

**THE  
SUMMER  
BEACON**  
*July and August 2007*

**ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH  
NEW MILFORD,  
CONNECTICUT**

## **Sabbath Time**

It is summer and many of us will take some time to rest from our labors, to play with our family and friends, to hike the mountains, fish the streams and sail the ocean. We will spend time in our cars, on buses and in subways and taxis. This is essential to our health and well being and is a command given us by God. Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. New Milford's Rabbi and my friend, Norm Koch, has taught me much about the true meaning of Sabbath in the way he models it in his own life. What Sabbath is not: It is not a day to get the work at home caught up... to shop, pay bills, work in the garden, paint the living room or run errands. But that is the way most of us spend it. It is therefore not Sabbath. And it is not kept Holy. Sabbath is a time of rest. It is a time of counting your blessings and treasuring the gifts God has given you. It is a time to pray in gratitude, to mindfully breathe God's spirit in every moment, to laugh, to love, to wander, to feed on those things which nourish our bodies and souls. We should keep, really keep a day of every week as Sabbath time and as Christians, the day we have set aside is Sunday. It is one of the first commandments and we are reminded in Scripture that we as human beings are not made for the Sabbath, but the Sabbath is a day made by God for us. Just as God rested on the seventh day, so must we if we are to be spiritually and physically healthy people. Still, the demands of family and of work, especially those who are laborers, have little choice of when they work or even how long they work. Some are given so few hours or so little pay and the threat of loosing work if they want a day of prayer and time with family that they dare not keep the Sabbath. Others find it the only day to shop for the food on their tables, pay the bills, fix the fence, mow the lawn, etc. Yet, unless we are mindful and intentional about the command to keep the Sabbath holy, we loose sight of God in our lives. We forget who it is that has given us whatever we do have... our jobs, our families, our friends, our health, our minds, our talents. We have because God is. We need time to remember, to thank, to hold and to give back our time, our presence, our hearts to the God of love. This summer, as you take some Sabbath time, and I hope you do, don't forget what it is and why you need it. Don't skip worship as a break away, but seek out the opportunities to worship with your family wherever you are. Pray with them around the campfire. Call attention to the awe of God's creation in your own heart and to one another.

Take your prayer book with you and read some prayers and scriptures from the daily offices as the sun comes up and sets. Breathe in God's spirit mindfully. For God is the life in us. Visit other churches and bring them our greetings as the parish of St. John's. If there is not one of our own parishes in the neighborhood, attend another Christian Church, for we are One Body in Christ. If you have family and friends with you, invite them to worship with you in the Episcopal Church. The Episcopal church anywhere is your church and the Christian Churches everywhere are Christ's Church. REMEMBER THE SABBATH AND KEEP IT HOLY!!!

Pastor Gail KM+

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## **Vestry Report**

The 3 things coming from the June Vestry Meeting are:

1. The vestry approved a contract to allow the culinary school to use St. John's Parish Hall, kitchen and classrooms as part of our mission. The contract covers the first session which will begin on July 23, 2007, and it will be revised for subsequent classes based on the initial experience.
2. The vestry approved \$10,300 purchase of a columbarium unit of 24 double niches to begin the columbarium wall in our Memorial Garden.
3. Gail and Kim Polhemus will be traveling to Africa on a mission trip. Although St. John's is not funding this trip, we hope that they will share their experiences with us and increase our understanding of the plight of women in these Episcopal parishes.

Best Regards,  
Sharlene C. Zagozewski

## **Wardens' Report**

### **June 2007**

We are getting our finances under control, but we are still drawing down our endowments at \$15,000/month to support our operating budget. By the July Finance meeting, we should know the \$ amount that needs to be restored to our designated funds checking account (to bring it to the balance that represents our 2007 operating budget funding plus the contributions that were made to those funds). At that point we should be prepared to address a number of questions.

How do we discuss funding and finances with parishioners? What principles have we agreed on that drive our budget funding mission, outreach and operations? What other resources are at our disposal? I would like to see us develop a dialog that any of us can deliver when questions arise. That dialog needs to contain a plan for moving forward into 2008 and beyond. We had just about achieved this through the Capital Campaign when the parish hall burned down.

We haven't gotten back to a forward looking plan yet. True, we had a lot to sort out, but we have some experience now with the new hall. We also have a better understanding of what regular costs we incur. I propose that we think about this while we have a summer break. Not just how do we evaluate and approve fundraisers but a prospective plan designed to fund our mission as well as reduce the amount we withdraw from endowments.

Pastor Gail has challenged us to communicate with the parish about financial issues. I believe it is both easier and our responsibility to develop goals and a plan and then communicate it so the parish understands and buys in to what we are doing. We may be pleasantly surprised at the support we get from folks who haven't participated before. Doing this before our stewardship campaign could make the campaign more productive.

Sharlene Zagozewski

## **Send The Love**

There is a Lutheran Church that recently gave balloons to each person coming into the church. Without any air in it, it doesn't look like much and it isn't good for much. But it can be changed and transformed with a little breath.

In Greek the word for breath is the same word that means Spirit. In the gospel of John, when Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to the disciples, he did it by breathing on them. God continues to breathe the Spirit into us through the Word (blow into balloon) and the sacraments (blow); through worship (blow) and prayer (blow). And through the power of God, we are filled with the Holy Spirit (blow).

Now the purpose of that is not so we become all puffed up or so we look pretty and draw attention to ourselves. We are filled with the Spirit so that we can give a lift to others.

We are filled with the Spirit so that we can help people see the Spirit in us and see the love of Christ. We are filled with the Spirit so that we can have an impact!

(Then some of the balloons are popped) And the people jumped.

God wants us to surprise people and wake them up. God calls us to live in such a way that people look at us and our actions and are surprised at how different we are from the rest of the world. (We should be -- but we're not!)

The world tells us to be consumers and gather all the goods we can get. Jesus calls us to give even as he has given to us. He gave his very life. We are called to give of ourselves and our resources to help those in need.

The world tells us to look out for number one. Jesus tells us that God is number one and we are called to serve God by serving others.

The world tells us that there is a scarcity of everything. It makes us afraid that there won't be enough to go around. God calls us to a theology of abundance. He blesses us with his love and all the other gifts we need and encourages us to share those gifts with others.

Take out your balloons and blow them up, but don't tie them off. The way God fills us up with the Holy Spirit is through gathering for worship (blow) and fellowship (blow); growing in faith and understanding (blow); and giving of ourselves and our resources (blow). When we are filled with the Spirit (blow) we are not meant to just keep that inside. When we are filled with the Spirit we are ready to "send the love."

Hold your balloons up in the air. On the count of three, let them go. 1-2-3!

Isn't that fun? There is great joy in sending the love. That is what God calls us to do. God calls us to a joyous giving of the love he has first given us. It is God's truth that you are loved and accepted, for Christ's sake, that sets you free to be a giver.

## *A home for my soul* by John Hoydilla

I have spent most of my adult life searching for a place to rest my soul: A place to find answers to the reasons that so much of the world's people live wretched lives. Burdened with abject destitute poverty and neglect. Cultures who experience an agonizing battle to survive each day and children for whom the concept of the future existed in their life construct.

I worked on locked psychiatric wards for 21 years witnessing souls lost in the torturous abyss of hopelessness and despair beyond definition. Souls to whom anguish and unbearable and incessant, inescapable demons who scourge and degrade them with festering, seeping searing wounds made ever more painful by a society who casts them as ogres and sub-human. No one feels compassion and empathy walks away without sublimating into themselves that agony and the frightening doubt of the existence anything but the existence of Satan and the non existence of God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

I have wandered blindly through a labyrinth of false hope and purveyors of salvation only through either kneeling at their feet and paying for peace by bribing their god and filling their coffers or through self recrimination and spiritual self flagellation.

As I past St. John's many, many times my soul was attracted my the Lord's lodestone of peace and social justice. The more I researched the church and it's struggle to resist threats by other factions of the Anglican Community to forsake those who are deemed as impure or "sinners" I realized I found a home for my soul.

Pastor Gail recognized my need to heal my soul in the glorious pure warmth and Love of Jesus and my cynicism melted away and the fellowship and acceptance of the congregation filled me with the *Amazing Grace* I was seeking.

On Saturday as I was being received and Bishop Curry was insistent that our responses to his affirmations of our beliefs and commitments as minister of the church be emphatic and resolute I realize that we are indeed ministers of the church and The Most Miracles of Miracles Our Teacher of Love Jesus Christ who only asks for commitment and sincerity and good work. It was then I knew that Good Works did not required abandoning the real world and assuming a the ultimate form of devotion and Love of God and Jesus a monastic existence committed to prayers and contemplation, but rather going out in the as ministers of peace and Love and of patience and receiving all we meet with The Lord Love and Patience. It does not mean shoving the Good News with fire and fear but with Love and Patience and Treating all people as his child. It does require using his name or his words but acting with kindness and in by his teachings. Education the greatest tool in the redemption of the world.

Being mindful when you take your morning shower, people in the world do not have that luxury...people are drinking fetid disease water that incurs cholera and dysentery Being mindful as we wait at the drive-through at McDonald's that there are children in this world are starving and dying with bloated bellies and dying in their mothers arms ever second that we continue to breathe.

Being mindful as we gripe about having wait a little longer in the doctor's office or the ER that people are suffering unspeakable deaths and those millions in this country who receive substandard care because they have no health care insurance.....and they do receive substandard care. Being mindful as we proceed safely through our days that people and entire culture are being slaughtered in the most heinous of ways because they are different or are considered unfit and impure and women are mutilated, raped and murdered just for being woman.

I have to stop now for I am getting ill as this is so incredulous. Even you don't subscribe to a religious moral code how can anyone and any group or culture not adhere to tenets of common decency. For all those who deny evolution and claim to plea in the name of God for creationism but demonstrate Darwin's survival of the fittest and natural selection I say HYPOCRISY. The world has enough resources for all, we no longer have to compete for survival except in a world of status and excess and arrogant narcissistic power and wealth. It doesn't require heroic acts as emerge in times of catastrophic events such as the tsunami and Hurricane Katrina; it require simple acts of good works and kindness and love. Treating everyone as valid human beings and making small sacrifices are true acts of heroism. Let us become enlightened and use the miracle of the minds and intellect that God imbues us with to make create a better world to live in rather than better weapons and faster computers. Instead of profits, cherish people and humanity. I know I am a raving Utopian, but without this dream this planet will consume itself and cease to exist.

God put us in the perfect position to the Sun and we tend to treat this rock we live on as a creation of our chauvinistic ego; we are a fragile race on a in a fragile environment and have abused and misused the magnificent tool of our minds for ambition instead of compassion and for technical brilliance rather than the real necessities of people. Study Maslows' Hierarchy of Needs and recognize than we need sustenance, safety, acceptance and Love before all else. Let us use the brilliant minds God blessed us with for social betterment and peace. There will always be those that are greedy and those that are in need to attain power that I don't know not to reconcile.

Read Skinner's *Waldon Two*, that presents social engineering. Which is subtle and insidious but is practiced in a process called advertising.

Read Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*. Not the movie which is lovely but censored, but the book and ponder the real meaning of it and see if it reminds you of another story of family and a journey and the beauty of Rose of Sharon. My heart bleeds, weeps and smiles at the same time The Rose of Sharon who sustains the lost and is the seed that blooms in the desert and the milk and honey of the promised land.

Although Tom Joad might seem to be the protagonist and "hero" of this journey it is Ma Joad is the progenitor of a new nation of peoples in the promised land. We are Ministers of the Church and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and when we offer our hands in peace at mass MEAN IT and INGRAIN IT in ourselves and carry out the world as the most important work we have. Just don't talk the talk, walk the wall: LOVE AND PATIENCE AND THE LORD IN OUR HEART,SOULS AND MINDS. WE ARE THE MINISTERS OF HIS WORD. Not because of the fear of Hell but for the SINCERE LOVE OF JESUS AND HIS FLOCK.

**Fair Days Breakfast Buffet**  
**Fri and Sat July 27 & 28 7am-10am**  
**Catered by the New Milford Community Culinary School**

**Invite the family! Tell your friends! This fund raiser is being held in conjunction with the Village Fair Days. The public is welcome. Pay at the door. More details to follow in the weekly bulletins. Your help and support is urgently needed! Contact Lise Smith 354-0325**

**Camp Washington 2006 Summer Camp Sessions**

Ages 5-17 sessions run from the first week in July through mid August depending on age. Camp Washington is a residential co-ed camping experience for youth and families. As an outdoor ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of CT, Camp Washington provides an opportunity for individuals of all ages to come to know God's love as it is revealed in Jesus Christ. It is located in Lakeside, CT in historic Litchfield County, on over 300 acres in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains. Call for more information at: 860-567-9623 or visit them at [www.campwashington.org](http://www.campwashington.org)

**Healing**

We would like to encourage more participation in the Wednesday morning healing prayer services at St. John's by including in our prayers all of those in our church family and our greater community who are in need of spiritual encouragement or physical healing.

For our members who are unable to join us at the service, there are yellow prayer request slips available at the back of the church. Please write in the name of the person you would like your church family to pray for and place them into the white wire mesh box. During the next healing service, prayers will be offered for each request.

Flyers and cards with information about the healing prayer service will be sent to local churches and community groups. Please feel free to pick up a few and distribute them to your family and friends.

Let's join our voices together and ask God to look favorably upon those who we know are struggling with ill health or depleted spirit. When we pray together towards a common goal, our collective voice is strong and powerful. It will be heard by Him

## **Christian Healing Ministries -School of Healing Prayer Classes**

The Oratory of the Little Way

Director: Rev. Dr. Gail Paul

Gaylordsville, CT

The School of Healing Prayer is a spiritual formation program for pastors and laypersons to enrich their spiritual lives. In the process, their inner wounds are healed and they learn how to effectively walk the (spiritual) journey with other hurting people. Board approved 3 CEUs for pastors. "Healing" by Francis MacNutt is required reading prior to Level I (order through the Oratory).

### **Levels I, II & III Extended Courses - Twelve Sessions**

**Level I** - Wednesdays, 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm, starting September 5, 2007

**Level II** -Fridays, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, starting September 7, 2007

**Level III** -Mondays, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, starting September 10, 2007

### **Levels I & II Intensive Courses – Four Saturdays**

**Level I** - Saturdays, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Starting October 6, 2007

**Level II** - Saturdays, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Starting September 8, 2007

A Biblically based workbook is provided with each level.

Registration: \$120.00—Bring a bag lunch (Payment plans and scholarships are available if needed)

To register: call (860) 354-8294 or email: [oratory1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oratory1@sbcglobal.net)

Visit our website at: [www.oratoryhealing.org](http://www.oratoryhealing.org) for more information on our ministry. The Oratory of the Little Way is a Christ-centered ecumenical healing ministry, and retreat center.

The following are some of the in-depth topics covered in this training series:

Four Types of Healing \* Healing Our Image of God \* Forgiveness Prayers \* Bitter Roots & Inner Vows \* Physical & Inner \* Healing of Abortions/& Miscarriage \* Generational Healing \* Healing of Sexual Abuse \* Renouncing Occult Involvement \* Depression \* Ministering to the Terminally Ill \* Healing of Marriage \* Healing of Wounds of Divorce \* Healing from Anger \* Addictions \* Deliverance through Inner Healing \* Understanding the Grieving Process \*

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## **Your Spiritual Formation Committee** **Wants to Hear From YOU!**

We would like you to share your stories with us. Tell us how the power of prayer has touched your life.

Were you ever the recipient of or a contributor to a random act of kindness? Let us know how it felt.

Have your prayers ever been answered for something in a totally unexpected way? Share it with us!

Do you have a special prayer that seems to work every time? Teach it to us!

We'll be collecting your stories and prayers all summer and sharing them with everyone in future bulletins and Beacon issues. Please forward your stories by fax to 860-355-2333 or email them to [dwharton@snet.net](mailto:dwharton@snet.net).

You can also give them to Donna Sullivan or Karen Wharton on Sundays or starting up again in August - Wednesday mornings at the Healing Service. Anonymous submissions are always welcome!

Thank you. We look forward to hearing all of your wonderful stories!

*"Prayer puts us on the potter's wheel, reshaping us to be God's vessels. As we beg that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven, we present ourselves to God to do it."*

(from *\*Churches That Make A Difference\**, Olson / Unruh / Sider (Baker, 2002), p. 142)

We are the clay in need of being shaped ; this summer, why not **Grow Your Prayer Life** by putting yourself in God's capable hands with regular and meaningful prayer? Your Spiritual Formation Commission will offer practical and simple suggestions to help you along in your journey of prayer and connection with the Holy Spirit. Our first suggestion is to find times throughout the day to talk to God. Instead of filling up your head with a list of more things to do or worry about, empty out your head and enter into conversation with the Lord. While you are stuck in traffic on Route 7; in line at the supermarket ; taking a shower; waiting for the computer to boot up; loading the washer or folding the laundry; tuning out at a boring meeting (never at St. John's!) ; mowing the lawn; or whenever your life allows... Say "Hello" to God and express your feelings. And thoughts. The simplest, weakest voice is always heard. Know this. You are important to the Holy One and She loves to hear from you .

**We have a tremendous need for groceries during the summer months** when the kids are home from school. New Milford Food Bank is currently providing groceries to approximately 100 families weekly. We are in need of non-perishable items, paper products and personal hygiene items too.

Thank you very much for your support,  
Peg, Ivana & Angie

# July 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ONE service for summer HE 9:00 AM  <i>Gail vacation</i>	2 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM  <i>Gail vacation</i>	3 NA 7:30- 8:30 PM- triple classroom Pilates 7:30- 8:30 PM  <i>Gail vacation</i>	4 OFFICE CLOSED  <i>Gail vacation</i>	5 Pilates 7:30- 8:30 PM  <i>Gail vacation</i>	6   <i>Gail vacation</i>	7 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom  <i>Gail vacation</i>
8 HE 9:00 AM  Latino service in church 7 <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	9 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM Finance Meeting 7 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	10 NA 7:30- 8:30 PM triple classroom Pilates 7:30-8:30 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	11 Ntl. Trans. Safety Council safe driving course 6-10 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	12 Pilates 7:30- 8:30 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	13 Ballroom Danc- ing 7:30-10 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	14 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>
15 HE 9:00 AM Latino service in Hall 7 PM  <i>Karen-Vacation</i>	16 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM  <i>Gail leaves for Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	17 NA 7:30- 8:30 PM triple classroom Pilates 7:30-8:30  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	18   <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	19 Pilates 7:30- 8:30 PM  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	20 Latino Potluck (?)  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	21 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>
22 HE 9:00 Mary Gates preaches  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	23 <i>Elaine on vacation</i> Country Line dancing 7-10 PM  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	24 <i>Elaine on vacation</i> NA 7:30-8:30 PM triple classroom NO Pilates tonight <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	25 <i>Elaine on vacation</i>   <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	26 <i>Elaine on vacation</i> Pilates 7:30- 8:30 PM  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	27 <i>Elaine on vacation</i> Village Fair Days  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	28 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>
29 HE 9:00 Mary Gates preaches  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	30 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	31 NA 7:30-8:30 PM triple classroom LAST Pilates class 7:30-8:30  <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>				

# August 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	2 <i>Mission trip to S. Africa</i>	3 <i>Gail returns home from Mission trip to South Africa</i>	4 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom
5 HE 9:00 AM	6 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM	7 NA 7:30-30PM	8 National Transportation Safety Council safe driving course from 6-10 PM	9	10 Ballroom dancing 7:30-10 PM	11 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom
12 HE 9:00 AM  Latino service in church at 7:00 PM	13 Country Line dancing 7-10 <i>Finance meeting 7 PM</i>  Camp Jonathan 8 AM-5 PM	14 NA 7:30-30PM  Camp Jonathan 8 AM-5 PM	15  Camp Jonathan 8 AM-5 PM	16  Camp Jonathan 8 AM-5 PM	17 Women's camping trip to lake Waramaug  Camp Jonathan 8 AM-10PM	18 Women's camping trip to lake Waramaug  AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom
19 HE 9:00 AM Latino service in Hall 7 PM  Women's camping trip to lake Waramaug	20 Country Line dancing 7-10 <i>Vestry 7 PM</i>	21 NA 7:30-30PM	22	23	24	25 AA 6:30-7:30 PM in triple classroom
26 HE 9:00 AM	27 Country Line dancing 7-10 PM	28 NA 7:30-30PM	29	30	31	<i>Start-up Sunday September 9, 2007 Back to two services at 8 AM and 10</i>

## **The Ordination and Consecration of The Reverend Dr. Laura J. Ahrens**

The opening notes of "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" sung by hundreds of lay soprano voices was thrilling and set the tone for this entire joyous event. As the clergy processed to "The Church Is One Foundation" and "Lord, You Give the Great Commission," Woolsey Hall at Yale University was filled with an uplifting and expectant sound.

There were many bishops and clergy from all over New England, other states and other countries present to witness the ordination of the first female Bishop in Connecticut by the first female Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States. As Pastor Gail joined Jack Spaeth and a few others to present Reverend Laura to the Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and the other Bishops, it was clear that God was present and His power was evident in these purposeful proceedings. The resounding "We will," from the assembled congregation demonstrated our unanimous support for her. Throughout these proceedings, Bishop Laura appeared calm, steady, solid and yet joyous.

In her sermon, the Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori likened us to quaking aspens, the only trees that can find nourishing water even in the desert. The leaves of the aspen "tremble" and move with the winds allowing the branches to remain more firm and strong. In that way, the trembling strengthens the tree as our trembling on this day strengthens us, the Episcopal Church.



Following the consecration, the "AMEN" was thunderous, joyous, strong and united. It was truly wonderful to be there and be a part of this body as the applause for now "Bishop" Laura continued for several minutes; longer than is usual. Love and support for her and her new role was clear. It will be really gratifying to see her grow and serve as our newest Bishop Suffragan of Connecticut.

### **A Pilgrimage to our Celtic Christian Roots**

If you are interested in a pilgrimage to Scotland in the Spring of 2008 to explore our Celtic and Scottish Christian roots whereby we received the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, Samuel Seabury of Connecticut, please let the Rector know. The tour would include: Glasgow (Oban area), the Isles of Mull and Iona, Inverness and Forres, Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

It is a 9 day trip including travel time and would cost \$3510 per person if we were able to get 10 people to go, \$2890 if we get 20 and \$2590 if we get 40. Air flight, travel and accommodations are included. Lunches, beverages, gratuities, and insurance are not covered. It would build community, deepen our connection with our rich spiritual heritage and be much fun.

To get these rates, we must book w/ \$500 down before the 22nd of August.

**PLEASE LET THE RECTOR KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED  
OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!**

Gail K-M +

**Karen Ackerman (our book keeper) is on vacation** the week of July 8 to July 14, 2007. Karen works Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

**Pastor Gail is on Vacation from July 16 through August 4, 2007.**

**Elaine Swanson is on vacation** the week of July 23 through July 27. I am looking for people to volunteer to answer phones in the office that week. Please call me if you would be willing to do this for 1 day that week. 354-5583.

**Jorge's medical needs continue.** Please consider joining other parishioners in donating five to ten dollars per month to help Jorge's family with their enormous medical bills. Please contact Kim Polhemus at 354-7403

**Please remember to pay your pledges in the summer months.** We still have the same bills to pay & we depend on your pledge/support to meet our financial obligations. We are behind in our pledges at this point and summer has only just begun !!!



## July Birthdays

7-1-Diane Damerou	7-19-Zachary Hulse
7-1-Beth Sullivan	7-20-Andy Sawyer
7-Alisson Haywood	7-20-Veronica Wohlschlaeger
7-Tina Frisbie	7-21-James Andreson
7-8-Wayne Locke	7-21-Phair Haldin
7-8-Corey Ellman	7-23-Jonathan Warren
7-9-Peter Polhemus	7-23-Sandy Guido
7-9-Lois Fletcher	7-25-Jennie Torres
7-11-Jeannette Huhtanen	7-25-Rosemary Wetmore
7-14-Sophie Lefebvre	7-26-Pauline Boyer
7-15-Linda DeFazio	7-27-Carol MacInnis
7-15-Pat Erickson	7-39-Krysten Lane
7-17-Christopher Miller	7-30-Andrew Polhemus
7-19-Ross Markey	7-31-Shawn Lisee

## July Anniversaries

7-2-Todd and Elaine Swanson	7-8-Edgar and Gillian Acosta
7-3-John and Donna Sullivan	7-11-John and Lei Lemos
7-4-Rick and Jessica Keizer	7-22-Eric and Missy Sawyer
7-5-Lee and Linda Kallstrom	7-23-Kirk and Sydney Page

## **August Birthdays**

8-5-Zack Stachlewitz  
8-7-Jiri Krten  
8-8-Nick Payne  
8-8-Michelle Turner  
8-8-Barbara Brandt  
8-8-Lauren Gardner  
8-9-Madlyn Warren  
8-9-Ronnie Roswell  
8-16-Katie Maxwell  
8-16-Bob Lawrence

8-16-Katie Keeney-Mulligan  
8-18-Rick Keizer  
8-20-Melissa Warren  
8-21-Margaret MacInnis  
8-22-Louis Alhage  
8-24-Leslie Andreko  
8-27-Blanche Hamilton  
8-30-Kevin Gardner  
8-30-Zachary Stebbins  
8-31-James Mulligan

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER ARE HAVING ANY MEDICAL PROBLEMS AND ARE LOOKING AS TREATMENTS, SURGERY OR SPECIAL CARE, PLEASE LET THE RECTOR, DEACON OR THE HEAD OF PASTORAL CARE, LISE SMITH, KNOW. LIKewise IF YOU KNOW OF ANOTHER PARISHIONER WHO IS DEALING WITH HEALTH ISSUES, PLEASE LET US KNOW. THE CLERGY AND PASTORAL CARE ARE SOMETIMES THE LAST TO LEARN THESE THINGS.

## **August Anniversaries**

8-3-Joel and Jeannette Huhtanen  
8-8-Ronald and Meredith Hulse  
8-24-Christopher and Deirdra Wallin  
8-26-Joseph and Bonnie Puglisi

**There will be only one 9:00 AM Sunday service during July and August. During the month of July there will be no Wednesday Healing service at 10:00 AM and no Centering Prayer July and August**

**4th Annual Diva's Camping Trip-  
August 17, 18, 19**

Ladies this is for you. This is your opportunity to get away from the routine and not be anyone's wife, mother, sister, daughter or employee. This year our camping trip will be held at Lake Waramaug State Park. Plan to arrive when your schedule permits and stay for all or part of the weekend. All women parishioners, ages 18-108 are welcome.

**Space is limited so reserve your spot right away by contacting** Bonnie Lawrence  
(355-9547 or rlwr58@aol.com)  
or Kim Polhemus  
(354-7403 kimpol4@lycos.com).

The group will meet a week before the trip to divide up who will bring what.

**Parking behind the church...**

Please leave the Handicapped, Clergy, Visitor and the Staff (Jon LaFleur, Elaine Swanson and Karen Ackerman) parking spaces behind the hall to those for whom they are **designated**. There is still space behind the library and across the street in the old CVS and Post Office lots.

**Thank you.**

## **Teen Creed**

Don't let your parents down,  
They brought you up.  
Be humble enough to obey,  
You may give orders someday.  
Choose companions with care,  
You become what they are.  
Choose only a date  
who would make a good mate.  
Be master of your habits,  
Or they will master you.  
Don't be a show off when you drive,  
Drive with safety and arrive.  
Don't let the crowd pressure you,  
Stand for something,  
Or you'll fall for anything

**Chris Leier** is heading for the University of Maryland

**Peter Polhemus** is heading for Endicott College in Massachusetts

**Catherine Waters** is heading off to Elon University in North Carolina

Dear Pastor Gail and St. John's Parish,  
Thank you very much for the monetary scholarship. I was very grateful and will help me greatly in pursuing my dream of becoming a Fire Protection Engineer and it was an honor to have received it. Thanks Again,  
Chris Leier

Dear St. John's Parish Family,

Thank you for the scholarship check. This money will greatly help me next year as a poor student next year at Endicott College. Over my many years at St. John's worshiping, acolyting, or just hanging out with the youth group I have made many friends that I consider part of my family. In the years to come I hope to still be a part of the church community. I hope I can bring out to the world what I have learned from the people of St. John's Episcopal Church. THANK YOU!!!

Sincerely,  
Peter Polhemus

Dear St. John's,

Thank you so very much for the scholarship money you gave me for college. It is going to be very helpful in the Fall as I start classes at Elon University! I am grateful to have been given this !.

Thank you again,  
Catherine Waters

**Clergy**

*The Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith, Bishop*  
*The Rt. Rev. James E. Curry*  
*The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens*  
*The Rev. Dr. Gail Keeney-Mulligan - Rector*  
*The Rev. Marilyn Mitchell—Deacon*

**Staff**

*Administrative Assistant Elaine Swanson*  
*Music Director Jon Lafleur*  
*Bookkeeper Karen Ackerman*  
*Sexton Hugo Gordon*

**The Ministers of St. John's**

All The Baptized

Stewardship—Tom Duffy  
Christian Education—Leigh Alhage  
Adult Education—Pastor Gail  
Property—John Roger  
Mission contact—Kim Polhemus  
Mitchell  
Youth Director—Pastor Gail

Wardens— Eric Sawyer and Sharlene Zagozewski  
Finance—Rich Davis  
Pastoral Care—Lise Smith  
Verger—Flora Quammie  
Stephen Ministry—Deacon Marilyn  
Altar Guild—Marylou Johnston

**ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**7 Whittlesey Avenue**  
**P.O. Box 179**  
**New Milford, CT 06776**  
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