books, white elephants, plants, and sporting goods. There will be a midway of children's games. Lunch will be served, and homemade lemonade and smoothies will be available. There will also be a silent auction of all sorts of items.

### Majesty in the Mountains: Celebrate Jesus 2003!

A Concert of Worship and Praise

Saturday, July 5, 2003, 4:00 P.M.–10:00 P.M.

Hunter Park Amphitheater, Riley Rink, Manchester, Vermont

The gates open at 2:00 P.M. for the concert sponsored by Celebration Ministries of Arlington. Featured will be the Noel Richards Band from England, the Danny Daniels Band from Colorado, the Owen Hurter Band from Canada, Lauren Johnson from North Carolina, local praise and worship teams and an area-wide children's choir.

Space is limited. Tickets are \$35 /adult, \$15/child 12 and under, and may be purchased on-line at [www.itickets.com](http://www.itickets.com) or by calling 1-800-965-9324.

### 79th annual St. James' Church Fair

Thursday, July 10, 2003, 10:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M., rain or shine

Church Green opposite Town Hall, Woodstock, Vermont

Bargains of all kinds: clothing for all ages (some nearly new), jewelry, books, fabrics and linens, white elephants, toys, baked goods, rummage. Also plants and garden vegetables. Lunch available. For more information: (802) 457-1727 mornings.

## Sudanese bishop will speak in Shelburne

by Bill Hogan

Bishop Nathaniel Garang Anyieth of the Diocese of Bor, Sudan, will give a talk and lead discussion about the Church in Sudan on **Sunday, July 6, at 5:30 P.M.** in the McClure Room, at Trinity Episcopal Church, Shelburne. Refreshments will follow, and all are welcome.

Bishop Garang and a small group of priests and elders are coming to the Burlington area at the invitation of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont and the Sudanese community here. Trinity member David Kuol Thuom of Winooski said, "Bishop Garang is a very great man; we didn't know how to worship God until he taught us."

Bishop Garang helped start the Kakuma Camp in Kenya, which housed the 20,000 Lost Boys, as they have come to be called by the media. The goal of this visit will be to encourage the Sudanese community in general and specifically the young men who have come from the Kakuma Camp to settle in the Burlington area.

The Bishop of Bor has been a leader in the Episcopal Church of Sudan since he was a young man, and his remarkable story includes the building of a diocese 250,000 members strong in the face of persecution and a long and bloody civil war. For more information call: Bill Hogan, 985-4940; or the Rev. Craig Smith, 985-2269.

## Festival of liturgy and the arts to explore "Visions of the Divine"

The St. James' Episcopal Church Festival of Liturgy and the Arts 2003, scheduled for **July 17-20, 2003**, in Woodstock, will explore "Visions of the Divine," with a focus on the contrasting approaches of the Eastern and Western Christian churches.

The 2003 Festival, structured around seven worship services, will include lectures, workshops, a hymn sing, liturgical drama, and art shows focusing on iconography and other approaches to depicting God. Pentangle Council for the Arts will co-sponsor the drama and a concert of secular and sacred music in the Woodstock Town Hall Theater. Musical participants in the Festival will include the Downing College Choir from Cambridge University, England, the Holy Resurrection Church Choir, Claremont, NH, and the Alternatives, a Boston-based sacred music ensemble.

The schedule starts on Thursday evening with a keynote talk, "Eastern and Western Christian Traditions," by The Rev'd Canon J. Robert Wright of General Theological Seminary of NYC, and a Tudor Evensong by Downing College Choir.

Friday features educational programs in the morning and afternoon, complemented by worship services, including an evening Orthodox service of Vespers, and a staged reading of "JB" by Archibald MacLeish, depicting the relation of humans with God.

Saturday morning, the focus will be on hymns and congregational music, and in the afternoon on the visual arts, with gallery talks and exhibitions. The evening will feature another Evensong and the concert at Town Hall Theater.

The Sunday morning Eucharist will bring all of the Festival's resources together for a grand liturgical offering, including a Mozart setting of the Mass.

There will be workshops Sunday afternoon, and Bishop Thomas Ely will be the celebrant at a final Evensong in the English tradition.

For a brochure with the complete schedule, contact St. James' Episcopal Church, On the Green, Woodstock VT 05091; 802-457-1727; [sjeparish@aol.com](mailto:sjeparish@aol.com); or visit [www.dioceseofvermont.org](http://www.dioceseofvermont.org) and click on the link on the home page. ❖

## Christ Church offers summer series

by Karen Speerstra

The people of Christ Church in Bethel invite everyone to a free summer series at their historical Old Christ Church on Highway 12 between Randolph and Bethel. The series covers a thought-provoking array of topics and is entitled: "Communities Together: Coping With and Serving Our Complex World." Presented by Christ Church members and affiliates, the series begins on July 6, and will run through August 31. Each session starts at 11:15 A.M., immediately after the 10 o'clock Sunday service and snacks, to which everyone is also welcome.

Kicking the series off on July 6, with "Seeing Voices: Signs of a Strong Community" will be the Reverend Diane Root, Canon Missioner of Three Rivers Ministry, who is an avid learner of American Sign Language and Deaf culture.

On July 13, Bill Pedersen, who served for thirteen years with the Environmental Protection Agency both as the US government's chief Clean Air Act Lawyer and as Deputy General Counsel, before entering private law practice, will present "Protecting the Environment: Personal Responsibility or Public Activism?"

On July 27, Ellen Frost, a former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense and former Counselor to the U.S. Trade Representative, will present "Policy and Politics: Understanding Bush's Foreign Policy."

On August 3, Walter Rockwood will lead a discussion of "The Plus Side of GMO's." He will base his comments on knowledge gained by working closely with scientists doing biotechnology research 1976-99 and on his observations of needs for agricultural development in West Africa 1971-88.

On August 10, Marcia Holroyd will present "Caring for Creation: Justice, Compassion and Reconciliation." She has been active on the Connecticut Diocesan Committee on the Environment and a member of the Earth Ministry Leadership Team for the InterReligious Eco-Justice Network in Hartford.

"Reaching Out With Music," a flute concert by Vanessa Holroyd will follow

the worship service on August 17th. In 2002, she won third prize in the National Flute Competition in Washington, DC. In 1998, she founded Anima, an elite group of conservatory-trained, professional musicians who perform throughout the Boston and New England area.

On August 24, Dick McCormack, a Vermont State Senator from 1989-2003 and Senate Majority Leader for five of those years, will present "Patient Control at the End of Life: The Role of the State, the Role of the Church."

The final presentation in the summer series on August 31, will be led by The Very Reverend David M. Gillespie on "Reconciliation: In Our Hearts, Within Our Communities, and Among Global Powers."

It is appropriate that diverse voices are heard throughout Christ Church's summer series, since Christ Church is a community striving to be welcoming, open, and inclusive. *Out in the Mountains* lists Christ Church as one of several Episcopal parishes openly welcoming Vermont's gays and lesbians. Christ Church recognizes that all baptized Christians are called to be ministers of the good news of Jesus Christ.

For further information or clarification contact Karen Speerstra, [Kspeerstra@aol.com](mailto:Kspeerstra@aol.com).

### St. Andrew's seeks musician

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, St. Johnsbury, Vermont is in need of an organist and/or pianist and choir director. The Sunday service is at 9 A.M. during the summer months and at 10 A.M. in the fall. We are a lively and growing congregation with a small choir and liturgical dancers. We use the 1982 Hymnal, the supplement to the 1982 Hymnal, Taizé chants and other special music as well. If interested, please call the Rev. Jeanette Tweedy at 748-2121 (office) or 626-3942 (home), or email her at [standrew@kingcon.com](mailto:standrew@kingcon.com).

# Vermonters prepare for General Convention

Continued from Page A

to consider resolutions dealing with the Episcopal Church's constitution, canons, liturgical resources, budget and missionary, educational and social programs. Worship is central to the life of Convention, with daily morning Eucharist and Bible sharing.

To date, over 200 resolutions have been filed, and more are expected. Passage requires a majority in both houses. Three fourths of those resolutions are in the "Blue Book" a compilation of reports from the Executive Council and the standing commissions, committees, boards and agencies of the church (the Blue Book may be downloaded at [www.churchpublishing.org/general\\_convention](http://www.churchpublishing.org/general_convention)).

Before reaching the floor of either house, all legislation is assigned to one of twenty-five committees, who take testimony in open hearings and sometimes rework the resolutions for presentation to the houses with recommendations. Six Vermont deputies are assigned to committees (a list of Vermont deputies and alternates, with their committee assignments, is at [www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/GCDeputies03.htm](http://www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/GCDeputies03.htm)).

Much of the organizational work is managed in the secretariats of the two houses, and the managers of both offices for this convention are Vermonters: Canon Lynn Bates will head up the House of Bishops' secretariat (among her aides will be Hilary Cooke), and the Rev. Jane Garrett, aided by Gina Logan and others, will head the House of Deputies' secretariat.

Those interested in following the work of Convention will find resources and daily re-

ports on the website of the Episcopal Church ([www.episcopalchurch.org/gc/gc2003](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/gc/gc2003)). A daily newspaper is printed at Convention, and it will be available in PDF format on the website. Episcopal News Service will post stories daily, and the Vermont website will be updated with reports about issues of particular interest to this diocese. Outlined below are just a few of the many important issues before Convention.

## Ministry Canons

Over the last six years, the Standing Commission on Ministry Development has worked to overhaul the church's canons that outline the ministry of laypersons, deacons and priests (Title III). Convention will be asked to consider such questions as whether priests should be ordained without first having been ordained "transitional" deacons; whether the distinction between seminary trained (Canon 7) and locally trained (Canon 9) priests should be removed; and which ministries of the non-ordained should be licensed. All have implications for ministry in Vermont.

## 20/20 Movement

Initiated in 1998 and endorsed by the last General Convention, the 20/20 movement is a commitment to being a "healthy, dynamic, inviting church, reflective of the diversity of our society, deeply rooted in faith and the gospel" and to doubling the church's baptized membership by the year 2020. Over twenty resolutions address this effort, ranging from creating new worship resources to funding new churches, to a national ad campaign for the Episcopal Church.

## Diocesan Council

Continued from Page A

He said, "A lot of people approach giving as paying dues. We are trying to help them not to be dues payers but to be generous givers, generous and thankful." He noted that when the leadership says, "This is what we believe and are committed to, and we invite you to participate in this process, it works better than the approaches that are based on shoulds and oughts and guilt."

A concern that giving may be tied to accountability to a particular agenda elicited a response from the Rev. Christina Brannock-Wanter. She said, "If God started withholding because God didn't like what we do with his love, we'd be up a creek. Thanks be to God, it's God's agenda and not my agenda."

Council members agreed to discuss a process for developing a stewardship statement at the September meeting.

## 2004 Budget

Craig Smith said the Executive Committee had met twice to consider ways to bring the initial draft budget into balance. The original "askings" for the various budget line items had exceeded anticipated income by \$188,273. With the availability of some additional revenues from Holy Trinity, Swanton (\$25,000) and funds available to the bishop (\$6,400) and the Hunt Fund (\$28,000), and cuts proposed by the Executive Committee, the budget still shows a deficit of nearly \$50,000.

The Executive Committee, said Smith, had identified ideas for completing the budget process and he asked council members to meet in small groups to discuss concrete proposals for identifying additional income and additional cuts.

All the small groups expressed interest in an appeal to parishes to commit addi-

tional funds for the diocese in their 2004 budgets. Parishes are asked each year for a contribution based on a percentage of their operating income for a prior year. For 2004, the request is based on 2002 budget figures. (To see the current chart, go to [www.dioceseofvermont.org](http://www.dioceseofvermont.org) and click on the link under "2003 Diocesan Convention.")

The Rev. Diane Root reported that the Executive Committee of Church of Our Saviour, Killington, had already agreed to offer additional funds for the diocesan budget. They have voted to add \$522, an amount equal to 10% of their diocesan contribution (set at \$5,218 for 2004), to their outreach budget, earmarked for the diocese. They hope others will be inspired to make similar commitments.

The Executive Committee will consider this and other suggestions in preparing a final draft budget for presentation to council in September. Council must at that point agree on a budget to be presented to the annual Diocesan Convention in November.

## Other Business

The council considered the following additional items:

- Defeated a motion to achieve the 21% asking for the national church by 2009 (the current draft budget shows a contribution of 12.75%).
- Ratified the appointment of a new Christian Education Task Force.
- Adopted standard fees for consultants to congregations.
- Approved use of excess funds from 2001 to upgrade computers in the Diocesan Center.
- Sent congratulations to the Diocese of New Hampshire on the election of Gene Robinson as Bishop Coadjutor. ❖

## Consent to bishops' elections

The House of Deputies and bishops with jurisdiction must consent by majority vote to elections of bishops occurring within 120 days of a General Convention. At other times, consent is given by bishops and Standing Committees. At this convention, ten elections will be considered, including the election of the Rev. Canon Gene Robinson as Bishop Coadjutor of New Hampshire. His election is controversial because he is a gay man living in a partnered relationship. Bishop Ely and the Vermont deputation have said they will vote to consent to his election.

## Blessings

Resolution D039sa approved at the Denver General Convention acknowledged the existence of life-long committed relationships other than marriage and stated expectations that those relationships be "characterized by fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, careful, honest

communication, and the holy love which enables those in such relationships to see in each other the image of God..." A final clause in that resolution calling for the preparation of rites that would enable the church to express support for such relationships narrowly failed to gain approval.

The Minneapolis convention will again be asked to authorize the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to prepare such rites for inclusion in the Book of Occasional Service and present them for approval at the 2006 General Convention. The House of Bishops recently received (note that it neither approved nor rejected) a report from its Theology Committee concluding that, "we believe it is imperative that the Episcopal Church refrain from any attempt to 'settle' the matter legislatively. For a season at least, we must acknowledge and live with the great pain and discomfort of our disagreements." Others believe that the time is right for beginning the process of developing appropriate liturgical resources. ❖

## Salvadoran church consecrated

### UTO funds rebuilding and expansion after earthquake

by Lee Alison Crawford

On Sunday, June 15, 2003, the Feast of the Holy Trinity, the Anglican/Episcopal congregation of la Iglesia Episcopal de Santísima Trinidad, San Martín, El Salvador, celebrated their return to their church. The Right Rev. Martín Barahona, Bishop of the Anglican Church of El Salvador and Primate of the Anglican Church of the Region of Central America, presided at the festive two-and-a-half-hour service of the consecration of a new church, receptions and the Holy Eucharist.

The congregation of Santísima Trinidad started meeting in a urban neighborhood some fifteen years ago under the pastoral leadership of the Rev. David Alvarado. From its birth to 1996, the congregation met outside in the middle of the *barrio* (neighborhood) on one of the few green spaces available. The Rev. Hannah Atkins, who lived in El Salvador for two years in the mid-1990s, and who was the first woman ordained to the priesthood in El Salvador, led the church from a sidewalk ambience to that of a house church, with the purchase of a simple two-room house on the edge of the settlement. While cramped, the congregation had a permanent and visible place on the main street. However, the building was badly damaged in the February 2001 earthquake and the congregation needed to rebuild.

Thanks to the United Thank Offering and other individual contributions, particularly from companion diocese members (Central New York and New Jersey), Santísima Trinidad was able not only to rebuild the house, but also to purchase the adjacent piece of property, permitting it to double the space of the church upstairs, and add in a parish hall, bathrooms, and small apartment (consisting of two rooms and a private bath) downstairs.

After two years of effort, the congregation celebrated its return to the church with a triumphant, musical and sometimes noisy procession, complete with firecrackers, through the neighborhood to the church



Lee Alison Crawford photo

The Rt. Rev. Martín Barahona blesses the new Santísima Trinidad church building after a festive procession through the neighborhood.

doors. Once the building was blessed, the people entered for a joyful celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

The Rev. Lee Alison Crawford, Rector of St. Mary's, Northfield, attended the service as a representative of Fundación Cristosal, a foundation for the support of the Anglican Church of El Salvador and also because she spent time working with the community in February 2003.

## Northwest Deanery 1

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ST. LUKE'S, Alburg, is having a 4th of July Tag Sale; donations are welcome. Summer services are 5:30 P.M. on Saturdays.

ST. MATTHEW'S, Enosburg Falls, celebrated the 25-year diaconate of **Virginia Thomas** on June 22. The service included an instructed baptism and was followed by a luncheon.

ST. JOHN'S, Highgate Falls, is celebrating Holy Eucharist Saturdays at 4:30 P.M. Holy Trinity's interim pastor, the Rev. **Don Morris**, is the celebrant. He was assisted by musician and liturgist **Jerome Monachino** of St. Michael's College at the first service in June. The liturgy will use some Taizé music and praise songs. Morning Prayer during June, July and August will be on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 8:15 A.M. St. John's is also hosting Sunday afternoon concerts: **High Winds** (Betsey LeBlanc & Friends), July 20; and **Horns Borealis** (French Horn Quartet) on August 17. Both concerts follow 3:00 P.M. Evensong.

ST. LUKE'S, St. Albans held a successful art exhibit with more than 150 pieces.

GRACE CHURCH, Sheldon, hosted a deanery Evensong on Pentecost, followed by a potluck dinner and a hymnsing. As part of its Summer Music at Grace series, the church will host **Village Harmony** July 14, **Full Circle** (a recorder consort) August 11, and **Peter and Wendy Matthews** on guitar and flute August 18, all at 7:00 P.M. A community potluck dinner will precede the Village Harmony concert. Check [www.gracechurchsheldon.org](http://www.gracechurchsheldon.org) for program information and updates or call 326-4603.

HOLY TRINITY, Swanton, is sponsoring the newly formed Franklin Grand Isle Habitat for Humanity. **Carol McCurdy** is organizing a six-week Vacation Bible Camp and lunch program that started June 30. Call Carol at 802-868-7892, to volunteer.

## Otter Creek Deanery 2

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ST. THOMAS', & GRACE, Brandon/Forest Dale, celebrated Pentecost with a 10 A.M. service at Grace Church, followed by a pot luck picnic with all the trimmings. **Lucy Pellegrini** will serve as Pastoral Associate this year as part of her preparation for ordination to the diaconate.

ST. STEPHEN'S, Middlebury, will host the annual Peasant Market Saturday, July 5 [see Page D].

TRINITY, Rutland, celebrated the conclusion of a successful Organ Renovation Campaign with a special service of Evensong presented by the choir [see Page G].

"Tongues of fire" (red balloons) filled the nave and sanctuary of ST. PAUL'S, Vergennes, on the Feast of Pentecost, and everyone who attended had a "tongue" to take home! On the rare months with five Sundays, a new service offers an opportunity to worship together (no 8:00 service) and "to stretch our liturgical wings (so to speak)." On June 29, the liturgy was based on the worship at Taizé, an ecumenical religious community in France.

# ❖ deanery doings ❖

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

### Southwest Deanery 3

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The outreach committee at ST. JAMES', Arlington, is planning for the summer lunch program at Camp Adventure. Each church in the community is responsible for providing seven days of nutritious lunches. Pentecost was celebrated with a picnic at the Arlington Rec Park, followed by an intergenerational pick-up softball game. The rules will never appear in an official manual!

At ST. PETER'S, Bennington, the Rev. **Arthur M. Kingdon** has announced his retirement. His last Sunday will be July 27, after which he and his wife **Linda** will be relocating to Maine to be near family. The vestry voted to donate the money from the Lenten quarter cards to the Ecumenical Food and Fuel Fund. July 20 is "Brookhaven Home Sunday," with the offering earmarked for the support of this diocesan home and school for young boys.

ZION, Manchester, parishioners have returned from international mission work. **Tom and Ellie Dyett** went to Nuestros Piquenos Hermanos orphanage in Nicaragua, where she taught music and math and he built a medicine cabinet for the infirmary. **Ellen Maloney** went on a fact-finding mission to Haiti and will be organizing a sale of Haitian crafts in July.

### Southeast Deanery 4

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The Vigil of Pentecost found IMMANUEL CHURCH, Bellows Falls packed and awash in a glorious sea of red as **Bishop Ely** commissioned and ordained their Ministry Support Team [see Page A]. This was one of the most exciting things "yours truly" has ever witnessed and the "glow" of the Holy Spirit on each member of the team was beyond compare. **LeAnn Winter** coordinated the hospitality, and the whole event was nothing but WOW!!!

The people at ST. MICHAEL'S, Brattleboro are planning events to celebrate their 150th anniversary, including a float in the Fourth of July parades in Brattleboro and Guilford, a giant church picnic in August, and a special ceremony, using an 1853 liturgy, at CHRIST CHURCH, Guilford (the forerunner of St. Mike's) in early September. **Susan and Paul Dedell** are creating a musical history of the church that will be presented sometime in September.

The Vestry of ST. LUKE'S, Chester, is forming a small library with a selection of "lendable" books. (Does anyone have a decent bookcase they want to part with?) Their Monday night Discipleship Group has just started the reading and discussion of *The Kingdom Within: The Inner Meaning of Jesus' Sayings*, by John A. Sanford.

"Sharing our Talents" is an exciting new community evening program series at GETHSEMANE, Proctorsville. It began with Gardening 101 by **Barbara Dickey**

(May 22) and Creative Writing by **Micki Smith** (June 3 & 10), and continues with Is it Really an Antique by **Katherine Suchmann** (July 10) and a potluck supper (July 13) to plan for a trip to Montreal (July 20) led by **Bruce Pollard**. The Rev. **Betty Berlenbach** will offer Knitting on Wednesday evenings in August, and others will take the last half of the series into the fall.

The vestry of ST. MARK'S, Springfield, met with their New Hampshire counterparts from UNION CHURCH, West Claremont and ST. LUKE'S, Charlestown to discuss "cooperative" stewardship and evangelism and other "good things" learned at the recent Province I conference. **Jan MacDonald** of St. Luke's led the discussion. The people of the parish have been baking goodies and staffing a 2-day I-91 rest stop coffee break that provides funds for outreach.

The folks at ST. MARY'S IN-THE-MOUNTAINS, Wilmington, remained after their service on two Sundays for an "in-depth" discussion regarding weddings and civil unions in preparation for formulating a philosophy and policy on the performance of these ceremonies. On July 2, they began a six-week Christian ed program being led by the Rev. Canon **Thad Bennett, Laura Hunter, and Patti Burke**.

ST. PAUL'S, Windsor, will soon start needed rectory repairs in anticipation of a new resident priest. In the meantime the Rev. **Al Cramer** is serving as supply, and—as an added bonus—**Janet Cramer** is assisting with the choir.

### Three Rivers Deanery 5

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THREE RIVERS REGIONAL MINISTRY (Bethel & Killington) welcomes **Eva Kopp**, a seminarian from Episcopal Divinity School, for the summer.

CHRIST CHURCH, Bethel, parishioners **Ellen Frost** and **Karen Speerstra** are organizing a community series for the summer called "Coping With and Serving Our Complex World" [see Page D]. The Rev. **John Speerstra**, a retired Lutheran pastor and member of Christ Church, is now licensed to officiate and preside in the diocese. Congratulations, John!

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR, Killington, had an after-worship brunch June 1, and used the opportunity to start exploring ways their communal life might grow and develop in the areas of spirituality, learning, and outreach when the Rev. **Diane Root** goes on sabbatical in 2004. Two 7:00 P.M. concerts are scheduled at Our Saviour: **Village Harmony**, July 21, and participants in the **Killington Music Festival**, July 28.

The people of ST. BARNABAS, Norwich, bade a fond—and, no doubt, sad—farewell and Godspeed to the Revs. **Sarah Horton** and **Gunnar Urang** on Pentecost Sunday, upon Sarah's retirement as rector of the parish. A gala event celebrated the eleven fruitful years of mutual relationship and ministry, with quilt square messages, storytelling, other gifts and dinner, sending Sarah and Gunnar all the way out to East Montpelier with thanksgiving and love. The

Christian Education Committee announced that **Carrie Wells** will serve as Director of Christian Education for the coming year.

ST. JAMES', Woodstock, *fêted* a whopping 47 newcomers from the last two years with a liturgical welcome and special coffee hour. Senior Warden **Paul Wildasin** reports that the vestry is beginning to "define a vision that is uniquely St. James'."

Church school participants at ST. PAUL'S, White River Junction, received certificates of recognition, gifts and congratulations at the June 22 liturgy, and the teachers and substitutes received huge thank-yous. The newsletter notes that the children's "enthusiasm and eagerness to learn more about their faith is their gift to St. Paul's."

"Timeline With a Mission" is the brainchild of the Stewardship Committee of ST. JOHN'S, Randolph. This living history and interactive record of the parish will help groups in their discernment of and for fundraising and oversight activities. Vestry members are sharing "stewardship stories" in the newsletter, beginning with treasurer **Cathy Kennedy's** reasons for tithing.

ST. MARTIN'S, Fairlee, parishioners are donating items to an Army nurse serving in Iraq, and they have responded with a very generous gift to a program working with African families and children affected by HIV/AIDS. **Susanna Grannis** of St. Luke's, Chester, and a program coordinator for HOKISA ("Homes for Kids in South Africa"), will visit St. Martin's to explain more about HOKISA's work and mission.

## Central Vermont Deanery 6

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The children of Highgate, a 120-family low-income housing project in Barre, will enjoy a summer nutrition and activity program thanks to a recent fundraising effort by the CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD and the Barre Area Clergy Association. Over \$1,200 was raised to provide camping scholarships and support the work of the Highgate Residents Association's outreach coordinator

**Brendan Willis**, acolyte and chalice bearer at ST. MARY'S, Northfield, graduated from Northfield High School as valedictorian. He and his sister, **Amy** (who graduated a day later from Stanford University), are the only sister and brother to both be valedictorians at the school. **Scott Neal**, choir director, graduated from the Diocesan Study Program on June 22. Rector **Lee Alison Crawford** attended the Anglican Church of El Salvador's diocesan convention, representing the Vermont-based Fundación Cristosal.

ST. JOHN'S IN THE MOUNTAINS, Stowe, continues its search for land. They are planning an Ice Cream Social in August to kick off a Youth Group. The recent confirmands will be joining forces with a Stowe ecumenical youth group. For the Ecumenical Vacation Bible School, **Jenny Grosvenor** takes the 6th graders out on outreach adventures every day.

At a special parish meeting on June 8, CHRIST CHURCH, Montpelier, committed to a realistic financial, energy and stewardship future. The meeting was well-attended, energetic and had full participation. The parish is embarking on a discernment

Continued on Page G

## Integrity founder preaches at cathedral



by Anne Clarke Brown

"Gays and lesbians are the canaries in the coal mines of the church," said Dr. Louie Crew in a homily preached at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul celebrating Burlington's Gay Pride Day, June 14. The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely officiated at the special service of choral evensong, and the cathedral choir sang a setting of the Magnificat by Orlando Gibbons, chanted Psalm 104, and sang an anthem by Gabriel Fauré.

The founder of Integrity, a ministry of lesbian Episcopalians, explained that coal miners took canaries into the mines as harbingers of toxic conditions. If the canaries died, the miners knew to leave. The church, Crew said, "is not safe for us, but it is toxic for everyone else. We would

pack our churches," he said, "if we would just let [people] know not how good we are but about how good God is."

Crew said the lessons appointed for the day (Ecclesiasticus 42:15-25, Psalm 104, and Ephesians 3:14-21) are about "celebrating the diversity of God's creation." He pointed particularly to Psalm 104: "There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it." "Whoopie God!" said Crew. "Sometimes I think God made lesbians and gay men just for the sport of it!"

Dr. Crew expressed his message of God's unconditional love for "absolutely everybody" through stories of encounters with others in the Anglican Communion and, on the eve of Father's Day, with his own father.

A member of the Episcopal Church's Executive Council, Crew told the congregation that the issue of human sexuality "is not the cutting edge issue of the twenty-first century. We need to get this behind us because of the other, bigger issues we are not addressing." He said, "We need to move beyond inclusion to enable our gifts and skills to be used not for ourselves but for the whole world."

Louie Crew's website (<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~lcrew.rel.html>) is a rich source of information about the Anglican Communion and particularly about the ministry of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons in the Episcopal Church. ❖

## Nominations and resolutions due

Diocesan Convention is scheduled for November 8-9, 2003, and September 10 is the deadline for submitting nominations and resolutions to be included in the pre-convention materials and the convention issue of the Mountain Echo.

Descriptions of the offices that will be filled by election at the convention are on the diocesan website, [www.dioceseofvermont.org](http://www.dioceseofvermont.org). Click on the link on the home page. A

nomination form may be downloaded from the web site or obtained from the Diocesan Center, 800-286-3437. Nominations should be submitted to Mary Lou Ashton, 1473 W. Lakeshore Dr., Colchester, VT 05446. For information, call or email her at 802-865-9912; [mlavt@aol.com](mailto:mlavt@aol.com).

For information about submitting resolutions, contact Laura Chase, 802-483-2995 or [LauraChase@aol.com](mailto:LauraChase@aol.com). ❖

## Carole Wageman ordained a deacon

Carole Allcroft Wageman is congratulated by her husband, Ed, Bishop Thomas Ely, and Christ Church member Laurie Labarthe after her ordination as a transitional deacon at Christ Church, Montpelier on May 29. A May graduate of Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, she has been called as Assistant Rector by Trinity Church, Shelburne.



Lee Alison Crawford photo

## Trinity, Rutland, calls music director Celebrates successful organ repair campaign

Betty Clark, organist and choir director for twenty-five years at Trinity Church, Rutland, announced her retirement this spring, and her music ministry at Trinity concluded with a successful capital campaign to repair the congregation's Skinner Organ.

The Rev'd Hugh Tudor-Foley, interim priest, announced that James Cassarino will join Trinity as organist and director of music. He said, "We will miss Betty but at the same time will be blessed by Jim's presence and musical and liturgical leadership."

A search committee recommended Cassarino after interviewing three candidates. They each played a mini concert for the committee, rehearsed the choir using a new piece of music and then performed the work in the church for the committee.

Cassarino is a graduate of Castleton State College, with a B.A. in Music Studies and Organ Performance, and he received the Academic Excellence Award in Music

there in 1991. He holds a Masters Degree from Ball State University in Musicology and Church Music and a Graduate Certificate in Liturgical Studies from St. John's University School of Theology. He is a Liturgics and Music Instructor for the Vermont and New Hampshire Leadership Program for Musicians. He also is Director of Instrumental Ensembles and Lecturer in Music at Green Mountain College and can be seen in the summer as Director of the Vermont City Band.

Jim Cassarino has served as music director for a number of churches and is a familiar face at Trinity—he has stepped in for Betty Clark, and he, his wife Elise and their two children are parishioners.

On June 1, Trinity celebrated a Choral Evensong in thanksgiving for the completion of a capital campaign to repair the organ, built by the famous Skinner Organ Company in 1923 and installed late in that year with the special designation "Opus 388." It is ranked as one of the finest of its kind in New England.

The campaign, chaired by parishioner and choir member, Holly Webb, raised over \$170,000. "While there was some concern about the timing of the campaign, since the parish is in transition, the success is truly a sign of God's grace," said Hugh Tudor-Foley, "The people of Trinity came together in a wonderful way. We are blessed." ❖

## Calvary celebrates 160 years

Calvary Church in Underhill celebrated its 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a parish church in the Diocese of Vermont on Pentecost, June 8. Led by the rector, the Reverend George Moyser, the people of Calvary participated in a service of Holy Communion as it would have been arranged back in 1843 when Calvary was officially founded. At that time, Bishop John Henry Hopkins went to Underhill Flats from Burlington to inaugurate the new parish, and it is recorded that he confirmed five persons. He later drew up the plans for the church building that still stands today. On this occasion, Bishop Thomas Ely sent an official episcopal greeting that was read out during the service. Afterwards, there was a potluck lunch, a large cake, and a parish photo was taken. ❖

## deanery doings

Continued from Page F

process—defining who they are as Christ Church. New part-time Director of Religious Education **Melissa Riegal** began her job in July. She is excited about energizing the church education program. The annual pancake breakfast, part of Montpelier's Fourth of July traditional celebration, will be put on by Christ Church members and served on the courtyard lawn.

### Northeast Deanery 7

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Deanery parishes will meet at the Rev. **Robert Castle**'s farm in Holland on August 3 at 1:00 P.M. for a picnic and fellowship.

ST. MARK'S, Newport, celebrated Pentecost with a gala "birthday" party. The epistle was read in six languages (including Indonesian), there were lots of red balloons and toe-tapping music, and a festive "Tongues of Fire" brunch was served. The Lenten/post-Lenten Study group, led by the Rev. **Mary-Marguerite Kohn**, has just completed L. William Countryman's *Good News of Jesus*.

ST. ANDREW'S, St. Johnsbury, had a

wonderful ceremony honoring "All Our Relations: As with Earth, So with Us," on May 28, sharing prayer, song, dance and healing for all of creation. The congregation is participating in a year-long Foyer Group process to clarify ministries and space needs.

### Champlain Deanery 8

**Linda Morrell**, Bureau Chief  
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At the invitation of the Bishop, the Sudanese young men are holding services every other week at Rock Point in Dinka, their native language. The Eucharist is offered by local priests. Your ERD contributions assisted displaced families in Iraq by providing food, shelter, and other essentials. ERD is also providing critical food supplies to the Western Equatoria region in southern Sudan devastated by drought and war.

The CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, Burlington, collected health bags

for Church World Services to send for the children in Iraq.

ST ANDREW'S, Colchester, offers Evening Prayer followed by dinner and adult education on Wednesday evenings. As a result of the April visioning meeting on youth ministry, **Holly Morehouse** will serve as the overall coordinator of a senior high and middle school team. She replaces **Michele Vianni** who will help the high school youth group.

TRINITY, Shelburne thanks **Nancy and Joe Suarez** for their years of recruiting and training of acolytes and crucifers. They are seeking a replacement and have put together a training manual to make the job easier. Thanks also to **Dana Cassidy**, who has retired as treasurer. **Gary Mick** will be assuming the position.

ALL SAINTS', South Burlington, took up a special summer food collection for the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf. **Chris Sheil** will oversee the creation of a mural on the wall of the nursery. She and her daughter **Erin** will organize a group to make biblical costumes for the Sunday School children to wear in acting out the Gospel stories. Languages heard on Pentecost Sunday included those of the Sudan and Sri Lanka. ❖

## Diocesan Calendar

### July 2003

- 2 Executive Committee, Christ Church, Montpelier, 1 PM
- 4 Independence Day, Diocesan Center closed
- 12 Bishop at St. Luke's, Alburg
- 13 Bishop at St. Ann's, Richford and Grace, Sheldon
- 20 Bishop at Christ Church, Bethel
- 23 Rock Point Board, Diocesan Center, 1 PM
- 30-Aug. 8 General Convention, Minneapolis

### August 2003

- 10 Brookhaven Home & School 50th Anniversary, 3 PM
- 12 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Center, 1 PM
- 13 Executive Committee, Diocesan Center, 1 PM
- 14 **Deadline, September Mountain Echo**
- 15 Rock Point Board, Diocesan Center, 1 PM

### September 2003

- 1 Labor Day, Diocesan Center closed
- 3 Executive Committee, Christ Church, Montpelier, 1 PM
- 6 Diocesan Council, 10 AM
- 7 Bishop at St. John the Baptist, Hardwick
- 10 **Deadline, October Mountain Echo**
- 10 Deadline for Nominations and Resolutions, 2003 Diocesan Convention
- 12-13 Commission on Ministry, BCC
- 14 Bishop at St. James', Arlington
- 16 Clergy Day, St. John's, Randolph, 10 AM
- 16 Standing Committee, St. John's, Randolph, 2 PM
- 17 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Center, 1 PM

## Diocesan Youth Committee Calendar

**D**  
**Y**  
**C**

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

- July 30-Aug 3 Count Me Faithful Youth Gathering  
Minneapolis, MN
- Oct 25-27 Province 1 Youth Event  
Barbara Harris Conference Center

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

#### Funds Available for Parish Use As of June 1, 2003

<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	\$ 254,917
Initiative II	
The Talent and Resource Network	\$ 5,596
Initiative III	
The Congregation Renewal and Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 5,134
Initiative IV	
The Diocesan Outreach Fund	\$ 13,164
Appropriate uses for each initiative, application forms and requirements may be found in the Diocesan Handbook. For further information, please call the Diocesan Office.	

## Trinity, Shelburne, hosts senior luncheons

by Anne Clarke Brown

Trinity Church, Shelburne, hosted the last of its popular senior luncheons of the season on Monday, May 19. A dozen busy volunteers cooked and served a three-course meal—salad, chicken and dumplings, and strawberry shortcake—to 90 seniors from the Shelburne and Burlington area. Barbara Hibbitts provided music during the meal and accompanied a lively sing-a-long to conclude the event.

Trinity members Ann Hogan and Barbara Richart started the luncheon program in June, 2000, after visiting a similar program at St. Luke's, St. Albans. Ann Hogan said, "The first was a risk—we'll give a party, but what if nobody comes? But they came, and they loved it." Barbara Richart added, "They like the white table cloths, the flowers, the real wine glasses [yes, wine accompanies the meal] and the elegance."

The lunch is free, though guests may make an optional \$3 donation. Hogan expects the monthly events will resume in the fall. ❖



Anne Clarke Brown photos

Above: The Rev. Craig Smith welcomes the 90 luncheon guests.  
Below: Peggy Kurt, Olga Fyles and Lois McClure build salads as Bill Hogan washes dishes.



## New University of Vermont chaplain named

The Board of Cooperative Christian Ministry, a shared, ecumenical ministry at the University of Vermont, is pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. Sue Marie Baskette as the new CCM campus minister. A Search Committee, composed of American Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and United Methodist representatives, selected her for the half-time position. She will begin her leadership of the CCM ministry in the fall of 2003.

Sue Marie was awarded an M.Div. degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in May, 2003, and was ordained in her

home church, Christ Church Congregational, in Newington, Connecticut, on June 1, 2003.

Her seminary faculty describes her as a very able scholar, and she has strong interests in running, cycling, swimming, skiing, and backpacking. She has participated in triathlons and duathlons, and competed in a marathon. She enjoys people, is a good listener, and feels comfortable with persons from a variety of backgrounds. Students, faculty, and staff will find her to be a good partner in developing a vibrant spirituality, and in working to form a spiritual community of faith.

Baskette will lead a welcoming

ministry on campus that is open to all Protestants, as well as to all seekers and enquirers. There will be opportunity in CCM programming for worship, study, fellowship, and service. The purpose of the CCM ministry is to nurture a love of God and a love of neighbor, on the university campus. ❖

## New Hampshire elects coadjutor

In a special convention June 7, the Diocese of New Hampshire elected on a second ballot the Rev. Canon V. Gene Robinson to succeed the Rt. Rev. Douglas Theuner as Bishop of New Hampshire. Because the bishop coadjutor-elect is a partnered gay man, the election has sparked considerable controversy in the Anglican Communion. Consent for the election must be given by the General Convention [see article on Page A].

Vermont Bishop Thomas Ely, the Diocesan Council, and the Standing Committee have all formally expressed support for Canon Robinson's election. The Rev. Hays Junkin, New Hampshire's search committee chair, told a Province One gathering, "June 7 was one of the most Spirit-filled days I have experienced in my twenty-five years of ministry."

Canon Robinson told the group he is "committed as much as possible not to make this about being gay but about the love of God." He expressed concern for "those for whom this is not good news. We must be overly gracious with them." He added, "What a humbling and wonderful experience this has been." ❖

## 2002 parish audits due

Is your vestry (or executive committee) fulfilling its canonical requirement to protect themselves, your parish treasurer, and your parish from financial liability? An annual financial audit is a responsibility of each vestry, and the results are due to the diocesan office by September 1 of each year.

The requirements and guidelines for these audits are found in the Manual for Audit Committees at the back of the Diocesan Handbook, a copy of which is in your parish office. The manual can also be obtained on line at <http://www.dioceseofvermont.org/Resources/Audit%20Manual.pdf>. This audit manual explains that audits can be performed by a variety of methods, from using professional accounting firms to having your parish's own audit committee. So you see, the often-quoted reason of not having the

funds to perform an audit is not a valid one.

To date about 70% of the diocesan parishes have completed their audits for the year 2001. Audits for 2002 are now due. It is important for parishes to perform these audits to assure that all is in order financially and that the parish rectors, vestries, treasurers, and others are not at risk for liability for any losses which would have been discovered by an ordinary audit but were not discovered because they failed to have an audit conducted.

Over the next few months, the diocesan Oversight and Audit Committee will post the running tally of the 2002 audit results here in the Mountain Echo. Why don't you check with your rector, parish treasurer, or a vestry member to see if your parish is in compliance? ❖