



Pine Hill Press



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The Newsletter of St. Giles' Episcopal Church, Jefferson, Maine

January 2010

From the Priest in Charge

Dear Parish Family,

There is a sentence in the Book of Common Prayer that is seldom used when a bishop comes to a parish for a visitation. Here it is. (The "N." refers to the name of the person to whom the bishop is speaking.)

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold You in the service of Christ and his kingdom. Amen.

On Saturday, January 30, the Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane, Bishop of Maine will make his second visit to St. Giles' for the purpose of confirming Trudi Hodgkins and spending time with us at the beginning of what I believe will be an eventful year. In addition to the sacrament of Confirmation, the *Book of Common Prayer* allows the bishop to Receive persons from other churches. Lastly, the Bishop can hear persons Reaffirm their faith.

What do these three words mean? **Confirmation** occurs when a baptized Christian wishes to reaf-

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Advent at St. Giles



Above, right, Nicholas Huber lights the Advent candles. Bottom right, Kevin Rousseau and Jean Greenwood assist Father Van Sicle in dedicating the New Books of Common Prayer.

Notes from the Senior Warden

Annual Meeting January 31

Don't miss this year's annual parish meeting which will convene at Jewett Hall directly after the service on Sunday, January 31, 2010. Among other important pieces of business will be the election of three new members of the vestry. The Nominating Committee has put forth the following names: Colby Dill, for one year to fill out the remainder of Linda Pierpont's term, and Deb Lipton-Morin and Raymond Anderson for three years each to succeed Jean Greenwood and Kevin Rousseau who are retiring from the board.

Reports will also be offered by the priest-in-charge, the wardens, the treasurer, and chairs of all committees and conveners of Ministry Teams. In this regard, conveners of Ministry Teams will be those individuals who were conveners before the reorganization of Ministry Teams on November 13.

Any member of St. Giles parish, fifteen years of age or older, is entitled to

participate in the affairs of the annual meeting. As always, children are very welcome.

See you on the 31st!

Arrow of St. Giles Award

An important tradition at St. Giles is the announcement of the winner of the Arrow of St. Giles Award at the annual meeting. As noted in last month's column on this topic, the Arrow of St. Giles Award is given each year to that person who quietly and effectively works to further the work of our parish. The purpose of the award is to recognize and say "Thank you" to a faithful servant of our parish. Clergy, vestry and wardens are ineligible to receive the award.

Please submit your nomination for the award to John Van Siclen, Jean Miller (last year's recipient), or me by January 10. Your nomination should be accompanied by text which recites why your nominee is the appropriate candidate for this important award. Nominations will

be kept in confidence.

Thank you for helping to maintain this important parish tradition.

— John Atwood

Calendar meeting

Want to participate in the fun side of St. Giles' parish activities? Join Carolyn Gray, Dotti Meyer (present in spirit if not physically), Sidney Harvey and me as we plan outings, suppers and other events for 2010 after the service on January 17th. All you need to bring is your imagination! See you then.

— John Atwood

From the Priest in Charge

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firm her or his baptismal vows before a Bishop of the Episcopal Church and receive the laying on of hands. As such, it has often been understood as a lay person's ordination into the ministry of Jesus Christ. **Reception** occurs when a person who has been confirmed in another branch of the Christian with bishops in apostolic succession (Roman Catholic, Lutherans, Orthodox) wish to become a member of the Episcopal Church.

Then comes **Reaffirmation**. The third opportunity to come before a bishop appears in the current edition of the *Prayer Book* for the first time. It is a wonderful opportunity for it allows a baptized and confirmed member of the church to publicly come before the bishop to reaffirm their faith for any number of deep, personal reasons. There are many reasons why someone might wish to take advantage of this opportunity. Someone has been healed of an illness or deep hurt. Someone has returned to the church after a period of disillusionment. Someone is filled with joy and needs to express that joy within the community of faith.

As the season of Epiphany begins early in the new year, there is a natural looking back and looking forward. In what ways are we grateful to God? And how might we show that gratitude? Reaffirmation of faith in the Confirmation service allows us to share our gratitude with our parish family before our bishop in a most wonderful way.

As you consider your spiritual life in this context, I invite you to speak to either Lee or Susan or me about Reaffirming your faith when the Bishop comes on January 30.

Finally, one of my closest friends, the Rev. Jan Grinnell, will be our preacher on January 10. As Jan G., a member of A.A., she will tell a story that is all about Reaffirmation, her healing from the disease of alcoholism through the gift of the 12 Steps of A.A. Following the service during Coffee Hour we will have Christian Exploration and Discovery for Adults so that we may dialogue with Jan about her new book (*In Response to the Steps*) and her fascinating spiritual journey. Her book will be available for sale as well.

I hope Jan's journey will inspire you to discover your own journey as a beloved Child of God.

Sincerely and faithfully,
John

Greening of the Church



Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who joined en masse on December 20 to transform the sanctuary into a festive place for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Above, John Van Siclen and Peter Liss help Ken Marden drape the altar area, and right, Anna and Laura Lee help make sprays to decorate the church. A special thanks to Lamar Carroll who once again donated the greens needed for the decorations.

Vestry News

As per the new tradition begun last month, the following is my abbreviated report on the December meeting of your vestry:

- George Jones and John Atwood will continue to communicate with the parish about the changeover of the Pine Hill Press to an electronic format; those without computers or wishing to get the paper version of the PHP will continue to do so.
- Bishop Lane will visit St. Giles Saturday night, January 30. The tentative schedule will include dinner at 5:00, service at 6:00, desert, meeting with the Bishop and conferring of the Arrow of St. Giles award at 7:00.
- The next day, Sunday, December 31,

will have an abbreviated service, (perhaps Morning Prayer), followed by the parish annual meeting.

- Our strategic plan consultant, The Rev. David Robinson, will meet with the vestry at its January meeting and will be first on the agenda.
- George Jones will explore the purchase of a new phone and the advisability of having two telephone numbers, one for Pine Hill Nursery School and one for the church.
- John A. and John Van Siclen will meet to plan the 2010 parish calendar.
- Ken Marden and Betsy Lee will continue to work on setting up Ken's computer in the office.
- Betsy Lee announced that our operating budget will close the year in the red. She will be announcing each Sunday the need to satisfy our 2009 pledges. She will also contact those parishioners who have pledged in the past but have not yet

done so for 2010.

- Vestry members will write thank you notes to those who have pledged, using the new note cards ordered by John V.S..
- The new Books of Common Prayer will be dedicated during the service on December 20.
- The vestry accepted Dotti Meyer's report, (given by John Atwood), as to the status of the Memorial Garden.
- The opportunity to serve on a committee to fashion regulations for the columbaria at the Memorial Garden will be offered at the Annual Meeting.

— John Atwood

Ministry for January 2010

Reminder: If you cannot fulfill your ministerial duties on the date specified, it is your responsibility to find a substitute.

January 3 Second after Christmas

Readers: Tom Eichler & Wendy Eichler
 Chalice/Intercessor: Jean Greenwood
 Oblationers: Charlene Donahue
 & Ken Marden
 Greeter: Carolyn Gray
 Server: Betsy Lee
 Nursery: Meegan Burbank
 Coffee: Nancy Saulniers & Lyndia Gould
 Altar: Tom & Wendy Eichler

January 10 First After Epiphany

Readers: Cynthia White
 & Sidney Harvey
 Chalice: Pam Van Siclen
 Intercessor: Kay Dale
 Oblationers: Richard & Joanne Gross
 Greeter: George Jones
 Server: Laura Lee
 Nursery: Cathi Laweryson
 Coffee: Charlene Donahue & Liz Jones
 Altar: Linda Pierpont

January 17 Second after Epiphany

Readers: Ken Marden & Trudi Hodgkins
 Chalice: George Jones
 Intercessor: Sidney Harvey
 Oblationers: Jill Huber & Nancy Saulniers
 Greeter: Tom Eichler
 Server: Jean Greenwood
 Nursery: Laura Lee
 Coffee: Debbie King & Linda Brown
 Altar: Cynthia White & Kay Dale

January 24 Third after Epiphany

Readers: Meegan Burbank & Kay Liss
 Chalice: John Atwood
 Intercessor: Carolyn Gray
 Oblationers: George Jones & Trudi Hodgkins
 Greeter: Kay Dale
 Server: Betsy Lee
 Nursery: Catherine Anderson
 Coffee: Cynthia White & Ken Marden
 Altar: Jean Greenwood

January 31 Fourth After Epiphany

Readers: George Jones & Jean Miller
 Chalice: Sidney Harvey
 Intercessor: Liz Jones
 Oblationers: Tom & Wendy Eichler
 Greeter: Trudi Hodgkins
 Server: Laura Lee
 Nursery: Kevin/Christy Rousseau
 Coffee: Joe & Carolyn Gray
 Altar: Tom & Wendy Eichler

**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.**

February 7 Fifth After Epiphany

Readers: Raymond Anderson
 & Kay Dale
 Chalice/Intercessor: Charlene Donahue
 Oblationers: Ken Marden
 & Carolyn Gray
 Greeter: Wendy Eichler
 Server: Jean Greenwood
 Nursery: Nancy Saulniers
 Coffee: Brigid Griffin & Jill Huber
 Altar: Linda Pierpont

Prayer List

We hold in prayer:

Sick/convalescent:

Bill Comiski
 Penny Deutsch
 Jacob Fles
 Alice Hayden
 Ruth Jarrett
 Peter Kenny
 Laura Langley
 Mary Lemieux
 Mary Ann Lounsbury
 Cullen McReynolds
 Dotti Meyer
 Mona Ridley
 Mary Stabb
 Brad Tait
 Samuel, Lila & Maria
 Holly & Steven Torsey

Homebound/

In Nursing homes:

Mij & Bob Bradford
 Bob Ferrier
 Douglas Henson
 Judy Marden
 Betty Ross

In the Armed Services:

Our service men and women

Birthdays in January

1st— Lizz Sinclair
 2nd — Emily Rousseau
 3rd — Joe Gould
 3rd — Bob Meyer
 4th — Kay Dale
 12th — Rebecca Bills
 14th — Blair May
 15th — Anna Lee
 19th — Nathan
 Hargreaves
 22nd — Cathey Sell
 24th — Jean Miller

Anniversaries in January

1st — Eric & Lydia Gould
 11th — Brian & Diane Huntley

Family Days for January

3rd — Bob Ferrier
 10th — Roberta Giampetruzzi
 17th — Eric & Lyndia Gould & Family
 24th — Joe & Carolyn Gray
 31st — Jean Greenwood, Mike Gunter
 & Janice Milligan

Lessons for January

January 3 Second after Christmas

First Lesson Jeremiah 31:7-14
 Psalm 84:1-8
 Second Lesson Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a
 Gospel Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

January 10 First after Epiphany

First Lesson Isaiah 42:1-9
 Psalm 89:1-29
 Second Lesson Acts 10:34-38
 Gospel Luke 3:15-16,21-22

January 17 Second after Epiphany

First Lesson Isaiah 62:1-5
 Psalm 96:1-10
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
 Gospel John 2:1-11

January 24 Third after Epiphany

First Lesson Nehemiah 8:2-10
 Psalm 113
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
 Gospe Luke 4:14-21

January 31 Fourth after Epiphany

First Lesson Jeremiah 1:4-10
 Psalm 71:1-17
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20
 Gospel: Luke 4:21-32

February 7 Fifth after Epiphany

First Lesson Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)
 Psalm 138
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 Gospel Luke 5:1-11

In Response to the Steps

Author to be Guest Preacher

Jan G., the author of *In Response to the Steps*, is a deacon in the Episcopal Church and will be our guest preacher on Sunday, January 10. There will be a discussion of her book following the service.

An excerpt from the jacker of the book reads:

"In Response to the Steps is the reflection of one person's journey of discovery through personal pain that led to a fascinating and amazing spiritual transformation. This transformation came through her discovery of who she was created to be and through her commitment to follow age-old spiritual truths. She had struggled to find a way to identify and accept her own reality, having always thought that she should be something other than what she was. If you asked her, 'Who are you?' she would have given a typical response with titles such as computer consultant, manager, parent, daughter, or sports nut. She had no idea of who she was as a person. The discovery of her 'personhood' came as a result of living her life based on the Twelve Steps that have been made famous through the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Twelve Steps are simple to understand, but require commitment, discipline, and perseverance if one chooses to live by them as a way of life. There is a mystery in the simplicity of the steps, and that mystery is that if you choose to live by their principles—use this path as a way of life—the virtues in the steps will develop in your life through your own experience. You don't



need to have these virtues to begin this journey—you only need the willingness to begin. The author's hope is that this reflection of one pilgrim's experiences and insights will open the door of willingness for many!

January Calendar

Thursday, January 14
7:00 pm – Vestry meeting

January 30 – 31
Annual Meeting Weekend

Saturday
5:00 pm - Pot Luck Supper with
Bishop Stephen Lane

6:00 pm - Confirmation
and Holy Eucharist

7:00 pm - Dessert and "Town
Meeting" with the Bishop;
awarding of St. Giles' Arrow

Sunday
9:30 am - Morning Prayer

10:30 am - Coffee Hour and the
Annual Meeting of the Parish

The Pine Hill Press is the monthly newsletter of St. Giles' Episcopal Church, P. O. Box 34, Jefferson, ME 04348 (www.stgilesjefferson.org) 207 549-3158. The Rev. John Van Siclen, Priest in Charge 644-1132; The Rev. Leonetta Burns, Deacon; The Rev. Susan Kraus, Priest Associate; Valerie Chipman, Minister of Music. Vestry: John Atwood, Senior Warden, 586-5557; Ken Marden, Junior Warden, 549-4783; Betsy Lee, Treasurer, 563-2942; Tom Eichler, Clerk, 549-3869; Linda Pierpont (2011), 549-4663; Trudi Hodgkins (2012), 549-3941; George Jones (2011), 832-7412. **Newsletter deadline:** Third Sunday of every month. George Jones, Editor, geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net