

# *The Messenger*

A newsletter of

## **St. John's Episcopal Church**

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**The Rev Mark Preece, Interim Rector**

*April 2012*

*Building for the future with thanksgiving and praise*

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### *Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC)*

The MDC would like to thank all of the members of the congregation who participated in the Congregational History Event. It seemed as though a “fun time” was had by all. I would like to thank the committee and other members of the congregation who provided us all with a delicious light lunch. As the committee has sorted and noted all of the sticky note comments that were made, it became very evident that we are a congregation that cherishes our music, the fellowship we find in all of our church activities, and the importance of the participation of our children and young people. If any members of the congregation would like to have a copy of the committee's compilation of the sticky note comments, I would be happy to provide you with one.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, (Friday) at 6:00 pm, the MDC will be hosting another congregational event, The Congregational Discernment Meeting. The purpose of this event is to explore who we are as a congregation and what God is calling us to be. This information will assist the MDC in determining what gifts and skills will be needed in the future from both the congregation and the clergy leadership. At this event, we will be meeting in small groups to discuss questions that the Diocese has developed for us. The MDC has planned a supper of pizza and ice cream. The committee is hoping that we will have a large and enthusiastic turnout as we did for the History Event. So, be sure to mark your calendar!

At this point, you may be asking what the MDC is doing with all of this information. The information that we gather during these events and other documents about the church and our surrounding community will become a report that the committee presents first to the Vestry and then to the Bishop. After the report is approved, it will be used as the foundation for the calling of clergy leadership.

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(MDC report continued)

If you have any questions, please address them to any of the committee members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Doss, Chairperson

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*St. Margaret's Guild and Outreach Committee*

*New Common Prayer Books*

Many of the copies of the Book of Common Prayer in the pews are worn out. The St. Margaret's Guild has ordered some new one to replace them. If you would like to donate a copy, please sign up on the list in the back of the church (much as we do for lilies and poinsettias). We will put book plates in the front with "gift of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012". Please put your name(s) as you would like them on the plate. If you are giving in memory of, thanksgiving for, or in honor of someone, please fill in that line also. The books are \$19 each. Make checks to the St. Margaret's Guild and give to Pat Lawrence or put it in the envelope in her mailbox. If you put in cash, please mark it on a post-it. Please do this by May 1<sup>st</sup> so we have time to print the book plates and put them in the church before the bishop visits in May.

Many thanks.

*Old Common Prayer Books*

Many of the worn copies of BCP were given by parishioners. If you gave one and would like to keep it as a memento, they will be in a bag in the parish hall from early May until the end of May. At that time, we will properly dispose of any that are left.

*Millennium Development Goals*

Our last speaker is Marcia Stone on April 15, speaking about the Lwala Health Clinic in Kenya.

We will vote on April 22, choosing 2 of the 4 non-profits we have heard from (Vt Interfaith Power and Light, Brookhaven School, Diocese of Vermont Irene recovery fund, Lwala Health Clinic) to receive our MDG donations. Please bring your donations to church on 22<sup>nd</sup>, either in an envelope marked 'MDG' or in the UTO boxes. We do this to fulfill our pledge of .7% of our income to further the MDG's Thank you for your time, attention and contributions.

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*Requests for use of the Parish Hall*

Parish Hall calendar requests are now being administered by e-mail. Please e-mail your requests to [calendar@stjohnsrandolphvt.org](mailto:calendar@stjohnsrandolphvt.org) . If you do not have access to e-mail, please contact Mark or Steve.

## **Altar Guild**

### *Annual Meeting Invitation*

**We are invited to send representation from St. John's to the annual altar guild meeting on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. This year it is being held at St. Paul's in White River Junction.**

**The program focuses on church linens. We are encouraged to come with questions, concerns, helpful hints. Louise Clark has attended this gathering many times and recommends it.**

**If anyone is interested, please see Anna Sease for further information.**

**Thanks.**

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### *Pastoral Care Committee*

**Pastoral Care met on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 am. Lee opened the meeting with our Prayer after which Jane Eubanks was welcomed into the committee.**

**The cares and concerns of the Parish were shared and plans to continue with ongoing needs for the next month were made. Some time was spent talking about the little Grief booklets, as we found that they are still available for purchase, a choice can be made as to whether to re-create this or continue to purchase, this decision was tabled until next month. We will continue to send birthday and special anniversary greetings to Parishioners as well.**

**As always, we welcome all to share their needs, concerns and joys with us.**

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 am.**

**The members of the Pastoral Care Committee are:**

**Rev. Mark Preece**

**Mickie Richardson**

**Beth Pelletier**

**Lee Sease**

**Jane Eubanks**

**Ginny Cantlin**

**Pat Mayer**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Pat/Mickie**

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### *Community Notes*

#### *Randolph Community Suppers*

**The Community Supper for April will be held on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Bethany Church, Main St., Randolph – Ham and Baked Bean Supper sponsored by East Brookfield Church  
Doors open at 5 pm**

*Vestry of St. John's*

Steven Eubanks, Senior Warden  
Ray Mayer, Junior Warden  
Linda Nagy

Nancy Wright  
Susan O'Malley  
Ellen Baker

Treasurer, William Arnold

Receipts Treasurer, Jane Eubanks

Clerk, Pat Mayer

Delegates to 2011 Diocesan Convention – Mickie Richardson, Marcia Stone, Neil Richardson  
Alternate Delegates – Gay Gaston, Susan O'Malley, Nancy Wright

Please visit our website <http://stjohnsrandolphvt.org>

Our e-mail [info@stjohnsrandolphvt.org](mailto:info@stjohnsrandolphvt.org)

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*Steadfast Hope – The Palestinian Quest for a Just Peace*

The Episcopal Peace Fellowship has produced a booklet and accompanying DVD entitled “Steadfast Hope – The Palestinian Quest for a Just Peace” as a basis for study and discussion on peace in the Holy Land.

Mickie and Neil Richardson will be running a 3 session discussion series in the parish hall on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> - Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> - and Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Each session will begin at 7:00 pm

Each participant will be provided a copy of the booklet and DVD. Each session will include viewing of selected chapters from the DVD followed by discussion, based on the material in the booklet and/or questions raised by participants.

The booklet/DVD cost is \$5. Refreshments will be served following the discussion.

Please let us know in advance, if possible, if you plan to attend by e-mailing us at [mickneilrichardson@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mickneilrichardson@myfairpoint.net)

Thank you for considering this series!

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*Sunday ministries (for 10 am services)*

	Sun – April 15	Sun – April 22	Sun – April 29
Eucharistic Minister	Bob Sparadeo	Linda Runnion	Christine Gilbert
Readers	Nancy Wright	Mickie & Neil R	Ellen Baker
Ushers	Carol Doss	Mickie & Neil R	Susan O'Malley
Oblations	Mickie & Neil R	Pat & Ray Mayer	Anna & Lee Sease
Intercessions	Neil Richardson	Susan O'Malley	Linda Nagy
Coffee Hour	Louise Clark	Mickie Richardson	Ellen Baker