

Pastor's Corner

The End of an Era

Pastor Tom Philipp



I participate in a Clergy Book Discussion Group which meets monthly at the Presbytery Center. The last time we met each of us carried into the group our copy of the book which has been our focus for the past few months. That is, all but one of us. Kathy reached into her purse and pulled out her book pad, an Amazon - Kindle 3G (Free 3G + Wi-Fi). It was not that I really knew the make and model. It has only been in the last few months that I even knew what a book pad is. She had to explain it to me and how the one she had compared with other models of the Kindle as well as that of other brands: Barnes and Noble - Nook, E Fun's Nextbook or Digital Reader, and Ectaco's - jetBook-Lite Digital Reader. We have entered a new era, or, I should say many have entered into this new era. Your Pastor hasn't even approached the threshold yet, and when that day comes he will have to be carried across!

Before the month of September is over Borders will close its stores. I am going to miss my weekly trips to the one just off Sunrise Highway at Johnson Avenue. My records show I would buy around thirty books each year from this outlet plus buying books from other sources. I love buying books and, in most cases, actually getting around to reading them as well. I have been a book lover from an early age.



Gutenberg Bible, first major book printed with moveable type

When I turned twelve my Mother gave me permission to take the municipal bus each Saturday morning, which stopped a block from our home in St. Paul, to make the trip downtown to the Public Library.

There I would choose five books (the limit) which I would bring home and read (devour) the following week, then return them and take the next five. Though this sounds ridiculous, I had hopes of reading every book in that library or, at least, the ones that appealed to me. Today I buy rather than borrow books because I read with pen in hand and make comments in the margin. Libraries don't care for that!

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Peacemaking Essay Contest Winner

On Sunday, July 31, 2011, we welcomed Sean Burke, our 2011 Peacemaking Essay contest winner, and his family. Sean is a 2011 graduate of Bellport High School, and will be attending Temple University, majoring in music education. He has a wide musical background, including piano solos, Jazz band and trumpet. He has performed with Bellport Playcrafters and is the recipient of their Margaret W. Smith scholarship.



This award is given annually by the Session of the Old South Haven Presbyterian Church, Brookhaven, NY, to a student at the Bellport High School for the best peacemaking essay, using funds from the church's Peacemaking Fund. Money in this Fund is the congregation's retained portion of the annual Presbyterian

Church USA's Peacemaking Offering.

His essay appears below.

Peacemaking

Sean Burke

Hatred is like a virus. It comes out of nowhere to feast on your love and happiness. When your mind is clouded with hatred: you have not patience, you can't see the "good" in anything, or anyone, and your shoulders literally become tense with the weight of your struggles. Thankfully, however, there is a cure for hate, and it is called peace. Through peace we can learn to cooperate with each other, and, although a bit overdone, make the world a better place.

I've always thought myself a peacemaker. So, the summer before senior year of high school, I decided to do something bigger than keeping my

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Christian Education

Darcy Stevens

Our Spring/Summer read was Barbara Brown Taylor's An Altar in the World - a beautifully written and thoughtful book (say I). There is no doubt some borrowable copies are floating around if you did not get to read it. If anyone is interested in a second get together to discuss it or the author further, please mention so to Darcy. Suggestions for a winter read - genre or specific book are welcome.

Sunday school will start in mid October or whenever the super star students are ready to come!

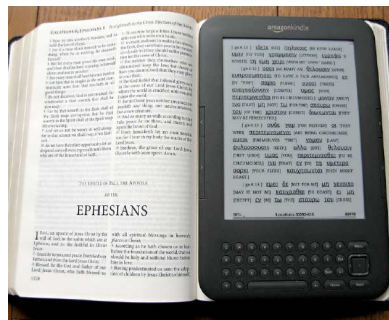


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Borders is not the only book store that has closed in the past few years. New York City was once full of them and I loved visiting them. Four years ago the bookstore at my seminary closed. I protested as a member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni/ae Association. The President of the Seminary informed me students and others were now buying on line and the Seminary was losing money on the bookstore. From my point of view this has destroyed the experience I love of walking up and down the aisles of a bookstore and looking at and perhaps buying books you did not know had been published.



Maybe I should title this piece "The End of Two Eras". The first being the closing of book stores and readers then going on line, the second going from holding a book in your hand to holding a book pad in your hand. A minister in one of our sister Presbyterian churches here on Long Island, no longer turns the pages of the pulpit Bible for the reading of the Sunday morning Scriptures. Instead he reads from his book pad. I can't get used to that (at least not yet). That seems almost sacrilegious to me! Perhaps my Jewish friends would say something is lost also if at Sabbath Services the Scrolls are not taken from the Ark. Sometimes paraded around the congregation, covering removed and then unrolled to the reading of the day. Though some churches process with the Bible given a



Plastering and Painting

Plastering in the sanctuary is now completed, as well as the painting of the ceiling and walls. The contractor is now tackling the painting of the pews. This is a big project because he is removing the pew racks and communion cup holders. They will then be put back with some alterations where needed.



Plasterer repaired cracks and applied special finish to minimize future cracking and crazing.

Work is being supervised by Property and Finance Committee Chair Ann Wiswall assisted by member Kappy Tilney. Funding for this work has been provided by the Town of Brookhaven Caithness Community Benefit Fund. Plaster cracks, crazing, and separations repaired by Anthony Mitrani of Shirley. Our painter was Alex Qualtiere of Center Moriches.



Bibles and Buffet

Peggy Angus

Our recent Pot Luck supper coincided with the 400th anniversary of the King James Translation of the bible.

As an extension of Pastor Tom's sermon that morning, we were invited to bring any old or unusual bible translations to display at the Pot Luck. Quite a few very interesting bibles were contributed and several people shared back-ground information about their books. Pastor Tom spoke briefly about some of the problems that have occurred in the past with translating from Hebrew and Greek into English.

As usual the evening was a very enjoyable one - Pot Luck with a twist.

Reminder: Our new Church Cookbook is now available. Recipes from members of Old Southaven for just \$10 each.



place of honor in the procession, I doubt they will ever do that with a book pad edition of the scriptures. Yes, a long time ago we went from the unrolling of the Torah to the place of honor for the scriptures in the Pulpit Bible. Has that era also now passed?

PS: Yes, I have written comments in the margins of at least three of the Bibles I own!!

World Communion Sunday

Peacemaking Offering

October 2

Once again we celebrate World Wide Communion Sunday with Christians around the world. This is a time to bear witness to the unity of Christians everywhere despite our various divisions. It is a time to indicate our commitment to Christ's command to work for justice and peace in a world that is deeply divided in conflict and war.

At this Service we will receive the annual Peacemaking Offering. This special offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking. 25% of what is received is kept by Old South Haven for our own peacemaking endeavors. The cash award we give to the winner of our Peacemaking Essay Contest comes from that portion.



Another portion of that offering goes to the Presbytery. This year that portion underwrites the expenses of bringing Dr. Philobos, an Egyptian International Peacemaker to our Presbytery on Sept. 27 (see article in this newsletter).

The theme of this year's World Communion Sunday is based on James 3:18: "A harvest of justice is sown in peace."



Music Department

Mark Quintana

The Choir has been on hiatus for the summer as usual, so we are getting ready to begin with new selections for the fall and winter seasons. We welcome a new official member, Brian Mullahy. Brian joined us for the first time at our Easter performance, and is doing a great job supplementing the melody parts with the soprano section. The other members are all expected to return, and our first rehearsal is Sunday, September 11th.

Peggy Angus played the two Sundays I was away, and as usual performed a much appreciated service in the music department. Deb Mayo was away doing acting workshops with Alan Alda at UCLA, which must have been very rewarding and exciting. Alan and Darcy Stevens are looking forward to the marriage of their son John on Saturday, October 8. The young couple will be married at Old South Haven, and I will have the privilege of playing the music for this special occasion. Richard Thomas enjoyed a camping trip this

Peacemaking, Sean Burke, Continued from page 1

sisters from arguing. I decided to go to the Navajo, a Native American reservation, to help conduct a summer Bible School with my church youth group leader, Tony Belizzi.

The Navajo are an amazing people and I think what I learned the most from them overall is that the main enemy to peace is material. From material stems greed, and from greed spreads hatred, and all that negativity is no good for our world. I know this because during the whole mission I was completely removed from my comfortable city living. I didn't watch TV. I couldn't text my friends back home. I couldn't go shopping, and I didn't check my Facebook. But I didn't miss any of these distractions. My head felt clearer, I was much more creative and open minded, and I generally felt happier.

I spent the majority of my time having conversations with the natives. They taught me about praising nature, and being thankful for it. They say that Mother Earth and Father Sky met, and then we were born. And why would you not be thankful? Mother Earth gives us our fruit and our homes, and Father Sky gives us the rain, and sunlight. When we appreciate nature, we can be happier because of it, and happiness is a definite aid to our goal of peace.

A former monk paid us a visit for a few days, and one day, he told me something that I will never forget. "When you keep an open mind and an open heart, amazing things will happen to you." I realized now that what he was saying was to love everyone the same way and not be so negative, as all of us tend to be.

If all peace is, is getting along, then the most important thing is to laugh and smile. What I learned on this trip, besides how to lasso a horse, is that



summer, and I have a few concert/performance dates in the making for the fall season, one of which is at Floyd Memorial library in November. Ann Wiswall played a much lauded additional role last season with her fine recorder playing. We hope in the future to add musicians to form a "performing recorder group".

That is the news in a nutshell from the music department. We appreciate the positive feedback received from members of the congregation. We purchased quite a lot of music to add to our expanding library, so there will be many new anthems performed throughout the year. The best to all from Mark Quintana and all the members of the choir, and we hope you continue to be blessed by the music we present.

We Observe 9/11

Our Sunday worship on September 11 will be a time to remember the terror attacks ten years ago. Rarely in human history have the events of a single day so profoundly affected the lives of so many on this planet.



We will be using worship materials prepared for the National Council of Churches by the Rev. Eileen Lindner, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Tenafly, NJ, and the Rev. Joe Brown, a Presbyterian minister and Pastor

of Old Bergen Church, Jersey City, N.J. Among the hymns we will sing is one written for this day by the Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette titled "O God, Our Hearts Were Shattered." and "A Song of Peace" sung to the melody of Finlandia by Jean Sibelius.

Rev. Michael Kinnamon, NCC General Secretary expresses his hope for the day in these words "For Christians in the US and around the world, this tenth anniversary will be a time of prayer and remembrance for those who were lost, as well as a time for each of us to seek to discern God's will for ending the hatred and resentments that spawned the violence."



Church Picnic

Peggy Angus

The venue for our annual church picnic this year was the beautiful church grounds. The weather was perfect, with clear skies and a lovely breeze blowing in from the bay.

Our "church ladies", Kappy, Debbie, Nancy and Lorraine did a wonderful job of setting up. The tables looked so inviting. Many people brought food to share - lots of food. What a blessed feast it was! Spirits were high, including a mini food fight (names withheld to protect the guilty). All told, it was a very successful event. Many thanks to all who made it so.

Fellowship Committee

Kappy Tilney

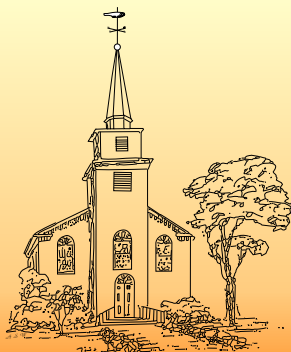
In the fall, the Fellowship Committee will be hosting a potluck supper. When the date (probably in September) has been set, it will be printed in the bulletin and committee members will call with the pertinent information.

We hope you will prepare one of your own recipes from the Deacon's Cookbook, Favorites From Our Table. Or perhaps, you have a recipe you wish were in the cookbook. We look forward to tasting your favorites. The committee will provide beverages as well as bread and butter.

2011 MORNING WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS JULY - DECEMBER

DATE	GREETER	LAY READER	COFFEE HOUR
Jul 3	B. Scott	L. Scott	N. Best
Jul 10	S. Moran	P. Angus	H. Altomare
Jul 17	H. Altomare	L. Majowka	Angus/Tilney
Jul 24	K. Tilney	D. Jones	Frankie/Majowka
Jul 31	Morgan	F. Decker	G. Laface
Aug 7	K. Tilney	D. Mayo	P. Light
Aug 14	H. Altomare	J. Neal	Morgan/Wiswall
Aug 21	J. Barry	K. Barry	Angus/Kellogg
Aug 28	Morgan	A. Stevens	D. Stevens
Sept 4	K. Tilney	G. Laface	Bird/Scott
Sept 11	S. Moran	B. Mullahy	S. McKay
Sept 18	K. Tilney	J. Barry	H. Altomare
Sept 25	Morgan	S. Moran	Burgess/Gallo
Oct 2	K. Tilney	S. MaKay	Neal/Unny
Oct 9	H. Altomare	N. Best	K. Tilney
Oct 16	J. Barry	K. Barry	Mayo/Hall
Oct 23	K. Tilney	L. Majowka	Morgan/Wiswall
Oct 30	Morgan	A. Stevens	D. Stevens
Nov 6	K. Tilney	B. Mullahy	Bird/Scott
Nov 13	S. Moran	F. Decker	G. Laface
Nov 20	K. Tilney	D. Jones	P. Light
Nov 27	Morgan	D. Mayo	Angus/Tilney
Dec 4	K. Tilney	J. Neal	H. Altomare
Dec 11	H. Altomare	L. Scott	N. Best
Dec 18	J. Barry	S. Moran	Frankie/Majowka
Xmas Eve, Dec 24	J. Neal	-----	R. Thomas
Xmas Day, Dec 25	Morgan	J. Deitz	Burgess/Gallo

COMMUNION: JULY/Stevens; AUGUST/Tilney; SEPTEMBER/Wiswall;
OCTOBER/Best; NOVEMBER/Majowka; DECEMBER/Moran



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