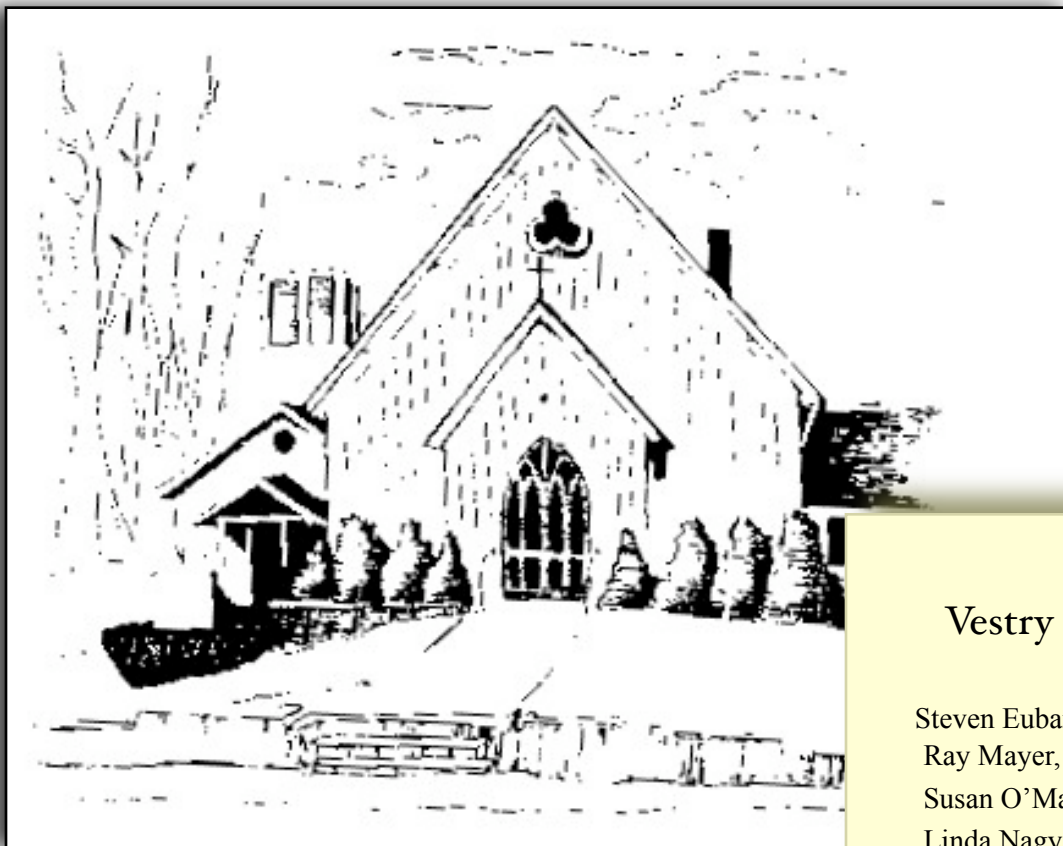




# eMESSENGER

## St. John's Episcopal Church

*Building for the future with thanksgiving and praise.*



10:00 a.m. Eucharist schedule resumes on  
September 21st as does Sunday School  
with 8:00 a.m. liturgy on the  
1st and 3rd Sundays.

### Vestry of St. John's

Steven Eubanks, Senior Warden  
Ray Mayer, Junior Warden  
Susan O'Malley  
Linda Nagy  
Charles Scribner  
Nancy Wright  
Pat Mayer, Clerk  
William Arnold, Treasurer  
Jane Eubanks, Receipts Treasurer



## Considering Our Stewardship

*“We are all on a journey toward the heavenly oasis, and there are many opportunities along the way to pick up precious stones of generosity, even when we don’t realize it.”*

*The Rt. Rev. Bertram N. Herlong  
Bishop of Tennessee Retired*

All of us, who profess our faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior and who worship God as the author of our salvation, know that we are called to live generous lives in the service of our Lord in this life. That is why when we talk about stewardship we are really talking about a way of life.

Most often when we talk about stewardship, we discuss it in terms of the gifts we offer of our time, our talent and our treasure. All are important, and all of us should take a personal inventory of how we are fulfilling that great commission of our faith.

Many in our parish are giving generously of their time. Think of those who serve at the Altar during our worship, those who prepare the Altar each week or who bake the bread for the Eucharist, those folk who provide the inspired music for our worship and praise of our Lord, and those who provide leadership to the Church School and our young people. Consider those who provide for our fellowship during coffee hour, those who cook and provide meals for our enjoyment and for fund raising events. Remember those who serve on the Vestry with such loyalty and commitment. Then there are those who are currently working so hard to scrape and paint the Church this Fall. All of this effort represents their faith and devotion to our Lord and His Church.

In the Community, there are those who give generously of their time serving as Chaplains at Gifford Hospital and to our own sick and shut-in. Many of our own support the Food Pantry and other projects reaching out to those most in need in our midst. We can be justly proud of our parish in giving time to our joint ministry.

However, let us not forget those of us getting older and infirmed. We can’t be as active as we once were, but we still have a significant role in our shared ministry. That is the ministry of prayer: prayer for those doing the more active work, prayer for a deepening of the faith of all our people, prayer for our Rector Tim and his leadership and ministry in our midst, prayer that we are always open to and will seek out new parishioners and young people, prayer that we will always be open to the call of the Holy Spirit and continually reach out to those in our parish and community most in need of God’s healing love.

In the months to come, we will consider in depth our gifts of talent and treasure. In the meantime, let us not forget the inspiring words of Bishop Herlong. We must ever be open to the needs of others in our parish and community, ever ready “to pick up precious stones of generosity.”

Burt Ulrich

---



## **The Look of The Place**

No one can fail to notice that a lot is happening to the look of grounds and buildings of St. John's. It's a process with lots of pieces.

Following a lot of parishwide discussion over the last two years, and even help from VTC students, we knew we wanted to improve our grounds. Taking in all of the discussion and ideas the Vestry decided first to remove, for instance, the fir trees in front of the Church. This would return the aesthetics of the Church more to the original look and would solve many of our moisture problems. Meanwhile, with extensive landscaping experience, Kate Mayer volunteered her expertise and labor so that many of our new plantings already show beautiful results.

Following the rebuilding of our walks (to make them safe and up to code). Kate will resume the landscaping. Also with much scraping and getting down to the bare wood in front (Thanks to Ray Mayer's tireless work), we are about ready to prime the Church so that it is ready for winter and the scraping (removal of lead based paint) and final painting can be continued next spring.

Thanks to the Henry Egerton fund endowed by Margaret we can cover much of the walks renovation expenses. The same is true for the priming and painting with the Will Parker memorial, while the Nadia Delaney memorial will help with our gardening. Needless to say these funds will not cover all our expenses (So far, some \$3,000 will come out of general operating budget). Thus any further gifts or memorials will be gladly received.

Finally, while we can't begin to name all who have helped with their ideas and labor, special thanks should here be offered by all of us to Ray Mayer as Junior Warden who has both captained these efforts and been there all the way, and to Charles Scribner and Phil Plumb who have given so much with Ray of their free time.

The Rector

---



## Gifford Medical Center

44 South Main Street, P.O. Box 2000 • Randolph, Vermont 05060  
802-728-7000 • fax 802-728-4245

August 6, 2008

Rev. Timothy Eberhardt  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
15 Summer Street  
Randolph, VT 05060

Dear Rev. Eberhardt,

I am writing as the Volunteer Services Coordinator for the Gifford Medical Center at 44 So. Main Street in Randolph. Gifford has the following opportunities for volunteers:

- Menig Extended Care Facility - Coffee Hour (Saturday & Sunday 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.) Menig residents gather on the weekends to enjoy coffee, tea and muffins in the dining room. This is a time for socializing and occasionally playing board games. Volunteers are asked to help serve, socialize and clear the tables.
- Weekend Activities – Saturday & Sunday, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Menig residents gather in the living room for socialization and board games. Volunteers are asked to lead board games and bingo with the residents.

Interested persons may contact me at 728-2324. Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Goss  
Volunteer Services Coordinator  
(802) 728-2324

[www.giffordmed.org](http://www.giffordmed.org)

Bethel Health Center • Chelsea Health Center  
Levesque Medical Offices (*Randolph*) • Rochester Health Center • Sharon Health Center



## Ministry Fair and PreConvention Hearing at St. John's (and DuBois and King)

In case you haven't noticed in "The Mountain Echo" one of the three Diocesan Ministry Fairs and Pre-Convention hearings will be held at St. John's on Saturday, October 11.

What a great opportunity for St. John's parishioners since five fascinating workshops will be offered between 9:00 a.m and 11:30 a.m. around "Tending God's World - NOW" with the theme of sustainability. Bishop Ely will then celebrate Eucharist in the Church at 11:45, with a locally grown lunch between 12:30 and 1:15 p.m. The hearings for all convention delegates and alternates will be offered in the afternoon, while these morning workshops through lunch are open to all.

For the lunch, Tim will be working with the Biedler farm and other local providers to set up the lunch. Meanwhile since St. John's does not have the full space for the workshops, DuBois and King next door has graciously offered their facilities for three meeting spots. Talk about sustainability. Their building is state of the art, and we with the Diocese are most grateful!!

For further information, please speak to the rector and mark your calendars now.



Again this year, St. John's had a big presence at the New World Festival with the Pie Sale. And there were other ways we were present: Steve opened the show with his bagpipes, Anna and Lee Sease were in charge of the Volunteers, Steve Springer was in charge of recycling year, and who knows what else?

A friend of Jane's captured this photo of Steve at the festival.



Dear people of St. John's,

Sometimes we can see the big pattern of change in the world around us. Sometimes like comparing one winter to others, the specifics of change confuse the pattern! Take, for example, Holy Unions or the more traditional term "marriage". Usually there are two or three, but this year not one is planned at St. John's, although we have had some calls.

Some of these calls start out simply as "do you do weddings?" and after a few pleasantries about what is involved the conversation ends politely. But this year five couples or their families have shown some real intent. One couple who really wanted me to be involved and had some connections had booked a fall event at a resort, when, as I was finally consulted, I was already booked with a major diocesan event. Two situations involved couples in another denomination who for various reasons did not want to be involved with their home church. (We talked that out and I invited them to come back if they couldn't resolve things with several options for working things out, which apparently they did). One very young couple came in to talk through their excited hopes and, although I offered all the encouragement I could, I never heard from them again either. And with the fifth, as so often happens, when the parents, hoping for a grand celebration, relayed some of our basic standards for counseling and church participation, it all got dropped for here at least.

The change is both demographic and cultural. Not only are we growing older and leaner here at St. John's so we hear is Vermont population wise. And now it is our grandchildren who might want "a church wedding", although like so many of their peers they have less sacramental grounding, less connection beyond the sense that they might need "a reverend" to make it official. A church would be nice, but "designer", exotic ceremonies are the growing trend. Or perhaps they have found a small Episcopal Church back home like ours (and its fussy rector!) to be too demanding and involved, and a non-denominational mega-church is where it's happening.

There's a pattern here which reflects deep changes in the human landscape. It saddens me a bit because I think so much is being lost, and I miss these celebrations of love and commitment. How do you see it?

Rejoicing in Christ,

Timothy Eberhardt

---



## Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care met Aug. 5 opening with our prayer. Reports of contacts made in June and July from each of us were given. Sympathy cards, thank you's, get well wishes, phone calls are all a part of our mission.

Pastoral Care met Sept. 2 with our opening prayer. Reports were presented and concerns to be met were discussed.

The need for a committee stemmed from the imminent resignation of our Deacon, Nancy DuBois. The committee had pondered on the beginning of the program and Mary Ellen found information dated 1993. Initially the committee of four, Driscoll Reid, Merle Miller, Ellie Streeter, and Betsy Arnold, met in the Streeter kitchen. The group grew to five members who met once a month as they do now. Pastoral care is the only committee to have met continually.

Our goal seeks to honor the second great commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself".

Betsy Arnold	Tim Eberhardt	Ellie Streeter
Ginny Cantlin	Mary Ellen Bean	Pat Mayer
Margaret Egerton		

## St. Margaret's Guild

On Sunday, September 28th the St. Margaret's Guild will meet after church. So grab a quick cup of coffee and join us in the church! We will briefly review where we have been, where we need to go, our budget and begin acting on plans for the Christmas Bazaar. Hope to see you all there!

---



**Sunday ministries**

**September 7, Pentecost 17: 9 a.m.**

Ushers: Ellen Baker

Intercessions:

Readers:

Eucharistic Minister: Gay Gaston

Altar flowers: Linda Runnion

Coffee Hour: Gay Gaston

**September 14, Pentecost 18: 9 a.m.**

Ushers: The Arnolds

Intercessions:

Reader:

Eucharistic Minister: Steve Springer

Altar flowers:

Coffee Hour: Carrol Merrill

**September 21, Pentecost 19: 8 & 10 a.m.**

Ushers: The Gastons

Intercessions:

Reader:

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Sparadeo

Altar flowers:

Coffee Hour: Linda Runnion

**September 28, Pentecost 20: 10 a.m.**

Ushers: Nancy Wright

Intercessions:

Reader:

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Runnion

Altar flowers: The Clarks

Coffe Hour: Susan O'Malley

**October 5, Pentecost 21: 8 & 10 a.m.**

Ushers:

Readers:

Eucharistic Minister: Pay Mayer

Altar flowers: Phil Plumb

Coffee Hour:

**Birthdays**

**Linda Nagy - September 2**

**Jocelyn Richards - Sept. 4**

**Steve Eubanks - Sept. 13**

**Shirley Baumann - Sept. 29**

**Anniversaries**

**Maury & Adele Smith - Sept. 7**

*Next Messenger deadline is  
September 28th*