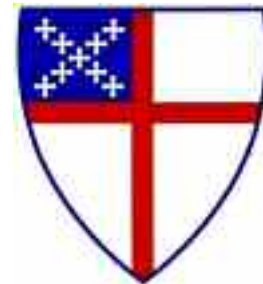




Pine Hill Press



From the Priest in Charge

Dear Parish Family:

The weekend (January 30-31) was a busy one at St. Giles! The combination of having our Bishop visit the parish on the same weekend as the Annual Meeting created a great sense of joy and celebration. Many people spoke to me about different facets of the two days. I found the comments very thoughtful and I wanted to pass along some of them...in no particular order.

"It was great to have Bishop Lane back for his second visit. I really felt we got to know him this time. The question and answer session was very informative!"

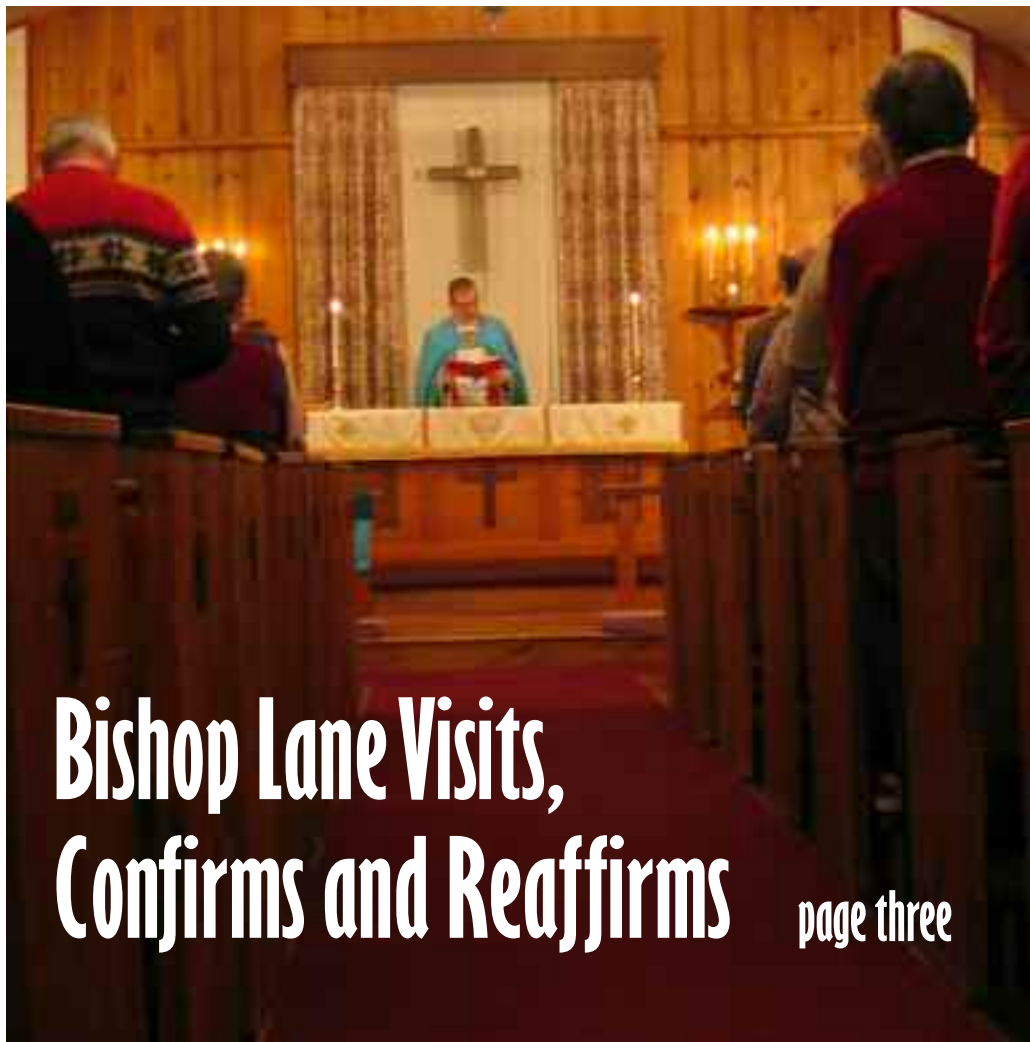
"Trudi's Confirmation was special. It was amazing to have her invite all her friends and relatives. This meant a great deal to her and it was nice to see that."

"Colby really deserved the Order of the Arrow award. It is great to have this recognition."

"Ray (Morin) and Nancy (Saulniers) and Jean (Greenwood) reaffirming their faith was neat. Can we do this more often?"

"I like Morning Prayer; can

(Continued on page 5)



Bishop Lane Visits, Confirms and Reaffirms

page three

Parish Annual Meeting

Reports begin on page two

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

Senior Warden's Report

It can be fairly stated that 2009 was a good year for St. Giles, Jefferson. My plan in this report is to highlight the accomplishments of this past year while recognizing our losses and the need to face some challenges as we enter a new decade. In discussing the positive events of 2009, I will be brief because the ministry team reports will cover much of this material and because a thorough listing of the positive developments of the past year would make this report too long to read, even to a patient audience.

Our blessing of a stable clergy leadership continues. The Rev. John Van Siclen has been with us now for two years as priest-in-charge and we are most fortunate that The Rev. Susan Kraus has joined him and our talented Deacon Lee Burns as Priest Associate. I am grateful for their ministry among us and especially for John's energy and commitment to the growth and well-being of our

parish. As we enter 2010, and effective this past Advent, Susan Kraus will be our celebrant for two Sundays each month and will provide one "unit" of pastoral service each month.

With further respect to the status of our clergy leadership, this Fall the vestry met with Vicki Wiederkehr, diocesan Canon for Ministry and Development, to begin a discussion of the development of a parish strategic plan. To that end, and with diocesan financial help, we have retained The Rev. David Robinson who will begin working with your vestry to develop this plan which will allow us to crystallize our thoughts on what path we believe our parish needs to follow in the years to come. As well, this plan should serve to provide important elements for the calling of a "permanent" priest-in-charge.

With further respect to the vestry, I report that we had an all-day retreat last winter at St.

Columba's in Boothbay Harbor where we set our parish priorities, particularly in the area of Christian Exploration and Discovery. We also decided to re-energize the ministry teams and conduct a semi-annual parish meeting. All of these resolutions were carried out in 2009.

As will also be reported to you this morning, the Christian Exploration and Discovery Ministry Team fulfilled its mission as envisioned by the team and the vestry by conducting excellent programs on Judaism and Islam in 2009. The team also assured that our children benefitted from a curriculum that effectively spanned their age groups.

Other Ministry teams also had successful years and we thank the Fellowship Ministry Team, and its leader, Tim Badgely for organizing the Shrove Sunday breakfast, the Ash Wednesday supper, the parish supper on May 30, and with extra efforts by Kevin Rousseau, the Sea Dogs game on July 12. We are also grateful for the many good works of ECW which organized a variety of events for our church while raising needed funds to boot!

The Outreach Ministry with the enthusiastic leadership of Cathy Anderson and Trudi Hodgkins spearheaded parish efforts in our community and beyond to relieve the suffering of others. Among their accomplishments were a supper and raffle to help provide energy assistance, a penny drive, and continued support of the Jefferson Food Bank. Of importance is the fact that these latter efforts were ecumenical with several local churches and civic organizations involved.

Other positive developments in 2009 were:

- The painting of the church by

Complaining to God: Life and Wisdom in the Bible

The "wisdom writings" in the Old Testament – some of the Psalms, the books of Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes – can bring us a powerful message of engagement with God and discernment in our daily lives. They are guides to prayer, they can be helpful in times of trouble, and they may teach us – if we can hear them with our inmost being – the lessons of that hard-won wisdom that is born out of life's difficulties.

Join us on Tuesdays beginning on February 16 in Jewett Hall at St. Giles' Church for readings and discussion of these profound and sometimes surprising writings. We'll be using the Book of Common Prayer and our Bibles – bring a copy of your favorite translation (any one you wish) – and there will be readings from the book "Getting Involved with God" by Ellen F. Davis.

—Don Kraus

(Continued on page 6)

Confirmation & Reaffirmation



Bishop Stephen Lane came to St. Giles on the evening of January 30 for a potluck supper and to confirm Trudi Hodgkins. Jean Greenwood, Ray Morin and Nancy Saulniers were reaffirmed. The St. Giles Arrow Award was passed on to Colby Dill by its previous recipient, Jean Miller (photo at left). Trudi was joined by her sister Mary Staab, the mother of our music minister, Valerie Chipman (photo above). After the service, the Bishop answered questions about his work in the Diocese.

Arrow of St. Giles Award Goes to Colby Dill

This award is given annually to someone who works tirelessly and selflessly for our parish and its mission without expectation of recognition or reward.

Indeed, the inspiration for the award is St. Giles himself because humility characterizes his sainthood and the Arrow which we award today reminds us of his story.

It is another tradition that in presenting the award, the presenter is to read from the text supplied by the nominators and that it is expected that this text and my presenting remarks are to be authored in such a way as to make the announcement of the recipient's name a surprise until the very last minute.

To start, and as a clue, this year's winner of the Arrow award has some things in common with last year's winner of this Award. Both have their origins outside of Maine, both were introduced to our area by virtue of summering here, they both have careers in chemistry and worked for the same employer, both came here to retire or semi-retire, and each has a daughter who chose to make Maine her home.

As a child, our award nominee spent many summers on Damariscotta Lake where he developed a love for the area. He attended Cornell, where he obtained his education in matters chemical, and then studied business at Harvard, eventually spending a career working for a number of chemical related companies.

While most of us who know him would consider our awardee a reflective, even a wise man, [he has been quoted as saying, "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."], he made the best decision of his life in a hurry. That is, he met his wife on a double date and, after the briefest of courtships, they were married in 1949. They had four children together, one of whom lives nearby who with her



Jean Miller pins the Arrow Award on Colby Dill.

own daughter have been worshippers here.

As noted, our nominee established a farm in Jefferson in 1974 and, at about this time, he and his wife began their many years of dedication to St. Giles.

Our award winner has been true to this parish in the good years and in its trying ones. He has held virtually every office and position available here, including multiple terms on the vestry, several as junior warden, decades as a chalice, and now as our informal auditor and financial advisor. He also served as an aide to his wife as she served in the altar guild and continues to supply the wine for the Eucharist.

He was instrumental in building the booths for the St. Giles Country Fair, constructing the Glory Hole, as well as facilitating numerous improvements and repairs to our church building.

Consistent with the elements underlying the purpose of this award, our nominee has also quietly and generously underwritten a

variety of St. Giles activities as they arose. Who can count the various fiscal issues and problems that he has resolved for us?

Our award winner is also, and most tellingly, a friend to many of us in times of need, particularly by his faithful practice of visiting those who by virtue of infirmity or sickness or weather can not make it to church regularly. Indeed, one of his favorite sayings is, "A day without helping someone is a day not worth living."

This is truly the expression of the spirit of the Arrow of St. Giles Award and it is my pleasure and privilege to ask Jean Miller to present the award to Colby Dill as the 2010 recipient.

— John Atwood

ECW News

Since historically we get snowed out in February we have scheduled our next meeting for March 2nd at Jean Miller's home. We will meet at the church at noon to carpool to Jean's. Don't forget to bring your lunch!

I'd like to remind everyone of the ECW Chair Challenge. We are in need of seven more pledges in order to complete our goal. Each chair costs \$20 and checks can be given to Jean Miller our treasurer. We hope to purchase the chairs BEFORE the Easter Brunch.

— Dotti Meyer

Pine Hill Nursery School

I am happy to say I am headed back to work....finally! My cast is off and I am well on the way to walking again. The welcome I received from the children when I visited at the end of January really inspired me to return full time as soon as possible. I am so grateful to the parents who stepped in and helped Jen keep the program running in my absence. And I must say Thank You to all of our parents for their support, understanding and patience throughout the last two months.

— Dotti Meyer

Email changes

Trudi Hodgkins:
ghodgkins@midcoast.com

Jean Miller:
jeamil.miller@gmail.com

Pine Hill Press news

As you know, the *Pine Hill Press* is now distributed electronically, although one can choose to contin-

ue to have it delivered via the U.S. Postal Service.

If you do receive your PHP in the manner, please remember that there is a cost to the parish in doing this. You might consider making a donation to St. Giles to cover the cost of postage and printing. You can send your contribution, of any amount, to Betsy Lee, Treasurer, at the parish address listed on the last page of this newsletter.

With Gratitude To My St. Giles' Family

I am so blessed to belong to this warm, loving family we call St. Giles'. The love and care I have received throughout my surgery and recovery have been very much appreciated. Thanks for the cards, e-mails, phone calls and visits. But more importantly, Bob and I are especially grateful for the food! What a relief to know we would eat well while I was 'on the couch'! We can't thank you enough.

—Dotti and Bob Meyer

Website News

Two additions have been made the St. Giles website this month:

The lay ministry schedule will now be available each month in advance of the Pine Hill Press. Go to:

**[www.stgilesjefferson.org/
layministry.html](http://www.stgilesjefferson.org/layministry.html)**

Previous sermons are now available on the website as well. You can find them at:

**[www.stgilesjefferson.org/
sermons.html](http://www.stgilesjefferson.org/sermons.html)**

From the Priest in Charge

Continued from page one

we have this more often?"

"John, why did you wear all those funny looking robes?"

Feedback is important and having "big events" which call for many hands on deck can really bring out the best in us. We get to see the church in new ways. We see different sides of people. We invite our friends. The joy of our parish comes out.

Maybe I didn't get enough from of the spirit of being together, for I showed up at the Country Fair meeting the next night. The meeting was well attended. There were great cookies. The Committee had great ideas about making changes to bring new life to the Fair and there was great debate on how to offer The Perfect Lobster Roll.

I look forward to seeing this energy and spirit flow from us as we enter Lent with our Ash Wednesday service of the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m on February 17th. While our mood and attitude may change, the love of God will continue to be a bright witness from us to others in this wonderful place.

Sincerely and faithfully,
John

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

Continued from page 2

- Ken Marden and Dick Pickering,
 - The resuscitation of our gardens by Brigid Griffin, and others,
 - The celebration of the 25th anniversary of Pine Hill Nursery School and the 20th anniversary of Dotti Meyer's tenure as headmistress,
 - A comprehensive Mutual Ministry Review which was reported to the parish in the Pine Hill Press and at the July parish meeting,
 - The purchase and dedication of 50 new Books of Common Prayer,
 - A highly successful Country Fair under the leadership of Debbie King,
 - The construction of the last of the new St. Giles road signs funded by money given in memory of Margaret Murray,
 - An imaginative and popular summer Christian education program, Camp St. Giles, organized by Meegan Burbank and Deb Lipton-Morin,
 - The celebration of our pastor's 60th birthday and the return of our deacon from a sabbatical,
 - A semi-annual parish meeting in July when parish finances, new altar space, and the mutual ministry review were discussed,
 - The smooth transition to a 9:30 service in the summer months,
 - A ministry team night on Nov. 13 at which our teams were reorganized and energized,
 - A successful stewardship drive with a marked increase in pledges by the vestry,
- Last, but perhaps most significantly, the reconstruction of our worship space under the leadership of clerk of the works, Dick Pickering, contractor Marty Creamer, architectural consultant Brett Donham, and parish leaders Betsy Lee, Charlene Donahue, Ken Marden and Fr. Van Siclen.

We also had some setbacks. The well-laid plans and momentum for the Memorial Garden Committee were frustrated by a serious injury to our contractor and a personal loss by his successor. We also lost summer parishioner Bob Buck and former St. Giles parishioner Charles Strong, both of whom had memorial services at our church.

We also saw the retirement of Devon Huntley and Anna Marie Lee as acolytes and crucifers after many years of service at St. Giles. Both these wonderful young ladies are now attending college. With Devon's retirement, Diane Huntley left us as acolyte director. She, too, will be greatly missed after many years in this position.

We do have some challenges in 2010. It should be no surprise that foremost among them are our finances. While we are able to stay current with our financial obligations, we have yet to generate enough income so that we could confidently call a priest to be our rector, even on a half-time basis. This is a matter which can not rest but needs careful scrutiny and, in all likelihood, sustained and robust fund raising. It is hoped that our strategic plan will serve to provide guidance with this problem. Other administrative issues challenge us, but are not of sufficient consequence to include in this report.

In closing, I want to give a special thanks to our departing vestry members, Linda Pierpont, Jean Greenwood and Kevin Rousseau who have worked tirelessly for our parish during their respective tenures on the vestry. I also want to thank Betsy Lee for her careful stewardship of the business side of our parish and Junior Warden Ken Marden for his untiring efforts at maintaining our church building.. Finally, I want to express my gratitude to John Van Siclen, Lee Burns and Susan Kraus for their caring and effective pastoral leadership.

*Respectfully submitted,
John R. Atwood, Senior Warden*

Junior Warden's Report

In addition to the routine maintenance of our facility, keeping the walks clear of snow for both church activities and the Pine Hill Nursery school, a number of major projects were initiated and completed in 2009.

Under the watchful eye of team leader Dick Pickering, the altar area was completely dismantled and revamped. The purpose of this reconstruction was to eliminate steps which had caused injury to three of our parishioners. The cost of this project was minimized by Dick's ordering and procuring all of the materials and arranging for time-only charges from the contractor. The result is an attractive, non-hazardous altar area that also facilitates the movement of the priest, deacon and chalice-bearers.

Another project during the summer was the scraping, sanding, priming and painting of the entire front of the original church building by members of the facilities team. In 2010, the exterior of the Jewett Hall addition will also be prepped and painted, completing the four-year restoration project.

An ongoing problem has been the dampening of the library rug caused by water accumulation and lack of drainage at the ground level library window area. Evaluation of the situation by team member Ray Morin resulted in his replacing the deteriorating wooden side frames of the windows with plastic ones. He also constructed a cement sill under both windows which, coupled with a new drainage canal, seems to have solved the problem.

Under the direction of Betsy Lee, all the weed-laden soil was removed from our front garden and replaced with new topsoil. The entire garden was then replanted, and has been maintained by our "Lay Weeders" who also maintain

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

our memorial garden area.

As an integral part of St. Giles' outreach to our communities, local organizations are encouraged to utilize Jewett Hall for their meetings and dinners. In 2009, facility use included the Cub Scouts, 4H Muddy Mustangs, Jefferson Historical Society, and overnight bicycle group riding for charity, and several birthday parties. All such events are scheduled through the Junior Warden and are posted on our events calendar to avoid event conflicts.

Two minor deficiencies noted by the State inspector during his annual inspection of our Pine Hill Nursery School were corrected by Team members prior to the opening of classes. One was the sealing of the ceiling and wall of the furnace room so that it will close and latch automatically.

Setups for all St. Giles events in Jewett Hall are also the responsibility of the Junior Warden and his facilities team. In 2009, all of our public and parish suppers as well as the annual meeting were set up by this team.

An ongoing project is the construction and painting of our new St. Giles Country Fair signs. The four new lobster-holding designs were cut out of 4'x 4' plywood, are in the process of being painted, and will be ready this spring.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth A. Marden
Junior Warden/Facilities Team
Convener*

Treasurer's Report

2009 Operating Budget

Considering the state of the economy this past year and the fact that many people were not able to complete their pledges as planned, St. Giles was only \$852.11 over budg-

et this year, which is not too bad. Operating Income from all sources totaled \$64,740.74; \$3,874.26 under budget, mostly due to incomplete pledges. Our operating expenses totaled \$68,729.85; which was actually \$3,022.15 below budgeted costs, mostly due to reduced clergy costs as units used were below budgeted levels. Once again we had a very successful Church Fair. Our increased Miscellaneous Expenses were due to the purchase of new Prayer books, (this expense was offset by increased Gifts), and the fact that St. Giles' reimbursed Delegates to the Convention for their expenses. A new line for Convention expenses has been added to the 2010 budget.

Income to the General Outreach Fund from the Fair totaled \$ 604.74

Grants from the General Outreach Fund included \$333.33 to the Community Energy Fund, \$333.33 for the Holiday Wishes program, \$167 to the Whitefield food bank, \$167 to the Jefferson Food Bank and \$7.88 add to Penny Drive and School Backpack supplies. As of 12/31/2009 the General Outreach fund has a current balance of \$1,309.63.

2010 Operating Budget

The good news is that for the third year in a row, our pledges have actually increased over the previous year. We currently have 45 members pledging \$56551. We are also

St Giles' Memorial Fund

Funds Disbursed

In Memory of	Amount	for:
Robert A. Jewett Maintenance	\$530.00	Memorial garden Spring
Arlene Van Deventer	\$650.00	2009 Pentecost
Betty Ann Dill	\$745.00	Advent Wreath

Funds on Hand:

Robert A. Jewett	\$2,304.00	Memorial Garden
Arlene Van Deventer	\$3,841.50	Music Programs
Betty Ann Dill	\$1,570.00	Alter Guild
Robert Buck	\$220.00	Memorial Garden

Total in Memorial Fund as of 12/31/08 \$ 7,935.50

Outreach

In 2009, St. Giles collected and disbursed the following for Outreach:

First Sunday of the month loose offering totaling \$237.00 to the Discretionary fund.

Penny Bank Food Drive	\$192.63
UTO	\$493.78
Indian Island	\$25.00
Lenten Holy Land Outreach	\$77.00
School Supplies	\$187.00

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

hoping for an increase in fair income due to the changes being made by our fair committee. We will continue to plan on a Priest each Sunday and three units of Pastoral care per week. A new line item for Convention Expenses has been added, while expenses for newsletter printing have been decreased with most now being sent by Email.

Other income and expenses were set to align with 2008 figures and anticipated costs for 2009.

The 2009 budget as passed shows a deficit of \$2,099, however the Vestry feels that this is a very realistic budget which will not only cover our "everyday" expenses, but will keep us growing in our mission to serve others in Christ.

2011 Tentative Budget

A column for a tentative 2011 budget was added to this year's statement. The only difference from the 2010 approved budget is that figures were added detailing what it would cost to hire a half-time priest instead of paying Supply rates as we are currently doing. This was added in an effort to see where we would need to be as we move forward with a new Strategic Plan for St. Giles.

Respectfully Submitted
Betsy T. Lee,
Treasurer

Outreach Ministry Team

The Outreach Ministry Team joined with the Community Action Team of Jefferson and Whitefield to put on a benefit spaghetti supper for the Community Energy Fund in March. This was the second such fund-raiser whose purpose was to provide heating assistance to families in our community. Special thanks to Trudi Hodgkins for facilitating our meet-

ings over the winter months.

Over the summer months, St. Giles collected backpacks and school supplies for children in the Jefferson and Whitefield schools. Each school received 10 backpacks filled with notebooks, pens, pencils, paper, etc. Thanks to Nancy Saulnier for coordinating what has become an annual outreach project in our community.

For several weeks in October, the Community Action team with members from St. Giles planned and carried out a penny drive in Jefferson and Whitefield. Area churches, schools, and businesses all participated in the Pennies With a Purpose drive which raised needed money for our local food banks.

We celebrate those missionaries within our congregation who embodied our care and concern through their volunteer mission work this year. Laura Lee traveled to the Dominican Republic with a team of 15 youth to help build a bread factory in the village of Jalonga (Halonga) and Tom Eichler and Raymond Anderson traveled to Dulac, Louisiana to repair homes that were affected by Hurricane Rita. At this time, Raymond is exploring the possibility of pulling together a team to travel to Haiti.

Throughout the year, several women in our congregation have been busy knitting shawls as part of our prayer shawl ministry. Each shawl represents the prayers of the woman who knits it as well as the prayers and blessings from our St. Giles church family.

In December, the Outreach Ministry Team invited St. Giles' members to participate in the Lincoln County Christmas giving program. Our Giving Tree was decorated by Sunday School students along with tags indicating the age and Christmas wish of a boy or girl. Many presents were delivered to the gathering location in Damariscotta.

We focused much of our time

and efforts this year on local needs and that seemed appropriate given the difficult economic situation that many have been facing this past year. And yet, the earthquake in Haiti has presented all of us with an opportunity to help those who are in tremendous need outside of our local community and has reminded us of how fortunate we are to have our basic needs met while so many are going without.

It has been a privilege serving as the Outreach Ministry Team facilitator these past few years and I know that under Trudi Hodgkins' leadership we will have wonderful new opportunities to extend Christ's love and compassion to our neighbors near and far.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Anderson

Christian Education and Discovery

In the fall of 2008 St Giles began using The Work Shop Rotation Model Sunday School Curriculum. The advantages of this model are numerous. It allows each church to design their curriculum around their unique needs, it works very well in programs like ours that is small with a variety of age groups, and it calls for the involvement and creativity of the congregation in a way that involves many for a commitment that is short term.

Our program involves a group of children though small in number are quite consistent in attendance.

It was the feeling of our committee that we should focus our program on helping our children become Biblically literate. Thus in the winter and spring of 2009 the curriculum focused on presenting some of the more familiar Old Testament themes along with the Easter story. This past Summer Megan Burbank and Deb Lipton-Morin planned and staffed a

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

very successful Camp St. Giles.

This past Fall a planning team which included Jean Miller, Meegan Burbank and Catherine Anderson planned the present-year curriculum which has been focused on the life of Jesus: His life as a child, his Baptism and ours and His call to discipleship.

In closing, I would like to thank all who have been involved in teaching and planning, including Meegan Burbank, Kevin Rousseau, Debbie King, Pam Van Siclen, Jean Miller, Nancy Saulniers, Dottie Mayer, Catherine Anderson, and Trudi Hodgkins.

*Respectively submitted,
Raymond Anderson*

Christian Exploration and Discovery: Adult Programs

Our program has already begun to live up to its new name. In March, on three Sundays after Church, we began with an introduction to the study of contemporary Judaism. Fr. Van Siclen and Linda Pierpont collaborated to plan and present this and we had the pleasure of a guest, Deborah Marienhof from Temple Beth El in Augusta. She gave us a rich story of Judaism as a way of life and worship. At the final meeting, we enjoyed a ceremonial Seder together, guided by Karen Filler and her husband, members of the Jewish community in Bath, with the meal prepared by St. Giles volunteers. As a follow-up to this series a questionnaire went out to participants; results indicated positive opinions and support for continuing with these programs.

At the Vestry Retreat, team leaders discussed and recommended planning further programs to take place after services on selected Sundays.

An introduction to Islamic religion, planned by Pam Van Siclen and Raymond Anderson, took place in October. It brought two young men, Jamal and Ather, practicing members of the Islamic community in Augusta, to talk with us. Enthusiastic about the opportunity to tell us about their religion, they volunteered to return on the last Sunday to expand their presentations, giving everyone, at the close, copies of the Koran.

On November 13, the Ministry Team again met to plan further programs. We came to the conclusion that we needed to know more about what parishioners wanted and were interested in before we could create further series for adults. So we put out an invitation to the parish, via leaflets and the newsletter, to come on December 13 after coffee hour to talk about topics and interests. Some possible suggestions were sketched in the leaflet. A good group assembled and a lively discussion followed. General conclusions were that people wanted a chance to explore and better understand the beliefs and practice of their spiritual lives and their relation to theology, scripture and liturgy of the Church. The Ministry Team will continue to discuss and plan for this in the coming months.

Meanwhile, a planned third series in our exploration and discovery of other faiths will take place, beginning in April and May. It will present the practice and thought of some varieties of contemporary Buddhism. Cynthia White and Tom Eichler will have the assistance of Bill and Kristen Barry of Jefferson, practicing Buddhists. Bill is Director of the Buddhist Shambala Center in Brunswick. The Ministry Team looks forward to a most fruitful year of development in these new ventures for St. Giles.

*Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia White*

ECW

St. Giles' Episcopal Women continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month. We meet at member's homes to share lunch, devotions, church business and TLC.

In spite of a decrease in members, and dwindling opportunities for fundraisers we have maintained our goal of furnishing supplies needed for coffee hour, the altar and the cleaning and care of the church building.

We organized and served the Easter Brunch, Father's Day Brunch and the Family Wreath Decorating Luncheon. We also provided flowers for Flower Sunday.

In September we issued a Chair Challenge to the congregation. Our goal was to purchase forty new folding chairs for use at meetings, dinners and other large gatherings. The CHALLENGE was that for every chair YOU bought WE would buy one too. At this point you have donated money for 13 chairs so we will buy 13 as well for a total of 26 new chairs. And yes, we will continue to accept your donations.

Our fundraisers were our three mini bake sales, Pumpkin in October, Cranberry in November and Christmas Cookies in December; Elderhostel lunches; and the Wreath Decorating Luncheon.

We made donations to the Jefferson Food Bank, two Jefferson students attending a Junior Leadership Conference in Washington, DC, the Indian Women's Mission Center and Haiti by way of Episcopal Relief and Development.

With all of our fundraisers we set aside 10% for Outreach. At the beginning of the new year we choose where to send this money. This year the women voted to add the money from the Wreath Party to the Outreach Fund and send it all to

— PARISH ANNUAL MEETING —

Haiti to help the victims of the earthquake.

Our group is small and caring. Whether you can join us occasionally or regularly we welcome you with open arms.

*Dotti Meyer
President*

Altar Guild

The St. Giles Altar Guild has attended to the needs of the church altar for all services in 2009. The guild currently consists of eleven members.

Altar costs are covered by either Episcopalian Church Women (ECW) or donations. There are three types of donations that sustain the needs of the altar guild. The first type is ongoing, weekly needs such as wine, bread and flowers. These are donated by parishioners who, as their gift to the church, see that these items are always present. The second type of donation is that of flowers for special occasions; either Easter and Christmas flowers or special remembrances. The third type of gift is usually in memory of someone such as the gift of the beautiful advent wreath stand purchased in memory of Betty Ann Dill this year. For the past two years altar guild expenses averaged about \$2,000. Actual expenses paid from St. Giles budget was zero.

This year saw changes to the altar structure itself. After thoughtful discussions over two years church members came up with a plan to make the altar more accessible, safer and better represent the relationship between worshipers and God. Two levels of the altar were removed, some of the carpet replaced with wood, the altar rail opened on the sides and new cushion cover made. Some parishioners thought it fit to donate generously to making the altar changes.

Father Van Siclen instituted some changes to the vesting of the altar that simplify the Eucharist setting. The chalice now resides on the credence shelf instead of on the altar and is no longer covered. The Gospel book is stationed on the shelf throughout the service.

Thank you to all who have donated to make St. Giles altar beautiful each week and throughout the year.

Thanks especially go to the Altar Guild members who prayerfully attend to their duties on a regular basis.

Altar Guild Members 2009

Lemar Carroll
Kay Dale
Charlene Donahue
Tom & Wendy Eichler
Jean Greenwood
Dotti Meyer
Jane Pickering (Summer)
Linda Pierpont
Nancy Saulniers
Cynthia White

*Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Donahue*

Music Ministry Report

2009 was a musically busy year at St. Giles. I completed my first full year as Minister of Music, learning more each week about the complexities of life as an Episcopalian Musician and doing my best to rise to the challenge!

Our choir sang once a month for the first few months of the year, after that we sang for each holiday and special service. When the choir was not singing as a group, I, various members of the congregation and a few guests provided special music usually during the Communion hymn. We managed to have special music at all but eight

services this year.

The following people contributed by singing solos or duets: Catherine Anderson, Tim Badgely, Meegan Burbank, Brigid Gibson Griffin, Liz Jones, George Van Deventer, and Pam Van Siclen. Marielle Chipman, Doreen Demarest and Robin Rank were kind enough to share their talents with us as well, even though they do not attend church here.

Our congregation is blessed to have some wonderful instrumentalists who play an important part in our musical worship. Cathy Anderson and Pam Van Siclen have played solos and duets on their flutes as well as accompanying hymns on occasion. Carrie Emerson played her trumpet along with the hymns on All Saints Day, and much to everyone's delight spontaneously joined in on "When the Saints come Marching In". The kids did a great job when they lead the morning service after a week at Vacation Bible School, accompanied by Meegan Burbank on her guitar. And of course, our summer guest Jessica Corwin showed us several times with her artistry on the viola how huge a part music can and should play in our worship service.

This year I implemented "The Blue Binder" which contains the complete index of The Hymnal 1982. I encouraged people to take some time and place a check next to their favorite hymns that it might enlighten me as to the favorites of the congregation. I think it has helped me greatly in choosing the hymns, and I appreciate that people seemed to think it was a good idea. I am hoping that people will continue to add to the book this coming year. I am also planning on doing something similar concerning Wonder, Love and Praise.

Lastly, we tried something new with me teaching the congregation to sing one of our hymns as a canon. It went very well and it was so nice to hear such rich harmony

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coming from the entire room.

2009 was a terrific year, and I look forward to 2010 as your Minister of Music.

*Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Chipman*

Communications Ministry Team

The Communications Ministry Team met twice in 2009, on September 20 and on November 13.

The September 20 meeting was well attended and invitees included Fr. John Van Siclen and others interested in the Pine Hill Press.

At the Meeting, George Jones, our *Pine Hill Press* editor, described how the Press might be distributed electronically and what might be saved by doing so. He advised that it was technologically feasible to distribute the Press in this way if we had a dedicated "sending address". Once accomplished, the format of the Press and its number of pages could be more flexible and the pictures could be in color. Moreover he estimated the savings of printing and postage costs would be \$700 - \$800 per year.

The Ministry Team, when assured that those without computers, or who wished to receive the Press in the customary manner by mail, would be accommodated, approved George's plan without dissent.

In order to make sure the transition from exclusively a print operation to an electronic one proceeded smoothly, George advised he would begin the electronic distribution of the Pine Hill Press with the January, 2010, edition. As planned, and as he promised, this edition was the first to be published in this modern way.

As an addendum to this account

of the *Pine Hill Press*, at the urging of Fr. Van Siclen, and with the approval of PHNS director Dotti Meyer, the Pine Hill Press will be distributed to parents of the children enrolled at the nursery school so that they may feel a part of our church and may have their interest in our activities strengthened. Unfortunately, it is anticipated that this distribution will be by mail rather than electronically.

The team met again on the evening of November 13, along with the other ministry teams, under the new name of "Communications and Newcomers". Linda Pierpont was named facilitator for this meeting and Pam Van Siclen for the next meeting when it is scheduled. I attach the report of that evening's resolutions of this ministry team.

In closing, I wish to thank all who have served on this ministry team since its founding in 2006. I particularly would like to commend George Jones for his creativity, patience and endurance as publisher of the Pine Hill Press each month and the Sunday bulletin each week. I also want to recognize Carolyn and Joe Gray who for years have taken care of the details of scheduling and the publication of the parish directory. I also want to thank Tom Eichler, Kay Liss and Kevin Rousseau who have kept our church's activities in the local newspapers.

*Respectfully submitted,
John R. Atwood, convenor*

Fellowship Ministry

This report is being offered by the senior warden, rather than the 2009 convenor of this ministry team, Tim Badgely, because Tim transferred from St. Giles early in the summer and no convenor was

named in his stead until January of 2010. We thank Tim for his leadership and energy while he headed this team.

The team met on Sunday, February 1, 2009 and planned a Shrove Sunday pancake breakfast and an Ash Wednesday soup and supper to precede an evening service. Both events transpired as planned with thanks to Dotti Meyer and Charlene Donahue for their work in making the pancake breakfast a success.

The next Fellowship event was a new one for St. Giles, namely a visit to Hadlock Field to watch a Sea Dogs day game. About fifteen parishioners, friends and family attended this event on July 12 under a bright summer sun. Thanks go to Kevin Rousseau for making these arrangements for what is likely to be an annual St. Giles tradition.

The Fellowship Ministry Team next met on November 9 for ministry team night. Joining the group were Carolyn Gray, Betsy Lee, Sidney Harvey and the undersigned. The resolution of that meeting addressing the reformation of this team is attached hereto.

*Respectfully submitted,
John R. Atwood*

Father Robert Jewett Memorial Garden Committee

The present goal for this committee is to complete Bob Jewett's vision for the Memorial Garden by constructing a columbarium. This has not been as easy as we had hoped.

During the calendar year 2009 we had three different designs proposed. The first design was submitted by Hedgerow Gardens, the people who created the garden for us.

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Ministry for February 2010

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

February 7 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Celebrant/Preacher: Rev. Susan Kraus
 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

February 14 Last Sunday after Epiphany

Celebrant/Preacher: Rev. John Van Sicen
 Readers: Jean Miller & Kay Liss
 Chalice: Jean Greenwood
 Intercessor: Catherine Anderson
 Oblationers: Tom & Wendy Eichler
 Greeter: Cynthia White
 Server: Betsy Lee
 Nursery: Laura Lee
 Coffee: St. Giles' Church School
 Altar: Nancy Saulniers

February 17 Ash Wednesday

Altar: Jean Greenwood

February 21 First in Lent

Celebrant: Rev. John Van Sicen
 Preacher: Rev. Lee Burns
 Readers: Tom Eichler & Wendy Eichler
 Chalice: Pan Van Sicen
 Intercessor: Cynthia White
 Oblationers: George Jones and Nancy Saulniers
 Greeter: Jean Miller
 Server: Laura Lee
 Nursery: Cathi Laweryson
 Coffee: Trudi Hodgkins and Charlene Donahue
 Altar: Kay Dale & Cynthia White

February 28 Second in Lent

Celebrant/Preacher: Rev. Susan Kraus
 Readers: Ken Marden & Liz Jones
 Chalice: George Jones
 Intercessor: Trudi Hodgkins
 Oblationers: Richard & Joanne Gross
 Greeter: Carolyn Gray
 Server: Jean Greenwood
 Nursery: Kevin/Christy Rousseau
 Coffee: Jean Miller & Betsy Lee
 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.

March 7 Third In Lent

Readers: Charlene Donahue and Meegan Burbank
 Chalice/Intercessor: John Atwood
 Oblationers: The Anderson Family
 Greeter: Kay Dale
 Server: Betsy Lee
 Nursery: Laura Lee
 Coffee: Nancy Saulniers & Lyndia Gould
 Altar: Dotti Meyer

Birthdays in February

1st—Kristin Colby
 4th—Cliff Williams
 5th—Meegan Burbank
 7th—Brian Redonnett
 8th—Trudi Hodgkins

Prayer List

We hold in prayer:

Sick or convalescent:

Bill Comiski
 Penny Deutsch
 Jacob Fles
 Ruth Jarrett
 Heidi Kokmeyer
 Mary Ann Lounsbury
 Cullen McReynolds
 Dotti Meyer
 Brad Tait

Our brothers & sisters in Haiti

Homebound or in nursing homes:

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

In the Armed Services:

Our service men and women

11th—Joanne Gross
 14th—Rosa Redonnett
 19th—Judy Marden
 25th—Jane Pickering
 28th—Charlene Donahue

Anniversaries in February

24th—Don & Carol Doe

Family Days for February

7th—Joanne & Richard Gross
 14th—Fran & Bob Hargreaves
 21st—Trudi Hodgkins
 28th—Diane & Brian Huntley & Family

Lessons for February

February 7 Fifth after Epiphany

First Lesson Isaiah 6:1-8
 Psalm 138
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 Gospel Luke 5:1-11

February 14 Last after Epiphany

First Lesson Exodus 34:29-35
 Psalm 99
 Second Lesson 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
 Gospel Luke 9:28-36

February 17 Ash Wednesday

First Lesson Joel 2:1-2,12-17
 Psalm 103
 Second Lesson 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
 Gospel Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

February 21 First in Lent

First Lesson Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Psalm 91:1-2,9-16
 Second Lesson Romans 10:8b-13
 Gospel Luke 4:1-13

February 28 Second in Lent

First Lesson Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
 Psalm 27
 Second Lesson Philippians 3:17-4:1
 Gospel Luke 13:31-35

March 7 Third in Lent

First Lesson Exodus 3:1-15
 Psalm 63:1-8
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
 Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

February Events

Holy Eucharist each Sunday at 9:30 am

Thursday, February 11
7:00 pm - Vestry meeting

Monday and Tuesday, February 15-16

6:00 pm - Lenten Bible study group

Wednesday, February 17 - Ash Wednesday

6:00 pm - Soup and bread supper
7:00 pm - Ash Wednesday service

Sunday, February 21

Ministry teams convene after service

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We were eager to continue working with them as they had a wonderful understanding of what we wanted to accomplish. However they decided the project was too important and not compatible with their skills. They solicited a bid from the mason they preferred. His bid for our project was three times the original estimate and therefore completely out of our price range.

Our next successful proposal came from Phil Fitton. He was a very busy mason who assured us he could create this columbarium well within our budget and certainly before the end of summer. The committee was encouraged and left the project in Phil's hands. Unfortunately Phil had a terrible accident at one of his projects that left him with a severe foot injury.

Though he tried to help us find a replacement he did not. As it turned out Phil had to have several surgeries and may in fact still be out of commission.

Finally we connected with Norm Casas, a mason from Washington. He was very enthusiastic about our project. We met on three occasions and discussed plans for the columbarium. He has talked with J C Stone, a Jefferson company and together they have an idea using natural granite quarried in Maine. In spite of discovering that our ledge is only inches beneath the area chosen for the columbarium, Norm is confident he can complete this project for us. J C Stone is excited to be working with a local church and extends a 'good price'.

And now we get to my husband's favorite quote; "Life is what happens when you are busy making

plans." Norm's dad passed away which made it necessary for him to make frequent trips to New Hampshire and Florida. His personal schedule affected his work schedule and pushed our project back until the snow came and that postponed everything until spring. "Life is what happens when you are busy making plans."

The committee has confidence that this columbarium WILL be constructed in the spring of 2010.

*Respectfully submitted by
Dotti Meyer, Chair
Members: Lee Burns,
Gail Montgomery,
Jean Greenwood*

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; Jimmy Briwn (2012); Colby Dill (2012); Trudi Hodgkins (2012); George Jones (2011); Debbie King (2012); Deb Lipton-Morin (2013). **Newsletter deadline:** Third Sunday of every month. George Jones, Editor, geoinmaine@myfairpoint.net