

Diocesan Council sets goals for 2011, considers Anglican Covenant

by Anne Clarke Brown

Members of Diocesan Council agreed at their meeting at Trinity, Rutland, on January 15, 2011, to give priority in their work in 2011 to a series of two over-arching and seven more specific action goals, and they organized themselves to ensure that each goal has a "champion" and others who will focus on its achievement. They also discussed the proposed Anglican Covenant and financial reports from the treasurer, and they adopted a resolution on participation in the "Rebuild Our Church in Haiti" initiative.

Anglican Covenant

The meeting opened with a presentation by the Rev. Lee Alison Crawford, priest in partnership at Trinity, on the Anglican Covenant document that is proposed for adoption by the 38 member provinces of the Anglican Communion. Crawford is a member of The Episcopal Church's (TEC) Executive Council and one of a small group of Council members charged with drafting a report on the proposed Covenant and resolutions for consideration by the 2012 General Convention of TEC.

Crawford began with a bible study of the Genesis story of God's covenant with Noah and then outlined some relevant aspects of the history of the Anglican Communion leading up to the current push toward adoption of the Anglican Covenant document. She said, "We are living in a time of transition between a sense of Anglican comprehensiveness and the urge to control change."

Crawford asked Council members to focus on how words such as "church" and "communion" are being used in both lower case and upper case ways and noted that a shift from speaking about the Anglican Communion to the Anglican Church is very significant. "What do we mean by Church with a capital C?" Another key question is what will happen to the prophetic voice if the Covenant, with its provisions for discouraging change in any one province before consensus is reached by all, is adopted by the Communion.

The Executive Council has asked for responses from leader-



ACB image

The Rev. Lee Alison Crawford (center) led Diocesan Council in a discussion of the proposed Anglican Covenant. Shown with her are Canon Lynn Bates, Ms. Sarah Maynard, and the Rev. Scott Neal.

ship groups throughout the church. In Vermont, Diocesan Council, the Standing Committee and the General Convention deputation are discussing the proposed Covenant and may later this spring draft a unified response. In the meantime, Diocesan Council will consider a draft prepared by a small group at its next meeting.

To learn about the proposed Covenant and its history, find the Anglican Communion pages on the diocesan website.

Council Goals for 2011

The Council's Executive Committee had refined a series of goals that emerged in the December 2010 Council meeting and proposed that Council not only adopt them as a plan of work for 2011, but also that members create small groups, each with a lead "champion" to implement and/or monitor progress on each goal.

Two over-arching goals are part of all the Council's work:

- Improve communication to and interaction with the people in the pews and the committees and commissions of the diocese.

- "Live into" the Strategic Plan

The seven specific actions established as goals are:

- Revisit the 2006 Clergy Compensation Resolution (COLA and step increase for experience).

- Implement the new canonical changes regarding representation on Council (Mission Districts).

- Engage with, monitor and respond to the Capital Campaign.

- Implement all 5 Communication Task Force recommendations; in particular, launch the new website by Pentecost 2011.

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Diocese challenged to help "Rebuild Our Church in Haiti"

by Anne Clarke Brown

The January 12, 2010 earthquake that devastated much of Haiti destroyed a substantial part of the infrastructure of The Episcopal Church's (TEC) largest diocese, the Diocese of Haiti. Unlike dioceses in the United States, the Diocese of Haiti had provided significant health, education and cultural resources to its communities.

The focal point for the Diocese of Haiti is the complex of institutions associated with Holy Trinity Cathedral: the culturally significant Cathedral itself, with its famous murals, Holy Trinity Elementary, Middle and High Schools, the Holy Trinity Professional School, the Holy Trinity Trade School, Holy Trinity Music School and Conservatory of Music, and St. Margaret's Convent. All but one structure were destroyed.

Last year, the Executive Council of TEC committed to raising funds to help the Diocese of Haiti. The House of Bishops has endorsed the commitment. The Diocese of Haiti and its bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jean Zaché Duracin, have asked that funds raised be devoted to the reconstruction of the Holy Trinity Cathedral complex.



Lee Alison Crawford image

The nave of Cathedral Sainte Trinité from the location of the altar.

The Diocese of Vermont's Global Reconciliation Committee, through its chair, the Rev. Lee Alison Crawford, presented a resolution to the January 2011 meeting of Diocesan Council that asks the Diocese to "accept the challenge to raise \$75,000" for the "Rebuild Our Church in Haiti" initiative. Bishop Ely noted that Vermont has already sent over \$7,500, the combination of a \$3,000 commitment from the funds available to the Global Reconciliation Committee for inter-

national development efforts and the offering taken at the 2010 Diocesan Convention.

In fact, Vermont was the first diocese to make a contribution, and Teresa Mathes, who is leading the effort through the coordinating agency, the Episcopal Church Foundation, told Crawford she is amazed at "the mighty little Diocese of Vermont."

Continued on Page E

Love and friendship with God in Christ

by the Right Reverend Thomas Clark Ely, Bishop of Vermont

"I have called you friends..." John 15:15

I write this Mountain Echo column at the conclusion of my three-day retreat at Emory House in West Newbury, Massachusetts, in the company of the brothers of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE). It was a timely and significant three days of prayer, rest and reflection for me. Setting aside the many things on my work plate and shutting off access to email for a few days is never easy. The blizzard that hit Boston and other parts of the Northeast on Wednesday, January 12, made sure that I stayed put in order (I think) to pay closer attention to God and my relationship with God. The blessing from such a Sabbath is substantial.

In the course of the daily eucharistic celebrations during these days at Emory House, the brothers and those of us on retreat celebrated the feast days of Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx (died 1167), Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers (died 367), and Richard Meux Benson, founder of SSJE (died 1914). The theme running throughout the homilies these days was that of friendship with God through our relationship with Christ and rooted in love. It was a theme I needed to hear, and if I didn't know better, I could convince myself that the brothers planned it all that way just for me!

The 15th chapter of the John Gospel is one of my favorite portions of Scripture. That's the chapter with the imagery of the vine and the branches; the chapter that talks about life with Christ rooted in self-offering love; the chapter where Jesus calls his disciples friends; the chapter that talks about abiding, about joy and about bearing fruit; and the chapter where Jesus reminds the disciples that they did not choose him, but that he chose them. Image after image in this text draws us more and more into the intimate nature of the friendship Jesus has with God and with his disciples—and the friendship they have with God as a result.

This is no casual, superficial acquaintance we're dealing with here. This is intimate friendship—the rare kind of close friendship in which trust is so high that anything can be shared. This is friendship born of quality time spent together. This is friendship that has traveled the smooth and rough places of life. This is friendship that knows struggle and celebration. This is friendship for which one is even willing to die.

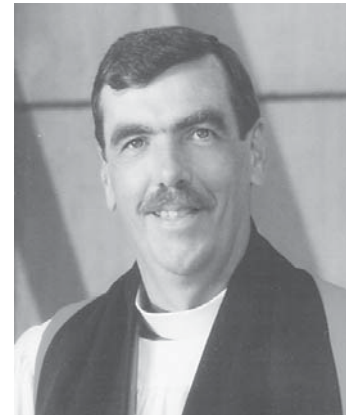
In the course of my prayer and reflection I realized that I came to this retreat yearning for a renewal of just this sort of friendship with God—a deeper and more intimate awareness of God's love for me and of mine for God. And I came away reminded that if I was to have any portion of such a close friendship, I needed to spend more time in my life cultivating that friendship through prayer and engagement with God's Word. Simply wanting it would not suffice.

The John Gospel reminds us that love is at the center of this type of friendship. One of the brothers reminded us in his homily that love is both the formula and the formation for the relationship Jesus has with his disciples, a relationship he invites them (and indeed all of us) to have with one another and with all of creation. To cultivate such friendship with Jesus and with God is my desire. It is also something I hear in the hearts and stories of so many people with whom I have contact, both within the church and in other spheres of life. Perhaps it is part of the hunger and thirst of those who are searching for meaning in their lives, of those who call themselves "spiritual, but not religious?" Could it be that friendship with God is their journey's destination?

In speaking about the nature of this love and friendship with God in Christ, the *Rule* of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist draws on the relationship of Jesus and the Beloved Disciple John at the Last Supper. In the *Rule* we read, "The image of the trusted friend lying close to the breast of Jesus is an icon of the relationship we enjoy with the Son of God through prayer. It is by being close to him that we are reunited with the Father."

I know that there is no way to the depth of friendship I long for with God apart from paying attention to the relationship. For me, that means carving out sufficient time for prayer, reading and reflection on God's Word, and for "being" with the One with whom I want to have such friendship. I also know that God is ready to welcome

"... God is ready to welcome me and you to that deeper friendship because God loves us—always has, always will!"



Gillian Randall image

me and you to that deeper friendship because God loves us—always has, always will!

"I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:18-19

In the friendship of Christ,

+ Thomas

Echo to be published bimonthly in 2011 Joins with new printing partner

The Mountain Echo will be published six times in 2011: February, April, June, August, October and December. Deadlines are the 10th of the month preceding the publication date. Send news and stories to the editor at abrown@dioceseofvermont.org, or to the postal address in the box on this page.

To ensure that notice of news and events can be shared on a timely basis, the Echo is supplemented by the Mountain E-news, an electronic newsletter sent on the first and fifteenth of each month. To be added to the list, or to send news and event notices, write adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org.

Readers will discover a new publication wrapped inside this issue in place of the Episcopal News Monthly (formerly Episcopal Life). Episcopal Journal, a newly-created independent publication, will also accompany more than 14 other diocesan and local publications mailed into the homes of more than 45,000 Episcopalians across the country.

Editorial director Jerry Hames says the Journal's mission statement is "to inform, involve and inspire Episcopalians in the United States and abroad by sharing the

good news of our church's life and ministry."

Episcopal Journal will depend on news from Episcopal News Service, but readers will also see relevant news and features from other respected Episcopal, Anglican and ecumenical sources, said Hames, who served as editor of Episcopal Life from 1990 to 2007.

"We will also invite contributions from recognized names in the fields of religion, science and the arts, and offer columns and meditations appropriate for the church seasons," Hames said.

The new publication fills a vacuum caused by the decision to terminate the last national print publication at the Episcopal Church Center in New York, he said. The Executive Council of the Episcopal Church voted in October to approve a budget that cut all funding for print publications. That followed an across-the-board budget reduction voted by the General Convention in 2009. As a result, Episcopal News Monthly, which succeeded Episcopal Life a year ago, ceased publication with the January 2011 issue.

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MOUNTAIN ECHO

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Now an edition of Episcopal Journal, Vol. 1, No. 1

Anne Clarke Brown, Editor

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Ruby Sales to be in Lyndonville

Weekend honors Jonathan Myrick Daniels

by Anne Clarke Brown

The Rev. Jeanette McKnight of St. Peter's, Lyndonville, is spearheading a weekend of events in Lyndonville, April 2-3, 2011, to celebrate the life of Jonathan Myrick Daniels. The Episcopal seminarian and civil rights worker was killed in 1965 in Hayneville, Alabama, when he was shot by a deputy sheriff after pushing Ruby Sales, an African-American teen out of the way.

Daniels's grandparents lived in Lyndonville, and he used to visit in the summer. McKnight conceived the celebration as a way to bring the community together, and when Sales accepted her invitation to participate, McKnight said the weekend developed "a life of its own. Everybody wants

to be part of it." Lyndon State College is involved, and a number of ecumenical and interfaith events featuring Sales, including a worship service at St. Peter's, will be offered in various Lyndonville venues.

Ruby Nell Sales, a recent graduate of Episcopal Divinity School, is founder and co-director of The SpiritHouse Project, a national organization in Columbus, Georgia, that uses the arts, research, education, action, and spirituality to bring diverse people together to work for racial, economic, and social justice, as well as for spiritual maturity (www.spirithouseproject.org).

Details will be posted on the diocesan website in the "Coming Events" section and published in the Mountain E-news. ✚

Hone stewardship skills at "Money Follows Mission" conference

by Angela Emerson

"Money Follows Mission: Stewardship Practices for the Body of Christ," is a two-day conference sponsored by the Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council that will be offered March 18-19, 2011, at the Holiday Inn in Marlboro, Massachusetts.

The event will feature the Rev. Mike Slaughter as guest speaker, workshops, networking opportunities and resources. Slaughter is the "Chief Dreamer" of Ginghamburg Church in Tipp City, Ohio, where his "dynamic teaching, heart for the lost, and innovative approach to ministry have led Ginghamburg Church to outgrow all paradigms for a church in a cornfield."

The program will have a rich variety of workshops, some led by people familiar to Vermont Episcopalians. [See right for titles, or download a pdf file with full descriptions at www.dioceseofvermont.org. Click on the "coming events" link on the home page.]

The conference begins with registration Friday at 1 p.m., and the first workshops at 2 p.m. A reception and dinner begin at 6, followed by the first keynote address. Slaughter's other presentations are Saturday

at 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The event ends at 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

Registration information is at www.ecumenical-stewardship.org, where more conference information is available (click the Money Follows Mission Link and then the link for Event Registration). If registering before February 1, the cost for both days is \$95 (after 2/1: \$115), with a \$10 discount for each additional team member. Housing is not included in the fee. It is possible to register for just one day.

Congregations are encouraged to send teams. Some financial assistance from the Diocese may still be available. Contact the Rev. Angela Emerson, aemerson@dioceseofvermont.org, or 802-359-4259 (office). ✚

Vestry Member Orientation Workshop will be offered at nine VIT sites

by Angela Emerson

A first annual workshop for new (and continuing) vestry members is scheduled for February 6, 2011, from 2-4 p.m. at nine convenient Vermont Interactive Television sites: Bennington, Brattleboro, Lyndonville, Montpelier, Newport, Rutland, St. Albans, White River Junction and Williston.

The program is being funded by a 2011 Roanridge Grant, administered through the Office of Congregational Vitality of The Episcopal Church. The Diocese of Vermont is one of seven recipients of the grants, which are awarded to agencies actively engaged in developing new and creative models for leadership development in small communities across the Church.

The workshop will include:

- Reflections on Matthew 7 and importance of spiritual grounding;
- the ministries of planning, organizing, recruiting, and monitoring;
- the ministry of communication;

- the annual cycle of vestry life: orientation, organization, assessment, and celebration;
- the canonical ministries of finances, buildings and grounds, and personnel;
- the annual planning calendar and making time to do it all!

Vestry members will receive copies of the Episcopal Church Foundation's *Vestry Resource Guide*.

Register by sending an email to adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org. Include your name, the name of your congregation, the site you have selected and whether you are a new or returning member of the vestry. For information on Vermont Interactive Television, visit www.vitlink.org. To download a pdf file with a list of the sites and their addresses, go to www.dioceseofvermont.org and find the link under "Coming Events."

The Rev. E. Angela Emerson is diocesan minister for stewardship development.

Parish administrators, secretaries and clergy invited to "Getting Things Done"

by Patrick Sims

The Diocese of Vermont's Ministry Support Team is excited to announce the upcoming workshop, "Getting Things Done: The art of stress free productivity," to be held at the Bishop Booth Conference Center (BBCC) at Rock Point on Monday, February 28 and Tuesday, March 1, 2011. The workshop is designed specifically for parish administrators and secretaries not only to assist them in their daily tasks but

also to offer life-enhancing tools that can be used in everyday situations. Clergy who have no administrative or secretarial assistance will also benefit.

The workshop facilitator, Robin Hammeal-Urban of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut will present a methodology for self-management using aspects of time management and organization. But there is much more—the goal is to have mental peace so one can respond appropriately to life's challenges rather than simply react.

A participant at a previous "Getting Things Done" workshop said, "If you are tired of feeling as if your parish office wheels are just spinning around, going nowhere, get thee quickly to GTD! You'll say a prayer of thanksgiving that you did." Others noted the value of attending with their rectors.

All parish administrators and secretaries, as well as clergy are invited to attend the workshop. The workshop offers a rare opportunity for parish administrators and secretaries throughout the Diocese to come together, learn, share experiences and develop professional relationships with others doing the same or similar work.

Workshop times will be Monday, February 28, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, March 1, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Attendance at both sessions is necessary to complete the program. Maximum enrollment is 25, so register early. The fee of \$230 per person will cover the workshop, lodging at the BBCC, and some meals. For those who do not require lodging, the fee is \$165. Grant opportunities are available through the Committee on Christian Formation and the Congregational Support and Resources Committee. Contact adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org for application forms and deadlines.

For a registration form or for more information contact Patrick Sims: psims@dioceseofvermont.org, or 802-863-3431.

Patrick Sims is executive assistant to Bishop Ely and Canon Bates.

"Money Follows Mission" Workshops

On Friday afternoon (2-5 pm), choose between two extended workshops:

1. The Pastor's Role in Stewardship (for clergy).
2. Equipping Lay Leaders for the Ministry of Stewardship Formation (for lay leaders). Led by Vermont's Minister for Stewardship Development, the Rev. Angela Emerson, with Mr. Bruce Rockwell from the Diocese of Western Massachusetts.

Saturday Morning workshops:

1. God's Money: Endowment & Planned Giving in your Congregation (Part I).
2. Discipleship Leads to Year-round Stewardship (Part I).
3. Using Your Building as an Asset for Ministry (Part I). Led by Tuomi Joshua Forest, Associate Director, Partners for Sacred Places, who led the Partners training in the Diocese of Vermont.
4. Stewardship of Creation as Christian Mission (Part I). Leaders include the Rev. Anita Schell-Lambert, Rector, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Newport, RI, Ms. Frances Huessey, Chair, Diocese of Vermont Earth Stewards Committee, and Mr. Ron Garvey, Vermont Interfaith Power and Light.
5. Lay Leadership Bodies as Stewards. Led by the Rev. Angela Emerson, Minister for Stewardship Development, Diocese of Vermont.
6. The Big Taboo: Talking About Money in Church.
7. Towards being a Missional Church. Learn of churches engaged in mission and explore the concept of being a Missional Church.
8. Generational Differences in Stewardship.

Saturday Afternoon workshops:

1. God's Money: Endowment & Planned Giving in your Congregation (Part II).
2. Discipleship Leads to Year-round Stewardship (Part II).
3. Using Your Building as an Asset for Ministry (Part II).
4. Stewardship of Creation as Christian Mission (Part II).
5. Narrative Budget: Telling the Story of Your Mission and Ministry.
6. Asset Based Planning: Discovering your gifts for Mission.
7. Family Budgeting as Christian Ministry.
8. Change is Inevitable—Growth is Optional: We Choose to Grow through Mission!

Ministry Expo 2011

One day – One stop
Learn a lot
Save the Dates

April 2 at Trinity Church, Shelburne
April 9 at St. Michael's, Brattleboro
8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Both days will have identical workshops in all ministries, offering training for new leaders, refreshers for long-time leaders and Christian fellowship for all.

Workshop proposals are welcome. Contact Wendy Grace at trinity2@sover.net.

Details will be available at www.dioceseofvermont.org by early March, and workshop descriptions will be published in the Mountain E-news. To sign up for the E-news (it comes out twice a month), write adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org.

Episcopal Relief & Development issues report on its work in Haiti

by Robert Radtke

Because of your support, Episcopal Relief & Development has been able to partner with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti and its relief and development arm, CEDDISEC (Centre Diocésain de Développement Intégré et de Secours), to deliver services and help Haitians revitalize their communities. Guided by the vision and deep commitment of the Rt. Rev. Jean Zaché Duracin, the Church of Haiti has taken a lead role in these relief and recovery efforts.

Even with your generous support, there have been setbacks—the threat of a hurricane, a devastating cholera outbreak and

post-election violence—and there is still a lot of work to do. The Church is present in the midst of this, and Episcopal Relief & Development continues to support its mission of care in affected communities.

A new Haiti One Year Report is now available in pdf format on our website at www.er-d.org/Haiti. As you read this report, I hope you are able to get a sense of how your support is empowering people in Haiti, as they continue to put their lives back together and even make things better than before the earthquake.

Robert Radtke is president of Episcopal Relief & Development.

Phyllis Zechinelli fêted in Hardwick

by Mary Jane Dexter

St. John the Baptist, Hardwick honored Phyllis Zechinelli last June for her sixty-four years as a member of the church. She had just arrived, a new bride from England in 1946. Her father had counseled her as she left, saying, "Phyllis. Find a church!" And she did. The small mission welcomed her and immediately made her a member of the Altar Guild.

The vestry conferred on Zechinelli a citation for her many years of service at the church, and she received with a warm and gracious letter from Bishop Tom Ely. Betty and Sarah Maynard came over from St. Andrew's, St. Johnsbury. Betty made a splendid presentation about Altar Guild membership

and commended Phyllis for her constancy and devotion to this service to her church. Sarah presented Phyllis with the impressive Altar Guild Award from the Diocese.

At the coffee hour, Phyllis was feted with cake and flowers to remind her of the love and gratitude that all of us have for her example of unending service for her St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church.

Mary Jane Dexter is a member of St. John the Baptist, Hardwick.

Good Shepherd honors Iole Carusi



Alan Rogers image

by Alban Richey

On December 26, 2010, the congregation and friends of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre, gathered to celebrate the 100th birthday of the parish's most senior member, Miss Iole Carusi. Very well known in Barre, Carusi worked at various downtown establishments, culminating with a distinguished career at National Life Insurance Company in Montpelier. Upon her retirement, she led an active social life consistent with her positive outlook on life and her faithful service to her church, including Altar Guild. She received birthday greetings from President Obama, Governor Douglas, Bishop Ely, and from the Rev. Craig Smith, former rector of Good Shepherd.

Alban Richey is a member of Good Shepherd, Barre.

St. Paul's, Wells, observes 169th anniversary

by Michelle Bates

The people of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wells, Vermont, gathered in their Church January 23, to celebrate the 169th anniversary of the consecration of their historic edifice. Built following a design of the first Bishop of Vermont, the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, the building was consecrated on January 25, 1842.

This year's observance fell on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Paul, the patron of the church, and included a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, followed by a festive reception in the Parish House behind the church. St. Paul's is located on the village green at East Wells Road.

Michelle Bates is senior warden at St. Paul's, Wells.



ACB image

Three Rivers Regional Ministry ends partnership



by Anne Clarke Brown

Members of Church of Our Saviour, Killington, worshipped at their regular time on January 9, 2011, and then traveled to Christ Church, Bethel, for a potluck meal and a "Service of Closure and Thanksgiving" to mark the end of the Three Rivers Regional Ministry.

The two congregations established the regional ministry in 1997, when both were in interim ministry situations. Both congregations agreed that, while each would retain its unique identity, the concept of total ministry—the development and encouragement of the ministries of all church members—would be a guiding principle for

the regional ministry. In 1998, they called the Rev. Diane Root to serve as canon missionary. While they hoped to attract at least one more congregation, that goal could not be met.

In early 2010, Christ Church notified Our Saviour that they wished to end the relationship, both for financial reasons and because they wished to put their energy into exploration of forming a covenant group and ultimately a ministry support team.

Based on the Prayer Book Service for Evening, the congregation heard Scripture, sang hymns, enjoyed musical offerings from each congregation, and offered prayers and thanksgivings.

Christ Church Senior Warden Kelly-ann Wolfe reflected on the changes Christ Church is going through and the goals toward which the congregation is working in its discernment process, both in terms of its new covenant group and efforts to learn from the community how Christ Church can best serve its needs.

Our Saviour Senior Warden Anne Brown spoke about the history of Three Rivers, reading from an article about its inauguration, and said she thought it was fitting to have the closing service on a day the congregations renewed their baptismal vows. An implicit part of keeping those vows, she said, has to do with being aware of context and being willing to change. The ending of Three Rivers does not, she said, represent failure, but rather a recognition that the time has come to be faithful to callings that lead in new and perhaps yet unknown directions. She said she expected the two congregations would continue to pray for one another and celebrate each other's ministries. ❖

Twelve Baptisms at Holy Trinity, Swanton



Sarah Nielsen image

January 9, 2011, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, was an extraordinary day at Holy Trinity, Swanton. Rector Reid Farrell baptized twelve children, ranging in age from newborn to ten years old, at the 10 a.m. service. "The older ones think it's pretty cool to have been baptized on the day we recall Jesus' baptism," reported Farrell. "And I love that there were 12 of them," said Senior Warden, Mary Wood. "It's a really nice symbol." The youngest of those baptized was Elizabeth Loiselle, who appeared as Baby Jesus (with her parents as Mary and Joseph) in this Christmas "Paper Bag Pageant" at Holy Trinity.

Donna Reidt ordained priest



Participating clergy step back from sharing in the laying on of hands during the prayer of consecration of Donna Reidt as priest at St. Luke's, Chester.

by Anne Clarke Brown

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely, Bishop of Vermont, ordained Donna Jane Reidt to the Sacred Order of Priests on December 18, 2010, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Chester. Reidt has served at St. Luke's since her ordination as a deacon. Ordained colleagues, friends and family joined the St. Luke's community for the festive event.

Preacher Thomas Brown, former rector at Reidt's home congregation, St. Michael's, Brattleboro, noted that the cornerstones on the white-framed churches in many Vermont communities do not read, "founded," but rather, "gathered." He told Reidt, "Your call is to gather yourself with the people of God." And he counseled her to avoid the trap of believing she is "the one and only one to find them." It is, he said, "the responsibility of all to gather the rest of us in Christ's bosom."

Brown said to Reidt, "This liturgy is not a magic spell. Instead we acknowledge what already is, and we call on God to give you the Holy Spirit." To the congregation, he said, "Everything about Donna's life as a baptized Christian informs what we do today. Donna is gathered, not founded."

Brown said he is enrolling Reidt in the 251 club—those who have visited all 251 towns in Vermont—as a "reminder that we are a diocesan church and that we are called to serve in all of those 251 towns." He concluded his charge to her: "In your gathering and sending, make sure your fellow sheep know it is Christ who does the feeding."



Haiti Appeal

Continued from Page A

Council adopted the resolution, which asks congregations and individuals "to participate generously" by raising funds to be brought to Diocesan Convention in November and presented to House of Deputies President Bonnie Anderson at the offertory. The Convention offering will also go to the initiative.

The Global Reconciliation Committee will offer a plan and resources to the Diocese in the next weeks. Watch for more information on the website (www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/GlobalReconciliation) and in the April issue of the Mountain Echo. Or visit www.EpiscopalChurch.org/HaitiAppeal. But it is not too soon to begin planning special fundraising activities. ✦

Thomas Mousin ordained deacon



Above: Thomas Mousin (center) is presented to Bishop Ely by the Reverends Jean Jersey, John Van Siclen and Jean Smith (left), and Mr. John Daly, Ms. Dorothy Rice and, behind the Rev. Merritt Greenwood, Ms. Carol Hesselbach and Ms. Laura Lewis.

Left: Bishop Ely consecrates Thomas Mousin to the Sacred Order of Deacons. Deacon Joel Hill holds the service book.

by Anne Clarke Brown

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely ordained Thomas Nordboe Mousin to the Sacred Order of Deacons at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Brattleboro, on December 14, 2010. Mousin, previously ordained in the Methodist Church, was received into the Episcopal Church at St. Michael's and subsequently entered the ordination process. He now lives in Winchester, Massachusetts.

The Rev. Sarah Horton, who knew Mousin in their Clinical Pastoral Education program, told in her sermon of encountering questions in that program such as those they saw written in chalk on a sidewalk: "Am I a child of God? Does God care about me? Does God care what I do with my life?" She said of Mousin that she had "found in him a pastoral presence."

In spite of Mousin's considerable assets, Horton said, "He faces an impossible task: how to bring the church to the world... and how to bring the world to the church." She then added, "Because the task of ordained ministry is impossible, it is entirely doable."

Horton said, "Our life in Christ is about thankfulness and praise.... It is a song of grace." And, she said, "As we try to serve, it is important to know all along that we are being served." She spoke of God's steadfast love as a light in the sometimes dark night of the soul and said, "The promise and presence of that light of love gives us grace to respond to that sidewalk questioner."

Addressing Mousin, Horton concluded, "I am glad you found your homecoming in the Anglican tradition. May you also treasure the riches of your Methodist ways and in the words of John Wesley, 'treasure the joy of every loving heart.'"

In a reception after the service, members of the St. Michael's congregation presented Mousin with a calligraphy and wished Bishop Ely "happy birthday" with a cake and song. ✦



Bishop Ely invites the congregation to greet the newly ordained and vested priest.

Space available for March El Salvador pilgrimage—*Última llamada*/last call

by Lee Alison Crawford

There is still time to join the group of Vermonters who will travel to El Salvador March 19-26, 2011. The pilgrimage will be led by the Rev'd Lee Alison Crawford, priest in partnership at Trinity, Rutland, and Canon Missioner of the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador. The week-long trip will coincide with the 31st-anniversary observances of the martyrdom of Msr. Oscar Romero.

The Anglican Church of El Salvador has had a remarkable ministry of hospitality to groups who have come from all over to the world to learn more about its work and, in the past, to work with Episcopal Relief and Development projects (particularly after the 2001 earthquakes).

Participants will be based in San Salvador but will spend the week traveling throughout the country, meeting with locals and learning about the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador. They will have a chance to worship with local congregations, participate in an annual procession for the observance of Romero's martyrdom, and visit *Hasta la Cosecha* (Until the Harvest), which Fundación Cristosal and Trinity Church, Wall Street, have been supporting. Pilgrims will also see the San Salvador "Way of Tears" (the sites of martyrdom). Ori-

entation will be provided by the Most Rev. Martín Barahona, Bishop of El Salvador and former archbishop of the Province of the Anglican Church of the Region of Central America (IARCA), and local experts.

Airfare will run just over \$800 from Hartford, Connecticut, or Albany, New York, to San Salvador (this price rarely changes). Hotel rooms are \$42/night (double or single), with one night in El Maizal in the western part of El Salvador running \$15/night plus food. Transportation and meal costs will depend to some extent on how many people sign up for the trip. All in all, one can plan on spending about \$1300-\$1500 for the entire week (including airfare). Participants are encouraged to apply to the Commission on Ministry's Committee on Christian Formation for continuing education grant money (www.dioceseofvermont.org/Orgs/ChristianFormation).

Knowledge of Spanish is not a requirement for this trip though it will enhance one's participation.

For more information, contact Lee Alison Crawford at 775-4368 (w) or 775-3953 (h), or email at lacinvt94@aol.com.

The Rev. Lee Alison Crawford is priest-in-partnership at Trinity, Rutland, and canon missioner of the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador.

More Coming Events

"The Wild & the Sacred" Art Exhibit

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 2 Cherry Street, Burlington

January 23 to February 28, 2011

Artist Marion Honors, Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Latham, NY, is inspired by the work of the late Thomas Berry, monk, social historian and advocate of new awareness of our sacred relationship with the mystical life of creation. The Earth Care Ministry at the Cathedral, sponsor of the exhibit, invites all to "come and be inspired for your Earth care work in 2011!" For more information, email Sylvia Knight, coordinator of the Cathedral's Earth Care Ministry, at sknight@gmavt.net.

A Concert of Spirit-filled Songs

Holy Trinity Church, On the Green, Swanton

Sunday, March 6, 4 p.m.

Under the direction of Rob Guerrina, the program will include spirituals, liturgical classics, and contemporary works performed by the choir and various soloists. Admission is free, and a reception will follow in the Parish Hall. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 802-868-7185.

Integrity Vermont Event

Valentine's Day and Feast of St. Aelred Eucharist and Party

Holy Trinity Church, On the Green, Swanton

Sunday, February 13, 2011, 4 p.m.

Integrity Vermont is the regional presence of Integrity USA, the leading public voice of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) persons in the Episcopal Church. It seeks to bring together individuals and congregations who share the vision of a church in which *all* the baptized are fully included in the Body of Christ.

Stone Church Arts

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church Street, Bellows Falls

Tickets for most Stone Church Arts Concerts are \$17 (\$13 seniors and children under 12) in advance and \$20 (\$15) at the door. They may be purchased online at www.battleborotix.com. Call 802-463-3100 for information, or visit www.immanuelepiscope.org/StoneChurchArts.html.

Jayne Kelly, classical pianist

Saturday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.

Jayne Kelly has recorded a CD featuring a wide range of compositions from the Classical period through contemporary works. She has also recorded "Recurrences," a new composition by New Hampshire composer Marilyn Ziffirin. Kelly's technical skill and expressiveness, along with her ability to find the inner voices in a wide variety of classical pieces, have won her many followers.

St. Patrick's Fiddle Frenzy

with Blue Moose and the Unbuttoned Zippers

Saturday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.

Founded in 2006 by four Berklee College of Music students, BMUZ decided to do something really different. They combined Scandinavian music and a nyckelharpa with American Old Time music, four and five string fiddles and a jazz and bluegrass guitarist. The result? A contemporary string band filled with epic triple fiddles, catchy melodies and driving rhythms full of raw energy.

Original Blues & Soul: Dave Keller Band

Saturday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.

Dave Keller is a singer/guitarist who has forged a style uniquely his own—intense and soulful, gritty and sweet. Like the best blues and soul men before him, Keller learned his art firsthand from the masters: Mighty Sam McClain, Paul Rishell, Fontella Bass, and the late great Robert Ward. Keller is a featured singer and co-writer on BMA-nominated *Living In The Light*, the most recent CD by guitarist Ronnie Earl.

Eugene Friesen and Friends

Saturday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

Once again, Friesen, Vermont-based cellist and composer and music director of Stone Church Arts, brings world class musicians to Bellows Falls for a jazz/world music concert the likes of which are normally only seen in big cities such as NYC or Boston. Friesen is active as a soloist and educator and is on the faculty of the Berklee College of Music in Boston. His CD "In the Shade of Angels" (recorded in Immanuel Church) is on sale to benefit Stone Church Arts.

Training for a Safer Church 2011

February 5, 2011

St. Paul's, White River Junction

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: Josh Cheney or Iris Darling, adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org, 802-286-3437.

More dates for 2011 will be posted at www.dioceseofvermont.org/education/SaferChurch.html.

"Living with peace, joy and compassion" is Lenten retreat theme

by Mary Lou Ashton

The Very Rev. Diane Nancekivell of Bridport, Vermont, will lead the 2011 diocesan Lenten retreat, "Living with peace, joy and compassion," at the Bishop Booth Conference Center March 18–20, 2011.

Nancekivell notes that Jesus said, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15: 11). She says, "Jesus really means what he's saying here; we are supposed to live lives that are joy-filled, loving and compassionate—everyday. Our time together," she adds, "will include reflections on some of the blocks we put in the way to fulfilling Jesus' invitation to us. It will also include reflections on ways to practice expanding our hearts and minds, ways to believe that we can be joyful and ways to imagine living with compassion." She asks that participants "bring a journal for your own reflections but no other books."

Nancekivell is currently a part-time retreat associate at St. Paul's Cathedral in Burlington, and a sometime helper at St. Stephen's in Middlebury, where she also leads a well-established Christian Media-

tion group. She lives with her husband Tom Baskett in Bridport in a 200-year-old farmhouse on 40 acres looking out to the Green Mountains. Together they have 4 grown sons and 8 grandchildren, with one more to arrive the end of March. Before moving to Vermont 5 years ago, Nancekivell was Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Trenton New Jersey. She has led retreats at Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York, and is president of the board of Kids4Peace Vermont.

To reserve a room, send a \$50 non-refundable check made out to BBCC to John King, 433 Bean Road, Colchester, VT 05446. The cost of the retreat if registered before March 10, is \$165 for a shared room, \$190 for a private room (if available) and \$115 for days only. After March 10, the cost is \$175 for a shared room, \$200 for a private room (if available) and \$125 for days only. Based on requests made by retreatants, meditative yoga will be offered on Saturday afternoon at no extra cost. Please contact John King at the address above or by phone at 802-862-6834 with questions and/or special physical or dietary needs.

Mary Lou Ashton is a member of St. Andrew's, Colchester.

Classes offered on spiritual health "Fitness for the Mind, Will and Feelings"

Jane Lee Wolfe, a member of St. James', Woodstock, and director of Bog Chapel, Inc., a spiritual health and fitness not-for-profit, is leading on-going, weekly, one-hour classes that address such issues as peace, justice, joy, forgiveness, healing and more.

Wolfe says that participants will develop spiritual health and fitness action plans that are realistic and measurable. The instructional conversations and exercises will result in an increased sense of safety, nurturing and empowerment; they also build spiritual strength, endurance and flexibility. Anyone interested in spiritual health and fitness is invited to attend.

The classes are Tuesdays, 12:15–1:15 p.m., upstairs at the Upper Valley Food Coop, White River Junction; and Thursdays,

5:00–6:00 p.m., upstairs in the Simmons Building of the Ottaquechee Health Center, Woodstock. The cost is \$10/class or \$100 for 11 classes (punch card). Classes began January 18, but participants are welcome any time.

In addition to directing Bog Chapel, Wolfe is the President of World Day of Prayer USA Committee and a member of the World YWCA Peace and Justice Task Force.

For more information about spiritual health and fitness or Wolfe, visit www.janeleewolfe.com. Email question to info@janeleewolfe.com or call 802-457-3999 to leave a return-call number. ✦

Lenten meditations available

[Forward Movement] *Good Lord, Deliver Us: A Lenten Journey*, Forward Movement's annual book of Lenten meditations, is now available. The Rev. Lindsay Hardin Freeman and her husband Leonard reflect on the words of the Great Litany and the Great Vigil of Easter to look at the many ways in which deliverance comes to us through Christ's passion and God's grace.

Like the Great Litany itself, their reflections speak of human frailty and holy grace, of the longings and aspirations of our human hearts, and of the transformative power of God's abiding love: "Every life has its own story. But somewhere along the way, standing at the edge of a Red Sea of our own, it becomes clear that we need deliverance. The core miracle is our experience of God's active hand getting us through the waters to dry land."

To learn more, visit <http://forwardmovement.org> and click "Featured Products." The cost is \$3.00 per copy, or \$2.00 each for orders of 10 or more. ✦

Diocesan Council

Continued from Page A

- Develop new Council Stewardship statement.
- Actively monitor the Annual Appeal.
- Prepare and recommend the 2012 diocesan budget.

Other Business

Bishop Ely said that the delegates who would be asked to attend the Special Convention called for June 4, to consider whether to carry out a capital campaign would be those elected at this year's annual parish meetings, not those who attended the 2010 Diocesan Convention.

Treasurer Wally Good reported that work is still underway to finalize the financial report for 2010, but that, "We have paid the bills. We do not have excess funds."

Council considered and adopted a resolution about participation in an Episcopal Church campaign to aid the Diocese of Haiti. See the article on Page A for details.

Judy Krum publishes new book

Gossamer Threads to Catch the Soul: Spiritual Reflections for the Church Year, by Judith V. Krum, is now available on Amazon.com. Krum, a former member of St. Peter's, Bennington (now living in Florida), is an award-winning poet, former teacher/counselor, and disability rights advocate. She wrote the hymn text for the Diocese of Vermont's 175th Anniversary celebration.

Krum meditates and reflects on scriptural passages, prayers and collects from The Book of Common Prayer of The Episcopal Church. Taking inspiration from everyday life and from the lives of saints and sinners, *Gossamer Threads* is a slim, readable book illustrating the links between real life and real faith. The collection begins with Advent's watching and waiting and preparing to be ready for the coming of the Christ. The meditations then move to Epiphany, Lent, Eastertide, and Pentecost, reflecting

on many familiar Biblical passages, hymns, and prayers.

The included pictures are from the author's personal collection of travel and family photographs and will be useful to the reader as places to stop and consider the material just read, just like benches along a path.

The title takes inspiration from Walt Whitman's poem, "A Noiseless, Patient Spider," in which the spider, like the soul, casts out gossamer threads hoping to attach to something permanent. This volume encourages the reader to find those gossamer threads in the ordinary hours of every day and in a heritage of faith that continues to sustain contemporary lives.

The book is also available on Kindle, although the paperback has additional photos and additional inside material. ✚

"Ripple" is Chittenden County ecumenical youth ministry

by Rachel Stampul

Ripple is a regional ecumenical youth ministry cooperative that brings youth together from many different churches around Chittenden County, in order to create an exciting youth ministry program. Our core focus is about creating peace in the world and becoming peacemakers.

Ripple meets twice a month as a youth group and has a parent support group that meets at the same time. We also have occasional activities like the 30 Hour Fast for the Hungry (and Thirsty), mission trips, and local service projects that focus on service learning.

Come to Ripple to:

- Find meaning—through service, mission, meditation, worship...

- Find acceptance—through community with peers and adults who love you for who you are and for everything that makes you unique...

- Find direction—through coaching, small groups, inspirational retreats...

- Find comfort—through pastoral counseling, small groups, and prayer...

- Find empowerment—through leadership training and opportunities.

Ripple is an open and affirming ministry where the LGBT community is welcomed and loved, invited to serve with us in ministry and to seek alongside us in safety.

For more information about Ripple, visit ripplevt.ning.com or contact Rachel Stampul at RachelStampul@gmail.com or 802-881-3768. ✚

Sale of water bottles benefits Pure Water for the World

by Bob Wertz

The Diocese of Vermont has sent \$1,226.00 to Pure Water for the World (PWW) as a result of the sale of stainless steel water bottles. The Earth Stewards Committee (ESC), which sponsored the water bottle sale, is pleased to have had a part in PWW's efforts to provide potable water in areas of the world where such is not available by turning on the kitchen faucet.

Carolyn Crowley Meub, executive director of PWW, wrote, "I would like to extend the gratitude of the many children you and I may never meet who will enjoy healthier and happier lives because you care. I have personally seen little children suffering from intestinal illnesses due to polluted drinking water. I have also seen these same children, healthy and eager to learn, after receiving and using a household filtration system. I wish you could also see this, as you would then truly know the great value of your donation." To learn more about PWW and its work, particularly in Haiti, visit www.purewaterfortheworld.org.

As soon as 200 bottles have been sold, the committee will donate another \$613 to

PWW. The ESC says, "This is clearly a 'best practice' demonstrative of the ESC's desire to make a difference in our diocese and in the lives of those we serve. Many of you have already been a part of this. For this we thank you."

The water bottles truly are a practical item that allows one to avoid the trap of buying water from corporate America and the pitfall of sending yet another piece of plastic to a landfill. Several members of the ESC have water bottles to sell. Contact any one of the names/numbers/email addresses listed here:

Diocesan Office, Burlington
adminasst@dioceseofvermont.org
 802-863-3431

Angie Emerson, St. Paul's, White River Junction
aemerson@dioceseofvermont.org
 802-359-4059 (office)

Wendy Grace, Trinity, Rutland
trinity2@sover.net
 802-775-4368 (8:30am – 1:30pm)

Bob Wertz is a member of the Earth Stewards Committee and St. Thomas & Grace, Brandon.

Crawford tapped for Holy Land Pilgrimage

by Bruce Howard

The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Vermont is pleased to announce that they have selected the Rev. Canon Lee Alison Crawford of Trinity Episcopal Church, Rutland, as the Vermont Representative for the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage, a program of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States.

The Mission of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee intends to send ordained Christian ministers on a biblical study and historical/cultural immersion experience who would not have the opportunity otherwise. They believe the opportunity to "walk where Jesus walked" can positively affect the preaching, teaching, and spirituality of Christian ministers.

Local Commanderies of Knights Templar submit applications on behalf of local ministers, and state committees select one or more participants. Criteria include having never traveled to the Holy Land before, being a fully ordained minister with at least four years of ministry experience and at least ten years of full time service yet to go. They must be willing to travel with an ecumenical group of other ordained ministers from many denominations and religious groups, male and female. Killington Commandery #6 Knights Templar of Rutland was pleased to submit Crawford's name as a candidate, and the Grand Commandery of Vermont felt she was an excellent candidate to represent Vermont. We wish her well and look forward to her reflections of this trip for many years to come.

Crawford will participate in a February pilgrimage of nine days in the Holy Land. The pilgrimage is an intense program of travel and study, worth three continuing education credits, and an excellent opportunity to strengthen ministries.

Crawford said that she is greatly looking forward to this incredible opportunity of seeing sites so important to the three Abrahamic faiths—Judaism, Islam and Christianity—and walking in the path of Christ and the early Christian Church "Proclaiming the Gospel already is taking on more significance as I get closer and closer to leaving for the Holy Land," she stated.

Bruce Howard is a member of Trinity, Rutland, and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar.

Prayers recognize 10th anniversary of Episcopal-Lutheran relationship

[Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs] In honor of the tenth anniversary of full communion between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Prayers of the People have been prepared for use by congregations in both denominations and are available at www.episcopalchurch.org/ecumenism.

The Rev. Dr. Tom Ferguson, Episcopal Church Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations Officer, said, "Prayers have been prepared to honor the past decade of our mission together and for our ministry together in the future."

Noting that on January 6, 2001, The Episcopal Church and the ELCA entered into a

relationship of full communion through *Called to Common Mission*, Ferguson explained that this action was not a merger. "In full communion both churches retain their autonomy and structures but agree to work together for joint mission and witness in the world," he said.

Prayers are presented for use in all six forms of Prayers of the People found in the Book of Common Prayer. For example, the suggestion for Form II is: "I ask your prayers of thanksgiving for the tenth anniversary of the relationship of full communion between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Pray for enduring commitment to common mission." ✚

The Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger becomes Hunger Free Vermont

[Burlington] Vermont's leading anti-hunger advocacy organization, the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, launched its new name January 4: Hunger Free Vermont. Since 1993 the organization's outreach and advocacy have significantly enhanced Vermont's nutrition safety net and broadened access to healthy food for Vermont's children and families. Executive Director Marissa Parisi remarks, "While we will continue to focus on feeding Vermont's kids, we wanted our name also to reflect our work and commitment to the nutrition needs of Vermont's adults and seniors."

Hunger Free Vermont works to advocate for policy that expands and improves meal programs in school, afterschool and summer programs and in child care. Additionally, Hunger Free Vermont works to improve the 3SquaresVT benefit (formerly Food Stamps) so that more Vermonters are

eligible and that those that are eligible have the tools necessary to enroll. In order to improve the nutrition of all Vermonters, Hunger Free Vermont advocates for improved quality of the food in all meal programs, including incorporating fresh, local foods. It also offers The Learning Kitchen program which teaches low-income youth and adults how to prepare healthy meals on a budget.

Vermont is ranked 9th hungriest in the nation, with 1 in 7 Vermonters of all ages living in food insecure households. "The effects of hunger are devastating for vulnerable Vermonters," Parisi remarks. "The name Hunger Free Vermont reflects our work and vision as advocates and educators who believe in solving hunger not just for today, but for a lifetime."

For more information visit www.hungerfreevt.org, or contact Marissa Parisi: 865-0255; MParisi@HungerFreeVT.org. ✚

Diocesan Calendar

February 2011

- 1 Fresh Start for Clergy, 9:30 am–2:30 pm
- 5 Safer Church Training, St. Paul's, White River Junction 8:45 am–3 pm
- 6 Workshop for vestry members, Vermont Interactive Television sites, 2–4 pm
- 15 Rock Point Board Program, Diocesan Office, 3-5 pm
- 15 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Office, 1–3 pm
- 21 Diocesan Office closed for President's Day
- 28–March 1 "Getting Things Done" Workshop for parish administrators, secretaries and clergy

March 2011

- 1 Fresh Start for Clergy, 9:30 am–2:30 pm
- 5 Diocesan Council, White River Junction, 10 am–3 pm
- 9 Ash Wednesday
- 9 Dispatch of Business, Diocesan Office, 1–3 pm
- 15 Rock Point Board Program, Diocesan Office, 3-5 pm
- 18-19 Northeast Ecumenical Council Stewardship Conference, Holiday Inn, Marlboro, MA
- 18-20 Diocesan Lenten Retreat, BBCC

Celebrating the past and embracing the future Rock Point School calls a new headmaster



Image courtesy of Charlotte Blend

Rock Point Headmaster-elect CJ Spirito with retiring Headmaster John Rouleau.

by Charlotte Blend

When John Rouleau arrived at Rock Point School in 1971 as the part time music teacher, he perhaps could not have imagined that he would still be here 40 years later, having traveled to the position of headmaster through the science room, the kitchen, the assistant headmaster's office and some other places in between. For John, 40 years at Rock Point School have provided a wonderful community full of spirited, intelligent, curious young people and caring, funny adults, a lifetime of educational and recreational experiences, and a home for him and his family. For Rock Point School, 40 years of John Rouleau have provided a teacher, a friend, an inspiration and the subject of many japes and jokes. Every day a laugh, a song, a challenge overcome, a story shared, and a plan made for the next day.

During John's time at Rock Point School there have been many changes to the program and the types of students served. His hard work and steady and confident leadership has played an instrumental role in guiding the school to the strong and thriving place in which it now finds itself. The mission and ambience of Rock Point School is personified in our affable and tenaciously caring headmaster.

But all good things must come to an end, and John will officially leave his post as headmaster on June 30, 2011. His legacy will live on in many ways, especially in the lives of the hundreds of students whom he has helped in a myriad of ways during his time at Rock Point School. He will be succeeded by current Assistant Headmaster CJ Spirito, who has been at the school since 1991 and has lived on campus with his family since 1996. "Being a member of Rock Point is a gift. Rock Point School is a fun and energetic place to be. I feel excited to have been chosen to lead the school as we grow into the challenges ahead," says CJ.

John is very pleased to be handing over his position to CJ, "He brings a strong commitment to the mission of the school. He is a leader who is inclusive and elicits everyone's contribution to process. CJ is kind and patient and able to look beyond the immediate situation to see the next step, the next destination, the long-term solution. CJ values tradition, ceremonies and fun." CJ is dedicated to the mission of the school and has an enthusiastic eye on the future. John says, "Although this phrase has been used in many ways recently, I think that CJ's style is to promote sustain-

able growth for his students, his staff and for the school."

For his part, CJ is looking forward to "having fun with students and staff and building the future of the school. In my time here I learned that the Rock Point Community is much greater than just the people who live and work within the walls of the school. The parents of students, their grandparents, siblings, treasured family members, and friends of Rock Point—former students, parishioners, other supporters from near and far—all weave together to make the tapestry of our extended community. I am looking forward to shifting my role at the school from working intensely with the people in the school to learning more about and collaborating with the people outside of the school. I appreciate the relationships we have with many parishes throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont. I look forward to maintaining and strengthening those relationships, as well as continuing to forge new connections in the Diocese."

This summer will mark an important point in the history of Rock Point School and will present a wonderful opportunity for celebration of the past and excitement for the future. As CJ says, "It has been an honor, and a whole lot of fun, to work with John Rouleau, and watch him build bridges with so many people. He has been a great mentor and friend. I am eager to keep learning from him and to keep strengthening the momentum that he has built." It is indeed a wonderful and privileged position for the whole school community to be in as we wave goodbye to a retiring headmaster who has given 40 years of work, laughter, fun and wisdom, and embrace the exciting ideas and energy of a new headmaster who is brimming with plans to improve, secure and continue the work of Rock Point School.

Charlotte Blend is director of development at Rock Point School.



Rock Point Summer Camp 2011

Save the Dates

Day Camp ❖ June 27–July 1

Elementary Camp ❖ July 3–July 8

Intermediate Camp ❖ July 10–15

Junior High Camp ❖ July 17–22

Kids4Peace ❖ July 13–July 24

High School Camp ❖ July 24–August 3

Note: High School Camp moved to accommodate the 2011 Episcopal Youth Event

Also new this year: High School Camp is 10 days!

Family Camping ❖ August 7-12

All new opportunity. Please email if you are interested!

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions please contact Jennifer Ogelby, Summer Camp Director at jenloring52@yahoo.com.

For more information, visit us at the Bishop Booth Conference Center website: www.rockpointcenter.org or the Rock Point Camp Blog: rpsc.wordpress.com

Please join us for the 2nd Annual Rock Point Camp Open House on Sunday, May 15 from 1–5 p.m.

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

Funds Available for Parish Use As of January 15, 2010

Initiative I	
The Bishop Butterfield Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 762,317
Initiative II	
The Talent and Resource Network	\$ 25,469
Initiative III	
The Congregation Renewal and Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 16,206
Initiative IV	
The Diocesan Outreach Fund	\$ 12,485

Walter P. Irish Fund

Assistance for churches in small communities \$ 40,568

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.

Evensong in the style of Taizé

St. Andrew's, 1063 Primm Road, Colchester
First Sunday of the month , 6:30 p.m.

Info: standrewscolches@aol.com, or visit St. Andrew's on Facebook