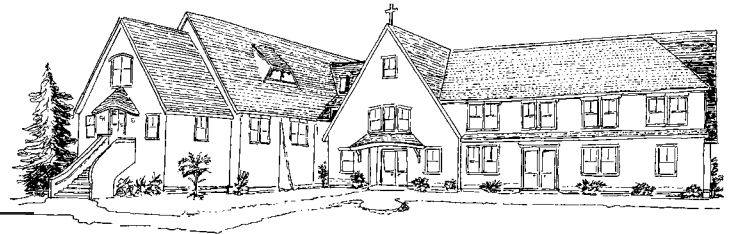


SEPTEMBER 2008

THE ROCK



THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Pastoral Visitors Learn to Listen for Spiritual Needs

“Just don't say something—sit there!” This was one of the most useful lessons learned by the graduates of a pastoral visitor training course offered by Pen Bay Healthcare earlier this year.

The purpose of this program is to prepare volunteers to provide pastoral care and companionship to individuals and those close to them who are experiencing the effects of illness, surgery, incapacitation, loss of independence, death and bereavement.

Recent graduates include two members from St. Peter's: Sarah Reynolds and Jane Chatfield. They gathered with other graduates and Rev. Laura Edwards, Pastoral Care Coordinator at PBMC to talk about the training and their experiences in the field.

“It's really about active and reflective listening,” said Laura Edwards. “It's seldom, in the healthcare system, that people have the benefit of a listening presence, with no strings attached.” The volunteers learned to heed that uncomfortable feeling of “not knowing what to say”—because sometimes the right response turns out to be silence.

“For most of one visit I was really unsure what to do,” said Sarah Reynolds, who lives in Union and volunteers at the hospital. “The lady I was visiting didn't appear to take in what I was saying—I wasn't sure if she was very hard of hearing or didn't understand. I noticed that she was fidgeting a little, so I just held her hand and she started stroking mine. At the end of the visit, she lifted my hand and kissed it.”

Although all of the volunteers attend local churches, they do not represent any particular denomination when they visit patients and they strive to be respectful of the patients' beliefs.

“Some patients don't believe in God, and others are angry at God,” said Edwards. “We don't preach to them. We're there to listen and be a comfort in any way we can.”

When appropriate, pastoral visitors pray with patients about their concerns and hopes, or they sometimes ask, “What would you like to pray for?” Trained pastoral volunteers abide by the HIPPA act (Health Information Patient Privacy Act) and are therefore legally allowed to know where patients are being treated or transferred, which gives them the ability to provide continuity of spiritual care as patients journey through the healthcare system. The volunteers can also be a blessing to the medical staff, who often lament that they don't always have time to sit with patients who are depressed or lonely.

The pastoral training course consists of 10 two-hour classes plus supervised weekly visits with patients at Penobscot Bay Medical Center, Quarry Hill and the Knox Center for Long Term Care. Edwards organizes and leads the course and invites many others to speak to the group, among them Rev. Dr. Betsey Mauro from the Congregational Church in Rockland; Susan Drolet and Kathleen Leach, counselors from PARC (Psychiatric and Addiction Recovery Center) at PBMC; Eileen Hawkins from the PBMC Stroke Center; Suzanne Miller from Quarry Hill, who spoke about stress and self-care; and Rev. Audrey Philcox, who now resides at Windward Gardens and who talked about issues of the elderly in nursing homes. The textbook for the course is “The Lay Pastoral Worker's Hospital Handbook,” by Neville Kirkwood.

Scholarships are available to cover the \$100 tuition for the course. Anyone interested in more information should contact Laura Edwards at 596-8546 or ledwards@penbayhealthcare.org.

The Lambeth Conference

On August 14 Bishop Stephen and Bishop Chilton sat down to discuss their experiences on the Lambeth Conference. You can watch the video with excerpts of their conversation on the Bishops' blog at www.ourletters-fromlambeth.blogspot.com/ or read the complete transcript of their conversations at www.episcopalmaine.org/bishop/lambethconversation.html

Reprinted from the WellBeing newsletter published by Pen Bay Healthcare Aug/Sept 2008.

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WINDOW OF THE SPIRIT *views into the souls of St. Peter's*

A Chat with Fern Spring

By Jo McAlary

One day in June Fern & I sat in her living room and had a delightful conversation. She has always attended St. Peter's Church as her parents did before her. As Fern was born in 1916 that is a MOST impressive record. In fact her mother played the organ for the services and after she died, Fern became the organist. As she said, "As long as it sounded rather pleasant and wasn't too fancy," she got along just fine.

She was her parent's only child and her maiden name was Fern Brown. She attended the Rockland schools and graduated in 1933. While in school, she sang in the church choir, attended church conferences at Bowdoin College as well as the church camp at Norton's Pond, the predecessor of Bishopswood.

Father Kenyon came to St. Peter's parish in 1926 so she remembers him well. She also clearly recalls the Depression, money was scarce. Her mother died of cancer when she was 19 and her father moved into a room so she went hunting for a place to live. Father Kenyon let her have a room at the Rectory. She held down two jobs, waiting on tables and as a helper at a beauty shop.

One day a customer came into the shop and talked to her about higher education quite persuasively. So, she applied to Gorham State Teacher's College and was accepted. At that time it was a three year degree course. With very little money she began. Each summer she had a job in Fortune's Rock, Maine where she waited on tables to pay for the next year. She graduated in 1940.

With her degree from Gorham she applied and was hired by the Waldoboro superintendent to teach grade seven. Her first year she made \$564. After two years she moved to Boothbay Harbor and taught sixth grade for two years earning \$1,000 each year. Finally she got a position in the Rockland system teaching fifth grade at the Warren Street School from 1944 to 1946. In 1947 she was back in the Waldoboro system teaching seventh grade again and taught for 17 years. After that she only substituted.

During this time a very interesting individual started attending St. Peter's Church. His job had transferred him to Rockland from New Hampshire. His name was Richard Spring. He had been an Episcopalian from the cradle so he plunged right into activities at the church to see what he could do to help. He started working with the 30 boys that served as acolytes! He also served on various committees as Fern served as Sunday School superintendent. Fern found this young man most interesting and was happy to work right along with him on church activities. They were married in 1946. They both continued to be very active in the church. She recalled that they both went with Father Kenyon in the summer on Sunday afternoons to Long Cove where he conducted a service.

They bought the house she is still living in and their children Ellen born in 1952, and Stephen born in 1955 went to the Rockland schools and both went to the University of Maine at Orono.

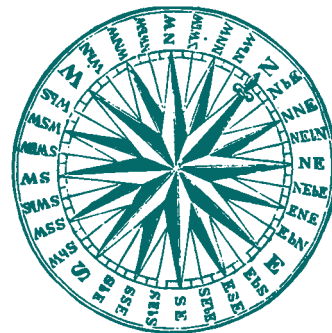
In the 1980s Dick began to develop medical problems, diagnosed as myotonic dystrophy. He died in 1986. She continues to live in her home and is very active at St. Peter's. She is frequently the intercessor at the second Sunday service with a strong voice and wonderful diction. She always happily volunteers to do whatever is helpful on every project. She particularly enjoys attending the monthly meetings of the Episcopal Church Women and laments that there aren't more women attending. She does try to spread the word about the group.

If you are not acquainted with Fern (it's hard to believe that there is any such person on the parish list) she is slight in size, always stylishly dressed, and not bashful about speaking her mind with a sense of humor that leaves you laughing.



Children's Christian Formation Program

The children's "Sunday School" program will resume on September 14th. Our teachers have attended a training program for the "Godly Play" curriculum and have been busy preparing. The experiential format of this educational program is fun for children and was used successfully several years ago when Susan Lewis headed the program. All children are invited to attend.



Change in Coordinators for Gallery of the Spirit

As of September, if you are interested in sharing something for the Gallery of the Spirit, please contact Dorothy Nyman, who has volunteered to take on the coordination this unique project which shares the artistic aspects of our spiritual journeys. I want to thank everyone who, over the past several years, has shared art work (their own or that of others they particularly value), photography, crafts, and writings. I have enjoyed being a small part of this "creative expression of spiritual journey" through helping to make arrangements, but since John and I are now both retired, we are traveling more to visit our family, so I was delighted to learn Dorothy is interested in taking this on.

Mary Alice Bird

Nominations for Area Representatives to Diocesan Council

It is the time of year for congregations, individuals and vestries, to consider who they would like to have represent their area on Diocesan Council from Convention 2008 through Convention 2010.

Per Canon 15, Section 7, "(7) The Diocesan Council shall administer and carry out the work of the Episcopal Church within the Diocese of Maine, subject to such directions as the Diocesan Convention may give. Within 30 days of adjournment of the annual Diocesan Convention, Diocesan Council shall schedule and publish the dates of Council meetings for the ensuing twelve months; Diocesan Council shall, in advance of such scheduled meetings, make the proposed agenda available to the members of the Diocesan Council and to the Areas.

It is the responsibility of individuals, groups of individuals, vestries and/or congregations in each Area to nominate people for consideration. At each area pre-convention hearing one representative will be elected to serve on Diocesan Council.

If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please arrange to have a nomination submitted including a short biography of the nominee. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary of Diocesan Council (143 State St., Portland, ME 04101). Be sure to ask the nominee if they are willing to serve. The deadline for these nominations is Saturday, September 6th. Diocesan Council meets on Saturday four times a year and the meetings are held around the Diocese. Meetings run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with refreshments available at 9:30 a.m. In some instances the host congregation is able to provide a light lunch for a \$5.00 donation — in other instances, members are asked to bring a "bag" lunch with them. The Proposed 2009 Diocesan Council calendar (to be approved at the Diocesan Council meeting September 6th) is as follows (sites to be determined): February 9, 2009 (snow date February 14, 2009); May 2, 2009; September 12, 2009 and December 5, 2009.

If you wish additional information about this ministry, please contact a member of Diocesan Council.

WAYPOINTS activities and notices on our journey together

Mark your Calendars

There are a few more opportunities to attend Retirement Parties for Bishop Knudsen:

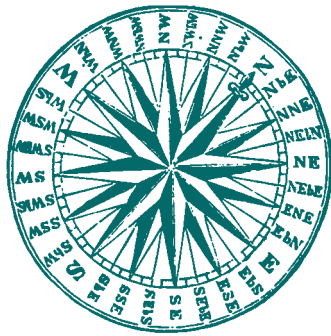
RETIREMENT PARTIES FOR BISHOP KNUDSEN

Friday, Sept 5th
Houlton—Church of the
Good Shepherd
Saturday, Sept 6th
Waterville—St. Mark's
Friday, Sept 13th
Portland—St. Luke's Cathedral

BISHOP LANE

Saturday, Sept 13th
Portland—St. Luke's Cathedral
Bishop Lane's Investiture and Seating
as Diocesan Bishop

*Contact the Diocese
as soon as possible
if you are interested in attending.*



WAYPOINTS *activities and notices on our journey together*

Thanks

Many thanks to Dorothy Nyman for acting as Editor while I was on vacation! *Marty Rogers*

Summer Time Ends
The second service
will return to its usual
time of 10:30 a.m.
on Sunday,
September 14th.

Vestry Meeting Notes

June 18, 2008

■ **Buildings and Grounds.** Approval received from the City to install “No Smoking” signs at each end of the sidewalk, at no cost to the church. Church architect Chris Glass proposed a design for enclosing the church steps to the Narthex. Approval given to spend up to \$2,400 for construction. A notice will be published in the Courier Gazette that St. Peter’s will be part of the smoke-free campus which includes the Knox Center, the Public Library and the Recreation Center and playground. A letter will be sent to users of our facility.

■ **Discernment Committee.** Jude Thomas reported that the committee had received 14 names of candidates from the Diocese and were expecting two more. Approximately one-third of the candidates are male and two-thirds, female. The committee will rank the candidates as A, B, or C. The C candidates will be sent a “no thank you” letter. The others are sent essay questions to answer and are asked to submit copies of two sermons. Every committee member gets to see the responses. The telephone interviews will be done at the Island Institute, where there is a teleconference room. John Bird and Dorothy Nyman will do the interviews. Jude will collect questions from all the other committee members starting the first week in July. The candidates are given timelines for responding to the essay questions; the committee responds back to each.

■ **Treasurer’s Report.** Micki Colquhoun & the parish bookkeeper are preparing material for the audit committee. Don Hunt and several other parishioners will be members.

■ **Updates.** The by-laws committee (Elizabeth Biddle and Marge Roberts) is planning to meet.

■ **New Business.** A letter has been received from Weber Fuel outlining a monthly oil plan of \$990. Vestry will explore a variety of options to secure the best rates, including routine maintenance of the boiler.

■ A resource person from the Diocese will assist with the Mutual Ministry Review. The Letter of Agreement securing Ted as Interim Pastor will be extended. Sheila Seekins has requested tuition assistance for her Master of Divinity studies; she is registered for two classes this fall. Vestry approved \$1200.

July 16, 2008

■ **Updates.** Judy and Harold Willey are both in the hospital. The church will help Harold live at home by supplying food, transportation, etc. since it is expected that he will be discharged first. The audit committee is in the midst of its review.

■ **Buildings and Grounds.** Doug Curtis reported that a working group had helped with numerous tasks: replacing light bulbs, installing a new doorstop and No Smoking signs, staining the steps to the front entrance, a Fire Department inspection, including the kitchen hood. Exit sign in the chapel moved to the ramp exit & new fire extinguishers installed at no charge. Cost for work under the Narthex stairs \$500.

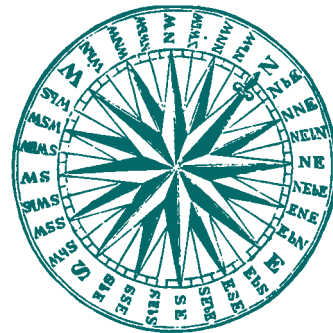
■ **Discernment Committee.** Jude Thomas reported that several telephone interviews with candidates have been completed. The candidates are both men and women with a variety of talents. Background checks are done by the Diocese and the Committee checks references. Visits will be made to the parish of selected candidates. After a final decision is made, the Committee will notify the wardens, and the vestry will “call” the selected candidate. The Vestry must also negotiate the priest’s compensation, as part of its fiduciary duties.

■ The audit report should be completed by September 1.

- The by-laws committee set a goal of having all proposed changes completed so approval can be made at the Annual Meeting.
- Ted's Letter of Agreement as Interim Pastor should terminate about one month before the new rector begins. Approval given to extend the contact through September.

■ **New Business.** People interested in applying for the Diaconate should contact the Diocese. The Diocese is seeking nominations for the Diocesan Council. Convention Delegates from St. Peter's will be asked about their interest in serving. The church website needs to be refurbished. Chris McLarty will describe some changes and make a proposal. The church has received a check for \$10,000 for the endowment fund.

- The next meeting of the vestry is Wednesday, August 20, at 5 p.m.



WAYPOINTS activities and notices on our journey together

Fundraising Work Group

Many thanks to Mary Alice Bird and Chris McLarty for organizing the Spring Plant sale and to all the others for their work to help make it a success! On June 14th, we opened the parish hall to gardeners eager to buy offspring from St. Peter's gardeners extraordinaire. We raised over \$1300 for our outreach activities.

We hope you just can't wait to finally finish your Spring Cleaning and clear new space in your house! Your treasure that has lost its appeal for you, is just what someone else is searching for! If you haven't done your Spring Cleaning yet, get a head start on Fall Cleaning and set aside things that are in good, usable condition. No clothing, please! Computers and TV's cost \$20 each to dispose of at town recycling centers—so unless yours is really good—it's not helping our cause if it doesn't sell.

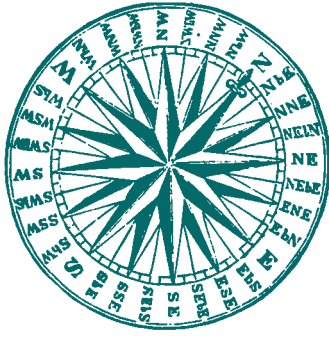
Set up time will be on Friday September 26th. Bring things to the parish hall. If you need help, please call Marty Rogers (236-8922) or Linda Peterson (236-0769).

We only do this once every two years, so don't miss this chance to simplify your life by shedding excess accumulation. Others will be delighted.

Le Petit Noel is being planned for the Saturday of the Rockland Festival of Lights (November 29th). That date is the weekend of Thanksgiving and we need to have everyone's support to capitalize on the crowds in Rockland that weekend. We are looking for people to chair the Tag Sale and Le Petit Noel. Please contact a member of the Fundraising Work Group: Elizabeth Biddle, Linda Peterson or Marty Rogers regarding any of these activities.

Save the Date!!
Saturday,
September 27th
St. Peter's
Biennial Tag Sale





WAYPOINTS activities and notices on our journey together

Area Interfaith Outreach—AIO

Attendance at Sunday services reflects people gone on vacation and the volume of food for the AIO Pantry is not up to our usual. This is not a surprise and fortunately summer meals are simpler than winter ones. But with the onset of fall we need to try hard to reach our weekly goal of 100 pounds of donations! As of August 18th we only had 116 pounds for the month of August. I thank everyone who brings donations and for caring for those less fortunate. Remember that Food Stamps cannot be used for personal items other than baby diapers. So if you stay in a hotel/motel, the small containers of shampoo, lotion etc are very welcome donations.

Mary Hunter

Discernment Committee Report

Your Discernment Committee is proceeding according to our Episcopal Church proscribed plan in finding a new rector for St. Peter's. We have had a number of candidates respond to our listing with the National Church Deployment Office and our Parish Profile. All applicants are vetted by our Diocese and many seem well qualified. We have spoken by tele-conference to those that seem appropriate for St. Peter's; and have proceeded to visit some of the candidates in their home parish to witness their preaching and pastoral skills.

Selected individuals will be asked to visit Rockland so they can "experience" St. Peter's and its environs and "discover" our area of Mid-Coast Maine. This lengthy process is getting exciting. Perhaps in the next issue of THE ROCK we will be able to publish the GOOD NEWS of a discernment process decision! Stay tuned and continue your prayers for a successful conclusion to this wonderful search and adventure! Progress is being made!! Stay tuned!

Jude Thomas and Tom Putnam
Co-chairs

Historic Episcopal Churches

The following letter was received on July 25th:

Dear Ms. Rogers,

Thank you so much for your prompt response to our request for the history and a photograph of St. Peter's Church. I do apologize for my tardiness in acknowledging their receipt.

Not only did you give us sufficient information for our vignette, but we have also acquired a copy of Jack Neeson's very interesting history of the parish for our library. Trying to reduce that history to a few short paragraphs is no easy task. Nonetheless, I try to pack those paragraphs with enough facts to provide a framework for a tidbit or two. It's a challenge!

The calendar, which we had hoped to have the first of September, has been delayed. With God willing and a lot of cooperation on all fronts, the finished product would be here toward the end of September. As soon as it arrives, I'll begin mailing complimentary copies to participating parishes. Included will be ordering information should the churches be interested.

Many thanks for introducing me to St. Peter's.

Sincerely,

A. Margaret Landis, Editor

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Deborah Oliver who wrote the text for our submission for the calendar.



Parking Lot Rules:

Please remember to enter from Limerock Street and exit via Union Street.

Be safe and watch for children always!

From the Interim Pastor's Perch



This will be a summer to remember, at least until next summer. The dry warmer days of late June and early July, changed into the foggy, rainy and mostly hot humid days of August. Not my favorite kind of weather. I feel sorry for those who invest much in and enjoy boating, especially those who depend upon fair weather to make their living at giving people from far and wide special adventures on the Penobscot Bay and surrounding areas.

This is my second summer as your Interim Pastor. Can we believe that it has been more than fourteen months since our former rector, Ralph Moore retired? Much water has flowed under the bridge, as they say, since that time. We have been through fourteen months of life together. We have gotten to know one another more deeply as well as in casual ways. We have shared some very sad times and some wonderful and happy times. We have been connected in the ways that Pastors and members of a congregation experience as their lives are shared with sadness, gladness and personal matters. This underscores the special and fragile nature of the relationships through which, God in Christ opens us to vulnerability for each other. We are able to draw on one another's strengths to move forward while continuing to grow in Christ's love,

Our Discernment Committee at St. Peter's in consultation with the Rev. Canon Mary Ann Taylor, has been working together for almost a year now, to both receive from the members and the Holy Spirit the direction St. Peter's should be taking for the future. We have, at worship, prayed with them the meaningful Prayer for Discernment they offered for our mutual benefit. They have taken what they have received and created a beautiful Parish Profile for the Church to come to know the people and mission at St. Peter's. Understandably, clergy who have an interest in serving here have made themselves known. Now they have been hard at work to interview and discern from amongst the qualified persons, a candidate to present to the vestry, so a call may be issued. They have kept us informed of progress and we have shared their excitement and enthusiasm.

As we get closer to the time when someone will be chosen to become the next rector of St. Peter's Church, our own hearts and minds and spirits begin to grasp the reality of the joyful expectation. The change, though profoundly affecting us all, is tempered by the comfort of our moving ahead with new and energetic leadership this change will bring.

As we get closer to a new rector coming to be with us, that change also will effect the special role I have taken on at St. Peter's and the ways in which you have allowed me to be your pastor during this interim time. In our excitement, we also know change must also come to all of us in the relationship we have come to share during this last year.

Change can bring fear or sadness, but it can, when seen in a healthy light, also bring much joy for what we have been to one another and now will be able to find and share together in our new spiritual leader. Our letting go of our necessary roles will be the way through which will free up our hands and hearts and minds to welcome and embrace the new and more permanent relationship we have all been seeking.

So this expected and exciting change can take place, we will use our time left to make these changes with clarity and joyfulness as we gratefully and necessarily move forward. In this way we can welcome the change without fear, but with expectant joy and grateful hearts for what God had done and continues to do in our spiritual home we affectionately call St. Peter's.

Peace, joy and love.
TK+

St. Peter's Episcopal Church seeks to serve God's mission of restoring all people to unity with him. We open wide our doors and say, in the name of Jesus Christ, "Welcome."

Worship

Sunday 8:00 and 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 7:00 AM Taizé Holy Eucharist

Office hours

Monday–Friday 9 AM to 12 P.M.

The Rev. Ted Kanellakis, Interim Rector
(cell 975-0521, rector@stpetersrockland.org)

Ferris Donoso, Parish Secretary
(stpeters@stpetersrockland.org)

Robert Earle, Organist

Malcolm Brooks, Composer and Choir Director
Valerie Wells, Coordinator of Children's Ministries
The Rt. Rev. Chilton R. Knudsen, Bishop of Maine
The Rev. Stephen Lane, Bishop Coadjutor-elect

Officers

Senior Wardens

John Chatfield, jschat@worldnet.att.net, 236.2187

JoAnne Murphy, 594.4023

Doug Curtis Sr., 594.7191, Junior Warden

Micki Colquhoun, cell. 592.5992, Treasurer

Linda Ames Mann, Clerk

Vestry members

Elizabeth Biddle, Jim Bowditch, Ferolyn Curtis,
Spencer Hurtt, Ellie Hutchinson, Thomas McBride,
Marge Roberts, Billy Smith, Jude Thomas, Midge Welch

THE ROCK

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Thom Buescher (354-0608)

Marty Rogers (236-8922)

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Please e-mail submissions to Marty @ mlr@midcoast.com

You are welcome to contribute to our next newsletter.

Deadline for Next Issue: Tuesday Noon, September 23rd

Mailing Date for this issue: Tuesday, September 2nd



Return Service Requested

NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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THE ROCK



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