



The Evangel

May 2010

My brothers and sisters,

Ah – Spring! A time when creation (at least in the northern hemisphere) awakens in glory!

And – surprisingly, considering how close we are getting to end-of-academic-year – a time when the church is abuzz with activity! Our Vision Statement says that our spiritual lives are enhanced by our support of the arts – and our schedule shows that! Check out the calendar on a later page: April 30's "What We Did For Love" evening of Broadway music, offered by CMU Musical Theatre students (and, to boot, a fundraiser for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS) (7:00 p.m.)... May 2, a special post-service recital of CMU Senior Philip Rice's "Tenebrae Responsories"... May 5, "Sing Low (Songs of Harry Kelley)" sung by Capstone music students at CMU, our choral scholars, Nancy Hartshorne, and Harry Kelley (7:00 p.m.)... May 9, a Festal Evensong in Honor of Church Musicians, including an organ recital by Carla Edwards (who was our guest organist at the last dedication of our organ pipes) (5:00 p.m.)... May 15, the local School of Rock will be here, rockin' our parish hall with *eight* bands of teenagers and raising money for Mt. Pleasant's rolling food pantry (3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)... Music, music – leading us in worship and entertainment toward new visions of the Divine.

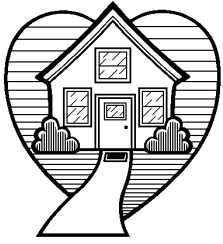
And perhaps *then* we will begin to "wind down" a bit as summer approaches!

But in the meantime, we will worship, we will sing, we will pray. We will think of mission as we prepare for the Annual Rummage Sale. We'll explore new ways of thinking about the Passion of Christ on April 26 and 27, when Br. Andrew Marr, OSB, Abbot of St. Gregory's Abbey in Three Rivers, will talk about suffering, redemption, and salvation (both evenings at 8:00 p.m.).

We have a lively, interested, Spirit-led parish, and I feel so honored to be your Rector. When I am at clergy gatherings, we naturally talk about our own ministries, and I am sometimes overwhelmed with pride (one of the deadly sins, to be sure!) when I talk about you. Us. And with deep humility I daily (often more than once) offer thanks to God for bringing us together.

Because together we proclaim the love of Christ to a broken world. We read, we hear, we sing, we touch the hands of the Other and tell them, "You are loved." What opportunities we have to spread the word! And with grace, we shall do just that.

In Christ,
Fr. Wayne +



Remember our Homebound Members

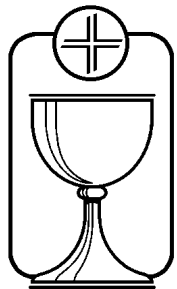
Stop by to visit or drop a card to our parish members who are homebound.

Stella Prybyla - Rosebush Manor,
4210 E. Rosebush Rd., 433-0150

Verna Schurr
Applewood, 5775 West Isabella Road

Connie Smith,
1526 C Canterbury Trail, 772-4577

George Injasoulian
Maplewood



Home Communion

Just a reminder: you should let the parish office know if you are ill and wish to receive communion or a visit from either the clergy or a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

St. John's Prayer Group

The 16 members of the Prayer Group offer petitions daily for the church and for specific requests. All parishioners are welcome to become members of the Prayer Group or to submit requests by contacting Sandy Wood, 773-9326, Martha Rarick, 773-7510, or the church office, 773-7448.



Meijer Community Rewards Program
St. Johns' Account Number 972219



Carolyn Cosan	1
Jo Redman	3
David Blackburn	5
Lee Wirth	7
Jacob Hartshorne	10
Kathryn Wills	14
Pat Claussen	16
Heather Frees	18
Don Schurr	18
Kate Brockman	19
Rachael Lovejoy	24
Emily Scott Shaffer	29
Joan Kadler	31
Tom Timmons	31



Rod Leslie & Marian Matyn	23
Robert & Olivia Ohler	28

Ongoing Rummage Sale Info:

The St. John's Rummage Sale Committee is accepting good used clothing all year long! Please leave all contributions in the Parish Hall kitchen. Thank you!

Rest in Peace Judy

Our own Judy Sweeney was called to her eternal home on Friday, April 16. A memorial service took place on Saturday, April 24 at Corey Funeral Home in Ewart, Michigan. You will be missed by your church family, Judy!

Outside the Tent

One of the places I frequent “outside the tent” is AIM’s Friendship Class, which meets every Tuesday evening during the school year for worship, fellowship, and teaching about the love of God. When the Rev. Ron Vredeveld retired in January, I agreed to be the “interim” leader, giving the AIM Board time to find a new pastor. I knew this commitment would be time-consuming, but when I thought about the men and women who depend on our weekly gathering for spiritual nourishment, I could not say “no.” Furthermore, with the loss of state and local funding for AIM’s work (budgetary cuts in a terrible economy), we don’t even know whether AIM will be able to offer Friendship Class next year, so I wanted to make this the best four months possible for this community I love.

We have had a good time these past months, telling the stories of God’s promises to Abraham and his descendants that he would be their God, that he would always be with them, that he would give them what they needed to live good lives. We will finish the year with the story of Joseph and his brothers (Betty Timmons has graciously agreed to lend me her amazing “coat of many colors”—a Kate Lucas creation—for the first evening). It has been a lively time. We have sung songs, accompanied by various combos of the congregation playing drums, tambourines, and maracas; we have set beautiful altars that have delighted the congregation and have enhanced their understanding of the stories from Genesis; we have prayed together and blessed one another; we have washed one another’s hands and shared oyster crackers and juice at our re-enactment of the Last Supper. One evening, we set aside some of our regular worship to remember Marty, a “friend” who died unexpectedly. For our Easter service, Nancy Hartshorne sang two hymns to enrich our worship.

I am conscious that no one can replace Ron, who has a special place in the hearts of our AIM “friends.” But the essential work—reminding the congregation that God loves them and that God still keeps the promises he made to our ancestors—carries on. And it carries on not just because the teachers and I show up every Tuesday, but because our “friends” come to greet one another, to worship, and to bear witness to the presence of God in their lives.

We will finish our year on May 18 with a brief liturgy to say farewell to three of us who will be retiring from Friendship Class and to send the congregation on its way for the summer. I hope that we will also be reassuring them that classes will resume in the fall. Then we will party! Rob and Linda Louisell, who, with their family, have delighted us with their music at our church picnics, have agreed to lead us in singing and dancing. Then we will eat: cake and ice cream (or cookies and ice cream) with lemonade. I will need some help with this piece of the evening: a couple of volunteers to organize other parishioners to put together refreshments for about 50 people; a few persons to dish out the treats; and as many of you as possible to join us for our celebration. Mark your calendar: Tuesday, May 18, 7 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church.

See you there! Nancy

Thank You, Thank You!

Thank you to all the good people of St. John's who donated food and money for our annual Easter Baskets outreach program. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide 6 food baskets and 10 children's candy baskets. These baskets go to the Women's Aid Shelter. They, in turn, see that the baskets are delivered to those in need.

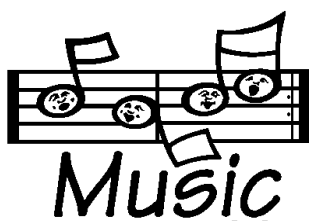
Great Job St. John's!

Summer Services At St. John's

We will begin our summer service schedule of ONE service at 9:00 a.m. beginning **Sunday, July 4th!**

Upcoming Events at SJEC:

- **Sunday, May 9, 5:00 p.m.**
Festal Evensong in Honor of Church Musicians Dr. Carla Edwards, Organist Kevin Simon, Choirmaster A reception will follow Evensong



- **Saturday, May 15, 3:00–8:00 p.m.**
The School of Rock
is coming to St. John's for a special reunion concert! Eight bands of teenagers will WOW you—and all voluntary proceeds will go toward funding the **Mobile Food Pantry of Mt. Pleasant**

Mark Your Calendar! June 4-5! St. John's Annual Rummage Sale! J

Items will be accepted in the Parish Hall beginning Sunday, May 16—see Diana Clapp for more information.

Coming this Summer from The Center for Christian Spirituality...

- Short Stories: A Way to the Divine
 - Music and the Sacred Liturgy (Another Way to the Divine)
- Watch for upcoming information in your Sunday bulletins!

Goodrow Fund Events...

May 8, at The Basketree, downtown Mt Pleasant, will give 10% of all purchases to Goodrow when you mention the Goodrow Fund. This comes just in time for Mother's Day! They have a large selection of unique gifts.. Their hours are 10:00 a.m. -5:30 p.m..

June 25, The Goodrow Fund's First Annual Golf Outing will be, at the Pines Golf Course. Shotgun start will be at 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in golfing or sponsoring please call Jim Hathaway 989-621-7933 or Margaret Van Faussein 989-621-6394 or pick up a registration sheet in the Church's Education Building and leave it in Pat Hathaway's mailbox. Cost is \$60 per person, which includes 18 holes with cart, continental breakfast and box lunch. If you enjoy golf this will be a great day. Please join us!





May 2010 Sunday Lay Ministry



DATE	LESSONS	PRAYERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	ACOLYTES	ALTAR GUILD
May 2 Easter 5	8:00 a.m. Marvin Lett 10:00 a.m. Jo Redman	8:00 a.m. Eileen Swinehart 10:00 a.m. Nancy Hartshorne	Lynne and Pete L'Hommedieu	David and Paula Shirley	Matthew Blackburn and John Rousseau	Pamela Dingman and Paula Shirley
Lectionary: Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35						
May 9 Easter 6 Mother's Day	8:00 a.m. Steven Berkshire 10:00 a.m. Karen Varanauskas	8:00 a.m. Martha Rarick 10:00 a.m. Joan Kadler	Marian Matyn and Rod Leslie	Tom and Betty Timmons	Megan Blackburn and Sandy Wood	Pamela Dingman and Paula Shirley
Lectionary: Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 John 14:23-29						
May 16 Easter 7	8:00 a.m. Marvin Lett 10:00 a.m. Sandy Wood	8:00 a.m. Eileen Swinehart 10:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen	Tom and Betty Timmons	Harriett White and Sandy Wood	Seth Hartshorne and John Rousseau	Peg Hicks and Karen Varanauskas
Lectionary: Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26						
May 23 The Day of Pentecost	8:00 a.m. Barbara Sheperdigian 10:00 a.m. Ralph Baber	8:00 a.m. Martha Rarick 10:00 a.m. Jo Redman	Sean Novak and John Rousseau	David and Carrie Blackburn	Matthew Blackburn and Sandy Wood	Peg Hicks and Karen Varanauskas
Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:25-35, 37 Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17, (25-27)						
May 30 Trinity Sunday	8:00 a.m. Steven Berkshire 10:00 a.m. Gordon Bloem	8:00 a.m. Eileen Swinehart 10:00 a.m. Henry Fulton	Babcock/Zygmontowicz family	Ralph Baber and Karen Varanauskas	Megan Blackburn and John Rousseau	Peg Hicks and Karen Varanauskas
Lectionary: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15						
June 6 Pentecost 2	8:00 a.m. Barbara Sheperdigian 10:00 a.m. Henry Fulton	8:00 a.m. Martha Rarick 10:00 a.m. Nancy Hartshorne	Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall	Babcock/Zygmontowicz family	Seth Hartshorne	Alice Louisell and Harriett White
Lectionary: 1 Kings 17:8-16 Psalm 146 Galatians 1:11-24 Luke 7:11-17						

May, 2010 at St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 25, <i>Easter IV</i> 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Music	26 <i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i> 8:00 p.m. Br. Andrew Marr, OSB, Guest Speaker	27 8:00 p.m. Br. Andrew Marr, OSB, Guest Speaker	28 8:00 p.m. Br. Andrew Marr, OSB, Guest Speaker	29 <i>Catherine of Siena</i> 5:30 p.m. Choir	30 <i>Office Closed</i> 7:00 p.m. A Special Evening!	May 1 <i>Srs. Philip and James, Apostles</i>
Fr. Wayne Away, Clergy Leadership Project						
2 <i>Easter V</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist	3 Noon Daughters of the King	4 <i>Monnica, Mother of Augustine</i> 7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends	5 Noon Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m. "Sing Low" – the Songs of Harry Kelley	6 5:30 p.m. Choir	7 <i>Office Closed</i>	8 <i>Dame Julian of Norwich</i>
9 <i>Easter VI and Rogation</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist 5:00 p.m. Festal Evensong in Honor of Church Musicians, Carla Edwards, Organist	10 Events Only!	11	12 Noon Eucharist 5:00 p.m. Vestry	13 <i>Ascension Day</i> 5:30 p.m. Choir	14 <i>Office Closed</i>	15 Food Pantry Fundraiser! 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The School of Rock at St. John's!!!
16 <i>Easter VII: Sunday of the Ascension</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist Rummage Sale Setup Begins in the Parish Hall!	17	18	19 <i>Dunstan of Canterbury</i> Noon Eucharist	20 <i>Alcuin, Deacon and Abbot</i> 5:30 p.m. Last Choir Rehearsal until Sept.!	21 <i>Office Closed</i>	22
23 <i>The Day of Pentecost</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist	24 <i>Jason Kemper, Missionary</i>	25 <i>The Venerable Bede</i>	26 Noon Eucharist	27	28 <i>Office Closed</i>	29
30 <i>Trinity</i> 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	31 <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Memorial Day – Office Closed	June 1	2 Fr. Wayne Away	3 Fr. Wayne Away	4 Fr. Wayne Away	5 <i>Boniface, Archbishop</i> Rummage Sale!

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, MORNING PRAYER AT 9:00 A.M.
 FOR UPDATES: VISIT THE PARISH WEBSITE AND CLICK ON "CALENDAR"

This is our Greeter/Coffee Hour Host Schedule—If you cannot serve on the date you were given, please exchange dates with someone else on the list and call the Parish Secretary at 773-7448

Greeter Rotation

May

- 2 Lynne and Pete L'Hommedieu
- 9 Marian Matyn and Rod Leslie
- 16 Tom and Betty Timmons
- 23 Sean Novak and John Rousseau
- 30 Babcock/Zygmontowicz family

June

- 6 Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall
- 13 Christine Brooks, Tim/Elizabeth Brockman
- 20 Laura Cochrane, Harold/Mary Cook
- 27 Bob and Kip Cosan

July

- 4 Steven Berkshire and Eileen Swinehart
- 11 George and Diana Clapp
- 18 Jane Gilmore and Cindy Seger
- 25 Sally Goodrow and Betsey Richardson

August

- 1 David and Jennifer Dingman
- 8 Ford and Pamela Dingman
- 15 Kendall and Lois Klumpp
- 22 Alice Louisell and Susan Paton
- 29 Sean Novak and John Rousseau

Coffee Hour Rotation

May

- 2 David and Paula Shirley
- 9 Tom and Betty Timmons
- 16 Harriett White and Sandy Wood
- 23 David and Carrie Blackburn
- 30 Ralph Baber and Karen Varanauskas

June

- 6 Babcock/Zygmontowicz family
- 13 Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall
- 20 Christine Brooks, Tim/Elizabeth Brockman
- 27 Laura Cochrane, Harold/Mary Cook

July

- 4 Bob and Kip Cosan
- 11 Steven Berkshire and Eileen Swinehart
- 18 George and Diana Clapp
- 25 Henry and Nancy Fulton

August

- 1 Sandy and Dick Wood
- 8 Kendall and Lois Klumpp
- 15 Susan Paton and Sandy Wood
- 22 Betsey Richardson & Barbara Sheperdigian
- 29 Forrest and Linda Robinson

KITCHEN WISH LIST FOR THE PARISH HALL

IT SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT WHO WE ARE AS A PARISH THAT IN THE SILVERWARE DRAWER OF THE PARISH HALL KITCHEN THERE ARE FOUR CORKSCREWS, BUT ONLY ONE ANCIENT AND UNUSABLE CAN OPENER. AT LAST MONTH'S PANCAKE SUPPER, IT TOOK LOTS OF FORAGING AND TRIPS TO THE UNDERCROFT TO FIND A MEANS TO OPEN A CAN OF APPLE SAUCE!

WE ARE USING THE PARISH HALL QUITE A BIT NOW, HOSTING EVERYTHING FROM EVENSONG RECEPTIONS AND QUIET DAY GATHERINGS TO EUCHRE TOURNAMENTS. AND THE KITCHEN IS OFTEN A SOURCE OF FRUSTRATION. THE SMALL COFFEE POT WE USE FOR DECAF IS FALLING APART. THE TRASH CANS ARE UNWIELDY WHEN WE ARE SCRAPING PLATES FOR A HALL FULL OF FOLK. OUR FEW KNIVES ARE RUSTY AND DULL BEYOND REDEMPTION.

THE BIG REPAINTING AND REORGANIZING OF THE KITCHEN, OUR NEW FRIDGE AND SPLENDID DISHWASHER ARE GREAT. BUT NOW WE NEED TO FILL IN THE GAPS. TO THAT END, WE HAVE REGISTERED AT TARGET FOR A NUMBER OF ITEMS, LIKE A COFFEE POT THAT HAS AN EASY TO REFILL WATER TANK, TRASH CANS WITH EASY TO USE LIDS, A BROOM THAT CAN REPLACE THE FOUR WORN OUT CASTOFFS THAT CLUTTER UP THE PLACE AND EVEN A NEW FLOOR LAMP FOR THE HALL.

TO GET TO THE TARGET REGISTRY FOR THE PARISH HALL LIST:

AT THE REGISTRY KIOSK, ASK THE SCREEN TO VIEW LIST.

DO NOT TOUCH *NAME*, BUT CHOOSE ORGANIZATION.

TOUCH-SCREEN THE NAME THIS WAY: ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THIS IS THE SENSITIVE PART! DO NOT PUT A PERIOD AFTER THE ST BUT DO INCLUDE THE APOSTROPHE AFTER THE JOHN.

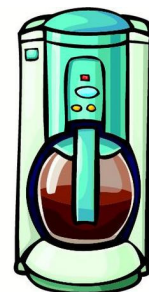
THE SCREEN THEN ASKS THE STATE, WHICH IS INDEED MICHIGAN.

THE LIST SHOULD COME UP, AND CAN THEN BE PRINTED.

IF YOU BUY SOMETHING FROM THE LIST, HAND THE LIST TO THE CASHIER AT THE CHECKOUT.

IN ADDITION TO THAT LIST, WE ALWAYS NEED DISHWASHING SOAP, SUPPLIES OF PAPER TOWEL, TRASH BAGS TO FIT THE NEW CANS, AND FOIL, CLING WRAP AND LARGE SEALABLE BAGGIES.

SO, NEXT TIME YOU ARE IN TARGET, VISIT THE REGISTRY KIOSK AND PRINT OUT THE ST. JOHN'S WISH LIST. OR, INVEST IN A CASE OF PALMOLIVE, OR A BAG OF FOILS AND WRAPS. YOUR PURCHASES WILL MAKE THE HALL AN EVEN BETTER PLACE OF WELCOME FOR THE GROWING MINISTRIES OF ST. JOHN'S!



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – 14 April 2010

1. Father Wayne welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer. Members present: Karen Varanauskas, Gordon Bloem, Jo Redman, Eileen Swinehart, Pete, L'Hommedieu, Jane Gilmore, Harriet White, Paula Shirley, Renee Babcock, Sean Novak and Harold Cook. Sandy Wood was also present.
2. The minutes of the March vestry meeting were accepted as written.
3. Group Reflection: Father Wayne asked the vestry members to reflect on programs for ministries that have affected them the most. Responses included music, theology, acceptance, Center for Christian Spirituality and being able to pay the bills
4. Renee updated the vestry on her efforts to fund a mission trip to Kenya this summer. She is very close to her goal. The mobile food pantry outreach program with School of Rock is scheduled for 15 May from 3 PM to 8 PM. Renee needs a lot of volunteers to help coordinate this. There also needs to be notice given to all the neighbors of St. John's. Renee also suggested we could have a special focus each Sunday that would provide needed support to a variety of agencies in the community.
5. Goodrow Fund Update: The fund has an EIN and has filed incorporation papers with the state. They hope to have a ruling on 501(c)(3) status by October
6. Rector's Program: Marriage and Relationships was held on the weekend of 9-11 April 2011. There were 11 couples and everyone had nothing but positive things to say about the workshop.
7. Buildings & Grounds. The architect will meet with the vestry on 14 May to talk about our needs and dreams for the new education building. Sandy Wood addressed the vestry to assure them the building and grounds committee is looking at many of the issues addressed on our wish lists.
8. Music & Liturgy committee: A survey will be going out to the congregation to see what direction the search committee should be taking in the quest for a new Director of Music.
9. 125th: The co-chairs will be thanked with a gift at the 10:00 AM service on 18 April.
10. Education for Ministry: We are going to attempt to get an EFM program going at St. John's. This program requires a four year commitment by participants. The diocese coordinator and Steve Berkshire will talk to interested people after the 10 AM service on 18 April.
11. Upcoming:
 - a. April 23-24 Diocesan Convention
 - b. April 25 Deacon Nancy Casey Fulton officiating Morning Prayer at both services.
 - c. April 26-27 Br. Andrew Marr from St. Gregory's Abbey, guest speaker (8pm)
 - d. April 25-30, Fr. Wayne away, Clergy Leadership Project
 - e. May 9, Festal Evensong in honor of Church Musicians (Mary Lou Nowicki especially)
12. Financial Report and Budgetary Items: Harold went over the financial report. Things are still looking fairly stable.
13. Upon recommendation of the 125th Anniversary Committee, it was moved (by Fr. Wayne) and seconded (by Gordon Bloem) that a large-screen television be purchased for the church (at approximately \$800) and the remainder of Anniversary proceeds (approximately \$850) be granted to the John H. Goodrow Fund. The motion and vote were taken electronically. All were in favor.
14. The next meeting of the vestry is scheduled for 12 May.

Respectfully Submitted
Eileen M. Swinehart
Clerk of the Vestry

Anglican Worthies

234. Coleridge, Samuel Taylor (1772-1834)
Poet (pt. iv)

As I stated in my last, after his periodical, The Friend, ceased publication in 1810, Coleridge was really in extremis; Sara Hutchinson, so exhausted by her generous assistance in his efforts as well as by the erotic tension between them that she fell ill, escaped to her brother's in Wales. Coleridge left the Lake District for good—and undoubtedly to the relief of the Wordsworths, the Southey's, and DeQuincy, who remained behind. *Wordsworth told their mutual friend Thomas Poole that

Coleridge neither will nor can execute any thing of important benefit either to himself his family or mankind. Neither his talents nor his genius mighty as they are not nor his vast information will avail him anything: they are all frustrated by a derangement in his intellectual and moral constitution---In fact he has no voluntary power of mind whatsoever, nor is he capable of acting under constraint of duty or moral obligation.

Harsh words indeed! It would seem that the household at Grasmere had lost all faith in him. (The phrase “no voluntary power of mind” would suggest increased dependence on opium.) Coleridge, on his part, told Francis Jeffrey, influential editor of the Edinburgh Review, to associate him no longer with Wordsworth and Southey as a “Lake Poet.” From this point on Coleridge lived and worked in London.

Coleridge was very much a celebrity and a cordial friend. In 1816 he met Byron; his poems were reprinted by Byron's publisher. He moved in with James Gillman, a London physician, becoming his “resident patient” (to cite Conan Doyle), who could monitor his daily opium intake. He wrote by dictation. He continued to publicize specific ideas of what good poetry should be. These he put down in a work entitled Biographia Literaria (1817), in which he attacked Hartley's “associationist” philosophy as it applied to the Imagination, presented his significant distinction between “fancy” (which characterized poetry of the preceding century) and “Imagination,” the instinctive quality of the best poetry of his age. It is these discussions that made Coleridge the most important literary critic of the Romantic period (and required reading for graduate students in English to this day). In addition, Coleridge wrote very frankly about the “the characteristic defects of Wordsworth's poetry” which, by 1817, Coleridge had begun to find fault with---even though he still acknowledged his friend as the greatest poet of his age! Needless to say, these remarks hurt Wordsworth very much and widened the breach that had grown between the two. Coleridge continued to give sermons and lectures at the London Philosophical Society. He met the young Keats in 1819, who was utterly charmed; he saw Sara Hutchinson in London in 1820.

Coleridge's claim to be included among our Worthies is due to his growing interest in the role of the Anglican Church in society. His contributions to this subject rest on three works, his Aids to Reflection (1825), his Constitution of the Church and State (1830), and his Confessions of an Inquiring Mind (1840), each of which strongly influenced the young

intellectuals of this period. His views about the role of clergy and the study of scripture are “broad church” and liberal, albeit subjective; his views on the church are conservative. Christianity, he argued, was not adequately defended by the proofs of *Paley (which had become a required text in the universities) “but by its correspondence with the needs of the human heart”---much as Wordsworth suggested in The Prelude. “Evidences of Christianity! I am weary of the word,” he exclaimed. “Make a man feel the want of it; rouse him to the need of it; and you may safely trust of it to its own evidence,” he stated in Aids to Reflection. Human nature was not just rational and validly spiritual, “not merely a means of salvation in any limited evangelical sense, but the highest Truth and Health—a perfect Philosophy.” Coleridge was reminding his church that Christianity was more than a creed; it was “a living mode of thought. . . embracing all human activity.” Coleridge strove to present our faith as not merely a code of belief but an aspect essential to the divinity found in man; “there is more in [man] than can be referred to the life of nature and the mechanisms of nature.” In Romantic terms, it was “organic,” but it was also individual: “I assume a something the proof of which no man can give to one another, yet every man may feel for himself.” This may sound solipsistic, but Coleridge was not talking about salvation but rather the nature of the mind and by implication, his relation to God. Coleridge was moving the whole question of dogma away from assent or rejection into a subjective standard of judgment. The real question for Coleridge was whether “there is a divine root in man at all”; this is where he begins. In other words, belief in the tenets of Christianity was spiritually validated, felt rather than believed.

In The Constitution of Church and State (1830) Coleridge took a politically conservative position, arguing that society was an organism whose parts, like the church, have meaning and relevance only in relation to the whole. The church was a national institution belonging to the whole. Parliamentary debate on the Reform Bill as well as certain and “practices” of the Anglican church were getting under way, and Coleridge was definitely speaking against any major reform of the government-funded church.

The Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit, published after his death, adopted a typically Anglican position regarding the study of scripture. “Scriptures were to be read and studied, like any other literature, in the light of their continuous growth, and the adoption of their parts to one another.” Under varying circumstances, the divine nature of scripture will appear more obvious. This position would seem to reflect Coleridge’s knowledge of recent German biblical criticism. The evangelicals claimed infallibility of scripture (as they still do); the scriptures themselves, Coleridge said, did not.

Coleridge visited with his estranged wife in 1724. His son Hartley lived with the Wordsworths mostly. Relations with Wordsworth had improved sufficiently to enable them to revisit the continent together in 1728. Coleridge died in 1834. --hlf

The Blessed Saint Andrew goes to Scotland **A Poem for Pentecost**

And of a sudden, as they sat together,
There came on them a heavy, forceful wind—
But not a wind at all--more like a breezy body,
With a scent of living flesh, natural, feral,
Entering their mouth and nostrils, and
Opening up their ears.
It filled up all the room, scattering
The jumble of converted bachelors,
Their scrolls, their bowls, spilling their dark red wine
Before blasting through the curtains at the back.
It felt to the disciples that it buffed
Them all about at least until sixth hour,
Although it may have been just minutes.
Then, some men found themselves upon the floor,
Staring as though they'd been lobotomized:
John and Thomas felt themselves renewed,
Their minds were emptied out of stresses
And regards of daily life, and filled again.
They seemed to one another as though
Each one was ten years younger and much stronger.

They went outside to see what it destroyed.
Around them were the crowds.
(Each day they met, always there were crowds.
Some of them disciples and some women
Who did not carry faith but only cared for it;)
Crowds, wondering what the strange wind was about.

And then the twelve disciples began to speak,
And as they spoke, they stared at one another
Because each person spoke a different tongue—
The nouns and verbs of districts all about them:
Of Parthia, the Medes, the Elamites, Judea,
Of those who lived by rivers to the east
(Whose ancestors had rudely seized their people
And brought them into years of pointless exile),
Of Pontus, Cappadocia, and Phrygia,
Pamphylia and lands along the sea,
Stretching west,
Where none of them had ever been before,
Like Libya and Egypt; and even Peter

Spoke with the elegance of mighty empire,
A tongue so alien to the cause
Of New Jerusalem and of the risen Christ,
The language of a city they believed
Would never grasp the promise of their Lord
Of everlasting life, of peace, of sharing
The glory of the Kingdom coming soon.
And as they jabbered each to one another,
Their parts of speech so strange to one another,
They laughed because they seemed to know each other,
James and Justus, nodding with new joy.
With one exception.
No one could understand what Andrew said.
He spoke with glottal stops
And words whose sounds did not resemble speech
So much as vowels tightened in his teeth,
And consonants that clipped with irritation.

He alone inherited a tongue
Would send him far across the western sea
And into the unknown ocean, where whose lands
So dark and distant, even the dreaded empire,
Had come to see that they could not subdue,
And left these people to their savage thoughts
Of angry gods, of misery on earth,
Eternal fire, damnation all without.
“Those there be dour folk,” the boatman said.
“They think and drink and fight, that’s all they do.
You’ll not have much of luck with them,” he said.

And as the boat approached the rocky shore,
Blackened by the rolls of wet, gray clouds,
And shoved ahead by thrusts of winter wind,
The saint recalled his lake, the wide smooth sands
Of Galilee, the waters brim with fish,
The white-robed stranger standing on the shore,
His hands reaching out to them,
And talking of the catch.

The warm, hot sun; the light so far away.

hlf
June, 2009

End of March Financial Report

The following is a summary report for the first three months, or 25%, of 2010:

Unrestricted operating fund receipts.....	\$42,270	(about 25.3% of year's budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures.....	<u>44,639</u>	(about 26.4% of year's budget)
Excess of operating expenditures over receipts...	\$ 2,369	(5.6% above the receipts)
Operating cash balance on January 1, 2010	<u>26,189</u>	
March 31, 2010 operating fund balance	\$23,820	

Both the receipts and expenditures are a little higher than budgeted for the first three months. The only event that was unexpected was the need to modify the elevator doors at a cost of \$1,200. As expected, heating costs are a little high because of seasonal factors.

The Vestry has approved the early payment of the remaining balance of our fairshare pledge to the Diocese for 2010. A check for \$10,945.50 was sent to the Diocese on April 16. The expense reports for the remainder of the year, however, will show only the year-to-date portion (one-twelfth per month) of the pledge payment as an expense. The future portion of the pledge will be shown as an asset on the church's balance sheet. The Vestry members felt that the cash balance was sufficiently high enough to make the payment. In addition, St. John's would earn very little interest by keeping the money in the checking account.

Questions about details of the church's finances may be directed to Pam Dingman or Harold Cook.

St. John's is Going to Stratford!!

Ontario, that is...for the Stratford Shakespeare Festival's performance of "The Tempest" (starring Christopher Plummer as *Prospero*!!) and "Kiss Me, Kate" (a rollicking good time inspired by Shakespeare with words and music by the fabulous Cole Porter).

Dates: July 16-17. Please phone Sandy in the church office (989-773-7448) to sign up, or check with Elizabeth Brockman for more information!

Upcoming Musical Events...

- **Friday April 30 7:00 p.m. "What We Did for Love"**
A special evening of Broadway music by Musical Theatre Performance Majors of CMU—benefiting Broadway Cares, a major HIV/AIDS foundation
- **Wednesday, May 5 7:00 p.m.**
"Sing Low: The Songs of Harry Kelley" sung by the Capstone Music Theatre Class of CMU. St. John's Choral Scholars, Nancy Hartshorne, and Harry Kelley—accompanied by Mary Beth Orr and Mary Lou Nowicki

St. John's Episcopal Church

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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Our Mission:

St. John's Episcopal Church, with God's help and in the Anglican tradition, lives to proclaim the Gospel of Christ by ministering through worship, outreach, fellowship and education. We welcome all who enter our doors, and we support the diverse callings of each member as we seek to serve Christ in every person

Rector:

The Rev. Wayne Nicholson, 772-1203

St. John's Vestry Officers:

Senior Warden, Paula Shirley, 773-3463

Junior Warden, Harriett White, 773-3880

Clerk, Eileen Swinehart, 989-773-9961

Treasurer: Harold Cook, 773-9781

Deacon:

The Rev. Nancy Casey Fulton, 773-7193

St. John's Vestry Members:

Renee Babcock, 773-6936

Gordon Bloem, 773-5480

David Dingman, 989-633-8413

Jane Gilmore, 989-317-0343

Pete L'Hommedieu, 773-8340

Sean Novak, 989-400-2772

Joann Redman, 772-2326

Karen Varanauskas, 989-506-3750