



The Vision of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church is to be a community:

- Centered in Christ,
- Glorifying God,
- Serving our neighbors.

September 2014

The Bridge

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH—DOVER, NH—CORNER OF HALE AND LOCUST



The Bridge

WAGE PEACE

A Prayerful Response to 9/11, by Judyth Hill

Wage peace with your breath.
Breathe in firemen and rubble,
breathe out whole buildings
and flocks of red wing blackbirds.

Breathe in terrorists and breathe out sleeping children
and freshly mown fields.
Breathe in confusion and breathe out maple trees.
Breathe in the fallen
and breathe out lifelong friendships intact.

Wage peace with your listening:
hearing sirens, pray loud.
Remember your tools:
flower seeds, clothes pins, clean rivers.

Make soup.
Play music, learn the word for thank you in three languages.
Learn to knit, and make a hat.
Think of chaos as dancing raspberries,
imagine grief as the outbreath of beauty or the gesture of fish.
Swim for the other side. Wage peace.

Never has the world seemed so fresh and precious:
Have a cup of tea and rejoice.
Act as if armistice has already arrived.
Don't wait another minute.
Celebrate today.



From the Interim Rector's Desk . . .

The Rev. Gail Avery



My first Sunday at St.

Thomas', Emmaus Sunday,
Dick Siener had mentioned

how God surprises us. I agree. Over these months, it has been wonderful to see how God has been showing up at St. Thomas'.

For me, it started when I got a call from The Rev. Canon Hannah Anderson asking if I'd be interested in serving as your interim Rector. I was inches away from opening a Mission to Seafarer's station in Portsmouth, serving the seafarers frequenting our ports. While the opening of that mission is a bit on hold, I remain passionate about supporting these men and women who do so much for our local economy and way of life. They are the ones we can thank for bringing heating products to warm our homes, the gasoline to fuel our car, the gypsum we use to make wallboard...

Thinking back to those followers of Jesus who unexpectedly met Jesus on the road, I'm convinced that God startles us to change our path. But first he has to get our attention—like those times during our Sunday services when something appears not to be going right. I've learned to appreciate those times when we run out of hosts and have to get more from the sacristy, or when readers or LEM don't show up. Though a lot of scrambling, it all has a way of working out beautifully. So I've come to understand that it's God's way of stirring our souls and calling us into action—especially on those things that at first glance seem rather repetitive.

Recently, we participated in a beautiful Renewal of Marriage Vows ceremony for Jeff and Betty Naddau who aren't church members but chose St. Thomas' because they were married at St. Thomas' 40 years ago by The Rev. Blankenship and one of Betty's aunts said she hadn't been in our church for 44 years! When Nancy Hunt and I gave communion to a relative who was wheelchair bound, an entire row of visitors wanted communion after a child boldly opened his hand to receive. God was certainly at work there...

I have loved the services where Paul and Valerie Smith gathered two of their musician friend and led us in song. Our gifted music director Kathy Fink was away, yet familiar "Blue Grass" tunes caused our bodies to sway in a different way. A couple of Sundays we had no music, yet there was always a brave soul who came forward to lead us. Truly, our hearts were on fire as we belted out our favorite hymns. And we were so moved that Sunday when Rob Sylvester led us in prayer.

Thank you all for stepping-in in new and exciting ways.

Judi Turner is giving our Sunday School a new look this Fall. Connection Committee is newly energized as committees refigure and redefine their goals and purposes. Jerry Costanza has been hired as our bookkeeper. Karen Gardner and I are learning our way around the office and come September Patty Laughlin will help to organize the office and implement new systems. Chris Turner has turned into a valuable IT person, Kathy Koson our interim Bridge editor, Kathy Ford (now the Sunday Bulletin expert) has bravely agreed to tackle our social media concerns.

So things are happening here...and those who have been with us this summer have seen it.

Sunday September 7th we will be returning to our two services at 8am and 10 am.

Come join us.

I hope God will surprise you too.

Sabbath Blessings

In the busyness of our days

grant us a stillness of seeing, O God.

In the conflicting voices of our hearts

grant us a calmness of hearing.

Let our seeing and hearing

our words and our actions

be rooted in a silent certainty of your presence.

Let our passions for life

and the longings for justice that stir within us

be grounded in the experience of your stillness.

Let our lives be rooted in the ground of your peace, O God,

let us be rooted in the depths of your peace.

J. Philip Newell, Celtic Benediction, adapted

A Shepherd's Tale...

Judi Turner



We Gather At the Table

The God who leads us to green pastures and still waters
Has brought us here together
God has prepared this table in our midst
Here our cup overflows with God's abundance.
God has set this table, it is God's
And so we welcome all to come and eat and drink from it.

My history with St. Thomas' Episcopal Church goes back 17 yrs, not a long time in the history of this church or the "World Communion" when you put it into context. But over those years we have seen flux and change due to a multitude of reasons, some personal and some parochial. We have expanded and welcomed new parishioners and we have said 'good-bye' to others.

The story of "The Good Shepherd and The World Communion" is a central and pivotal story of our contemporary Christian faith. The story in a nutshell goes like this...

The Good Shepherd leads his sheep out of the stall. They know his voice and follow him. He knows them by name. He goes before them to show the way. He leads them to green pasture and he feeds them at his table. He sets his table with bread and wine and sometimes people from all over the world share in this table. The children come too!

It is so simple but complex when you think about gathering up the flock, those members who have left for reasons we may never know or understand. The important thing is that the church is still here to call each person by name and welcome them into the fold. I have always believed that the strength of a parish was in the strength of the children and their faith experiences. Many of you have been involved in fostering a strong religious faith experience for children in the past. You may now be at a place where you are watching and wondering if your grandchildren know the Good Shepherd.

These next few months will be filled with an invitation by the Good Shepherd to be called by name, be taken to green pastures, and share in the abundance of God's love through story and gesture. My hope is that you bring your children or your grandchildren to gather with the Good Shepherd. If you love the stories of the Good Shepherd, my hope is that you make it known to myself or Gail so that we may have many shepherds to lead the flock and call each by name.

The first invitation by a shepherd will come on Sunday, Sept 14th at 9:30am. Our hope is that you, your children, and your grandchildren are at St. Thomas' for this invitation to be called by name and share in the abundance and be nourished by it. Come and listen to a Shepherd's tale...

A reflection upon "The Road to Emmaus"

"As Jesus walked the road to Emmaus with his disciples, he was astounded by their dullness. They were so confined, had so withdrawn into their own grief and self-absorption that they had failed to recognize him. Very much like modern pilgrims, they were so narrowly confined to their private concerns that they had actually forgotten all they had been taught, had completely lost their history. So Jesus spent time retelling the story. In something so small as a loaf of bread, the whole story was contained; in its breaking their eyes were opened and they saw as if for the first time."

Sam Portaro, *Brightest and Best: a companion to the Lesser Feast and Fasts*

CONNECTIONS - *Hospitality beyond introductions...involving ourselves in the life of each other and our community*



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Bob and I have long known what a special and extraordinary group of people are the parishioners of St. Thomas' Church. This has been so especially evident to us personally during these past several months; not only in the time of Bob's illness and passing, but in all the time since. Right from the beginning your loving care and concern, your prayers, wrapped us in such a warm, comforting blanket of support. That feeling continues to this day. Hugs, particularly, or a warm handshake are wonderful and so often just say it all.

It is with deepest gratitude that I thank you for all this and for the privilege of being one of you.

We have been blessed.

Fran Whiting

THANKS FOR COMING!

Our joint outing to the Fishercats game on August 3 was huge success! About seventy people from St. Thomas' and Christ Church, Exeter, traveled to Manchester by bus or car. Members from both choirs sang a stunning rendition of the National Anthem and David Holroyd reached home plate on the fly with his ceremonial first pitch. Several were present at the tailgate party in Exeter to begin the day's activity. The largest family prize goes to the Wyskiels - five from Dover, five from Exeter, and two from Manchester. Congratulations to them and to the Fishercats who won the game!

We are doing it again next year. If you have a 2015 calendar, mark down the date of July 19. We managed to grab a Sunday afternoon game and the opposition will be none other than the Red Sox affiliate Portland Seadogs -- plan ahead! The choirs will sing again and David Holroyd will toss another first pitch.

REVELATIONS - *Building Bridges through Small Groups*

Fr. Tom Returns

On Sunday, September 14th, The Rev. Wm. Thomas Martin and his wife, Ginny, will be present and Tom will be the celebrant at the 8am and 10 am Eucharistic services.

For those who may not know him, Tom was ordained at St. Thomas in June of 1970 and served as Curate until February 1972. He was instrumental in helping to enhance a youth fellowship program and was involved in fostering relationships with other local churches.

Tom and Ginny used to live in the 3rd floor of the Hale House.

We hope you will warmly welcome both Tom and Ginny back as they visit the area and help to make the celebrations in church special ones.

Become an Acolyte!

From Kevin Gorham:

The ministry of serving on the altar is one of a kind. You get to see the service from a totally different perspective. So if you've ever thought you would like to be an acolyte or a lector please let me know. We will provide training and coaching along the way. We have a pressing need for acolytes. Young and old male and female there is no age limit to serving God in this meaningful ministry.



SUNDAY FORUM

The Rev. Dick Siener will lead a discussion on Sept 28th after the 10 o'clock service on ways in which Christians are enriching their Spiritual Journey with God in different ways. We will look at the benefits of Spiritual Exercises such as Centering Prayer, Prayer Groups, Spiritual Directors, Spiritual friends, daily Bible Study, small Book Clubs that study current Spiritual topics. Hopefully all present will share their commitments and needs for the benefit of all. The Forum will be held from 11:15-12:00 in the Dallas Room.

WHY I AM AN EPISCOPALIAN

The Rev. Dr. David D. Holroyd, Interim Associate

Let me begin with a tribute to the late, great Robin Williams who once shared his Top 10 reasons to be an Episcopalian.

10. No snake handling
9. You can believe in dinosaurs.
8. Male and female God created them; male and female we ordain them.
7. You don't have to check your brains at the door.
6. Pew aerobics.
5. Church year is color-coded.
4. Free wine on Sunday.
3. All of the pageantry - none of the guilt.
2. You don't have to know how to swim to get baptized.

And the Number One reason to be an Episcopalian:

1. No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you.

I could probably write a message for the Bridge on any one of the above. All ten reasons are relevant in my faith journey. In last month's article I made reference to being a "cradle Episcopalian." So perhaps for me the issue is why I remained an Episcopalian and never had to change churches. I was blessed to have faithful parents who loved and supported our local parish. My father was a churchwarden and my mother was an active member and leader of the Episcopal Church Women. My religious and spiritual life evolved from attending Sunday school, becoming an acolyte, and then a youth group participant. I had some wonderful role models, both clergy and lay. I loved going to church and never recall ever feeling as though my parents were "dragging me." My parish was not perfect, but overall it was healthy, not free of conflict and disagreement but not overwhelmed by it either. Church was fun and I felt safe there.

As I grew in my faith, I saw in my Episcopal tradition the freedom to ask questions, have doubts, be nurtured by the worship, and to be in a faith community of people who were on the journey with me. It has not always been smooth and sometimes even messy but I wouldn't give it up for anything in the world nor would I have it any other way. Maybe that is what Robin Williams was trying to say. Maybe what I treasure most is a faith conviction that God always loved Robin Williams unconditionally and loves others with the same amazing grace and still does. The Episcopal Church taught me that!

What brings you to St. Thomas'? What keeps you here?
What brings you back? What are your Top Ten?

STEWARDSHIP

Rob Sylvester



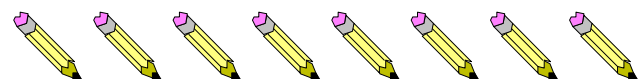
As summer passes ever so quickly, we begin to think of a return to "regular" church schedule... two services...Café...Sunday School...

On Sept 7th, we begin this new church year and we will be having a "gifts" sign-up sheet... something that you can hopefully fill out that will tell us more about you and your unique gifts.

Stewardship is not only about Annual Appeal. That is important, as it helps to keep the doors open, the church warm, and pays for our clergy who help us in our faith journey.

Each of us has unique gifts. How we use them is a form of putting our faith into real works. There are those things that we can help with our time if we have time available to offer... maybe praying... maybe reading to someone who cannot... maybe offering to spend time with someone who is shut-in... helping at food pantries... spending time at the office to help to have someone there for those in need...helping to provide upkeep for our gardens and buildings... there are many ways one might offer some of their available time. Our talents allow us to share those special gifts God has given us with others. When we all pitch in, the load is easier and we get to not only share ourselves, but we get to learn from others.

I hope you will take the time to look at what your gifts are. If St. Thomas' is to be a part of the community (within our four walls in church and in the larger outside community) we need to understand who we are and what we have to offer. Jesus gave us ALL of him and asks that we try and give back some of what God gave us.



Senior Moments

by Chris Wyskiel, August 2014

It's about 7:30 p.m. on a mid-August weekend evening as I start to write. The sky is darkening, a reminder that fall is coming, and that summer is coming to an end. I've had a nice summer. One for which I am thankful. Sharing nuggets with you is my way of expressing thanks.

Cindy and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary on July 14th. No parties or grand celebrations for us. Instead, we escaped, just the two of us, for a wonderful, relaxing, week long beach vacation at Grace Bay in the Turks & Caicos. It was great. All five of us Wyskiels went out for an ice cream the evening after Cindy's and my return. Conversing with a friend in line, I told him of our trip. About our good fortune to take such a vacation, he commented that we had made an "investment" in our marriage. Immersed again in our hectic jobs and family life, I know that we surely did.

Sam and Seth had great summer jobs this year. In late spring, Ben's temporary status at the Boston investment bank at which he works became a permanent position. Our sons' summer employment in past years has included a lot of weekend work. Not this year. We've been lucky to share many family weekend plans, if not with all 5 of us, with 3 or 4 of us, and many of those times with extra friends, routinely including weekend crashes (sleep overs). If one or two of ours were out of town with plans/friends of their own, frequently we picked up the buddies of the other. It's fun (and we're lucky) to wake up on Saturday mornings realizing we better get up, get dressed and get out to buy more milk and eggs and bagels to feed hungry youth. Good times!

Good times too at the Fisher Cats game in Manchester that our own Rev. David Holroyd encouraged parishioners of both St. Thomas' and Christ Church in Exeter (his other part time parish) to attend on Sunday, August 3. For this Senior Warden, the game was much more than a fun church related function. My sons Ben, Sam and Seth joined Cindy and me, as well as my nephew Derek, and his wife Laura, and their three sons, Connor (10), Chase (8) and Camden (6), all active members of Exeter's Christ Church (and buddies of David) ... and Derek's brother, Jeremy (a police officer in Colchester, VT) and his girlfriend, Bianca. Eight Wyskiel boys, not including me. A regular family reunion! We all had a blast. Mary Jo Dudley took a picture of the twelve of us. I

noticed Bill Dudley scoring the game in his program. We didn't pay as close attention to the game as did Bill, but what a great family memory we made.

Last Christmas, Cindy gave me a set of "DNA" earbuds for my iPhone (don't know what I'm talking about ... go ask a teenager). It's sort of pathetic that I hadn't used them until this summer, but my power walks to strengthen my left knee post April's ACL reconstructive surgery (alright ... and to lose weight) have been more enjoyable since Sam gave me a primer on Pandora. The past couple walks, I've listened to Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young and similar genre. The hour long walks seemed shorter as my mind wanders to memories of my own days at UNH ... where Seth will start school in September! Sam returns to RWU for his senior year. With friends, Ben is actively looking for an apartment in Boston to end his four plus hour per day bus commute to work. So Cindy and I find ourselves on the horizon of living at home, just the two of us. Everyone's growth is exciting.

I've gone to church more this summer than past summers. I've enjoyed it. I like the mix of eight and ten o'clockers at our one 9am service. Kathy Fink had kept the music going ... very nicely. And Gail's sermons have been thought full and enjoyable. Attendance has been consistently in the 60 range ... not bad, I think, for a summer at St. Thomas'. The return to school typically heralds a return of many to more regular church attendance. This Senior Warden is especially hopeful that will be so in the weeks to come. We've been through some tough times here at the corner of Locust and Hale Streets. I long to see a lot of familiar faces in church this fall. Together, we can make things better. Together.

I recently had lunch with Gail and the Rev. Canon Kevin Nichols, Canon for Mission Resources and Diocesan Chief Financial Officer. He oversaw the audit and (with Gail and me) consolidation of a couple small checking accounts used by past Rectors as St. Thomas' Rector's Discretionary Fund. We reviewed best practices for such a fund. Our conversation expanded to matters general at St. Thomas'. I want to write about that, but must first take you on this tangent.

When my sandwich and Gail and Kevin's salads arrived, Kevin said grace ... aloud ... right there in Christopher's Restaurant in Dover. It was nice. And I told them so, after joking that I "seldom" (i.e., never) stop to say grace in a restaurant. But to stop and actually do so was "food for thought." We often said grace when I was a kid at home, especially after I returned from a Boy Scout trip to hike the mountain back woods at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico the summer after my high school freshman year. As a kid, my family adopted saying "Philmont's grace." As an adult, my own family will say it at times:

||| *continued* →

WELCOME BACK, BREAKFAST CAFÉ!



For food, for raiment, for life, for opportunity, for friendship and fellowship, we thank thee, oh Lord. Amen.

Now back to my lunch at Christopher's. Gail and I filled Kevin in on the pulse of St. Thomas' since the arrival of our interim clergy team. Some people have come back, some people have left. Our office staffing is a bit in shambles. Our budget is still in the red. Ervin Hall is full of lovely new tables and chairs. The Hale House is about to get a much needed new roof (like our new organ earlier this year, another Vestry supported use of endowment funds). Church School, for years a shining light in our parish, will have a new look this Fall, rebounding from a bit of internal **turmoil**. Kevin, who previously was the Rector in Hopkinton, and before that, Pittsfield, NH, acknowledged that sometimes that's just the way it is in the cycle of Parish life. Optimistically, he saw no reason why St. Thomas' shouldn't be a thriving church community ... being part of an obviously thriving city. Encouragingly, he told us the dust would eventually settle.

As if reading from the same script, Gail and I both, at the same time, responded, "there's a lot of dust." To which the three of us smiled. There may be as many constituents to please at St. Thomas' as there are members.

About all those constituents, clergy and Vestry are trying to update our membership list ... names, contacts, etc. If we haven't connected with you, please call the office at 603-742-3155 and we will gladly take your most current information.

And about what we can do to settle all that dust, I personally think it will help if we all just make the effort to come to church. Sunday, September 14th is our "In-Gathering" service with committee and other sign-up tables at coffee hour. As I've found peace and enjoyment attending church more this summer than summers past, I hope those who come to church this fall find similar satisfaction. I look forward to seeing the many familiar faces (and hopefully new faces as well) that make St. Thomas' what it is and what it can be. That would be a nice nugget to cap a nice summer.

Welcome Back!

September 21st is the day! As we start our 11th year...we invite everyone to join us between 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Our menu will be the same as in previous years. **ALL GOOD!**

We want and need volunteers. We need an 8 a.m. to 10 person for the front station, one person 8:30 to 10:15, one to help clean up and close....9:30 to 10:30. One Sunday a month or every Sunday, whatever you can give us. The Cafe is an ongoing fund raiser for St. Thomas. We emphasize that the Cafe serves as a great vehicle for fellowship, joining the 8 a.m. early service with people attending the 10:00 service.

One of our long time volunteers, Barta Anderson is nestling into her new home in Florida. I am enclosing her new address:

Barta Anderson

119 SW 8th PL.

Boynton Beach, FL 33426

If you have any questions or have some availability for the Cafe call me, Nancy Stafford-Parsons at 603-767-2349 or email me at stfrdshire1066@yahoo.com.



Reminder:

September 7th we return to our regular schedule with Sunday Services at 8AM



HARVEST FAIR 2014

Our Harvest

Fair is well on it's way to being another

wonderful representation of our Parish's generosity of time and talent! There are again many ways we can all help this major event be successful in spirit as well as gain.

Please check out the Fair events included on the September calendar in this Bridge and join us for one or all of the pie baking evenings. We can be great teachers if you don't know how but there's always room for peelers and kitchen help if you want to come and have a fun night out. There's always room for one more in our kitchen.

You can sign up to make cookies for our cookie walk table. It's easy to do at home or you can join us Sat. morning, October 11 at 9AM, and we'll bake a bunch together. Make some dough at home and we'll use the big ovens to get them done in a hurry!

Love to bake? We're looking for those specialty desserts for our fancy desserts table being run by Deb Rice this year. All of your other specialty items could find a home on our bake table. People love home-made breads, jams and whatever may be yummy to you!

I'm sure many of you do your crafting at home. You might consider donating items to our craft table. We love to see the talent that shines out in this Parish.

This year's raffle will start with a wonderful mountain bike being donated by Morgan Gallagher. We also have a

beautiful collectable doll donated by Hortense Tucker. Our other raffle items include a Church Print by Scott Schnef, a Breakfast basket donated by our Café, a Food basket overseen by Fran Whiting, and a Gift Wrap basket donated by Valerie Smith. We hope that everyone will help publicize and sell tickets for these great raffle items!

This year's Children's Room is being organized by Valerie Smith. This could be a great place to help out. We're going to try to have a little "General Store" for them to buy gifts inexpensively so we are asking for gently used small items to stock the store and small wrappings for them. Another adult and some older children could also volunteer to help with this. We also want to have a craft area in the children's room and, as usual, a games area. We'd like to advertise this as a big part of our fair this year but we need your help to get it set!

The luncheon is well underway also. Nothing better than that great fish chowder!! Look for food donations and other ways you can help with the luncheon, too.

And if we haven't worn you out don't forget there's always advertising, set-up and clean-up. All of this seems like such a daunting task but however it happens, God opens everyone's hearts and somehow our fair does happen. One or two or seven can't do it, it's our Parish Fair and somehow God sends that message out there with love. We all hope you hear it and get in on the fun the Fair can be.

God be with you, Your Fair Committee



ACTS - Action in Community through Service

Altar Guild

The next Newcomer's month for the Altar Guild is January so you have plenty of time to think about joining us! If you want to learn more about what the Guild does wander into the sacristy after either Sunday service and the members on duty that day will be glad to initiate you into this ministry. We have a lot of fun doing this important work for the church. You are also welcome to call or e-mail Kitty Cornwell with questions.

603-866-0465 or kitty@myfairpoint.net

Prayer Shawls

Knitted or crocheted shawls may be left at the church office at your convenience. Instructions and some extra materials are available if you want to make a shawl.

There is a possibility the group will start meeting again this winter---watch this space for details! Call or e-mail Kitty Cornwell with questions/suggestions.

603-866-0465 or kitty@myfairpoint.net



You're Invited to a Pampered Chef

Join us on Saturday, September 13 at 3PM in Ervin Hall.

This is a great opportunity to get together with fellow parishioners and friends, enjoy fellowship, great snacks, share recipes and provide financial benefit to the church.

Pampered Chef products are high quality tools that can save you time and money in the kitchen and at the grill.

15% of the sales from the event will be donated to the church for use where there is the greatest need (Hale House roof, gatehouse window, Ervin Hall renovation, etc.).

There are several ways to register for the event:

- 1) follow this link and sign-up:
<http://new.pamperedchef.com/pws/larsenskitchen/host-landing/8878373977243>; or
- 2) respond to an e-mail invitation; or
- 3) call or e-mail Patty

For those who do not have internet access catalogs are available in the church office.

If you are unable to attend but would still like to make a purchase you can do so using the web link above or by picking up a catalog and order form from Patty.



Parish Workday Volunteers Needed

Our fall parish workday is fast approaching. Please plan to join us Saturday September 27th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Specific needs:

A *key* volunteer for each project to ensure needed tools and supplies are available and to help direct other parish volunteers

Breakfast: snacks, coffee, tea & juice

Lunch: a big pot of soup/stew/chili & rolls or deli sandwiches, cookies/brownies, water and sodas

Donations welcomed:

Support our various projects by donating paint, cleaning supplies or snacks for the work crew! For more information, to donate or to sign up for the workday see the Property Committee bulletin board in Ervin Hall or contact Patty Laughlin at pj davidson@mindspring.com

Connections Committee

We hope you have had a restful summer filled with happiness, joy and family!

We would like you to know, The Connections Committee has returned with renewed interest, energy and committed to the future of St. Thomas'. We hope you feel the same way!

Due to open spots on other committees, we may be having combined committees to be able to better serve the needs of our parish and our community at large with the current group that have offered to help.


Things we will be discussing are:
How can we connect as a church community? How can we reach those who are unchurched? What opportunities are there on the outside of our walls to help? And most importantly how can we better connect with you, and what can St. Thomas offer you to grow in your spiritual journey? Please share your ideas with any of us! Our names are listed below. We could always use more on Connections!

Up-coming this month, we will be gathering information from all who attend our church so we will know how many we are, who we are, and how we can better serve you! By doing this, we will also be updating our out-dated directory. We will also be asking about your gifts and your talents. God has given all of us many gifts and talents. Will you share yours with St. Thomas church--Your Church?

There are many opportunities available to volunteer! Some of which are in need right now! Many of you have stepped up to help, Thank You!!! Our parish cannot run itself. Many hands make light work...

Peace and blessings to you and yours,

Lisa Miller, Kathleen Ford, Margie Ford,
Kitty Cornwell, Jennifer Stiefel, Robert Stiefel,
Rob Sylvester, Elaine Sylvester

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	1 7a Morning Reflections 7p Property Committee 7p Crafts	2 10:30a Staff Mtg 5p DFK	3 7a Morning Reflections Choir 12:15 Eucharist/Healing	4 7p Dover original AA 5p DFK	5 7a Morning Reflections	6		
7 1st 8/10aa Services Begin Choir Fair: Sign-ups avail	8 7a Morning Reflections 7p Crafts Fair: 7p Fair Comm. Mtg - Dallas	9 5p DFK	10 7a Morning Reflections Choir 12:15 Eucharist/Healing	11 7p Dover original AA 5p DFK	12 7a Morning Reflections	13 3p Pampered Chef Fundraiser - Ervin Hall		
14 8/10a Services Begin Sunday School Fair: Grab your pie dough recipe	15 7a Morning Reflections 7p Crafts	16 5p DFK	17 7a Morning Reflections Choir 12:15 Eucharist/Healing	18 7p Dover original AA 5p DFK	19 7a Morning Reflections	20		
21 8/10a Services Begin Breakfast Café Fair: Look for posters & flyers	22 7a Morning Reflections 7p Crafts 7p Vestry	23 5p DFK	24 7a Morning Reflections Choir 12:15 Eucharist/Healing Fair: 6:30p/EHK Kitchen Pork Pie Making	25 7p Dover original AA 5p DFK	26 7a Morning Reflections	27 Parish Workday 9-3		
28 8/10a Services Fair: sign-up sheets back out	29 7a Morning Reflections 7p Crafts	30 5p DFK Fair: 6:30p/EHK Apple Pie Bake	October Harvest Fair Events: 10/2: Final Fair Cmt Mtg, 7p Dallas 10/8: Specialty & Turkey Pie Night, 8:30 EHK 10/11: Cookie Baking 9a EHK Fair Set-up: 10/23 @ 6:30p, 10/24 @ 9a 10/25: Harvest Fair 9-2:30 10/26: Fair Coffee Hour & Clean up to Dallas Room					

Celebrating in SEPTEMBER

Many Happy Returns to:

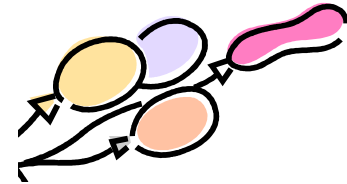


- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Julie Cooper | Grace Hallett |
| Kris Furtney | Drew Hallett |
| Donald Meserve | Rob Sylvester |
| Finley Yarborough | Elizabeth Nanda |
| Matthew Wiggin | Deziree Dixon |
| Jim Mathieu | Lori Goelzer |
| Sharon Gearreald | Howard Hallett |
| William Hunt | Katherine Parker-Wright |
| Nancy Levesque | Margaret Miller |
| Jim Staples | Helen Cornwell |
| Shawn McKinney | Marci Novak |
| Rose Dionne | Kian Clark |
| Martha Burton | Marie Callahan |
| Thomas Stafford-Parsons | Steven Cooper |
| Roberta Steele | Ernest Clark |
| Hillary Bainbridge | |
| Rheann Dionne | |
| Marci Dionne | |



Anniversary Blessings and Congratulations to:

- Bobbie & Floyd Beavers
 Georgia & Robert Campbell
 Deborah & John Rice
 Robert & Roberta Steele
 Chris & Judi Turner
 Joseph & Ellen Yarborough



We are delighted to celebrate your birthdays and anniversaries in The Bridge each month. If you have a birthday or anniversary this month, and are not listed, please contact us so we may update our records.
 Thank you!



Serving God in His Church

- The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop
 The Rev. Gail Avery, Interim Rector
 The Rev. David Holroyd, Interim Associate
 The Rev. Dick Siener, Interim Consultant

- Convocation and Convention Diocesan Delegates**
 Kitty Cornwell, John Symington, Nancy Hunt, Shirley Jackson
- Alternates:
 Joe Marquette III, Judi Turner

The Vestry		
Officers		
Chris Wyskiel, <i>Senior Warden</i> ;		
Allen Laughlin, <i>Junior Warden</i>		
Allan Krans, <i>Clerk</i> ; Kevin Gorham, <i>Treasurer</i>		
Term ending 2015	Term ending 2016	Term ending 2017
William Hunt	Valerie Smith	Margaret Miller
Elaine Sylvester	William Dudley	Marcela Rhodus
Tim Constantine	Margie Ford	Chris Turner

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
5 Hale Street
Dover, NH 03820



The Bridge

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Who's Who at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Gail Avery, Interim Rector (603-674-5455)

The Rev. David Holroyd, Interim Associate

The Rev. Dick Siener, Interim Consultant

603 742 3155 x2 ~ parish.office@stdover.org

Parish Office Hours:

Kathy Fink, Director of Music

Roland Girard, Sexton

For upcoming events and 'The Bridge'
articles, visit our website at:
www.stdover.org

Mission Statement
The mission of St. Thomas Episcopal Church is to know and worship God, to build community, and to serve others.



**Come
Worship**

Summer Services

Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9 am

Wednesday: Eucharist and Healing Service,
12:15 pm.

**Please call the church office for additional
pastoral needs at 603-742-3155. In cases of
emergency call Rev. Gail at 603-674-5455**

