

The Guardian

JULY 2013



FROM THE RECTORY

Although the Westminster Shorter Catechism is not part of our Anglican tradition, I've always appreciated the way this Reformed Catechism begins:

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy God forever.

I think many Christians would be surprised by this answer. In our results-oriented culture, we tend to think that the main point of being a Christian is something moral and more serious (to become a good person or to do God's will, for example). While we may do a good job of glorifying God through our worship, how many of us begin the day with the goal of enjoying God?

For many of us, summer is a time to slow down, take vacations, be outside, and see friends and family. It is also a more spacious and relaxed time in the life of our church, for which I am very thankful. This is a season where we are called to rest and renewal and to the enjoyment of God, God's creation, and one another.

In the words of Henry David Thoreau,

Sometimes, in a summer morning, having taken my accustomed bath, I sat in my sunny doorway from sunrise till noon, rapt in a reverie, amidst the pines and hickories and sumachs, in undisturbed solitude and stillness, while the birds sang around or flitted noiseless through the house, until by the sun falling in at my west window, or the noise of some traveler's wagon on the distant highway, I was reminded of the lapse of time. I grew in those seasons like corn in the night, and they were far better than any work of the hands would have been. They were not time subtracted from my life, but so much over and above my usual allowance.

Yours in Christ, Mary



NEWS OF THE PARISH

SUMMER WORSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH, GUILFORD

We will gather for worship several times this summer at Christ Church in Guilford. This will include both some Sunday morning services and Evening Prayer every Sunday during July and August. Please keep the list below handy!

	8:00 Eucharist	10:15 Eucharist	5:30 Evening Prayer
July 7	Christ Church	St. Michael's	Christ Church
July 14	St. Michael's	St. Michael's	Christ Church
July 21	Christ Church	Christ Church	Christ Church
July 28	St. Michael's	St. Michael's	Christ Church
August 4	Christ Church	St. Michael's	Christ Church
August II	St. Michael's	St. Michael's	Christ Church
August 18	St. Michael's	St. Michael's	Christ Church
August 25	St. Michael's	St. Michael's	Christ Church
September I	Christ Church	St. Michael's	Christ Church

Annual Barn Dance July 2

One of St. Michael's happiest annual outreach activities is the summer barn dance. Thanks to a family that allows us to use their beautiful barn, a parishioner who donates the band and caller, the parish that budgets the cost of a port-a-potty, and parishioners who donate watermelons, we are able to give campers at the World Learning Peace Camps, as well as members of the parish who come, a wonderful evening. These campers come from several countries and from the Governor's Institute in Vermont to learn leadership skills and conflict resolution.

Maps to the barn will be available June 30 in the Common Room, and signs will be posted on Black Mountain Road. Would you like to donate a watermelon or come? Please call Laura Lewis at 254-4839.

Parish Picnic & Jean Jersey July 21

On Sunday, July 21, St. Michael's will come together for the first of two Summer Parish Picnics. Our first picnic is hosted by Betsy and Neil Bates at their lovely home in Guilford and will take place following the 10:15 a.m. worship service.

Both worship services on that day will be at Christ Church in Guilford, and the Reverend Jean Jersey (our former interim rector and still a good friend of many of us) will be the celebrant and preacher at both services.

Please mark your calendars and join us for this special day!



JULY LECTIONARY

SUNDAY, JULY 7: Isaiah 66:10–14; Psalm 66:1–8; Luke 10:1–11, 16–20 **SUNDAY, JULY 14:** Deuteronomy 30:9–14; Psalm 25:1–9; Luke 10:25–37 **SUNDAY, JULY 21:** Genesis 18:1–10a; Psalm 15; Luke 10:39–42 **SUNDAY, JULY 28:** Genesis 18:20–32; Psalm 138; Luke 11:1–13



NEWS OF THE PARISH



St. Michael's Women's Breakfasts Resume in September

The Planning Committee for the fall series of breakfasts at St. Michael's met recently and began to plan food and programs for September, October, and November. Many of you have voiced interest in having a person or an organization to speak to the group, and we are following up on that interest. In addition, we discussed our desire to invite all women at St. Michael's, making child-care available if desired. If you have a group, a person, or a topic in mind for a breakfast, please give us your suggestions.

The Planning group is also aware that many of us would like to continue social time at the breakfasts, and to have an opening prayer. We will definitely leave time for socializing, having fun, and getting to know each other better. The breakfasts will be held from 8:30–10:00 a.m., as we all need to get on with our other weekend activities.

As for food, last year breakfasts were pot luck with A–M last names providing one month and N–Z an alternate month. This system seems to work, so we will try it again this year.

We do need help with setting up the breakfast, making coffee, and cleaning up, so let us know when you are available for these activities.

The first breakfast will be held on September 14, and we hope to have a surprise speaker. You will receive more information when appropriate.

Please get in touch with us. This is your group—we want your ideas, your help, and your feedback.

The Planning Committee: Hollis Purdy, Ruth Tilghman, Jean Smith, and Irene Burtis, Coordinator

CELEBRATIONS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 2	Caroline Womack
July 3	Rosie Wojcik
July 4	Matthew Wojcik
July 7	Lori Palmer
July 8	Judith McGee
July 9	Anita Crosson, Irene Burtis
July 12	Ann Switzer
July 13	Jeffrey Duborow
July 14	Marian Wojcik
July 16	Matt LeBlanc, Olivia Capponcelli
July 20	Richard Gauthier
July 22	Susan Wilmott, Kemp Wagenbach
July 25	Phillip Wilson
July 26	Barbara Hoag
July 27	Kerry Capponcelli
July 30	Shirley Hodgdon, Claire Miramontes
July 31	Nancy Barber
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JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 13	Susan & Paul Dedell,	
	Pat LaBelle & Brenda Gilfillan	
July 20	Susan & Phillip Wilson	
July 23	Mary Lindquist & Kurt Johnson	
July 27	Ann & Douglas Switzer	
July 29	Betty & Corwin Elwell	



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The Guardian

Progressive, Prayerful, and Seeking to Follow Jesus in All Aspects of Our Lives



Our Worship Together

SUNDAYS—Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. (Rite II) & 10:15 a.m. (Rite II with music) Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. Christ Church, Guilford

WEDNESDAYS—Holy Eucharist at noon (Rite II)

THURSDAYS—Contemplative Prayer at 5:30 p.m.

This Month At St. Michael's Episcopal

JULY 2 — Barn dance

JULY 21 — Parish Picnic