

The Messenger

A newsletter of

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

May 2010

Building for the future with thanksgiving and praise

Rector's message

“CHANGE is situational – the new site, the new boss, the new job, the new role. TRANSITION is the psychological process people go through to come to terms with the new situation.”

(From *Managing Transitions* by William Bridges)

Dear people of St. John's,

I've been working with my own personal transition consultant and coach. I'm her guinea pig as she's interested in starting to do retirement consulting following her own retirement after years working with many large non-profit organizations. Together we are looking at all the steps as I move through the transition chart which is included below. Thus, whether for a corporation or an individual, if major change is planned, there first comes a period of losing, ending, letting go. Then “the neutral zone” begins to dominate the picture, with finally the time of new beginning. You will notice from the chart that we are always in a part of all three phases at once, while each takes dominance in the movement through our healthy transition.

While adapted largely from transition in the corporate world this sounds much like a church with a retiring rector, and, without a lot of details about how it all works, it makes a lot of sense! It is for example why the vestry is including a “transition column” in the Messenger as we begin to move between the letting go stage into “the neutral zone” where grieving, anxiety and communication become crucial factors. Because we're on different tracks here (your neutral zone really begins post September 1), this is where I must reflect on the people, places and intangibles I must let go of and all the feelings around that (“mad, glad, sad, scared”).

So much of this of course is good common sense. But thus it is certainly helpful for me to face, accept and honor not only the grief of those (you) around me, but my own, especially when, introverted in-control person that I am, I tend to run away from emotions. It also helps me and all of us to appreciate the challenging ministry of our vestry with the Diocese helping out as they move with you toward the many new beginnings for St. John's

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in Randolph.

Just having passed through Holy Week and Easter I am struck as well by how the holy intuition of Jesus fits into such a framework. It's not that Jesus needed a consultant or some studied process. It is about how hard he worked to prepare his disciples and us for what he and they were about to face. (The teaching of the Last Supper, their anxious argument about greatness in the Kingdom, the prayers of departure leading into the Garden vigil.)

None of us is Jesus and the final outcome, or really new beginning of the resurrection was a mighty act of God which as for the disciples none of us could ever prepare for. And yet we all now live in the light of that new situation – which causes me to note that while, as above, change is situational and transition is a psychological process, our abiding hope, faith and love are the energy field for our every step along the way in this corporation of the Church.

Meanwhile, here in this kingdom of St. John's, if you have any thoughts, suggestions or questions, please don't hesitate to speak with me or any of the Vestry.

Rejoicing in Christ, Tim

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

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 –
Ellen Baker, Pat Mayer, Susan O'Malley

Alternate delegates –
Steve Eubanks, Nancy Wright, Jackie Wilder

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

Transition Update

Our Senior Warden now has a list of supply clergy within the diocese and is in the process of contacting people on this list that might be able to be with us Sundays until the diocese sends us an interim priest. Laura Hunter, our companion, has also provided additional names. To date, we know Stewart Pierson will be with us for two Sundays.

The vestry realizes that questions continue to abound. Therefore, there will be an opportunity to get the answers after the 10 am service on May 16th when there will be a meeting (as promised) to review current finances and to look at diocesan policy normally applied to recently retired priests. Again, our companion, Laura Hunter has agreed to join us at this meeting.

Pastoral Care committee

The Pastoral Care committee met April 6. This was a “catch up” meeting as we had not met formally since January. Our opening prayer was read.

We welcomed Ellie’s return. We spoke of our own Margaret and her spirituality which she has shared with us. Our prayers are with her.

We were urged to consider our role in Tim’s retirement. We also urge you to share any concerns or joys you may have.

Our committee members

Betsy Arnold
Margaret Egerton

Tim Eberhardt
Mary Ellen Bean
Pat Mayer

Ginny Cantlin
Ellie Streeter

St Margaret’s Guild (all the women who attend St. John’s)

The St. Margaret’s Guild had a potluck dinner on April 16. We enjoyed each other’s company and some very fine food!

Our next meeting will be another potluck in September, to plan the Christmas Bazaar.

Pat Lawrence, President

Speaker on the Islamic faith

On Wednesday, May 20, at 7 pm, at St. John's hall, we will be hosting Muhaideen batah. He is part of the Vermont Muslim Society and will tell us about Islam, the Qur'an, and the Vermont Muslim community. This will be a good opportunity to learn about an increasingly important segment of the American religious community.

St. John's Education Ministries

Did you know that \$.08 of every dollar you pledge to St. John's goes toward supporting our Education Ministries including our thriving Sunday School program? Those donations help toward staffing our Sunday School, having Tim participate and help instruct our children every Sunday, and the use of our Parish Hall. A gift that truly does keep giving... Alleluia! And don't forget to offer a word of thanks directly to any of our Sunday School staff and parents when you next see them.

Reminder: Diocesan Ministry Expo:

A reminder that this year's Spring Ministry Expo will take place Saturday, May 1st from 9:00AM to 3:30 PM at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Barre. More information can be found on the Diocesan web site. If you're interested in attending but haven't signed up, please contact Steve Eubanks at 802-234-9671.

Anniversaries May 2010

Birthday

May 2 Carol Merrill
May 3 Jacalyn Wilder
May 4 Adele Smith
May 12 Gwendolyn Pelletier
May 14 Ray Mayer
May 14 Leland Pelletier
May 15 Anna Dustin
May 17 Benjamin Osha
May 24 Jonathan Osha

Wedding

May 13 Pat and Doug Lawrence
May 13 Mickie and Neil Richardson
May 20 Tim and Mary Ellen
May 21 Tom and Sandy Malanchuk
May 26 Steve and Jane Eubanks

Baptisms

May 1 Phil Plumb
May 7 Bill Arnold
May 14 Kate Mayer
May 21 Tom Malanchuk

Sunday ministries

	Sun – May 2 Easter 5 8 and 10 am	Sun – May 9 Easter 6 10 am only	Sun – May 16 Easter 7 8 and 10 am	Sun – May 23 Day of Pentecost 10 am only	Sun – May 30 Trinity Sunday 10 am only
Eucharistic Minister	Bob Sparadeo	Mickie Richardson	Linda Runnion	Christine Gilbert	Pat Mayer
Readers	Nancy Wright	Pat & Ray Mayer	Mickie & Neil Richardson	Ellen Baker	Gay Gaston
Ushers	Susan O'Malley	Pat & Ray Mayer	Ellen Baker Phil Plumb	Lincoln & Louise Clark	Susan O'Malley
Intercessions	Linda Runnion	Linda Nagy	Mickie Richardson	Louise Clark	Nancy Wright
Oblations	Brian & Kate Kennedy	Dave & Gay Gaston	Betsy & Bill Arnold	Carol & Ken Merrill	Brian & Kate Kennedy
Coffee Hour	Mary Ellen Bean	Pat Mayer	> Potluck <	Mickie Richardson	Susan O'Malley