

Pastor's Corner:

The Book at the Top of the Pile

Pastor Tom Philipp



A first time visitor to the Manse was impressed with the many books in my library, in my living room, and in my office. He asked the typical question, "Have you read all of them?" The answer was, of course, "No." Most have their assigned place on book shelves, and I have no trouble locating them when I need to. In my office, however, are four stacks piled on top of the more properly placed books. These are recent purchases which I feel I should read when I find the spare time to do so.

In this "Pastor's Corner" I want to draw attention to one which I feel is "must reading" for me. It is at the top of the pile. The title is "Earth-honoring Faith: Religious Ethics in a New Key" by Larry L. Rasmussen, Reinhold Niebuhr Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics, Union Theological Seminary. I recently attended a lecture by Dr. Rasmussen and was almost spell-bound with the knowledge and the challenge he offered. I know it will not be easy reading this book but friends tell me it is "must reading." One friend says it has changed her life. That sounds pretty compelling to me!

For some time now there has been concern of many for the planetary crisis we now face – climate change, species extinction, the destruction of entire ecosystems, and the urgent need for a more just economic-political system. Some have placed it in terms of "change or perish". But precisely how to change remains an open question. I first became of the concern when in my role as a Chaplain at C.W.Post College I brought the Roman Catholic scholar and environmentalist Thomas Berry to campus. When I came to Old South Haven Catherine Kellogg introduced me to the wonderful little book titled "Where the Pure Water Flows: The new story of the Universe and Christian Faith" by Sister Margaret Galiardi. You will remember through Catherine's efforts we were able to hold two Sunday night sessions in January of 2007 which brought Sister Margaret to our Carriage House. The well attended programs helped us to launch our winter study that year on "The Person of Faith and the Environment." As usual, in time this interest and commitment has waned. I trust my reading of Dr. Rasmussen's book will reawaken my interest and my commitment and, in turn, renew our Church's interest and commitment. I and others are being drawn to Dr. Rasmussen's dramatically new way of thinking about

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Ann Wiswal

As told to Joann Neal

Ann is known at Old South Haven as a talented recorder player. However, many do not know how she developed her talents over the years as a talented artist as well.



Ann grew up in Syracuse, NY where she attended Nottingham High School and Syracuse University. She transferred to Columbia University where she continued to study architecture. One of her architecture classes involved taking an art class where she was introduced to watercolor and pencil drawing.

She also took piano lessons as a small child and sang in the church choir. Ann's love of music never left her and when she moved to Brookhaven a friend suggested that she take up the recorder so the two could play duet. That was the beginning of Ann's recorder career and when her friend moved away, Ann paired with 2 other women and took formal lessons. They played at garden clubs, a literary club and even played at a funeral. They would play background music at these events but not for pay. It was purely for the joy of performing.

While raising her children she painted when time allowed, but was able to devote much more time when the children were grown. Ann paints with other interested

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Sandy Asselta Selected as New Organist

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce to the congregation of Old South Haven that we have a new Organist/Choir Director. We welcome Sandy Asselta to this position. Sandy has been our temporary Organist and Choir Director since the resignation of Mark Quintana.

The Committee advertized the position and were pleased to interview several qualified candidates.



OUTREACH and MISSION

Linda Scott, Chair

Appreciation is extended to our recent guests from **Thursday's Child**.

Message from Kerry Thomas, EIS Manager

Our thanks to the congregants of Old South Haven Church, for having Thursday Child remain a part of its local mission. Founded in 1989, Thursday's Child took its name from a famous nursery rhyme, the rejoinder for which states: "has far to go." Today, we are more than 30 years into the HIV/AIDS epidemic and we have far to go in our mission to help Long Islanders living with and affected by this disease.



What does it mean to be living with HIV/AIDS in 2014? First, the fact that living is possible is one of the most amazing miracles. About 15 years ago, medical research found treatment that could suppress the virus. While we still await a cure, most people taking medication to treat their HIV will live relatively normal lives.

However, there are many challenges accessing and maintaining this treatment. For some people, conditions of poverty are a real barrier to receiving life-saving HIV medical care. More than 80% of Thursday's Child clientele are living below the Federal Poverty Line. One of the most utilized programs at Thursday's Child, directly providing grocery store cards and personal care items and more, is called the AIDS Services Access Program. Whether it is adequate food to sustain one's health or personal care items to retain one's dignity, every year this program serves hundreds of Long Islanders living with HIV.

Our mission as staff members is more than administering material charity. We are advocates for the cause. In addition to community outreach and education, we provide information and referrals to a variety of medical and supportive services based on individual needs assessments for HIV+ individuals or to intervene with services those who may be at risk of infection.

Awareness-raising is a cornerstone of impacting to make a difference and ending the rate of new infection (about 250 new HIV infections occur on Long Island every year; including over 100 in Suffolk County alone). We need your help to provide the message to your community!

As members of a congregation, we greatly appreciate your important role in understanding the issue and taking on the mission to help. Please share the word. Our chance to speak at the Old South Haven potluck dinner was not only a delightful honor to meet the compassionate members; it was our chance to come together for purpose.

The mission of Thursday's Child is to develop, to coordinate, and to provide services for People Living with or Affected by HIV/AIDS on Long Island. We hope to be here for as long as we are needed. Together, with your help, we work toward realizing an AIDS-free generation. We continue to work in service of our neighbors in need, and helping families to become families again with more heart-felt stories than we can ever tell.

SOCIAL EDUCATION AND ACTION

Nancy Best, Chair

I'm pleased to announce that a winner has been chosen for our 2014 Peacemaking Essay. Her name is Cheyenne Johnson, and she's a delightful young lady. She is currently a junior at Bellport High School, and plans to be a nurse. She is also interested in music, and sings with the high school chorus.

Cheyenne, and her family, were with us in church on June 22, where she read her essay to the congregation.

The full text of her essay is too long to include here, but may be found as a newsletter supplement at:

[http://oldsouthhavenchurch.org/Newsletters/2014Issue2\(Summer\)/Peace%20Essay Contest Text.pdf](http://oldsouthhavenchurch.org/Newsletters/2014Issue2(Summer)/Peace%20Essay%20Contest%20Text.pdf). Addition pictures of Cheyenne and her family may be found at:

http://oldsouthhavenchurch.org/photo_gallery/photo_gallery.htm



BOARD OF DEACONS

Judith Bird, Chair

The Deacons had their annual meeting on March 18, 2014 with Joann Neal,

Lorraine Gallo, Judi Bird and Tom Philipp attending. We reviewed the mission and duties of the Board of Deacons. It was decided that a gift would be made to the residents of the New Brookhaven Adult Home for the Easter/Spring season. The week before Easter, 150 colorful mugs were delivered to the Home.

On April 27, the Deacons hosted a pot luck supper at the Carriage House. We were joined by special speakers Kerry Thomas, EIS Manager, Gregg Noone, Program Manager and his guest, James Gale (see left). Kerry and Gregg spoke to us about the mission of Thursday's Child, an organization which supports those who have HIV/AIDS. This group has been supported by the church for a number of years.

The church held a fair on May 24 and the Deacons held a raffle for a lovely basket which contained items such as demitasse cups and saucers, silver spoons, napkins and napkin holders, hand crocheted doilies and two types of espresso coffee and biscotti. A total of \$80, which included the sale of raffle tickets and several donations, will be deposited in the Deacon's Fund. The winner of the raffle was a very delighted "Josephine" who resides on South Country Road in Bellport.

The Deacons hosted the church picnic on Sunday, June 22 after church service. Pictures of the church picnic may be found at:

http://oldsouthhavenchurch.org/photo_gallery/photo_gallery.htm



OSHPC MUSICAL SERIES

On Saturday, June 7, we presented "Making Beautiful Music Together: An Evening of Love through Song", another in our Musical Series.

We were honored to present Maria D'Amato, soprano, and Dimitrie Lazich, baritone, who thrilled the audience with selections from both opera and Broadway. Ms. D'Amato is a native of Shirley and early in her career studied voice with Daryl Jordan. Today she is a member of the Metropolitan Opera Chorus and is equally at home on the concert stage. Mr. Lazich has amassed significant credits both in the US and



internationally. Maria and Dimitrie not only sang together, they waltzed together. Pastor Tom shared with the audience that this couple have set June 8, 2015 (exactly a year from this concert) as their wedding date.

At the end of the program Mr. Lazich expressed appreciation to Pastor Tom and the Church for "providing this wonderful facility, with its marvelous acoustics for singers for such programs offered to the community."

Plans are underway to present a program in October which will feature three sopranos (our response to the popularity of several "three tenors" programs). Once again Daniel Ragone will serve as the director and the piano accompanist for the program. Also in the planning stage is a concert of jazz and also one of brass instruments. We are always open to suggestions so don't hesitate to pass these along to Pastor Tom.



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Ann Wiswall

people on Tuesday morning at the Bellport Community Center. The group paints and sketches using live models recruited from the community. During the summer the group meets outdoors to paint nature.

Ann belongs to the South Bay Art Association which raises money to give scholarships to graduating seniors throughout Suffolk County. They also give ribbons to aspiring artist to encourage them to continue. Artists from all over are able to display and sell their works at the Annual Memorial Day and the Artists on the Lane art shows.

After moving to Brookhaven in 1957 and scouting around for a church, Ann settled at OSHPC around 1961. She has held a number of positions in the Church and has been a faithful, caring member since. Recently she drew the covers for our Lenten bulletin. Surely her kindness and compassion are her hallmarks just as much as her artwork and her music. Thank you Ann for all you do and for the wonderful person that you are.

A BOOK FOR SUMMER READING

The April 28th issue of TIME Magazine featured on its cover the recent book by Barbara Brown Taylor titled "Learning to walk in the Darkness." Her earlier book "An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith" was our book study back in 2011. Many of our members have also read her first book as well: "Leaving Church: A Memoir." In that book she described her personal journey of leaving the pastorate of a church that grew by leaps and bounds during her ministry there for fifteen years. She left to devote herself to a ministry of college teaching, writing, and lecturing across the United States. She was recently voted one of America's outstanding preachers, and TIME ranks her among America's leading theologians," who (to quote TIME) "encourages believers and nonbelievers not only to seek the light but to face the darkness too, something that 21st century Americans tend to resist.

In this new book Ms Taylor writes about exploring wild caves, living as if blind, staring into her darkest emotions, over and over, and simply walking out into the night. She indicates that sometimes it is in the bleakest void that God is nearest. If there is interest, we may schedule an evening (or two) when we share her thoughts, and our own, with one another.



FELLOWSHIP

Kappy Tinley, Chair

The time we spend together after worship has proven to be almost an extension of our worship.

Our fellowship and the friendships engendered help create a sense of a family.

Due in part to the generosity of our coffee hour host, this special time has evolved. Many thanks to all who, over the years, have provided the wherewithal for this wonderful fellowship opportunity.



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The Book at the Top of the Pile

human society, ethics, and the ongoing health of our planet. He insists that we must develop a spiritual and ecological ethic that accounts for the well-being of all creation. He feels we must draw not only on science but also on religious resources "to make the difficult transition from an industrial- technological age obsessed with consumption to an ecological age that restores wise stewardship of all life."

So, during this summer period those other books in stacks in my office will need to be ignored for the time being. I feel compelled to focus on what to me is the most important and gravest challenge for our day. Wish me well in my reading and commitments (and no doubt developing a sermon or two!) that this reading will produce.

P.S. I have a second copy of Rasmussen's book if anyone is open to the challenge!

CLERK OF SESSION

Sean Moran

Our 2013 minutes were turned into the Presbytery of Long Island for review and were returned with no exceptions.

The session continues to meet on the third Monday of the month. If there is an item of concern regarding any aspect of church life here at Old South Haven, please feel free to approach one of the session members and make them aware of it. Currently serving elders are listed at the back of the bulletin.

At our last meeting in May, Session members discussed better ways for congregants to communicate with Rev. Tom. In the near future possible note pads will be placed in the pews to jot down your intentions. They can be given to the ushers who will pass them along to Rev. Tom.

Little Shelter Animal Shelter will be having their annual Pet A- Palooza event on August 16 and 17 from 9 AM to 6 PM, located at 33 Warner Rd in Huntington. This is a fun two day event of games, prizes and many wonderful cats and dogs available for adoption.



Post Carriage House About 1912



A little bit of history –

The photograph was taken from the hill behind the Carriage House. Notice the Post Barn to the left, since razed.

Pictured is James H. Post . At the time he was a trustee of the church. His home church was the South Third Street Presbyterian Church, Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

After the church was moved in December 1960, the Carriage House was renovated to become our parish hall.

2014 MORNING WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS JULY - DECEMBER

DATE	GREETER	LAY READER	COFFEE HOUR
July 6	K. Tilney	Jason Neal	Fuka/Tilney
July 13	S. Moran	L. Majowka	Bird/Corwin
Jul 20	L. Gallo	Joann Neal	Barry/Best
July 27	Joann Neal	K. Barry	A&D Stevens
Aug 3	K. Tilney	L. Scott	Burgess/Gallo
Aug 10	J/K Barry	B. Mullahey	Frankie/Majowka
Aug 17	L. Gallo	C. Taylor	Neal/Unny
Aug 24	M. Unny	F. Decker	Laface/Scott
Aug 31	E. Fuka	S. Moran	Hall/Mayo
Sept 7	K. Tilney	J. Barry	Moran/Jason Neal
Sept 14	S. Moran	A. Stevens	Fuka/Tilney
Sept 21	L. Gallo	D. Mayo	Bird/Corwin
Sept 28	Joann Neal	Jason Neal	Barry/Best
Oct 5	K. Tilney	L. Majowka	A&D Stevens
Oct 12	J/K Barry	Joann Neal	Burgess/Gallo
Oct 19	L. Gallo	K. Barry	Frankie/Majowka
Oct 26	M. Unny	L. Scott	Neal/Unny
Nov 2	K. Tilney	F. Decker	Laface/Scott
Nov 9	S. Moran	C. Taylor	Hall/Mayo
Nov 16	L. Gallo	B. Mullahey	Moran/Jason Neal
Nov 23	E. Fuka	S. Moran	Bird/Corwin
Nov 30	Joann Neal	J. Barry	Fuka/Tilney
Dec 7	K. Tilney	A. Stevens	Barry/Best
Dec 14	J/K Barry	D. Mayo	A&D Stevens
Dec 21	J. Bird	L. Majowka	Burgess/Gallo
Xmas Eve			
12/24	Neal Family		R. Thomas
12/28	E. Fuka	Jason Neal	Frankie/Majowka

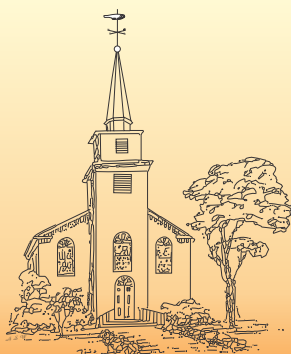
“HOUSE SINGS” — RECIPE FOR A GOOD TIME

Janet Barry

In a welcoming home, size not important
 Mix 20 or 30 people, all ages
 Fold in gently 4 to 6 acoustic instruments
 Add in slowly a little bit at a time, some harmony and rhythm.
 Simmer till about 6PM,
 Then combine with whatever Pot Luck dishes have come along.
 Feeds all who want to share in warmth and fellowship.

We very often find our songs in Rise up Singing, but anyone is welcome to bring copies of a song to share. If you play a musical instrument, please bring it along.

“I really enjoy attending the 'House Sings'. It is a great way to meet people, share in singing, music, seeing people playing instruments, sharing good food, and traveling all over Long Island to other participants homes. I am so grateful that I was able to use 'The Carriage House', it was a perfect venue”.



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