



A Note from the Rector by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Contemplative Christian writer Henri Nouwen was a gentle encourager of prayer and silent meditation. He once wrote this about silence:

“There was a time when silence was normal, and a lot of racket disturbed us. But today, noise is the normal fare, and silence, strange as it may seem, has become the real disturbance...perhaps we should say that we can't stand the sound of silence.”

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, in a recent video [goo.gl/ctHTU1] tells us that when we pray there is silence in heaven as God listens to the prayers of God's people. The passage in First Kings, Chapter 19, the story of Elijah the prophet who fled Jerusalem for his life being chased by Queen Jezebel's army, confirms the silence of God. Elijah ends up alone and on a mountain. After a cacophony of noise – great wind that split mountains, an earthquake followed by fire – God revealed God's self in none of these noisy, powerful events. God, instead, was the sound of sheer silence.

I have understood the importance of silence personally in silent retreats at the monastery and even in my daily prayers. Many of you have expressed to me that silence in worship is nurturing for your spirit and your relationship with God. That's why your feedback from the survey and the following Town Hall last month was so important to me and our life together. Survey results may be seen at StPaulsMaine.org

It is through our conversations and the 68 responses that I have learned that 55% of you find the monthly “First Sundays, Life Together at 9:00 am” worship is important to you and to the building up of our faith community. And I also learned that almost half of you responded that you don't feel strongly one way or the other about the service.

There are other things I learned from you at the Town Hall and the survey. The time of 9:00 am on First Sundays, Life Together is too early for the choir and for some families. I also learned that 9:00 am is not a hospitable time for

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9:00 a.m.
First Sundays

Life Together

www.stpaulsmaine.org

June 4

Pentecost

A Note from the Rector *continued*

newcomers who intend to join us for the first time at 9:30 Family Worship, and arrive too late on “First Sundays....” because 9:00 am is confusing.

I also learned from the survey and the Town Hall that there is a longing for some of you to worship in quiet at the early hour of 8:00 am on Sundays. Indeed, during the Town Hall, I learned from some parents with children that times of quiet in worship are important. One parent wrote me that times of quiet worship are important to the family and offered to help in the planning for quiet worship on those “First Sundays, Life Together.”

Some of you even took the raw data from the link we provided and wrote me your analysis of the responses. I value that information very much. At our May Vestry meeting I summarized my thinking so far for the future of “First Sundays, Life Together” and the planning for this fall. I will be calling on some of the Worship Ministry Team members to help me plan some minor changes to implement when we resume “First Sundays, Life Together” on October 1, 2017.

Beginning with the First Sunday in October, October 1 when Bishop Lane makes his official visitation to St. Paul’s for baptisms and confirmations, the new start time will be 9:30 am. On that same Sunday, at 8:00 am we will launch a brief service of quiet prayer.

That means “First Sundays, Life Together” will offer two very different times of worship every first Sunday of the month beginning in October and running through June. If you are called to quiet prayer with no music or sermon, come to “First Sundays, Life Together at 8:00 am.” If you feel called to lively, vibrant (ok, noisy!) worship, come to “First Sundays, Life Together at 9:30 am.” My prayer is that no one stays home because there is too much noise or too much quiet. We are a community of faith that loves to worship together!

In the meantime, regular worship in June continues at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Our summer worship time for July and August (through Labor Day weekend) is 9:00 am. We have two outdoor summer worship services in the Memorial Garden at 9:00 am, Sunday, July 2 and Sunday,

August 6. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, canopies, umbrellas, etc. for an hour of praising God for “the beauty of the earth!”

See you in church this Sunday, “First Sundays, Life Together at 9:00 am” for a celebration of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, three baptisms, Church School Teacher appreciation and prayers for our graduates. We will read the Gospel in many languages to simulate the many tongues of praise given to God that day in Jerusalem. Reserved seating will be for friends with disabilities and families with small children. The color red is the color of the day!



Your friend in the Spirit of Christ,
Carolyn+

Please give thanks to God for the families of Rosa Leigh, Hannah Hartman and David Talmage. Pray for these precious children of God on the occasion of their baptism. Pray for the graduates, Christy Bergin (Nancy & Dave Hawkins’ daughter), Riley Cyr (Rick & Mary Lee Wile’s granddaughter), Hannah Judd (Bob & Cristle Judd’s daughter), Ethan Caleb Mendez (Leslie & Claude Brancart’s grandson), Robert Mulligan (Jean & Bob Mulligan’s grandson), and Ryan Watt (Alan & Ellen Shaver’s grandson).

Please keep your phone number, email and mailing addresses current in the parish directory so that you may be reached easily by the church office. Many of you have switched from landline to cell phones.

Thank you

Hoe Down Wrap-up

A big thank you to all those who purchased tickets, large and small, to help fill our budget gap. Also, thanks to those who worked so hard to make it fun and a success. We sold 49 tickets for a total of \$2917. Our expenses were \$338, leaving a net “profit” of \$2580: filling more than 80% of the budget gap. Separately, there was a major gift from a generous parishioner that put us well over the top. As successful as this fund raiser was, we hope this year’s stewardship effort will negate the need for something similar next year.

A thought: In the fall when we consider what to pledge for 2018, consider what you pledged last year and supplement that amount by what you paid for Hoe Down tickets. Best wishes for a summer blessed with warm weather, fun with family and friends, and a minimum of mosquitos and brown tail moths.

Paul Womer





People of Faith Standing with Immigrants

Press Conference & Rally

Please join with clergy and people of faith from all over Maine at the State House as we declare our support for and stand in solidarity with immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers by advocating for just and compassionate policies and expressing our opposition to the arrest, detention, and deportation of undocumented immigrants.

Clergy, please wear a collar, stole, yarmulke, or another symbol from your religious tradition.

**Wednesday, June 7
1 pm**

**in the Hall of Flags
Maine State House, Augusta**

Parking in the parking garage adjacent to the Cross Office Building, corner of Capitol & Sewall Streets.

From the music desk....

Ever chosen to finally go through those old file boxes of ‘stuff’ you’ve collected over many years? Did you find lots to throw out and little to really keep aside for the future? Well, that was my recent task. Three of those ‘boxes’ sat in my office. The arduous task of shuffling through the contents was not my idea of fun; there were many other agenda items more enthralling! However, I really did need to peek under the lids and see if anything of value was to be extracted.

Several pieces of inspiration were set aside, one memo written to a former choir shortly after 9/11. This October musing was passed out at rehearsal one evening, my meager attempt to encourage my ‘flock’ of musicians. Noticing the text and its original author – Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and remembering our recent exploration of the life and writings of this noted theologian, I’ve chosen to share these words as we head into summer. From Bonhoeffer’s book *Life Together*, are these thoughts:

It is the voice of the church that is heard
singing together.
It is not you that sings.
It is the church that is singing.
And you, as a member of the church
may share in its song.
Thus all singing together...
serves to widen our spiritual horizon,
makes us see our little company as a member
of the great Christian church on earth,
and helps us willingly and gladly join our singing,
be it feeble or good,
to the song of the church.

One of my joys is hearing each of you sing in worship, or hearing you share about some particular hymn, service piece, or anthem you’ve just heard that morning. Although much time is given to preparation of the choir for their role in worship, the greater gift is our joint effort in praise...and our contribution to the praise of the wider church.

One way to grow your experience in singing might be through singing with others this summer. Summer Music @ St. Paul’s 2017 will provide the following opportunities for you to consider:

July 16 – **Vestry and Friends**

Vestry members, their families, and friends

July 30 – **Men of St. Paul’s**

All males – no matter what age

August 20 – **Women of St. Paul’s**

All females – no matter what age

August 27 – **Intergenerational Family Singers**

Come and sing...

but bring another family member or friend
to join you

...and

September 3 – **All Call Choir**

Anyone who sang during these summer ensembles, returning choir members, or new recruits)

Requirements?

- 1) a willing spirit
- 2) show up before the 9 a.m. service (8:15 a.m.)

We’ll practice for 30 minutes on an easy-to-learn or already-familiar hymn or piece and share this at the Offertory.

Ahead of time, thank you to all who will bravely come forward and join in this summer adventure. All are welcome!!

Yours in anticipation,

Randy Day

Director of Music Ministry

Celebrate Juneteenth

with the Abyssinian Meeting House
at St. Paul's Church, Brunswick

2nd Annual

Saturday, June 10
Noon—3 pm

An Emancipation Celebration

O Freedom!
O Freedom!

Come learn:

- What is Juneteenth?
- Why celebrate today?
- A Juneteenth Story

Performances by

Samuel James

Rodney Mashia

ILLijah

Linda Ashe-Ford

With:

Soul Food Picnic

Storytelling

Arts & Crafts

A Family Day

Bring a blanket, enjoy the afternoon!

27 Pleasant Street Brunswick

stpaulsmaine.org



Contributions to the
Abyssinian Meeting House restoration are welcomed.
See abyme.org for information on the Abyssinian Meeting House.

A Note from Sherrie

Dear Friends,

For my family and I, St. Paul's became more than "Sunday morning church" during May.

We all had fun at the Hoe-Down! Violet brought a friend; they danced, and we all laughed as we tried to fit underneath their short "bridge." It was good for all of us to laugh with each other, eat outside at the picnic tables, and ask each other: "how do we do that?? (That dance step)" The afternoon drew us closer together, in community.

On May 17, my family and I drove from our home in Bristol to Gorham to drop Forest off with his class at USM, where they were to participate in the model UN conference. We're not used to dropping him off anywhere overnight! We were all feeling the effects of that when we arrived at St. Paul's for dinner. The Family Ministries Team had prepared several Italian dishes - and dinner was ready!! How great it felt to sit down and share a meal together, instead of going home and sitting at our table, three of us instead of four. Sharing a meal, we all get to know one another more intimately. It is in those heartfelt conversations that I feel that spirit of God within us. Violet

played in the garden after dinner, the younger kids were able to run around on this warm evening - we left feeling so grateful.

May also ended our church school classes for the year. I'd like to thank our dedicated group of teachers: Christin Nadeau, Johanna Wigg, Susan Brown, Katy Kennedy Rivera, Emily Kennedy Talmage, Jim Hornor, Carol Lord, Myrna Koonce, Hugh Savage, Macauley Lord, and Betsey Bailey. They will be recognized on June 4 at our 9am "Life Together" service. As a parent, I am grateful when my children develop relationships - Not just with their peers, but also with older adults. In these church school classrooms, they feel there are other adults who care for them. And as we listen to stories together, the space is created in which to wonder. Isn't that what we all want for our children? - to engage with the stories, to take them in, - and wonder.

Peace,

Sherrie

Sherrie Holbrook, Christian Formation Director



Prayers offered at 9:30 worship



Passing the offering basket at 9:30 worship.



Parishioners "on the road to Emmaus" during the 9:30 Family Worship.

FURNITURE DRIVE

HELPING NEW MAINERS RESETTLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH, 9AM-12NOON

PARKING LOT AT ST CHARLES BORROMEO CHURCH,

132 MCKEEN STREET, BRUNSWICK



Help us celebrate World Refugee Day, June 20th, 2017

PLEASE BRING YOUR FURNITURE DONATION TO THE PARKING LOT AT ST CHARLES BORROMEO BETWEEN 9 AM AND 12 NOON OR CALL YOUR CONGREGATION'S COORDINATOR TO ARRANGE PICK UP. DONATIONS CANNOT BE RECEIVED OR PICKED UP AFTER 12 NOON.

THIS EVENT IS ORGANIZED BY MIDCOAST NEW MAINERS SUPPORT GROUP: A COLLABORATIVE OF MEMBERS OF CONGREGATIONS FROM:
Beth Israel Congregation, Bath
Brunswick Friends Meeting, Topsham
The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, Topsham
First Parish UCC, Brunswick
Phippsburg UCC
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brunswick

We can ONLY accept items in good clean condition and of a quality that will help create a welcoming and comfortable home:

- Beds (single double, full, queen)
- Futons
- Dining room tables & chairs
- Small couches, love-seats, and other living room seating
- Dressers
- Coffee/end tables
- Bedside tables
- Working lamps w/shades
- Area Rugs
- Microwaves

We cannot accept items that are extremely heavy, stained or soiled, excessively worn, ripped or broken.

The coordinator at St Paul's is Andree Appel, who can be reached at 319-4993 with any questions.

THANK YOU!!!

Outreach news

At its regular May meeting, the Outreach Commission voted to award \$27,000 to 16 different organizations. Checks will be distributed shortly and then the list of the recipients will be posted on the Committee bulletin board.

We are honored to be the stewards of St Paul's outreach efforts.

Peter McCracken
Outreach Chair



Thank you!

Thank you to the 10:30 Fellowship hour volunteers who put away the bistro tables! It is a great sight to see our community enjoy time together conversing around these tables. It is a joy to know that they will be put away. The closet beside the lift where the choir robes formerly were hung is the best place to store the bistro tables. There is now a sign on the door to let you know this is the location to store them because there is not enough room in the large closet in the Great Hall.

Again, many thanks for your attention to this important part of our life together in Christ.

Carolyn+



9:30 Family Worship Closet

- Bean Bags
- Bistro Tables
 - Signs
- God is Love rug

Deepening our commitment to the Christian journey

*A preparation for Confirmation, Reception,
and Reaffirmation in the fall*

Bishop Stephen Lane will be making his visitation to St. Paul's on Sunday, October 1, 2017. For those who would like to be confirmed, received from another tradition, or reaffirmed in the Episcopal Church during his time with us, there will be a three week period of preparation in September, which includes:

- a brief meeting (after each of our three services) on September 10th to hear about the program and pick up a journal
- occasional online check-ins and suggestions
- a "retreat day" the day before the Bishop's visitation on Saturday, September 30th

If you think you might be interested, mark your calendars to save September 30th for the extended time together.

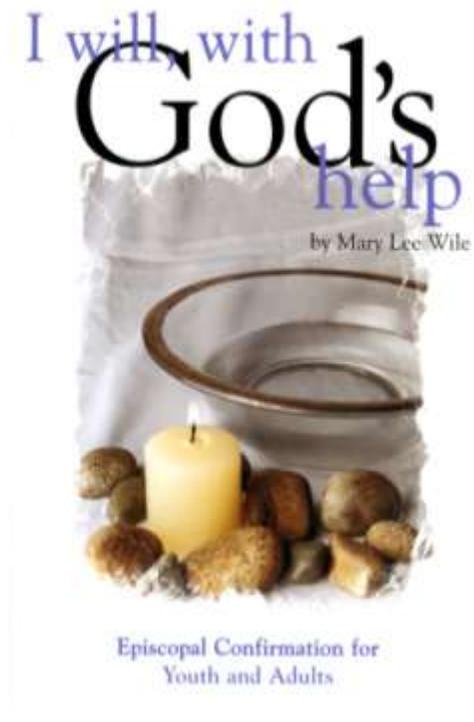
Anyone from ages 12 to 100 is invited to participate!

Questions? Ask me – I'm excited about this adventure in faith!

Mary Lee

The Rev. Mary Lee Wile

marywile@stpaulsmaine.org



Calendar

- Sunday, June 4, 9:00 am, **Pentecost Sunday**, "First Sundays, Life Together at 9am"
 - ◆ Baptisms, Graduate Sunday & End of Church School Celebration all are invited
- Saturday, June 10, noon-3 pm, **Juneteenth** (with Abyssinian Meeting House), picnic, crafts, games and music to celebrate the Historical Emancipation Proclamation.
- Wednesday, June 21 5-6:30 pm St. Paul's Cafe
- Sunday, June 25, Last Sunday for 8am, 9:30 am and 10:30 am services

Summer Worship

July 2—Sept. 3

- Every Sunday, One Service at 9:00 am
- July 2, 9:00 am Outdoor Worship
- August 6, 9:00 am Outdoor Worship



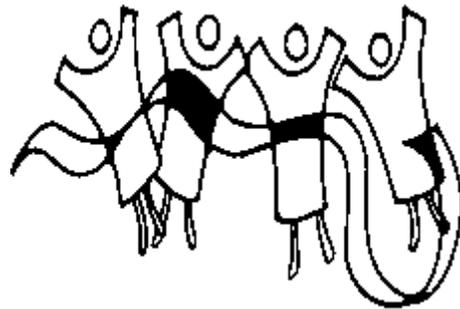
Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday!

6/01	Elijah Ford	6/13	Lil Heyda
6/01	Marilyn Prince	6/13	Robert Jackson
6/02	Michael Frazier	6/17	Emma Michaud
6/03	Lee Paige	6/19	Katie Judd
6/04	Richard Hall	6/23	Steve Carey
6/05	Kesia Moore	6/25	John Paige
6/05	Lucas Nadeau	6/27	William Blake
6/07	Malcolm Wood	6/27	Margaret Dunlop
6/09	Robert Clegg	6/29	Benson Ford
6/09	Madeline Wayne	6/29	Estella Wigg
6/11	Linda Millert		
6/11	Drey Rochette		

Happy Anniversary!

David & Nancy Hawkins 6/3
Cameron & Peggy Smith 6/15
David & Nancy Gardner 6/25
Al & Roberta Hipkins 6/25



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know so that we may update our files.

The Messenger is published monthly, excluding January and with a combined July/August issue. It is emailed to the parish. Paper copies are available at the church for those who prefer them. It is also mailed to those who do not have email. **Please send submissions for the July/August issue by June 16.** Articles may be emailed to stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org or placed in Susan Tyler's box in the parish office.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
JUNE 2017

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The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund, Rector
The Rev. Mary Lee Wile, Deacon
The Rev. Chick Carroll, Deacon
Paul Womer, Senior Warden
Johanna Wigg, Junior Warden
Sherrie Holbrook, Christian Formation Director
Randy Day, Music Ministry Director
Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator
Melanie Chicoria, Administrative Assistant
Kimmy Edwards, Nursery Caregiver
Aubrey Farmer, Sexton

We're on the web!

www.StPaulsMaine.org
and Facebook



June 4

All-parish worship, 9:00 am

Pentecost

