

# Parishscope

On the Village Green  
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## Stories: Legends or Liberation?

by The Rev Carole Wageman

June - July 2019

In this month's issue of the Parishscope, I wanted to give a quick update on the Interim Team's progress and activities. We have been working together for five-and-a-half months now and we recently spent a daylong retreat hosted at the Horns' cottage along the lake---thank you Linda and Paul for letting us use your camp. It was peaceful and perfect!

We reviewed the past half year, shared, pondered, and projected about our ongoing Epiphany Journey of Listening (EJL), and began some conversation about "what's next" given that this framework of an Interim Team has a shelf life that will one day come to an end.

Of course, many of you see most of us every Sunday at worship. We try to show up even if we don't have liturgical duties that day in order to support the congregation and to be present to other areas of ministry, such as attending the educational forum, participating in the children's program, or preparing for the second service. What you don't see are the other things that we do during the week: preparing the weekly bulletin; writing sermons; meeting weekly to stay current on weekly happenings and upcoming events; planning for special seasonal worship (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter); discussing pastoral care concerns and issues; determining who will visit those who are ill and making hospital and home



visits; attending or leading committee meetings or weekly worship/meditation services; strengthening community connections with outside groups like HOPE, Counseling Services of Addison County, and

homeless shelters; leading formation activities (such as the Inquirers' Group earlier this year); and of course, continuing our effort to pay a visit to parishioners as part of our ongoing Epiphany Journey of Listening (EJL).

Yes, we are still working on that effort and as I mentioned when it began, it will take us longer than simply one season of Epiphany to work our way through the directory as we can try to get to everyone. While we each only work half-time or less, we are still committed to our invitation: if one of us has not yet approached you for a visit and you would like a visit now, please be in touch with one of us (Larry, Diane, Catherine, or myself). We are all ready and willing to find a time to sit and talk with you. Some have wondered why they have not been contacted yet. Again, it is a big directory and we are involved in many things, so please do be pro-active. We cannot know your need unless you tell us...which leads me to a topic that intrigues me these days: Our Stories.

I am a firm believer in the adage: "We

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# Stories: Legends or Liberation?

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become the stories we tell about ourselves” and I frequently use the Old Testament story of the ancient Hebrews whom Moses rescued out of slavery as an example. It took them forty years to find their way to the Promised Land...not because they couldn't navigate across the wilderness, but because it took them that long to let go of their self-story of “We are just slaves escaping from Egypt” to accept and live into their new story: “We are a special people called by God and we are on our way to the Promised Land.”

I am sometimes asked: “Have you learned anything from the stories you hear in the EJI?” Truth is, I have learned a lot and there is one new flash of insight that has intrigued me recently: “Legends”. When does a story become a legend? What does it take to get unstuck from a story if it gets repeated and rehashed over and over again across time? Where does forgiveness fit in? Is it more satisfying to stay stuck? Why is it that negative experiences still have the power to trap us and wrap us in anger that is just as fresh as the day it happened? I'm not referring to stories of terrifying trauma or terrible suffering. Those are in a different category, at least in my mind. I'm talking about the woundedness we all experience as we go through life.

I'm referring to those kinds of experiences where we are hurt or wounded by another, leaving us feeling burned and a bit broken emotionally and even spiritually. At what point does our encounter with “the story” soften and change or are we doomed to carry that load for the rest of our lives as the same live wire it was when something was first experienced? If, after twenty or thirty years, we are still re-telling it with some eagerness and sense of dark rage that we first felt, what is preventing us from moving on? Does the Christian message of reconciliation and forgiveness ever have a place in the story or does the story become a Legend, an oft repeated, some-

times embellished, part of our intimate identity? Is that the story we want?

So, I ask myself: What story do we want to live into? And that is probably a subject for the next Parishescope issue.

There is a Cheyenne Nation story called “The Wolves Within”<sup>1</sup> that is worth thinking about:

An old Grandfather said to his grandson, who came to him with anger at a friend who had done him an injustice, “Let me tell you a story. I too, at times, have felt a great hate for those that have taken so much, with no sorrow for what they do.

But hate wears you down, and does not hurt your enemy. It is like taking poison and wishing your enemy would die. I have struggled with these feelings many times.” He continued, “It is as if there are two wolves inside me. One is good and does no harm. He lives in harmony with all around him, and does not take offense when no offense was intended. He will only fight when it is right to do so, and in the right way.

But the other wolf, ah! He is full of anger. The littlest thing will set him into a fit of temper. He fights everyone, all the time, for no reason. He cannot think because his anger and hate are so great. It is helpless anger, for his anger will change nothing.

Sometimes, it is hard to live with these two wolves inside me, for both of them try to dominate my spirit.”

The boy looked intently into his Grandfather's eyes and asked, “Which one wins, Grandfather?”

The Grandfather smiled and quietly said: “The one I feed.”

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1 <https://www.firstpeople.us/FP-HTML-Legends/TwoWolves-Cherokee.html> accessed June 14, 2019





# News from the Pews by Linda Horn

It is officially summer because school is out and we are in meteorological summer even if we haven't passed the solstice. That means lots of travel and visitors!

First off is lucky **Ann Cooper** who has scored Red Sox vs Yankee tickets with the game played in London June 30th. Ann, a long time baseball fan, will be adorned in her Mets gear, along with her son, **Jeff**, her daughter, **Sarah**, and husband, **Martin**, and their son, **Joshua**.

In the starting him out right category, **Adler** and dad, **Miles Holbrook**, went to a Lake Monster's baseball game in mid June. **Adler** sported a cool Lake Monster baseball shirt at church the next day.

The lucky winners of **Elizabeth Oettinger's** donation of a week at her summer camp for the St. Stephen's auction report having a lovely time in spite of the cool

weather. **Barbara Blodgett** is the winner!

**Ryan** and **Barry** Nevius are going in the same direction to Maine (Acadia National Park) and Nova Scotia. While they are gone a visiting professor will be at their house. **Ryan** hopes to enlist him for Peasant Market!

Heading in the opposite direction this summer is **Linda Wentworth**. She will visit son, Erik, in the Santa Cruz, California area. Congratulations also go to **Linda** for retiring from her after school programming career.

**Holly Stabler** had a ton of visitors recently. Her grandniece, **Emily**, graduated from Middlebury College and brought with her assorted family and followers. **After that came reunion weekend another batch of family alumni. All the company was very memorable for Bob.**

**Nancy Hardwick** will soon host her granddaughters, **Isabella** and **Alexandra**, for their annual visit to her house on Lake Champlain.

The Nelsons, **Jennifer** and **Pau** had a week long visit from their son **Ted**, and his two older sons, **Milo** and **Wesley**. It was a blast! Their daughter **Meg** is coming soon with her daughter, **Caroline**. What joy!

**Mary Claire Walsh and Lynn Wolfe welcomed their son, Alden Matthias on June 1.** **Alden** joins his sister Anya, who is (mostly) delighted by his arrival! This is happily reported by grandmother, **Cathy Walsh**.

Yarn and Yoga, the shop in Bristol that **Mary McGuire** is part owner of, celebrates an amazing five years in business. Way to go!--  
Linda Horn  
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## From your Stewardship Ministry Team: Shining Our Light

We have embraced a theme for the rest of this year which we feel speaks to where we are moving as a parish: Shining Our Light. We are all God's stewards in all that we are and in all that we do: we want to know, deeply, that we are beacons of the light of God, shining out to each other and to our community. We will be embroidering on this theme with various projects during the months ahead: please stay tuned.

One facet of our responsibility needs emphasis: Lamps dim without oil. Part of our charge in deploying our time, talent and treasure to God's glory is our responsibility to be as faithful as possible to the giving

goals we have prayerfully submitted. Certainly, circumstances can and do change. But, just as our families could not function without a dependable income stream, so too does our church family need to meet its obligations: we in the SMT are committed to saying this without embarrassment or shame. Carol Haraden will be offering hints on how this can be done next time.

**We welcome your ideas, thoughts, hopes and fears. Please be in touch with any of us: Amy Hastings, chair; Irv Cummings, John Hammer, Elizabeth Oettinger, Barbara Stratton, and Winky Thomas. Thank you.**



# Holy Cow following the CAT!

## Puzzled? Read on! by Meg Fitch



The work of our Ministry Discernment Team is to discern the will of God and the heart and soul of St. Stephen's. No small order. We are grateful to be working for a parish that does amazing things. We are grateful to be listening to a endlessly loving God. We are also aware that there have been and still are very strongly held, opposing opinions, not only about our direction but about our past. Out of that how do we discern God's will for us? The team cannot do it alone. It is important that everyone have their say and that we listen deeply and in prayer.

There are several ways we plan to listen and discern. The most immediate is with a tool others we've talked to have found very helpful. It is a survey

developed by Holy Cow Consulting (hence the cow in the picture). The survey is a "Congregational Assessment Tool (Note the initials;hence the CAT). There are two Vermont Lutheran parishes who have used it and I had a good talk with Larry Yarbrough's cousin, who is Senior Warden of his parish in Georgia where they used it. All have been happy with the results. They feel it does a good and objective job of creating a picture of the parish.

The big advantages are that it offers objectivity and anonymity and it gives everyone a voice, at least everyone who takes the survey. Larry's cousin said they had 100% participation. That is a great tribute to the commitment of parishioners to be involved in the process. We pray for the same commitment. Everyone is asked the same questions and can answer them without any concern about what someone else thinks about their answers. Everyone becomes a participant in the work of discernment.

We know that conversation and interaction are also important and those will come later. This is the first step.

Logistics: You will get an email from the committee's gmail which is [St.StephensMDT@gmail.com](mailto:St.StephensMDT@gmail.com) the last week in June. This will have a link to the survey. The survey takes about 25 minutes according to Holy Cow. Anyone who does not do this sort of thing online can ask for a paper copy or pick one up at the back of the church once we start. Thank you in advance for your commitment and participation in this work.

## Ministry Model Team Update

The Ministry Model Team is comprised of Beth Davis, Barb Wood, Winky Thomas, Ann Cooper, Alice Van Tuyl (vestry liaison) and Paul Horn, Team Leader. The charge from the Vestry was to evaluate different models of ordained ministry that might meet the needs of the parish. A very brief definition of the models that we will be reviewing include:

□ Traditional Rector (full or part time) – This is the model that St. Stephen's has followed. This is a tenured position that can only be dissolved by mutual agreement or dissolution per Canons. Most parishes operate with ongoing Mutual Ministry reviews. Interested candidates are administered through

the Diocesan Transition Ministry (DTM) office and Bishop, the local Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC) reviews, interviews and present recommendations to the Vestry.

□ The Priest in Partnership (full or part time) – This model exists to encourage

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# Meg Fitch on Prayer and Meditation

I have been part of the meditation group for 3 or 4 years. I have been praying as an adult for close to 50 years. In my 20's I was taught the Jesus Prayer and said it so faithfully that I would wake to it. I would be doing something and become aware it was going through my head without my being aware of ever having started. I learned later this is what is called Prayer of the Heart. What we do in meditation group is Prayer of the Heart.

And yet for most of my adult life, it has been prayer in the desert. The desert is not, in Christian history of prayer, a fruitless, waterless place. It was where early Christians retreated to when Christianity seemed to be turning into a social commitment in their society, not a heart commitment. In the desert, prayer bloomed; prayer watered their lives and the lives of people who

came out of the cities to them for counsel. I took comfort in that history, but still my prayer seemed very dry. My joy came in sharing deeply—at the altar, in meditation group, in Adult Ed, in Friday prayers one year with the Muslim students. Not from prayer in my room. And then at our last retreat at Holy Cross, I realized I had been praying Prayer of the Head. Fr. Matthew taught us this simple thing that made all the difference, "Begin your prayer, then drop down into your heart, into the cave." That's where this poem came from. I knew even then that prayer would dry up again, but I am following the fox now, in company with all who pray. Really with all the earth—with people and rocks and birds and the wind. I am following the fox.

--Meg Fitch

## Ministry Model

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and empower congregations. The key is for the lay leadership and priest to be working in tandem. The precise role is determined by contract, is non-tenured, with a time period (usually three years), after which the position can be extended or ended through either party's decision. Interested candidates are administered through the DTM, Bishop and MDC and they present a recommendation to the Vestry.

- Team Ministry – One model is a Local Ministry Support Team, often non-stipendiary positions, and are commissioned to work as a team until the team is mutually dissolved. Experimentation with other models is taking place such as the St. Stephen's Interim Ministry Team and Brandon's Core Ministry Team. The Bishop must approve these models.

At a recent meeting, Eric Davis, who has been a member of the Vermont Bishop Discernment & Nominating Committee, reported on some of the ministry models that are in place in other parishes. The Team is presently developing the approach to have discussions with other parishes about their ministry models. We hope to visit two parishes by the end of June.

Paul Horn

*For decades I have wandered  
the night desert, searching.  
And the fox was always  
past some dry rise  
in the ground.  
And only in fitful dreams  
could I hear him calling  
my name.  
In waking  
my name was a lost thing  
a child playing far away  
over the adder's den,  
or walking green hills  
with the bear and the wolf.*

*But as I entered  
my eighth decade,  
the desert bloomed.  
The fox yapped from the top of a hill  
and ran ahead, but not too far.  
My inner cave grew warm,  
bright with firelight  
and the hope  
that as the light grew,  
I would see the green hills,  
the fox going on before,  
and find my name  
turning her face up from play  
to say,  
«Here I am.  
Always, here I am.»*

Meg Fitch

# Church Community and Services on the Viking Sun World Cruise

Cynthia Watters

Embarking on our 128 day (!) 'world cruise' I expected to enjoy visiting many places around the world, a bedroom with a view of the sea at almost all times (and the great sound of the sea when I went out on the balcony), good food that I didn't have to plan or shop for or serve, etc. An unexpected pleasure turned out to be the ship's interdenominational church services and the church community it engendered. Since I expected no church, what a wonderful surprise—I considered the services a highlight of the cruise.

Each week our cruise director Heather Clancy led a moving and fulfilling service. A woman who can apparently do anything, she is a remarkable cruise director, a professional singer in many genres, and an excellent (albeit unordained) chaplain.

I was exceedingly moved by the beauty of the service and the excellence of the sermons. The source of the order of service (which certainly reads like an Episcopal service), suggested readings and hymns, and sermon outlines is an internet resource for cruise chaplains that I have been unable to locate. But whatever that resource provides, Heather certainly was responsible for the experience, ambience, and the impressiveness of the sermons.

One of the more unusual practices was exchanging the kiss of peace with 'fist bumps' in lieu of hugs or handshakes for hygienic reasons. Heather suggested it was a practice we might consider taking back to our home churches (which, by the way, we prayed for each week.) Church was held in the theater with photos of various cathedrals and churches visited on our journey displayed on the huge screen and with



piano accompaniment.

We began with a modest congregation, but after a few weeks it had grown to over 200—approximately 1/4 of the passengers. More service leaflets were printed each week and still ran out.

We celebrated communion on the first Sunday of each month (just like when I was a child in the Episcopal church) except for one time when communion was cancelled because the sea was very rough day (though Heather

managed to balance in her signature 4-inch heels.) The chef baked individual rolls or wafers, and we dipped them in red wine in huge wine glasses.

We had other services too. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday were somewhat less attended but still moving—and since Easter was a port day, we celebrated on Saturday giving us services on three consecutive days. We also celebrated Anzac Day (April 25), the anniversary of the landing of the Australian and New Zealand armies at Gallipoli in World War I. It is memorable also because it was the first time the Maori, white, and Aborigines had fought together. Since that was an exceedingly bloody confrontation, it is a bittersweet remembrance. We celebrated it more broadly for all who have served and continue to serve "that the world may be a nobler place in which to live." When those who had been in any armed forces were asked to stand, I think a majority of the men (fewer of the women) stood. Our ages varied from 40s to 80s; our nationalities included mostly Americans, but also Aussies, New Zealanders, English, and scattered others.

Anchored in the commitment to serve, came the 'outreach' of the ship. We were encouraged to convey respect to those in the ports

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# Congratulations to our 2019 Graduates!!

## Middle School

Carter Lee, son of Emily Sunderman and Michael Lee: 8th grade from Middlebury Union Middle School to Northfield Mt Hermon.

## High School

Suzie Klemmer, daughter of Beth Stanway and Tom Klemmer: Middlebury Union High School, attending Bishop's University, Theater and Secondary Education.

Sean Deering, son of Annemarie and Andre' Deering: Middlebury Union High School, attending Sports Management summer academy at UMASS Amherst.

Dana Baskett, Diane Nancekivell and Tom Baskett's granddaughter graduating high school from Livingston, Montana, attending San Francisco University.

## College

Will Kelley: Middlebury College,

pre-med & gender studies, MCAT and internship aiming for medical school in 2020.

Lonnie Fisher's granddaughter, Katie Polhemus: Carnegie Mellon, BA Linguistics – will be working in Milwaukee.

Holly Stabler and Bob Ruggerio's grand-niece, Emily P. Stabler: Middlebury College, highest honors in her political science major.

## Graduate School

Matt Snider, son of Suzanne and Steve Snider: Master of Science in Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology from the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources in the College of Natural Resources, North Carolina State University. Has started on his PhD and will be TA-ing a course in Namibia, again, from August - November.

Austin Dempewolff, son of Mary Kay and Peter Dempewolff:

Georgetown University, MA in Public Policy.

Colin Yarbrough, son of Amy Hastings and Larry Yarbrough: Ph.D. in Classics, University of Texas, Austin.

\* Sandy Ketcham has three grandchildren graduating! Alex Peck graduated from high school in Vacaville, CA. He will be taking electronics courses at the Community College in the fall while learning the ropes in the family business with his dad and at the same time trying to monetize his experience and talent in rock music. His sister, Paige received her Masters in Education from Oregon State and will be teaching middle school math in Monterrey, CA in the fall. Michael Bedard, from Sudbury, is graduating from Otter Valley High School and will be attending Champlain College in the fall studying cyber forensics.

## Church on the Viking World Cruise continued from previous page

we visited as well as to help their economies. In addition, our knitters made hundreds of baby caps distributed to maternity hospitals (especially in Mauritius, Madagascar, and Mozambique.) We collected clothing and other items to donate and Viking donated \$50,000 in goods (food, shoes, bedding, etc.) to aid those countries, especially Mozambique which had recently endured a devastating earthquake that displaced millions of people—and then had another shortly after we left.



The services also gave rise to 'Bible study' groups (separate men's and women's which I found amusing) that were actively attended. Other experiences of the trip were, of course, wonderful as well. If you are interested in reading or seeing photos, my blog can be accessed at <https://worldcruise.travel.blog>. –Cynthia Watters

# Vestry Report and Notes from the Senior Warden by Mary McGuire

Peasant Market is in our sights, and I'm so thankful for the strong focus emerging this year on the stories of service and support in our community. Yes, we'll raise funds, but I hear us talking more about the big picture purpose than about the numbers. The stories that show our commitment to be God's hands and heart in our community are what we're keeping in our sights as we sort, clean, bake, and haul during the next few weeks. Liz Cleveland and Joe McVeigh have been meeting weekly all year to support all the booth chairs as well as think ahead to 2020 when the tunnel project forces us to imagine completely outside the box. Thank you all!

Thank you also to Godly Play leaders Beth Davis and Barb Wood as well as Adult Forum coordinators An Duclos, Meg Fitch, and Devon Jersild. These programs provide rich opportunities for children and adults to grow in our faith and appreciation of God's love.

The vestry warmly welcomes Virginia Westbrook whom we appointed to finish Susan Anderson-Ray's year on Vestry. Susan stepped down and is focused on the Stitched Together group of quilters as well as remaining active on the Building and Grounds committee. She will also remain supportive of the vestry's work on our goal for this year which is emerging to be

the development of a narrative budget. Susan brought keen insight and experience to vestry discussions, and I am deeply thankful for her service.

Briefly, a narrative budget process is a way to identify our financial priorities through our values and mission. We will be talking much more about this process as we on the vestry learn more, and it will be the emphasis of our June 23 work session meeting which will be held at Lonnie Fisher's home from 11-2:30. As always, our meetings are open and we plan on a few minutes at the beginning for parishioners to come to us with issues on their minds. Let me know if you want to come.

Many committees are busy: Ministry Discernment Team, Stewardship, Buildings and Grounds, Finance, Fellowship, Pastoral Care, Community Lunch, Adult Forum, Liturgy, Communications ... the church is a lively place. Of course, Peter and Annemarie keep things humming along on a daily basis. The clergy members of the Interim Ministry Team are a blessing to work with. I am so thankful for St. Stephen's.

God's peace and joy, and Happy Peasant Market!  
--Mary



## Next Parishscope : August 2019

**Deadline for submissions : August 10th**

**Be in touch with editor Jennifer Nelson  
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**Kitty Davis ([kittychurchstuff@yahoo.com](mailto:kittychurchstuff@yahoo.com))**

**And give News from the Pews to Linda Horn  
([lindahorn14@gmail.com](mailto:lindahorn14@gmail.com)) or 802 388 2300**



# On Jesus on Love

## Larry Yarbrough

For the last two times I have preached (at the Residence on Maundy Thursday and here at St. Stephen's on May 19th), the gospel readings have been drawn from John 13, where Jesus bids the disciples to "love one another." On both occasions I wondered aloud why Jesus refers to the commandment to love one another as new, since he clearly knew it wasn't. After all, in the other gospels he summarized the whole of Torah by quoting the commandments to love God and one's neighbor that come from Deuteronomy and Leviticus!

Oddly enough (Is Someone trying to tell me something?), the commandment to love one's neighbor will come up the next time I preach (May 30), though on that occasion it appears in the lesson from Paul's letter to the Galatians, not the gospel for the day. So yet again, I find myself thinking about Jesus' command to love our neighbors and one another. In this short piece for the *Parishscope*, I invite you to join me. If there is sufficient interest (and the editor allows), I will write others to continue the conversation.

First, a general observation: Jewish scriptures (our "Old Testament") is full of references to love for God and one's neighbors. They also refer frequently to God's love for



Israel and, in some books, for all peoples. Consequently, to say the Old Testament is about anger and the New Testament about love is just plain wrong. There is enough of both in each of the testaments to go around. More about that another time.

For now, I invite you to consider one of the sources for Jesus' answer to the question about the great commandment, Leviticus 19—with a view to engaging the question of who our neighbors are and how we are to treat them.

Translators use the English term "neighbor" to render several different Hebrew words and phrases that refer to everything from a member of one's own household, to a member of the tribes of Israel (whether

free or enslaved, rich or poor), and even to foreigners who live within the bounds of the land of Israel. (Greek translators also used one word for multiple Hebrew words and phrases.) Thus, a neighbor is not simply the person next door.

More telling are the ways the writers of Leviticus stipulate how neighbors are to be treated. One should not "deceive," "defraud," or "cheat" a neighbor in business dealings, illustrated with a prohibition to withholding or delaying the payment of wages. In Deuteronomy, similar laws deal with opening one's hand to poor neighbors (15:11), and not withholding help for a neighbor in need (22:3). In Leviticus 19:17, the reader is told not to take vengeance on a neighbor and not to bear a grudge against a neighbor. And tellingly, it is in precisely this context that we find the commandment, "love your neighbor as yourself."

Clearly "loving one's neighbor" in Leviticus 19 is not some sentimental notion dealing with the person next door. It is a matter of social justice in the treatment of all and personal integrity in the treatment of those close at hand.

Should we take Jesus' command to love our "neighbors" in any other way?

## Congratulations to our Graduates continued from page 7

Jessica Hoagland's granddaughter, Angelena Sommer, graduated from Charlotte Catholic High School, Charlotte, NC and will be attending High Point University, High Point, NC.

Lean McGarry, daughter of former rector Susan McGarry and brother of Thomas, graduated from

Middlebury Union High School and will be starting college at The University of Rhode Island in the autumn.

May and Don Morris's grandson, Walker Barkstrem, graduated from Freeman High School in Richmond, VA and will attend Brown University in the fall.

# From the Junior Warden by Tom Klemmer

Aloha!!

I'm writing this month's Junior Warden article while knee deep in sea turtles and sunsets on Hawaii's big island. Since my last submission, Peter and I have finished laying the new cherry hardwood floor in the chapel, bringing us another step closer to completing our makeover of that sacred space. As a reminder, we will no longer be storing items for peasant market in the chapel so as to keep it accessible at all times.

Peter and I are investigating repair options for both the roof and bell tower, and I am hopeful we can secure contractors for both by the fall. We also have a plan in place that addresses the elevator maintenance.

Our gardens are looking great as it seems winter has

finally released its grasp on the northeast. Please take a moment to thank those on the gardening committee who make sure our church on the green looks its best for us and for our community. If anyone is interested in participating on that committee, please let me know or contact Ben and Susan Anderson-Ray for more information on how you can contribute. Maintaining our gardens is a very worthwhile venture and doesn't have to take up much of your time at all.

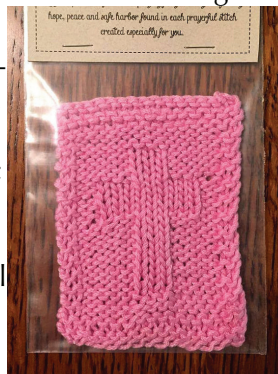
That's all for this month. I know everyone is anxious as we prepare for yet another peasant market. I'm sure this year's PM will be nothing short of spectacular. Thanks everyone.

Tom

## Pocket Prayer Shawls at St. Stephen's by Carol Wilkuhn

Brightly colored, piled high in a wicker basket, the pieces of yarn immediately caught my eye. "They're pocket prayer shawls," my sister-in-law explained, as we stood in the sanctuary of her church. "And," she added, "they are very popular."

I was not surprised. People often need comfort but find asking for comfort difficult. Yet, as the name implies, these mini shawls are small enough to fit into a pocket or a purse; anyone can reach for a knitted bit of yarn and experience the comfort of a handmade item. And the prayer attached to each shawl again reassures, reinforcing the truth that someone cares.



So, hoping that our crafting can foster healing, Sandy Ketcham, Jennifer Nelson and I have started a mini-prayer shawl ministry. Our pile of pocket prayer shawls is growing daily; by early summer we hope to have enough to place them in the sanctuary of St. Stephen's. When that time comes, when you spot a basket full of brightly-colored yarns at the back of the church, feel free to slip a mini prayer shawl in your purse or pocket--and so take the peace of St. Stephen's with you for the week.

## This Handmade Paddleboard

will be raffled at this year's Peasant Market.  
Ed McGuire and Mike Davis show off their handiwork.  
Tickets are \$10 each or 10 for \$50  
and are available  
in the church office  
or on the church's website:  
[Ststephensmidd.org](http://Ststephensmidd.org)  
or at the church door during intake.



# **\$18,000 to Local Charitable Efforts in 2018!**



**COLLECTION OF CLEAN, DRY, USABLE GOODS FOR PEASANT MARKET 2019 WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:**

**Mon. June 17 – Sat. June 22 9 – 1pm**

**Mon. June 24 – Sat. June 29 9 – 1pm**

**Evening hours on Tues. June 18 and Thurs. June 27 5 -7pm**

**We ACCEPT:**

Antiques  
Books  
Linens and fabric  
Glassware  
Toys or anything for kids!  
CDs, DVDs  
Jewelry  
Clothing in good, clean condition  
White elephant items  
Furniture in good condition  
Sporting goods  
Vinyl records (no classical)

**We DO NOT ACCEPT:**

VHS cassettes  
Stuffed animals  
Computers and accessories  
VCRs, non-flat screen TVs or DVD players  
Microwaves or large appliances  
Luggage  
Cassette tapes  
Magazines  
Textbooks  
Anything that is not in good, clean condition

We'd love to have your contributions in good condition, but . . .  
if you wouldn't give your items to a friend, please don't donate them to us !

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church on the Green  
3 Main St. Middlebury VT  
ststephensmidd.org

**Peasant Market will take place on Saturday, July 6 9 AM – 2 PM  
on the Green in the center of Middlebury**



# Peasant Market 2019



**SATURDAY, JULY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

**9:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

**ANTIQUES \* FURNITURE \* BOOKS \* JEWELRY  
WHITE ELEPHANTS \* CLOTHING \* LINENS  
CHILDREN'S ITEMS & TOYS \* BAKED GOODS  
HOMEMADE PIES \* SILENT AUCTION  
HAND SQUEEZED LEMONADE \* LUNCH GRILL  
WOODEN PADDLEBOARD RAFFLE!**

**TICKETS \$10 EACH OR 6 FOR \$50**

**OVER \$18,000 WENT TO SUPPORT  
LOCAL CHARITABLE EFFORTS LAST YEAR**

For More Information Visit  
[Ststephensmidd.org](http://Ststephensmidd.org)