

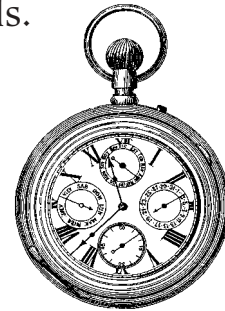
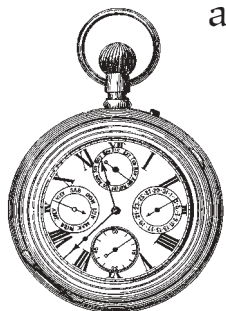
# *Families and Children* RALLY, RALLY, RALLY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 10:30 AM

The children's ministries begin on September 11  
and the 10:30 AM service will celebrate the children and our families  
and our new coordinator of children's ministries, Valerie Wells.

*A lot of fun—Come!!!!*

TIME OF SECOND SERVICE CHANGES TO  
10:30 AM on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

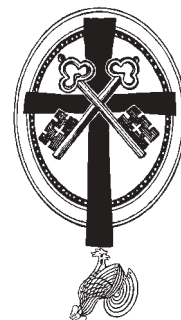


*Welcome back from your summer travels and activities.  
Bring the kids. Bring friends. Rejoice!*

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NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
White Street • P.O. Box 457 • Rockland, Maine 04841

# THE ROCK





# THE ROCK

NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

White Street • P.O. Box 457 • Rockland, Maine 04841 • 207-594-8191 • Fax: 207-594-7766

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

## Children's Ministry Reborn!

Beginning on Sunday Sept. 11, St. Peter's new children's ministry will offer Christian nurture, formation, and fun for children ages 3-10. In fact, Sunday, September 11, at 10:30 AM we will have a RALLY, a big celebration to enroll children and parents and worship in lots of special ways together!!

There will be two groups: one for 3-6 year olds and one for 7-10 year olds. Bridget Buck and Elizabeth Biddle will lead the 3-6 bunch, and Pat Snow and Doree Fisher will shepherd the 7-10 crew. Linda Mann will serve as substitute for both groups. And our new coordinator will be helping all of us. Her name is Valerie Wells. She is a really exciting person to be around!

The groups will meet every Sunday during the 10:30 service, and special activities will follow the seasons that start in the Fall. Nursery care will be provided for those under the age of three.

This satisfies a major goal St. Peter's has set for itself this year, and we are grateful to all who have helped to make this possible, especially our Partners, named above, the Vestry, lots of parishioners, and Valerie. Please give them your thanks.

Parents, please contact Bruce Davis (594-8538) or Harold Van Lonkhuyzen (236-7936) to let us know that your children will be participating.

## St. Peter's Haiti Partnership Explored

On Wednesday, September 14th, at 6:30 pm, there will be a meeting to explore the idea of forming a partnership relationship between St Peter's and another Episcopal congregation in Haiti. The meeting will take place in the church parlor.

At our meeting we will review a brief history of Haiti, and look at some of the opportunities for involvement both as a congregation and as individuals.

The Diocese of Maine entered into a Companion Diocese Relationship with the Diocese of Haiti in 2002 at our 183rd Diocesan Convention. Bishop Knudsen, indeed all of those who have become involved with Haiti, view this relationship as an opportunity for mutual learning and support — in which we are deeply blessed. It gives us the ability to touch the lives of our brothers and sisters in Haiti while bringing more depth to our own spiritual journey.

Several days after the St Peter's meeting there will be a meeting of the Maine Diocese Haiti-Maine Committee. This meeting will be held in Augusta at St Mark's on Saturday, Sept 17th, 10 AM to 1 PM. Here there will be an opportunity to meet with those who are already involved and to learn more about what other congregations in Maine are doing. Joanne Smith is planning to go to St. Mark's and hope to interest others in attending. Any input will be appreciated, even if you cannot attend either meeting. Please contact Joanne Smith at 594-5877 or at [vatalaro@verizon.net](mailto:vatalaro@verizon.net).

## Le Petit Noel 2005 plans are under way!

Save the date of Saturday November 12 to get a start on your Christmas shopping and holiday goodies. This year's theme is holiday traditions around the world and our creations will reflect many seasonal customs from many cultures. And festive food, of course! If you have craft and treat ideas from your heritage come help us out.

Our booths of previous years will be returning with flourishes. Wreaths will not only be of greenery but also of beautiful dried flowers—perfect for Thanksgiving and beyond. More home-baked pies will be available at the expanded food booth. Remember the tasty frozen entrees in the polar department? Buy polar again this year. We'd love to offer some of your specialty dishes so start cooking a little extra when you're in the kitchen and bring it to the fair.

As part of our after-school program fair ladies are planning work-and-play sessions to include kids in the fun. Let us know if you would like to help with this aspect of the fair.

Sound intriguing? We'd love to have you join us in the planning and the doing. Sound like a good idea for someone else to work on? Donations of money for materials would be a great way to be a part of this St. Peter's project. To offer help, call committee chair Cindy Lucas, 594.9757. Now.





## Photographer Tillman Crane at the Art of the Spirit Gallery in September Speaks at Adult Forum September 11th at 9:15

### TOUCHSTONES

I carry a small white stone in my camera bag, picked up from one of my favorite beaches. It is a piece of Maine I take with me on my journeys as a photographer. It is a reminder of where I have been and where I will return. It is my touchstone. While photographing in St. Columba's Chapel it took me a while to recognize the stones resting on the windowsill for what they were. Each was a touchstone brought by a pilgrim to Iona as reminder of home.

Scotland became a metaphor for a search for the spiritual within the physical world. This book is not meant to be a catalogue of humanity's inventiveness with stone. It is a pilgrimage through a landscape filled with places I found visually exciting. I worked in locations from the far north in Orkney to the Borders in the south, from Iona to St. Andrews, and from Aberdeen to Calanais on Lewis. I traveled untold hundreds of miles and made thousands of images. The ones chosen for this book speak to me. Some may ask more questions than they answer. Some may be a simple observation. I invite you to spend time with these images. Perhaps you will find your own touchstone among these pages.

The idea of man's interaction with the world around him is always essential to my work. Scotland provided a location for me to continue exploring the spaces used for protection, to celebrate our spirituality and to define the cultural priorities by what is built.

Touchstones are the connections between this physical and the spiritual world. They are the things that unify humanity rather than those that divide us. Touchstones are the small pieces of home that we carry with us on our pilgrimages through life.

TILLMAN CRANE, of Camden, Maine, is a photographer and writer with a singular style. Working solely with the large format cameras he photographs the quiet corners of our lives. These images surprise us because they are places we often overlook. When printed in palladium, they radiate with an inner sense of spirit and scale.

Tillman did not begin his career with large format. He started as a photojournalist in Tennessee before joining the resident faculty of the Maine Photographic Workshops and the University of Maine at Augusta in 1987. He earned a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Delaware in 1990. He has taught workshops for Peters Valley Craft Center, Coupeville Art Center, Inversnaid Photography Center in Scotland and the Scottish Royal Photographic Society.

### The Window of the Spirit

St. Peter's website is not just a site for news and directions. A new web page titled The Window of the Spirit showcases parishioners' spiritual reflections. To submit a piece (text or art) to appear on this page, please send an e-mail to Chris Stump, the webminister, at [svtuna@hotmail.com](mailto:svtuna@hotmail.com).



## THE ROCK

NEWSLETTER OF  
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

11 White Street • P.O. Box 457  
Rockland, Maine 04841  
207-594-8191 • Fax: 207-594-7766  
e-mail: [stpeters@stpetersrockland.org](mailto:stpeters@stpetersrockland.org)  
[www.stpetersrockland.org](http://www.stpetersrockland.org)

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Tuesday – Thursday 8 AM to 4 PM

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[rector@stpetersrockland.org](mailto:rector@stpetersrockland.org)  
Rev. Isabel Polk, Deacon  
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[deacon@stpetersrockland.org](mailto:deacon@stpetersrockland.org)

Deborah Watson, Administrative Secretary  
Robert Earle, Organist  
Malcolm Brooks, Choir Director  
Valeire Wells, Christian Education

ST. PETER'S VESTRY  
SENIOR WARDENS:

John Bird 596-6276  
Jim Bowditch 236-2272

JUNIOR WARDEN:

JoAnne Murphy 594-4023  
Mac Deford, Treasurer  
Sarah Reynolds, Clerk

MEMBERS:

Katherine Brown, Douglas Curtis, Sr.,  
Jim Curtis, Bruce Davis, George Jones,  
Linda Peterson, Joanne Smith,  
Pat Snow, Harold van Lonkhuyzen

THE ROCK

Editor & Production: Chris McLarty  
236-4244 • Fax 236-6253

e-mail: [silverline@rafikisafaris.com](mailto:silverline@rafikisafaris.com)

Deadline for THE ROCK  
is the 20th of each month.

## Letter from the Rector



In one of his public appearances Mark Twain is reported to have addressed reports in the press that he had died. He said, "Reports of my demise have been grossly exaggerated."

As we at St. Peter's move past Labor Day and into that time of year when there are lots of "start-ups" in our lives — a new school year, resumption of work schedules or new activities in programs and organizations — I must address the fact that there are questions floating around our parish about when Ralph is going to retire. I could take the cute way out and simply paraphrase Mark Twain: "Reports of my imminent departure from St. Peter's have been grossly exaggerated." Rather than do that, however, I want to express what I believe to be the truth of the matter.

First of all, the canons of the Episcopal Church and its Pension Fund require that when clergy in full-time parish positions reach the age of 72 they must retire. Part-time service after that time is permitted but only in extremely rare circumstances is an exception made for a full time rector. I reach my 72nd birthday in May 2008.

Second, two years ago we went through a fairly amazing self-study in St. Peter's with regard to future finances, our remaining obligation to cancel the indebtedness for our building renovations and our dependence on our investment funds to balance annual budgets. Beginning in the Budget and Finance Commission, a process to analyze costs and potential resources was designed. The Task Force for Funding our Ministry (TFFOM), a team of people from among the leadership, from the Vestry and from the parish at large, worked out a five-year financial plan that was first applied to our budget of 2004 and has been used as an effective tool since then. It charts keeping costs under control and making cuts where we can, and it anticipates an active and healthy parish that exercises conscientious stewardship—the result being, hopefully, less and less draw on our investments and larger support from our annual pledging, other income sources and fund-raising events. As we went through this, I declared that my retirement would take place no later than mid-2007. I felt that the financial planning implications of a rector's departure and the interim period that follows, as well as the search for a successor, should be included as accurately as possible in the parish's

projections of its financial health.

I proposed mid-2007 for a couple of reasons. On the one hand, Bridget and I will be anticipating a huge shift in our family's life as Danji moves on to a college or university. Furthermore, by then I will be completing my eleventh year at St. Peter's. The magic number "10" seems to pop up regularly these days when bishops are consecrated. Bishop Knudsen has used this rule for her decision to retire. I think it's a good concept for rectors, too.

I have put the question point blank to our leadership more than once that if there were a reason why I should retire earlier than mid-2007 that I would want to hear about it directly. Everyone should know and take seriously that I have opened this window. I have also expressed my belief that a period in which a rector's retirement can be anticipated as a concrete reality at a specific future time gives the parish a unique opportunity. The parish can design a process in which the current rector can share his unique experience and perspective as the parish prepares for a productive interim period and search process. The parish can benefit from this as it examines what the needs and expectations are and should be for a priest and a rector of St. Peter's in 2008.

So, as we move into September, 2005, I have a pretty concrete vision of what my work should be during the period of about two years. In the immediate future, the seasons of prayer, worship, ministry and mission that stretch between now and June, 2006, I will be very busy and committed, first of all, to the three priorities the Vestry identified in the Spring and communicated to the parish in a special meeting last June.

They are: 1) a vital ministry with children and youth, 2) an effective involvement of the parish in the pastoral care that we provide one another, and 3) an engagement to serve the at-risk people, especially young people, who cluster in greater numbers than ever before in our area of downtown Rockland. And, like the rest of us, I'll be up to my ears in our ministries in liturgy and arts, evangelism, stewardship, and the creative and responsible use of our financial resources and our physical plant. There is a great deal for all of us to do, to enjoy doing, to feel called into doing, in this wonderful tapestry of details. The priest/rector does just a small portion of the actual doing. I pray that

*See Rector's Letter on page 7*

## “Partners” Called

*Here's the call that gathered in our first Christian Formation Partners:*

The Christian Formation commission is recruiting five “partners” to accompany and teach our younger children as they grow in relationship with God. In turn, you will be partnered by a paid coordinator, the Christian Formation commission, and the whole St. Peter's community as we develop a more lively and meaningful formation program. The only prerequisite is a love of children. The commitment is from August to December 2005, renewable for another six months if you like. We envision two children's groups, one for approx. 3- to 6-year olds, a second for 7- to 10-year olds, to meet during the 10:30 service. You will be provided with training, a superb curriculum, materials, a teaching partner with whom you may split the responsibilities any way you want, and a substitute in case of emergencies. Our Rector Ralph will also provide guidance and support. We want to make it a fun and worthwhile venture for all involved. If you think you might be called, or just willing to help St. Peter's grow more fully alive, please contact Bruce Davis at 594-8538 or Harold Van Lonkhuyzen at 596-8396. A meeting for all interested will be announced soon.

*Get ready for the next call, it may be for you. — Ed.*

### St. Peter's Episcopal Church

*Next to the Rockland Public Library*

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8 AM Holy Eucharist

9:15 Adult Forum

10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music  
Nursery & Children's Circle

*The Rev. Dr. Ralph M. Moore Jr.*

594-8191

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

Winter Schedule  
Returns  
September 11!

## WEDNESDAY MORNING EUCHARISTS CONTINUE

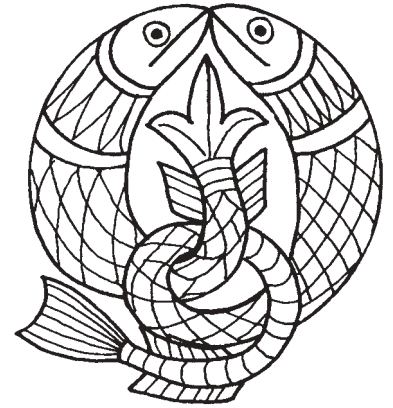
In the Chapel on Wednesday mornings at 7:00 AM persons gather for silence, contemplative prayer, readings from many traditions, simple chants from the Taize Community in France, and a communion liturgy of the Iona Community in Scotland. The service begins with a period of tolling the bell for all who have departed this life and all who desire our prayers. It concludes within 45 minutes. Many share coffee or breakfast at the Brown Bag afterwards.

## QUESTIONS/ANSWERS —YES!!!

We had a vibrant Monday night group that met through June to query the rector and read material together in search of new strength and insight for the formation of faith. Why not continue this?? Ralph is ready to start this up again on Monday, October 2, 6:00-8:00 PM. Let him know immediately if you can join. (594-8191)

## CONFIRMATION YOUTH GROUP—YES!!!

The rector is contacting young people (11 years of age and up...) for forming this group. It might get together on Sunday afternoons at Ralph's house. When you see him coming in your direction he might ask you if you'd like to get involved. (Call him—594-8191.)



### First Lesson

Lie back daughter, let your head  
be tipped back in the cup of my hand.  
Gently, and I will hold you. Spread  
your arms wide, lie out on the stream  
and look high at the gulls. A dead-  
man's float is face down. You will dive  
and swim soon enough where this tidewater  
ebbs to the sea. Daughter, believe  
me, when you tire on the long thrash  
to your island, lie up, and survive.  
As you float now, where I held you  
and let go, remember when fear  
cramps your heart what I told you:  
lie gently and wide to the light-year  
stars, lie back, and the sea will hold you.

*Philip Booth*

*This is the lovely poem Ralph used in his sermon in August.*

**CHANTING INTO THE LIGHT:**

**Self-transformation through Sound  
 RUSSELL PAUL AT SAINT PETER'S  
 THE FIRST WEEKEND OF OCTOBER**

The Liturgy and Arts Commission at Saint Peter's is proud to present a teacher of the breadth and depth of Russill Paul for a weekend of music and chant at our church.

Russill Paul grew up in India in a Christian family of musicians and began playing instruments at the early age of four. Already established as a professional musician, at nineteen he placed himself under the spiritual direction of Dom Bede Griffiths, the famous Benedictine. He lived as a monk at Griffiths' Christian ashram in Madras for five years, where he pursued studies in music, Sanskrit, and yoga. To this day he remains a disciple and friend of the late Dom Bede.

An internationally renowned instrumentalist and vocalist, Paul presents concerts, workshops, and seminars widely in the US and across the world. He is also a faculty member at Matthew Fox's University of Creation Spirituality in Oakland, California, where he has taught courses related to sound, music, and spirituality since January 1992. His Website is at: [www.russillpaul.com](http://www.russillpaul.com).

Yoga is a word that evokes images of people peacefully holding their bodies in positions of masterful flexibility. However, alongside the familiar, there is an ancient Yoga of Sound largely unknown in the countries of the West, and its goal is to awaken dormant powers of the mind through the use of music and chant. We will have a weekend of the Yoga of Sound to introduce and initiate us into this venerable and ancient science of creating sound

to facilitate internal balance, vitality of spirit, freedom from stress, and an expanded sense of Who occupies our inner space.

The weekend will feature three different, highly participative events: a workshop, a public concert, and a liturgy. All three events will be in the parish hall.

The workshop is Friday evening (30 Sept), Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM, and Sunday afternoon.

The public concert will be on Saturday evening. The liturgy will be the second Eucharist service on Sunday morning. (The 8 AM service will take place in the sanctuary as usual.) As of this writing, we intend to charge a fee of \$160 for the workshop. The workshop ticket will include the Saturday evening concert, and it will include the lunch that Nelda McClellan has agreed to cater for attendees. Malcolm Brooks has agreed to provide musical accompaniment for our guest. Marilyn Smith has hospitably offered lodging for him for the weekend.

We intend to charge \$20 for a ticket to the concert. We have already received requests for reserved places in the workshop from people who have only incidentally heard of what's going on.

Space is limited. We want Saint Peter's people and friends of Saint Peter's to have the first and the principal opportunity to be present for this weekend of the voice lifted in search of the Creator. Contact Billy Smith at [billysmith1@verizon.net](mailto:billysmith1@verizon.net) or at 594-5877.

**SCHEDULE:**

**WEEKEND WORKSHOP**

Friday evening, September 30

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Saturday, October 1

check-in and orientation 10:00 am

Morning session 10:30 am – 1:00 pm

lunch on own 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

Afternoon session

2:00 pm – approx 5 pm

Sunday, October 2

2:00 pm – approx 5:30 pm

Weekend workshop includes admission to Saturday concert

**PUBLIC CONCERT**

Saturday, October 1 at 8:30pm

**The Elementary Primer**

At ten, beneath a pink umbrella,  
 my rubber boots and I slosh to school  
 Relishing the wetness of it all.

Autumn rains on fiery fallen leaves  
 Beneath hissing tires, plastered  
 Like confetti against slick asphalt.

I wade through gutter brooks  
 Pouring wildly down  
 Their secret passage to the sea.

Ahead, school windows yellow warm,  
 Brick arches red against gray skies,  
 The heavy doors creak hello.

Old wooden floors pungent with  
 Scents of oil and pencil shavings.  
 Full inkwells glisten in silence.

Blank chalkboards stare  
 As though they know my lessons  
 Have been clearly written, elsewhere.

Only now, in memory, can I see  
 How grace and meaning are revealed  
 In leaves bright with death.

Only now do I see my life reflected in  
 The rains that circle endlessly  
 From sky to sea and sky again.

*Dorothy Nyman*

**RUSSELL PAUL IN CONCERT**

Saturday, October 1st at 8:30 P.M.

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, Rockland

## Richard Hooker and the modern world

For what it's worth, I attend church with people who do not accept many of my most important beliefs, and vice versa. Why does this matter, and why is it worth writing about?

Liberals and conservatives are all over each other at the moment in the Dear Old USA, trying to forcibly compress irreconcilable extremes of religion and politics into the same cubic space of fissile material. Judicial nominations, the right to die, abortion, Iraq, homosexuality, Alaskan oil—pick any subject and watch it burst into flames.

All the same, I do not think the underlying problem is conservatism vs. liberalism. There will always be conservatives and liberals, so the real question is how do we make it all work for everyone? The biggest hindrance we face is an almost universal atmosphere of intolerance. Everyone is intolerant of everyone else, and if you don't agree with me I'll knock you down.

But we have been here before and we did find a way out of it, even if it was a baffling solution for many, and others refused to tolerate it and left in Protest to become the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

If refer to 16th-century England and its fights over whose ways should dominate. Should it be the allegedly reform-minded Puritans, or should it be the more traditional-minded? It was not easy to resolve, but Queen Elizabeth eventually adopted ideas proposed by clergyman Richard Hooker, namely that there should be a middle way between extremes, a road where most people can walk in reasonable comfort with their neighbors, even when they do not wholly accept of each other's beliefs.

In a way that modern people might also find unsettling, Hooker looked at four important values, and with considerable intelligence suggested that no single one should be allowed to dictate the road ahead. He identified tradition, experience, reason, and scripture. For example, people who say they live simply by scripture can find themselves in a difficult spot when it comes to

explaining why they do not chop off their own hands in order to avoid sinning, or why they do not approve of slavery. After all, each is a Biblical principal if one is to be literal about it. And so it goes with each of the four values. To simply adhere to any one of them can produce absurdities and the risk of extremism. It gets worse when one tries to translate such a single-minded approach into politics, which of course is precisely what is going on today.

Hooker also had a reasonable comment to make about people who think of God as some kind of severe schoolmaster, whether of the Christian, Jewish, or Moslem kind: "God is no captious sophister eager to trip us up whenever we say amiss, but a courteous tutor ready to amend what, in our weakness or our ignorance, we say ill, and to make the most of what we say aright."

When was the last time anyone tried to portray God and religious faith in that way in the media? As a world-saving idea, I admit, Hooker's middle way sounds fairly unspectacular. It did not prevent Civil War between the seventeenth century equivalent of left and right in England, nor did it prevent burnings and excommunications by the governors of the Massachusetts Bay Colony who, after all, had left England because they did not want tolerance. (Remember, Rhode Island was formed by people whose tolerance was intolerable to the Mayflower crowd just up the coast.)

But the desirability of a middle way, and of the four-way test of things, even though hidden from sight from time to time and perhaps now, nevertheless endures as one of the better ideas, I think. The founders of the American system of government in the eighteenth century were indirectly influenced by it, and hoped for tolerance of a range of opinions and for a reasonable approach to making public policy in the new republic.

The middle way is not simply a question of ignoring differences. It is based upon the broad and reasonable belief that no man or woman is cut wholly of single cloth. Each of us is, rather, a quilt of different ideas, degrees

of conviction, and variations on a theme. Inevitably, too, it suggests that we be very cautious about making judgments of each other.

I find Hooker's ideas to be sensible still, requiring that I take seriously all the claims of reason, tradition, experience and "scripture," or what we might agree to call inherited codes of written conduct or even established law—what our legal system calls precedent. If there is any genuine spirit of tolerance in any of us, I think these ideas will only reinforce it.

So although I tend to keep clear of active politics for my profession's sake, I nevertheless attend a church riddled with Democrats, festering with Republicans, crawling with those who think homosexuality is a bad choice, replete with gay people, loaded down with the poor, and overburdened with the wealthy. Somewhere in all of that I find a way to fit in, tolerating as best I can people who believe things I do not, and in return being tolerated by others who think I am a complete chump but are too polite—too committed to the middle way—to say so.

It's not always easy. Only last weekend I tossed aside a book which proposes something I cannot swallow. But I'll probably finish it, and when we discuss it I'll make my case as persuasively as I know how, perhaps also trying to learn something. This is no magic solution to all our ills, but I can only do what I think best for myself and urge you to think about it too.

*David Grima is editor of The Camden Herald where this piece first appeared. He can be reached at [dgrima@courierpub.com](mailto:dgrima@courierpub.com).*

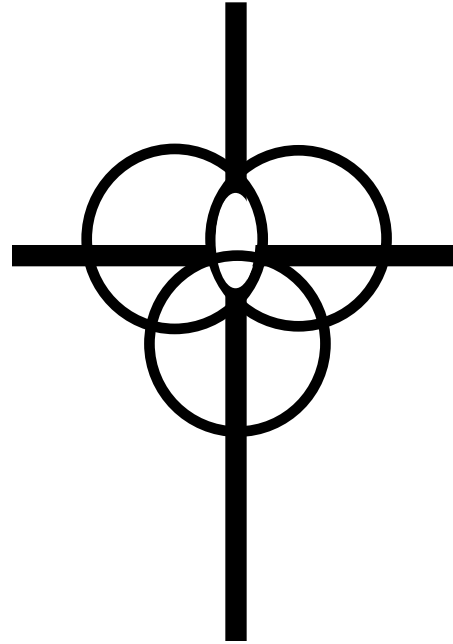
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all of us will find fresh empowerment as we live and serve together as Jesus' people.

I shall depend on you, my companions, to join me in discernment in these days about what life in God means. I shall also depend on you to take very seriously the present and future life of the parish and your involvement in it. I shall depend on you to be very honest with yourself and with your sisters and brothers in Christ as to how much you value the St. Peter's experience and how much you will stretch to support it and to strengthen it. More than ever before it becomes clear that the power of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Rockland, Maine, is to be known in the greater community not by what clergy do but by what the people of the parish do. I shall depend on the rising of fresh vitality in our parish with zest and zeal. I shall depend on it's being said with delight, "Reports of the demise of the Christian church, at least in Rockland, have been grossly exaggerated."

Blessings in Christ,

*Ralph*



**PARISH RECORD**

**HOLY BAPTISM**

June 12, 2005

Sarah Geissler Van Lonkhuyzen,  
born February 17, 2005

Samuel Jonathan William Van Lonkhuyzen,  
born February 17, 2005

Parents: Kirsten Lynn Staples  
and Harold Willialms Van Lonkhuyzen

July 16, 2005

Tiah Nicole Sanborn, born April 3, 1995

Parents: Kerri-Jeanne Smith and Arnold Dean Sanborn

July 16, 2005

Arnold Dean Sanborn, born July 2, 1967, father of Tiah Sanborn

August 21, 2005

Jackson Osborne Fitch, born May 8, 2004

Parents: Victoria Winslow Willauer and Anthony Richard Fitch

**HOLY MATRIMONY**

June 4, 2005

Tiffany Leigh Watson and Thomas Michael Monroe

July 8, 2005

Mary Loretta Moran and William Bruce Haffner

July 30, 2005

Irina Eugenia Elisabeth Wolf and Antoine Henri Carriere

**CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

Ruth Jane Jacobs, age 92,  
departed this life, June 10, 2005

Susan Margaret Hanscom, age 52,  
departed this life, July 27, 2005

## A message from the Presiding Bishop -- 8/31/2005

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

I am sending this message by email to our bishops, clergy and congregations — insofar as is possible — so that it might be shared and that we might be a community united in prayer and service during this time.

During these past days I have been contacting bishops in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina and have spoken to the bishops of Alabama, the Central Gulf Coast, Louisiana and Mississippi. As you would imagine, they are ministering to their communities the very best they can under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. Communication is tenuous, and in some cases impossible. As hour by hour the almost unimaginable ravages of the hurricane become more fully known we are continuing to learn of further losses of life, houses, churches, and other familiar points of reference, including the destruction of whole communities.

At this time let us be exceedingly mindful that bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's suffering are integral to being members of Christ's body. I call upon every member of our church to reach out in prayer and tangible support to our brothers and sisters as they live through these overwhelming days of loss and begin to face the difficult challenges of the future.

Episcopal Relief and Development has been in contact with all the dioceses in the Gulf Coast area touched by the hurricane and will be working with them long after the television cameras have left. Funds have already been sent to the dioceses of Central Gulf Coast, Mississippi and Louisiana. I ask you to donate funds to the work of ERD such that our brothers and sisters in Christ will have the resources needed for the monumental task of reconstruction and rebuilding. Donations to ERD can be made as follows with an indication that they are designated for hurricane relief: via ERD's website at <http://www.er-d.org/> 24 hours a day; by

calling ERD at 800/334-7626, extension 5129 Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard time; by sending a check payable to Episcopal Relief and Development, Box 12043, Newark, New Jersey 07101-5043.

The Rt. Rev. George Packard, Suffragan Bishop for Chaplaincies, has been in contact with bishops in the Gulf Coast area. Bishop Packard is working such that a network of chaplains — police, fire, civil defense and military chaplains — is providing information to the bishops about what is happening in areas of their dioceses they have not been able to reach. The next stage of his work will be setting up training for clergy and others in dealing with the trauma so many have experienced.

Episcopal Migration Ministries is also responding and Richard Parkins, the Director of EMM, is investigating the possibilities of resettlement for people who are temporarily homeless.

Life affords us very few securities and yet deep within us, often revealed in the midst of profound vulnerability and loss, springs up a hope that contradicts the circumstances in which we find ourselves. Such hope emerges from the depths of despair as pure and unexpected gift. This is the way in which Christ accompanies us and seeks to share our burdens. May Christ so be with those of us who are enduring the effects of the hurricane, and may each one of us be a minister of hope to others in these dark and tragic days.

May we together pray:

God of mercy and compassion, be in our midst and bind us together in your Spirit as a community of love and service to bear one another's burdens in these days as we face the ravages of storm and sea. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord from whom alone comes our hope.

Amen.

*The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church, USA*

The Diocese of Maine is formulating a statewide response to Hurricane Katrina. Visit [www.episcopalmaine.org](http://www.episcopalmaine.org) for more information.

## A short reflection on the past four years in EFM

**I**n EFM the first year — one is scared, hesitant, cautious. We read the Old Testament. And it is grueling. And the judging of God begins. What kind of God is this anyway? This angry, wrathful, jealous God. Certainly not a very nice God. Certainly NOT MY GOD. And it makes us angry — and not sure we want to know any more. But, thankfully, year two is an uplifting year — more upbeat. We are more confident, getting to know the ropes. Gaining an understanding of theological reflections and metaphors. The spiritual autobiography is not quite as hard. And we learn God is love. Now that's more like it. That's my God. That's a happier God. (Even though Jesus dies — well, thankfully, we knew that already.)

Then year three is...I thought it was rather interesting and kinda fun to learn all the changes Christianity has been through. It's been like watching a child grow. From it's infancy, through childhood, adolescence, and now it seems to be somewhere in adulthood. It also seems that different denominations are in different stages — just like people, some have arrested development — like some adults that appear to be stuck somewhere around age 18, they just won't grow up. Some have gotten so old they won't change, adapt and grow. Like a dog unable to learn new tricks. Finally year four looms around the corner — oh no — not our last year! Summer eases the panic for a time. Then year four starts and the panic sets in. Is this really our last year? Do we have to leave? Can we just start over? How can there be life without EFM? I actually would like to do it all again — now that I am no longer completely ignorant. But I also think it will be nice to step back, take a break, and let it process. And for me, there is also a feeling of letting the EFM group go on without us. In year four it all comes together with today's world — it's not so historical as it is recent, and modern, and relevant. The studying we have done, the knowledge we have gained, the questions we have asked and the questions that we will ask — it has become and will continue to be a foundation in our lives on which to build.

I am very thankful I was called to take this course and I am very glad I said yes to the call. I have been very blessed to be a part of this particular group, and I will miss it dearly. I have a prayer for this group and it is this: That this community, with its wondrous diversity, will continue to thrive. That the people who have come before in previous EFM years, and those who are in EFM now, and those who will join EFM in the near or far future, will always strive for knowledge, openness, and oneness with the Holy Spirit. For this I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. — *Emily Jenks, EFM graduate 2005*