



Kids4Peace VT camp all geared up!

by Diane Nancekivell

Everything is ready! This July, Rock Point will host the 4th session of the Kids4Peace Vermont Camp program. The twelve kids who are coming from the West Bank and Israel have already been meeting with their families and their team leaders to prepare for the experience. Our Vermont kids, and their families and team leaders have also gathered together. It takes preparation to get into the mind set to be open to becoming a peacemaker and that's what Kids4Peace is all about: Creating Peacemakers among the children of Abraham.

Our unique program doesn't directly teach acceptance for each other. We offer life experiences through play and camp activities which allow the kids to discover for themselves that they have much more in common than differences and that they quite naturally accept each other for who they are as individuals. Kids4Peace does change lives as well as the hearts and minds of people who have been taught to fear and hate each other.

I want to share a story with you so you see what I mean. In order for an Israeli/Palestinian child to be chosen to come to Kids4Peace Camp in Vermont his/her parent/s must agree to attend the same 13 sessions of preparation that the children attend. Last summer, Eyal's mother, Tali, an Israeli single mom who is a deputy minister in the Israeli government, almost pulled him from the program because she knew she would have to be in the same room with Achmed, a well known outspoken Palestinian community leader. However, because Eyal had his heart set on coming to our Kids4Peace VT camp, she relented. As it happened, Tali and Achmed become friends; and during the summer when a policy bill came across her desk, one that would once

again adversely affect Palestinian life, she refused to sign it. In fact, she took it to the Minister and together they got the bill dismissed. As Tali reported this life changing act to the rest of the parents at their post-camp meeting in Jerusalem, there was a deep silence, broken only by weeping.

Sunday, July 17, the Kids4Peace campers and leaders will be at the 10:00 a.m. service at St. Paul's Cathedral to participate in our worship. This year, Bishop Stewart Wood will be our presider.

On Thursday, July 21, we will hold our annual *Abraham Tent* at 7:00 p.m. at Bishop Booth Conference Center on Rock Point. We would love for you to attend! The kids will put on a great show and you can see for yourselves the transformation that takes place. Please let me know if you would like to attend so there enough chairs and snacks (following the presentation) -

dianenan@gmavt.net . ☺

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From the Dean and Rector

Ken Poppe


Summer, I have always thought, should be a time for rest, play, and reflection. I don't know if many of us will be able to say that about our own summers, but I hope some of that might be true.

Until July 15, we will be reflecting about our mission as a Cathedral. Earlier the Vestry accepted the draft Long Range Plan from the Charting Our Path Together Committee. I am most grateful for the diligence and faithfulness of Carol Moran Brown, Lisa Schnell, Paul Van De Graaf, Chris Leopold, Ali Urang, Alice Rouleau, and Stan Baker. Elsewhere in *plainsong* you can read about this feedback time. Please take some of your summer to add your comment. In August, the Vestry will consider your comments and take action.


When a Plan is adopted, the Vestry will begin to implement it. We have asked our consultant, Mary Fillmore, to assist us with implementation. Mary has worked with us this year and I am grateful for her wise guidance. The Long Range Plan will establish our overall direction and "big picture" compass points; the challenge is to translate them into a coherent implementation|operations plan to provide clear goals and workable action steps with measurable outcomes. The Vestry and newly formed clusters will have a role in creating the plan for which they will be accountable. We envision three major steps: an opportunity for the vestry to translate the broad directions outlined in the Long Range Plan into goals, then for the newly defined Clusters to translate the goals into actions and outcomes, and finally for the Vestry to agree to a final product.

On August 14, we will celebrate the ministry of Archdeacon Catherine Cooke. In January, we announced

Catherine's interest in retiring from active ministry at St Paul's. It seemed so far away, but the date Catherine set fast approaches. Cathie will preach that Sunday at the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharist, and her daughter, The Reverend Hilary Cooke, will preside at the 10 a.m. Eucharist. Following the 10 a.m. Eucharist, there will be a luncheon to celebrate Cathie's ministry. Let me take this opportunity to thank Catherine for her ministry, presence, and friendship among us now for 23 years. Many thanks, Archdeacon!

Finally, last Sunday we moved the chairs in the Nave. This new arrangement will be our summer set up. The Altar is in the center of the church. Chairs are placed around the Altar. We all gather together around the Altar. There is no special place up front for the liturgical ministers. We are all celebrants. I found this arrangement so powerful. It reminds me of Matthew's understanding that the risen Jesus comes to his church to remain with it. There is no Ascension, no leaving, but only remaining. It's why the Eucharist is so powerful. We celebrate the continuing, abiding, and remaining presence of the risen Christ. Dean Peter Elliott in Vancouver cited a comment Desmond Tutu made to Richard Rohr: "We are only the light bulbs, Richard, and our job is just to remain screwed in." If we want to shine as God's light in the world, we've got to stay connected: connected through prayer, through the Eucharist, connected to the community through one another, screwed into the source of life itself. I hope that will be our special work this summer, to "stay screwed in." 

Did you know?

The Diocese of Vermont has a NEW and beautiful website!! Read *The Mountain Echo*, Bishop Ely's page, or become familiar with the many Missions and Ministries of the Diocese. There is even an "Online Community" you can join so you always know what is going on! Why don't you check it out at www.diovermont.org. 

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Deacons' Corner

VIA keeps deacon, others busy

Catherine Cooke

Many years have gone by, but in retrospect the time from BEAM (Burlington Ecumenical Action Ministry) to VIA (Vermont Interfaith Actions) seems like a fairly quick metamorphosis.

VIA is a faith-based, grassroots coalition of congregations that transforms ordinary people into empowering and engaged citizens. Our goal is to create hope, power, knowledge, and the political will needed to make compassion and social justice a reality for all Vermonters. St. Paul's is one of the seven congregations in the northern Vermont coalition. We work on a model developed by our national affiliate People in Community Organizing (PICO).

VIA has worked on a number of issues in our local congregations. At times, one of the congregations has taken on an issue, but more often two or more congregations have joined together to look at an issue. St. Paul's has been active most often in issues in dealing with affordable housing and healthcare accessibility—our Westgate and Tilley Drive actions.

At present, we are looking at the issue of homelessness, an issue that surfaced when we talked to parishioners one to one. Taking the results of our conversations, we look for some commonality that we feel we can work on to bring greater justice to our community. This came out of the questions, "What draws the people to the corner of Cherry and Church Streets with daily regularity?" Is there a systematic problem that remains unresolved for these individuals? We knew that some of these people were homeless and were somewhat unclear about what facilities were available to homeless person during the day. So, we went into research mode.

Our actions are well researched—they don't just happen! Every issue has many facets and looking at documents before we can start to design an action where we invite those individuals who might be instrumental in bringing about the change we envision.

So far, our research with this new issue has been with some of the staff from the Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS). Thus far, we have learned that daytime facilities for the homeless are limited, there are challenges in obtaining an ID as well as the limited availability of transitional housing. We are currently arranging other fact

(Continued on page 7, see VIA)

Thoughts on justice at our cathedral

Stan Baker

I've been thinking a great deal lately about the shape of our Justice Ministry here at St. Paul's. We have had deep and thoughtful conversation about this as part of the work of our Charting our Path Together planning committee and well as interchange with many parishioners in our organized service and forums and informally one-to-one. Recently, the adult forum organizers at St. James, Woodstock, asked me to do a presentation on social justice at their forum in April. This gave me an opportunity to think more about the dialectics and dichotomies involved in how we think about justice ministries.

It is helpful to first consider the part of our Cathedral mission that proclaims our social justice ministry: From our mission: *St. Paul's Cathedral will be an outward activist community of Christian faith, a sign of God's breathtaking generosity.* As faithful Christians we are both doers and believers. Action is as essential to our faith as our faith is to action – they are inextricably intertwined.

The Episcopal Church designated St. Paul's as a Jubilee Justice Center. Our Social Justice cluster [currently] represents the home of our Christian action within our congregation, in the community outside our doors and in the world. These ministries represent ways for parishioners to engage in broader systemic social change as well as in hands-on outreach opportunities that happen inside and outside our church building.

(Continued on page 4, see Justice)

St. Paul's blossoms with community spirit

Community support and spirit have been in full bloom so far this year at St Paul's. We have had great success with two important fundraisers which help fund our outreach efforts. In April, together we raised \$3,820 for the Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP), a local organization that helps Vermonters with basic needs. Our goal for the year is to raise \$4,000 through TWO direct appeals, so we have almost reached our goal with one appeal.

In May, we had our annual Silent Auction. This was not only a financial success but was a great community event attended by approximately 100 people. We raised the \$5,500 we had committed to Vermont Interfaith Action, which works on social justice issues. Later this year, we look forward to our final major fundraiser, the Wreath Project, which also benefits JUMP. Volunteers have made these projects a success. In particular, Carol Walters did an outstanding job directing the Silent Auction.



Carol Walters & daughter, Jennifer Smith, at the Silent Auction

This summer, the Vestry will be seeking feedback on the long-range plan being developed by the Charting Our Path Together committee. After several years of challenging financial



The crowd awaits bidding results!

pressures, we look forward to moving forward on several initiatives that will strengthen our Church and our community. 🌀

See page 5 for more photos!

Justice *(Continued from page 3)*

From the Jubilee Ministry Statement for The Episcopal Church we read:

Jubilee Ministry is faith in action. Faith that can be expressed as that which grows out of loving God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength; Action that can be expressed as that which compels us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Jubilee Ministry seeks to hold these two important dynamics of the spiritual journey - faith and action - in tension so that God's reconciling work is known by our witness.

The mission of Jubilee Ministry is: *to make a direct and dynamic link between our theology and our ethics - said another way - the talk of our faith and the walk of our faith. As Christians we do this by: calling the church to live out its prophetic vision of empowering local people to "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with their god" (Micah 6:8) responding to the Gospel's call to "feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked care for the sick, and visit the imprisoned" (Matthew 25:35)*

In considering the kind of justice ministries to have here at St. Paul's as we move forward, it is important to consider the creative and dynamic tensions that lie between the various poles of ministry models. Here are the poles that I see in this discussion. A place of balance, as always, lies somewhere in between, in the *via media*.

Faith ⇔ Action

Systemic justice ⇔ Hands-on justice

One core ministry ⇔ A menu of smaller ministries

Ministry within the "Cathedral close" ⇔ ministry in the community outside

Justice ministry happening only on our own as a parish ⇔ collaboration with other faith groups or other helping agencies

A story of survival

By Linda Morrell

The *Lost Generation, The Story of a Sudanese Orphan* was written by Peter Garang Deng (with Jilliam Towne) to tell his story as an orphan in Southern Sudan during the Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005). It is a story of survival and his pursuit of an education for himself which brought him to the United States in July, 2007. Garang's mother died when he was only eight months old and his father died when Peter was five. Garang flew to Burlington, VT where he continued his education — first at the Community College of Vermont (CCV) and ultimately he graduated from Champlain College in May, 2011. When he came to Vermont, he discovered that he had cousins who had come here as “lost boys”/women.

Garang's next goal was to establish a foundation to help provide support for other orphans like himself who are still in Sudan. In January 2010, he established a foundation, New Sudan Jonglei Orphans' Foundation (NSJOF) to provide scholarships to the orphaned children of Sudan. It is a 501c3 tax exempt non-profit foundation and information can be found at www.nsjof.org. Donations to the foundation can also be made on-line or by mail to NSJOF, PO Box 864, Burlington, VT 05402. Garant is also available to speak at an event. He can be reached at 802-393-9507 or at peter@nsjof.org.

Garang was encouraged to write the book by his Champlain College professors, particularly Bob Block, the Chairman of his Board of Directors. Students designed the cover, edited the book, helped publish it, provided web design help and made a video recording of his story.

Silent Auction 2011



An invitation to engage ...

by Steve Rucker, co-mentor, EfM

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a program that has touched lives in the Episcopal Church over many years. EfM is based on the principle that every baptized person is called to ministry on some level. It provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. EfM will help you find your own ministry, as your shared journey with other participants changes and enriches your life.

EfM is a four year theological education program for laity. Participants commit one year at a time. During the four years, participants study the Bible, church history and theology, while learning to engage in theological reflection. EfM provides a comprehensive experiential education in the foundations and message of our Christian faith.

In the Burlington area we are lucky to have our own EfM community. We meet weekly, except during the summer, on Wednesdays at 5pm

(*may be adjusted slightly based on schedule of group members*) at the Cathedral in Burlington. Participants come from several churches and as far away as Montpelier. The small, mentored community helps us understand our lives and shape our actions as we deepen our Christian faith. A gracious God calls us into relationship to serve the world. Through study, prayer and theological reflection, EfM enables us to discover and exercise our gifts for ministry where we live and work.

We would like to invite you to consider beginning the EfM experience, starting in September. Scholarships are available to help with tuition. For more information, or

to speak to one of the mentors, feel free to call Steve Rucker (member of St James, Essex Junction) at (301)-526-7876 or Sarah Dyke (member of St Paul's, Burlington) at (802)-349-8866. ☞



Four years of growth, enrichment

by Bobbie Perez

The year I became an Episcopalian, I also began the four-year Education for Ministry (EfM) program which meets at St. Paul's Cathedral. All reference material for scripture, church history and theology are provided by The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Sometimes daunting, but never boring, the exchange of ideas prompted by the readings is a weekly experience I am definitely going to miss.

Every meeting begins and ends with a prayerful reflection offered by a member of the group. We have had taped and live music, poetry, singing, videos and psalms; plus familiar and unfamiliar prayers from different faith traditions. We then share "highs" and "lows" of our week...as much as we care to divulge with the understanding that everything said at EfM is confidential. This bond of trust has never been broken and that level of trust is one of the unique qualities I will miss the most.

EfM has been developed for lay people to find their own voice in articulating their faith and the encouraging support needed to both live and proclaim it. A year ago, I found a spiritual director to help me continue my journey as a Christian, knowing that the day would inevitably come when I would graduate from this incredibly enriching experience.

I count the decision to participate in EfM as one of the best commitments I have ever made. I will close with a sampling from a chapter titled, "The Way Of Prayer";

According to (Friedrich) Schleiermacher, in prayer we are brought into a new and deeper awareness of God, and hence a new reality is created. Prayer is not passively accepting things the way they are. Prayer creates the power to reshape the world by drawing it into an ever-closer relationship to the Kingdom of God. Prayer and action go together.

I hope that you will consider becoming part of the Education for Ministry program. The guarantee is that it will be enriching and transforming. ☞

Six walkers from cathedral in COTS walk

This year's COTS Walk on May 1 had a good response from the community. As of late May, the walk had raised \$150,000.00. Hopefully more pledges and donations will come in so that the \$175,000 goal will be met. Walkers from the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's raised \$1,668.00 — an excellent total from six walkers! Thank you to all who took part both walkers and pledgers. It is never too late to send a donation! Due to the bad economy homelessness is increasing, so every little bit of help COTS receives is very much appreciated.

Justice (continued from page 4)

Ministry that we originate here ⇔ Ministry that attaches to an existing helping, social justice agency or entity

I invite you into a dialogue with me and with other parishioners about the shape of our justice ministry here at St. Paul's. I will offer a workshop opportunity in the fall related to the above dualities. We are an active parish, full of active parishioners. I would like our justice ministries to be more visible, more engaging of all parishioners of all ages, including those with small amounts of time and those with hours to contribute. Making the ministries we have more visible is clearly important, but developing a core ministry that is easily identified and visible, readily engaged in, and flexible in terms of participation will benefit us greatly as a faith community.

Even as we think about this, our justice ministries continue to move forward! Our fund raising for our justice ministries has been very successful this year, both our direct appeal for the Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP) and our Silent Auction for Vermont Interfaith Action (VIA). We have more volunteers for JUMP and a growing understanding of this ministry in our parish. While our Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of VIA is currently doing research to determine our next action – honing in on issues related to housing and homelessness – other LOCs from other faith communities that are part of VIA are sponsoring ongoing actions related to homelessness, housing, and health care. We will host The Rev. Debbie Ingram, Executive Director of VIA as a preacher in the fall so that we can all learn more about this important ministry. Our Salvation Army dinner remains strong with good participation, and our Bhutanese ministry continues on Tuesday evenings. We are beginning to get more information and clarification from Cathedral Square Corporation on the development of their Support and Services At Home (SASH) program. This program could very well emerge as an inclusive core ministry here at St. Paul's. Stay tuned!

Please join me in this important conversation as we think together about the shape of our justice ministries here at the Cathedral. We are in a vital time, a time of engagement for all of us. I am excited by this time of change, and I am confident that we can keep the best of our history and tradition at St. Paul's as Vermont's City Cathedral, and we can build on our strong foundation as we add a new way of doing social justice ministry. ☞

VIA (Continued from page 3)

finding opportunities.

Cardinal Newman said that “the church was framed for the express purpose of interfering, or (as irreligious men will say) meddling with the world.” The Rev. Kenneth Leech wrote, “All Christians are political, whether they recognize it or not, particularly when they do not recognize it. The relationship between theology and politics is complex and in constant flux ... God calls us to work for justice.” Consider VIA as an avenue for you to do the work of justice and join us at our next meeting, Thursday, June 30 at 5:15 p.m. at St. Paul's. We would love to have you come! ☞

St. Paul's Weekly Calendar

Episcopal Church Visual Arts of Vermont

Three churches host art show

by Judith McManis and Ernie Hathaway

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday

12 noon AA
5:30 pm Refugee Ministry
7:00 pm Christian Meditation

Wednesday

7:00 am Bible Study
10:30 am Christian Meditation
12 noon AA
12:15 pm Holy Eucharist w/healing
1:30 pm Staff Meeting

Thursday


12:30 pm Weight Watchers

Friday

Saturday - CLOSED

Three Vermont Parishes: St. Paul's, Burlington, St. Andrew's, St. Johnsbury and Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls, are proud hosts of this year's exhibit by Episcopal artists, associates and friends in Vermont who responded to the 'Call' and created works relating to the theme. Paintings, photographs, drawings, fabric art, jewelry and sculptural items make up this fascinating Show! It, of course, requires return visits - even if only to see what's new each time the exhibit changes. Some artists offer their work for sale and materials enabling you to contact them are available as a 'take away'.

This is the fifth show mounted by ECVA-VT and we hope many, many of you enjoy seeing the amazing talents on display. We are most grateful to the parishes who said an enthusiastic 'Yes' to our request to use their space and to those who made this year's show happen! Be sure to check with each church as to when they are 'open for viewing' and whether any special events are planned that involve each of the art shows. Exhibits run from June 1 through the end of August, rotating at the beginning of each month.

ECVA (Episcopal Church & Visual Arts), founded in 2001, has chapters in many regions of the US. The Vermont chapter began in 2006, with it's first exhibit mounted in 2007 at St. Paul's, Burlington. 



First Ice by R. Karpus

Do you need a ride to church?

If you need a ride to church on Sunday, contact Sarah Gallagher at the church office (864-0471) to be put on the list for Benway's Taxi. Once on the list, you can call Benway's to arrange for service when you need a ride.

Pastoral Care Reminder

Please remember if you are homebound with illness or hospitalized for illness or surgery to let the church know. The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations do not allow the hospital to notify the church directly. The clergy and/or pastoral care would like to be able to visit you and add your name to the prayer list.

God, goldfish, and glitter glue:

Primary class can be addictive

by Karin Davis

Carol Moran-Brown is taking a well-deserved year's rest from teaching the Primary class on Sunday mornings. She will be missed. Sabbath time should be available to teachers like Carol, though, who have given of themselves to the very important ministry of sharing our faith with the children of the parish.

We are exploring new ways to keep our Church School growing and strong and we are asking not only parents to help out, but all those who believe that early instruction by loving adults is the foundation of a child's relationship with God. Consider whether you might be called to this work. No degree in theology is necessary, simply your love of God and a desire to share it. If every Sunday is too much of a commitment, perhaps teaching with a partner from time to time would be possible. (Warning! – This work can be very addictive!) Support will be given if you feel unsure of your skills in any area. The payoff is, on any Sunday you might find your heart shaken by the words of a very small Christian. ✨

Busy, fun defines enriching church school year

by Karin Davis

St. Paul's Church School continues to grow. With the exception of school vacations, our classrooms are full of lively, engaged children.

Instruction of the younger children continues to be lectionary-based, with the addition of materials from our curriculum, "Seasons of the Spirit." Teachers add stories and art projects and there is music for the youngest with the very talented Jen DeBedout.

Many of the Intermediate students are choir members and are prepared in rehearsal with Canon Mark Howe for the themes of the Sunday liturgy.

Parent volunteers kindly provide a "Feast" for each class.

We feel outreach work is an important part of religious education. After a visit from COTS worker Becky Holt, the classes put together "move-in baskets" for families moving from temporary shelter to their own homes. This activity was an opportunity to discuss homelessness with the children, some of whom attend school with children who are without housing. The baskets, which included "welcome home" greetings as well as practical household items, were appreciated by the families who received them.

The Intermediate class donated about \$150.00 to the work of Episcopal Relief and Development. Some of the money was earned from the sale of hand-made Valentines. This year's bulb-planting money was also sent to ERD by all the children. As well, the Middle School class did some baking (and wow, it smelled good in the Church Hall that day!) and then raised about \$200.00 for JUMP in a bake sale the next week.

The Christmas Pageant, directed with skill, love, and great patience by Carol Moran-Brown, assisted by a team of helpful parents, was, as it is each year, better than ever! We ended the year with the second annual Church School Art Show in May. Judith McManis again gave her good aid and the nave was bright and beautiful with the children's work. ✨



Captain Cabbage and her crew

by Lisa Schnell



On June 1, the Treble and Canterbury choirs (otherwise known as the “Crew”) said a very fond farewell to Grace Chris (otherwise known as Captain Cabbage—don’t ask!) at an end-of-year celebration. The Amazing Grace took over the direction of the two youth choirs while Mark Howe took a much-deserved sabbatical. But she was far more than just a “sub”! The kids and Grace really bonded, and made beautiful music together while having a lot of fun—kind of like what they do with Mark – only different! Suzy Beste expertly and graciously hosted the event—there was great food, lots of games, some presents for Grace (including a Nerf gun!), and, of course, music.

Included in the gifts for Grace was a copy—hot off the press—of the Youth Choir CD, “Wake My Heart” (copies available in Hopkins Bookshop). The party was a wonderful opportunity to show our gratitude to Grace and also to Melody Puller, who has accompanied the choir all spring, for the gifts they shared with our young choristers! 🐾

Youth group participates in mission trip

by Lisa Schnell



Our Youth Group (Middle and High school students) attended our first of what will hopefully be many annual Mission trips the first weekend of May, 2011. Seven youths and three chaperones went to Overlook Farm in Rutland, MA to stay at the Heifer International Teaching Center for the weekend. We spent two nights and three days sharing, learning, exploring and being challenged. The Mission of Heifer *International* is to help end hunger and poverty while caring for the earth.

Our group intimately learned how Heifer International puts this mission into action. We had discussion and lessons in the classroom. We worked on their farm caring for the animals.

We ate food grown and cooked on the farm. And we also spent a night in their Global Village - assigned to a third world country and were placed in a real life situation of shelter and food from that country. The kids were challenged to live in this situation for almost 24 hours and real hunger was felt. Problem solving and team work were also key portions to the learning of this weekend. It was an amazing experience that taught the youth and adults alike.

This was a wonderful starting place for our new Mission program for our youth at St. Paul’s. We learned about the complicated nature of helping to end world hunger and poverty. We learned about the need for sustainability when help is given. We learned we can do small things right here at home that will help the earth and our global neighbors.

Our hope is to have a mission program each year that the Youth will be able to be an active participant in helping to give to those who have less. Next year we will travel to New York City. We will stay at another Episcopal Jubilee Ministry, Church of Our Savior, in Chinatown. The week in April will be spent working in gardens, food shelves, soup kitchens, and the church’s preschool. We give thanks for our wonderful community here at St. Paul’s. The Youth Group is an active expression of the mission here at St.

Paul’s: *an outward, activist community of Christian faith, a sign of God’s breathtaking generosity.* 🐾



Taizé: quiet, reflective opportunity

Taizé Evening Prayer provides an often intensely personal opportunity for a softly candle-lit environment of quiet, reflection and music for those who attend - parishioners and newcomers alike. This spring, we welcomed The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, retired Bishop of Maine, whose Meditation guided our thoughts at the beginning of Holy Week. On June 5, The Rev. Reid Farrell, Rector of Holy Trinity, Swanton, was the officiant as we focused on the Appearance events following Easter/Ascension and looked toward to Pentecost. The Taizé Planning Team (while Mark Howe is on his sabbatical) coordinated these two services; current members of the Team are: Rose Bacon, Henry Maciejewski, Judith McManis, Steve Watson and Kay Benedict.

The next Taizé Evening Prayer service will be on Oct. 30, 2011 (Reformation Sunday) at 7:30 p.m. when we will welcome The Rev. Nancy Wright, pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in South Burlington, as officiant. Check the Taizé 'button' on St. Paul's website (www.stpaulscathedralvt.org) for further information about these services and those to come. You can also become a Facebook 'friend' of 'Taizé in Vermont' on that popular social media site or through on-line community of the Diocese of Vermont (www.diovermont.org - click "Our on-line Community" at the top of the homepage.) They are both great place to tell us (and others) about your experience - and also to make suggestions or leave comments. ☞



Outreach / Social Justice Cluster

Whatever we do affects the lake

by Sylvia Knight, Earth Care Ministry Coordinator

This has been a very watery spring. While we prayed for sun, the rain continued with Lake Champlain rising and rising above historic flood levels. Homes were flooded, shoreline was torn away, roads were closed, and lives were disrupted. Considering our parish as a *riparian faith community*, I'm sure we have mixed feelings and different experiences of what this means. We are clearly not in control - an anxious and even frightening experience.

Riparian faith community means that our church is physically located on the banks of a large body of water. In addition, we all live in an area of Vermont where waters move toward Lake Champlain, which means we live in the watershed of Lake Champlain. Our actions affect the Lake and the communities which depend on it for life.

Does this location on the lake inform our God-language, our planning, or our ministries? How do we see ourselves in relationship with the larger community including the waters of Lake Champlain, upon which we all depend for life and health?

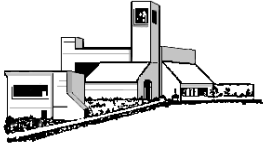
Letting water run unnecessarily (wasting water) contributes to overloading at wastewater treatment plants at times of flooding and high storm water runoff into sewers. It also wastes energy required to process and pump the water. Triclosan, a chemical found in many personal care products, can enter the lake and present problems for fish and as well as humans. Flushing old prescriptions down the toilet guarantees that they will end up in Lake Champlain to combine with other low level toxins, with dangers to fish and possibly to us. Pesticides used on land will end up in the lake, and potentially in our drinking water. Everything is interconnected.

As we celebrate Eucharist we praise God, singing "heaven and earth are full of your glory!" We give thanks "for the goodness and love [God has] made known to us in creation." Eucharist reminds us anew of God's blessed presence in gifts from Earth (bread, wine, water) and God's call to us to "open our eyes to see [God's] hand at work in the world about us", seeking strength and renewal "to serve the world in his name." ☞

plainsong

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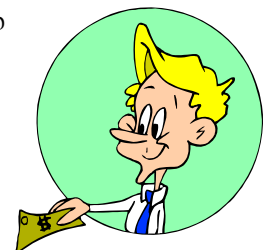


**Deadline for the next issue September 9, 2011. Please send submissions to:
Ann Ely: Mockingbird1953@gmail.com and Sarah Gallagher: Sarahg@stpaulscathedralvt.org
or deliver to church office**

Keep those pledges coming!

by Alice Rouleau

As the warm weather turns our attention to summer and vacations, this is a reminder that your regular contributions/pledges are needed to meet payroll and maintain utilities and services over the summer at the Cathedral. New online e-bill paying capabilities at many banks make it easy to set up regular payments that fit in with your budget, wherever you are. As an old dog, I have to say this new trick is really working for me!



say