

# The Vine

St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church, WRJ, VT  
AUGUST 2010

## *Transition Season: Change Isn't Easy*

Transitions are difficult for most of us. Whether it be transitioning back to work after the weekend or a vacation or kids transitioning from one divorced parent's home to the other; most of us find it discombobulating (such a more precise word than simply to write, "disconcerting."). We have to shift gears, adjust to the new environment or situation, and then before we are ready or feel like it, we have to "get on with it."

Grant Patenaude and Stephen Pillsbury graduated from Lebanon High School this past Spring. Grant is currently at boot camp for the Coast Guard

### RECTOR'S CORNER

(now there's a transition for you!) and will be attending Springfield College in Massachusetts this fall. Stephen will be attending the New Hampshire Technical College in Concord this fall. These are big transitions for them and their families!

Denae Barton and Aimee Kidder both graduated from college and are out on their own - all grown up and facing grown up challenges and joy.

Billie and Frank Holcombe will be moving to Exeter, NH, in the next several weeks. We bid them Godspeed and farewell on Sunday, July 25th. They have been great parishioners here at St. Paul's and we will miss them, their fun humor, and all their involvement in our parish life. Their transition involves things like selling a house, figuring out what things will fit in their new place, adjusting to a new community, a new church, and new doctors.

Jane Carroll and Rich Kremer are moving to Germany for a year and Lexi's going to be studying there as well. Even though we know we'll see them before we know it, they, too, will be dearly missed. While they speak fluent German, it's still a transition to go from one culture to another: new friends, new living situations, new food. I know they are so excited for this as they love Germany but I bet they, too, will have some adjustments to make. And, then, 12 months from now, they will have to do it all over again when they return!

The biggest transition of all is death and since May, three wonderful parishioners have died: Linda Pillsbury, John

Continues on back page

## Godspeed, Frank and Billie!



Frank and Billie Holcombe received a St. Paul's blessing and send-off July 25. They are moving to Exeter, NH, and leave with our thanks for their friendship and many contributions to parish life. See the Transitions column on Page 2 for their new address.

## Think Confirmation: Class Starts Next Month

Youth Confirmation will begin in September and will continue until our bishop's visit on May 22nd, 2011. This class is meant to be a rich exploration of faith, our purpose, and the Episcopal Church. It is also designed to be as experiential as possible (i.e., think field trips). Youth need to be at least 12 and able to make a significant commitment to this process.

Classes will take place twice a month, on Wednesday or Thursday from 4-5:30 pm. In addition to meeting as a class, we will go on field trips, take part in a service project, and work with an adult mentor. If your young person is interested in finding out more, please talk to Nancy. And make sure to attend the youth/parent meeting after church Sept 19.

**A PERSONAL NOTE**

## Thanks For Your Help In Celebrating a Life

In May, we celebrated the life of my wife of nearly 21 years, Linda Pillsbury. May 29 was not an easy day for me, in many ways. One aspect of preparing and participating in this remembrance, for which I'm very grateful, was the assistance of our St. Paul's Family. In little and large ways the graceful assistance of the Parish provided for a service and reception that was truly "above the call" and supported everyone in attendance at a very difficult time.

Early in the planning process, Cheryl Elinsky volunteered to take over all of the planning and coordination for the day. To say I was relieved is an understatement. The Team that came together and presented such a wonderful celebration for our family, and friends did a fantastic job. This labor of Love was surely one of the things I will cherish about Linda's Memorial at Saint Paul's.

After the service and reception, I was told one of my Cousins remarked; "This is the way Church should be ...". It was clear that the quality of sensitivity and caring was evident to everyone present. To some, this may have been no big deal, but I am sure that without all of your help, the day would not have been the celebration it actually was.

*Thanks, from Andrew Pillsbury*

## Transitions

**Died:**

Lynda Boehm died on July 2.

**Moved:**

Billie and Frank Holcombe have moved to Exeter, NH.

Their new address is:

Billie and Frank Holcombe  
The Boulders of Riverwoods  
5 Timber Lake K110  
Exeter, NH 03833-5332

Rich Kremer and Jane Carroll are also leaving us – but only for a year! From early Sept 2010 through early Aug 2011, their address will be:

Nostizstr. 38  
10961  
Berlin, Germany

**UVIP AND YOU**

## UVIP Has Been Busy And Needs Support

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) has been busy working on a Support Book. Twenty of us have been divided into 5 teams each with a list of area businesses and organizations to reach out to and talk about UVIP and its work. When we meet with folks, we are also asking if they would be interested in supporting us financially through an ad in our Support Book.

This is the first time UVIP has done this, so there is more than a little trepidation about asking people, businesses, and even social service agencies for money! But we also truly hope that reaching out to our community in this way will also allow us to meet new people and build more friendships.

So far I have met with Chris at Hartford Pizza, who enthusiastically agreed to take out a ¼ page ad. The same was true for The Haven, who also want to support UVIP and took at a ½ page ad! This past week another member of UVIP and I went and talked with Melanie Moore at APD who said APD not only wanted to support us but wanted their ad to go on the inside front cover!

We're talking strong financial support and while some may be surprised at this, I'm not. UVIP has been working very hard to improve the lives of all in our community by focusing on two issues: public transportation to APD and a cold weather emergency shelter in Claremont. We have made great progress on both issues. We have some ways to go, however, because we are trying to change underlying issues and not just put a bandaid over problems. So many in the community are joining us to work on these and other issues and, for that, I thank God.

In addition to reaching out to businesses and organizations, each of us made up a list of individuals to reach out to. Cheryl and I have made a contribution to the Support Book and, if you are so moved, I welcome your support. We cannot do this work without continued financial support. Just write a check out to "UVIP" and either give it to me, put it in the offering plate, or send it to church.

I want to thank all St. Paul's folks who have been involved with UVIP so far, especially Rich Kremer who has been the Housing Team Leader for over two years! Way to go, Rich!

*Peace, Nancy*

### Help the Vine Grow

Send your Vine contributions to  
dan.mackie@yahoo.com.



## Mark These Dates On Your Calendar

Even though we probably don't want to, it's not too early to be thinking of September at St. Paul's. Here are a few dates to put on your calendars:

- Sunday, September 5 – last Sunday service at 9 am
- Sunday, September 12 – back to 8 & 10 am services with our traditional 9 am “Welcome Back Brunch.” Church School will resume and there will be a “Sign up Sunday” coffee hour after the 10 am service. Our monthly communion service at Brookside Nursing Home will also resume.
- Sunday, September 19 – choir resumes with rehearsal at 9 am in order to sing at the 10 am service. There will be a youth confirmation meeting after the 10 am service for all youth wanting to participate in the class this year and their parents.

## More Notable Dates

### Nancy's Vacation

Nancy is away on vacation from August 12 – 28. She and Cheryl will be in Scotland, returning to Iona for a week and then heading to Inverness for another week. Angie Emerson has graciously agreed to provide coverage for pastoral emergencies while Nancy is away. You can contact her at: 802-299-5866. In addition to taking the Sunday services on August 8 (while others are up at Rock Point) and August 22, Angie will celebrate at our Wednesday services. Thank you, Angie.

### Welcome, the Rev. Jean Jersey

On Sunday, August 15, the Rev. Jean Staffeld Jersey will take the service and Dan Weiser will be playing. Dan has also invited two Classicopia musicians (a violinist and cellist) to play that Sunday so this will be a real treat! Thank you, Jean and Dan.

## OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

# Haven Needs Volunteers

**Food Shelf** volunteers greet all who enter our doors. After identifying the reason for a visit, they take the appropriate action. Actions could be to receive donations; to assist visitors through the process of receiving clothing or food; to describe our array of services to a first time visitor; or to locate the staff person who can be of most assistance with a special need. In addition, volunteers keep the food shelf area clean, organized, and stocked.

**Food Demonstration** volunteers use items that are frequently found in our food shelf to create a wholistic and nutritional meal. This provides a nutritional education experience for the people who we serve. The focus of this program is to teach people how to make a healthy meal using food shelf ingredients. We often have vegetables such as jicama, fennel bulbs, or collard greens available; our volunteers turn this into a delicious meal and serve it at the food shelf entry way. They provide recipes and help locate the ingredients.

**Our Food Pick-Up** volunteers play a key role in keeping our food shelf stocked. They go out on a daily basis to various grocery stores and bakeries to pick up fresh meat, fresh produce, bread and bagels and deliver it to the food shelf.

**Clothing Room** volunteers sort through the abundance of clothing donations that we receive. They carefully select clothes to fill the clothing room according to the season, keeping tabs on what needs to be restocked such as children's clothes, dress suits, or warm boots. Their knowledge of what we have in the storage room allows them to create a special “shopping” experience to our visitors by checking the back room for special sizes or specific items.

**Child Care** volunteers provide supervision of children staying at the shelter when their parents are taking part in educational programs. Our education advocates provide tools and guidance to help volunteers engage in developmental play, supporting cognitive learning skills.

**Maintenance** volunteers provide ongoing support to keep our highly used buildings in functioning order. They help with painting, plumbing, and every other wear and tear issue that one could imagine. In the spring, summer, and fall they participate in grounds keeping activities that include gardening, pruning, and raking.

**Transportation** volunteers provide rides to shelter guests and after-care clients. It may be a ride to the DMV to get a driver's license, transportation for those moving from the shelter to permanent housing, or other transportation needs that are in support of a family fulfilling their goals. A valid driver's license and clean driving record are required.

**Education** volunteers support the numerous goals of families who are living at The Haven.

# UVIP Report: Support Book Campaign Kicks Off

Greetings from the United Valley Interfaith Project! Our Leaders have been busy over the last month with issue team work and with the Support Book campaign, which is off to a wonderful start.

UVIP Leaders from the Transportation Issue Team participated in a stakeholder's meeting convened by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission regarding bus service to Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital. UVIP Leaders publicly stated our enthusiastic support of the commission's recommendation for the creation of new bus route that will connect APD to the Lebanon green to Centerra. The team will build on this recommendation and work with other stakeholders to identify and secure a stable source of funding for the new route and to continue to identify other concerns people have around transportation.

UVIP Leaders from the Housing Issue Team continue to assist Claremont area churches to establish an emergency cold weather shelter by this winter. Leaders have met with Claremont officials and are working with other churches to develop and implement a shelter plan. In addition to the need for the shelter, this process has allowed for greater interaction with non-UVIP churches to build stronger relationships and address issues of justice in the region.

Also in Claremont, UVIP would like to extend an invitation from Open Hands Mission: they are seeking volunteers from churches to assist in preparing and serving food to their guests. Times are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 2 pm to 5:30 pm, with greatest need on Fridays and the third Saturday of the month. Please contact Doreen Needham at Open Hands if interested at 603-690-5747, [ka7oes@gmail.com](mailto:ka7oes@gmail.com).

A great deal of our time and energy has been directed toward our first Support Book Campaign. Twenty Leaders are part of this effort and we held trainings to kick off the campaign. We have already secured commitment from both major and minor supporters who will buy an ad in the book. For the next two months, UVIP Leaders will be engaging businesses, organizations and individuals to ask for their support, build relationships and learn of their concerns and vision for the region. Please contact your UVIP Representative or Tim Lenocho with thoughts on who we should contact to buy an ad.

Lastly, we want to inform you of two important UVIP events that we hope will have a strong turnout. First, we

will host a Candidate's Forum with the Granite State Organizing Project and invite major party candidates for New Hampshire Governor, the open Senate seat and the Second Congressional District. This will occur the weekend of October 16 or 17, so please mark your calendar. The following week, Saturday October 23, we will host our Support Book celebration pot-luck dinner, where we will invite Supporters to celebrate with us. All UVIP Leaders and invited and encouraged to attend both of these events, so please be on the lookout for more details as we get closer.

As always, all UVIP Leaders are invited to attend our issue team meetings. Please contact Tim Lenocho (603-276-8787, [unitedvalleyinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:unitedvalleyinterfaith@gmail.com)) with any questions or concerns and to learn how to get more involved in working for justice.

## Parish Audit Completed

Every year several members of the Vestry review the parish financial records and practices to ensure that we are complying with the rules and recommendations of the Oversight and Audit Committee of the Diocese of Vermont. We have just completed this process for 2009 and the Vestry is happy to report that once again everything is in excellent shape. Our treasurer, Kristin Wood, and our pledge secretary, Dee Roberts, have done an excellent job with record keeping for another year. Parishioners at St. Paul's can be confident that the money they generously give is recorded accurately and managed carefully to fulfill the mission of the parish.



**Submitted by Todd McKee**

## Lynda Boehm's Funeral Monday, Aug. 30

Lynda Boehm's funeral will be at St. Paul's on Monday, August 30 at 5pm. Burial in the Memorial Garden will immediately follow the service and a reception will take place after that in the Parish Hall.



## Stewardship: Your Money or Your Life?

This year Susan Pillsbury and I have agreed to coordinate the Stewardship Campaign on behalf of the Vestry. I'm happy to do this, because I think Stewardship is one of the hidden gems of spirituality.

There was a time when the word Stewardship gave me a brain ache, because I didn't really want to be confronted by demands on my time, or wallet. But now I realize there is something better than aspirin — the act of giving not from fear or guilt, but with joy.

That simple assertion opens all sort of complications. Giving from joy sounds heavenly, but college bills, broken furnaces and worn roof shingles can bring us to another place. That place is considerably hotter than heaven.

Stewardship talk is usually about money, because that's what is needed for good works to continue. But there is a much bigger picture: We are stewards, in the end, of our lives.

Over the next few months, Susan and I will be inviting everyone to join us in thinking about stewardship. We believe stewardship isn't an obligation, but an opportunity.

We are going to invite you to look at the mission of St. Paul's — what it is, and what it could be. We are going to invite you to think about your response to the need and the possibilities. Of course, St. Paul's is just one piece of your personal stewardship campaign; you have a life, and your time and talent and treasure, to manage.

Yes, we want to raise money for the budget, but we want to raise appreciation and joy as well. We have a great deal of abundance around us, even in these difficult times. And even if abundance fades, joy and love still blossom with a determination that would make dandelions jealous.

Years ago, the comedian Jack Benny, who had a running gag about being a tightwad, did a radio bit where an armed man held him up. "Your money or your life," the crook demanded. Benny paused. The pause went so long it became uncomfortable. "Well?" the gunman finally shouted. "I'M THINKING ABOUT IT," a conflicted Benny answered.

The Diocese strictly forbids the use of firearms in stewardship campaigns, so we don't face Jack Benny's choice. But a variation of that question comes up every day, every week and every month — to what will we allocate our money and our life?

Here's a confession: I have answered that question imperfectly time and again. Stewardship campaigns remind us that we have another chance.

Join us in St. Paul's stewardship campaign. Or else. No, just kidding. Really.



Jack Benny

- Dan Mackie

## Classicopia Concert: Dan Weiser At the Woods' Home in Quechee

A HOUSE CONCERT at the beautiful Quechee home of Stu and Kristin Wood on Friday, August 13, at 7:30 pm.

"JEWISH GENIUS" features great works by Jewish composers for violin, cello, and piano. The performers are Rachel Patrick, violin; Daniel Lechuk, cello; and Daniel Weiser, pianist and Artistic Director of Classicopia. They will perform Felix Mendelssohn's exhilarating D Minor Piano Trio along with Paul Schoenfield's exciting Cafe Music, Kol Nidre by Max Bruch, and Nigun by Ernest Bloch.

Ms. Patrick and Lechuk are both future stars of the musical world who are currently at the prestigious Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Both have performed around the world, including France, Italy, Japan, Hungary, Vienna, and Germany. Lechuk grew up in Hanover, NH, while Patrick is originally from Indiana. A great evening of Jewish chamber music!

Reservations are required. The cost is \$40 per person. Delightful refreshments will be served. Please call Marcia Colligan at (603) 643-3337.

## Addresses: Grant, Denae

SR PATENAUDE, G.C.  
Company R-183/James Hall  
U.S. Coast Guard TRACEN  
One Munro Ave.  
Cape May, NJ 08204-5083

Denae Barton  
153 Starr Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11237



### On Target

ONE OF SEVERAL after-church car washes raised money to support the Rock Point Weekend, and posed a humorous threat to the Vine photo department.

## From Page One: Transitions

Murphy, and now Lynda Boehm. We miss them all and our love and prayers continue to go out to their families. Our faith promises that even death is but a transition to eternal life. It still hurts for those left here who now face their own major transitions without their loved one.

Transitions are challenging no matter what size they come in. Even if it's a transition from college to "the real world," it can feel like a little death – a letting go of all that was familiar in order to be open to and embrace what lies ahead – new life. We don't know yet what that new life looks like so it is easy to lose heart.

Whatever transition you may be facing, may you know God's love and care as you search for that "new life," too. My favorite psalm ends: "O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord" (Psalm 27:18)

*Peace, Nancy*



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
749 Hartford Avenue  
White River Junction, VT 05001  
(802) 295-5415  
stpaulsvt@gmail.com

The Rev. Nancy A.G. Vogele  
Rector

And on the web:

<http://www.stpauls-wrj.org>

<http://www.dioceseofvermont.org>

**Yes, the VINE is available electronically.  
If email works better than paper for you,  
let dan.mackie@yahoo.com know.**