

# *The Messenger*

A newsletter of

**St. John's Episcopal Church**      **Randolph, Vermont**

**June 2010**

*Building for the future with thanksgiving and praise*

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## *Rector's Message*

Dear People of St. John's,

When I was first ordained as a deacon in June 1977, my first assignment was as chaplain of Bishopswood (like our Rock Point) the summer camp of the Diocese of Maine. I remember how proudly I wore my new black shirt and collar even in the informality of those summer days, and then as we moved in August to ordained ministry and priesthood at St. Barnabas in Rumford, Maine. Now twenty-nine plus years later after starting here at St. John's in January, 1981, I still wear that collar proudly.

In "The Christian Century" magazine which the St. Margaret's Guild has provided all these years, there is occasionally a retrospective article by a leading scholar or theologian entitled "How my mind has changed". I'm no great scholar or theologian (thank goodness), but I've often thought about what I might share (as I actually do in sermons every Sunday).

I would share for instance, how my preaching has evolved from themes based on seminary and text book learning to a much more seasoned sincerity of faith which is grounded in life's experiences. My first Lent here for example, I preached a series about the seven sacraments of the Church. Now I might frame a particular story or event in a sacramental perspective on life and faith.

Or I would definitely reflect how years of living with Holy Scripture on a weekly basis has not only brought home to me how wonderfully true and human the Bible is with all its chapters about the human condition, but especially how the story and person of Jesus Christ keeps leading me closer to knowing God, myself and what life is all about. It becomes more exciting and more mysteriously fulfilling all the time, which I will keep up, but without the preaching.

Finally, among so much, I would focus on the Church. It was different back then when I first put on that collar. And so am I. Now I wear it just as proudly, but not because it is such a badge of honor in such a respected holy institution. Few institutions bear much

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natural regard including the Church in our culture today. Instead now I believe it is all the more important to represent visually the fact that the Church is still alive and present in a world which increasingly ignores and misunderstands what the role of the Church really is...that it is not some kind of club with membership rules or even that much of an established institution anymore. But that it is instead a ragtag cross section of individuals with a certain family identity (in our case of Prayer Book sacramental worship) where the presence of God in Christ is made authentically vital through the hopeful witness and reconciling ministry of its members.

Don't ever forget what a gift it is to be called as a part of that. It is the highest privilege to represent your ministry and to be among you.

Rejoicing in Christ,

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*The FOOD SHELF needs help badly.*

On each Sunday, if you are able, please bring a food item (non-perishable, canned or boxed goods) and place it in the box marked "FOOD SHELF ITEMS" in the hall entryway near the kitchen

Thanks, Mickie

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St. John's Episcopal Church 15 Summer Street Randolph, Vermont 05060

**The Rev. Timothy C. Eberhardt, Rector**

Vestry of St. John's

Steven Eubanks, Senior Warden  
Ray Mayer, Junior Warden  
Pat Mayer, Clerk  
William Arnold, Treasurer  
Jane Eubanks, Receipts Treasurer

Nancy Wright  
Susan O'Malley  
Linda Nagy  
Ellen Baker

Delegate to 2010 Diocesan Convention –  
Steve Eubanks, Nancy Wright, Jackie Wilder

Alternate delegates –  
Ellen Baker, Pat Mayer, Susan O'Malley

Phone 802-728-9910 mail address: P.O. Box 278 Randolph, VT 05060-0278  
Our website <http://stjohnsrandolphvt.org>

***Editor's Note:***

The Rector notes that in his last month's "Rector's Message" he referred to a chart which he did not supply to the editor. It is here included with three descriptions of the three phases and group or individual tends to be in during a major transition. This comes from *Managing Transitions* by William Bridges.

The three phases of transition.

1. Letting go of the old ways and the old identity people had. This first phase of transition is an ending, and the time when you need to help people to deal with their losses.
2. Going through an in-between time when the old is gone but the new isn't fully operational. We call this time the "neutral zone": it's when the critical psychological realignments and repatternings take place.
3. Coming out of the transition and making a new beginning. This is when people develop the new identity, experience the new energy, and discover the new sense of purpose that make the change begin to work.

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***Pastoral Care Committee***

Pastoral Care informally met Mon. May 3, while setting up and serving for the funeral reception of our dear Margaret. Margaret was one of the original committee members, serving some 10 plus years, always caring and insightful. She will be very much missed.

A big thank you to so many of you, for providing a lovely and delicious array of food for Margaret's funeral reception. We could not have done it without you.

We welcome Mickie to the pastoral care committee. She has eagerly become involved and will add much to the committee.

The Pastoral Care Committee

Betsy Arnold  
Mickie Richardson

Tim Eberhardt  
Mary Ellen Bean  
Pat Mayer

Ginny Cantlin  
Ellie Streeter

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***St. John's Worship Ministry***

Worship is the foundation of our Parish family. It is the basis of our relationship with God and with each other. It also represents the single biggest component of our parish budget. 39 cents of every dollar we pledge to St. John's goes toward setting apart and setting forward that which is sacred to our lives – with bread and wine, heat and light, sermons, liturgy, music and bulletins. With prayer, song and sacraments, we give thanks for the blessings we receive.

Steve Eubanks, Senior Warden

## *Habitat for Humanity Update*

Last fall the outer shell of the home was completed! Our goal is to finish the interior work and have the family in by the end of the year. We estimate a need of about \$10K more than we presently have to reach this goal.

Any help that St. John's folks might be willing to do will assist in reaching this goal. Special offerings, bake sales, car washes, bowl-a-thons, etc., whatever you can think of to help raise this money, will be appreciated. Some events already planned are listed below. Your patronage will mean a great deal to the effort.

May 29 – Garden club sale and HFH 50/50 raffle drawing

Mid July – details TBA – HFH Attic Sale

Oct. 23 – Chris Smith & Friends – Gospel Concert – Green Mountain Gospel Chapel

If you would like to see pictures, know who's been involved, or become a volunteer, visit the website: <http://www.centralvermonthabitat.org/Randolph/index.html>

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### *Transition 2010 - On the Subject of Worship*

As the vestry continues to look ahead at various areas of our in-house ministry coverage after Tim's retirement, the subject at our May 11 Vestry meeting was worship (following up on Christian Education in April). Following Diocesan guidelines (and the Vestry is grateful for Laura Hunter's presence as she sits in with us as the Diocesan "Companion" for St. John's). Senior Warden, Steve Eubanks, has already lined up the services of several "supply clergy" for September and October (including our own Burt Ulrich). He and Tim have put together a boiler plate work sheet letter which will help orient any visiting clergy for that Sunday's worship.

Meanwhile Pat Mayer has agreed to chair a worship committee which will oversee all the "moving parts" of Sunday morning worship and keep it going. The goal is not just to insure good worship, but that we will all continue to minister together in our praise as the faithful community we are now.

As Pat and the Vestry brainstormed through all the parts, most are already well covered. Shirley Baumann and Jane Eubanks handle the music. Linda Runnion puts together the Bulletin. Anna Sease oversees altar coverage and the other roster areas have their various captains. Lots of other areas from turning up the heat to putting out the bread will need tending, so as "the ministers" of St. John's, please don't hesitate to help Pat and her committee out.

Meanwhile too, other matters of worship will emerge. Ray Mayer has already been polling "8 o'clockers" about the possible loss of that twice monthly service. With supply clergy we will probably keep our Rite 1, Rite 2 Eucharistic cycle. But as an interim rector

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## Transition Update (continued)

is contracted for more continuous service, this may change. Or what about Morning Prayer with so much capable leadership? Or, as came up at our after church May 16 meeting, what about a Lutheran pastor celebrating our Communion? Please share any thoughts or suggestions with Pat or any of the Vestry.

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### *Correspondence Received*

#### Episcopal Relief and Development Healing a Hurting World

February 28, 2010

St. John's Episcopal Church  
PO Box 278  
Randolph, VT 05060

Dear Friends in Christ:

Thank you for St. John's Episcopal Church's generous contribution of \$1,212.36 to Episcopal Relief & Development. Your gift was designated for the Haiti Earthquake Response, which will help those suffering in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

While the number of deaths and injuries has grown substantially, so has the number of people the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti and Episcopal Relief & Development are able to help. We are working with the diocese and other local partners to respond to immediate needs and prepare for long-term recovery. During the relief phase, we are helping the Diocese of Haiti care for roughly 25,000 survivors who are currently residing in 23 diocesan camps around the country. Your contribution is supplying food, water, medicine, shelter and other critical basics. Our efforts also include securing transportation to help deliver life-saving goods and materials.

Episcopal Relief & Development has been working in Haiti for many years to address issues of poverty and disease and respond to other disasters. We will continue to partner with the Church in Haiti as it assists people in rebuilding their lives and their country in the years to come. Please visit [www.er-d.org/HaitiCrisis](http://www.er-d.org/HaitiCrisis) for more details about our response.

To learn more about our programs, go to [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org). You also can visit the 'Ways to Give' section of our site for additional opportunities to contribute. Please continue to pray for people impacted by the earthquake and all those we seek to serve worldwide. Your support of Episcopal Relief & Development is saving lives and transforming communities. We couldn't do this work without your compassion and generosity. In partnership, we are healing a hurting world.

Faithfully,

Robert W. Radtke  
President

## Anniversaries June 2010

### Birthdays:

|               |      |                             |      |                 |      |
|---------------|------|-----------------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Lincoln Clark | 6/3  | Maury Smith                 | 6/6  | Robert Sparadeo | 6/8  |
| Ellen Baker   | 6/13 | Maury Smith 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 6/18 | Gail Reitzel    | 6/19 |
| Ruth Godfrey  | 6/27 | Mickie Richardson           | 6/27 |                 |      |

### Weddings:

|                         |      |                           |      |
|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Jim & Christine Gilbert | 6/5  | David & Gay Gaston        | 6/20 |
| Bob & Ginny Cantlin     | 6/26 | Kenniston & Carol Merrill | 6/27 |

### Baptisms:

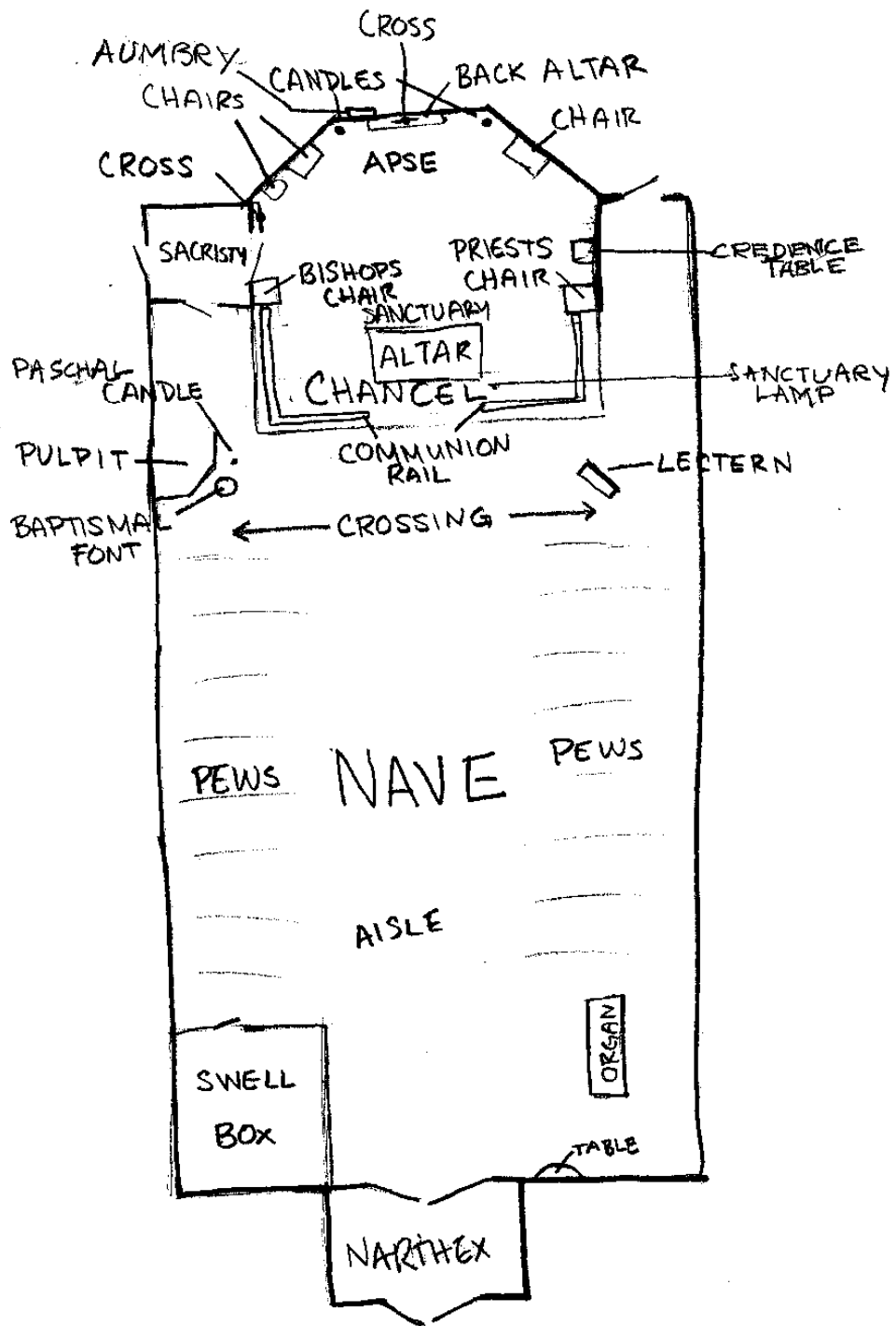
|           |      |              |      |                 |      |
|-----------|------|--------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Pat Mayer | 6/19 | Bob Sparadeo | 6/20 | Jennifer Curtin | 6/24 |
|-----------|------|--------------|------|-----------------|------|

## *Sunday ministries*

|                             | Sun – June 6<br>Pentecost 2<br>8 and 10 am | Sun – June 13<br>Pentecost 3<br>10 am | Sun – June 20<br>Pentecost 4<br>9 am | Sun – June 27<br>Pentecost 5<br>9 am |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Ray Mayer                                  | Gay Gaston                            | Steve Eubanks                        | Bob Sparadeo                         |
| <b>Readers</b>              | Beth & Joe Pelletier                       | Linda Runnion                         | Anna & Lee Sease                     | Nancy Wright                         |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | Mickie & Neil Richardson                   | Betsy & Bill Arnold                   | Susan O'Malley                       | Carol & Ken Merrill                  |
| <b>Intercessions</b>        | Nancy Wright                               | Mickie Richardson                     | Neil Richardson                      | Christine Gilbert                    |
| <b>Oblations</b>            | Susan O'Malley                             | Betsy & Bill Arnold                   | Mickie & Neil Richardson             | Lincoln & Louise Clark               |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Betsy Arnold                               | Ellen Baker                           | Anna Sease                           | Jane Eubanks                         |

Please see the diagram of our Church which is attached as an addendum.

June 23, 2010



(Editor's Note: This wonderful diagram, drawn by Glendolyn Pelletier, is an example of what our "older" Sunday School girls are learning about and will be sharing with us.)