

## **FAMILY CELEBRATIONS, TRANSITIONS, ANNIVERSARIES AND NECROLOGY – Annual Meeting 2011**

### **ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION**

Representing **1540** years of ministry, we give thanksgiving for each one who celebrates a significant milestone in 2011

Ordained in **1991**,

The **Rev. Jane Bartlett**, **Rev. John Grivetti**, pastor of the Salisbury Congregational Church, **Rev. Amanda Lape Freeburg**, pastor of Old South Congregational Church in Windsor, the **Revs. John C. Weatherhogg and Tracy Fye Weatherhogg**, pastors of Grace Congregational Church in Rutland and the **Rev. Lucia A. Jackson**, pastor of the Hartland Congregational Church – celebrate their **20<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1986**

the **Rev. William Warriner** and **Rev. Douglas Carter**, pastor of the Danville Congregational Church - celebrate their **25<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1981**

The **Rev. Jean Andrews**, **Rev. Gail Dimick**, pastor of the United Church of Thetford, **Rev. Patricia Harwick**, **Rev. Richard White**, pastor of the Brandon Congregational Church, **Rev. Martha Peck**, Pastor of the United Church of Newport, and **Rev. Rebecca Strader** - celebrate their **30<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1976**

The **Rev. Roger Brown**, **Rev. Kathy Eddy**, pastor of Bethany Church in Randolph, **Rev. Michael Henkle**, **Rev. John Merriam** and **Rev. Margaret Wright** - celebrate their **35<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1971**

The **Rev. Joe Amico**, pastor of First Congregational Church in West Brattleboro, **Rev. Richard Crocker** and **Rev. Roger Daly**, interim pastor of First Congregational Church of Rindge, New Hampshire - celebrate their **40<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1966**

The **Rev. Neil Carr**, pastor of Brookfield Congregational Church, **Rev. Robert Moyer**, **Rev. Lee Moore** and **Rev. Donald Vincent** - celebrate their **45<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1961**

The **Rev. Robert Boutwell**, **Rev. David E L Brown**, **Rev. Yorke Peeler**, **Rev. David Ransom** and **Rev. William Wintersteen** - celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1956**

The **Rev. David Dean**, **Rev. Harold Harrison**, **Rev. John Nutting** and **Rev. Betty Stone Ludwig** - celebrate their **55<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

Ordained in **1951**

The **Rev. Walter Cooley**, **Rev. Ray Harwick** and **Rev. Leroy Hastings** - celebrate their **60<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination.

**AND** ordained in **1946**

The **Rev. Charles Chamberlain** celebrates his **65<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of ordination this year!

*Recognition of Milestones in the lives of some of our Members in  
Discernment*

**First – the rest of the story:**

Last year we reported that **Paula Gile**, Member in Discernment from the Mallets Bay Congregational Church had been approved for ordination pending call in May of 2010 by the Champlain Association. This year we can celebrate that Paula received a call as Minister of Educational Ministries and Outreach to the Congregational Church of Laconia, New Hampshire. She began her ministry on November 30, 2010. She was ordained at her home church in Mallets Bay on February 6, 2011 by the Champlain Association.

Last year we reported that **John Sanborn**, Member in Discernment from Grace Congregational Church, had graduated from Andover Newton Theological School on May 22, 2010. The following September he began a nine month chaplaincy residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Now back home in Vermont, he is awaiting a date for his Ordination Ecclesiastical Council in the Southwest Association – which will be July 10 at Grace Church at 3pm.

We celebrate that **Laura Cadmus**, Member in Discernment from the Barre Congregational Church just received word that she was awarded the National Make a Difference Seminarian Scholarship.

**Now – for the beginning of a story:**

**Elizabeth Siwo-Okundi** was received as a member in Discernment by the Grafton Orange Association on April 14, 2011. She is serving as licensed pastor of the Wells River church. Elizabeth received her Master of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology in 2005.

## *New Calls to Settled Ministry*

On July 1, 2010, the **Rev. Deadra Ashton**, ordained in 1987 by the PCUSA began official settled ministry at the Tunbridge Church.

On July 1, 2010, **Heidi Reinker**, lay pastor in the UMC began ministry at the Waterville Union Church.

In May of 2010, **The Rev. William Whiteman**, ordained in 1980 by the Conservative Baptist Association, began settled ministry at the United Church of West Rutland.

On September 9, 2010, the **Rev. Patricia Jackman** began ministry at the Shrewsbury Community Church. A graduate of Bangor Theological Seminary, she was ordained on November 11, 2010.

On September 19, 2010, **The Rev. Karen Lipincyzk**, began ministry at the Bradford Congregational Church. Ordained in 1980, she comes from serving as Pastor of St. Peter's UCC in Wadesville, Indiana.

On October 1, 2010, **The Rev. Cordelia Burpee**, began ministry at the South Hero Congregational Church. She is a graduate of Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and was ordained on August 28, 2010.

On November 25, 2010, **the Rev. Alice Ling** began ministry at the Richmond Congregational Church. Ordained in 1980, she comes from serving as Senior Pastor at the First Parish Congregational Church in East Derry, New Hampshire.

On December 12, 2010, **The Rev. Mary Kay Cavazos**, began ministry at the First Congregational Church of Cornwall. Ordained in the UMC in 1998, Mary Kay is also a Professor of African American Religious History at Middlebury College.

## **Official Transitions, Retirements and Moving on...**

### *(Our Interims)*

In September, 2010, **The Rev. Sam Newton**, ordained in the UMC, began interim Ministry at the Federated Church of South Royalton.

In October, **the Rev. David Pruitt**, after ending an interim in Bradford, began serving an interim at the First Congregational Church of Newbury.

On September 1, 2010, **the Rev. Matthew Owen** began Interim Ministry at the United Church of Proctor. Ordained in the PCUSA, Matthew comes from serving the Union Church of Manila in the Philliphines since 2006.

On November 1, 2010, **Michael Boy** began transitional ministry at the Ascutney Union Church. Previously he had worked in Youth Ministry at Valley Bible Church in White River Junction.

On November 1, 2010, **The Rev. Michelle Rogers Brigham** began interim ministry at the United Church of Hinesburg. She comes from serving as Pastor of the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Plymouth Wisconsin.

And on November 1, 2010, **Sherry Baer** began ministry as a licensed Bridge Pastor at the United Church of Northfield.

On January 1, 2011, **The Rev. Janice Chilek**, began transitional ministry at the United Church of Bellows Falls.

In January of 2011, **The Rev. Byron Breese**, ordained in the ABC, began interim ministry at the United Church of Strafford.

On March 1, 2011, **The Rev. Jonathan New** began interim ministry at the First Church in Burlington.

## **RETIREMENTS**

**With great thanks to Rev. Charles Purinton and Rev. Barbra Purinton who are retiring from their work with the National Guard.**

On December 31, **the Rev. Robert Boutwell** retired from Ministry at the Pawlet Community Church after 10 years. He celebrates 57 years of Parish Ministry.

On January 15, 2011, **The Rev. Robert Lee** retired from his ministry at the First Congregational Church in Burlington. He had served for 18 years.

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, **the Rev. David Wright** will retire from his ministry at the College Street Congregational Church. He began his ministry in November of 1992. OKAY – retiring – but not quite yet. He will be doing Interim Ministry in Rangeley, Maine.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, after six years of ministry in the United Church of Hardwick, **the Rev. Judy Waible** will retire.

## **And MOVING ON**

On September 26, 2010, **the Rev. Bruce Bishop** ended his ministry at the Jamaica Community Church. He had arrived to help out – and stayed for 5 years.

On October 1, 2010 **the Rev. William Schutter** ended his interim at the St. Johnsbury South Congregational Church.

On February 7, 2011, **the Rev. Diana Scholl** ended her ministry of Hospital Chaplaincy at the Porter Medical Center after thirteen years, when the position was eliminated by the Hospital.

On May 15, 2011, **The Rev. Richard Ringenwald** ended his interim at the Manchester Congregational Church as they prepare to welcome a new

pastor. It was his second leavetaking having retired from the church as a settled pastor years earlier.

On May 29<sup>th</sup>, **the Rev. Michael Ford** resigned from ministry at the First Congregational Church in North Hyde Park where he had served for 15 years. He continues ministry at the Second Congregational Church of Hyde Park and the Johnson Community Church.

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, **the Rev. Sandra Daly** will end her ministry at the First Congregational Church of Newfane. She will continue in Retreat Ministry at Hallelujah Farm – just over the border in New Hampshire

## VAST

Vermont Academy of Spiritual Training

There are those among us who hunger  
to break open the Word of scripture,  
who yearn to deepen their spiritual identity,  
who seek to enrich their understanding of Christian history and  
theology,  
who want language with which to testify to their faith,  
a faith worth living in today's world.

Since 1982 VAST has met the need expressed by local church members for an in-depth study of the Bible, basic theological concepts and the nature of our individual calling and spiritual journey.

Presently there are presently 22 students enrolled in three sites. In addition, this spring, 6 students have been enjoying an in-depth study of the Gospel of Matthew.

Thank you to those who are teaching this year...

In the Richmond class – Peg Slater and Biblical Studies

Amy Pitton and the History and Practice of Worship

In the St. Johnsbury class – Mark Pitton and Biblical Studies

Linda Kulas and Introduction to Theology

In the Manchester Class – Bruce Lee Clark and Biblical Studies

Joel Tibbetts and Introduction to Theology

This year there are three students graduating :

From the St. Johnsbury Class is

**Elizabeth Daly**, a member of the United Church of Newport

And from the Manchester class,

**Jeanne Zammataro**, member of the Second Congregational Church of Londonderry

**Lynn Wickberg**, member of Christ's Church in Saxtons River.



## OTHER CELEBRATIONS

On July 9, 2010, the **Rev. Robin Junker**, Associate Pastor of Bethany Church in Randolph, and Sean Boyce were married in Randolph.

On September 3, 2010, The **Rev. Abby Hodges**, pastor of the New Haven Congregational Church and the **Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer**, Associate Pastor of the Essex Junction Congregational Church were married...and the New Haven folks had to learn to spell Gackenheimer!

On May 30, 2011, the **Rev. Carra Bradt**, Pastor of Centre Congregational Church in Brattleboro, and John McFadden were married...and presently are on their honeymoon as we speak!

This April, with great joy, after a long and arduous adoption process, the **Rev. Mark Mendes**, Senior Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church, Essex Jct. returned from Nepal with daughter, Margaret Kiran Puspa Mendes. Big brother, Nicholas, and Karen Mendes welcomed them home.



**Rev. Jonathan New**, currently serving as interim pastor at the First Congregational Church, Burlington, is now **Dr. Jonathan New**. Jonathan received his Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.) degree at Andover Newton Theological Seminary's 2011 Commencement on Saturday, May 21.

## NECROLOGY

**Lorraine Sprout**, wife of the Rev. Jay Sprout, pastor of North Church St. Johnsbury, died on July 16, 2010 at the age of 58. She taught humanities to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders for 27 years.

**The Rev. Dr. Dennis Roth** died on July 25, 2010. Born in 1939, he was ordained in 1967. He served the First Congregational Church of West Brattleboro from 1996 to 2005 when he retired. In retirement he served the Turners Falls Congregational Church in Massachusetts.

**Margaret Post**, wife of the Rev. Avery Post, past President of the United Church of Christ and member of the Norwich Congregational Church died on November 7, 2010. Peg was 85 years. She and Avery had been married for 65 years.

**Rev. Dr. Lawrence Fairchild** died on November 21, 2010 at the age of 89. Ordained in the Congregational Church in 1945, he served the First Congregational Church of Manchester from 1948-1951, where he also hosted a Sunday afternoon radio broadcast.

**Dottie Glasser** died on January 17, 2011. Widow of the Rev. James Glasser, who served North Church in St. Johnsbury from 1954-1960 and the Peacham Congregational Church from 1984-1987 where her funeral was held.

**Kermit Reilly** died on February 17, 2011. Born in 1930, he graduated from UVM in 1953. At the age of 33 he became a deacon of the Peru Congregational Church and took that calling seriously and began to preach there through the many years the church was without a pastor.

**Jane Buswell** died April 18, 2011 at the age of 88. She was a graduate of the Baptist Institute of Philadelphia and worked for the North American Interdenominational Missionary Society before becoming the lay pastor of the Tyson Congregational Church where she served for over 50 years.

We remember as well, others who have been active in the life of the Vermont Conference and who died this year:

**Ann Olney Gilmore** who died September 18, 2010 at the age of 95. A member of Second Congregational Church of Hyde Park, Olney was the first woman president of the Vermont Conference.

**Betty Adams** who died April 14, 2011 at the age of 83. A member of the Perkinsville Community Church, she was honored for her mission work at the 1984 New England Conference on Mission, as 1987 Heifer Project Outstanding Volunteer and received the UCC General Synod Service Award in 1995.

**Nancy Hughes** who died April 4, 2011. Born on July 27, 1931, Nancy worked for the Office of Church in Society in Washington and has served as Moderator of the Grafton Orange Association and as Chair of their Committee on Ministry.