

Bring a team to the First Annual Vermont Ministry Expo

by Anne Clarke Brown

Planners of the First Annual Diocese of Vermont Ministry Expo encourage congregations to bring teams to one of two nearly identical day-long events packed with workshops designed to educate and inspire ministry in a wide variety of areas ranging from stewardship and capital campaigns to parish financial management, parish communications (Web, print, social networking), baptismal ministry, transitions in clergy leadership and more.

The Ministry Expo is sponsored by the Diocese of Vermont Ministry Support Team, with the goal of consolidating events normally spread over several Saturdays. Congregational teams can attend together, experience a variety of learning opportunities, and share their learnings and insights when they return home.

The first Ministry Expo day will be Saturday, April 4, at Zion Episcopal Church, 5157 Main Street, Manchester Center. The second day will be Saturday, May 1, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 39 Washington Street, Barre. Specially designed worship services, with music provided by congregational music teams, will begin and end both events [see schedule in box at right].

Workshops will be offered in two morning and two af-

ternoon sessions. Most will be 50 minutes long. Others will fill either the morning or the afternoon. They are organized in tracks by ministry area, so that someone interested in stewardship, for example, can attend all four stewardship workshops, while new vestry members and treasurers may attend the workshops in that track. Others may wish to mix and match, but at the end of the day, planners hope that congregational teams will have the opportunity to experience and share the richness of many ministries. For a summary of workshops, see Page E. A full description is posted on the diocesan Web site. Follow the link on the home page under "Coming Events."

Please register in advance, using the form posted on the Web site or with the brochure that will be mailed to congregations in early March. It will be helpful in planning space use to know which workshops people plan to attend.

The registration fee for a congregational team is \$40 for up to six people (\$5 per additional registrant). Individuals may register for \$10 if the registration is received by March 31, and for \$12 after March 31. The fee includes morning snacks and coffee/tea. Please plan to bring lunch.

Contact Wendy Grace at Trinity, Rutland, with questions: trinity2@sover.net, or 802-775-4368. ✚

Ministry Expo Schedule

April 24, Zion Church, Manchester

May 1, Shepherd, Barre

- 9:00 a.m. Gathering, Hospitality
- 9:20 a.m. Worship with music by diocesan musicians from Zion, Manchester, and St. Peter's, Bennington, in Manchester, and from St. Andrew's, Colchester, in Barre
- 10:00 a.m. Workshop Session I
- 11:00 a.m. Workshop Session II
- Noon Gather for Noonday prayers
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Workshop Session III
- 2:00 p.m. Workshop Session IV
- 3:00pm Final Gathering
Closing worship with music

Vermonters respond to calls for Haiti earthquake relief

by Anne Clarke Brown

Shortly before sundown on Tuesday, January 12, a 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit Haiti, the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, collapsing buildings and leaving many thousands dead and injured.

Vermont Episcopalians have responded to the devastation with great generosity, taking special collections for Episcopal Relief & Development (www.er-d.org) and Pure Water for the World (www.purewaterfortheworld.org) and planning future fundraising activities. The diocese's Global Reconciliation Committee voted to designate \$2,000 from the Global Reconciliation line in the 2010 budget to the Episcopal Relief & Development Haiti Fund. The committee was aware that congregations had more than met its criterion of contributing \$1 for every \$2 raised.

The Diocese of Haiti is the largest in The Episcopal Church, with approximately 100,000 members, and it supports over 250 schools and a number of health care facilities, including a nursing school. Many of the diocese's buildings were completely or partially destroyed by the earthquake, including its famous Cathédral Sainte Trinité in Port-au-Prince, its music school, a downtown college and seminary, the bishop's residence and a convent of the Sisters of St. Mary.

The Diocese of Haiti is working closely with Episcopal Relief & Development to provide for immediate relief needs as well as to plan for future rebuilding. The enclosed issue of *Episcopal News Monthly* has articles on the earthquake

and the visit to Haiti by Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori. The Diocese of Vermont Web site has links at the top of the home page to sites with up-to-date information on relief efforts. It also has links to make donations to Episcopal Relief & Development and Pure Water for the World [see below]. Use care in responding to direct email requests for funds, as fraudulent email claiming to be from Bishop Duracin of Haiti has been circulating.

Pure Water for the World

Pure Water for the World (PWW), a Vermont-based foundation directed by Carolyn Meub, a member of Trinity, Rutland, has been working in Haiti since early 2008. In partnership with local organizations, PWW brings hygiene education and clean water to schools, clinics and orphanages, particularly in areas with little infrastructure and access to clean water. Its simple biosand filters do not require electricity, have no moving parts, and can remove worms, parasites, bacteria and toxins.

In the first 18 months of work in Haiti, PWW trained 51 filter technicians and installed and monitored 3,500 biosand filters that serve over 205,000 students as well as 493 households and 91 health facilities. PWW also trained 1,640 teachers to provide

hygiene education and manage the filter systems in 725 schools. A 2009 partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti had provided filters, training, and hygiene education to Episcopal health clinics and over 50 Episcopal schools, 26 of which were in the areas hardest hit by the earthquake.

PWW's filter manufacturing facility in Port-au-Prince was damaged but not destroyed by the earthquake. The 25 local staff members, many of whom lost homes and some of whom lost family members, went to work immediately to find ways to provide clean water and the undamaged supply of simple ceramic water filters to earthquake victims.

An eyewitness report

PWW board member Bill Meub of Trinity, Rutland, traveled to Haiti the first week in February to "see what

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"Baptism of Our Lord," a fresco by painted by Castera Bazile, is all that remains of the many painted on the walls of the Episcopal Cathédral Sainte Trinité in Port-au-Prince by Haitian artists in 1950-51.



Bill Meub image

Reflections on Haiti and Ministry Support Team reconfiguration by the Right Reverend Thomas Clark Ely, Bishop of Vermont

Since December, I have known that my column in this edition of the Mountain Echo would need to address the recent reconfiguration of the diocesan Ministry Support Team—and some its implications for our future ministry as a diocese—brought about by the economic crisis and budget realities facing all of us. Then, on January 12, 2010, the earth shook in Haiti, and a violent earthquake of immense magnitude drew our attention away from ourselves. Our thoughts, concerns, prayers, hearts and financial resources as people of faith suddenly turned to the people of Haiti.

And so, before addressing any of the details and implications of our diocesan Ministry Support Team reconfiguration, I want to express my profound gratitude and joy at the overwhelming response the congregations and people of our diocese are making to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Haiti.

I have witnessed, read and in other ways heard story after story of the generous outpouring of prayer and financial support from around our diocese following the devastating earthquake on January 12. Most of that financial support has been in the form of individual contributions and congregational offerings sent through Episcopal Relief and Development (www.er-d.org). They report an overwhelming outpouring of generosity from Vermont and throughout the country in support of our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Haiti.

Others among us have sent support through Pure Water for the World, a Vermont based organization led by Carolyn Meub of Trinity, Rutland. Pure Water for the World (www.purewaterfortheworld.org) has a special relationship with Haiti and is well positioned to aid in the relief effort. I'm sure there are other connections and places where some of you have made your gifts. Please maintain your prayers and your financial contributions

in the months ahead. The road to recovery is long, and our support is critical. I am confident and proud that the Episcopal Church in Vermont is doing its very best in response to this crisis. Thank you!



Now, some thoughts about our life together in light of changes made at the diocesan level in response to the economic crisis and the budget realities we are facing. In order to help balance the diocesan budget for 2010, I agreed to make reductions in the salary and benefit budget lines for our diocesan employees. I was also mindful that in 2011, we would need to make additional adjustments in order to bring the position of minister of stewardship development fully into the budget following three years of "off budget" funding. I took counsel with many throughout our diocese, including the Diocesan Council, Standing Committee and Ministry Support Team, in an effort to re-imagine how I could continue my vision of a collaborative episcopate in which members of the Ministry Support Team would live and work throughout the diocese and together share in the bishop's administrative and pastoral oversight.

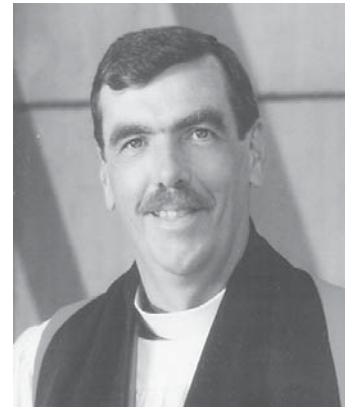
At the end of the day, and in order to meet the target numbers for our 2010 and 2011 diocesan budgets, I settled on a reconfiguration of the Ministry Support Team that eliminates the four part-time ministry developer positions, creates one full-time ministry developer position, leaves in place all other positions, and places the work of transition ministry in the office of Lynn Bates, canon to the ordinary. In addition, this new approach calls for an enhanced role by our diocesan

Companions in support of congregations during times of clergy leadership transition and in some other circumstances where the ministry developers previously played a more active role.

Sadly, this reconfiguration meant the loss from our team of two wonderful colleagues, Jeanette Tweedy and Connie Saeger-Proctor, as of December 31, 2009. It will also mean the loss of another gifted colleague, Thad Bennett, when he takes the "early retirement" option available through the Church Pension Fund starting July 1, 2010. Susan Ohlidal will assume added responsibilities as a full-time ministry developer starting July 1, 2010. I wrote about this in more detail in a letter sent to clergy and congregational and diocesan leaders on December 13, 2009.

We are just beginning to experience some of the implications of this reconfiguration, and more will unfold in the months ahead. Noticeably, the remaining members of the Ministry Support Team will need to clarify our priorities in serving the congregations of our diocese, since it will be impossible with fewer team members to continue everything we were doing. Your understanding and patience with us through this transition is much appreciated. Thankfully, our diocesan Companions Ministry Program is at a point where the Companions will be able to take on additional responsibilities. One of Susan's principle ministries is to work closely with the Companions. In this new configuration most of the work they do will be paid for with diocesan funds, either through the budget or through grants we have received for this program. Arguably, the most challenging part of this transition will be adding the responsibility for transition ministries to Lynn's portfolio. Obviously, some of her responsibilities will need to shift to others in order to take on this important work, and we are thoughtfully working through all that in anticipation of Thad's retirement at the end of June.

At the same time all of this is going on, the Diocesan Council Strategic Commu-



Gillian Randall image

nications Task Force is working on a full review of our communications ministry and will make recommendations for this area of our common life and ministry for the next 5-10 years. Anne Brown will take sabbatical time from February 20 to March 20, 2010, to strengthen her skills in Web design, and then she will conclude her sabbatical time with three months during the summer. The Mountain Echo will be published four times in 2010 (March, June, October and December) and the new Mountain E-News will keep you up to date.

Meanwhile, Angie Emerson continues her valuable stewardship ministry among us; Julie Giguere continues to work with incredible skill and knowledge as our financial administrator; Patrick Sims juggles calendars and supports our congregations as well as Lynn and me as our executive assistant; Jan Lawrence continues to serve as our receptionist; Elizabeth Allison maintains her watchful eye over the history of our diocese; and Iris Darling has joined us as a part-time administrative assistant following Jackie Risen's departure.

None of us is fond of change all that much, and certainly not when it includes the loss of colleagues. At the same time, I think there is something good that will come from all of this transition and reconfiguration for us as a diocese as we seek new ways to serve our congregations and the mission we have to proclaim Christ's love to the world. One of the incredible realities in the Diocese of Vermont is that we do all this in a context where the congregations of the diocese have demonstrated year after year their collegial and financial commitment to our common life and ministry. There is

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MOUNTAIN ECHO

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Anne Clarke Brown, Editor

Contributions of news and photographs are invited and encouraged

Please send such materials to the editor at

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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!

Dear Sr. Bible Person,

I recently read a news report about something called *The Conservative Bible Project*. Apparently, some people are concerned about "liberal bias" in some Bible texts and want to correct them. What can you say about this?

E.V.

Dear E.V.,

Indeed, there is an effort afoot, led by Mr. Andy Schlafly (yes, that's right, he's the son of the well-known anti-feminist Phyllis Schlafly) to free the Bible from alleged liberal bias. You can Google the term "Conservative Bible Project" and see exactly what their agenda is. When you do arrive at their website, you will see that it is entitled "Conservapedia: The Trustworthy Encyclopedia"—that's right again... these folks also don't like Wikipedia, because, like modern Bible translations, it is too "liberal." (As I type that word, it echoes in my head as being pronounced "lib-rul"—I guess I have heard Rush Limbaugh a few too many times.)

In expressing my own opinion of their work, let me chose my words carefully. I would call it "problematic" and "mis-guided." I choose these particular words from the linguistic cafeteria that also had words like "silly" and "idiotic" and "stupid," but, after taking a deep breath, I decided that those particular words might be somewhat bitter, overly spicy, and not very helpful, so let's stick with the two that I finally put on my cafeteria tray. Just to set the record straight: I would use those same words to describe the work of someone who launched a "Liberal Bible Project." (Note: if there ever were such a project, and I hope there never is, I would use the same strategy as the comedian Steven Wright, who was given two birthday gifts: a humidifier and a de-humidifier... so he just put both gifts in the basement to "let them fight it out.")

Let's assume that Mr. Schlafly is serious about this project. It is worth noting that some observers think Schlafly is just having some fun and that the project is a massive parody. If that's true, then we can congratulate him and admit that we took his clever bait, but, having heard his mother rant and rave against the Equal Rights Amendment and other supposedly "lib-rul" efforts, I don't get the impression that irony and parody are hallmarks of the Schlafly family.

The first "guideline" for the CBP work is: *Framework against Liberal Bias*:

Bishop Ely's column

Continued from Page B

no greater feeling than that we are pulling together for a common mission, and that is what I feel here in the Diocese of Vermont. My pledge to you is that we will continue to serve to the fullest in the knowledge of your confidence and support.

Faithfully,

+Thomas

providing a strong framework that enables a thought-for-thought translation without corruption by liberal bias.

An example of where these folks see "liberal bias" is in Mark 6:22, which describes Herodias's daughter dancing for the delight of King Herod (the reward she gets for her dancing is John the Baptist's head on a platter). The Greek word for the dancer is "korasion," most often translated as "little girl" or "maiden." The King James Version has "damsel" as its translation. These words are not good enough for the CBP people. They see liberal bias creeping in, so they think that the real truth of the passage is gained by using either "floozy" or "bimbo" or "temptress." They are certainly entitled to their opinion about the character of Herodias's daughter, but they don't seem to be on very solid ground in terms of understanding the Greek text.

Their second guideline is: *Not Emasculated: avoiding unisex, "gender inclusive" language, and other feminist distortions; preserve many references to the unborn child.* Do I hear Andy's mother's voice echoing in this guideline? If so, all I can say is that she and her son are welcome to trumpet their political beliefs, but isn't it sad that the Bible has to be used as a soap box for their personal campaigns? That's been done way too often by way too many Christians, so let's just keep walking and not spend a lot of time listening to them. As we walk away, we can remember the words of William Sloan Coffin, Jr., who said, "Some people use the Bible in the same way that a drunk uses a lamppost— for support and not for light."

Send questions for Sr. Bible Person in care of the editor [address on Page C].

Traces of the Trade DVD available

The 2009 Diocesan Convention featured a showing of the video, *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North*, Katrina Browne's award-winning story of her ancestors, the DeWolf family of Bristol, Rhode Island, who were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history.

The Dismantling Racism Commission has copies available for parish use. To reserve the DVD of *Traces of the Trade*, contact the Rev. Nancy Vogege at sprector@gmail.com or 802-295-5415. ✦

A big thank you...
to all who contributed so generously in response to the December appeal for funds for the Mountain Echo.

Contributions are still welcome and may be sent to the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, 5 Rock Point Road, Burlington, VT 05408, with "Mountain Echo" on the memo line.

Letters and Opinion

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

To the editor:

I write with reference to the letter appearing in the Opinion section of November's *Mountain Echo* concerning the problem of celiac disease and the inability of sufferers to partake of communion wafers during the Eucharist. My husband and I (both retired deacons from the Diocese of Vermont) attend a church that has addressed the problem in a very nice way. We have a supply of non-wheat wafers that have been consecrated and which reside in a separate container in the tabernacle. In our leaflet, which is given out each Sunday, the following appears: "Gluten-free communion wafers are avail-

able. If you have a wheat allergy, indicate by raising your pointer finger when communion is about to be given and a gluten-free wafer will be substituted."

The consecrated gluten-free wafers are taken from the tabernacle and placed on the altar at the same time as the other consecrated wafers and wine at the time of communion. It is up to the person receiving as to whether or not they wish to intinct.

May we take this opportunity to send greetings to all our remaining clergy and other friends in the Diocese of Vermont.

Joice & Irvin Maranville
Holmes Beach, Florida

Opinion:

Earth Community, Earth Ethics, Earth Charter

by Sylvia Knight

I want to share a short story with you. Then, let's explore what earth community, earth ethics, and the Earth Charter might mean for us as people of faith.

From 2003 to 2008, some Vermonters spent long hours studying, writing, attending hearings and responding to permits for a transmission line upgrade from West Rutland to South Burlington. The process was arduous and troubling. In the spring of 2008, as a new substation was built in a nearby wetland, Charlotte citizens learned about a new challenge not previously disclosed: herbicides are used yearly to kill weeds at electric substations in Vermont, even those surrounded by wetlands, near streams or human habitation. No environmental assessments, permits, or notification of towns or neighbors are required. After researching the chemicals, their toxicity to life and movement into water resources, we wrote to the Public Service Board with our concerns and questions. Following several interchanges between the Board, transmission company, and state entities, the Board decided that wetlands at substations in VELCO's Northwest Reliability Project should be protected by the same permit that protected wetlands in right-of-ways from herbicides.

Water is a basic need for all of life. I am deeply concerned about ongoing contamination and depletion of Vermont's water resources and unfettered use of pesticides. Regulatory systems are isolated rather than coordinated: one agency regulates pesticides; another, water; while another, wetlands. Laws allow 50,000 gallons of groundwater to be withdrawn without a permit, and such extractions may occur in several Vermont towns simultaneously. Pharmaceuticals discarded in toilets make their way intact through water treatment systems into lakes inhabited by fish and from which drinking water is drawn. Health agencies fail to take strong action to protect citizens from toxins in water. Enforcement of standards is practically non-existent. Pesticide permits granted

for highways, railroads, golf courses and electric right-of-ways fail to consider total impacts over time in Vermont's watersheds, the increasing complexity of chemicals used, or to require monitoring. Statutes to reduce pesticide use have had little effect on major, widespread uses. Government lacks humility to accept limits of human knowledge or technology, acts largely for short-term goals, and fails to use its authority to hold large corporations accountable to standards already established to protect the community of life.

The Old Testament provides clues (Exodus 21, 23, Leviticus 25, Deuteronomy 15, Psalm 104, Job 38) to the relatedness God sought with Creation and to limits placed on human activity for just and sustainable life. Jesus' life and passion show us new dimensions of God's love for Creation and strengthen us in our pain for Earth's suffering to work toward a redeemed and just community of life.

Earth Community is the whole community of life, including humans, other creatures, air, water, soil, sun, the only known biosphere in the universe hospitable to life. Earth Community is characterized by complex, mystical interrelatedness in which we are embedded, upon which we depend for life. The late Thomas Berry urges us to see ourselves not as transcendent to or separate from the natural world but as part of a wondrously, intimately interrelated cosmos of life, and to see God, Creator, as immanent in the Creation as well as transcendent.¹

Acknowledging our responsibility for God's Creation, we have adopted a new ethic in the Earth Charter that honors the whole Community of Life. An Earth Ethic requires consideration of complex relationships between all living things including humans, air, water, earth, and sun for ongoing time. We recognize that "the freedom of each generation is qualified by the needs of future generations,"² that sustainability involves the total earth-human process.³ "Listen, God loves

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Trinity member authors book on women and recovery from addictions

Broken by Addiction, Blessed by God, by Penny Mary Hauser, is described by the publisher as, "a Christian book which focuses on the unique journey women make to sustained recovery from addictions." Hauser is a member of Trinity, Rutland, and co-chair of the diocesan Committee on Substance Abuse.

Hauser's book gives voice to women with substance use disorders who have often been overlooked, under-served and misdiagnosed. Her lifetime of personal and professional experience with addiction and recovery informs her exploration of the what, why and how of substance abuse. She explains why addictions involving substances and behaviors in women require a different approach from traditional male treatment.

Hauser outlines the STIGMA approach, which she developed from 20 years of professional work with women in recovery. In addition to identifying the most frequently cited barrier to entering treatment for women, STIGMA as an acronym identifies issues that women must address to move into the hope and joy of long term recovery. These issues form the chapters of book:

- S-self-image
- T-traditional roles
- I-ineffective communication
- G-grief and loss
- M-medical issues
- A-anger and abuse

Critical to life-long recovery is a woman's relationship with God, and every chapter emphasizes and includes scriptural passages, reflections, prayers, and words of spiritual inspiration.

This book is appropriate as self help for women in recovery. It is appropriate also for families of women challenged by addictions, their counselors, therapists and pastors.

Hauser has been a masters-prepared psychiatric/mental health nurse for 30 years. Since 1985, her clinical practice in public

Opinion: Earth Charter Continued from Page C

everything you love, and a mess of stuff you don't." Before God, all creation has standing.⁴

While living out an earth ethic as individuals and parishes, we can also share that ethic with those who act from short-term or profit motives, leading them to recognize our common life as members of Earth Community. We need to make our voices heard in the public arena.

The Earth Charter urges us to treat the Earth with love and respect, uphold needs of future generations as the determining factor in decisions, work in democratic, inclusive ways, inform ourselves, prevent harm before it happens, and promote justice and peace. That's a good start for our Earth Ethic!

1. Berry, Thomas, *Evening Thoughts* (San Francisco, CA: Sierra Club, 2006) p. 67.
 2. Earth Charter Principles I (4) (a).
 3. Rasmussen, Larry L., *Earth Community Earth Ethics* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1996) p. 173.
 4. *Ibid.* p. 107 (quoting *Color Purple*, p. 178).
- Sylvia Knight is Earth Care Ministry coordinator, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington.

and private institutions and in private practice has focused on work with women with substance use disorders. She believes a continuing conversation with God is the core of the peace that comes to sustained recovery.

Broken by Addiction, Blessed by God will be published by Liguori Publishers in mid-March and can be ordered on amazon.com and at local bookstores. Hauser and her husband, Joe, who wrote the epilogue of the book and has also provided substance abuse services as director of an outpatient treatment program, are interested in working with local congregations and small groups to provide workshops and conversations on the issues of substance abuse disorders. They can be contacted through pnyhsr@comcast.net. ❖

Congregations urged to designate Good Friday Offering to church in Jerusalem

Every year on Good Friday, pilgrims from all over the world gather to walk along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem. Some carry a cross to understand better the nature of the burden that Jesus bore. Others accompany them as witnesses, as penitents, as believers.

For 150 years, Anglican churches in Jerusalem have borne the responsibility of sharing the cross of Jesus in a special way by helping to maintain the Christian

Symposium focuses on church buildings Vermonters to offer session

[Episcopal Church Building Fund] As dioceses and parishes struggle with spiraling costs and shrinking budgets, the church's most significant physical assets—its buildings—are in serious disrepair and may be a significant barrier to mission and ministry.

"Buildings for a New Tomorrow," an April 7 symposium hosted by the Episcopal Church Building Fund (ECBF) at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia, will equip church leaders to address this problem in ways that make both financial and pastoral sense and lead to a focus on the vitality of church ministries.

Speakers include church leaders who are confronting and negotiating these struggles in their own dioceses and communities and who will share creative and successful models. Topics include how and why to face the

reality that a parish or diocese is in decline; how environmentally sensitive attention to church buildings can save money (Bishop Thomas Ely and the Reverends Anita Schell-Lambert and Angela Emerson will lead this session); and emergent church models that de-emphasize buildings.

The ECBF is committed to good stewardship, sustainability and results with its support for congregational building projects and its revolving loan fund.

The registration fee, which includes lunch, is \$100, and the deadline for registration is March 22. The cost of 2 nights housing (April 6 & 7), meals and a reception at the Roslyn Episcopal Conference and Retreat Center will be provided by the ECBF for up to 48 attendees. Some scholarship funds are available for travel and registration. For information, visit www.ecbf.org/Symposium_Program, or contact Sally O'Brien at 804-288-2867 or sobrien@ecbf.org. ❖

National conferences address domestic poverty and global mission

Called to Serve: The Episcopal Church Responds to Domestic Poverty is scheduled for April 28-30 in Newark, New Jersey. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will be a featured speaker. For complete schedule and registration information go to www.episcopalchurch.org/jubilee.htm. For more information, contact the Rev. Christopher A. Johnson, Jubilee Officer for The Episcopal Church, cjohnson@episcopalchurch.org.

Educating All Ages for God's Mission: Living the New Life of Baptism is the theme for the second Episcopal Partnership for Global Mission and Global Episcopal Mission conference, scheduled for June 9-12 at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. For information, visit www.epgm.org.

Ingathering of Parish Earth Care Policies and Plans

In 2003, the Diocesan Convention passed a resolution urging parishes to develop environmental policies. The Cathedral Earth Care Ministry and diocesan Earth Stewards invite congregations to share these plans with the diocese so that we can all learn from them and strengthen each other in the work of caring for God's Creation. Please send your parish Earth-care documents to Daniel MacDonald at dkentmacdonald@gmail.com.

witness in the Holy Land, by serving all of God's people there in a variety of ministries, by proclaiming the gospel and promoting justice, peace and love throughout the four dioceses in that region.

Since 1922, Episcopalians have supported the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East through the Good Friday Offering. It is a way to share in the burden and not let brothers and sisters in Jerusalem carry the cross alone.

The Good Friday Offering will assist Anglican parishes and missions, hospitals, schools, orphanages and countless other programs operating to the benefit of all people in the province, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim alike. For downloadable resources, visit www.episcopalchurch.org/agr/friday/

Congregations and individuals may make checks payable to Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, write Good Friday Offering on the memo line, and send to: Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, Good Friday Offering, P.O. Box 12095, Newark, NJ 07101.

"Wisdom" is theme of ECVA-VT Spring Art Show Entry deadline is March 19

by Judith McManis

The Vermont Chapter of Episcopal Church and the Visual Arts is planning its annual spring show for April and May at St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington. The theme for this year's exhibit is "Wisdom." Holy Wisdom is an expected subject for such a show, but there is also wisdom to be found in nature, in science, in mysticism, in culture, in history. Wisdom comes from children and the aged, from joy and sorrow, from triumphs and disasters, from those we love and those who trouble us. Even our pets amaze us with their wisdom. Look through what you have in your repertoire or create something new. Share **your** wisdom.

A wide variety of artwork makes for a great show. Oil and acrylic paintings, drawings, photographs, prints, watercolors, sculptures, collage, fiber art, weavings are all welcome. Unique to ECVA is sharing of the story of your work of art, a short statement

about what prompted you to create it, what sort of wisdom is in evidence or any other "link" that makes it work with the theme.

Artists may submit up to three entries. The deadline is March 19, 2010. You will be notified if your artwork work can be included in this year's show within 48 hours of receiving your entry information. Delivery of artworks is Saturday April 10, between 10 and 2. **Please note:** Artworks arriving after the deadline cannot be included. The show will be taken down on Sunday afternoon, May 30. Since there are no storage facilities at the Cathedral, all artwork must—without exception—be picked up that afternoon between 12:30 and 2. We cannot be responsible for artwork that is not picked up within this time frame. Please arrange with a friend or family member to pick up your work if you will not be able to do so personally.

For each entry please send in the following: name, complete address, phone num-

ber, email, website or other contact details. Please indicate your parish affiliation. Also send the name of the work of art, medium, size, value/sale price, and an artist statement relating the work to the "Wisdom" theme.

Submitting artists are encouraged to become official members of ECVA-VT by sending in their annual dues of \$25 to ECVA-VT, St. Paul's Cathedral, 2 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401. However, no one will be denied entry of artwork into this show for inability to pay dues. Exhibited works may be sold with 10% going to ECVA-VT. We're on the honor system here so just take care of it. Sold works may not be removed until the entire show is taken down.

Send all information to Judith McManis, 138 Catkin Drive, South Burlington, 05403. Entries can be emailed to her at laudata@mac.com. Questions? Call Judith at 802-951-9942.

Judith McManis is a member of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington.

2010 Ministry Expo Workshops

April 24 ~ Zion Episcopal Church, Manchester Center

May 1 ~ Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre

[Note: Workshops are 50 minutes unless noted as half day. They may be scheduled in a different order.]

Track 1: Financial Stewardship

Vestry, the Financial Management Ministry and Vision:

How does the Vestry approach its financial management task as a ministry that proclaims a vision, invites participation in the building up of the body of Christ, and the spread of the reign of God? Presented by Angela Emerson, Minister of Stewardship Development

Financial Management for Mission: How to create budgets that make people want to give:

An introduction to legacy giving. How does Church talk about such gifts and what might constitute good stewardship of those gifts? Facilitated by Angela Emerson, Minister of Stewardship Development

Planning the Annual Commitment Campaign:

Successful stories from the field: Personal stories of transformation, faithful member canvas training, theme development, and much, much more. Facilitated by Angela Emerson, Minister of Stewardship Development

God, Money and Me: Starting the conversation:

Tried and true questions, Bible study, and reflections that help people celebrate the joy of giving, awareness of abundance, and money as a spiritual issue. Facilitated by Angela Emerson, Minister of Stewardship Development

Track 2: Wardens and Treasurers

The Church as Employer: Reporting requirements, tax forms, the new mandatory lay pension contributions, the future mandatory diocesan health plan and other issues related to employment. Presented by Julie Giguere, Financial Administrator.

The Church as God's Business Enterprise: A walk through the Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs, the Diocesan Treasurer's Manual and other topics relating to financial management of church affairs. Presented by Julie Giguere, Financial Administrator.

New Wardens and Vestry Members: New to your leadership ministry? Come learn about the leadership roles of wardens and vestries. Presented by Canon Thad Bennett in Manchester and Canon to the Ordinary Lynn Bates in Barre.

Diocesan Resources: A review of the wide variety of resources available to congregations, from the Resource Center to the Web site to assistance with stewardship and clergy transitions. Presented by Lynn Bates, Canon to the Ordinary

Track 3: Leading Change & Transition Ministry

Leading Change: How does one lead lasting change in a congregation? Recognizing and utilizing the dynamics of systems theory toward the goal of shifting the congregation into a new and lasting way of doing things. Presented by Barbara Lemmel (half day).

Transition Ministry: What's Worked; What's going to be Working! An opportunity to discuss what worked and what did not work in recent transitions in clergy leadership and how the congregations in transition now will be working with the diocese. Presented by Canon Thad Bennett in Manchester and Canon to the Ordinary Lynn Bates in Barre.

Track 4: Communication Ministry

Getting—and keeping—your congregation on the Web: An exploration of some basics, including the options of free Web hosting, a new low-cost diocesan-sponsored hosting, and the use of blogs in place of Web sites. Presented by Anne Brown, Communication Minister

Congregation Newsletters and Local Media

Relations: What is the best way to keep your congregation informed and connected? Is there still a place for the print newsletter? What are some of the

dos and don'ts about working with local media to gain community visibility for your congregation? Presented by Anne Brown, Communication Minister (with others)

Social Networking for Congregations: How tools such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs can enhance your communication efforts, as well as some dos and don'ts when wading into the social networking world. Presented by Anne Brown, Communication Minister (with others)

Track 5: Christian Formation

"Wade in the Water": Exploring the Ministry of the Baptized: Wade in the Water explores ways that the ministry of the baptized can create healthy congregations. Learn how a Companion will dive with you and your congregation into deeper waters to offer the complete 4 sessions at your local pool. Presented by Companions Jean Smith, Rolfe Lawson, Laura Hunter and Jean Hancock (half day).

Inviting, Inspiring, and Transforming: Lifelong Christian Formation for Ministry: An exploration of stories of personal formation and resources available to support lifelong formation that leads to action, interaction, and relationships of Christian ministry. Presented by Kevin Fisher, Veronika Travis and May Morris of the Christian Formation Committee (half day).

Track 6: Special Ministries

Developing and/or Growing a Healing Ministry in Your Congregation: An exploration of both the theological and practical basis for starting or furthering the ministry of healing in your congregations. Offered in Barre only by the St. Andrew's, Colchester, Healing Ministry Team (half day).

The Deacon: A Full and Equal Order: Why the deacon? An examination of the rise of the diaconate since 1972 and how it may build community and further the ministry of diakonia or justice and service throughout the diocese, as well as the diocesan discernment and formation process. Presented by members of the Deacon Council (half day).

Track 7: Outreach and Social Justice

Faith-Based Community Organizing: Is your parish ready to wade in? A step-by-step process to begin faith-based community organizing in your parish. Presented by members of Vermont Interfaith Action from St. Paul's Cathedral, Christ Church, Montpelier, and Good Shepherd, Barre (half day).

Why the Millennium Development Goals Matter to Us: How Vermont congregations can stretch their donations to organizations that support the MDGs through matching grants. Congregations who have received grants will share their experiences. Presented by members of the Global Reconciliation Committee.

Track 8: Earth Stewardship

Congregation Energy Assessments: A review of assessments done to date and identification of materials and resources available for energy conservation within parish buildings. Presented by the Earth Stewards Committee (half day).

The Low Carbon Diet: Doing Our Part to Stop Global Wierding: What can each of us do? Learn how to start and run EcoTeams—groups of 5-8 households which help each other take the steps suggested in the Low Carbon Diet workbook. Presented by Wes Sanders of Vermont Interfaith Power & Light (half day).

Track 9: Pot Pourri

Praising God with the Pipe: Getting the Most Out of Your Pipe Organ: The practical aspects of how a pipe organ works and what can be done to make it more useful in leading today's liturgies. Presented by Peter Walker.

[More workshops may be added to this track.]

Haiti relief Continued from Page A

was happening on the ground" and assist the staff with some property and logistical issues. He said that all the water pipes are broken but that there is one source with significant volume near the airport from which water can be trucked to distribution sites. PWW staff have located 25 cisterns that are not leaking water and are using them to store water, chlorinate it, and distribute it to the people.

Meub said that PWW's country director had found a cistern near the large encampment of people near the Presidential Palace and Episcopal diocesan buildings on the third day after the earthquake. PWW used it to provide filtered water to the people there as well as to the nearby makeshift health clinic.

Since the earthquake, PWW has partnered with Save the Children, which is working in communities to monitor health conditions and potential disease outbreaks. They brought in 60 of PWW's trained teachers, gave them a two-day training course and sent them out to be community health monitors. According to Meub, "The Save the Children people said PWW is the best local NGO on the ground they have worked with—better than all others combined."

Meub said, "All of this has had a huge impact on me. I heard stories of what people who have become my friends went through, who walked home in the dark after the earthquake, and all they heard were screams, who saw the bodies and blood. And yet they continued working to help people." He heard, he said, "stories of people knowing they were going to die and who died with grace," and he heard singing at night.

"There is a sense of understanding what joy is and that each day is a gift," Meub said. "You kind of want to do something important, whatever that may be." He likened the response of people to the Loren Eiseley story of the young man who threw stranded starfish back into the sea, knowing he could not save them all, but that his actions would matter to the ones he saved.

"After two days, thousands of people were helping," Meub said. "I hope the message is that every little bit counts. Do what you think you can do, whether it is write a check or spread the word to somebody else. Find that stirring where you really do something that makes a difference in other people's lives. In Lent," he added, "I am a believer that you add something, and that you add something to help other people. I believe that is the message we get from the Lord."

Meub will return to Haiti at the end of the month for another week, and he knows there will be long-term connections. He said he had seen the Episcopal Cathedral before the earthquake and loved the space and its frescoes.

Continued on Page F

2010 Global reconciliation matching fund grants available

The Diocese of Vermont Global Reconciliation Committee is charged with making recommendations to Diocesan Council about how the Diocese of Vermont will allocate the budget line item for the diocese's commitment to devote 0.7% of net disposable income toward the Millennium Development Goals. The 2010 diocesan budget includes \$8,500 to meet this commitment, and \$6,500 remains available.

To engage congregations in ways that will increase the impact of this diocesan funding, the committee has developed a matching grants program. A congregation can apply for funds to defray the up-front costs of a fundraising project, or it can apply for matching funds—\$1 of diocesan money to match \$2 raised by the congregation—for a specific international project or program.

Applications are due on April 1, July 1, and October 1. Application forms can be downloaded at www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/GlobalReconciliation.html. Note that vestry approval is required, so plan accordingly. For more information, contact Lee Alison Crawford, lacinv94@aol.com or 802-775-4368 (Trinity Church, Rutland).

Northwest Deanery 1

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ST. LUKE'S, Alburgh, reports that Borders Regional Ministry partner St. George's, Clareville, is closed until March 21. Members attend services at St. Luke's or at St. Thomas', Noyan.

ST. MATTHEW'S, Enosburg, raised over \$130 at two Blue Grass concerts that will go to ERD for Haiti. There will be a second benefit concert in early March with professionals and young people.

ST. LUKE'S, St. Albans, will welcome the Rev. **David Veale** of the Diocese of Newark March 21, as priest in partnership. They offer monthly senior luncheons to approximately 50 people. They are worshipping in the Parish House for the winter to reduce energy usage by 20%.

GRACE CHURCH, Sheldon, is working on their tasks for Partners for Sacred Places. They have a new sign in front of the church, thanks to **Lori and Bryan Derry** and **Evelyn Benoit**.

HOLY TRINITY, Swanton, continues the well-attended Community Breakfasts on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. The last Sunday of the month is KIW Sunday (Kids in Worship) with 19 children serving! A Lenten book study on *The Shack* will be held on Wed. evenings, Feb. 24–March 24. Jr. Warden **Evan Anderson** has volunteered as Business Manager of the Community Food Shelf.

Otter Creek Deanery 2

I would welcome a volunteer reporter for the rest of this year (three issues). Contact me at abrown@vermontel.net or 672-5250.

ST. STEPHEN'S, Middlebury, bid farewell to **John and Bonnie McCardell**, as John takes up new responsibilities as president of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

TRINITY, Rutland, initiated a second Saturday of the month free community soup luncheon in February, under the leadership of **Barbara Hooker**. Members of the children's Treble Choir helped serve bread and cookies. The new Society of Keepers, a ministry for people interested in tending and maintaining the physical plant, had a first organizational meeting Feb. 6. The theme for the year-round stewardship program is, "Journey with us and share in the gifts of joy and wonder in all God's works."

Southwest Deanery 3

Sarah Smith, Bureau Chief
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ST. JAMES', Arlington, is joining with the Federated Church in East Arlington to offer Taizé Prayer Services at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout Lent. The service will be at St. James' on March 3, and then alternate between the two churches.

ST. PETER'S, Bennington, will host a Tuesday Lenten series, 6–8 p.m., based on J. Phillip Newell's *Christ of the Celts: The Healing of Creation*. A light supper of soup and bread will be followed by activities for all ages. The Rev. **Robert Libby** of Food for the Poor was guest preacher Feb. 14.

❖ deanery doings ❖

News of Parishes and People in the Diocese of Vermont

compiled and reported by the Mountain Echo "Deanery Bureau Chiefs"

He spoke about the organization's relief work in Haiti and around the world.

Southeast Deanery 4

I would welcome a volunteer reporter for the rest of this year (three issues). Contact me at abrown@vermontel.net or 672-5250.

ST. MICHAEL'S, Brattleboro, welcomed new Interim Pastor **Merritt Greenwood** and his partner, **John Konopka** on Dec. 6. They came from Cleveland, Ohio, where Greenwood served as an interim. The congregation celebrated the ordination of **Donna Reidt** to the transitional diaconate on Dec. 19. Five members traveled in November to visit CHABHA (Children Affected by HIV/AIDS) projects in Rwanda. The trip was the last for CHABHA founder **Susanna Grannis**, who is retiring as executive director.

ST. LUKE'S, Chester, welcomed the Rev. **Donna Reidt**, who will spend her months as a transitional deacon with the congregation.

ST. MARY'S IN THE MOUNTAINS, Wilmington, will initiate a new 4th Sunday Family and Children's Service on Feb. 28, at 9:30 a.m., using a national church model to bring the stories of Jesus to children and their parents during a "48 minute worship service."

Three Rivers Deanery 5

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CHRIST CHURCH, Bethel, and OUR SAVIOUR, Killington, have decided to discontinue their partnership as the Three Rivers Regional Ministry effective in January 2011.

ST. MARTIN'S, Fairlee, hosted a benefit concert for Haiti Feb. 14, given by harpist **Pat Stebbins** and friends.

ST. PAUL'S, White River Junction, is studying an 8-week "Choices for Sustainable Living" course Wednesday evenings, 7:30–8 p.m. through Lent and into April.

ST. PAUL'S, Windsor, has called the Rev. **Christina Brannock Wanter** as interim pastor.

The annual report at ST. JOHN'S, Randolph, produced by Sr. Warden **Steve Eubanks**, combined the budget with narrative and color photographs. The aim was to move from a focus on the bottom line and survival to a more integrated

New EfM program to begin in Barre

A new year in the EfM—Education for Ministry—program will begin at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre, in late March under the leadership of the Rev. Kevin Fisher. As many parishes experience transitions in clergy leadership, congregational members trained in EfM are well equipped to keep parish life flourishing. The class meets on Sundays at 1 p.m. at Good Shepherd, 39 Washington St., Barre. Call Kevin Fisher for details, 802-476-3929.

vision of "the abundant grace of our accomplishments and goals.... Then, in gratitude, do we check the accounts."

ST. JAMES', Woodstock, bid farewell to Interim Supply Pastors **Sarah Horton** and **Gunnar Urang**, who served the congregation for the last six months of 2009. They have called the Rev. **Jane Barr** from the Diocese of Virginia to serve as interim pastor. Longtime member **Dwight Camp** went with National Disaster Medical Systems to Haiti following the earthquake.

Central Vermont Deanery 6

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GOOD SHEPHERD, Barre, had 26 parishioners working to produce a Shrove Tuesday extravaganza. During Lent, there will be a Eucharist on Thursdays at 6 p.m. and a Taizé service on Fridays at 6 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH, Montpelier, welcomed Interim Pastor **Ann Grady**, who comes to Vermont from the Diocese of Milwaukee. She began her ministry on Ash Wednesday.

ST. DUNSTAN'S, Waitsfield, is being accompanied by **Ann Cooper** as they begin their process toward calling a new vicar following the resignation of the Rev. **Lisa Ransom**. They hope to have an interim in place soon.

Northeast Deanery 7

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Haiti relief

"Haitian art is so vivid and vibrant, because they understand the joy of living. There is something in their spirit that is motivating. There was something in the paintings on the walls that captured that. It conveyed the soul of the country." But, he said, "You can't put back what was. You have to figure out what's the new statement we're going to make."

What can congregations do?

At this time, travel to Haiti is strongly discouraged, as people traveling there will burden those coping with minimal resources and the almost total destruction of infrastructure. Financial contributions to Episcopal Relief & Development or other reputable organizations such as PWW and Save the Children are the most appropriate way to help.

Susan Gratz, who has been volunteering for PWW offers the following: "Can your parish, through PWW, adopt a devastated school and help replace or repair its filter system? Can your parish work with PWW to provide filter systems to new schools for the next school year? It was PWW's goal to provide filter systems to all Episcopal schools by the beginning of the 2010-11 school year. The earthquake disaster has perhaps deterred that goal, but has not erased it.

"In the next few weeks, we will be getting

The Rev. **Regina Christianson** has resigned as priest in partnership at ST. PETER'S, Lyndonville.

ST. MARK'S, Newport, has called the Rev. **George Warren**, who is canonically resident in the Diocese of Rhode Island but retired to East Thetford, VT, to serve as interim pastor.

Champlain Deanery 8

Linda Morrell, Bureau Chief
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802-878-9137

The CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, Burlington, will offer a 4-week Lenten Book Group, 7:30–9 p.m., beginning March 2, on *The Last Week*, by John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg about the events of Holy Week. Choir Director **Richard Webster** of Trinity Church, Boston, will be with the Youth Choir, March 5 & 6 in preparation for a Choral Evensong on March 6.

ST. ANDREW'S, Colchester, will hold a Taizé service on first Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. beginning in April. Books are being accepted for prisoners at Northwest Correctional Center and Dismas House in Winooksi.

ST. JAMES', Essex Junction's theme for Lent is "Playfulness as a Spiritual Practice." March adult education topics are Creating: Beads, Music, Bread and Crosses. **Carolyn Meub** from "Pure Water for the World" was the guest preacher at both services on Feb. 14. The parish will partner with an Episcopal school in Haiti to save lives with clean water.

ALL SAINTS', South Burlington, elected **Chelsea Wheeler** as a youth member with voting privileges for a one year term on the vestry. An original play by **Stephanie Staples** featuring the youth and adults of the parish was presented on Feb. 13.

CALVARY CHURCH, Underhill, has welcomed the Rev. **Linda Maloney** to serve as interim pastor. ❖

Continued from Page E

names of schools where we can help PWW help the children of Haiti and their families. During Lent, try doing a weekly 12-hour fast, and contribute the money you would have spent on meals during that time period to PWW. Learn about how important to your health having clean water is. What would be like to have to fear illness from the water you drink, cook with, bathe in...? How would we use water differently if we had to carry it from its clean source in 5-gallon buckets, each weighing 40 pounds? Can we fill a one-gallon bucket with spare change during Lent to contribute to PWW?

"As we begin to really take in how important pure water is to our lives and health, let us commit to the long haul with PWW. After Easter, let's plan on a "Door-to-Door, Do-a-Chore" day on Saturday, May 8. In preparation, canvas your neighborhood and line up appointments for work to be done. By this time, the weather will be encouraging spring clean-up, window washing, raking gravel out of grass, sweeping sidewalks, and other tasks too numerous to mention! Go out two-by-two, to see what you can do to bring H2O—Health, Hope, and Opportunity to the children and families in Haiti!"

Susan Gratz, who attends Trinity, Rutland, contributed to this article. She can be reached at szgratz@comcast.net

More Coming Events

Evening Prayer in the style of the Community of Taizé

Cathedral Church of St. Paul
2 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont
March 29, 7:30 p.m., Monday in Holy Week
June 6, 7:30 p.m., The Second Sunday after Pentecost

The candle-lit service lasting about an hour includes quiet chant from both within and outside the Taizé Community, readings from Scripture, sung and spoken prayer, incense, icons, and periods of meditative silence. It offers a calm and contemplative approach to God at the end of the day.

Stone Church Arts

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church Street, Bellows Falls

Tickets for most Stone Church Arts Concerts are \$15 (\$10 seniors and children under 12) and may be purchased online at www.brattleborotix.com. Call 802-463-3100 for information, or visit www.immanuelepiscopal.org/StoneChurchArts.html.

St. Patrick's Fiddle Frenzy

Saturday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

Eugene Friesen, cello, with the Annalivia acoustic quintet, which features the voice of Liz Simmons. Their music combines Anglo-Celtic ballad singing and fiddle music traditions with their North American counterparts—Appalachia and Cape Breton—all with a contemporary flair.

Eugene Friesen & Friends

Saturday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

Eugene Friesen, an award-winning cellist and composer and the music director of Stone Church Arts, is joined by world class musicians for a jazz/world music concert.

Odaiko New England

(at the Bellows Falls Opera House)

Sat, April 17, 7:30 p.m.

Odaiko New England (ONE) began drumming in 1994 and is fast becoming one of the premier *taiko* groups on the East Coast. In Japan, the sounds of the *taiko* are infused into various aspects of daily life. Its rhythms reflect the sounds of nature, the changing of the seasons, mother's heartbeat.

Klezmer/Jazz

Saturday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

Yiddish Klezmer clarinetist Howie Leshaw and jazz pianist Alki Steriopoulou team up for an evening of klezmer-jazz fusion. Klezmer music originally came from the *shtetls* of Eastern Europe and was instrumental in leading to many old jazz standards.

Events at Episcopal Divinity School

99 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts

2010 Kellogg Lecture Series

Thursday, May 6, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Barbara K. Lundblad, Joe R. Engle Professor of Preaching at Union Theological Seminary, will deliver two lectures on preaching and change: *Preaching Across the Divides in the Midst of Controversy*, draws parallels between the divisions in our culture and how our churches are often marked by these same divisions; *Preaching Particularity in the Midst of Pluralism*, addresses how we preach the particular story of Jesus while honoring the faith journeys of others in our communities and what is lost if we fail to preach this particular story.

The fee for non-alumni/ae is \$75; three or more people registering together, \$75 for the first registrant and \$25.00 for each additional registrant. Registration material will be available in March at www.eds.edu, or contact events@eds.edu or 617.682.1506.

June Courses

June 7-18, 2010

EDS is offering some of its popular courses in formats that meet five days a week for a minimum of two hours per day, allowing students to earn full graduate course credit in an intense one or two-week period. Courses offered include: Women and the Hebrew Bible, Jesus and the Synoptic Gospels, Women Preachers and Prophets in the History of Christianity, God and Creation, and The Pastoral Offices.

Course descriptions and registration information are available at www.eds.edu; click on Academics. Special pricing is available for Ministers-in-Vicinity—New England clergy, lay professionals, and graduates from an accredited theological school.

Training for a Safer Church 2010

March 20, 2010

Calvary Church, Underhill

The Session will begin at 8:45 a.m. and conclude by 3:30 p.m. **Please bring lunch. Pre-registration is necessary** to ensure that sufficient materials will be available. Email or call Iris Darling, adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org, 802-286-3437.

Additional dates for 2010 are being scheduled. Click the Safer Church link under "Education" on the diocesan Web site for dates and training information.

Healing stories from Luke/Acts are focus of Lenten Retreat

Phyllis Bristow-Johnson will lead the annual diocesan Lenten Retreat scheduled for March 5-7, at the Bishop Booth Conference and Retreat Center, Rock Point, Burlington. The meditations will be based on three accounts of healing from the Gospel of Luke and one from the Acts of the Apostles.

Bristow-Johnson says, "A significant part of Jesus' ministry, both during his earthly life and in our lives today, is healing. Our experience as Christians today includes both healing and brokenness, sometimes co-existing." She will offer brief meditations on Jesus as a healer, using the healing of Peter's mother-in-law, Luke 4:38-39; the healing

of the man with a withered hand, Luke 6:6-11; the healing of a crippled woman, Luke 13:10-17; and the healing of a crippled beggar from Acts 3:1-22.

Bristow-Johnson has lived in Vermont since 2000 and is a member of St. Andrew's Colchester. She earned an M. Div. from Drew Theological School in Madison, New Jersey, and has completed two units of Clinical Pastoral Education under the direction of the Rev. David Hamilton at Fletcher Allen Healthcare. She says, "After spending several years at home with my two daughters, I am now trying to turn my nature photography hobby into a business."

To register for the retreat, please send a \$50 non-refundable deposit made out to BBCC to John King, 433 Bean Road, Colchester, VT 05446. The total cost of the retreat after February 26, is \$175 for double/triple; \$200 for single, if available and \$125 days only. Any questions, call John King at 802-862-6834. ❖

Cathedral offers series on Paul

It's A Long Way From Tarsus to Rome: Paul and the Journey of Christianity will be offered at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington, on Sundays from 4-6 p.m., February 21 & 28, March 28, April 11 & 18, and May 9. Taught by UVM professors Lisa Schnell and Andrew Barnaby, the course will examine the life and letters of Paul.

In their recent book on Paul, John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg say, "Paul is second only to Jesus as the most important person in the origins of Christianity. Yet he is not universally well regarded, even among Christians. Some find him appealing, and others find him appalling; some aren't sure what to think of him, and others know little about him."

Remaining topics include "Paul and Conversion" (Andrew Barnaby, Feb. 28); Paul of the Letters (Lisa Schnell, March 28); The Letter to the Galatians (Lisa Schnell, April 11); Crucifixion and Resurrection (Andrew Barnaby, April 18); and Paul's Apocalypse (Lisa Schnell, May 9).

The cost is \$50 for the six-session course. For details, visit www.stpaulscathedralvt.org/programsandclasses.html. To register contact Sarah Gallagher at sarahg@stpaulscathedralvt.org or 802-864-0471, ext 10. ❖

St. Luke's to host "Our Daily Bread"

by Jim Ballard

Author Ron Krupp will speak at a special Rogation Day event Tuesday May 11, 2010, from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., at St. Luke's, St. Albans. "Our Daily Bread" will highlight local food supply issues, buying local, and efforts to increase the fair distribution of food. Lunch will be included, and funds raised will support Martha's Kitchen.

Ron Krupp has been a garden and farm commentator for Vermont Public Radio for the past eight years and is the author of *The Woodchuck's Guide to Gardening*. His new book, *Lifting the Yoke: Local Solutions to America's Farm and Food Crisis*, deals with many of the farm and food issues that are in the news on a daily basis: globalization, hunger and obesity—and offers local, sustainable, and very practical solutions.

For information, contact Deacon Jim Ballard, jamesbmilton@comcast.net or 802-893-7734. ❖

Arts at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

2 Cherry Street, Burlington

Evening/Sunday Series

Friday, April 9, 8 p.m.: Concert by Canadian pianist, Gwen Beamish

Saturday, April 10, 9:30-Noon: Piano master class with Gwen Beamish ~ Co-sponsored by Cathedral Arts and Greenfield Piano Associates

Saturday, April 24, 7 p.m.: The Oriana Singers, under the leadership of William Metcalf

Friday, May 14, 8 p.m.: Reverie: A Night of Solo and Chamber Music with Elizabeth Reid and others

Friday, June 4, 7:30 p.m.: Greenfield Piano Associates' Annual Recital ~ "Familiar Piano Classics" performed by members of GPA

Tuesdays Noon to One Series

Free noontime concert series. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee and tea provided.

April 13: Mt. Mansfield Union High School Select Chorus under the leadership of Caleb Pillsbury

April 27: Tamara Plummer, bassoon, and Melody Puller, piano

May 11: "Pennies for Peace" ... bring pennies to donate to Greg Mortenson's Central Asia Institute for building schools in Afghanistan ... Piano recital featuring pianists from the studio of Elaine Greenfield

May 25: "Columbian Treasures," Art songs by Jaime Leon, by students of Jill Hallett Levis

Diocesan Calendar

March 2010

- 2 Fresh Start for Clergy, 9:30 am–2:30 pm
- 5 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Office, 8:30–10 am
- 5 Diocesan Council Executive Committee, Diocesan Office, 2–4 pm
- 7 Bishop's Visitation, Jerusalem Gathering, Bristol
- 20 Partners for Sacred Places, St. Paul's, White River, 9–4
- 20 Safer Church Training, Calvary, Underhill, 8:45–3:30
- 23 Rock Point Board, Diocesan Office, 3–5 pm
- 27 Diocesan Council, St. John's, Randolph, 10 am–2 pm
- 30 Holy Tuesday Quiet Day, St. Paul's Cathedral

April 2010

- 2 Good Friday, Diocesan Office closed
- 6 Fresh Start for Clergy, 9:30 am–2:30 pm
- 7 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Office, 1–3 pm
- 11 Bishop's Visitation, St. Luke's, Chester
- 18 Bishop's Visitation, All Saints, South Burlington
- 24 Ministry Expo, Zion, Manchester, 9 am–4 pm

May 2010

- 1 Ministry Expo, Good Shepherd, Barre, 9 am–4 pm
- 4 Fresh Start for Clergy, 9:30 am–2:30 pm
- 7 **Deadline, June/July/August Mountain Echo**
- 14-15 Clergy & Spouses Conference, Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee
- 22 Partners for Sacred Places, 9 am–4 pm
- 25 Rock Point Board, Diocesan Office, 3–5 pm
- 31 Memorial Day, Diocesan Office closed

2010 Rock Point Summer Camp Schedule

Overnight Camps

Senior High Camp (Grades 9–age 19) Cost: \$410/camper	June 27–July 2
Elementary Camp (Grades 1–4) Cost: \$410/camper	July 4–July 9
Intermediate Camp (Grades 4–7) Cost: \$410/camper	July 18–July 23
Junior High Camp (Grades 6–8) Cost: \$410/camper	July 25–July 30
All Ages Creative Arts Camp Cost: \$242/adult camper \$350/Grades 4–11 camper \$125/Grades pre-K–4 camper	Aug. 1–Aug. 6

Grades 4–11 campers may come without an adult; their children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact the director for information about special family rates.

Day Camp Sessions (Grades K–5) July 12–July 16
Cost: \$125/camper

(Grades are those the camper has completed)

The J. Warren and Lois McClure Discipleship–Discovery 2000 Fund

Funds Available for Parish Use As of February 12, 2010

Initiative I	
The Bishop Butterfield Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 592,111
Initiative II	
The Talent and Resource Network	\$ 26,843
Initiative III	
The Congregation Renewal and Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 10,763
Initiative IV	
The Diocesan Outreach Fund	\$ 12,964

Walter P. Irish Fund

Assistance for churches in small communities \$ 39,894
Appropriate uses for each fund, application forms and requirements may be found in the Diocesan Handbook. For further information, call the Diocesan Office, or go to www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/Congsupport.html.

Rock Point Summer Camp opens June 27



Campers enjoy the beach at Eagle Bay.

Melanie Combs image

by Jennifer Ogelby

Do you know where Eagle Bay is? Where the outdoor chapel is? Do you know where kids meet friends for life? The answer is Rock Point Summer Camp at the Bishop Booth Conference Center on Rock Point in Burlington.

Over and over we hear campers say things like, "I live for my week at Rock Point," and, "I never knew I could love so many people I didn't even know before." Friendships are developed, confidence is gained, and minds are expanded every summer at Rock Point Summer Camp.

Under the strong leadership of staff, volunteers and counselors, campers develop independence, consideration and cooperation while having fun and reaffirming their relationships with each other and with God.

A typical camp day includes a holy rhythm of worship, community meal-time, a morning program, interest groups and an evening program. Campers will participate in a wide variety of traditional camp activities such as music, swimming, games, sports and creative arts. Rock Point Summer Camps are open to everyone, regardless of religious creed, race, color or national origin.

Brochures and registration forms are available at each Episcopal church and for download on the Diocese of Vermont Web site or www.rockpointcenter.org. **Register** by April 1 and receive a discount of 5%. Remember, scholarships are available through your church or through the Angel Program [see below].

Everyone is invited to an **open house on Sunday, May 16**, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. At the open house, tours

of the camp and a bar-b-que will be provided, along with an opportunity to greet new and old counselors, staff, camp alumni and other campers.

The goal this summer is to have even more young people experience a week at Rock Point. Here are some ways to help:

♥ **Be An Angel.** There are many young people within the diocese who do not have the resources to afford camp. An anonymous Angel gift could change their lives. Camp administrators have worked hard to keep expenses to a minimum, and yet one week of camp costs \$410. This covers housing, meals, a full-time on-site nurse, and 24 hour supervision by energetic, positive role model counselors. Be an Angel and make it possible for a young person without financial resources to go to Rock Point Summer Camp this summer. In return, you will receive a lapel pin as a thank you and to signify your special Angel status. Send your donation to the Angel Fund, RPSC, 20 Rock Point Rd., Burlington, VT 05408-2785.

♥ Send your kids to camp or sponsor someone in your church or neighborhood. Better yet, bring the whole family to All Ages Creative Arts Camp.

♥ Volunteer to help lead the morning program for a week.

♥ Help us get the word out about Rock Point Summer Camp.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to volunteer some time, please contact Jennifer Ogelby, Rock Point Summer Camp Director at jenloring52@yahoo.com.

Jennifer Ogelby is a member of St. James', Essex Junction, and director of Rock Point Summer Camp.

St. Martin's, Fairlee, celebrates...



...the 104th birthday of Julia Fifield of Orford (left) and the 38th anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Bill Atkinson (center) on Sunday, December 6, 2009. Fifield has been a faithful parishioner since St. Martin's inception, more than 45 years ago, and Atkinson was the pastor of St. Martin's from 1971 until 1984. He lives in Meredith, New Hampshire. The current pastor of St. Martin's is the Rev. John Morris (right).