

Light in the Shadows

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matt. 5: 16

ACTS (of the Apostles)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teachings and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers.

Acts 2:42



A few years ago at our Monday Spirituality Study, we were talking about various forms of prayer. The context for this discussion was the book we were studying, *The Interior Castle* by Teresa of Avila. Some of us were reminiscing about the instruction, often of a meager nature, we had received in prayer earlier in our lives. For me, most of

this, in my earliest years, consisted of being taught and learning by heart certain set prayers. As to why I said what I did, the theory and intent of my prayers, I was quite content to understand them as mostly talking to God, on occasion with God, and leave it at that.

It was only later, in my early adult years as I matured (somewhat) that I perceived a pattern to much Christian prayer; even my own prayers. It was during those years that the teacher of a church class on prayer provided an acronym for this pattern to Christian prayer in the word ACTS standing for ADORATION, CONFESSION, THANKSGIVING, and SUPPLICATION.

"Prayer really is at its simplest talking with God. At various times and circumstances one or more elements of ACTS may be lacking in our prayers and such prayers will be no less valid."

—H. Paul Brannock-Wanter

In earlier generations this acronym was apparently quite commonly known, I am not as certain it is so currently. However, I continue to believe that it provides a valid guideline to the necessary components of prayer as it has been practiced by Christians since the New Testament era, both individually and corporately. If these elements are present in our prayer lives they do give some solid and holistic structure and intent on our part to our conversations with



Parish Clean-Up Effort

The weather on May 16 was perfect for chores, warm and sunny and breezy. Because St. Luke's is blessed with a very efficient lawn care service, we began the clean-up day with a pristine back yard devoid of weeds or broken branches to pick up. Marcia Clinton worked on the front gardens she tends so diligently and Lew Watters flattened a bicycle jump that had mysteriously appeared on the bank between the parking lot and the back yard. Kathryn Wright and Ciana Roundy-Winston dug dandelions from the lawn



bordering our sidewalk and Cindy also manhandled a huge box full of Grandma's Attic and Christmas Tea supplies from the furnace room to the shed, clearing room for the August Supper's salad assembly later in the summer. Bonnie Watters, Anita

Wright and Ciana tackled windows, and the impossibly hard to reach ones over the kitchen sink now sparkle. The Memorial Garden was cleared of a small crop of weeds, and perennials were swapped and shared and, before we knew it, our chores were done. Thank you, God, for giving us this beautiful day for our work, and such beautiful work to do.

From the Senior Warden

Last month I promised I would report on the Vestry Retreat, held this past weekend at Blue Hill Farm. Let me begin by thanking Jane Davis and Jean Hancock for their generous hospitality in hosting the retreat. They not only opened their home to us for our meetings but they also provided lodging for members who had a



long commute. And the food was beyond delicious. They made the event effortless for us, and it is hard to know how to express our thanks adequately.

For the first time in our collective memory, every single Vestry member was present for the entire retreat. This, along with the fact that we were blessed to have **Lori Routhier** as facilitator for two sessions, made our time together especially fruitful and efficient. We were also blessed to have **Fr. Sanford** with us for Friday evening, and **Deacon Donna Reidt** for all sessions as well. Their presence was much appreciated.

On behalf of the Vestry, I think I am safe in saying that we felt that the power of the Holy Spirit was evident. Sometimes we knew that the Spirit's work was accomplished by our talking openly; at other times, we were aware that silence was needed. At yet other times, it was apparent that all we needed to do was get out of the way. It was a profound experience for us.

One of the main goals of this retreat was to develop a **Statement of Purpose for St. Luke's**. This was last done, I believe, in the mid-1990's.

The parish book study on *Changing the Conversation* resulted in a shared sense that we need to be doing things at least somewhat differently. Immediately the questions began to arise: What do we do differently? How do we decide what's appropriate? There was a healthy consensus that "change for the sake of change" was not a good way to go.

A good statement of purpose provides a starting point for thinking about what to do next. Like all living organizations, we are continually confronted with situations that require decisions. Some of these are reactive: "What do we do about that problem with the lighting ballasts in Willard Hall?" and "How are we going to handle the projected budget deficit this year?" Others are proactive: "What approach shall we take to Christian Education?" or "What events do we want to plan for the coming year?"

A good statement of purpose is a living document,

ACTS (of the Apostles)

(continued from page 1)

God. While the words may have an old-fashioned ring to them, their meanings are always current and it seems to me, the sequence is also still sound.

Prayer is first response to and acknowledgment of God's presence and love. It starts with **adoration**, praise, for this gift. The awe and wonder this produces leads to an awareness of and sorrow for how far short we fall from God's glory, an awareness of our sins. There is a interior need for **confession** of our shortcomings. This in turn is followed by an acute sense of **thanksgiving** that our sins are forgiven; that nothing separates us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. It is at this juncture that we are then truly prepared to make **supplication**, intercession to God, for our needs, the needs of others known to us, and the pressing needs of the world.

Prayer really is at its simplest talking with God. At various times and circumstances one or more elements of **ACTS** may be lacking in our prayers and such prayers will be no less valid. Nonetheless, it does help to bear in mind, heart, and especially body these necessary facets to the practice of prayer. After all, as Christians the real prayer for each of us is the entirety of our lives in this world. These are our **ACTS** of prayer day by day. Such **ACTS** as we relate to the world and each other speak louder than words. They speak of God's Spirit in us and among us.

In God's Peace & Love, Paul

"Christ is not valued at all — unless he is valued above all."
—St. Augustine

open to revision and functioning as a yardstick against which all such questions can be discerned, evaluated, and acted upon.

The Vestry worked hard to distill a large number of dimensions of our common life into a focused and comprehensive statement of purpose: *St. Luke's is an intentional Christian community deepening faith and broadening love.*

Each component of this statement—"intentional", "Christian", "community," etc.—has meaning. We will be exploring this in conjunction with the ongoing parish book study of *Called to be Church*, which continues on June 16. This statement of purpose and all that proceeds from it should most certainly not be the work of a few people, imposed on the rest. We invite your participation in this ongoing process of discernment, as we move into strategic planning about how we are going to nurture community, deepen our faith, and broaden our love.

—Martha Stretton

Ascension Day

The choir harmonized beautifully in the kitchen on May 13 as we cooked shrimp, assembled salads, and sliced bread. The dessert table was a thing of beauty.

We are a busy parish, and we are busy individuals. The effort of gathering on a weeknight was amply rewarded. It was a joy to gather on a Thursday evening to celebrate our Lord's ascension, and to be reminded by Fr. Paul that Jesus takes us with Him as part of the glorious redemption of humanity—and also to begin looking toward Pentecost. The time between Ascension and Pentecost is a time of anticipation, and it seems a natural extension of the joy of the Easter season to gather and to feast.

If you missed it this year, consider what I overheard one happy diner saying: "If people knew how good this was, they'd be here!" June 2, 2011—worth putting in your calendar. —*Martha Stretton*



A huge bowl of boiled shrimp, lush green salads and scrumptious desserts made up the menu at St. Luke's Ascension Day Shrimp Boil, prepared by the choir members.

Thank You from the Family of Milford Fielder

We wish to express our gratitude for so many kind acts, thoughts, prayers and concerns during Milford's short battle with cancer.

Thanks for a lovely memorial service and reception after the service.

Janice Fielder Fred, Alyce & Freddie Fielder

In Memoriam



Milford Lester Fielder October 4, 1936 - May 5, 2010

This past month St. Luke's bade farewell to another long time member, Milford Lester Fielder, the beloved husband of Janice Fair Fielder and father of Frederick Fielder. Milford succumbed to his brief battle with lung cancer on May 5 at Ascutney Hospital in Windsor, VT. A Memorial Service to celebrate and give thanks for his life was held on May 15th at St. Luke's Church. The sanctuary overflowed with family, friends and fellow parishioners. A reception was held in Willard Hall following the service as family and friends shared their many memories of Milford.

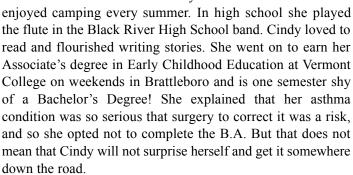
Milford was born in Huntington, Vermont, one of a large family of ten children. He graduated from Chester High School. Milford met Janice on a blind date and they were married on April 27, 1957 at St. Luke's Church by the late Rev. Warren Fowler. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary at an Open House in Willard Hall in April 2007.

Milford was employed as a machinist and supervisor at Fellows Gear Shaper Corp. in Springfield for 43 years and, after retiring, worked at Woodbury Florist. He was a Scout leader for Pack 258 Boy Scouts and a member of the Army Reserve in Chester. At St. Luke's Milford served on the Vestry and was the church treasurer for many years. Those who knew Milford fondly remember the ever present twinkle in his eyes and his joyful way of laughing. He will be missed by many. We extend our prayers and heartfelt sympathy to the family. "God be with you til we meet again."

St. Luke's Profile: A Quality Team...Cindy & Ciana Roundy-Winston

Then it comes to star quality, Cindy Roundy-Winston and her daughter, Ciana, immediately come to mind. Knowing more about them would give you a wonderful understanding of their special shining relationship.

Cindy was born in Springfield, VT and grew up in Ludlow. She is the oldest of nine children, a mix of boys and girls, so nurturing and sharing were early traits. It was natural that she would become the neighborhood babysitter at ten. She remembers that the family



Cindy's babysitting experience led her to make what she loves doing and the mainstay of her work life. Chambermaid, nurse's aid, professional house clearer, and live-in babysitter have all been venues of employment. That she should start her own day care center is no surprise as she worked with children of all ages, from infants to school age.

Rudy Winston met Cindy in 1988. They met through a dating service in Boston, MA. Rudy, as many of you know works for Canon and sports some beautiful camera gear. He fine tunes the camera manuals, puts on workshops about the camera equipment for the company's clients and travels extensively, even out of the country. They moved to Chester in 2001. His photography gifts grace the St. Luke's web site, and he generously covers his daughter's performances at St. Luke's. Early this fall Rudy will be setting up family photography sessions for us to include with our holiday greetings and give as gifts to family. So stay tuned and pay attention so you do not miss this generous sharing of talent.

How did Ciana come into their lives? Cindy struggled with years of infertility so they proceeded to pursue adoption. They adopted Ciana who was born in Maoming, China on July 17, 2000 at ten months old. She weighed but 14 pounds and was ill with a chronic kidney problem and severe asthma. Cindy knows that well. The couple waited three years after signing up with the adoption agency before she was theirs. Stepsisters,



Altanai and Karligash were adopted from Kazakhstan when Ciana was two.

Cindy is interested in everything which is why she's so successful running her day care. Some children appear at six a.m. and others do not leave until after five in the afternoon. Mind you, she home schools the three girls, along with other willing learners. She has been a great resource for us and our daughter, Kara, who is also home schooling her children. One sees Cindy trooping to the library for reading times and the

astronomy program. But her favorite things to do besides support our soldiers and work on the *Operation Christmas Child* boxes is knit, do crafts and be with the kids. She and Ciana are full of ideas and are collaborating on fund raisers that have been well received by the Vestry and some that have already been put into action. Remember to stop by Ciana's lemonade stand and support her dream to fund St. Luke's!

Talk about star potential, Ciana is very interested in doing crafts, art, and music. She plays the violin and wants to be an artist when she grows up. She is well on her way, and seeing her perform with Julane Deener's students at the Garden Party last Saturday, you would believe her seriousness. Bonnie Johnson is teaching the two how to crochet. Ciana does not



sit still except when she acolytes. St. Luke's parishioners are quick to notice her talents. Ruth Harrison gave her art books and the "raw" straw hat that Ciana decorated for the garden event. (Rudy captured his girls in the photos for this profile.) Watch out for this young lady!

Cindy and Ciana were the perfect example of what happens in Willard Hall and brings folks upstairs. Mother and daughter came to the Monday night suppers for several months, had a good time and Cindy remembers, "Everyone was really nice to us." She says I asked her if they wanted to come to church services. She recounts, "I thought to myself, not really. We had been to some other churches, did not feel welcomed there and we didn't want to repeat our past experiences. But I said yes anyway and we came to check it out and have been coming here ever since!" And they can always be counted upon to help.

St. Luke's Profile (continued from page 4)

Our stars LOVE being involved with the *Operation Christmas Child* shoeboxes! They find it so much fun to decorate the boxes, pick out the items to fill them up and imagine the needy child receiving the box! Cindy plans some workshop days for children to come and become involved and passionate. Their enthusiasm was so evident at the Chester Challenge Fair last fall where the St. Luke's table was the busiest one there! They are also involved big time with Soldiers Angels and Adopt-A-Platoon to support our soldiers overseas! Cindy has shared several soldier letters, some of which are now posted on the Letters page of the church web site. "A lot of these soldiers don't even receive mail from their own families for whatever reason and for some of them we are the only ones they get mail from!"

Cindy has been attending the book study and like most of us has high hopes for St. Luke's as a community. Not surprising, she prays St. Luke's can continue to grow and change so that everyone can become closer! Ironically, these stars are one of the best reasons we are growing and changing, as surely as a child grows and changes! —*Bonnie Watters* (*Photos for this profile courtesy Rudy Winston.*)



A Christian Symbol: Descending Dove

The descending dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove" (Matthew 3:16, NIV). The

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three-rayed nimbus around the dove's head identifies the Spirit as a member of the Trinity. A dove shown without the nimbus is a symbol of peace.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Income/Expense Statement

	<u>April</u>	<u> JanApril</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pledge & Income	\$ 8,265.70	\$36,518.70	\$100,519.00	36.33%
All Other Income	\$ 4,234.69	\$ 9,793.92	\$ 23,875.00	41.02%
TOTAL INCOME	\$12,500.39	\$46,312.62	\$124,394.00	37.23%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$11,865.97	\$44,906.94	\$144,691.64	31.04%

While our pledge and plate income was slightly down when compared to March, our total income for April helps reduce the budget deficit. If we can continue contributions at this level there will be a very small deficit by year end. So everyone please keep up the good work and remember the two important numbers: \$12,058 per month to eliminate the deficit while pledged income of \$10,366 will maintain the budget deficit. —*Sally Hoover, Treasurer*



St. Luke's Choir On The Road

You may recall that last fall a large contingent from the choir of Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Rutland visited us and filled out our ranks at a 10:00 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist. On May 1, we reciprocated by joining them in a Saturday afternoon Mass in their beautiful and historic church.

Jane Davis, Pat Fromberger, Bonnie Johnson, and Martha Stretton attended the service, which was followed by a cordial potluck dinner in their parish hall.

I think it is safe to say that we were simultaneously amazed at the amount of music that was sung during that service and at how quickly it all went by! The choir members at IHM were very receptive to our presence, and welcomed our contribution to their harmonies.

In chatting with their organist, Richard Brown, I learned that the IHM organ was designed and built by Russell and Company, who did the magnificent restoration of our own instrument at St. Luke's.

Sharing our music across services and denominational lines is an enriching experience for all of us, both musically and spiritually. Perhaps you might consider singing with us as we begin rehearsals in the fall. You might find that singing will literally give voice to your worship and enhance your spiritual journey! —Martha Stretton

Why the Acts of the Apostles?

In our latest Parish/Vestry book discussion using the text, "Called To Be a Church: The Book of Acts for a New Day," we are beginning to understand the historical relevance to our own moving forward in the Post Christendom era. Written after four Gospels, Acts is a narrative account of the how the early church leaders expanded Christianity following the ascension of Christ. Faced with the daunting task of bringing Jews and Gentiles together in worship in the Roman Empire which demanded loyalty to Rome, not God, the Acts of Apostles addressed the core beliefs and missionary practices. I find this book challenging due to the scholarly treatment of the subject, but I have faith that it will become clear as we seek to answer the question: "What shall we do now?" — Lew Watters

The Outreach Corner



How You Can Help With Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

We will be collecting items to go in the shoeboxes all year around. Every month we will have a list of things needed.

As we go into the summer vacation season, we could use the small soaps that are available in the hotel rooms. Please keep this in mind if you are traveling. (Thank you **Mike & Pat Saul** for the donations of hygiene items and to **Joyce Tiemann** for the toothbrushes and donation of money to ship the boxes!)

For the month of June we will be collecting items for the older children (ages 10-14 yrs.) and the younger children (ages 2-4 yrs.) keeping in mind that these younger kids are not as emotionally mature as American children. We could use flip-flops, since a lot of these children don't have shoes. Some other suggestions are: solar powered calculators, new clothing of all sizes including socks and underwear, baseball hats, decks of cards, marbles, small games like dominoes and magnetic checkers, yoyos, whistles, flashlights with extra batteries, sewing kits, tools, small puzzles, sunglasses, etc. Some things for the younger children would be rubber ducks, stacking cups, stuffed animals and/or baby dolls, building blocks, cardboard picture books and any kind of toys for a baby or toddler.

There will be a decorated box at the rear of the church to collect any kind of donations you have either store bought or homemade.

Thank you for all your help!
—Cindy & Ciana Roundy-Winston

PINS Request

Recently Robbie Wierzbicki, The PINS (Partners in Service) liaison from the Division of Family Services, contacted us regarding a foster girl who is graduating high school and going on to college. She will attend Newberry College in South Carolina and needed money to reserve a dorm room and registration. She had already saved up \$200 and needed \$100 more. The PINS committee decided to assist her with this request.—*Marcia Clinton*

-Alan Epstein

The Perfectly Lovely Afternoon

There is something very exciting about dreaming up an event and sharing and adding the details to the plan and seeing it take off. Maybe it was so successful because it was new—nothing to which to compare this event except maybe the August Supper.

Julane Deener's violin students were ripe for a



recital performance to get rid of the jitters, to practice before a small crowd, and to be outdoors. Marija Cunningham, flower lady personified, so loved the idea, and Adelaide Johnson, our best Altar Guild model ever, got captivated by the idea too. A flower-arranging workshop—outside on a sunny spring day—not only for adults but kids. Make simple containers and decorate them. Learn about flowers under a magnifying glass. A perfect dress up affair. And the connector was food, of course, as it always seems to be. Everyone did her part. Jane Davis loaned us her lovely floral tablecloths. Cindy Roundy-Winston, Marcia Clinton, Kathryn Wright, Alexandra Scarlett and Bonnie baked to perfection. The publicity was crackerjack.

Twenty guests, including Mrs. Aspden and Mrs. Crawford came. Even Owen, the church cat paused for the violin music ever so briefly. Two ladies trooped over from Manchester and had a perfectly lovely time. Bless Martha Stretton and Paul who came directly from the Vestry Retreat and were too full to eat! Imagine.

The May Garden Party is a new St. Luke's tradition; so don't miss it in May 2011. The pictures tell the story. You will not be disappointed unless you are allergic to flowers and chocolate. —**Bonnie Watters**



[&]quot;Thank someone for something. Go out of your way today to acknowledge the generosity of a person you know."

Smoothies At The Tower

Alumni Day, June 12, when you are viewing the parade, do stop by St. Luke's side lawn and enjoy the Mom-Kids Smoothie Operation. You will be reading in the Sunday bulletins about what ingredients we need—plain yogurt, frozen fruit, bananas, juice and maybe another blender. Please call Bonnie Watters, 875-2114 to sign up your family for one-half hour on Saturday, June 12. Cindy Roundy-Winston is the manager of this fundraiser to benefit the church coffers.



Quilters Again - Yeah!

Saturday, June 5, St. Luke's will host the *Country Treasures* quilters retreat guests from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We serve soups, salads, makeyour-own sandwiches, chips, sweets and drinks. Please let Bonnie Watters know about how you would like to join the lunch wagon (and very successful effort always) by providing food or help. Thank you for all you do when simply asked.

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'" —Erma Bombeck



Did I miss a spot?

Sign Restoration

Our church sign was damaged over the winter: the bottom portion with worship hours was lying in the snow; the fasteners needed replacing; the wood needed restoring and reinforcing; and some lettering needed replacing. Sign maker Paul Gordon of Londonderry matched our font with laser cut all weather self adhesive vinyl lettering, including extra letters and numbers for future changes.

—Lew Watters

Editor's Note: A man of many talents, Lew Watters repainted the Church sign on the day of the Garden Party. Many thanks Lew!



Julane Deener & her students perform at the Garden Party. (Photo courtesy Rudy Winston)



Meetings & Events

WEEKLY

· Monday Lunch/Discussion Group:

Meets 12:00PM-1:00PM in Willard Hall. Brown bag lunch and book study discussion with the Rector on topics of spirituality and faith. We are reading "The Holy Longing" by Ronald Rolheiser. Please come join us!

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group & Holy Eucharist:

7:00AM Intercessory Prayer 8:00AM Holy Eucharist in Willard Hall.

· St. Luke's Choir Rehearsals:

Thursdays (6:15PM. for centering prayer) and 6:45PM.-8:15PM for singing in Willard Hall. Our final rehearsal will be on June 3 as the choir will be on summer hiatus after the June 6th service.

LESS THAN WEEKLY

Adult Evening Bible Study:

Bible Study meets the **1st & 3rd Tuesdays:** June 1st & 15th, at 6:30PM in Willard Hall. We are reading Isaiah and invite you to come join us.

• Exploring Prayer Meaning/Form:

Sundays, June 6th & 13th at 9:00AM-9:45AM, at the rear of the church. Do come join us!

· Annual Parish Picnic:

Sunday, June 6th right after the service that day.

Smoothies at The Tower:

Saturday, June 12th. Enjoy both the Alumni Day parade & a "Smoothie." See details on this page.

· St. Luke's Vestry/Book Study:

Wednesday, June 16th in Willard Hall. 5:30PM, light supper; 6:00-7:00PM book study, "Called to be Church: The Book of Acts for a New Day." The regular Vestry meeting follows the book study. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Parish Picnic, June 6

On Sunday, June 6 following the service, St. Luke's Annual Parish Picnic will held on the back lawn. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided, just bring your favorite salads, pasta dishes, desserts and other condiments. It is always a fun time for the whole family!





Birthdays:

- Mathilda "Sis" Bolger
- Nancy Lindsay
- Michael Wilson
- Stephanie Wilson
- Doreen Wilson 6
- Dee Robinson
- Sara Gagnon
- Martha Stretton
- Jennifer Ehler
- Joyce Tiemann
- Lindsey Walton
- 18 Patrick Wilson
- 28 Emily Dakin
- 29 Mike Saul

Anniversaries:

- Ray & Freddy Holden
- Ross & Amy Jones 6
- John & Marcia Leader 12
- Sanford & Bonnie Johnson 13
- Bud & Joan Watson 15
- Fred & Alvce Fielder 20
- Lew & Bonnie Watters
- Peter & Tia Rosengarten
- Dale & Gloria Deming
- Red & Adelaide Johnson

JULY LITS **DEADLINE:**

IF JUNE 18th

Send articles, photos, announcements, etc. to: Pat Fromberger,

180 Gates Road, Andover, VT 05143

panjoe@vermontel.net

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is Handicapped Accessible

T WORSHIP SCHEDULE T

June 6 PENTECOST II

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II – ONE SERVICE

(Recognition Sunday/Parish Picnic)

PENTECOST III June 13

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

June 20 PENTECOST IV

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

PENTECOST V June 27

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

July 4 PENTECOST VI

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II – ONE SERVICE

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. in Willard Hall. Child Care: 10:00 a.m. Service

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Rev. H. Paul Brannock-Wanter, Rector The Rev. Sanford R. Johnson, Priest Associate
The Rev. Donna Reidt, Deacon

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