



The Messenger

St. Michael's Parish
78 Pleasant Street
Auburn, ME 04210

Volume 12, Issue 2
February 2010



HERE'S Sheryl & Jonathan Whitmore

Jon and Sheryl began dating in 1964 during the summer before their high school senior year. Jon attended Ellsworth High School and Sheryl, George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill. During High School Jon worked for WDEA radio as an announcer. He would play "Almost There" by Andy Williams to make a date for the night at the end of his shift so Sheryl would know he was on his way. Married in 1967 the couple moved to Meredith, NH while Jon went to college in Center Harbor.

In 1969 Jon got a position at WMTW-TV, Poland Spring, Maine. He is a Technician in master control during the evening shift. He has also

pursued his life passion of playing keyboards, and has had a church position since 1981 after years of lessons. Now he is an organist for St. Michaels, Grace Lutheran and Park Street Methodist. He also entertains at two retirement communities and five nursing homes where residents enjoy singing along.

The family lived in Poland for 15 years where their two sons went to school. Now the family is blessed with five grandchildren and a great-grandson. In 1987 the family moved to Auburn where they now reside.

Sheryl is a retired librarian who enjoys family and friends. She is a hospice volunteer and enjoys singing

for St. Michaels choir, Androscoggin Chorale, Maine-ly Harmony Accapella Chorus, and Dreamweavers quartet. She is also a gifted artist with her beautiful paintings, stenciling done in rooms at her home, weaving baskets as well as quilting, just to mention a few.

Sheryl became a confirmed Episcopalian in 2002 after EFM studies ended in 2001, and has since been on the Vestry and a Eucharistic Visitor. Both Jon and Sheryl have enjoyed years of worship and fellowship at St. Michaels since 1988.

We are so lucky to have a dedicated couple as friends in our home of St. Michaels. Thank you both for all you do!

All newsletter info must be received by the 15th of each month, directed to:

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January 31st, 2010
Annual Meeting after
10 AM service.

February 21st, 2010
We are pleased to announce Bishop Lane's visit to St. Michael's. Come and visit with Bishop Lane even if you have previously met him.

Mother & Daughter Give Their All—For Humanity With Love

Dr. Cynthia DeSoi's trip to Haiti in January is heavy on administrative work in her roles as Medical Director at Espwa, as well as Chair of the Board and dovetail with meeting with one of their major supporting foundations in Florida. She further

comments that she should have at least a few days to work in the clinic and with the children, which is what Cynthia loves best.

Her daughter Claire headed out in January for 27 months in Nicaragua. Claire

has agreed to keep us updated on her work and experiences during her time in Nicaragua.

Let us pray for Cynthia and Clair's work to be successful and return to their homeland safe and sound.



From Your Interim's Study

Dear Friends:

December was such a blessed time here at St. Michael's! Our Sunday School children, and teachers did a great job on Advent wreaths that they shared with people who took them home. In addition they undertook a Jesse tree learning project that they were kind enough to share with our 8 o'clock congregation. At the exceedingly well-attended 4 PM service on Christmas Eve, the children filled our Christmas crèche and sang (very much in key) Silent Night, Holy Night.

On the Saturday before Christmas, we had a visit from the Lewiston High School Chamber Singers. Their singing included both serious classical and contemporary Christmas carols and songs. The group of approximately 25 young people filled our worship space with real joy. There were two things that I thought about while I was there. (1) What a perfect acoustical and sacred place we have for that music? (2) With young people like those who sang that evening, there is real hope for our future! The ECW provided great refreshments that evening. Our young guests enjoyed them very much. Thank you to all the people involved in making the evening a success.

I had so much fun on the Monday before Christmas with the "St. Michael's Carolers". Granted, most of the singers were from the choir; but, I think the whole crew sounded pretty darn good.

As I mentioned, our early Christmas Eve service was very well attended. Not so our 11 PM service. I asked the Vestry to think about the late service with the two part question, "When?" and "If". Friends, please think about it as well.

Since I'm "from away", I, with consultation from your wardens, cancelled

services for January 3rd. I really don't like doing that. Now that I have "Can go through anything tires" and AWD on my car, I can fairly safely say that we won't cancel unless it's ridiculous out there on Sunday morning. Now, no one should consider risking life and limb to make a service in terrible weather. I count on you Maine folks to use the best judgment in that area. One thing that did happen as the result of the cancellation was that we were able to have the marvelous Lessons and Carols service the next Sunday. Readers had obviously read their parts in practice as they read with such clarity and feeling. Our choir sounded awesome; the congregation did also.

COMING EVENTS:

- On February 2nd at 7 PM there will be a service for the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. This service for **Candlemas** is a traditional service of light (A light to enlighten the Gentiles), with lit candles, a procession, prayers and psalm for light, followed by Holy Eucharist. I hope you can come, even if only to find out why Ground Hog Day is not the real reason for a February 2nd Celebration.
- **Bishop Steven Lane** will be making a formal **Episcopal Visitation** on Sunday, February 21st. He will be here to worship, to meet with Vestry, and to talk with our young people studying in the Discovery program. More importantly, dear friends, he'll be here to chat with all of you. Please come and meet him.
- **Ash Wednesday** services are listed in your calendar. Think about attending a **Lenten Study**. Tuesday night, Wednesday morning and Wednesday evening

The Rev. James R. Low

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opportunities are available.

Bless You All,

Father Jim +

Simple Soup Supper Study at St. Michaels

For five Wednesdays in Lent, February 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, there will be an opportunity for fellowship, study and worship from 6 PM—8:15 PM. We will gather for soup and bread then have a presentation and discussion, followed by various examples of evening worship. The general topic for the presentations/discussions will be **'Our Music and Worship'**. There will be a chance to explore our hymnody and service music, its rationale and history and to discover ways in which our hymns and other sacred music are linked with our Book of Common Prayer and with Holy Scripture. Presentations will include video/DVD as well as "five" resource materials including work by Rev. Nancy Roth and Rev. Linda Clark. This is NOT a course in singing. Rather, we will study the ways in which our poetry informs our spirituality. The course, with or without soup will be offered at 10:45 AM on those same Wednesdays.



Kid's Korner

The children of St. Michael's had a wonderful Children's Choir at the early church service on Christmas Eve, which was enjoyed by the congregation. After the service they celebrated the birth of Christ with a "Happy Birthday" cake for Jesus.



Prayer Chain

A group of seven individuals from St. Michael's has formed a prayer chain. The person to contact is Ellie Wheeler at 783-1037.

This chain is for immediate needs rather than the longer term on the prayer list in the church bulletin.

The names we receive will not be included in the church bulletin unless requested. We will do a two-week period of prayers and then



Ellie will check to see if we need to extend the period. These prayers are held in confidence.

A Prayer For The Sick

Hear us, Almighty and most merciful God and Saviour; extend thy accustomed goodness to this thy servant who is grieved with sickness. Visit (name) O Lord, with thy loving

mercy, and so restore *him/her* to *his/her* former health, that *he/she* may give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Michael's Carolers at Marshwood Nursing Home



L to R: Peggy Gatchall, Rhonda Cobb, Sheryl Whitmore, Diane Vincent, Bill & Fran Miller, Susan & Woody Trask, and Father Jim.



February Birthdays & Anniversaries



- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1st—Elvin Bryant | 12th—Joseph Pelchat
Melissa Sparks |
| 2nd—Dean Clavet
Matthew McNulty | 15th—Betty Ann Thomas |
| 3rd—Linda Barrington
Sheryl Whitmore | 19th—Madalyn Ide |
| 5th—Cleo Miller | 20th—Robert Bruce |
| 6th—Margaret Gatchell | 24th—Michael Szustak |
| 11th—Frances Miller | |



19th Evelyn & David Ehrenfried
24th Linda & Walter Barrington



Thanksgiving For, And In Memory.....

Flowers and wreaths decorating our church were given in thanksgiving for:

- Family & Friends, The staff at Barbara Bush Children's Hospital by the Bellevue Family;
- My loving husband Rick, by Rhonda Cobb;
- Our wonderful family, by Clifford and Mary Lou Rider.

In loving memory for:

- Raymond & Olive Beaudette, Aime Theriault by Paul & Jean Beaudette;
- James Christopher Bellevue, Armand Dube by the Bellevue family;
- Raymond & Beatrice Mitchell, John & Clara Bryant by Al & Bev Bryant;

- Jack Bussell by Mary Bussell;
- Charles Guice Price., Jr., Charles Guice Price, Buena Vista Inzer Gwin, Gerry Inzer Gwin Price, JoAnn Small Morgensen, Cherrill Ann Bretschger by the Chamberlin & Mogensen Family;
- Jack Busell & William Rider by Clifford & Mary Lou Rider;
- Joseph & Janet Smyc, Robert E. Harris, Sr., Mona Harris by Donna Harris, Diane Vincent, Barbara McAlister;
- Allen M. McCarthy, Brent Andrew McCarthy, Elizabeth McCarthy, Victor M. McCarthy, Charlotte E. Smith, Dwight B.H. Smith, Marily Dawn Smith, Virginia B. Smith, William A. Smith Jr. by Natalie McCarthy;
- George S. & Mary L. Miller, The Rev. Charles Hewitt, Arlene & George Hewitt, Joyce Roller, Reginald Keksz, Walter Monk, The Rev. Robert P. Barnes, Arthur & Eva Foster, Arthur & Alice Barnes, Richard & Louise Crowley by Frances & William Miller;
- M.E. (Joe) Sites and all my loved ones by Jan Sites;
- Joshua Szustak by the Michael Szustak family;
- William & Ann Thomas, Alfred French, Bessie Machnick, Edward Morrison by Betty Ann & Jim Thomas;
- Gordon Trask, Katharine Johnson by Woody & Susan Trask;
- Guy Washburn by Linda Washburn.

Food Pantry—Souper Bowl Sunday Feb. 7th

As you know, we assist our next door neighbor High Street Congregational Church with their "Food Kitchen-Pantry". The following are dates and the needed items on these dates. You will find a box/basket at the front door of our church as well as the back door of the Washburn Room to put your items into.

- Feb. 7th—Souper Bowl Sunday—any type of boxes or cans of regular or instant soup.
- Feb. 21st—Peanut Butter, Jams
- Feb. 28th—Cereal and canned juices.
- March 7th—Paper products, toilet paper, hand towels, etc.
- March 14th—Soaps, body, dish, hair, etc.
- March 21st—Canned veggies & fruits.
- March 28th—Baking needs, flour, sugar, etc.



February Schedule

Date	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Acolytes	Chalice Bearers	Readers	Prayers of the People	Ushers
Feb. 7 th	Rhonda Vickerson	<u>8am</u> Diane Dillon <u>10am</u> Fran Miller	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Ben Bellevue Gordon	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Maria Koski	<u>8am</u> Diane Dillon Janet Steeves <u>10am</u> Jon Whitmore Woody Trask	<u>8am</u> S. Chatametikool <u>10am</u> Bill DeSoi	<u>8am</u> Laurie & Iain Frumiento <u>10am</u> Aggie & Chris Bellevue
Feb. 14 th	Janet Kazar	<u>8am</u> BettyAnnThomas <u>10am</u> Joyce Baker	<u>8am</u> George Sheats <u>10am</u> Maddie Maame	<u>8am</u> George Sheats <u>10am</u> Mary Lou Rider	<u>8am</u> Paul Beaudette George Sheats <u>10am</u> Jon Whitmore Fran Miller	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Janet Steeves	<u>8am</u> Jim & Betty Ann Thomas <u>10am</u> Jan Sites & Natalie McCarthy
Feb. 16 th	Melissa Sparks						
Feb. 21 st	Melissa Sparks	<u>8am</u> Rhonda Cobb <u>10am</u> Sheryl Whitmore	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Clark William	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> George Sheats	<u>8am</u> S. Chatametikool Dennis Powers <u>10am</u> Jon Whitmore Caroline Sheats	<u>8am</u> Paul Beaudette <u>10am</u> Woody Trask	<u>8am</u> Benita Flynn BettyAnn Thomas <u>10am</u> Bettyann & Caroline Sheats
Feb. 28 th	Donna Sparks	<u>8am</u> Ellie Wheeler <u>10am</u> Aggie Bellevue	<u>8am</u> Ben Bellevue <u>10am</u> Ben Bellevue Gordon	<u>8am</u> Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Mary Lou Rider	<u>8am</u> Janet Steeves Melissa Sparks <u>10am</u> Jon Whitmore J. DerBoghosian	<u>8am</u> S. Chatametikool <u>10am</u> David Dexter	<u>8am</u> Carolyn Kasabian Janet Steeves <u>10am</u> Aggie & Chris Bellevue

Mark Your Calendars

February 2nd Candlemas

7 PM

Service of light, with lit candles, a procession, prayers and psalm for light, followed by Holy Eucharist.

February 16th SHROVE Tuesday

5:30 PM

Pancake Supper

February 17th ASH Wednesday

9:30 AM

Holy Eucharist Liturgy

7 PM

Holy Eucharist Liturgy

February 24th Wednesday

6 PM

Simple Soup Supper
& Lenten Study



Mini Notes



Thank You Jonathan



Jonathan surprised us at our ECW Christmas Party and we all sang along as he played both Christmas music and hymns. Thanks again Jonathan for taking the

time out from your busy schedule. We appreciated your music and our sing along.....

Before And After



Our tree looks bare after having all the items needed plucked off the tree and then, we see the wrapped Christmas presents under the tree for the four families in need. Doesn't it look great. And thanks to each and everyone who participated in our "Giving Tree". Also thank you Peggy Gatchell for dressing up our Christmas tree.

A Big Thank You

A big "THANK YOU" to our own Maria Koski who has worked very hard in keeping everyone informed as Editor of our church newsletter for quite some time. Unfortunately, or fortunately for The Diocese, Maria has a new added duty of being on a

committee at the Diocese, called Mission Strategy Study Group, and her time is getting very limited. When she asked if I (Betty Ann T.) would take over, I said "yes". Soooo, in order to have a great newsletter, I have to receive a "lot" of news from the people of St. Michael's. I'll do my part, if you will do yours. How's that for a commitment from all of us!!! Thanks in advance for all your help in making this a successful "Messenger". And thanks again Maria. Let's give her our "thumbs up" for a job well done.



Adult Education

A group of seven people met on Wednesdays in Advent to discuss the readings entitled " Looking at the World Through God's Eyes". We had some lively discussions as well as fellowship over coffee and goodies. Each evening we ended with evening prayers and intercessions.

We look forward to continuing our study for the month of January and February on Tuesday nights, from 7 -8:30. We will be discussing the book, "Meeting Jesus for the First Time" by Marcus Borg. Some copies of the book have been ordered. Please contact Fran Miller at 784-0040 if you will be joining the group and would like a copy of the book.



New Beginnings

New Beginnings Shelter For Youth is for homeless children between the ages of 13 thru 18. They could be

homeless due to a family dispute, a DHS problem, they may be on probation from jail or even a case management situation. These young people are taken in for a period of time, given needed personal items, guidance and support.

At the beginning of December, Ruth Burgess and Linda Rolfe set up a display with tags stating what was needed, such as, deodorant, tooth paste, socks, hair shampoo and conditioner, etc. to be given to teenagers at Christmas time. The people of St. Michael's once again were there to help those in need and the large laundry basket was overflowing with items. Thank you again for your heartfelt love and consideration for these youngsters.

If you know of a young person who needs help, please call Jack Waite at 795-4070 or 795-4056. If he is unavailable, a staff member can be of service.

Good Luck Patti In Your Retirement



Patti Powers has recently retired from her position as Office Assistant for Morton Buildings, Inc., Auburn. Congratulations and the best of luck in the future. P.S. Your hair is a bit

longer these days since this picture was taken in 2001, and you still look great! Have fun and enjoy life!

Article In Church Bulletin



Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.



FEBRUARY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7 PM Candlemas Service 8 PM Bible Study NO ECW this month.	3 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist I	4	5	6
7 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM <i>Storm Date for Annual Meeting</i> 2:15 PM Marshwood Service	8 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting	9 7 PM Bible Study	10 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist I	11	12	13
14 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Holy Eucharist 2:15 PM Schooner Service 5 PM Discovery Confirmation Class	15	16 <u>Shrove Tuesday</u> 5:30 PM Pancake Supper 7 PM Bible Study	17 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Liturgy 7 PM Holy Eucharist Liturgy	18	19	20 9-10:30 AM Adult Confirmation Class at Governor's Rest. Route 196, Lisbon Street, Lewiston
21 <u>1st Sunday of Lent</u> Bishop's Visit 8 AM Holy Eucharist II 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Holy Eucharist	22	23 7 PM Bible Study	24 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 6 PM Simple Soup Supper—Lenten Study	25	26	27
28 <u>2nd Sunday of Lent</u> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Holy Eucharist 5 PM Discovery Confirmation Class			⇒ St. Michael's Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 AM—2 PM. ⇒ Phone 207/782-1346 ⇒ E-mail: stmichaels@midmaine.com ⇒ Web Site: www.stmichaelsepiscopal.org			



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TO:

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Feature Story: Sheryl & Jonathan Whitmore



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Appeal From Haiti by Dr. Cynthia Desoi

This was sent to the Free The Kids Board of Directors this evening (Wed., Jan. 13th) from the founder of Pwoje Espwa Sud, which operates a highly successful orphanage and humanitarian complex in Haiti that feeds, cares and supports thousands of Haitians. The project is called Hope Village outside of Les Cayes, a city on Haiti's south coast that was also hit by the earthquake. Here is the plea:

⇒ "We are facing an increase in our population as orphaned children are identified and placed; there will be a food/fuel shortage until the road is repaired (and who knows when that will happen); more demands will be made of us as families request assistance to be

reunited with loved ones from PaP or seek help with the added financial burden of medical treatment. This will cost money. The capitol is in shambles. Government agencies have stopped working. Shipment of essential goods will be interrupted for an extended period of time. We are in crisis. We are counting on you."

Please call me if you want to help us, or visit www.freethekids.org. I have been in contact with folks in Haiti throughout the day, and the bad news just keeps coming. Many of our staff have lost loved ones, and many are frantically trying to get to Port au Prince to find family members. There

is no cell phone service, and no central source for information. We are very concerned about the status of the supplies (food!) we need to care for the growing numbers of orphans in our care.

Cynthia DeSoi, MD

Chair, Free the Kids

Medial Director, Pwoje Espwa Sud

