

St. Saviour's Voice

St Saviour's Voice - Issue 203, Fall, 2020

Senior Warden's Message

I don't know about you but I find there are times I lose track of what day it is, and then worry that I might have missed something I was supposed to do. I remember, as a child, I had seven pair of underwear, each with a day of the week printed on them. Wonder if they still make these in adult sizes? That might help! Such crazy and up-setting times!

The Senior Wardens of the three churches involved in the partnership met and drew up a document outlining our guiding principles and plans for how to function as a united group. (The Senior Warden at St. Mary's is also present at our meetings, with the plan of becoming a full partner down the road). The first thing we did is rename the partnership. Our official new name is 'The Community of the Transfiguration on M.D.I.' This name has significance for us because William R. Huntington, a summer resident of N.E Harbor was inspired to write a collect for Transfiguration Sunday while sitting atop Sargent Mountain. We also are being transfigured in a way, as we work toward becoming one Episcopal Church presence here on our island.

Our search for a new Priest-in-Charge, to serve the congregations of Church of Our Father, St. John/St. Andrew and St Saviour's is moving forward. The job posting is now listed on the Maine Diocesan website as well as a nationwide one, and we have the names of 13 potential candidates to consider.

Your Vestry has determined that it is still unsafe to hold in-person services, so we will continue to provide online services for now. We are also exploring ways to make these services more accessible for those lacking Internet access.

Our congregation has continued to provide care for one another, with phone calls, meals, cards, prayers and more. Our grounds are lovingly weeded and watered, thanks to a devoted crew of gardeners. Loneliness and isolation is still an issue for most of us, but we will persevere and perhaps come out of this stronger, with new ideas for how to be the Church. I just need to remember that God is always with us, and needs our hands and feet and hearts to carry out God's work.

If you have concerns, unmet needs, or suggestions, please contact me, Gail Leiser or Muffet.

Linda Foster

Symptoms of Inner Peace...

Be on the lookout for symptoms of inner peace. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to inner peace, and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could post a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.

Some signs and symptoms of inner peace:

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature, and self.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Greetings from New York” (a message received by Sue Blaisdell from Mthr. Kathleen Killian)

“... John and I remember and keep all of the island churches in our prayers. Since we left, we've been in touch just a bit with a few folks. It's hard to believe it's been a year! And what a year it has been. So very busy settling all of the family affairs, and then the pandemic hit and waylaid us here in New York.

One thing that changed during the last few months is that we decided not to sell the little house here, but keep it for the family, though not as our permanent home. There is much deferred maintenance, but it's been slow going what with everything that has been going on.

We've just begun to do a little Sunday supply at Christ Church in Hudson (we're in Catskill), the church we worshipped with when we first arrived. Their priest retired during the pandemic, and they have started to meet in person, though with restrictions, and were in need of some help. It's been lovely to get back in the saddle (or should I say pulpit!). But still discerning, and still praying about where God is calling us. We've of course been in touch with Bishop Brown, and are aware of the position posting for the MDI churches. I can imagine there has also been much discernment and prayer among all of you too.

It's been such a challenging time on so many levels for so many, really for the whole world. Let's keep the faith together, and pray for consolation, strength, and peace. It may not seem like it at times, but grace and mercy are ever ours in Christ, as is his promise of new life ever true!

With love and blessings,

Kathleen+

Circles of Caring

Hello to you all,

I hope that you are well and safe. I am reaching out to you to see if you would be willing to join in a new program to start at St. Saviour's.

These past several months have been so strange as we deal with COVID-19 and the isolation it has brought to so many. The Vestry is looking for new ways to keep us connected. One is through zoom circles. The idea is that we would have several groups of nine people each that would join a zoom meeting each month or perhaps every two weeks to “check in and chat.” It would be an informal way of maintaining contact and checking on our church friends to see if there is something they need. It is to not meant to be a structured meeting or to have an agenda, just a place to reach out to those we have missed seeing at church and coffee hour.

We know that this will not be available to those parishioners without computer access, and we are brainstorming ways to connect those people, also. But if we get enough people to join our zoom project, perhaps one of the things that each member of the group could do is to check in with someone who is not connected and report news from them to their group. Some people could easily fall off the radar screen if we do not make a conscious effort at this time.

Please let me know if you are willing to help. Do not worry if you are not familiar with zoom, we can get you started. You do not have to be the host, there is no formal format, it is “friends reaching out to friends”.

Let's stay connected!

Diane Zito
 bluewatersailors@comcast.net



The Shape-Note Tradition, part 2: *Fa-Sol-La* or *Do-Re-Mi*?

In the first part of this series, it was noted that beginning in 1712 there was an increasing emphasis in New England congregations on musical literacy and reliance on printed music in worship. That led to the increase in printed method-books teaching music-reading skills, beginning with Rev. John Tuft's *Introduction to the Singing of Psalm Tunes* in 1721. The most prominent tool in the music-teacher's kit was the use of neutral syllables to stand for the steps in the musical scale. Many people are familiar with this technique through the song "Do, a deer, a female deer" from Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical play *The Sound of Music*. That system of seven syllables — *do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti* — has its origins in medieval music-pedagogy, first used by a Benedictine monk, Guido of Arezzo, in around AD 1015.



Rev. Tuft's book used these syllables in teaching students to read music, but not the familiar seven syllables (as in *the Sound of Music*) but instead only four, so that singing up the scale went like this: *fa, sol, la, fa, sol, la, mi*. To understand how this dichotomy arose, we must go back to Guido's system in the Middle Ages. He was concerned solely with Gregorian chant. For that type of music a "scale" of six notes was thought to be most appropriate, and so Guido's system uses six syllables: *ut – re – mi – fa – sol – la*. This system was found to be adequate by musicians for the next 500 years.

However, by 1600 musicians felt a need to develop a system that could accommodate a complete octave-scale (just like the scales that music-students have been learning and practicing for the last 200 years). Two different ways were found to modify Guido's hexachords. The Italians added a seventh syllable — at first "si," but in the 19th century changed to "ti." The Italians also disliked singing the syllable "ut" at the beginning of the scale and therefore changed it to a more open, singable (to an Italian sensibility) "do." Because in the late 17th and 18th Italian musicians dominated the European culture, this Italian method of singing scales became accepted as the norm for all professional musicians.

The English tended to use the four syllable pattern (*fa – sol – la – fa – sol – la – mi*); it is first found in Thomas Morley's instructional book, *Plaine & Easie Introduction to Musicke*, in 1597, and was in common use up through the middle 1700's. This is precisely the time when the English colonists in New England were developing their own musical culture based on singing Psalm-tunes and hymns. The first documented use in America was in the 9th edition of the *Bay Psalm Book* in 1698. The notes, in the normal round shape that we still know today, were printed on the customary five-line staff, but underneath the notes were the initial consonants of the syllables: F for "fa," S for "sol," L for "la," an M for "mi." Twenty-three years later, John Tuft refined this practice by using the letters in place of the heads of the notes, so that the initials appeared on the staff itself. Finally, in *The Easy Instructor* by William Little and William Smith (printed in Albany, NY, earliest complete copy from 1801, but an incomplete copy survives from 1798). Little and Smith used different shapes of note-heads to indicate the syllables: a triangle for "fa," an oval (the normal round shape) for "sol," a square for "la," and a diamond for "mi." Little and Smith did not claim to have invented the system — they said that a Philadelphia author, John Connelly, invented it in 1790 and assigned the rights to use it to them for their first edition in 1798. Thus the name "shape-note" became associated with this style of church-music.

Little and Smith's *Easy Instructor* set the pattern for successive tunebooks, first in the northern states, like John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music* (1810, in which appears his tune "Nettleton," to which we sing "Come, thou fount of every blessing"), and then moving toward the southern states, beginning with the *Kentucky Harmony* of 1816 and continuing until *The Sacred Harp* of 1844 and the *Hesperian Harp* of 1848. After that the use of shaped-notes and the four-syllable system faded out of mainstream music in America under the influence of the American-born but German-trained music educator, Lowell Mason, who strenuously advocated the seven-syllable (Italian) system as the only acceptable practice for trained musicians. Thereafter the "fa-sol-la" style of shaped-note singing was found only in the Appalachian regions south of the Mason-Dixon line, into which training in more up-to-date styles of musical education and performance did not penetrate.

St. Saviour's Parish Vestry Meeting - September 20, 2020

Members Present: David Cuthbertson, Gail Leiser, Carolyn Reed, Katherine Whitney, Eliza Vallette, Pat Samuel, Tammy Bloom, Linda Foster, & Diane Zito. **Guest:** Sue Blaisdell

We have received a request from the local AA groups about resuming use of the parish hall. It is agreed that this is permissible in very small groups, if they agree to thoroughly clean all surfaces after their meetings and wear face masks during the entire meeting. In addition, they must stick to a schedule that is known so as to avoid overlapping of other meetings and/or persons entering the space immediately following these meetings.

Rectory Common Roof: The roof over the rectory and especially the rectory common is in need of repair/resurfacing. A contractor has been contacted and will be inspecting the work needed soon. It was suggested that we might also consider a metal or other more permanent surface for roofing but with the consideration of whether this would affect the building's status on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

Recent Vestry Retreat: Thoughts were shared as to our experiences of this meeting (held both in-person and via Zoom). It was felt that John Burton's style of communication, like his sermons, was very effective. A take-away of the meeting was the impact of our pondering the question; *"Where will the parish be as a whole in 18 months without better communication with parishioners immediately"*.

Circle of Caring: Diane came away from the retreat with the impetus to reach out to persons in our parish family via multiple Zoom meetings hosted by various people and named "Circles of Caring". It is felt that we as a parish are not keeping up with communication (the current priest in charge search process, general condition of individual parishioners, status of ministries, etc). It was pointed out that this format also allows those who leave MDI for the winter to stay better connected to the parish. We should consider including members of the other partner parishes as another means of shared ministry and cooperative relationships. We have a joint Zoom account for the four parishes now and Muffet is able set up links to these Zoom meetings ahead of time so others can take turns hosting them.

Priest Search: Communication has been stilted with Canon Ambler in this matter but a recent meeting revealed that 12 candidates so far have expressed interest in the position. The list of candidates has been received by the Committee and they are reviewing it in preparation for setting up interviews. The call for more candidates is still open with no deadline currently set.

Request to step down from Vestry: Debbie Parlee has been having internet access issues making it hard for her to participate in meetings. She has asked to be excused from her current position on the vestry. We discussed that her input as a member of the parish and of the vestry is valued and she is welcomed to stay on in any capacity she feels comfortable with. She might perhaps attend from the church physically but alone using the internet connection there. We will reach out to her with our thoughts and prayers in this and any other matters affecting her decision.

Communications: We will remind Muffet to post edited minutes of our vestry meetings with the monthly newsletter. It was also suggested to send a mailing to the parish list asking each person to tell us how we might best communicate with them keeping them informed and an active part of the parish family. This could be accomplished as a form letter with fill-in responses and a return envelope. Like the annual stewardship letters, a note slipped into the letter written by a vestry member would add a personal touch to these. It was further suggested that including persons on our list that we have not seen for some time in church would be an easy and potentially effective way of reaching out to them and re-associating them with our parish life.

Rita Redfield had requested some time ago to use the parking area around the church at a pre-determined date in Summer 2021 as access for a garden tour planned at that time. She has recently contacted us to say this event has been cancelled.

We are currently considering and vetting candidates for replacement of our parish administrator so as to be prepared for when the time comes that Muffet wishes to step down.

If persons wish to be guests at vestry meetings, they will need to contact the vestry and include an email address so as to be sent a Zoom link and thus 'invited' to the meeting.

The Priest Search Committee will be sending out details of their work and decisions about the logistics of the priest-in-charge position to each parish's vestry for approval before these are sent to the Bishop for his consideration.

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Discussion was had as to how we might make available the windows souvenir cards and magnets to the public in the absence of the physical tours. Suggestions included placing information on the sandwich board in front of the church with a reference to our website where images of the card can be viewed and persons could order them. It was also suggested that local gift shops such as the historical society's might display these for us as part of their offerings.

Respectfully Submitted,
David A. Cuthbertson, Clerk

Milestones we celebrate!

October Birthday Greetings

October 1 Nancy Place Camerario
 October 8 Eleanor Raynes **99th birthday!**
 October 10 Sue Seavey
 October 15 Jeremy Blaisdell
 October 30 Louise Millar

November Birthday Greetings!

November 3 Sierra Bloom
 November 9 Muffet Stewart
 November 22 Rick Leiser
 November 26 Ellie Batchelder

Please let Muffet know if you do not see your birthday, or wedding date here, we love to celebrate with you!

The officiants for the coming few weeks are:

Sunday, October 11	St. Mary & St. Jude	The Rev. Steve Muncie
Sunday, October 18	Diocese Wide Service	The Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, Bishop
Sunday, October 25	Church of Our Father	The Rev. William Hague
Sunday, November 1	St. Saviour's	tba

Prayer List:

We pray for all essential services personnel, the first responders and healthcare workers dealing with this pandemic; for John Stewart, Ellie Batchelder, Gretchen Westphal who has moved to Courtland (42 Bucksport Rd, Ellsworth, 04605) and would love to hear from friends; Ruth Westphal (at Malvern Belmont); Lucy Triplett, Christopher Lebida, Nancy Camerario and her family, Christopher Walls, Linda Carman, Mary Smith, John Fibiger, Ray McDonald, Emily O'Connor, Sarah Cleaves, Barbara Dube, Nicholas, Bradley Seavey, Janet Flood, Rachel, Kendra Riley, Bob Frazier, Mimi, Charlie, Sarah B., Dickie, Alex, Penny Ayer, Arletta Sullivan, Anne Cleaves and Pauline Hartin. *Please let us know of updates.*

We offer prayers of thanksgiving to those families that usually donate altar flowers from July thru November, in memory of their loved ones: Wesley and Lucinda Dudley and Katherine Mary Dudley; F. Patricia Thomas; Tom and Margo Flynn; Boyer and Ethel Drake; Frederick, James, Edward, Mildred and Rev. Peter Steenstra; Lee and Barbara Alley; Lawrence and Mary Helen Hadley; Robert Raynes, Patricia Jackson and Betsey Peach; Chauncey A. and Mae D. McFarland, and Linda Palfrey; Warren E. Davis, Eugene B. Griffin and all those who serve/have served our country in the armed forces.

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The mission of St. Saviour's Parish of Bar Harbor is to put Jesus Christ first in our lives, to spread the Good News of salvation through worship, education and ministry, building on the gifts and heritage of our congregation, and to provide a welcoming atmosphere of love and compassion.



The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Reverend Thomas J. Brown, Bishop of the Diocese of Maine
Daniel Pyle, Director of Music Music@stsaviours.me
Margaret Stewart, Parish Administrator info@stsaviours.me
During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the buildings are closed, but the Church is open! Join us on YouTube Sundays for worship and Wednesdays for Music and Chatter. Tuesday Bible Study is at 10:30 am weekly on Zoom.