



The Guardian

OCTOBER 2013



FROM THE RECTORY

Athletic ankle socks with summer sandals. This is what I was wearing when I attended our Thursday evening contemplative service last week. I wore the socks because the weather had suddenly got chilly. I wore the sandals because it had been ninety degrees the day before and these were the shoes that were handy. Fall is an in-between season. I'm never quite sure exactly when to pack away my summer clothes and unpack the sweaters and coats.

And yet fall is my favorite season. I love the cool freshness of the air, the changing angle of the sun, the slow turning of the leaves. And if my small poll of St. Michael's folks is any indication, Vermonters love fall, too. It is our season.

Fall is also the season in the church when we look back on the blessings of the last year and look ahead to the next year of ministry and mission. We call this stewardship season. Stewardship basically means "what we do with what we have." Many times we think about "what we have" as our financial or material resources, but it also includes our gifts of time, attention, energy, and talents—all the things we Christians regard as gifts from God to be shared and used for Christ's mission and our ministry in the world.

One of my favorite parts of our stewardship season at St. Michael's is when we hear some of the stories of our parishioners. Each of the Sundays beginning October 20 through November 10, we have invited someone from our congregation to speak about their faith and why St. Michael's is important to them. This year we will hear from Doug Switzer (Oct. 20), Stephen Meyer (Oct. 27), Christy Fritz (Nov. 3), and Mark Genszler (Nov. 3). I am always amazed and moved by these stories, which remind me of the richness with which God moves through every life. Part of our own stewardship, I believe, is the sharing of these holy stories with one another. And it is my hope that as we move through these next years at St. Michael's, we will share our stories more and more.

Please join us for our Sunday services so that you can hear these stories of faith and be blessed.

*Yours in Christ,
Mary*



NEWS OF THE PARISH

DREAM-CATCHING 2.0: CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER ON OCTOBER 8

Describe the church of your wildest dreams. Imagine a church that would inspire you to give of your best self. These are the two things we've been exploring in our dream-catching sessions. We want to hear how the Holy Spirit is moving in your life and at St. Michael's. If you haven't had a chance to add your voice to the conversation, please attend our final session of St. Michael's Dream-Catching 2.0 sessions on Tuesday, October 8, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Undercroft. These sessions have been exciting opportunities to come together, get to know one another, and dream about St. Michael's mission and ministry. The ideas and dreams from these conversations will be recorded and given to the Vestry as they help discern St. Michael's priorities in the next three years. If you are not able to attend any of the sessions, please send your thoughts and ideas to Mary Lindquist at mary@stmichaelsvermont.org.



GENE ROBINSON DOCUMENTARY AT LATCHIS THEATER OCTOBER 11

St. Michael's will show the documentary film *Love Free or Die* chronicling the experience of the Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson's becoming the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church. Bishop Robinson will be present after each viewing to engage in conversation and answer questions. There will be two showings, 5:15 and 7:30 p.m., at the Latchis Theater in Brattleboro on Friday, October 11.

Bishop Robinson's consecration as the first openly gay bishop shook the Anglican communion, bringing it to near schism. While some in the worldwide church called this heresy, many in the Episcopal Church in the U.S. saw this as a movement of the Spirit. His election as the Episcopal Bishop of New Hampshire pressed further the work for justice, equality, and full inclusion in the Christian family. The film chronicles the events, beliefs, and perspectives which emerged from this profoundly significant and historical event. According to event organizer Christopher Wesolowski, "We are deeply grateful and blessed to have our neighbor Bishop Gene Robinson with us at this event."

Admission is by free-will offering. For more information contact the church office or Christopher Wesolowski at (802) 365-9139 or cmwvt@svcable.net.



MINISTRY FAIRS 2013: LITURGY + LABORATORY OCTOBER 12 AT ST. MICHAEL'S

Coffee: 9:30 a.m.

Program: 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

In the Christian tradition, worship trains our eyes and our focus on God putting the object of our worship toward its rightful place. It is the central focus of "what we do" as a people called to worship God. How do we create something new, fresh, and a reflection of our diversity and humanity, created by God? This Ministry Fair, called a "Liturgy Laboratory," will challenge participants, lay and ordained, to draw upon our own experiences of worship and our own rich tradition, to create fresh expressions of common elements of corporate worship.

The Lab will have two parts, teaching and formation:

- Large group—to invoke and welcome the Spirit among us, to learn the arc of the day, to teach about liturgy, to learn from each other and outside resources
- Small groups four facilitated groups each focused on creating one component of liturgy

The Worship will bring together each of the four new expressions of liturgical components into one Eucharistic service and use it for our worship time.

The Conversation over lunch (bring your own lunch) will be about what we just experienced and how it affected us.

The Hope is that lay and ordained will be invited, and empowered, to roll up our sleeves and collaborate together, creating these new forms of worship,



NEWS OF THE PARISH

together, creating these new forms of worship, collectively, “on the spot,” and to try something new.

For more about information, please go to www.diovermont.org/Ministry-Fair-2013.



PERSPECTIVES ON THE AFTERLIFE

Please join us for a stimulating discussion of recent trends in afterlife research. Valerie Abrahamsen, a member of St. Michael’s who holds a Doctor of Theology degree from Harvard Divinity School, will present two identical adult education sessions on her book-in-progress, tentatively entitled *Paranormal: A New Testament Scholar Looks at the Afterlife*.

Valerie will give an overview of her recent research in several areas: scientific techniques being used by paranormal investigators, the history of the scientific research, testimony from people who have had near-death or out-of-body experiences, and the work of reputable psychics and mediums. The evidence from these sources, dating back over 150 years, helps address the problem of evil, possible reasons for tragedy and suffering, the nature of heaven, and the survival of our basic selves after physical death. Also emerging from the evidence are many common themes that can give us great hope: joy, peace, justice, service, and love.

Both sessions will be held in the Meeting Room, one on Tuesday evening, October 15, 7:00–8:30 p.m., and the other on Saturday morning, October 19, 10:00–11:30 a.m. You will almost certainly leave enlightened, challenged and uplifted!



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING OCTOBER 26

Diocesan “Safe Church Training” is grounded in our call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being. This training provides an opportunity to increase and enhance our

ability to live out our Baptismal Covenant within our communities of faith and in the world beyond.

The Episcopal Church in Vermont offers a six-hour basic training program for all who serve the church. Topics include: power and boundaries in adult ministerial relationships; prevention, identification, and response to elder abuse; prevention, identification, and response to sexual abuse of children and youth; and Diocesan policies and response to misconduct within a community of faith.

This training is open to all members of the church but is required of all employees, those who work with children and youth, and all Eucharistic visitors. The training will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 26, and finish by 3:00 p.m. Please call or email Jeanie at the office to register for the training: 254-6048, or Jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org.



ALTAR GUILD REPORT AND INVITATION

Judy Walker, Craig Newbert, and Sue Dyer have agreed to share the role of Altar Guild chairs, stepping in to fill a part of the void left when our beloved Carey Lane passed away this spring. Craig focuses on ordering supplies and filling in the details not known by Judy or Sue, who also try to stay on top of the wide range of details involved. Please contact any of us with questions, concerns, or new ideas as we move



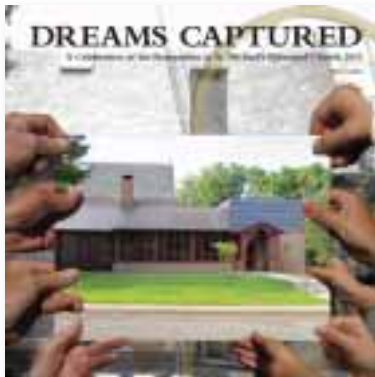
The Altar Guild Work Party



NEWS OF THE PARISH

forward. We will try to avoid as many glitches as possible with your support!

We'd love to know if any of you would be interested in serving on the Guild, this most ancient of traditions in the Church. You'll be included on a team of two or three others who will train you gently and thoroughly. The commitment is approximately every 8-10 weeks for a two-week period. We meet three-to-four times a year to polish and dust and visit on a Saturday morning, followed a few times by a meeting to assure we're all up-to-date and on the same page. Please call Judy at 257-1536 or Sue at 257-7924 should you be interested (or chat with us at coffee hour). We'd love to have you join us!



**DREAMS CAPTURED:
A CELEBRATION OF THE RENOVATION
AT ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2013**

Conceived, compiled, and photographed by Ron Lenker

This beautiful book tells the story, in words and pictures, of how a congregation, by God's grace, renewed and refurbished its beloved church with faith, optimism, and hard work. The book is the brainchild of Ron Lenker, who served as Clerk of the Works for the building project. It was produced in honor of the church's patron, St. Michael the Archangel, and to celebrate the successful completion of the renovation and construction, the dedication of the new chapel, and the 60th anniversary of the move of the church building from Main Street to Bradley Avenue.

This 11x11" 48-page book is available for \$20 at the the church office. Please stop by and take a look!



VESTRY OF ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

David G. Mattocks, Senior Warden
Mira Vista, PO Box 112, Vernon, VT 05354
802-254-2518
dgm63@cornell.edu

Corwin Elwell, Junior Warden
119 Harris Ave, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-254-6815

Wayne Cook
PO Box 266, West Wardsboro, VT 05360
802-896-9446
wecooksalot@gmail.com

Linda Rice
119 Hosea Fisher Lane, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-257-7982
lindariceaprn@gmail.com

Judith Hildreth
38 Rolling Hills Dr, #A58, Hinsdale, NH 03451
603-336-5178
jmh03582@yahoo.com

Jenny Karstad
PO Box 381, Marlboro, VT 05344
802-257-7705
artemisia_vt@yahoo.com

Karen Guthrie
18 Sunrise Ave, Greenfield, MA 01301
413-773-7502
kguthrie@nmhschool.org

Janet Cramer
47 Morningside Commons, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-257-4750
jfcvermont@gmail.com

Ronny Johnson
79 Wantastiquet Dr., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-257-7143
ronjohns@sover.net



NEWS OF THE PARISH

A THANK-YOU FROM “MUSIC THAT MAKES COMMUNITY”

In August, St. Michael's hosted a national conference sponsored by the All Saints' Company (based in San Francisco). It was a great experience to see our new spaces so joyfully filled and used for ministry.



Dear Mary,

I wanted to write and thank you for your warm hospitality at St. Michael's last week. Every Music that Makes Community conference is unique in its own way, but being in Brattleboro was a real highlight for all of us at All Saints. Your beautiful space and kind people it all worked so well and made us all feel very welcome.

Kind regards, Rachel Pollak Kroh

THANKS FOR CHRIST CHURCH DAY AT WELCOME CENTER

Well, the Welcome Center day is over. Thanks to the generosity and efforts of our St. Michael's family and the Christ Church Board, we made over \$900, a not-shabby sum for a Thursday and a day immediately following a holiday. We were grateful for every penny. The travelers who came said they were grateful to have us there.

Customers mostly came in ones and twos, but at one point three buses pulled up and children going to a Baptist camp jumped down and ran over. Their leaders corralled them and explained that this was by “donation,” for a church, and they would need to put something in the donation jar before they took something to eat. So they painstakingly counted our their spending money and carefully placed dimes and quarters in the jar before they had the fun of choosing good treats.

At lunchtime one of our helpers turned around and saw a man putting a \$100 bill in the jar. When she got her breath back, she decided it would only be right to make sure, so she ran after him and asked if he realized that he had put in that amount. He said he did. It was for a church, and his bill would help make up for folks who could not put much in, which it certainly did.

As always, we had a great day visiting with each other, the weather was fine, the visitors interesting, and Christ Church benefitted. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Laura Lewis

DID YOU KNOW?

That you can see this issue of the *Guardian* in beautiful color on our website? That you can find the Rota? That you can check for the latest on events and services? Go to www.stmichaelsvermont.org and see for yourself!





OUR MISSION & WORK. . .AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

CHABHA COIN ROLL OCTOBER 6

Come, all of you, with your jars of coins, full or not, your piggy banks, or your spare change to sort them after the 10:15 a.m. service on October 6 in the Common Room. CHABHA, Children Affected By HIV/AIDS, created by Susanna Grannis, helps vulnerable children in Rwanda and Burundi. It supports nearly 3,000 children with school fees, health cards, emotional support, and vocational training.

Come and sort coins with us! Let's make a difference in these children's lives!

Susan Wilson



FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE DROP-IN CENTER

I want to let everyone know that Pat Cameron and I have been sharing the job of taking the food donations to the Drop-In Center each week. Because we both volunteered to do this about four years ago we decided to each do it every other month. Pat has been very accommodating when I needed to be away or just had a busy week, I could call her and she was always willing. Now, after four years she has decided not to continue with this. It was a hard decision for her, but she told me that people have been telling her that it was too much for her physically and she finally had to listen to them. I have enjoyed getting to know Pat through this teamwork and just want to thank her for all of the help she has given. I still look forward to chatting with her now and then when we see each other at Wendy's. Thank you, Pat, for helping with this ministry.

I would like to know if anyone is interested in picking up where Pat left off. If you would like to help carry the food to the Drop-In Center once a week, every other month, please call me at (802) 257-3040.

Shirley Hodgdon



OUTREACH MINISTRIES UPDATE

We all have been busy with summer traveling but we actually found a night to meet that everyone could attend. Just a reminder to anyone in the parish that the Outreach meetings are open to everyone. After all, we are prayerfully and actively spending your money and working for the good of our church and our community, our nation, and our world. As Jesus said to us, "feed my sheep, clothe the naked, and take care of the widows and orphans." We aim to do our best to please our Lord.

You can read elsewhere in the *Guardian* about the coming CHABHA coin roll and the successful fundraiser for Christ Church. We also had another good "diaper Sunday" collecting diapers for SEVCA.

We are in the process of planning another building trip to New York or New Jersey to help with the Hurricane Sandy relief effort. If you have any interest in going for a long weekend, please let me or Joel (our deacon) know of your preferences as to where you think we should go and when you would like to go. It is still in the planning stages so any input will be appreciated.

Lori Palmer

OCTOBER LECTIONARY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-10; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27: Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) 35:12-17 or Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; Psalm 84:6; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14



EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Do you know anyone in the community who might like to attend our forums? Have you just met a person or persons who have come to St. Michael's for the first time? Invite them! You do not have to be a member of St. Michael's to attend.

October 6, *Children's Spirituality*—St. Michael's has a strong Godly Play group of teachers, who will talk about how they nurture spirituality in St. Michael's young children.

October 13, *"Love Free or Die"*—Janet Brocklehurst and Sissi Loftin will lead this discussion of the documentary to be shown at the Latchis Theatre on October 11 (see the separate article in this *Guardian*). In an interview by Lisa Schencker of the *Salt Lake Tribune*, Bishop Robinson said, "As far as we've come in terms of equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and

transgender people, we still have a long way to go." Don't miss the opportunity to see the film on October 11 and to join this conversation with Janet and Sissi.

October 20, *Young Adult Spirituality*—Come and hear about this group of 20s and 30s and where their ministry is taking them. Led by Paul Moberly and Samantha Sharff.

October 27, *The Faces of Adoption*—Nancy Barber and Linda Neilson will lead this time of story and remembrance from two birth mothers. Parish members who were raised in adoptive families will be encouraged to add their stories to the conversation.

For the Committee: Bill Ames, Nancy Barber, Joel Hill, Mary Lindquist, Annamarie Pluhar, Ruth Tilghman, and Phillip Wilson



The Episcopal Church Women Breakfast

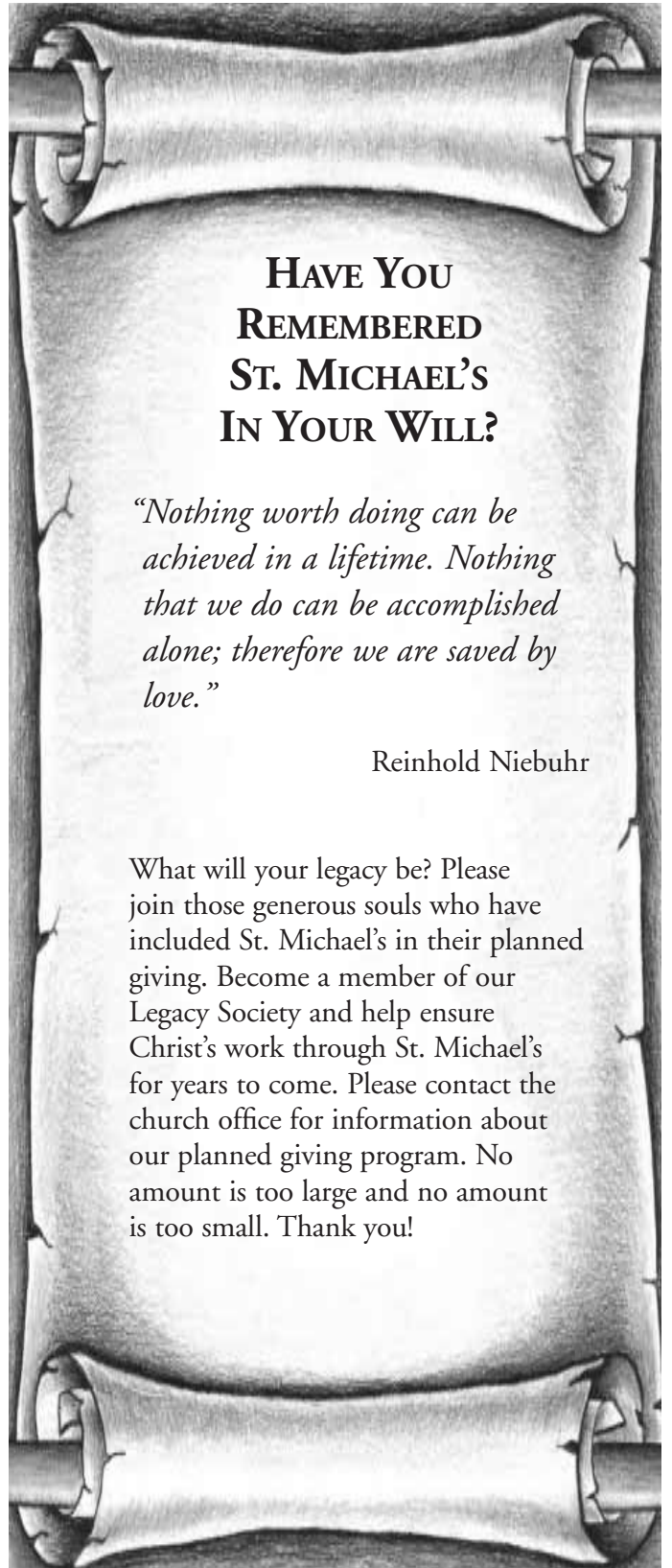


SEND US A PICTURE OF YOURSELF AND/OR YOUR FAMILY!

In an effort to decorate our Common Room and get to know one another's names better, we are asking you to email or send us pictures of yourself and/or your family for the bulletin board. Please email pictures to info@stmichaels-vt.org or bring the picture to the church office.

ON OUR WALLS

Be sure to have a look at the walls in our Common Room! The Rectors have returned, reframed and expanded to include Thomas, Mary, and space for many more in the future. There is a watercolor of Bishop Hopkins, the first Bishop of Vermont and a former Presiding Bishop of the national church. It hung unnoticed for years around the church, but thanks to John and Mary Carnahan it has been professionally restored. The painting came from the Hopkins home on Grand Isle and was obtained for St. Michael's through Father Norris. It's possible that it was done as a study for the official portrait of Bishop Hopkins. The 19th-century map of Vermont comes from the Gannett estate.



HAVE YOU REMEMBERED ST. MICHAEL'S IN YOUR WILL?

"Nothing worth doing can be achieved in a lifetime. Nothing that we do can be accomplished alone; therefore we are saved by love."

Reinhold Niebuhr

What will your legacy be? Please join those generous souls who have included St. Michael's in their planned giving. Become a member of our Legacy Society and help ensure Christ's work through St. Michael's for years to come. Please contact the church office for information about our planned giving program. No amount is too large and no amount is too small. Thank you!



The new furniture being moved in

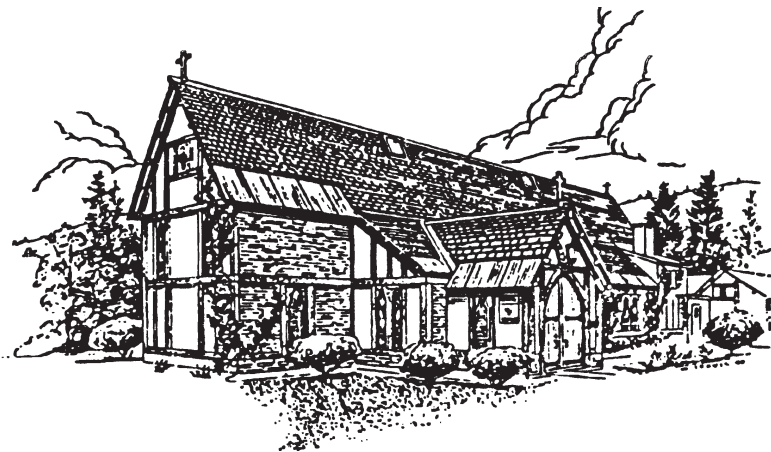


ROTA

LITURGICAL ROTA FOR OCTOBER 2013 • 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM SUNDAY SERVICES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Position	October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27
8:00 A.M. SERVICE				
Lay Assistant	Anita Crosson	Wayne Cook	Kate McGinn	Wayne Cook
Intercessor	Doug Switzer	Joanne Patalano	Laura Lewis	Anne Brown
Sacramental Healing	MJ Woodburn	Sarah Benton	Jean Smith	Janet Cramer
Usher	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Anne Cook	Anne Cook
10:15 A.M. SERVICE				
Crucifer	Annamarie Pluhar	Peter Johnson	Paul Moberly	Jessica Bennett
Torch Bearers	Brian White Miranda Smith	Samuel Mattocks Andachew Mousin	Caleb Fritz Clara Fritz	Dawn Kotapish Fred Bump
Element Bearers	Liz Vick & Craig Hammond	Judy Walker Linda Rice	Mattocks Family	Sherry Stimmel Ken Jacobs
Lay Assistant	Nancy Barber	Greg Lesch	Joyce Vining Morgan	Ricky Davidson
Lector	Valerie Abrahamsen	Diana Bingham	Jenny Karstad	Annie Landenberger
Intercessor	Chris Chapman	Joe Grannis	Janet Cramer	Sue Dyer
Ushers	John Carnahan & John Daly	Sarah Benton Betsy Bates	Ricky Davidson Vince Johnson	Michael & Susan Wilmott
Sacramental Healing	Trudy Crites Robin White-Diamondstone	Jean Smith Janet Cramer	Trudy Crites Sarah Benton	Betsy Bates Robin White-Diamondstone
Altar Guild	Ruth Struthers Irene Burtis Craig Newbert Judith Hildreth	Ruth Struthers Irene Burtis Craig Newbert Judith Hildreth	Mary Carnahan Betty Elwell Rebecca Olmstead	Mary Carnahan Betty Elwell Rebecca Olmstead
Coffee Hour	Megan Buchanan		Diana Bingham Greg Lesch	
Counters	Judy McGee Anne Cook	Vince Johnson Wayne Cook	Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske	Sherry Stimmel Anne Cook

If you cannot make it, please find your own replacement; then call Jeanie in the Office at 802-254-6048, ext. 104. Thank you.





MILESTONES & TRANSITIONS

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- October 4 Nancy Ames, Denis Glennon
- October 5 Valerie Abrahamsen, Mary Smith
- October 6 Nathaniel Johnson
- October 9 Keira Caponcelli
- October 10 Janet Cramer
- October 13 Kole Wagenbach
- October 14 Ronny Jonson, Elizabeth Harrison
- October 15 Joanna Brown
- October 16 Judith Hildreth
- October 17 Dana McGinn, Jack Lilly
- October 18 Mark Reinhardt, Emily Nohl
- October 21 Mary Lindquist, Gayle Potter,
Ed Sbardella, Bill Boggess
- October 25 Karren Meyer
- October 28 Clark Anderson
- October 29 Patrick Keppel
- October 30 Melanie Boese

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- October 1 Christine & Richard Gauthier
- October 4 Rebecca & Nathan Olmstead
- October 5 Deirdre Donaldson & Alan Dann
- October 8 Thad Bennett & George Connell
- October 9 Heddy & Zsolt Pomazi
- October 13 Monica & David Mattocks
- October 16 Anne & Wayne Cook
- October 22 Anita & Jim Crosson
- October 27 Melanie Boese & John Judge



The Guardian is published monthly by St. Michael's Episcopal Church. News items, announcements, articles, etc., should be submitted to Clark Anderson, *editor*, by the 15th of the month for consideration.

Clark Anderson, *editor* • 802-257-1409 • bodyinthelibrary@mac.com
Susan Kochinkas, *designer* • 802-387-2732 • flockshm@sover.net

Guardian Mailing List: contact Jeanie Crosby with address changes or requests to be added or removed from *The Guardian* mailing list. jeanie@stmichaels-vt.org or 802-254-6048.

♻️ printed on recycled paper 100% post consumer, PCF



Saint Michael's Episcopal Church

16 Bradley Avenue, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301-3429
802-254-6048 ■ info@stmichaels-vt.org ■ www.stmichaelsvermont.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BRATTLEBORO, VT
PERMIT #18

The Guardian

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



Our Worship Together

SUNDAYS—8:00 a.m., Quiet service of prayer and Holy Communion

10:15 a.m., Prayer, music, and Holy Communion, with Sunday School and childcare

WEDNESDAYS—Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

THURSDAYS—5:30 p.m., Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer

SATURDAYS—8:00 a.m., Centering prayer

This Month At St. Michael's Episcopal

OCTOBER 11, Gene Robinson at Latchis

OCTOBER 12, Diocesan Ministry Fair

OCTOBER 15, 19, Perspectives on the Afterlife

OCTOBER 26, Safe Church Training