



# Light in the Shadows

MAY 2009

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

## Easter: A Note of Appreciation



Holy Week and Easter Day have passed and it seems (one hopes!) that winter finally has done so as well. However, we are still very much in the midst of the Great Fifty Days of Easter which only concludes with the Feast of Pentecost on May 31st this year. While Pentecost may mark the annual celebration of the giving of the Holy Spirit, I have been particularly aware of the Spirit's present reality since the beginning of Holy Week. From comments of others, I don't think I have been alone in this. There has been something powerfully poignant, uplifting, and ultimately joyful about this year's celebration of the central tenets of the Christian faith.

In reflecting on this during the past several weeks, I find myself, yet again, particularly thankful to be a member of the St. Luke's community of faith, and more interdependence that St. Luke's manifests. Holy Week and Easter Day, despite the perhaps effortless appearance of the services themselves, require a great deal of work on the

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of you."

—Paul Brannock-Wanter

part of many people. This isn't really all that surprising as the word "Liturgy" is derived from the Greek for "Work of the People." When all this "work" meshes together, one has an experience of true and Godly worship. It is this authentic worship that I believe was clearly present during the recent celebrations and I want to thank all of you who contributed to it. This includes the congregations themselves; Adelaide Johnson, and the Altar Guild; Martha Stretton, Julane Deener, Mary Pill, Harry Schueren and the Choir; Jean Hancock, and the Acolytes; Bonnie Watters, and those who contributed to the Seder (special thanks to Sharon

## A Great Day For The Easter Egg Hunt At St. Luke's

Below: Handsome Field Willis in his seersucker suit



Above: Carter Willis fills her egg basket.

Below: Margie DesLauriers looks on as Susannah & Henry Pennell check out their goodies.



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**I**t has been a long time since I have written without a Vestry meeting to use for “topic” information. I was in Colorado visiting my 2-year old grandson at the time of the April meeting so I can’t be very helpful with “what went on.”

The **Easter Service** at St. Luke’s, however, was a very thrilling celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and worth mentioning in my note to you. The music that our director, **Martha Stretton**, put together along with the choir and additional instrumental and vocal soloists was spectacular. The altar and floral/art arrangements throughout the sanctuary created by **Adelaide Johnson** and the altar guild, where both fragrant and visually beautiful. The sermon that **Paul Brannock-Wanter** preached about the relationship of the resurrection with the book of *Genesis*, was especially meaningful for the congregation, who had been encouraged to read *Genesis* during Lent. Of course the children’s Easter Egg Hunt completed the morning with color and joy. St. Luke’s is a very special place with very special people and this is reinforced over and over during the year. Happy Easter to you all!

—**Marcia Leader**

## Note of Appreciation

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Poitras for the meal), and the various receptions; Greeters; Cindy Roundy-Winston and her daughter, Ciana; Usher; John DesLauriers and Kathryn Wright, Margie DesLauriers and Morgan Willis, for the Easter Egg Hunt (a bit chilly but thankfully without the snow this year!); Pat Fromberger for the Easter bulletin; and many, many, more.

There is a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place! For this I always give thanks to God, and to and for all of you. May we all “enjoy” the remainder of Easter as we continue to sing the new song it represents.

In Christ’s Love,

*Paul*

## Web Talk

**O**ur web usage statistics continue to improve. First, our visits per day increased again. Also, there was a dramatic increase in the number of unique visits to our website, which was probably due to several factors. April was a busy month for St. Luke’s: there was the Maple Fest Dinner; the Passover Seder; and of course Holy Week. More and more when talking to visitors I am hearing them say, “We visited your website.”

Finally, fresh content from the Vestry and other interested parishioners helps keep our web pages dynamic and growing. —**Lew Watters, Webmaster**

## Willard Hall Was Alive With The Sound of Chimes!



**M**any of us who were able to attend the demonstration, Wednesday evening, April 22, (just prior to the Vestry Meeting) of the Melody Chimes Instruments by Schulmerich are excited about the possibility of having our very own set of chimes at St. Luke’s. But let’s back up a bit. The evening began with a brief introduction and demonstration of hand bells by **Susan Chamberlin**, sales

representative from Schulmerich Bells. After that she told us about the Melody Chimes Instruments. All in all there are 25 chimes in a set, which will cost about \$1000.00 (\$40.00 per chime). A discussion followed about how to pay for a set. One suggestion was that people could “buy a chime” in someone’s name. Can you imagine what it would sound like if 25 people had chimes at the Great Vigil at Easter!!! How glorious would that be!!!

One of the exciting aspects of these chimes is that anyone can play (whether or not he or she has any musical background) and all ages can partake in the program. I am musically challenged and yet, had a wonderful time with the chimes. At one point, Susan had all 14 of us playing *Amazing Grace* with the chimes and making a wonderful, enthusiastic sound. So, let’s make a joyful noise and get out our checkbooks and each “buy” a chime. If you have questions please see **Paul Brannock-Wanter**, **Martha Stretton**, or me. We are all excited. Thanks!

—**Jean Hancock**





Anne Elizabeth Bissell

September 12, 1954 – April 3, 2009

Most of you have learned of the tragic death of Anne Elizabeth Bissell in a head-on automobile collision on Friday, April 3, 2009. Her premature death is a fact not easy to accept. And many of us have been trying to reckon with it all.

Born in Connecticut, she attended schools in West Hartford, and then went to Skidmore College in New York, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1980. Anne moved to a home on Potato Hill near Popple Dungeon in Chester. Fortunate for us, Anne became a generous, faithful and valuable parishioner at St. Luke's, serving on the Finance Committee, the Vestry, and the Discernment Committee. Anne also participated in the Alpha Course and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Sleeping Bag Project for the Homeless. She and her mother, her best friend, moved to southern Florida in 2003, Anne to Englewood and her mother to nearby Venice.

Her career path took interesting turns. She first worked at the Old Tavern and then Smith Barney in Ludlow where she was able to work by telephone and computer to the outside work and have the bonus of "trucking" her favored dogs Buster and Lily to the office to supervise her. After moving to Florida Anne decided to pursue a new career as an X-ray technician and became intrigued with research in autism, but the hospital setting turned her off. Having remembered meeting someone in the medical transcription field while still in Vermont, she made another thoughtful change and transitioned to school, way ahead of the game. After finishing the training, she established her own business from her home. Her pets were there for company, walks, rides or supervision. She was able to take the best of her Vermont career and turn it into a successful flexible Florida one, unfortunately cut short by this tragedy.

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Besides her mother Susan in Venice, FL, she leaves behind her sister Gail in Deer Park, WA and her brother Gib, in Kalispell, MT and nieces and nephews as well. Anne also leaves her beloved dog Lily, two horses, Foxie and Rosie and her two cats, Stan and Ollie. Anne's radiant warmth, kindness and joy of life will be deeply missed by all who knew her, including her fur family.

Below is a picture of Anne from the Watters' visit in January of 2006.



## My Journey through Lent 2009

Bonnie and I made a very conscious if not always perfect effort to follow the daily calendar of Lent. We also attempted to do as Father Paul had suggested: read *Genesis* and one of the Gospels. We even attended all the Holy Week Services this year.

In all my years of celebrating Easter, I have never experienced such a deep understanding of the cornerstone of our faith, the resurrection. It seemed to all come together. The music was so celebratory, especially "*Lord of the Dance*" with the violin accompaniment. That joyful tune is still running through my head and sometimes off my lips.

Thanks be to St. Luke's. —*Lew Watters*

## Stations of the Cross Booklet



The Stations booklet featuring Doadie Mitchell's restored ink drawings of the 14 stations were available on Good Friday for the simple but very meaningful journey of Christ's last hours and days before his death and triumphant resurrection. The booklets will be put away very soon for next year's Holy Week; but if you would like to purchase one, simply take one of the booklets and leave a donation of \$10 in the little basket.



Jane Davis, Kathryn Wright and Belinda Worth prepare the special symbolic Seder plates.



The sumptuous meal including roast lamb, goat, rosemary potatoes, salads and much more was enjoyed by a large group who gathered to celebrate the Passover Seder in Willard Hall.

## Celebration Of The Passover Seder

**S**haron Poitras put herself out there, and offered the best of her flocks—perfectly prepared goat and lamb dishes to please the palette. **Bonnie Johnson** fixed the rosemary oven chicken to go with green beans, carrots and basil and roasted garlic and rosemary potatoes. Lovely tossed salads graced the serving table. **Marcia Clinton** and **Adelaide Johnson** baked coconut macaroons and meringue cookies. **Jean** and **Jane** provided the lovely tableware and votives.

A magnificent team prepared the eggs, haroset, seder plates, which included children. We were blessed to have Paul lead us in the Passover and Martha, fresh from her community concert, accompanied our joyful singing. Four young families were there, including the Foxes from Bellows Falls. Hayden lost his tooth retainer but found the hidden matzo. About 55 guests celebrated this most incredible event and are still talking about it. And Hayden found his retainer! Lew will tell you that the Seder page was the most viewed at [www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org](http://www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org) and the pictures are still up and viewable. —**Bonnie Watters**



Red & Adelaide Johnson and Russ & Sarah Gagnon join in singing during the Passover Seder at St. Luke's.

## Smoothies At The Tower! Save The Date of June 13

**T**he inaugural attempt to make and sell fruit smoothies at Fall Tag Sale did not fare so well because that pretty autumn day did not warm up as quickly as we might have liked. So we are moving this event to *Alumni Day*, **Saturday, June 13**, tentatively from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.. Our daughter Kate will be here for her 20th reunion from Green Mountain, so I am hoping to snag her for a slot to serve with her mom that day. Here's a sweet mother and daughter opportunity, so sign up please. We will also accept frozen fruit, plain yogurt, juice and blenders from everyone else. Watch for details in upcoming Sunday Bulletins.



## In Memoriam



### Frances P. Williamson

April 25, 1923 – April 5, 2009

Frances P. Williamson died April 5, 2009 at Thompson House in Brattleboro, Vt. Her husband of 65 years, Chilton, was with her when she died. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, on April 25, 1923, daughter of Jane T. Philpotts and William George Philpotts, she emigrated with her family to the United States at the age of seven and grew up in New York City. Chilton was a Professor of History at Barnard College where she received a bachelor of arts degree. In fact, Frances was one of his students, and she once shared that he was a superb lecturer. She and Chilton were married June 24, 1944 at St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia.

Frances and Chilton raised three children now grown: Chilton Jr. of Laramie, WY, Jane W. Schneider of Fort Madison, IA, and Peter D. Williamson of New York, NY; she is survived also by a sister, Ruth P. Kopp.

Frances pursued a career in education and taught at the Nightingale-Bamford School for Girls in Manhattan where she was principal and later at St. Hilda's and St. Hughes School on Morningside Heights in a similar role. In her Vermont retirement she served as a substitute in local schools and worked in the Chapter 1 program at the Windham School.

The Williamsons bought the former Allan Nevins property in West Windham in 1952 and retired to live there full time in 1990. In their earlier days they worked together side by side to clear brush from the 194-acre property, refinish furniture and wallpaper. Through Pat and Hubbard Ballou, former Columbia colleagues, the couple came to St. Luke's. Chilton was baptized and Frances was received as a member by then Bishop Swenson. Both sang in the choir. They shared a common interest in music, particularly opera, and reading. Frances particularly loved poetry and the language of Crammer's Prayer Book.

In 2005 Chilton's health issues (he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease) lead to the difficult decision for the Williamsons to move from their beloved home in West Windham to the Heins Home at Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend, but as his disease worsened Chilton was then transferred to the Thompson House in Brattleboro. This was a very difficult and painful time for the couple since Frances was unable to be with Chilton and remained on her own at the Heins Home. Finally in 2007 it became possible to transfer Frances to the Thompson Home where she was united with Chilton. The couple remained together until April 5, when Frances peacefully died in her bed, holding unto Chilton's hand.

A memorial service was held at Thompson House in Brattleboro on Tuesday, April 27, where we were able to visit with Chilton and share our fond memories of Frances and their time at St. Luke's.

## Newcomers "Progressed On"

A newer tradition at St. Luke's is officially welcoming newcomers at a **Progressive Dinner** in their honor. This special invitation was issued to five to six folks inviting them to a spring evening of fellowship, hosted by those not so new. As LITS is folded and labeled for mailboxes, Red and Adelaide Johnson will be serving wine and appetizers to Cyrena Goodrich. Then everyone will whisk off to the Watters in the Stone



(continued at right)

Village for chicken and accompaniments and finally south on 103 and to Brockway Mills and beyond to the home of to be served desserts Charlie and Marija Cunningham. Another dozen St. Luke's folks joined in the festivities. Some of us old timers think these fellowship opportunities are the next best thing to the old foyers. If you are new and couldn't make it, we don't give up. You will be asked again in the fall. —**Bonnie Watters**

## Worship

I don't have enough words to praise You, Lord. You are beyond my ability to understand or express. I can only worship You in my heart, lifting my life up to You. Amen



## The Outreach Corner



### Ongoing Projects:

- **Mitten and Hat Basket** remains in Willard Hall for donations of homemade or newly purchased hats and mittens for school age children.
- **The Chester/Andover Family Center** whose mission is to provide a helping hand to persons and families in need, is in need of donations of non-perishable food items. There is a basket at the back of the church for these donations. They are now accepting donations of spring clothing. Right now the Family Center has a huge selection of baby clothes for nominal prices. Tell your friends who have babies. The Family Center also has a new Board of Directors and new hours. Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Wednesday 2:00 p.m.-8:00p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00pm.
- **Letters to Soldiers** Cindy Roundy-Winston is still collecting notes and letters to send to our soldiers overseas. Many of the soldiers in need of mail come from very poor families. Some of these families are unable to afford postage, or cannot read or write. Our letters are very much appreciated.
- **CHABHA** (Children Affected by HIV/AIDS): Knitted dolls and African coffees can be found for sale in Willard Hall. The proceeds will go to support children in Rwanda who are orphaned, or otherwise made vulnerable, by HIV/AIDS.

### Pins Needs for Camp:

PINS also helps children to attend summer camps. Camp Agape, which is co-sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, the Troy Conference Center of the United Methodist Church and the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ, is a week-long camp for elementary aged children whose parents are incarcerated. Camp Rosie's Girls exposes adolescent girls to hands on experience in trades. The kids going off to camp have many needs and PINS would welcome any donations that we can make.

Suitcases/duffle bags	Insect Repellent
& backpacks	Beach towels
Sleeping bags (clean, used is ok)	
Beach Shoes/flip flops	Swim Suits
Flashlights	Toilet articles
Sunblock	Journals and pens



### Maple Fest Dinner Fundraiser Benefits PINS

On March 28th, St. Luke's combined a celebration of the long-standing Vermont tradition of Maple Sugaring, with a fundraiser for PINS\*. The **Maple Festival Dinner and Raffle**, spearheaded by **Marcia Clinton** and **Bonnie Watters** and assisted by many of St. Luke's parishioners, was a great success. There were delicious dishes made from everything maple—maple glazed pork, maple sweet potatoes, maple baked beans, maple bread, salad with maple dressing and several yummy maple desserts. 72 dinner tickets were sold and the dinner raised \$858.00 for PINS. \$300.00 will be given immediately to help several students who are graduating from high school in June to pay for their graduation expenses. The rest was put into a fund, so that when St. Luke's PINS representative has requests for specific children, we can respond immediately to their needs. This event was so successful and well attended by the community, that it is destined to become an annual event. In fact, there has already been a meeting to plan next year's Maple Festival.



Behind the scenes: Belinda Worth & Maria Clinton cut slices of Maple Syrup Cheesecake.

\***PINS, Partners in Service** is another one of the great service organizations that St. Luke's supports through our Outreach program. PINS is part of the Vermont Department for Children and families. PINS mission is to bring together faith communities with human service agencies. They promote the resiliency and success of children and youth who have been victims of abuse and neglect, ranging in age from infants to young adults. — **Jane Davis**



## 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. Please come join us!

### • Wednesday Morning Prayer Group & Holy Eucharist:

7:00AM Intercessory Prayer

8:00AM Holy Eucharist in Willard Hall.

### • Choir Rehearsals:

**Tuesdays, 6:45PM-8:15PM. Sunday mornings from 9:00 AM – 9:40AM** to warm up and rehearse the anthem. Call Martha Stretton, 875-3145 for more information.

## LESS THAN WEEKLY

### • Adult Evening Bible Study:

**Thursdays, May 7th & 21st** in Willard Hall, starting at 6:30PM and ending promptly at 8:00 PM with Compline. We have begun reading John's Epistles starting with 1 John so it's a good time to come join us.

### • Ascension Day Service:

**Thursday, May 21st, 6:00PM** at St. Luke's, with a "Shrimp Boil", hosted by the Choir in Willard Hall following the service. Menu will include boiled shrimp with sauces, tossed salads and desserts. So do come join us!

### • St. Luke's Vestry Meeting:

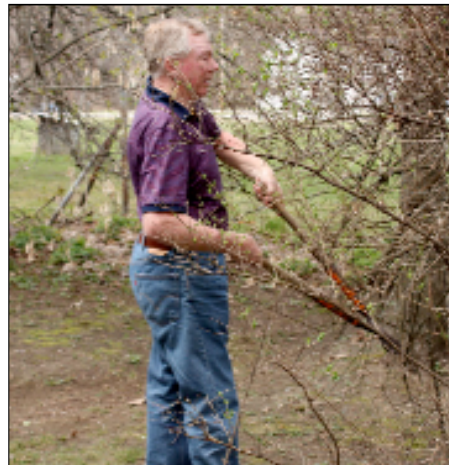
**Wednesday, May 20th** in Willard Hall. 6:00PM, Bible Study; 6:30PM Book Study, *"Changing the Conversation"*; 7:30PM the regular business agenda. Parishioners are urged to join the special book study. We will be discussing Chapters 2 & 3, so have read it beforehand.

## Special June Dates

- Trinity Sunday, June 7
- Flag Day, June 14
- Father's Day, June 21
- First day of summer, June 21

## Sunday Warriors Do A Great Clean Up Job

Bud Watson was there with his truck. Retired Junior Warden John DesLauriers was there with his trailer. Both vehicles were filled to the brim with the ace help of another retired Junior Warden, Red Johnson. Susannah and Henry Pennell picked up wood and found four surviving Easter eggs. Then they helped Bonnie wash windows. Allison directed Lew in the caring of the perennials in Memorial Garden and Kathryn Wright helped them weed. The jobs got done and that was that.—*Bonnie Watters*



## Parish Breakfast

Come early on Sunday, May 3 to the monthly parish breakfast if you are reading this on line, and others can be the first pick up your May LITS! The Worship Committee did a great job of securing hosts through the summer, so mark your calendars and plan to arrive by nine o'clock. **Here's the schedule:**

The breakfasts that are scheduled are as follows:

- May 3 Bonnie & Lew Watters
- June 7 Bonnie & Sanford Johnson
- July 5 Jane Davis
- Aug. 2 John & Sally Hoover

After that they will be asking for some volunteers.

Other books were given for our information, the Bible was given for our transformation —Anonymous

## Freezer Replenished

Two master chefs and two prep cooks busily prepared freezer favorites: Matt's Beef Stew (one of the chief chefs was Matthew Stretton), shepherd's pie, lemon broccoli chicken and chili. Mike Zezza, appreciative of meals, especially the chili, during his mother's illness, brought an offering of a Portuguese dish made of black beans and ham to be served on rice. An experienced cook, he was the other master. Martha and Bonnie just washed, peeled and quartered this and that. That leaves Lew in charge, doesn't it? He was the packaging guy, filling and capping and labeling it all. We counted about three dozen meals and some have already been delivered for consumption. Small but mighty feel good army. —*Bonnie Watters*



# MAY CELEBRATIONS



## Birthdays:

4 Sam Keator	26 Marilyn Mahusky
5 Ray Holden	27 Julie Walton
7 Sara Thiebaud	28 Brittany Langston
15 H. Paul Brannock-Wanter	28 Bud Watson
22 Chris Meyer	30 Samuel Cowles

## Anniversaries:

7 John & Margaret Yahemiak
19 Jack & Jill Dowd

## JUNE LITS DEADLINE:

 **MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Send articles, photos, announcements, etc. to:  
Pat Fromberger, 180 Gates Rd., Andover, VT 05143  
EMAIL: [panjoe@vermontel.net](mailto:panjoe@vermontel.net)

## ✝ WORSHIP SCHEDULE ✝

**May 3 IV EASTER**  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

**May 10 V EASTER**  
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**May 17 VI EASTER**  
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**May 24 VII EASTER**  
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**May 31 THE DAY OF PENTECOST**  
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**June 7 TRINITY SUNDAY**  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. in Willard Hall. Child Care: 10:00 a.m. Service



### St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Rev. H. Paul Brannock-Wanter, Rector  
313 Main Street, Chester, VT 05143 • Office Phone: 875-6000  
[www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org](http://www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org)

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
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