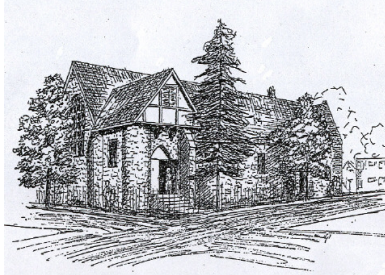


**THE GRAPEVINE**  
**NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**



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**From the Interim Rector's Desk:**

I have now been with you for one month – officially. During that time we have buried two of your beloved parishioners. Losing a friend and loved one is always difficult, but be consoled by knowing that they are at peace with God. In faith, we believe that they have entered that new life promised to them at their baptisms.

On July 18<sup>th</sup> I will be baptizing the granddaughter of two long time friends, Cherry and Roger Kraus. I will baptize Mia, the newest child of their oldest daughter, Lisa, and her husband, Chris. I have known Lisa, her sister, Jennifer, and brother, Derek, since they were babies, so this is a delight for me. I am happy that on that day Derek, my Godson, will be here from CA. I look forward to seeing him again.

At baptism the child (or person) is welcomed as a new member into the Body of Christ. Normally this is done in the parish of the parents – and the child is welcomed by the members of that congregation. Lisa and Chris wanted me to do the baptism, so they had to come where I am serving! I hope that you will greet them warmly and welcome this baby into the body of Christ.

**NOTE:** For all those who serve on Sundays, there will be meetings in August to train or review what your “job” entails – or to answer questions! I will provide everyone with sheets with the information (there is no test@!). I had been asked to do some training when I came on board as interim. The service runs more smoothly if everyone understands what they are to do. I am hoping that this will help each of you feel more comfortable in your role(s). Here are the dates:

August 15<sup>th</sup>: Altar Guild – 10:20 AM – meet in sacristy.

August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Ushers, Lay Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes -10:20 AM – meet in choir stalls.

If you are unable to attend these meetings, let me know and I will set another time to meet with you. Also, if anyone would like to serve in any of these capacities, please let Libby or me know.

One more trip: I will be on vacation in Maine from July 31<sup>st</sup> through Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>, in Ocean Park, Maine. This is an annual trip, to visit a number of long time friends – and to enjoy the ocean! We have gone to Maine for many years. I love this little summer community. It is one of many Chataugua communities that were built all over the country – a long time ago. People come every year from all over the USA and Canada.

The downtown has an old-time ice cream parlor with wire chairs and small tables outside. You can order the same things every year! College kids work there each summer – tips go to their college educations. There is shuffleboard, tennis, a library, a wonderful art show on the green on the day I arrive and Illumination Night.

Life there is very laid back – but with much to do if you so chose. On Illumination Night there is a band concert in the center of town. Whoever is in town is welcome to play. My friend, Dan, is the conductor and his wife, Sue plays in the band. The local women sell strawberry shortcake during the concert. Everyone brings beach chairs and sits on the street or grounds of the library. Little children get up and dance to the music – and occasionally some older folks join in!

At the end, after the Canadian and American National Anthems, they ask who the oldest person is attending that evening. They get to turn on the lights in the square - to kick off the Illumination night walk. People decorate their homes with Christmas lights – or whatever suits their fancy. On Sue and Dan's street, one family serves punch to the walkers. Another family hands out candles for people to plant in the beach after they walk over the wooden boardwalk covering the dunes. It is a totally undirected event. No one tells them what to do with them. It is quite moving to see all the candles set in the sand at night – and to wonder what each person thought as they planted theirs in the sand. Dan and Sue always play music from their front porch. Hundreds of people come down their street each year to get a candle! The number grows every year. We sit on the porch and watch them go by.

On Saturday evening anyone who wants to sing in the choir on Sunday gathers at The Temple. This is a huge non-denominational summer chapel. Clergy from many denominations are invited to preach. They have a pipe organ, a grand piano, 2 handbell choirs, a brass choir and sometimes as many as 60 people in the choir! (Usually I sing in the choir.) It is very different from our Episcopal service – with the focus on the preaching. The building holds around 1000 people and often it is filled! Imagine hearing that many people singing the hymns! You can even sit out in the side gardens and listen over the loudspeakers if you want. Afterwards coffee is served in the garden and the brass choir plays hymns.

I also visit other friends nearby in South Portland. I look forward to staying in the 19<sup>th</sup> century B & B – and usually see the same people there every year. The staff welcomes us like family and totally spoils us ☺! Every day we find fresh baked cookies in our rooms when we return. Every day there are wonderful fresh baked goodies in the small dining area and anything else you might want for breakfast. The trick that week is to not gain weight! I usually walk 2 miles on the beach every morning.

I hope that each of you find time this summer for rest and refreshment. Blessings to all of you. Stay cool and slow down for a while!

*Faithfully, Rev. Billie+*

### **BIT 'N PIECES**

BY DEE DAVENPORT

- Here we are into July already and darn stores have fall clothes on their racks. Looking for a bathing suit, only a few left. Oh well! The good news is that June Costa will be returning home very soon from her stint a rehab, while hubby John had a stroke and is improving daily. He is going to a rehab in Sandwich. We wish them both well.
- Pat Nottage is also improving and getting around to parties with her lil' 02 tank. Good going!
- Matthew Lariviere (Dee's grandson) graduated with honors from NBHS and will be attending Valley Forge Military Academy and College in Pennsylvania. Kudos!
- We are sorry for the loss of Lil Spence, a friend and loyal

parishioner of St. Martin's. She will be missed by many. Our sympathy to Tom and family.

### REMINISCING

I have just returned from Martha's Vineyard, after a joyous few days with my daughter and family. It was a time of remembering – of times gone by when I was

young. A ferry ride to the island... sitting in the open air with the salty breeze blowing over you... the sun warming your face. Oak Bluffs, so much to do and see, but first throwing coins for the kids at the pier to dive for. Amazing how quickly they would dive and retrieve those coins, mostly quarters. Gone are those days, no longer safe for them. Then up the road to the carousel to ride the horses and try to grab the brass rings. I was always too short to reach them, so disappointed, nearly falling off the horse in order to grab that elusive ring. Walking the streets, we would surely stop at an eatery to have chowder (or chowdah), then to the beach, where the water was crystal clear and cold. Swimming in the ocean, what a treat! Taking the ferry back to New Bedford, falling asleep on a bench, covered with salt and sand, a bag of salt water taffy in Mom's bag. I spoke to Ken Taylor about this and he had pretty much the same memories, and he is 26 years my senior. Do you have fond memories?

### CHOIR

We are just a small group of parishioners, but with a desire to sing! Most of us can't read music, but once we learn a part, we excel. Under the patient tutelage of Martha Fournier we manage to sound pretty good. In fact, we think we sound darn good. We have big hearts and I want to say thank you to us all!

### SUMMER SMELLS AND SOUNDS

What do you think of when asked about summer smells? Smell of hamburgers, or chicken on the grille? Smell of pines when camping? Salt water when nearing a beach, especially at low tide? Smell of roses and honeysuckle? Sounds of kids laughing? Sound of someone's darn boom box? Sound of fireworks? The sound of lawnmowers and the smell of cut grass? In summer we are open to all the riches our ears and noses can take, and soon enough we will be indoors and smell the heat coming on.

*"A summer's lease hath all too short a date."*

*Shakespeare*

### JULY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Richard Taylor, 7/5, Tyler Andrews 7/6, Shyla Moniz 7/14, Melissa Cardoso 7/20, Lauren Davenport Pineau 7/24, Dorothy Clarkson 7/25, and Brianne Marvel 7/31

### JULY ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Fred & Carole Morgan 7/4

### AUGUST BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Jeanne Frasier 8/4, Jim Benevides 8/5, Doris Pacheco, Jordyn Calnan 8/6, Deolinda Sylvia 8/7, Scott Ellms 8/8, Elaine Perry 8/13, Elaine Ellms 8/14, Melissa Wilde 8/20, Tayla Costa 8/23, Gordon Ellms 8/24

### AUGUST ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Evan & Gladys Crocker 8/19

***MAY GOD HOLD  
YOU IN THE PALM  
OF HIS  
HANDS.....DEE***

