



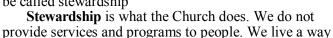
The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary - Falmouth, Maine

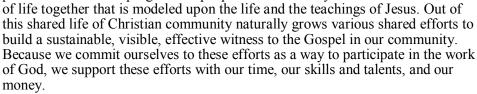
From the Rector:

RISE UP, STEWARDS OF THE GIFTS OF GOD!

God is able "by the power at work within us" to accomplish "abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

Stewardship is a way of life. In a very real sense, it is the essence of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. It is God who makes us, teaches us, calls to us, breathes new life into us, restores us, enlightens us, provides daily bread for us, and brings us into the beloved community. We respond to all of these acts of grace by giving ourselves as living sacrifices to the gracious will of God so that we might participate in God's work in the world. This lifestyle of self-giving response can rightly be called stewardship





Stewardship is about perspective. It is about understanding that life has meaning and purpose far beyond chasing after material pleasures. Of course, nothing can rightly be called "mine." We have control over some resources during the short span of our lives so that we might join in the life-giving and life-sustaining work of God in the world. None of us are ever just "paying the bills." Every transaction has the potential to contribute toward the work of God.

Stewardship is about cooperating with the Holy Spirit at work within us to contribute toward something far larger than ourselves, something that has existed for thousands of years and will continue until the earth reaches its end.

My hope and prayer for everyone reading these words is that you will trust in that invisible power of God (in the Greek, "by the power energizing us") at work within us as a consecrated parish community, enabling us to accomplish far more together than we ever could as isolated individuals. Then, on the basis of that trust, I hope that you will feel the freedom to ask some serious questions about the resources under your control and how they are being directed to support the work of God in the world. The Church has long recognized and taught the tithe (10% of one's "produce") as the basic threshold of outright giving, which all Christians ought to attain. Other offerings to worthy efforts in support of the work of God are above and beyond this level of giving.

Many of you will feel that this is impossible, but ask yourself the hard questions. How much is enough? How much do we truly need to be happy? And is happiness or comfort the primary goal toward which we are striving? What legacy are we leaving by our choices and actions?

Welcome, my friends, to Stewardship Season! It is our time to ask hard questions about money, to think deeply and carefully about the materialism of our society, but also a time to rejoice in the gift of Christ-centered community and to thank God for the privilege of participating in a world-changing movement that is far bigger than ourselves. Will you join all of us here at Saint Mary's on this adventure of trust and service? I sure hope that you will!

Your fellow-steward in Christ,

Nathar W. Fevell +

Mission in Motion

The Casserole Ministry

When you are sick or recovering from an accident or other unforeseen event...or when you are caring for a member of your family and are "straight out"—there is nothing more comforting than having a simple, homecooked meal delivered to your home. We do that at S. Mary's! If you would like to join dozens of S. Mary's excellent cooks who prepare and deliver meals to parishioners in need, or when families and individuals find themselves unable to cook following surgery or recovering from illness or other unforeseen events, the Casserole Ministry will welcome you with open arms! This ministry is so fortunate to have Elizabeth Heinzman take on the coordination once again. Please feel free to contact Elizabeth theheinzmans@hotmail.com or at 210-2244 if you are interested in joining this wonderful min-

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From the Deacon's Corner:

Dear Ones,

One of the many things my mother taught me was always to write thank you notes when I was given a gift. This is a thank you note to each and every one of you who blessed me at Christmas with an amazingly generous gift, manna from heaven! My gratitude is for much more than the gift itself. I am deeply grateful to you and to God for the privilege of serving at S. Mary's and for having been loved and supported in so many ways by all of you. I pray that God will continue to bless all of us in the years to come as we work and worship and grow together in Christ.



Gratitude is a powerful attitude. Practicing gratitude as a spiritual discipline has the power to change our hearts so that giving becomes a natural, joyful response and call to action that compels us to move out of ourselves and toward others who need our compassion and care. Gratitude is not an easy discipline to master when life becomes painful and difficult. A devastating illness, a death, the loss of a relationship or a career; the losses associated with aging can cause us to feel angry, afraid and out of control, but not grateful.

Many years ago, when our children were young we were transferred to Maine where Larry would finish out his long career in the Navy. We were in a new place and knew no one. A neighbor kindly invited us to church and over time we became deeply involved at St. Ann's in Windham. We had some tough times during those years but we were always cared for and supported. When we decided to move, our community helped us clear the land for the house we were building. One friend provided us with a place to live rent free while the house was being built. The community moved our belongings from house to storage and to house again. When we weren't able to pledge, we cleaned the church or did other chores and sometimes we borrowed from our little food closet. I know with every fiber of my being that God put us where we needed to be. Times were tough, but we never felt alone or hopeless.

As I look back through the lens of gratitude at all of my life, I know in such a deep way that God was there in even the darkest times. I am fueled by the joy of that knowledge to share it with others. Give thanks in all things at all times even when the effort to form the words seems to take too much energy. May you always know how deeply you are loved by God and may you be the means by which someone else knows that love. Faithfully,

Deacon Christine

Parish Council and The Ministry Fair What's God asking of us?

"Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions."

1 John 3:18 NLT

From Acolytes to Outreach, the Parish Council consists of the chairs of the many and varied ministries, guilds and committees here at S. Mary's, the rector and the wardens. We gathered, along with our Parish Administrator, Beth Shaw, on January 15 of this year for active discussion on events relating to the calendar, the health of the guilds and ministries, *Vision 2014*, and the upcoming Ministry Fair. The two hours flew by quickly as many laudable ideas were brought forth on how to make the guilds/committees even more visible to those who have yet to find their niche to share the gifts God has given to them.

On February 9th in the auditorium, following both the 8 & 10 services, we will hold our Ministry Fair. Here you will find representatives from each of the guild, ministries teams at S. Mary's ready to tell you about their ministry and answer any questions you may have. We hope that through this vehicle you may find a place (or two or three!) where you can use your unique gifts in the service of others for the glory of God.



Vestry Highlights for January meeting

Vestry Highlights from January 15, 2014

After a call to order and approval of the minutes, Janet Bowne, chair of the Stewardship Committee, made a brief presentation of the progress on the annual stewardship campaign that kicks off at the annual meeting, January 26th. Father Nathan reviewed an updated timeline for the Vision 2014 effort. Father Nathan also presented proposed action steps relating

David Robinson reviewed the final financial results for 2013. While revenue for December was strong, we ended up the year with a deficit of \$41,000. David conveyed the Budget and Finance Committee's



deep concern that deficits cannot continue and that strong action is needed in order to turn our current pattern of deficits around. More information on this effort will be forthcoming at the annual meeting.

Finally, the Vestry considered a final draft of revised

to priest misconduct that took place over 60 years ago. building use policies and fees. The new policies are modeled on those used by Saint Luke's Cathedral and the fees adjusted to be more competitive.

> Respectfully submitted, Hugh Smith, Senior Warden

Stewardship Update

by Janet Bowne

Much to my family's dismay, I love the movie "It's a Wonderful Life." Everyone knows the story. George Bailey, with help from his guardian angel, Clarence, gets to see what his community would be like if he hadn't been born. Frank Capra's classic shows us that everyone has significance and has the power to make a difference. The same axiom can be applied to wonderful institutions like Saint Mary's. Imagine what life would be like if Saint Mary's hadn't existed. Our history is filled with a long list of what Saint Mary's has contributed to the greater community. Our lives are enriched by the worship and the numerous ministries carried out daily. Some of our ministries like the Soup Kitchen and our work with Long Creek (formerly the Maine Youth Center) have deep roots. Other programs like Souper Supper, a twice-monthly free supper open to all, is more recent. Late in 2013, three of our parishioners returned to Haiti for a second mission trip...that's right a second mission trip!! And then there are the Pastoral Partners and Eucharistic Visitors who offer pastoral support daily. The Memorial Reception Committee provides a gracious reception for all funerals held at Saint Mary's. Our Musical Ministry adds so much to our worship weekly. The Buildings and Grounds Committee sees to repairs large and small on all of our spaces. And this is only a partial list--the annual report tells the whole story. Our community and our personal lives would be so much poorer without the work done at Saint Mary's and the relationships and friendships that have been knit together. Time and again, our parishioners use energy and enthusiasm to meet a need. Because of you, our parishioners, we will never have to experience our world without Saint Mary's.

"To God who by means of his power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of: to God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3: 20-21

For the Stewardship Committee, this excerpt from Ephesians sums up our feelings about our community here at Saint Mary's. Our parish has so much talent and energy. The synergy of joining together and working to the glory of God is greater than we can imagine! We have new spaces and the possibilities seem endless for the more ministries to sprout up and grow. In February, we will have the chance to reflect on our stewardship, our personal response to God's generosity and the way we share His gifts of time, talent and treasure. You'll have the chance to part of a dialogue on Saint Mary's and the future and, later on, you'll receive information on making an annual financial pledge. We hope you'll support Saint Mary's to the fullest extent you and your family are able. Thank you to Father Nathan, Tim Grace, Debby Hammond, David Robinson and Jim Stoddard for serving on this year's Stewardship Committee. Stay tuned--there's lots more to come!

Saint Mary's reaches out - Near and Far

Excerpts from the Sermon: Reflections on Haiti Rebecca Clifford Pride - January 12, 2014

Like Abram, we are called to leave our country and kindred ~ to leave the home of the familiar, and to go toward the land that God shows to us. AND SO: Kelly and Bruce and I pack and leave... with expectation and trepidation. We leave our loved ones behind. ... I cross that threshold at the Portland International Jetport knowing that I, that all of us, are in God's Hands whether we are here or in Haiti. I go, know-



ing that we are all one and that I will meet other children of God wherever I go. All of God's children are members of one body, each of us has his or her own gifts, something to offer, something to receive. There is SO MUCH to learn, so many ways in which to grow \sim ... that growth comes the moment we leave our comfort zone and wade in to God's wide world, trusting in His guidance and His presence and His protection. It is in the wilderness \sim and wilderness is any place that is new and foreign to us \sim it is in the wilderness that we encounter TOTAL reliance on God and that is paradoxically as scary as can be and simultaneously remarkably life-giving. It is there in the wilderness that we are stripped of the distractions and clutter of our lives, all the time-consuming details that steal our days away, that limit the fullness with which we are intended to live our lives.

I felt as awe-struck as a child is on Christmas morning to be a part of and a witness to the deep faith of our Haitian brothers and sisters as evidenced in their church service and the way they lead their daily lives. God is SO REAL and PRESENT to his children in Haiti. In my limited ability and experience in observing the depth of Haitians' faith, I am awed by the immediacy of the word of God in their lives, their dependence on God for their daily existence and their life's meaning.

SO, now the biblical paradox of the last being first and the first last makes perfect sense to me. Haitians ~ among the poorest people in the world, "the last" by many human standards of reckoning ~ Haitians understand and live God's word with an immediacy and an intimacy that marks them as "first" in all that matters.

When I - who am so rich by worldly standards, a citizen of this first world country - when I am in Haiti, I feel as if I am the one who "has been blind," who has "sat in darkness." For our brothers and sisters in Haiti see God so clearly, so purely ~ God is with them like their breathing which keeps life going on within them. They take me under their wing and offer such a profound and living model of faith that I almost tingle with the tangible presence of God in their midst.

...in observing the depth of Haitians' faith, I am awed by the immediacy of the word of God in their lives, their dependence on God for their daily existence and their life's meaning.

Now, please know that I love my beautiful life here with you. In truth, I have never known dungeon or prison circumstances at all. I am rich beyond measure. I love God and my family. I am immensely grateful to God for all that I am and for all the blessings He has given me, but I can become perhaps too comfortable and forgetful of our true purpose as God's children. Often times I enjoy perhaps too much this temporal paradise in which I find myself.

On the other hand, Haitians enjoy few \sim if any \sim comforts such as electricity, and so they go to bed soon after dark and get up with the roosters and make the most of life's natural cycles. The natural rhythm of their days has much to teach us about our sometimes frenetic pace. It seems to me that because of their financially impoverished existence they are more open or maybe better equipped to allow the light of God to penetrate their lives more fully or more clearly than am I. They don't place their hope on the Patriots or lottery tickets, on the stock market or oil delivery, their hope rests solely in God.

Being in Haiti "wakes me up," redirects me, and I witness the conditions in which MANY of God's children live in our world. I see more clearly what Mother Teresa prayed: Lord, make us worthy to serve the poor around the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Let us come together to give to others until it hurts for then the poor and needy will enrich us and show us Jesus.

Going to Haiti... or to St. Elizabeth's Pantry to be in relationship with immigrants... or to the Long Creek Youth Development Center where we play games, eat, and talk with our incarcerated boys... offers us a different perspective, a shift in focus. The face of God did not only move upon the waters during creation; God is present in each one of his creations, in each of us, and it is for us to discover God in one another and in our selves.

My perspective has changed as a result of going back to Haiti this second time; my understanding of Haiti has evolved dramatically. Two years ago, I felt such sorrow for the situation in which most Haitians find themselves. I went, knowing I would receive far more than I could possibly give, but grateful ~ as self-serving as it might sound ~ to be doing my little part of what I perceived to be God's work in Haiti. I focused on what Haitians lacked, what was missing from their lives and land. NOT ANY MORE: NOW, after this second trip, I view Haiti with awe, as blessed because Haitians understand that they are rich in the Lord. This year I have re-

turned much more aware that it is the Haitians who are doing God's work, and that I am the recipient of their gifts.

YES, Haiti's government doesn't function well, but who are we to talk??

YES, the Dominican Republic is cruel to Haitians living in their country, but the DR also just completed a magnificent "College of Haiti" for the Haitians.

The new bishop of the north, Ogé Beauvoir, has many plans to revitalize education, and we visited the College of Agriculture, which is struggling to regain its former vitality.

SO, God's grace is evidenced at every turn. I have returned home this second time feeling much more HOPE for Haiti. That HOPE is as much a change in me as in Haiti.

And while our homes offer us warmth, love, security, serve as our very foundations, by going away from home with the hope of doing something good in God's name for others, we experience a remarkable awakening of God's moving in other ways, in other places, and within our selves. When I think of Haiti, I remember John Muir's words: I only went out for a walk but decided to stay out until sundown, for I found that going out was really going within.

When I am in Haiti, I go within myself more deeply. I pay more attention to God's working His magic in my heart. I am more focused on "worshiping the Lord in the beauty of holiness," as this morning's psalm states.

When I leave home, I rely more completely on God ~ and to a good degree on Kelly ~ and I am aware of your prayers carrying us through. It is true, as Kitty stated, that "we experience spiritual regeneration and new life in God and new perspective on what we are capable of attaining as His children. And, wherever we go, God is there, waiting for us. We are never alone. There, God's others will help us to discover more of who we are and who we are meant to be and hope to become ~ for God, for others, and for ourselves." And so, as those school girls sang in the Baptist church choir in Haiti, may we choose to sing in our hearts to God: "By faith, I put my life in your hands. Take my will, Lord; make it yours. All of me is yours.

Amen.

This is only a portion of a wonderful sermon; for a complete copy, please contact the parish office)

Here are a few comments from our kids in Haiti regarding our work there:

Dear Lord, here I am; take me where you will."

It was kind of great pleasure for me to have you as my TOEFL teachers during these last days. I cannot explain my feeling!! I actually can't !!! All I can say is that your work was wonderful and helpful to us. "No words to express my feeling toward you!" What I think you have to do is to keep on teaching as you are!!! ;-} Best, Wesley S.



Dear Teacher.

My words are not enough to explain you my joy to be with you for a long time. I learnt a lot about many things I didn't know. SO I thank you a lot for your work. You did a very good job. I hope you success in everything. And also God will bless all of us. Your job was exceptionally great to us, and I'll pray to God so that he can protect us in everything. Sincerely, Jean E.

It's a great pleasure to me to thank you. Without hypocrisy I feel very to meet you. This piece of paper don't appear me sufficient for writing my thanks. I don't have money to give you for your big help, but God will pay this 4 me. I really like the way you teach. We have the same blood.

I hope to see you soon. God bless you. Love and Peace, Herwens

I liked your attitude from the US. God bless and protect you for all of your life because you help people. Pierre S.

First of all, I have to say thank you to all of you who accepted to come to Haiti and to help. I love the way you teach, you make me feel ready for the TOEFL test. I was going to forget the candies. Thanks. Next time bring more (laugh). Sincerely, Jodex S.

We want your visit more frequently. In these days, we felt ourselves in a US classroom. Thank you cause was coming and we hope to see you frequently, frequently, frequently. God Bless You, Valdy J.

...If you spend more time with us, it will be pretty good. And my advice is to continue this kindness;-} Smay S.

National Marriage Week: February 7-14

Celebrate National Marriage Week by investing in YOUR relationship! Whether you are married, dating, or engaged, the <u>Couple Check-up Assessment</u> is a fantastic tool to improve the health of your relationship. And isn't this the perfect time to work on the quality of the most important relationship that you have here on earth?! Here are the details:

- Go to www.couplecheckup.com
- Pay \$35 per couple when you sign-in (the BEST investment that you can make with this money!)
- Sign-in with Group # 14780 2014, which is the number just for Saint Mary's.
- Print out your report and let the conversation begin!
- Then, if you want, make plans to bring your report to the *Couple Check-up**Retreat as described below for some help in improving your relationship.



Couple Check-up Retreat: Saturday, March 1, 1-4:30 PM in the Parish House

Bring your *Couple Check-Up* report with you for this brief time apart to discuss the challenges of communication, managing expectations, and much more. And bring an open mind to learn new things! There is tremendous wisdom in the experiences of those around us and you will learn some simple tools which have helped thousands of couple to improve the quality of their life together. Come and learn from Fr. Nathan and from your fellow parishioners about the joys and challenges of our most important relationships.

How to Host Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is a friendly intergenerational gathering for all parishioners and certainly a way for us to welcome visitors following Sunday services. We at S. Mary's enjoy these informal times with parish friends and family over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. So that this may happen, we invite you to share in hosting a Sunday. If the various guilds of S. Mary or two families working together host a Sunday, we can enjoy Coffee Hour all year! It makes for a fun experience as well. Hospitality sign-up clipboard is available on the table outside of the Guild Room.

Here are the Guidelines for Hosting Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour takes place in the auditorium. Tables will be set up for you, and table cloths are located in the credenza. Coffee is already brewed by an 8:00 parishioner and set on the credenza. Place coffee mugs, sugar, spoons or stirrers near coffee urns. These items are in the kitchen. Half & half creamer is available in one of the refrigerators. Please arrive before 10:00 service to set up.

Coffee Hour need not be a fancy affair. We typically serve 50 to 75; 6 to 10 plated treats are needed. Glass serving plates are in one of the kitchen drawers. Some suggestions are sweet breads, such as banana, date nut, pumpkin or coffee cakes. Donuts, cookies and fruits are popular too. If you need financial support, we have a small budget to help defray costs! Place a few plates on the children's table. Also set a pitcher of juice on this table. Whatever you provide is most welcome!

After *Coffee Hour* wash, dry and put away coffee urns. Use sanitizer for coffee mugs, spoons and glass serving trays. Directions for operation are above the sink. If table cloths are soiled, kindly take home and launder. Put away tables folks will help you do this too.

If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact Betsy Stoddard at 829-2026 or jbstod@myfairpoint.net.

Please consider signing up or sharing a coffee hour with a fellow parishioner. Sign-up on the table outside the Guild Room.

Altar Flower Delivery

The Altar Flower Delivery Guild is responsible for delivering the flowers which grace the altar each week to parishioners who are ill, homebound or who are observing a special birthday or anniversary. It's one way of extending our Sunday worship to those for whom we have prayed. Presently we are a small team of dedicated members and would dearly like to expand our Guild. Please consider your participation in this giving ministry. If you have questions or would like to become a member, please contact Betsy Stoddard.

The Legacy Project:

By Jennifer Gregg

Almost There, Under Budget

Our year-end budget reconciliation, which included the reconciliation of the final construction bills, determined that the construction had been completed almost \$100,000 under budget. This result leaves us with a current "funding gap" of only a few thousand dollars! We refer you to the Legacy Project report in the Annual Report booklet for the financial details.



S. Mary's Legacy Project

Honoring Our Faith, Enriching Our Community

To have a construction project, particularly one of this complexity, come in under budget is almost unheard of, and is the direct result of the very strong, highly professional, collaborative working relationship this Parish had with Ledgewood Construction, Scott Simons Architects, and Norway Savings Bank. This relationship was forged and cultivated through frequent meetings where issues were discussed respectfully yet directly; solutions were reached through careful listening and thoughtful, broad consultation. Add to that the commitment of time and passion from the S. Mary's Legacy Building Committee and, in retrospect, it is no surprise that this result was achieved.

We reiterate our thanks to the inimitable Dick Miller, ably assisted by George Barrett, Chuck Horton, David Robinson and Jennifer Gregg, for this singular achievement.

Buildings & Grounds Update

by Jim Stoddard

We can be very proud of our new surroundings. A successful Legacy Campaign has afforded us with a beautiful campus that meets our needs not only for the present but for the future. The auditorium is spacious and bright and provides for wider use. The kitchen has been upgraded to code. The Guiding RAY classrooms are teacher-friendly and thus are conducive for learning the teachings of our Lord. The office spaces are very efficient. The James P. Dalton-Thompson Chapel is beautifully appointed. Above all, the Parish House is more environmentally friendly. We anticipate that the expenses will lower as the building operates more efficiently. This also includes the church building. We have made very prudent use of our Legacy dollars.

The next step is to maintain what we have. Yes, with that in mind, we are building endowment funds for maintaining the facilities over the long term. But we must also provide for current operating expenses: heat, electricity, maintenance of grounds to name a few. We must not fall short in that responsibility. All of this can only be accomplished through prudent stewardship. Our pledges must be able to meet any expenses planned or unplanned. Let us all work together to provide for the future needs of S. Mary's. We can certainly marvel at what our dollars have provided. Now, let us provide for future generations.

We will continue to do our part in using our dollars wisely.

Candlemas to be celebrated at Saint Mary's

On February 2, 2014, there will be a 'Candlemas,' also known as The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple, celebrating an early episode in the life of Jesus. It is also known as the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin. According to the Gospel of Luke, Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days (inclusive) after his birth to complete Mary's ritual purification after childbirth, and to perform the redemption of the firstborn, in obedience to the Law of Moses (Leviticus 12, Exodus 13:12-15, etc.). Luke explicitly says that Joseph and Mary take the option provided for poor people (those who could not afford a lamb) (Leviticus 12:8), sacrificing "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."Leviticus 12:1-4 indicates that this event should take place forty days after birth for a male child, hence the Presentation is celebrated forty days after Christmas.

Upon bringing Jesus into the temple, they encountered Simeon. The Gospel records that Simeon had been promised that "he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). Simeon prayed the prayer that would become known as the *Nunc Dimittis*, or Canticle of Simeon, which prophesied the redemption of the world by Jesus: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace; according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: to be a light to lighten the gentiles and to be the glory of Thy people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).

As part of this service, we are invited to bring candles which will be blessed for you to take home and use throughout the year, and we will all sing the Nunc Dimittis as the Choir and ministers and others process around the nave. The choir will sing a special anthem for this feast day, and we will all enjoy the beauty of 'bringing light' to the world on Groundhog Day.

Saint Mary's reaches out - Near and Far

OUTREACH OUTLOOK Last year (2013) was an eventful and busy year for the Outreach Committee and the entire parish of St. Mary's as we continued to find ways to help those in need wherever they may be. With the tremendous support, contributions and just plain hard work, there were 24 events and on-going projects last year to help those in need directly and raise funds to support other projects or organizations. Thank you to everyone for your commitment.

Thanks to the continuing support of the parish through your pledges, the Outreach Committee, acting on your behalf, provided financial support to 16 organizations throughout the year who help those in need both near and far. The number of people impacted by this help is significant, and the Committee wants to thank all of you for your support. For details regarding the projects, events and groups receiving financial support, please see the report of the Annual Meeting.

Up-Coming Events:

This year the Outreach Committee will continue to identify and present projects, events and missions to encourage all members of the parish to become involved in this great and needed work. Here are a few up-coming events for your calendar:

- -March 8th Habitat Work Day-come help build a house
- -March 22nd -Book, Bake and Soup Sale--start collecting books you would like to donate
- -April 26th-Habitat Walk/Run Break out your running or walking shoes

News will be coming in future weeks regarding mission trips to support Urban Promise in Camden, New Jersey, and an Episcopal parish in Maine later this year. Look for these exciting and new opportunities.

Research shows that actively giving through hands-on projects and work results in greater joy and happiness to both those giving and those that receive.

A Note of Thanks from Long Creek to Saint Mary's

The Program Manager from the Maple Unit at Long Creek sent this note in gratitude for the Long Creek Committee. For those who don't know, Long Creek Youth Development Center functions as a total educational rehabilitative resource within the state-wide correctional setting. In this area, the Center provides care, custody and security for its residents, holds for court evaluations/diagnostic services, education, physical education and recreation through the <u>A.R. Gould School</u>, volunteer services, social services, worship services, as well as medical services to its juvenile offender population. A number of parishioners volunteer at Long Creek supporting the Maple Unit with gatherings or just "hanging out" time. If you are interested in learning more, contact Marian McCue (mmccue@maine.rr.com).

Dear Saint Mary's parishioners

I would like to thank all of you for the visit to Long Creek Youth Development Center. The residents enjoyed the treats and gifts. The time spent here for any kid is trying and stressful. The time you give them to feel like a part of something is valuable to them as well as the staff. Christmas is not always a happy time for our residents; what most of these kids know is disappointment and poverty. The gifts you give them in spirit and material items is much appreciated by the residents. I have overheard conversations between residents making mention of how nice you were to bring these treats for kids in jail, "at least some one remembered us." I think that speaks volumes for the work you do and time you spend bringing any amount of happiness. You are welcome to just come in and visit, you don't need to bring gifts and treats every time. The staff of Maple are grateful to you because they also benefit from an enjoyable night of happiness. We here at Long Creek believe in showing kids that adults and authority figures can be nice just for the sake of being nice and not asking for anything in return. The parishioners of Saint Mary's do a fantastic job of not making the kids feel like they owe something back.

Thank you All and have a Happy and Safe holiday, Jerry Dixon, Program Manager Maple Unit, LCYDC

This is a wonderful drawing of thanks that the kids on the Maple Unit created for Saint Mary's.

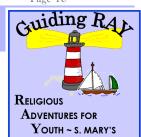


Christian Formation - RAY Beams

JOIN US!

9:15am-9:30am – Family Chapel with Father Nathan (Fr. James Chapel in Parish House) 9:30am: Godly Play classes begin promptly for K-5 and Nursery (Guiding RAY spaces downstairs in Parish House)

10:35am: Pre-K-Grade 5 children join their parents in church for the Eucharist Coffee Hour for parents and children in the Auditorium following church Nursery care is available every Sunday of the year



This Month at Godly Play

February 2: Parable of the Good Shepherd The primary sheep and shepherd parable of Jesus, recognized as authentic by many scholars, is the shepherd who searches for the one sheep that is lost and leaves the ninety-nine to do so. In this presentation, the gate is left open as the shepherd searches for the sheep; we also find that many of life's conflicts find meaning and resolution in the themes from Psalm 23 and John 10, also present in the lesson.

February 9: Parable of the Sower This parable is found in all three synoptic gospels and the Gospel of Thomas. The parable introduces the question of "what is the Kingdom of Heaven" really like?" and describes Jesus' promise of abundant harvest, is followed by an allegory that expresses the concerns of the first century Church.

February 16: Parable of the Great Pearl This Parable continues the discussion about "What is the Kingdom of Heaven really like?"

February 23: "Work Day" In Godly Play, children's play is their work, in which children are encouraged to do the "work" of discovering answers. Once a month, we offer a Godly Play session with an extended work time. On these days, we begin with our circle and instead of hearing a story, we go directly into work time. This gives the children time to finish ongoing projects, explore materials more deeply, and have an opportunity to work with more stories.

Family-Friendly Events in February and March

Tuesday, 11 February – Sledding at Portland Country Club
Friday, 14 February and 28 February, 5-7pm: Cook's Night Out! S. Mary's Souper Supper – Free and open to all parishioners and members of the greater community. Soup, Salad, breads, desserts, served at table Saturday, 1 March – Mardi Gras Pot Luck and Parish Talent Show!! Magic, humor, storytelling, piano playing, singing, dancing and unforgettable moments in time occur before our very eyes. You may be five or eighty-five--no matter your age--please prepare a performance to share in front of our very enthusiastic Saint Mary audience.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Your Guiding RAY team welcomes your feed-back!

Julie Morrison: Godly Play Coordinator, Program Contact; Brenda Collins: Resource Coordinator;

Jennifer Curran: Special Events Coordinator; Heather Gale: Family Chapel Coordinator

Jennifer Gregg: Communication and Administration; Aleece Herlihy: Volunteer Coordinator

Julie Otte: Sunday Morning Greeter, Nursery Coordinator

Community Souper Supper - February 14th and 28th

Enjoy this community-wide fellowship offering, dining in a relaxed candle-lit atmosphere. Offered twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 5-7pm in the parish house auditorium. No reservations required. Just bring your family and friends and enjoy! It's a blast!

Cinema Night at S. Mary's after Souper Supper on Feb. 14th!

The Feature of the evening will be "It Happened One Night" (1934)

A Valentine's Day Special! A spoiled heiress, running away from her family, is helped by a man who's actually a reporter looking for a story. Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert (105 min)

High School Youth News!

With the encouragement of Becky Pride, Meg Hurdman and Father Nathan, in August 2013, Jane Stegemann and her assistant coordinator, Ruth Smith, a junior at Falmouth High School, invited the youth of the churches in Falmouth to form an ecumenical high school youth group that serves as a year-long precursor to the formation of a Young Life group (see Younglife.org). The name of the group is "Falmouth Unites Now in Serving God" (FUN IS GOD) and the purpose is to encourage youth to place God and fun together and make their spiritual growth a priority.

<u>How?</u> We love and care about these children of God and provide monthly events where they are encouraged to bring friends to activities, have fun earning community service hours, and enjoy a meal while experiencing safety and fellowship. We pray together and appreciate God's many blessings. The high school youth are learning that there are people beyond their church walls who also believe in God (this may serve to strengthen their faith and connection with their existing churches and with others who they see at school), they are practicing speaking about faith and asking questions such that they are gaining experience with peers in a faith community beyond their church (this may encourage them to continue this faith practice as they journey forward after high school graduation), and they are having fun as they are encouraged in their connection with God, and each other (this practice may serve to enhance their ability to use their faith to help them cope in the future).

How have the youth responded to these monthly opportunities? Six of our high school S. Marians

attend and their parents have provided transportation, encouragement and some financial help with restaurant

events. Thank you to all parents and other parishioners who are praying for the high school youth in their faith journeys. Since the church communities of Falmouth are currently experiencing the joy of joining together to glorify God, we anticipate the hope of YoungLife starting in September 2014. The next meeting to encourage this effort will occur at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 28th at 211 Winn Road, Falmouth.

Please join us in the deeply gratifying experience of sharing the love of God with our youth by attending this meeting.

If you have questions or comments, please email Jane Stegemann, Licensed Psychologist and Commissioned Minister, at jhsteg@gmail.com and/or call at 797-8422.





Calling all Youth! Get ready now for the summer!

Episcopal Youth Event – EYE 2014 *July 8 –13* at Villanova University in Philadelphia.

Come together with over 1000 young Episcopalians from across the Western Hemisphere for inspired worship, awesome speakers, community service and tours of this historic city. You will never forget this experience! Contact Jane Hartwell to attend: jhartwell@episcopalmaine.org

Young Life Camp at Saranac Village, NY

July 6-12 in the Adirondack Park. Sign-up now for the best week of your life! It's true. Join high schoolers from across southern ME and Seacoast NH on a bus to Saranac for a week you will never forget. Waterskiing, tubing, hot tubs, sailing, beach volleyball, parasailing, ropes course, game rooms – not to mention the crazy games, amazingly good food, and awesome Club meetings for which Young Life is famous. See www.younglife.org FMI, and ask Fr. Nathan for a registration form!

B.I.O.N. Camp

August 19-23 at Camp Bishopswood near Camden, ME. For all youth who are now completing grades 6-12, this is a unique opportunity to gather with young people from across the state for a time of music, learning, fun and games. Mark your calendars now and be on the lookout for registration forms!

Looking Forward to Events in February and March!

February 2: *Candlemas* – The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple

Bring a candle or two from home to be blessed as we celebrate this ancient Feast with a candlelight procession and special music (and perhaps a groundhog sighting!).

February 9: Parish Ministry Fair

Come to learn more about each of the different ministry groups, guilds and committees at Saint Mary's. Come to find your place of ministry within this parish family.

February 7-14: National Marriage Week

Be part of a national effort to strengthen marriages of all kinds. Take a relationship assessment called <u>Couple Check-Up</u> during this week and gain some objectivity about your relationship.

March 1: Couple Check-Up Retreat

All couples (even those not-yet-married) are invited to a brief time apart to talk through their <u>Couple Check-Up</u> assessments and to learn from one another about how to strengthen our relationships.

March 5: Ash Wednesday

The start of Lent. A day of special devotion, marked by fasting, acts of discipline and self-denial. There will be multiple opportunities for all to receive the imposition of ashes.

March 16 & 23: How to Discover Your Spiritual Gifts (Adjusted dates!!)

A series of two Sunday afternoons workshops designed to teach about spiritual gifts as understood in the Bible, and to help each person to discern their unique God-given gifts for ministry.

March 22: Outreach Book, Bake & Soup Sale, 9am - 1pm. Drop off books anytime now!

March 28-30: TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Youth Weekend

A weekend retreat at Trinity Church in Portland for all high schoolers from across the state of Maine. Fr. Nathan will be one of the staff leaders for this annual event.

News, Notes, Kudos, Dates & Reminders

(Send your 1-3 line notes, announcements or thanks to Beth at admin@smary.org by the 20th of the previous month)

A GREAT skating party tonight at Family Ice and many thanks to Jenn Curran and the Guiding RAY team for organizing it all! It was a bit nippy out, but those who came out clearly had a swell time. Jenn, it was super, and thank you so much

Kudos to Anne LaFond, Betsy Stoddard, Talie Harris for cleaning the kitchen from top to bottom - inside the refrigerators, the oven, the cupboards - looks beautiful!

And a special thanks to Onnie Hasting for defrosting the stand up freezer.

Thanks to Becky Pride, Kelly lanno, Bruce Fithian, and Charlie Hurdman for the Haiti presentation on 12th Night, and to Becky for an inspiring sermon on January 12th.

Thanks to Hugh Smith for the sound system in the auditorium; can't wait to test it out!

Thanks to Janet Bowne for filling in for Marge for another Memorial reception. The families are so thankful and so are we for you and Jennifer stepping in to fill these big shoes.

Thanks to David Robinson and the Budget and Finance committee for stepping in to fill the Treasurer shoes and for the informative sessions earlier in January. All your work preparing the budget and the Annual Meeting is much appreciated.

My dear Saint Mary's family,

(and although I worship 'up the road', I sincerely feel so fortunate to call you my church family also),

I'm truly SO blessed to be among you! I **know** this most every day of the year, but you point it out so powerfully during the Christmas season through your smiles, your greetings, your treats and your many and generous gifts that I get so overwhelmed and humbled. Thank you! There aren't words to express how grateful I am, and how warm and loved you make me feel. I have the BEST job, and I get come here every day. God is so good!

May we, as a family, continue to grow together, work to build and breakdown what needs to be, and fully nourish each other in Jesus' name. Thank you again for sharing yourselves with me.

Love and so much more, Beth



Here are some important dates in our Saint Mary's parish family

Happy February Birthdays to:

1	David Snow	9	Luke Brown	19	Ellie Winter
2	Tatjana Connors	9	Matthew McGonigle	_	
	•			21	Colby Becker
2	Joe Herlihy	9	Griffin Rhoades	21	Aaron Demers
2	Regina Raeke	9	Sandy Snow	22	Hailey Talbert
3	Valerie Kyros	9	Mark Winter	23	Anna Dougan
4	Nick Horton	10	Katie Bryant	24	Jordan Otte
5	Connie Dayton	10	Tim Kearins	25	Tom Fales
5	Delilah Hastings	11	Janet Corey	26	Nikki Evans
5	Tom Pettingill	11	Connor Lund	27	Rose Claar
6	Margaret Holt	14	Harry Fast	27	Lauren Hourihan
7	Spencer Funk	16	Elise Allen	27	Michael McIntosh
7	Caleb Robinson	17	Teddy Orestis	28	Jack Heinzman
7	Emma Robinson	18	Erica D'Alberto	28	Blair Lindberg
8	Ed Ainsworth	18	Roger Murray	28	Charles Locke
8	Chris Thomas	19	Tim Follo		

We'd love to include good wishes on your birthday and anniversary. If we don't yet have the dates, please send yours and your family's special dates into the parish office, and we'll be sure to include them on your special month. admin@smary.org or call 781-3366 or drop a note to the church. Thanks!

HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:



16th Kim & Mark Diamond

17th Regina & John Raeke

26th Chamette & David Chadwick

28th Barbara & Michael Payson



Welcome to our Newly Baptized Baptized on January 19, 2014

Kate Lillian Ernst born January 18, 2013
Daughter of Cory and Kelly Ernst

Kiersten "Morgan" Doehne born on August 3, 2012
Daughter of Chris and Karin Doehne
and sister of Katie and Kristin



The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

Worship Leader Schedule: Feb.- Mar. 2014

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8:00am 8:00am		_	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10am	Altar	Flower	Coffee Hour
Ushers EM/Lectors	2		Ushers	Lector	Euch Minister	Acolytes	Flowers	Delivery	Host
Baer Connard Len Taylor			Charlie Hurdman	Shelly Maher	David Robinson	Julia	Hannah Russell	Edie Tucker	Galli/Evans
	Ħ	ž	Mark Winter		EM2 Nadine T.	Emily & Chloe		-	
									Ministry Fair
Len Taylor Lad Taylor T		5	Tom LaPlante	Harold Otte	Stan Eaton	Kevin	Helga Ryder	The Stoddards	Outreach
Becly Pride Ja	el.	1 0	Jack Heinzman		EM2 Linda Eaton	Lauren & Kyle			
Jim Kane Mac Hinkel	\top	- 4	odd Offe	Lowell Brown	Grea Unfricht	Elizabeth	Onnie Hastings	Ruth Kimball	Churchvard
uo:	П	1 (**)	Andrew McIntosh		EM2 Andrea M-H	ž			
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Rayle Ainsworth Chu	등		Chuck Horton		EM2 Tom Pettingill	Michael & Carrie			
Dave Fenderson Al Ahlers Low			Lowell Brown	Ella Brown	Terry Brown	pqt	Melissa Kane	ž	OPEN
Mac Hinkel Ma	Ma	CTT I	Mark Winter		Julie Morrison				
Al Ahlers Len Taylor Ton	+		Tom LaPlante	Marian McCue	Jeff Campbell	tbd	Lent	s	Jennifer Curran
Becky Pride Ha	H		Harold Otte		Jim Stoddard				
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Mac Hinkel Tom	Tom		Tom LaPlante		Greg Unfricht				

If unable to fulfill your scheduled duty on the assigned day, please find your own replacement and inform Beth in the office of the change, 781-3368

	Sat	2/1 9am - BSM	8 8:30 -2pm Trinity 9am - BSM 9am -3pm Vestry Retreat	15 9am - BSM ? Vacation - 2/21 →	22	3/1 9am - BSM 1 - 4:30pm Mar- riage Creck-up Re- treat Spm Mardi Gras Talent Srow& Potluck
4	Fri	1/31 Office Closed 12-Paywhereveryou are 5:30pm Alanon	7 Office Closed 12 - Pray-wherever you are 5:30pm Alanon	14 Office Closed St. Valentine's Day 12-Raywhereveryou are 5-7pm Community Souper Supper 5-30pm Alanco 7pm - Classic Cinema Ferrell Family on	21 Office Closed 12-Paywhereveryou are 5:30pm Alanon	28 Office Closed 12-Pay wherever you are 5-7pm Community Souper Supper 5:30pm Alanon
2014	Thu	1/30 10:30am Wisdom Seekers 12-Healing Eucharist 4pm Boy Singers of ME 7pm Choir rehearsal	6 10:30am Wisdom Seekers 12 - Healing Eucharist 4pm Boy Singers of ME 7pm Choir rehearsal	13 10:30am Wisdom Seekers 12-Healing Eucharist 4pm Boy Singers of ME 7pm Choir rehearsal	20 10:30am Wisdom Seekers 12 - Healing Eucharist 7pm Choir rehearsal AVE Deadline	27 10:30am Wisdom Seekers 12-Healing Eucharist 4pm Boy Singers of ME 7pm Choir rehearsal
Sopal Church of Saint	Wed	onday Prayer	5 10am Mainely Weavers 2-Noonday Prayer 6pm Outreach	12 Soorday Prayer 6pm - Vestry	19 12-Noonday Prayer	26 12 - Noonday Prayer
Episc	Тие	1/28 8:30 St. Elizabeth's 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm-Saff Meeting 7:00pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 AlAnon	4 10am OSL 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm-Saff Meeting 3-5 Bridge in Guild Rm 4pm Excom	11 10am OSL 11a-1p Garden Gub 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm-Saff Meeting 3-5 Bridge in Guild Rm Sledding at PCC 7:00pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 AlAnon	18 10am OSL 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm-Saff Meeting 3-5 Bridge in Guild Rm 7:00pm AA in Auditorium 7:30 AlAnon	25 10am OSL 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm-Saff Meeting 3-5 Bridge in Guild Rm 7:00pm A4 in Auditorium 7:30 AlAnon
Fe	Mon	1/27 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm Guiding RAY Team	3 12-NoondayPrayer	10 11am-Gardan Qub 12 - Noonday Prayer 1pm Guiding RAY Team	17 12-NoordayPrayer President's Day	24 12-Noonday Prayer 1pm Guiding RAY Team
	Sun	26 The 3rd Sanday after Epiphany 9am - ONE Contemporary Eucharist 10am - Brunch 10:30am - Annual Meeting and Vision 2014	2 The 4th Sunday after Epiphany Candlemas / Rite of Belonging Bam - Traditional Eucharist followed by coffee hour 9:15 am Family Chapel / Art & Faith 9:30am Guiding RAY classes/Middlers 10am - Contemporary Eucharist followed by coffee hour	9 The 5th Sunday after Epiphany. MINISTRY FAIR 8am - Traditional Eucharist followed by coffee hour 9:15 am Family Chapel / Art & Faith 9:30am Guiding RAY dasses/Middlers 10am - Contemporary Eucharist followed by coffee hour	16 The 6th5unday after Epiphany celebrant & prescher - Father Dayd ilingworth Bam - Traditional Eucharist followed by coffee hour 9:15 am Family Chapel / Art & Faith 9:30am Guiding RAY dasses/Middlers Ioam - Contemporary Eucharist followed by coffee hour	23 The 7th Sunday after Epiphany 8am - Traditional Eucharist followed by coffee hour 9:15 am Family Chapel / Art & Faith 9:30am Guiding RAY dasses/Middlers 10am - Contemporary Eucharist followed by coffee hour SOUP KITCHEN

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY



43 Foreside Road Falmouth, ME 04105 207-781-3366 www.smary.org

Our Worship Schedule

SUNDAY Hours 8:00am - Traditional Eucharist

9:15am - Family Chapel 10:00am - Contemporary Eucharist

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY Noon Day prayer in the Chapel and wherever you find yourself

THURSDAY

10:30 - WISDOM SEEKERS

12 Noon - Healing Eucharist

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road Falmouth, Maine 04105 Tel: 207-781-3366

E-mail: smary@smary.org Website: www.smary.org

The Rev. Nathan Ferrell, *Rector*The Rev. Christine Bennett, *Deacon*Bruce S. Fithian, *Organist & Choirmaster*Beth Shaw, *Parish Administrator*

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

March 2014 AVE: Feb. 20th

Saint Mary's Vestry 2014

Nathan Ferrell, Rector, 899-2543, nathanferrell@smary.org
Hugh Smith, Sr. Warden, 797-9310, hughsails@maine.rr.com
Carrie McIntosh, Jr. Warden, 797-3993, christmascollect@aol.com
Rayle Ainsworth, 846-3191, edandrayle@gwi.net
Linda Eaton, 749-3301, lnaas-eaton@msad51.org
Nikki Evans, 747-4776, nevans2@maine.rr.com
Tim Grace, 878-8081, tmgpac@me.com
Mac Hinkel, 829-3578, clebbyh@yahoo.com
Anne LaFond, 781-8820, alafond@maine.rr.com
Mary Ann McLean 781-4871, mmclean3@maine.rr.com
Patricia Mordecai, 396-4233, pcmordecai@gmail.com
Julie Morrison, 797-2201, jmorrison500@yahoo.com
Becky Pride, 781-4391, beckypride@maine.rr.com
Jim Stoddard, 829-2026, jbstod@myfairpoint.net
Mark Winter, 865-6766, mark.winter@usdoj.gov