



NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH,
YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, AND MOST
IMPORTANTLY AT GOD'S TABLE.

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St. John's Mother's Day Brunch

May 9th, 2010

9am, Thaxter Hall

Put on by the St. John's Men's Group



\$3.00 per person or \$15.00 for entire family

RSVP to Dick Davidson at

jmacdhai@msn.com

See page 6 for more details

Summer Schedule Begins

May 30th

8am Rite I

9:30am Rite II

may 2010



Rob's Ruminations

Divine Direction

The Reverend Robert E. Stevens, Jr., Rector

The following is an excerpt from my Fourth Sunday of Easter sermon. I received many requests for the sermon and especially for the closing prayer by Thomas Merton. I hope you find it helpful as we ponder our identity and purpose as individuals and as a community of faith.

...I love the saying attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: "Preach the Good News at all times. If necessary, use words." There is great debate now (and there always has been) concerning the nature of truth and the nature of God. While the debate may be fruitful, when we retreat into our positions on issues we miss the point. We can talk about truth until there are no words left. We can try to boil truth down to four spiritual laws or three easy-to-remember points starting with the letter 'C,' but the important question is to what do our lives testify? Truth is not a set of words or a good idea, but a person and a relationship.

Truth is not to be apprehended and explained, but loved, and we testify to our knowledge of Jesus' voice not by what statements we agree with, but by whom we love and how. Perhaps instead of urging God to

speak plainly so we can figure it all out—we might take the example of Jesus' life seriously and let our lives do the talking.

There is great humility in this posture and there is great freedom. It reminds us that our attempt to approach God is just that...an attempt. It is a thoughtful, loving, honest and prayerful attempt to be in relationship with truth... to be in relationship with God. The following prayer corrects my posture when my spirit begins to slouch or be too

boastful. It also reminds me that it is the process that I need to commit to, not the destination!

MY LORD GOD,

I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.

Thomas Merton, "Thoughts in Solitude"



Curate's Corner

Community is All About Sharing Experiences!

The Reverend Jeffrey D. S. Thornberg, Curate

This Lent, for the second year in a row, the community of St. John's created a 'Lenten Meditation Booklet.' Essentially, it was a daily devotional for each day of the penitential season, written by our very own people. If one were so inclined, one could read the appointed lessons for each day, as well as a reflection written by a member of this community.

Across the board, I was amazed at the heartfelt ruminations of the members of this church who contributed to the effort. It was clear that a tremendous amount of thought, effort, and love went into the daily devotions. Furthermore, an even greater number of people who did not participate by writing a reflection commented on the impact the compilation made on their Lenten experience.

In light of the positive response, last week during the Adult Forum, I collected the people who wrote a reflection with others that were interested in the process. I then had everyone gather into small groups, and I posed these three questions:

- *What is your experience of sharing your spiritual/emotional journey with others?*
- *What is your experience of others sharing their spiritual/emotional journeys?*
- *How do these relate or not relate to what we do here at St. John's?*

Afterward, the groups reported back about their discussions. People spoke about the vulnerability they felt in sharing their written spiritual beliefs with such a large group of people. Some were surprised at how many people later commented on what they wrote, proving that, indeed, the book was being used. A number of people expressed a desire to compile such a work more often, perhaps having different parishioners write one per week during the year. Others thought Lent was the appropriate place for this sort of project.

Yet, everyone seemed to agree that intentionally reflection on our faith, and hearing those in our community reflect on their spiritual and emotional journeys was an incredibly fruitful endeavor. In fact, in many ways it is the essence of what we should be doing at St. John's. As one participant insightfully remarked, as a society we are getting to a place where our difference of experience is universally known and accepted, and we know that "the observer influences the observed." Thus, as a spiritual community, this should be at the very center of what we do!

At St. John's, we do so many great things. We have diverse, vibrant ministries, and come from a wide range of backgrounds. Yet, we do not spend enough time reflecting on our faith with one another. And in many ways, that is really what we should be all about! I encourage all of us to share our journeys with one another, and to continually find new ways to collect diverse people into groups, and reflect!



Education Celebration

Amy Dutton, Christian Education Director

GREEN VBS 2010



This year we are excited to announce that our Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be GREEN. We'll be exploring the FOUR ELEMENTS (Fire, Air, Water &

Earth). The circle of life.

The reason why we decided to "go green" is twofold. First, it is our goal to be financially responsible. By using recycled goods, we are hoping to keep costs and wastes to the bare minimum. Second, we will be teaching our children about how we all a part of this earth and have equal participation and responsibility for God's great gift.

Vacation Bible School
is for EVERYONE!

The entire parish & friends alike are invited to join us during this amazing week! From ages 3-93 we want you to come learn about how the Four Elements impact our lives and the earth that God has blessed us with. Come, share your gifts with children and witness the abundant gifts that children have to give you in return.

From June 28th - July 1st, 9am - noon

we will spend four days together talking and singing about God, making crafts and having snacks that symbolize God's gifts, and playing games to celebrate God.



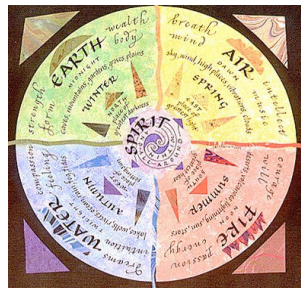
Tired yet? Well, the most amazing thing happens when children are happy and filled with light & knowledge that feeds them... it is contagious. Yep, while exhausting (you can take a nap in the afternoon - the kids won't) children's energy and passion will fill you to the brim.

And for those of you who cannot volunteer, I invite you to come by and take a peek - even join in the fun! You can come any time between 9-noon.

Please contact Amy Dutton (education@stjohnsnh.org) asap if you would like to be on our team to plan this amazing VBS or volunteer during the VBS week. Parents... registration forms will be out as of May 2nd.

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD ASAP! It is imperative that we have a solid number of children attending VBS by June 13th - planning a Green VBS takes a lot of advance planning!

See the following page for ways to help out this great undertaking. From volunteering your time to bringing in new or recycled items, we can all be a part of VBS. We do request that any items that you are able to donate be brought to the church no later than June 13th so that we can shop if need be. *I can not tell you enough how your contribution will positively impact this important week in the life of SJC! Thank You!!!*



YOUTH GROUP

Vacation Bible School Wishlist

VOLUNTEER:

- Kitchen baking or helping with snacks during VBS
- Helping kids with crafts during VBS
- Playing games with kids during VBS
- Showing the movie to the kids during VBS
- Help decorate before VBS
- Help prepare crafts before VBS

SUPPLIES NEEDED!

- Brown wrapping/ craft paper on a roll
- Streamers: dark blues, greens, tans, reds, yellows, or-anges, light blue, white
- Tissue paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Snacks (graham crackers, pretzels, goldfish, apples, oranges, grapes, gummie worms, oreos, chocolate pudding, bubble gum, hot tamales, drink mixes)
- Masking Tape!!
- Twine (thin for necklaces & wider for birdhouses)
- Paint (Acrylic) Brown, blue, red, yellow, green
- Paint (For GLASS) sold at craft store
- Paint brushes (wider sponge and craft brushes)
- Duct Tape (camouflage, brown, green)
- Staplers
- Votive candles
- Construction paper
- Elmer's glue
- Glue sticks

RECYCLED SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Milk cartons
- Glass Containers/ jars
- Metal clothes hangers
- Plastic water bottles
- Seeds for a garden ... from your garden

TALENTS NEEDED!

- Connection to a T-Shirt supplier
- Graphic Designer

UPCOMING DATES



- MAY 2:** PILGRIMAGE Meeting
(12-4pm)
- MAY 9:** MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
- MAY 21:** RITE 13 (middle school)
"HALF" LOCK-IN
- MAY 22:** SJK (St. John's Kids, 4th &
5th grade) from 4-6pm.
- MAY 23:** KINGDOM SUNDAY /
Rite 13 Ceremony
** Last day of Sunday
School
- JUNE 28 - JULY 1:**
Vacation Bible School
from 9am-noon.
- JULY 29 - JULY 31:**
MIDDLE SCHOOL
MISSION TRIP
(incoming 6th- 8th grade)

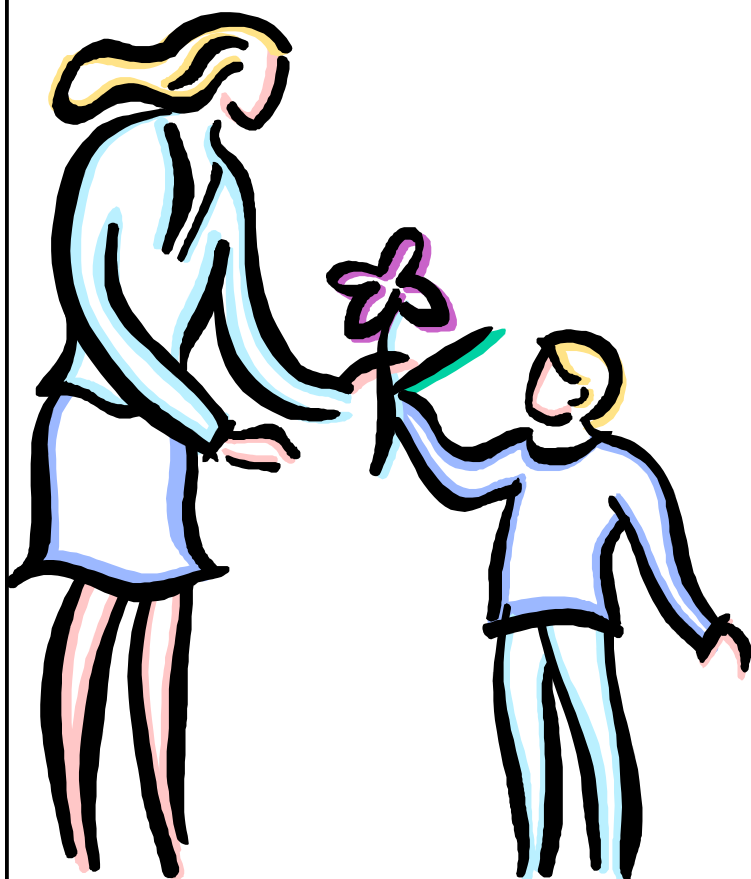
Parish Life

St. John's Mother's Day Brunch

May 9th, 2010

9am, Thaxter Hall

Put on by the St. John's Men's Group



Menu

- Open-faced ham and egg sandwich covered with a delicious cheese sauce
- Home fries
- Banana/Strawberry Yogurt
- Cheerios
- Milk
- Juice
- Plenty of Coffee

\$3.00 per person or \$15.00 for entire family
RSVP to Dick Davidson at jmacdhai@msn.com.

Any profits will be donated to the youth group's trip to Ireland.

PARISH LIFE



A Broadway Tribute – “A Little Light Music”
Songs and Skits from Broadway Musicals

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

in Thaxter Hall after Sunday services
or call Susan Fockler at 603 679-1766
or email her at safockler@comcast.net

\$45 PER PERSON – ONLY 140 TICKETS!

MENU

Caramelized leek, tomato and sweet onion goat cheese tart
Small arugula salad with olives and pesto aioli
Fresh tarragon and peppercorn roasted beef shoulder tenderloin
Sharp cheddar and celeriac whipped potatoes
Grilled asparagus with sauce bordelaise
Local rhubarb and strawberries in a vanilla cream crisp pastry
Wine, coffee and iced tea

**A LIVE AUCTION AND A RAFFLE OFFERING
GIFT CERTIFICATES, A GOLF GAME, VACATION TRIPS,
ISLAND DINNER PARTY, COCKTAIL PARTY, BRUNCH,
THEATRE TICKETS, DINNER FOR EIGHT (BY THE CHEF)
AND MUCH MORE!**

If you'd like to make a donation, or to donate an item or service
to support the Common Table free lunch program,
please call Judy or Lew Roberts at 603 778-2357
or send an email to lj7222@comcast.net

SUNDAY'S IN MAY

Sunday, May 2nd - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8am - Rite I
9:15 - Outreach
10:30am - Rite II
11:30am - Coffee Hour
12:30am - Outreach Committee
2pm - EFM (PH)

Sunday, May 9th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8am - Rite I
9am - Mother's Day Brunch - Thaxter Hall
10:30am - Rite II
11:30am - Coffee Hour
2pm - EFM (PH)

Sunday, May 16th - Seventh Sunday of Easter and Baptisms

8am - Rite I
9:15 - Adult Education - Recap of year and where we go from here
10:30am - Rite II
11:30am - Coffee Hour
2pm - EFM (PH)

Sunday, May 23rd - The Day of Pentecost, Kingdom Sunday

8am - Rite I
9:15 - Adult Education: TBD
10:30am - Rite II / Rite 13
11:30am - Coffee Hour
1pm - Sandpiper Concert
2pm - EFM (PH)

Sunday, May 30th - Trinity Sunday Summer Schedule Begins

8am - Rite I
9:30am - Rite II
2pm - EFM (PH)

April 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3 8:30am - Counters (PH) 9:30am - SOE (TH) 3-5pm - SJC Bridge 3:45pm - Sandpipers Prep (CH) 5pm - Sandpipers (TH) 6pm - FA (PH)	4 10am - Staff Meeting (PH) 6pm - Youth AA (TH) 7pm - Healing Prayer	5 9am - Econo Shop 9:30am Book Grp (PH) 10:30am - E Shop Tea 1pm - Cooking for CRH 3:30 - Children's Choir 4pm - Junior Choir (CH) 4:45pm - Jr/Sr Choir	6 9:30am - Healing Service 10:30am - Centering Prayer 12pm - Common Table (TH) 7pm - NA (TH) 7pm - Parish Choir (CH)	7 1pm - Knitting ^(PH)	8 9am - Altar Guild 6pm - AA (TH)
9	10 8:30am - Counters (PH) 3-5pm - SJC Bridge 3:45pm - Sandpipers Prep (CH) 5pm - Sandpipers (TH) 6pm - FA (PH)	11 10am - Staff Meeting (PH) 6pm - Youth AA (TH)	12 9am - Econo Shop 9:30am - Book Grp (PH) 10:30am - E Shop Tea 1pm - Cooking for CRH 3:30 - Children's Choir 4pm - Junior Choir (CH) 4:45pm - Jr/Sr Choir	13 9:30am - Healing Service 10:30am - Centering Prayer 12pm - Common Table (TH) 7pm - NA (TH)	14	10 9am - Altar Guild 10am - YOC Auditions 6pm - AA (TH)
16	17 8:30am - Counters (PH) 3:45pm - Sandpipers Prep (CH) 4pm - Finance CMTE (PH) 5pm - Sandpipers (TH) 6pm - FA (PH)	18 10am - Guild Aux 10am - Staff Meeting (PH) 6pm - Youth AA (TH)	19 9am - Econo Shop 9:30 - Book Grp (PH) 10:30am - E Shop Tea 3:30 - Children's Choir 4pm - Junior Choir (CH) 4:45pm - Jr/Sr Choir	20 9:30am - Healing Service 10:30am - Centering Prayer 12pm - Common Table (TH) 1pm - Sewing Crafts 7pm - NA (TH)	21 1pm - Knitting (TH)	22 9am - Altar Guild 6pm - AA (TH)
23	24 8:30am - Counters (PH) 12:30pm - YOC (PH) 3pm - SJC Bridge (PH) 6pm - FA (PH) 6:30pm - Eucharist 7pm - Vestry (PH)	25 10am - Staff Meeting (PH) 6pm - Youth AA (TH)	26 9am - Econo Shop 9:30am - Book Grp (PH) 10:30am - E Shop Tea	27 10am - Guild Aux 12pm - Common Table (TH) 7pm - NA (TH)	28	29 9am - Altar Guild 6pm - AA (TH)
30	31 8:30am - Counters ^(PH) 3-5pm - SJC Bridge 6pm - FA (PH) 6:30pm - Eucharist					



Senior Warden's Words

Dr. Christyn Sieve, Senior Warden

As always, there is a great deal in the works at St. John's. For starters, we are mid-way through our survey process. It is a leadership effort to poll the community to learn what we value today, assess whether we are living into our mission here and now, and make necessary changes to keep us aligned with our goal to serve God at St. John's.

If you are a resident of Portsmouth (or a reader of the Portsmouth Herald), you may remember a recent citywide effort to poll our residents called "Portsmouth Speaks." Our very own vestry member John Tabor, publisher of the Herald, was an architect of that process. He has brought the spirit of that effort to St. John's and has helped us adapt it to our needs. A grand total of 217 members responded to the survey. Roughly 50 people attended two Sunday morning focus groups for further discussion. We are now planning study circle groups in which participants will have the opportunity to share their vision of the St. John's they want us to be in 5 years. Results will be reported to the community at a parish-wide meeting at the end of the program year. Contact me if you would like to be a part of this process.

Parallel to the survey process is our ongoing effort to eradicate our budget deficit through expanding annual fundraisers, and refining a stewardship process that will make us sustainable into the future. We have reduced expenses and minimized inefficiencies. We must now raise more revenue in order to live out the mission that our survey tells us people want. We will discuss these efforts at our parish-wide meeting before the end of the school year. Please attend this meeting to learn more about all the good things happening at St. John's.

Chris

Financial Feedback

St. John's January through March 2010 Financial Report

	Actual	(\$000's)	Budget
Pledge, Plate Offerings	127.0		124.0
Parking, Facilities, Other	17.7		23.0
Investment Income	16.4		16.7
Total Revenues	\$ 161.1		\$ 163.7
St. John's Staff	102.9		111.1
Building and Grounds	19.5		22.6
Diocesan Pledge	21.6		21.6
All Other	28.8		28.5
Total Expenses	\$ 172.8		\$ 183.8
Difference	\$ (11.7)		\$ (20.1)

Our first quarter deficit of (\$11,700) is an improvement over budget of approximately \$8,000, due primarily to lower staff expenses. Our budgeted deficit in 2010 is (\$86,000). Sandra Pagel has developed a monthly cash management ledger to accurately reflect seasonal variations in both revenues and expenses. This information is helping us to coordinate with the investment management efforts of our Finance Committee, and in turn has improved the timely payment of all expenses.

We are developing recommendations to the Vestry to deal with our 2010 deficit. We are likely to suggest, at our April meeting, the following approach:

- (1) total expense reductions of approximately \$ 30,000
- (2) increased withdrawals from our endowment of approximately \$ 30,000, above our 4.5 % withdrawal guideline
- (3) late Spring appeals to parishioners for additional 2010 contributions of approximately \$30,000.

So many good things are happening in our spiritual community, and our St. John's Survey discussion groups are generating excitement. There are many reasons to express our grateful stewardship and be responsible for the financial health of St. John's!

In appreciation of all that is done in our midst,

Peter Tarlton, Treasurer

Parish Life

DID YOU KNOW, by Dick Davidson

Portsmouth has many historic places that we pass by everyday and take no notice of, one in particular, the burial ground next to the church. The following is taken in part from Brewster's Rambles, CXLVI.

Among the early cemeteries of Portsmouth was that of the St. John's churchyard. This was used as a cemetery some twenty years before the first interment was made in the old North Burying Ground. Within the walls of this churchyard rest the remains of the principal and highest in rank, in their time, of the inhabitants of Portsmouth previous to the Revolution. Here are the remains of Governors, Counsellors, and Secretaries of the Province of New Hampshire, in the colonial days, for it was then in the Church of England that all felt obligated to worship who held an office under the Crown. So the Ground around the church was the place where they also, with the humblest citizens, mingled in one common dust, at death.

The Church that stood on the spot where St John's Church now stands was built in 1732 and was called Queens Chapel. About ten years since, on rebuilding the wall around the Burying Ground, the tombs became for a short time exposed. They were large, and quite full, some containing the remains of upwards of one hundred persons. One was, however, opened with the remains of but one person, in the center of the tomb, who no doubt was the proprietor. It belonged, according to the records of the Church, to Mr. Christopher Rymes, and no doubt had not been opened for one hundred and twenty years.

There is also a tomb in the middle of the yard called the Governors tomb. In this tomb were placed the remains of the several Governors Wentworth (except the last), with their families. Some sixty years ago this tomb was opened, disclosing the coffins of occupants, their standing designated by the escutcheons, coats of arms, lion, unicorn, etc. that were on their lids. The rusty remains of a highly polished sword, laid on one, remained, with these coffin ornaments, of the words of the poet:

"Shall we build Ambition! Ah no;
Affrighted it shrinketh away,
An nothing is left but the dust below,
And the tinsel that shines on the dark coffin lid."

By the liberality of one of the descendants of the Sheafe family, (J. Fisher Sheafe, Esq. of New York,) a handsome and substantial fence was erected on the walls of this ancient churchyard a few years since, thus not only making more secure the sacred depository of the dead and conferring an acceptable present to the Church, but also making the enclosure a city ornament.

A city ornament it is and thanks, in part, to the pen of Charles Brewster. I would suggest you take a walk through the grave yard, read the names on the stones, and when you do, reflect on how those people were apart of our history..

Parish Life

By Suzi Raeside

Last Saturday morning at 9 a.m., I opened my door to seven exuberant teenagers. Yes, they would be members of our J2A group at St. John's. I luckily had won a bid at the Soiree in February to have an inside room painted. I traded the room for three ceilings. I was so glad to see not only a group of teens, but a group of tall teens. From the moment they came in with Amy Dutton in charge, we were treated to a house full of fun, laughter, and "teen talk". It has been a long time since our house was filled with a group of teenagers; I didn't even know I had missed it so.

In a matter of minutes, after showing them what I wanted, where everything was, and where the doughnuts, coffee, and juice were situated, they were in full swing. Unfortunately, I couldn't stay around to see the transformation as I had to help with a funeral reception at church. But Duncan was here and he was delighted. All you have to do to make Duncan happy is ask him about his time in the service (50 years ago). I think it was Ford Murphy who struck up that particular conversation and they were all then treated to pictures, stories, and our history together. They must have been very polite because Duncan couldn't stop talking about the wonderful kids. I'm sure they hadn't bargained for a trip down memory lane when they took on this project.

What I noticed the most was the camaraderie of the group. They were cohesive, were able to joke among themselves, and were respectful of each other. They were willing to help when needed, and worked together like a well seasoned team.

After running out for another gallon of paint (the girls went through a gallon in no time. I'm sure my dining room and kitchen have a nice thick coat on the ceilings), I had to head out. I wasn't sure what I would find when I returned. On walking back into the house late that afternoon, I was greeted by sparkling white ceilings, every brush and roller perfectly clean, everything put back in place, and nary a drop on the floor (I think Amy had something to do with that). I was astounded.

So for you who have bid on our kids to do a project, you are in for a wonderful treat. Their trip to Ireland will bring them a thousand memories; their time together getting ready to go will be the ones that stay with them the longest. Everyday of my life I thank God that I am a part of the St. John's family. It is truly a treasure.

Submit your articles, stories, observations, or creative work by the 15th of the month to newsletter@stjohnsnh.org

Parish Life

Stewardship of the Earth

Be Wise About Water: Water Saving Tips

- Use a broom instead of a hose to clear your driveway.
- Your lawn only needs [.5 to 1.5 inches of water per week](#), so use an empty tuna can to measure when you've reached the limit.
- Air drying uses 15 to 50 percent less energy in practically the same amount of time, so use your dishwasher's air-dry setting instead of the heat-dry option. If it doesn't have an air-dry setting, simply open the door once the final rinse is complete.

Fast Fact: If each U.S. household installed one low-flow sink faucet or aerator, it would save more than 60 billion gallons of water annually.

Here are a few simple tips for cutting down on waste in the kitchen.

- **Reuse glass jars:** Glass jars are great for transporting soups, smoothies, and other liquids to work. No more exploding plastic containers!
- **Take the no paper towel challenge!** Use one cloth towel for counters and another for clean dishes. Once either is spoiled by perishables, just toss it in the laundry and grab a clean one. Your wallet and our nations' forests will thank you.
- **Try a multitasking soap,** such as Dr. Bronner's all-one soap. Its gallon jugs, made of 100 percent post-consumer recycled materials, are actually less expensive than the smaller bottles, and can be used on everything from your dishes to your body to your laundry.
- **Reuse old bottles:** Keep old squeeze bottles from your kitchen to use as bottles for your hair-care and cosmetic needs. Plastic salad dressing and cooking-oil bottles can be cleaned and refilled with soap, lotion, or shampoo.

Protect Plants Without Pesticides

- Connect with local gardeners to determine the most common problems in your region, then look for organic fixes. Many pest control solutions can be concocted from household items:
- Garlic and cayenne pepper can be used to deter pesky aphids.
- Used coffee grounds make a great fertilizer for plants that thrive in acidic soil, like rhododendrons or azaleas. Sprinkle coffee grounds and eggshells around the base of plants to repel ants (who can exacerbate an aphid problem), snails, and slugs.
- Before you apply organic treatments, be sure to research their effect on beneficial insects like ladybugs.

Composting: Turn Food Scraps into "Gardener's Gold"

- Reduce waste and give your garden a healthy dose of nutrients by composting food scraps and yard clippings.
- Vermicomposting - using compost, or "worm tea," is a great way to fertilize your garden naturally.

Get to know your neighbors by starting a community compost pile. Most horticulturists recommend that open compost piles be at least 3ft x 3ft x 3ft, which is a lot of space to fill for the average backyard gardener. Invite your neighbors to contribute whatever raw material and hard work they can to the compost pile in your backyard.

Short on space? Not to worry: compost bins and worm condos come in a variety of sizes and shapes.

New to Composting? Check out Sierra Club's own Owen Bailey for easy ways to get started.

Parish Life

Seacoast Convocation Seeks “Buried Treasure”, by Susan Fockler

“Search for Buried Treasure”—the first-ever spring event sponsored by the Seacoast Convocation—is scheduled for Saturday, June 5, at Christ Church, Exeter. The Rev. Charles LaFond, diocesan Canon for Congregational Life, will lead Seacoast lay leaders and clergy in discovering the convocation’s hidden assets, resources, and talents. The program is designed to help recognize how individual congregations and the convocation as a group can act on their abundant, but often undiscovered, gifts in ministry and mission.

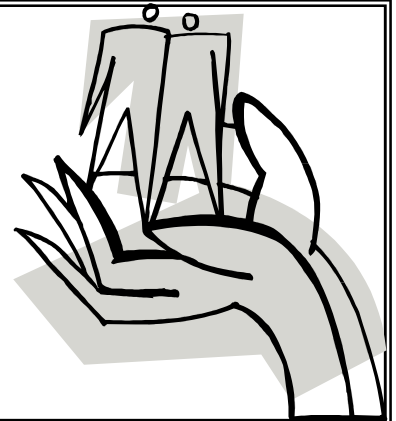
Seacoast convention/convocation delegates, alternates, and clergy are expected to attend the spring event as it is the second part of the diocesan annual convention. An invitation has also been extended to vestry and bishop’s committee members and other church lay leaders, who are urged to attend. Bishop Robinson is scheduled to be present for at least part of the session.

If you have not received your invitation to the spring event, please contact Susan Fockler at safockler@comcast.net or 603.679.1766. “Search for Buried Treasure” is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.

In recent years, the diocese has presented annual diocesan-wide spring events. This year the events were turned over to the individual convocations. The Seacoast Convocation is comprised of six churches: St. Thomas, Dover; St. George’s, Durham; Christ Church, Exeter; Trinity, Hampton; and Christ Church and St. John’s, Portsmouth.

URGENT PASTORAL CARE NOTICE

We are not psychic. We are so happy to help, but we have to know that there is a need. If nobody calls or passes along a message, suffering people feel hurt and uncared for. Please call in yourself if you need help—that’s what we’re here for. Or, if you know of someone else who is in need, call Annie Rainboth at 430-8066 or send an email to notetoannie@gmail.com, and help will be on the way! Call also if you would like to be involved-- we are always accepting volunteers to provide meals or rides.



PRAYER CHAIN & HEALING SERVICE



To add a name to the prayer list, or to inquire about the Healing Prayer Service on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, contact Susan Mennel at 603-430-2830 or rmmennel@cisunix.unh.edu



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 23
PORTSMOUTH, NH

101 Chapel Street | Portsmouth NH 03801 | 603-436-8283
Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am until 3:00 pm

The Rev. Robert E. Stevens, Jr.
Rector, ext. 111
rector@stjohnsnh.org

The Rev. Jeffrey D. S. Thornberg
Curate, ext. 113
curate@stjohnsnh.org

The Rev. G. Richard Siener
Assisting Priest, ext. 112
grsiener@myfairpoint.net

Dr. Abbey Siegfried
Music Director, ext. 114
music@stjohnsnh.org

Amy Dutton
Christian Education Director,
ext. 154
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Scott Osgood, *Treasurer*

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Dick Davidson
Kathy Flygare
Jane Holway
Robert Mood
Anna Kay Vorsteg
John Tabor
Jim Breen
Susan Fockler