



SEPTEMBER 2017

Light in the Shadows

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matt. 5: 16

How Are We Being Asked To Serve God's Kingdom?

"You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession, the place, O LORD, that you made your abode, the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established." [Exodus 15:17, excerpted from "The Song of Moses"]



This month in our lectionary readings for Sundays, we are following the story of Moses whom God had commissioned on Mount Horeb to lead his people, the Israelites, out of Egypt, the land of slavery and bondage. Moses is remembered by most people for the event of the crossing of the Red Sea where God, after Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, parted the waters for the children of Israel to safely pass over into another land, free from the pharaoh's cruelty. With no remaining danger or threat, Moses and the Israelites relieved and grateful, turn their hearts to God in song.

For the St. Luke's community of faith, God is looking for midwives who will peacefully and willingly serve the Kingdom by offering our sanctuary for those who need respite from the modern-day pharaohs.

—Rev. Heidi L. Edson

Moses' story goes back in time to soon before his birth in Egypt. The pharaoh of that land was a harsh ruler that despised the Israelites who were becoming numerous in the land. Believing them to be a threat, he ordered the midwives who assisted the Israelite women in childbirth to kill every Hebrew male child. But the midwives spared all the Hebrew babies because they feared God more than they feared the pharaoh. Were it not for these midwives who had opposed the unjust and violent order the pharaoh had

Did You Miss The St. Luke's August Supper?



There's always a surprise at the end of a rainbow. On Saturday, August 5th the St. Luke's hostesses, servers and food teams showed up at 4:00 p.m. to sell tickets, put out the tablecloths, flowers and food. It was almost that hour that the heavy rain stopped and the sun began shining. At five the event started right on time. We served about 85 people who were thrilled with the food and hospitality. The generous cooks and parishioners offered all the food and some donated money to pay for the tent rental and pizza for the men's tent team Friday night. As in years past, Black



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From the Senior Warden

God's Crown of Glory



I made an impulsive decision to fly to Franklin, Kentucky, to see the Total Eclipse of the Sun. A Spirit-led decision, I hope, because I passed up on a rare opportunity to get together with all my “Methodist Sisters,” dear friends of forty years. I took my thirteen year old grandson Wyatt with me and we visited my cousin Louise who lives right in the Path of Totality. Louise’s mean but beloved mother had died just a few weeks ago, so it was a bittersweet time for us to be together.

On Monday morning, the day of the Eclipse, we set ourselves up on the front porch in rockers and porch swing with our NASA-approved glasses, overlooking soybean fields. Tracking the progress of the eclipse was interspersed with reminiscing about our childhoods and stories illustrating family relationships.

It was an intense experience, made up of my close relationship with Louise; the gradually darkening sky; my witnessing and holding her grief and the pained relationship with her mother; the cicadas getting louder as the sky darkened; puzzling over the antagonistic dynamic between our fathers; awe at what we were witnessing in the sky as the sun disappeared taking the color from Louise’s lovely garden inspired by our “Gran’s” garden; thankfulness for the rich creativity of Gran that she fostered in us; the intensely white corona which, indeed, looked like a crown of white diamonds; a feeling of awe, and even of relief, with the birds beginning to chirp their early morning songs as the noon time stars faded with the sun’s returning.

This experience captured for me the human experience: close relationships often full of pain and confusion, but made more bearable and meaningful by nurturing and loving relationships; and spread over all, God’s Crown of Glory, giving life, context and perspective.

At the airport there was a small glitch with Wyatt’s return ticket. The airline representative said, “You’ll just have to stay here.” “That’s OK,” said Wyatt. “I have family here and I like them.” *Amen.*

*Belinda,
Senior Warden*

How Are We Being Asked To Serve God’s Kingdom?

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given without resorting to violence themselves, there well may not have been a “Moses” whom God called to rescue God’s people.

Governments and lands haven’t change much since the days of ancient Egypt ruled by the pharaohs. Imperialism and dominance are some of the marks inherent on every level of even our own government. The song that Moses and the children of Israel sang, speaks of God’s abode—a sanctuary that the LORD has made. For the St. Luke’s community of faith, God is looking for midwives who will peacefully and willingly serve the Kingdom by offering our sanctuary for those who need respite from the modern-day pharaohs. Like Moses with the Israelites, we, too, may join in the singing with our hearts filled with gratitude and love for God and for one another.

*Blessings,
Heidi+*



A Taste Of Heaven

When an admirer asked renowned pianist Vladimir Horowitz how he could play so beautifully, he’s said to have replied that anyone could play the notes, but the true music lay in the pauses between them. The same can be said of life.

Rabbi Evan Moffic (Shalom for the Heart) writes, “It is in the pauses—the rests, the spaces in between—that meaning is made and that holiness is felt.” Nowadays we keep so busy there’s hardly a pause or space in our day.

“But that’s not the way God created us [or] the world,” Moffic continues. “God worked, then rested. God created, then paused. ... Thus, our Sabbath is the day when we can marvel at the beauty of the world God created. It is the day we enjoy what the ancient sages called ‘a taste of heaven.’ It is a day when we stop thinking about the what of life and remind ourselves of the why of life.”

OCTOBER LITS DEADLINE:

 **SEPTEMBER 22nd**

Send all announcements, articles, photos, etc. to:
Pat Fromberger, 180 Gates Rd.,
Andover, VT 05143
panjoe@vermontel.net



AUGUST SUPPER



Photos courtesy Pat Fromberger and Lew Watters

St. Luke's August Supper...

(Continued from page 1)

River Produce donated fresh produce, and Lisai's Market offered their delicious hams and roast beefs at fair prices.

Completed supper surveys by guests shared a common theme: Don't change a thing except the weather. Most of the guests have come for years and will be back next year for our 80th! They love the variety and quality. Having planned for nearly 150, the threatening weather was a big factor in the lower attendance. Church members eagerly purchased leftover meats, salads, cold soups and many desserts on Sunday morning.

This year's Silent Auction saw fewer sales due to the need to move items inside Willard Hall as weather threatened before the August Supper. Consequently, there were fewer dinner guests and bidders. However, a few sales of quality items raised \$245. Items not sold at the Silent Auction will roll right into the annual "Sale on the Screen" in September and October. (Read article on page 7 for more information) and check the Auction Pages on the church website for details and how you can be a successful bidder.

Look for us on the side lawn during Chester's Fall Festival on the Green with a scavenger hunt for children and more on Saturday, and a free concert on Sunday, featuring Jennings & McComber. Watch for these events on the church website, www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org. St. Luke's knows how to share its faith in food and fellowship.



August Vestry Meeting Highlights

The Focus Topics of the August 9 Vestry Meeting were Worship, Altar Guild, and the Status of the Search for a Church Musician and Supply Organists.

• **Worship Committee:** Heidi Edson's meeting on Saturday, August 26 will discuss the Rite I and Rite II services up to Advent. **Altar Guild.** Adelaide Johnson reports that Red Johnson, Rick Hunter, and George Cheney are helping their wives with duties after the services. It was mentioned that women are able to serve as Ushers at the Offertory, and Andrew Pennell will ask one or more for the next service.

• **Search for Musician:** Two reports from David Willis, Chair of the Search Committee, outlined the organizations that have been contacted and the minimal responses to date because schools were not in session. There will be more hope for interest when students return for the fall semester. **Supply Organists.** Candice Montesi will play for August; Martha Stretton in September. The subsequent schedule is yet to be determined.

• **Finances:** Assistant Treasurer Lynda Farmer reported that \$15,000 from Vanguard Funds was transferred into the checking account to pay bills. In addition to Lynda, the Vestry voted to change the second signatory on the Vanguard Accounts to Belinda Whipple Worth. **Pledges.** Andrew Pennell reports that pledges are on budget, and the deficit is in line with what was predicted.

• **Junior Warden's Report:** Andrew will replace certain lights in the choir area with better bulbs. Heidi reports that the second main overhead light on the left side of the nave is out.

• **Rector's Report:** On the second Tuesday of September Heidi will host the Ministerium meeting. Special Fall Services include an offsite September 15 Committal Service at 3:00 p.m. at Rosie Segal's Apple Orchard for Mary Farr, a former parishioner who died in Florida, and a large wedding for Sam Digel and Anna Prather from Washington, DC, on October 14, with reception elsewhere.

• **New Business:** August Supper. Apparently new attendees did not know about the "Silent Auction" inside Willard Hall; but signs and announcements will rectify that for future bad-weather situations, which adversely affected the number attending (about 80) this year. A complete report will follow for the next meeting.

• **Protocol for Monetary Gift Giving:** Monetary Gifts for pastors or departing organists, etc., should not have checks made out to the Church since that would inappropriately increase the Church's income and subsequent Diocesan assessment. In the future, a person will be designated to whom the checks should be written (with the giftee noted in

the memo line). That designated person will then cut a check to the giftee on behalf of the parishioners who contributed. Andrew has offered to accept those gift checks.

• **Restricted vs. Unrestricted Vanguard Funds:** Some Vanguard accounts have restricted funds, but the records are not very good as to why; yet principal and interest need to be noted properly. Gift givers may have to be contacted about their intent and the amount of their original gifts. In the meantime, the following policy for gifts was approved and will be written up and filed in the church office. Policy for Restriction of Gifts. Unless there are external factors requiring that the funds be restricted, funds should be unrestricted. Examples. **Unrestricted.** LEGO income should be unrestricted because it is an internal decision: i.e., Lillian Willis proposes the gift to the Whiting Library each year. Seder Meal income would be unrestricted because recipient Kids for Peace is an internal decision. **Restricted.** Habitat for Humanity. PINS is unusual in that it is Marcia Clinton's decision, but all income is restricted because it all goes out as a restricted expense.

• **Reclassification of Some Budget Items:** Andrew and Nancy Pennell and John DesLauriers will reclassify some items as a result of the explained, and more appropriate, gift distinctions.

• **Church Books for 2016.** Nancy Pennell finished her review and correction of records for 2016 on August 9. Maintenance has been reclassified under Capital improvement. She will make a few changes as a result of the approved restricted vs. unrestricted policy discussed and then release the books for the 2016 Audit. A revised P&L will be distributed at the September Vestry Meeting. Nancy will then bring the 2017 records up to date and review them with Lynda to clarify the changes.

• **Proposal by Bonnie & Lew Watters for the September 16 and 17 Chester Craft Fair:** The Watters sent out a rationale and suggestions for activities by St. Luke's at the event. Discussion followed, and the following activities were recognized as desirable and possible.

Scavenger Hunt. Quiz by Lillian exists (add stone kitty in Memorial Garden); to start outside; needs overseers and handiwipes; those who complete the quiz can ring the church bell. No food in church.

Dog Biscuits. Jessica Buchanan has a recipe for dog biscuits. If they are made, they could be blessed by Heidi and distributed to the many people who attend the fair with their dogs.

Free Popcorn in St. Luke's bags. Andrew will check to see if his parents still have the popcorn machine.

Information. Have table with info/forms for LEGOs, wreath decorating workshops, book discussion, etc.

Free Sunday Concert: Bonnie Watters will check with

Vestry Meeting Highlights...

(Continued from page 4)

daughter Kara and Andy as to best time and length of concert. Bonnie will do PR.

Schedule and Coordination. Lew Watters offered to coordinate. Willing volunteers tentatively in town and available include Janet Hunter, Andrew, Belinda, Jean Hancock. More volunteers are needed and should contact Lew Watters if interested.

• Event Announcements:

Free Disaster Preparedness Workshop at Episcopal Church in White River Junction on Saturday September 23, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m..

Diocesan Convention registration is open for November 3 and 4 (Friday and Saturday).

Vermont Diocesan Choir Day (workshops, prayer, choral singing) at St. James in Woodstock on Saturday, October 14th, 9:00 a.m.-4:40 p.m..

• **Next Regular Vestry Meeting:** Wednesday, September 13, in Willard Hall.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lillian Willis, Clerk*

Worship Committee Meeting

St. Luke's Worship Committee met on Saturday, August 26 in Willard Hall to review the remaining Pentecost Season, upcoming special services, and to have a general conversation about our worship at St. Luke's. Those present were Rev. Heidi Edson, Jean Hancock, Adelaide Johnson and Pat Fromberger.

Upcoming Special Sunday Services:

- **Sunday, October 15th** – Celebrating the Feast Day of Saint Luke the Evangelist
- **Sunday, November 5th** – All Saints' Sunday
- **Sunday, November 26th** – Christ the King Sunday (The Last Sunday after Pentecost)

Other Special Services:

- Committal Service for Mary Lou Farr – 15 September at Rosie Segal's Farm 3pm)
- **October 7th & 8th** – **Animal Blessing on Lawn:** (11:00 a.m. on Saturday & 3:00 p.m. on Sunday)
- **October 14th** – Sam Digel & Anna Prather Wedding at St. Luke's (3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.)

Discussion/Conversation:

- **Worship:** Rev. Heidi led off the discussion by asking those present for some feedback and comments of how we

Continue reading at top of page

Worship Committee...

felt in general about worship at St. Luke's. There were no specific concerns and overall worship and in particular the music, has been outstanding this past year. It was reinforced how important it is to take note of visitors and help them to follow along with the service (especially if they seem to be unfamiliar with the Episcopal liturgy.) For the most part, several of our members are doing this and this is a good way to help them feel welcome.

• **Moving Communion Location:** Heidi asked for input on whether we should consider moving Communion to the bottom of stairs to the Sanctuary in view of the reality that negotiating the steps leading up to altar and kneeling at the railing has become a challenge for some of our aging membership. The conclusion was to keep things as is for now. If someone does have difficulty they have the option of requesting communion be brought to them in the pews. It was suggested, however, that we consider this approach during major services (i.e. Easter, Christmas, etc.)

• **Music & Choir.** Martha Stretton is willing to serve as Supply Organist when able.

• **Morning Prayer/Evening Prayer:** Morning Prayer will continue on Wednesdays. Some interest has been shown in holding Evening Prayer. We would welcome more feedback from the membership regarding Evening Prayer services. Please speak to Rev. Heidi.

• **Children's involvement in Service.** Plans are in the works for Children's welcome packets that will include Lessons for the day and some craft materials. Jean Hancock is working on forming a team to develop plans for Sunday School. (See article below)

• **Next Worship Committee Meeting:** Plans for the Advent Season will be the main focus. The tentative date is either Saturday, **October 28th or November 18th.** Rev. Heidi will send out an email.

Church School Update

We all know how important children are to our church community. Sean and Jessica have been basically the sole teachers and creators of a program for children for several years and it is now time for us to create a program that relieves them of some of that responsibility. Therefore we are asking for volunteers to meet and create a program that will not be so demanding of just two people. Several of us have been talking this summer about a children's program/Sunday school and we have some ideas but we need to put it all together. If you are interested in joining this exciting team please contact Heidi or me by September 15. Thank you. —*Jean Hancock*

The Outreach Corner

Back-To-School Backpacks Another Success



On Monday, August 14, 2017, six volunteers and the PINS (Partners in Service) committee met to fill backpacks with school items donated by parish members and other interested folks. 80 backpacks were filled with appropriate school items for grades K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. This year we were able to include flash drives for the high school students. Each backpack had a tag attached with the grade on one side and the message "Filled with love for you from St. Luke's Church, Chester, Vermont"

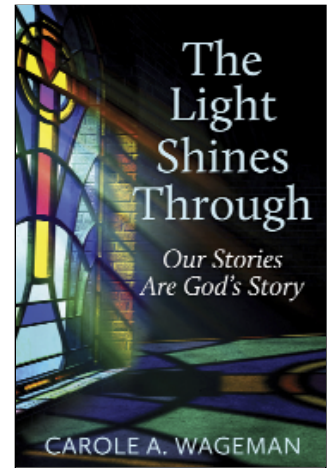
A shopping trip was necessary to buy items to complete all the backpacks, but before we went \$95.00 in cash was donated that morning for extra supplies. The total for the buying spree was \$115.61, minus \$95 and all we had to spend was \$20.61!

The backpacks were delivered to the Springfield office of the Department of Child and Family Services. The staff members who helped carry the loaded backpacks into their office all marveled at the number and gave heartfelt "Thank Yous."

A vehicle for putting faith in action, PINS projects involve the entire congregation in reaching out to vulnerable children in the community. PINS mission statement is: To promote the well-being and successful development of children and youth served by Vermont's Agency of Human Services Department of Children and Families through creating and supporting partnerships between faith communities and human service organizations. —*Marcia Clinton*

New Adult Study To Begin On September 6th

September is here and schools are in session! Here at St. Luke's, our Adult Formation program is also beginning a new year. Our Study beginning on **Wednesday, the 6th of September** will be an opportunity for us to engage in some memorable stories from Scripture. To help us explore these narratives, we will be using the companion book written by the Rev'd Carole Wageman. Her book is entitled, "The Light Shines Through: Our Stories are God's Story."



The combination of Scripture plus Carole's book will help us explore more deeply how our own journey of the faith is not unlike the journeys taken by the biblical characters that Carole highlights in her book. Their life-experiences with God shed light on our own unique stories of faith. Through studying their stories, we come to see ourselves in God's Story.

For our first session on the 6th of September, we will be taking a look at the "Introduction" and "God's Storyboard" (pages. 1-9) of Carole's book. Please see Heidi if you need a copy of the book. *No bibles needed for this first session. All are welcome to join us and please consider inviting others from the larger community.

—Heidi+

• Short Biography of The Rev'd Carole Wageman:

Carole A. Wageman has served as an Episcopal priest since 2003, following a career in the Central Vermont non-profit human services sector where she achieved recognition as a program developer for youth, leadership development, and administration. Rev'd Wageman currently serves in the Diocese of Vermont as co-chaplain to retired clergy. A graduate from Union Theological Seminary, the Rev'd Wageman also holds an Advanced Theological Studies certificate from Episcopal Divinity School.



Jesus makes no bones about the fact that when we welcome children into our lives, we welcome him. May we never be so busy that we lose touch with the children. For when we welcome them, we welcome Jesus.

—Forward Day By Day, 9/20/2009.

When loving our neighbor is our rule of life, we really do hear God's Word. That is when we reach out to our brothers and sisters everywhere and become part of Christ's own family. —Forward Day By Day, 10/11/2014

St. Luke's Participation In The Chester Fall Festival On The Green

On Saturday, **September 16 & 17** St. Luke's will have a presence on the side lawn of the church during the **Chester Fall Festival on the Green**—one of the Top Ten Fall Events, chosen by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. Plans are afoot to share news of our community events like the Annual Animal Blessing and Christmas Tea and Sale. We will have a table with information about what is going on inside the walls of our historic church. There will be free popcorn and a fun scavenger hunt especially for families on Saturday. On Sunday beginning at 2:30 p.m. there will be a free outdoor concert featuring Jennings & McComber—Kara & Andy Lake, Celtic Duo.

How can you help? Lew and Bonnie Watters (875-2114) will be coordinating the Fall Festival events. **Festival hours are 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.** Our goal is to have parishioners help especially on Saturday to talk to interested people and families. We will be outdoors with a tent and tables with information about our various programs. Please sign up (on sign-up form at the back of the church) for as many activities as you can in the hope that Saturday is a full day. We will be handing out the "St. Luke's is Alive! Come Join Us."

Items Needed! Fourth Annual Sale-On-The-Screen To Start Soon

It's that time of year again. I know it seems like summer just got underway but that bite in the air is just around the corner which only means one thing—its Sale-On-The-Screen time! You might remember last year we got on to a wood products theme and sold a chain saw, table saw, wood stove and even a wood planer. Who knows what this year's theme may be. I know I'm once again looking around my compound for good usable, salable items that I know longer am utilizing that might just be what someone else needs. So once again here is how it works. You contact myself (John DesLauriers) or Lew Watters and let us know what you have. We will need digital photos of the item and a description (which we can do if necessary). We will then list the items on line for sale. So look around and contact us in person, by phone, or email. Sale will run starting mid September through October. Many thanks!

John at 802-875-3490 or jdesl2020@gmail.com

Lew at 802-875-2114 or lewbon@vermontel.net



Special Program For Parents & Educators

September 14, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Compass School in Westminster, VT. "Wet Sneakers and Muddy Clothes: The Importance of Nature-Based Play and Education." Well-known author, teacher, and nature activist David Sobel will discuss why children need to play outside in nature for their own well-being and for their future stewardship of the earth. Presented by WHPA; co-sponsored by The Nature Museum, Putney Mountain Association, and Windham Regional Woodlands Association; and supported by the Bellows Falls and Springfield Rotary Clubs. At Compass School, 7892 US-5, Westminster, VT. For more information visit: www.windmillhillpinnacle.org <http://www.windmillhillpinnacle.org>



WEEKLY

- **Sunday Adult Formation Study:**

Sundays, 11:40AM-12:30PM. We hope to begin a new study this month using The Rev. Carole Wageman's book, "The Light Shines Through: Our Stories are God's Story." Check Sunday Bulletin for starting date.

- **Lunch Bunch Book Study:**

Mondays, Noon-1:15PM in Willard Hall for a bag lunch, sharing, discussion & prayer. We are currently reading, "Dignity, Its Essential Role in Resolving Conflict," by Donna Hicks, PhD. All are welcome to join us.

- **Mid-Week Morning Prayer and Adult Formation Study:**

Wednesdays: **Morning Prayer: 9:40AM;** in the Side Chapel. **Adult Study 10:30AM** in Willard Hall. We will begin a new study on September 6th with a focus on scripture stories using The Rev. Carole Wageman's book, "The Light Shines Through: Our Stories are God's Story." See article on page 6.

- **St. Luke's Choir Update:**

Choir members will be singing from the pews until a new church musician/choir director can be hired.

LESS THAN WEEKLY

- **Monthly Vestry Meeting:**

Wednesday, **September 13th** in Willard Hall. **6:30PM Gathering & Scripture Reflection;** **7:00PM Regular Agenda.** The focus topic will be "Stewardship" All church members are always welcome to attend.

- **Chester Fall Festival:**

Saturday, **September 16th** and Sunday, **September 17th.** We need volunteers to sign up for the Saturday activities at St. Luke's. See article on this page for details.

- **Special Chester Town Meeting:**

Wednesday, **September 6th, 6:30PM** at the Chester Town Hall. Speaker from the New England Forestry Foundation to make a presentation on anticipated purchase of the 1,847 acre Tomasso Property, located on Lover's Lane. Chester residents are especially urged to attend this important meeting.

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

2 Lynda Farmer	23 Beth Salisbury
2 Bonnie Johnson	26 Eileen Widger
5 Matthew Stretton	27 Penny Buchanan
7 Thomas Guerra	28 Leona Hensel-Whalen
7 Jim Sullivan	29 Marcia Clinton
11 Sean Whalen	29 Walter Rich
15 Al Haumann	
21 Deb Brown	

Anniversaries:

9 Norman & Ruth Harrison
14 Bill & Julie Hoyt
19 James & Beth Salisbury
21 Andrew & Ellie Pennell

"God gives us the ingredients for our daily bread, but he expects us to do the baking."

—William Arthur Ward

"St. Luke's
is an
intentional
Christian
community,
deepening faith
and
broadening
love."

✠ WORSHIP SCHEDULE ✠

Sept. 3 XIII PENTECOST (Proper 17)
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sept. 10 XIV PENTECOST (Proper 18)
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sept. 17 XV PENTECOST (Proper 19)
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sept. 24 XVI PENTECOST (Proper 20)
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Oct. 1 XVII PENTECOST (Proper 21)
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

✠ CHURCH SCHOOL: In the works. Check Sunday Bulletin

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Heidi L. Edson, Rector

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St. Luke's Church is Handicapped Accessible

Light in the Shadows

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 8, Chester, VT 05143
Return for ADDRESS CORRECTION
Or if Undeliverable

