



St. Giles' Episcopal Church, Jefferson, Maine
www.stgilesjefferson.org



Orthodox, Conservative and Reform

St. Giles' Learns about Judaism
See page 4

Holy Week and Easter at St. Giles'

The Eve of Palm Sunday: April 4 at 5:00 pm

An Interfaith Seder led by Karen Filler of Beth Israel Congregation in Bath. The Seder completes our course on Judaism and is an opportunity to share in the Passover ritual of the Jewish people. Dinner will be served; reservations by signing up at the church or emailing johnvs@tidewater.net.

Palm Sunday: April 5 at 9:30 am

The Blessing of the Palms, Procession, Reading of the Passion Gospel of St. Mark and the Holy Eucharist. On Palm Sunday we follow Jesus' journey from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem and hear the story of his crucifixion as Holy Week begins. In place of the sermon, there will be a period of silence.

Maundy Thursday: April 9 Supper at 6:00 pm Worship at 7:00 pm

We will have a simple supper of soup and bread before sharing in the Lord's Supper and the foot washing, a sign of Jesus' servant ministry. We will use the traditional language of Rite One. The preacher is the Rev. Cathy Anderson.

Good Friday: April 10 at 5:00 pm

This year our Good Friday worship will be walking the Stations of the Cross, fourteen pauses as we remember Jesus' path to the cross and to our salvation. This will be outdoors using simple, homemade Stations; please wear appropriate footwear. Our worship will begin in Jewett Hall.

The Great Vigil of Easter: April 11 at 7:00 pm

On this night the Christian community gathers in darkness to kindle the first light of Easter, to hear the salvation history of God's people beginning with the Story of Creation. We reaffirm our baptismal Covenant before celebrating the first Eucharist of Easter. It is all summed up with the words, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!" Our preacher is the Rev. Lee Burns and our celebrant is the Rev. Susan Kraus.

The Day of Resurrection: April 12 at 9:30 am

The Holy Eucharist on Easter morning is followed by a Brunch in Jewett Hall. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join this great celebration!

Notes from the Senior Warden: Vestry Retreat

On Saturday, March 14, the vestry, several ministry team leaders, and Fr. Van Siclen met at St. Columba's Episcopal Church in Boothbay Harbor for our annual retreat.

First, some words about St. Columba's. If it is acceptable to use the word "magnificent", to describe a small church, I'll do it here. It was completed in 2005, so it is quite modern, but without all the glass, steel and aluminum which "chill" modern places of worship. Instead, the nave, even with its soaring ceiling, is a warm, inviting place to worship or meditate. It features a large cross at the center of the worship space so all pass under it coming and going.

There are no pews. Rather, moveable chairs are used which had been organized for Lent so that parishioners sit in rows, one side of the congregation facing the other in monastic style. The altar is a simply designed table, slightly elevated but not isolated from the worshippers. Above and behind it is a stained glass window in which one may see many themes. It is entitled "Fear Not" and is reminiscent of nautical themes with its blue, green, gray and white colors. The church is designed to be able to be enlarged at either side to one day to assume the customary cruciform design.

It was in this welcoming space that we conducted our retreat.

At the outset, we agreed to a discussion process which, required us to *State* the issue to be discussed, *List* its benefits and values to the community, *Engage* creativity and vision in a small group, then *Share* ideas and action steps in the larger group, *Form* a consensus, and, finally, *Test* it at home

We separated into two groups after agreeing that we would discuss approaches to Christian Exploration (Christian Ed for adults).

When each group was

done we met as a whole, and the reporter for each group related what that group had developed. Perhaps it should be no surprise that the results of the two groups were quite different. Suffice to say, though, in the end we agreed that Christian Exploration is important, that we should undertake such a program, and that we should look to start this initiative in the coming months after more input from the parish. Stay tuned.

After lunch, we met with St. Columba's warden Jim Begley and former warden, Jean Barker (this church doesn't distinguish between senior and junior wardens) to chat about our respective churches and the transitions we are experiencing. This was a particularly interesting discussion as St. Columba's is in the process of calling a new vicar. It was encouraging to learn that this has been a constructive, happy experience for St. Columba's, assisted, no doubt, by their popular interim priest, Suzanne Colburn.

It was fun to share our differences and similarities and we all agreed that we should be free to borrow each other's ideas. One that impressed me is that St. Columba's has parish publications specific to particular aspects of parish life. For example, they have a pamphlet for building use policies and one for conducting a wedding there; they even have an impressive annual meeting booklet.

During the course of the afternoon, we also visited St. Columba's Memorial Garden which may help us in planning for our own. (Fortunately, Jean Greenwood was present and can report back to our Memorial Garden Committee).

In sum, the day was productively spent as St. Giles' leaders worked at, and enjoyed, a process to continue our growth as a parish.

—John Atwood



St. Giles' Episcopal Church

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to bring all people to unity with God and each other in Christ, through worship, education ministry and service.

The Rev. John Van Siclen, Priest in Charge
644-1132

The Rev. Leonetta Burns, Deacon
622-6811

Vestry

John Atwood, Senior Warden
586-5557

Ken Marden
Junior Warden
549-4783

Debbie King
(2010)
549-7872

Trudi Hodgkins
(2012)
549-3941

Betsy Lee
Treasurer
563-2942

Jean Greenwood
(2010)
549-4704

Kevin Rousseau
(2010)
549-4902

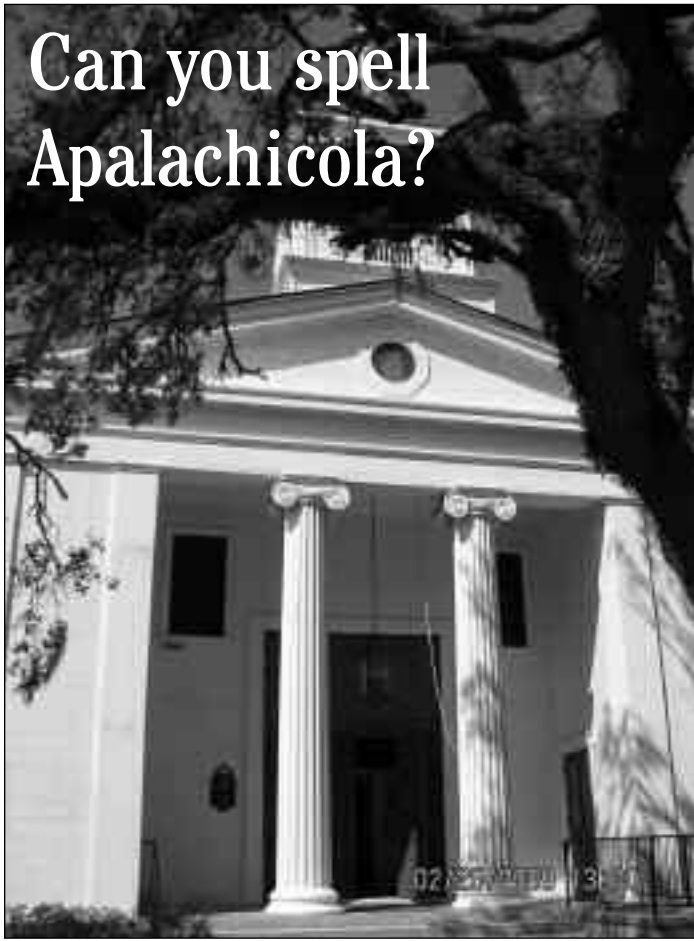
Tom Eichler
Clerk
549-3869

Linda Pierpont
(2011)
549-4663

George Jones
(2011)
832-7412

Newsletter deadline: Third Sunday of every month
George Jones, Editor
geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net

Can you spell Apalachicola?



In late February, Maggie and I visited Jane and Dick Pickering at their winter home in Apalachicola, Florida. We met some other Maine snowbirds, feasted on oysters, spent the night, and attended Ash Wednesday services at the historic Trinity Episcopal Church (above) in this beautiful coastal city.

As you might expect, Jane and Dick are at the heart of parish activities at Trinity Episcopal as they are at St. Giles. (Dick could be spotted inspecting some rickety kneelers). My bet is that the Pickerings are missed at Apalachicola in the summer as much as they are missed here in the winter!



—John Atwood

INTERFAITH SEDER AT ST. GILES'

The St. Giles' community is invited to an Interfaith Seder in Jewett Hall on Saturday, April 4th at 5:00 p.m. The Seder will be led by Karen Filler, a member of the Jewish community in Bath, and a resident of South Bristol. In order to have an accurate number, you are asked to sign-up the next two Sundays in church, or email John Van Sicen (johnvs@tidewater.net) no later than Monday, March 30th.

The dinner menu will be roast lamb, green salad, rice and macaroni and cheese. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted at the door.

Interfaith Seders, linking the Christian and Jewish communities, have grown in popularity in the Episcopal Church over the last twenty-five years. By recreating the seder table in the church, with commentary from a member of the Jewish community, Christians are able to experience the Jewish religious tradition and understand the tradition of Passover that is so important to Jewish identity. Since the Seder is a family event, children and their families are especially welcome.

Introducing Terry Berry, Postulant for the Diaconate

One of the new faces you might see on most Sundays is that of Terry Berry. Terry has been in the Diocese of Maine Deacon Formation Program for about 20 months and has been assigned to do his mentored practice at St. Giles. Terry has been working with the Committee on Holy Orders and is on the path toward ordination as a permanent deacon, as our own Lee Burns is. His ministry here involves getting acclimated to our parish community and learning its needs. It will also include an outreach project within the community.



Terry has spent the past 30 years working in residential real estate sales. He has an office in Hallowell. He hopes that his expertise in that field will enable him to offer confidential counseling to anyone who is experiencing hardship such as a foreclosure proceeding because of difficult economic times. He also plans to become involved in one of the local community service organizations, such as the Jefferson Food Pantry.

Terry spent his formative years in Oakland and then moved with his family to Mt. Vernon. He has worked in Hallowell for over 30 years and currently resides in Edgecomb.



St. Giles Learns About Judaism

Churchgoers in March have been treated to the first two programs of the newly initiated Christian Exploration and Discovery programs examining world religions. On March 8 and 22 those who attended the after service program were invited to learn about Judaism. The March 8 program was led by Fr. John Van Siclen and Linda Pierpont. Over a hearty lunch of homemade soup and bread, participants were invited to share what they knew about Judaism and we were all surprised by our collective knowledge. Aided by our text for the series, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to World Religions* we increased our knowledge of this faith, the precursor of Christianity. The books of the Torah, which comprise five Old Testament texts, were discussed, as were the differences between Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism.

On March 22 we heard our guest Deborah Marienhoff, treasurer of Temple Beth El in Augusta describe her faith journey. Judaism is much more than a religion, it is a way of life as well as an ethnic identity. Deborah described her life as a practicing Jew with clarity and feeling and fielded our questions with enthusiastic and heartfelt replies. Having attended that morning's service, she said she was struck by how much of our liturgical material was familiar to her.

This enlightening series continues on April 4 with an interfaith Seder (see page 3) that promises to further illustrate the close theological ties we have with our Jewish brothers and sisters.

— George Jones



Lay Ministry for April 2009

April 5th Palm Sunday
 Readers: Dotti Meyer & Ken Marden
 Chalice/Intercessor: George Jones
 Oblationers: Nancy Saulniers & Carolyn Gray
 Greeter: Trudi Hodgkins
 Server: Devon Huntley
 Coffee: Debbie King & Carolyn Gray
 Altar: Jean Greenwood

April 9th Maundy Thursday
 Readers: Catherine Anderson & Pam Van Siclen
 Altar: Dotti Meyer

April 10th Good Friday
 Readers: Raymond Anderson & Trudi Hodgkins
 Altar: Dotti Meyer

April 11th The Great Vigil of Easter
 Readers: Jean Greenwood, Tom Eichler, Charlene Donahue, George Van Deventer
 Chalice: John Atwood
 Intercessor: Cynthia White
 Oblationers: Ken Marden & Linda Pierpont
 Greeter: George Jones
 Server: Laura Lee
 Altar: Dotti Meyer & Charlene Donahue

April 12th Easter Sunday
 Readers: John Atwood & Wendy Eichler
 Chalice: Sidney Harvey
 Intercessor: Kay Liss
 Oblationers: Carolyn Gray & Jill Huber
 Greeter: Tom Eichler
 Server: Anna Lee
 Acolytes: Roberta Anderson & Emily Huber
 Coffee: Easter Brunch
 Altar: Nancy Saulniers & Lamar Carroll

April 19th Second Sunday of Easter
 Readers: Kay Dale & Jean Miller
 Chalice: Dotti Meyer
 Intercessor: Carolyn Gray
 Oblationers: Tom & Wendy Eichler
 Greeter: Linda Pierpont
 Server: Laura Lee
 Nursery: Meegan Burbank
 Coffee: Nancy Saulniers & Lyndia Gould
 Altar: Tom & Wendy Eichler

April 26th Third Sunday of Easter
 Readers: George Jones & Meegan Burbank
 Chalice: Pam Van Siclen
 Intercessor: Jean Greenwood
 Oblationers: The Anderson Family

Prayer List

Please keep these people and their families in your hearts and prayers:

Tim Badgley
Bob Bradford
Sally Brun
Caitlin Bazinet
Carolyn Calvin
Richard Chick
MaryLouise Cowan
Kay Dale
David Dixon
Douglas Henson
Meghan Innis & family
Dixon Kunzelmann
Ryan LeClair
Judy Marden
Phyllis Miller
Edie Murphy
Margaret Pham
Mike Rice
Betty Ross
Steven Sinclair
Mary Staab
Leon Tsomides
Anne Waugh
Chloe Welch

Greeter: George Van Deventer
 Server: Devon Huntley
 Nursery: Cathi Laweryson
 Coffee: Trudi Hodgkins & Cynthia White
 Altar: Linda Pierpont

May 3rd Fourth Sunday of Easter
 Readers: Jean Miller & Carolyn Gray
 Chalice/Intercessor: Charlene Donahue
 Oblationers: George Jones & Linda Pierpont
 Greeter: Wendy Eichler
 Server: Anna Lee
 Nursery: Kevin/Christy Rousseau
 Coffee: Jill Huber & Linda Brown
 Altar: Kay Dale & Cynthia White

The Rev. John Van Siclen,
 Priest in Charge

The Rev. Leonetta Burns, Deacon

Valerie Chipman, Minister of Music

Family Days in April
 5th — Kevin & Christy Rousseau
 12th — Everyone!! It's Easter!!
 19th — Bob & Nancy Saulniers
 26th — Louis & Catherine Sell

Birthdays in April
 5th — Bob Hargreaves
 9th — Donna Antognoni
 10th — Brian Mason
 16th — Heidi Kokmeyer
 18th — Carole Doele
 18th — George Jones
 19th — Bob Antognoni
 25th — Ed & Diane Grant
 30th — Bob Sinclair

Anniversaries April
 9th — Ed & Diane Grant
 14th — Bob & Mij Bradford

Lessons For April

April 5th	Palm Sunday
First Lesson	Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm	31:9-16
Second Lesson	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel	John 12:12-16

April 12th	Easter Sunday
First Lesson	Acts 10:34-43
Psalm	118:1-2,14-24
Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel	John 20:1-18

April 19th	Second Sunday of Easter
First Lesson	Acts 4:32-35
Psalm	133
Second Lesson	John 1:1—2:2
Gospel	John 20:19-31

April 26th	Third Sunday of Easter
First Lesson	Acts 3:12-19
Psalm	4
Second Lesson	1 John 3:1-7
Gospel	Luke 24:36b-48

May 3	Fourth Sunday of Easter
First Lesson	Acts 4:5-12
Psalm	22:25-31
Second Lesson	1 John 4:7-21
Gospel	John 10:11-18

April Calendar

Saturday, April 4
5:00 pm - Interfaith Seder
Sunday, April 5 - Palm Sunday
9:30 am - Holy Eucharist
Thursday, April 9 - Maundy Thursday
6:00 pm - Soup and Bread dinner
7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday service
Friday, April 10 - Good Friday
5:00 pm - Stations of the Cross - Jewett Hall
Saturday, April 11
7:00 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter
Sunday, April 12 - Easter Sunday
9:30 am - Holy Eucharist
ECW Brunch follows service
Thursday, April 16
7:00 pm - Vestry meeting
Sunday, April 19
9:30 am - Holy Eucharist
Sunday, April 26
9:30 am - Holy Eucharist

Pine Hill Nursery School News



We all know that March is a very long month here in Maine and the children at Pine Hill have certainly had enough winter. However we have been blessed by an ongoing program with George Van Deventer. As I write this article, George has visited the Friday class twice and promises one more visit. He is sharing an Andean folk tale about an armadillo who wanted to sing.... more than anything. We have heard two of the three parts. As George reads the children get to play instruments that represent the crickets, frogs and canaries in the story every time they are mentioned. You can see them practicing all together in one of the photos. The children are a bit anxious for next week's visit, as the armadillo has to decide if he wants to sing badly enough to give up his life.

Along with this story George has been reading poetry each week. The first visit he read a simple poem "Mice Are Nice" and then assigned one line to each child. We actually had a choral reading in preschool! (there was a lot of prompting of course). The second visit he shared "Fog". You can see in the second picture 'the fog comes in on little cat feet'. It may appear that George is showing the children how to be cats but in reality it was the other way around.

The children have loved having George visit. It is such an adventure to have someone other than me or Mrs. Moody directing an activity.

Many, many thanks George. Please come again!

— Dotti Meyer

