



*Democracy is necessitated by the fact that
all men are sinners; it is made possible by
the fact that we know it.*

... Elton Trueblood

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THE PRESS

JULY/AUGUST, 2006

Dear People of Saint Andrew's,

How are you going to spend your summer? Most of you will go on vacation at some point, others will be in summer school (not so much fun), many will be in your gardens, on golf courses or at the beach and most will still have to work most of the summer. American vacations are very short compared to Europeans. Church goes on too in gathering for worship of the Creator of all we sense in its lushness in summer, albeit in one Sunday hour instead of two and with a continuing midweek service at noon on Wednesdays. I am hoping that instead of a great scattering that those of us who are here in town will have a great gathering that is worthy of that corporate worship we give when we are together. God's faithfulness, the love and mercy of Jesus and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit call us to be together, even if briefly once a week. So I am trusting that while we will (including me) be absent for vacations that we will still want to share in the most important task of the church and from which all other purposes derive, to worship our triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We are working on some possible summer programs that will have to be announced later, on a weekday evening and hopefully in an air conditioned place.

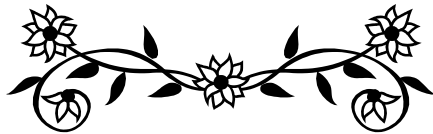
Our new sound system should soon be in place, thanks to all the people who made matching grants. The snugery will be used as the primary nursery in the summer and our service will be piped in there as well as providing for sermons to go on the Web each week (for when you are away) and to amplify the service to make it possible for all to hear.

So have a good summer, but come around to help us make a "joyful noise to the Lord" when we gather at 9AM on Sundays in July and August through Labor Day.

Faithfully in Christ,



Alan B. MacKillop
Priest in Residence



Jesus is the Light of the World

A while back I asked Father Alan if some candles or votive lights could be available to some of us who would like to light a candle to accompany a prayer in church. The tradition is very ancient in the church and lighted candles are used symbolically by many people, not just Christians, as when at a peace gathering or a memorial people will hold candles. When used with prayer, a votive or intention takes a concrete symbolic form in the light that reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and of our lives as well. Father Alan had some votive candles on the chapel altar for the wonderful Maundy Thursday Liturgy in Holy Week, and I've asked if they can be on the chapel altar for some of us to use throughout the year. They are there now, and I invite anyone beside me for whom this would be a meaningful devotion to take advantage of this simple but deeply spiritual form of offering prayer.

Russ Harris
Senior Warden

Summer at Young Life

St. Andrew's is certainly doing what it can to help the youth of the area through Young Life. The Outreach Committee has approved funds for the summer camp and has also agreed to provide dinner for the kids twice a month at the home of director, Eric Stolfus. The people providing the meal will stay for the whole meeting so they can be actively involved in the program. Should be fun! Fr. Alan and Erica are going to prepare the dinner on Wednesday, July 5th. The next opportunity will be July 19th - any volunteers?? Talk to Fr. Alan or Susan Leeming if you're interested. Outreach has also approved funds to provide 10 backpacks with school supplies for this fall.

Choir Booster

Our wonderful organist and choir director Michael Smith went to the Vestry and asked to use the money already budgeted for this year to hire two section leaders for the choir (tenor and bass). Since he will not need to buy any music because he has access to Groton School's music library, he decided this move would help develop St. Andrew's choir especially in the male voices, beginning in the fall. Michael has great plans for the choir so: (1) look forward to excellent music and (2) think about joining the choir and helping bring it to pass!

Editor's Note:

Next Issue: September 2006

Deadline: August 10th

Send submissions to: acahill@hybricon.com, or drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.

Questions? Please call me at: (978) 448-4053 (home) or (978) 772-5422 x 323 (work).

*Be sure to include your name and telephone number on **all** submissions!*

Is this your calling?

I have heard it said more than once that Episcopalians aren't as interested in Sunday School education as some other Protestant denominations. I don't know why that is as most Episcopalians I know are well-educated, cultured people. I guess we assume our children will simply absorb the history, tradition and reasoning of our rich faith by attending enough Sunday services with their parents.

As a young girl with an immense curiosity about religion, I started reading and learning everything I could not only about Christianity but the other major faiths. As a Sunday School teacher the past ten years, I have learned even more as I teach my students. Why don't we here at Saint Andrew's try to spark or satisfy that interest that may be resting in each of our young people? Or even if certain ones are not interested, as a goodly proportion of our population finds religion immensely dull, at least our children can learn what an Episcopalian is and what we stand for in this world and what we can hope for in the next.

What we need now at Saint A's are some new teachers. You don't need to be the Archbishop of Canterbury to be able to teach children. We are particularly in need of extra teachers for the intermediate class, that's mine, generally third and fourth graders. John Ferrillo teaches the junior and senior high-schoolers, five wonderful teens. John has been teaching every single Sunday for over a year and for me over two years and we need a chance to take a Sunday off from time to time. We both use a prepared curriculum that can be followed exactly or as a jumping off point to all those wonderful tangents that a good discussion can lead to. My class loves to do arts and crafts so it's not all lectures and maps and charts. The youngest children in Godly Play gather in a circle on the rug around the "storyteller"/teacher who uses props to tell a Bible story or a Parable after which the children "wonder" about its meaning. Our storytellers are Jeanne Cassin and Yvette Nasworthy. Right now we have just one Godly Play class but with growing numbers of little ones it is likely we shall start a second class. I am becoming increasingly doubtful that we can maintain our Sunday School classes without some new faces. Please consider joining the teaching team. Contact me or any of the teachers with questions. Together we can maintain those standards of learning which Episcopalians are known for.

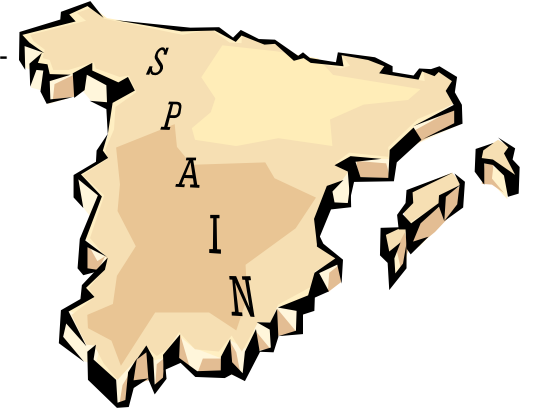
~ Nancy Barringer



Deacon Gail In Spain

Hi Everyone,

I am now officially a Deacon. The ordination did take place on June 4th. It was just beautiful. There were four of us ordained as Deacons. Arturo is a retired man in the Cathedral Rafael who is having services in a city in the west of Spain and Jesus who is from Church of the Ascension in Sevilla. Never having become accustomed fact that in Spanish cultures Jesus is a very normal name for boys, it sounded strange to me to have the Bishop Lopez ordaining Jesus as a Deacon!!



We had the preordination retreat and that was nice. It was held at the guest rooms of the monastery where General Franco is buried. The last morning we were there we went to a mass where a youth choir was singing in Gregorian chant. It was beautifully done. We returned on Saturday. That evening we celebrated the Eucharist for the second time at the Mission service. The folks really are happy that we are incorporating this into the Saturday Mission services.

Sunday was the ordination. I can't even describe how I felt when Bishop Lopez put his hands on my head and declared me a Deacon. I do have some pictures and will get them out in an e-mail as soon as my phone is hooked up.

I can't tell you that my life is different as my first week as Deacon I was on vacation. Sunday after church, Miguel and Janet (the parents-to-be living with me) invited me out to lunch. When we arrived at the restaurant. Miguel and Janet were laughing. I had on my collar, and they said that it was very funny to see the reactions of the people when they saw me. Spanish people, being mostly Catholic, are not used to seeing a woman with a collar. I guess heads were turning all over the place.

We were blessed with a huge food delivery on Monday from the Red Cross. Four of us stored over six metric tons of food yesterday afternoon. It will last us until October when we receive the next shipment.

God Bless you all. Thanks again, and I do want to add that the Lord put you all in my heart when I was ordained.

In the love of Christ,

Rev. Gail

A Calling for Counters

At the recent sessions on the "Purpose of the Church" we talked about helping people find their own gift or ministry in the parish. One gift mentioned but often not acknowledged is the ministry of counting. Each Sunday the offerings must be counted and got ready to be taken to the bank. Presently the Vestry take turns after the 10 AM Eucharist. However the Vestry have many other responsibilities as well i.e. Vestry meetings, Commissions etc. and so it is an added talk to come back and count as well. When we talked about this at the Tuesday evening series one parishioner volunteered to become a counter. Some of you may not want to be on the Vestry, be an acolyte or many of the other activities but might feel that you could give an hour or so once or twice a month (always in pairs for obvious reasons), and our treasurer Sue Hundredth will be glad to train in the finer points of getting things ready for the deposit. So this is a call for "counters", might this be your particular calling. Speak to Father Alan or Sue and thank you.

Plan Ahead!

Dates to SAVE

Apple Pie Day	Monday, October 16
Holiday Fair	Saturday, November 11
Fair Planning meeting	Sunday, September 17
Between services in the Parish Hall	9:15AM to 9:45AM

We are looking for more folks to help. Are you interested in helping with –

- Signs
- Bake table
- Fair lunch
- Andrew's Attic
- Decorations
- Crafts

Please join us! Connect with Barbara Kamb for more information 978-486-4360.

Prepublication Sale

St. Marks Church in Westford will soon be publishing a pamphlet on their history . St. Mark's was our mission church, therefore St. Andrew's and her early rectors will be mentioned. See Louise Rogers for more information.

"112 YEARS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WESTFORD"

The pamphlet will be published sometime this fall. It currently contains some 86 articles, many pictures and contributions from quite a number of people regarding their experiences with our church in Forge Village and Westford. It should run about 30 pages. Articles are still being solicited but with a deadline of around Labor Day. If anyone has a photo of the old gymnasium at the Forge Village Mission House, a copy would be deeply appreciated.

By ordering copies early we will can more properly estimate the publication run.

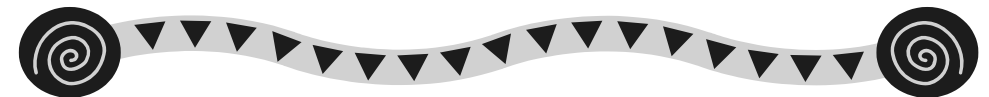
A discussion with a local printer indicated that the cost of publication would be around \$15 - \$17 per copy. Hence there will be a prepublication price of \$20. After publication the price will rise to \$25 per copy. Any profit from the sale of the pamphlets will be given to the St. Mark's Building Fund.

We would like ___ copies of 112 YEARS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WESTFORD at the Prepublication price of \$20, for a total of \$____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send to Larry Peebles c/o St. Mark's Church, 75 Cold Spring Road, Westford, MA 01886 with a check made out to St. Mark's with "History" in the "for" space.



Many, Many Thanks

~ to all who contributed to the matching fund which, along with the John Riley bequest, will pay for a sound system in the church

~ to Chris Jones for the beautiful cups and saucers for refreshments in the Peabody Room

Vestry Meeting Highlights

Highlights from the May, 2006 Vestry Meeting:

- ✘ Wardens to attend long term planning meeting between churches in Pepperell, Ayer and Shirley regarding Devens taking place 5/11/06 at Trinity Chapel in Shirley
- ✘ Confirmation of three parishioners (Vivian Ferrillo, Leah Smith and Jackie Strobe)
- ✘ Nancy Barringer announced resignation after several years as Sunday School Superintendent. Many thanks to Nancy for all her hard work. Fr. Alan asked for help in the search to fill this important position. Possibility of restructuring the job into a paid position to be discussed further.
- ✘ Senior Warden's Report Given by Russ Harris — Introduction of parish-wide bible study — "Purposes of the Church", to be held for four consecutive weeks beginning Tuesday, May 23rd in Parish Hall
- ✘ Check from John Riley's Estate in the amount of \$35,376.27 put into the investment fund where it will be able to be tracked
- ✘ Treasurer's Report Given by Sue Hildreth. Healthy Financial Report; Pledges for April exceed budget; Expenses on target; Positive net income. Sue and Yvette to attend treasurer's workshop on May 20th. Will discuss a change to the assessment formula based on the last two years expenses rather than income. Vote to approve Treasurer's Report
- ✘ Parish Hall Handicap Ramp Update Given by Manny Lindo (via report). Letter has been sent to James Fay requesting assistance from Job Corps to construct ramp; waiting for approval by Job Corp.
- ✘ Handicap Bathroom Update—CAD drawing to be completed shortly
- ✘ Lock Update — Nashoba Security Industries to install new locks in the Peabody Room and the Parish Hall next week; key policy to be instituted; key to be given to Ayer Police Dept.; Groups to obtain key from police dept.
- ✘ Sound System Update —Two quotes received. Shanahan Electronics from Lowell for \$10,500; Pro Sound Service from Braintree for \$5900, with a savings of \$600 given if paid immediately after installation. Russ is happy with the quality of Pro Sound Service. Services to be provided are: Pipe sound into the Snuggery; Record Fr. Alan's sermons for placement on the church's website; Amplify lectors' and the choir's voices; Eliminate dead spaces in church; Allow playback of background music; Improvement of our collective worship. Russ suggests paying half with the John Riley Estate money and the rest in donations from parishioners.
- ✘ Outreach Commission Report ... Had second meeting last Sunday ...Requesting each outreach: Provide a financial statement, Speak to the parish once a year, Meet with the Outreach Commission
- ✘ Facilities Commission Report ... Plan to work on window sills (Peabody Room and Parish Hall) ...Plan to do an energy audit ... Insulation needed in church basement/Parish Hall attic ... Look into the most efficient way to heat Fr. Alan's and Lynn's offices ... Church exterior needs to be painted ... Need cross on top of Parish Hall
- ✘ Membership Commission given by Lili Ott
- ✘ State Convention Delegates — Kim Lindo voted as second delegate (Jeanne Cassin is first). Louise Rogers proposed as alternate if her schedule allows.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH PICNIC

especially for Sunday School and
Acolyte Families but also for EVERYBODY ELSE

PLACE: Mirror Lake, Devens

DATE: Sunday July 9th

TIME: Following the 9 am Service

SWIMMING! WIFFLE BALL! FRISBEE!

Bring your own lunch and something to
share...drinks, cookies, snacks.

Don't forget your swimsuit, towel and
beach gear!

**FOR DIRECTIONS CALL THE CHURCH
OFFICE AT 978-772-2615
OR PICK UP A FLYER IN
THE PEABODY ROOM**

July 2006

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