
THE VOICE



Bethesda Episcopal Church: Volume 2, Issue 3

June 2016

Bethesda Exceeds Expectations

*Gordon Boyd, Mary Withington
Capital Campaign Co-Chairs*

It is with great thanks and excitement we announce that the congregational goal of \$330,000 for Bethesda's Capital Campaign has been fulfilled and exceeded with a total of \$392,550 in pledges as of May 26, 2016. Not only is this a testament of our commitment to our Church's future, it is a declaration of our commitment to service to and for our community and our goal of building a Center for Service. Let us celebrate this milestone by joining together in prayer to thank all of the givers who have given and to express our gratitude to the Capital Campaign workers who have diligently communicated the plans and prospects for the Church restoration and the New Parish House and Community Center.

Beginning with our discernment meetings in 2013, parishioners, volunteers, Vestry, Wardens and Dean Vang, have worked assiduously toward this milestone. Our successful start to our capital campaign could not have occurred without the advice and guidance of the Episcopal Church Foundation consultant Leslie Pendleton.

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From the Interim Rector's Study

My Dear People and Friends of Bethesda:

I am delighted to begin my greeting to you in a glorious symphony of praise and thanksgiving. Exceeding our Capital Campaign goal [\$330,000] by more than \$62,000 demonstrates not only your commitment to build a New Parish House and Community Center, but also your love of Bethesda. Gifts still continue to arrive at 41 Washington Street, indicating that responses to the initial solicitation are far from concluded. The Co-Chairs of the campaign, Gordon Boyd and Mary Withington, merit our gratitude for the fruits we have realized thus far. Our next destination: the greater Saratoga Springs Community.

Our Lord has raised up yet another communicant of the parish for ordained ministry. Robert Bullock is responding to a call to the *vocational* diaconate, to which Bishop Love has given his blessing. Bob will begin our diocesan Deacons' School this September. Usually the pilgrimage to ordination spans three years and requires a vigorous level of commitment and prayerful support. To clarify terminology, the vocational diaconate indicates that it is only to the Sacred Order of Deacon to which Bob aspires, just like Deacon Sweeney. A *transitional* deacon is one who is in route to the Sacred Order of Priests.

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Sherryl Moore
designed this month's turtle!
(Want to try? Extra coloring pages
in the back of the church)

Are you on our mailing list? Please call the church office at (518) 584-5980 or email Barbara@bethesdachurch.org to make sure we have your email, address and phone number.

Bethesda's Treasures: The Madman of Bethesda

Mary Sanders Shartle

There are many interesting stories behind the lovely stained glass windows of Bethesda-- the representation of the Annunciation on the west side of the church, for instance. The right hand depiction of the angel Gabriel bears the name "Burr" at its base, which some think is a tribute of sorts to Aaron Burr who was once married to Mme. Jumel (1775-1865).

Eliza B. Jumel was Saratoga's illustrious former lady of the night and wealthy business woman. (Previously I have written in *The Voice* about the side altar cross, which was dedicated to her and her first husband, Stephen, a wealthy wine merchant from France. Her marriage to Aaron Burr (1756-1836), the third vice president of the United States, was very short-lived and not really in Saratoga Springs, but that's another story.)

The window dedicated to "Burr" is actually for Charles ("Charley") Burr (1790-1860), who was the former husband of Mary S. Wayland, to whom our grand marble altar is dedicated. Charley Burr, was a person of a "strange cast of mind" who "lived upon the cold charities of the world...a repulsive mendicant of the streets." This in spite of the fact that his father was very wealthy. He treated his son shabbily and refused him shelter and food because of his odd behavior. Charley eked out a living selling books and begging on the streets of Albany.

Charley's father was worth, upon his death in 1844, \$430,000, and he died without a will. Charley, his sole heir, was declared insane, his inherited fortune parceled out to him for food and shelter only at the discretion of his financial guardians. Charley later requested and received a modification of the decree and began to manage his own life.

The community was surprised when Charley married a widow, Mrs. Mary Young Beach, and bequeathed to her half of his fortune. Upon Charley's death in 1860, six years after their wedding, Mary was married for the third time to the Rev. John Wayland D.D. (1805-1863) a well known Massachusetts minister and brother of the president of Brown University (Cook). Mary Wayland was the mother of Katherine Wayland Ehninger, who dedicated the Bethesda altar to her.

Charley Burr is buried in Greenridge Cemetery in Saratoga Springs, according to our church service records.

Sources: (www.nelsoncook.com), *New York Times*, 1855 wedding announcement for Charles Burr and Mary Young Beach (on-line, ancestry.com), and Bethesda Church Records, Bethesda Archives. ❖

Parishioner Spotlight: Mayumi Kato

Jane Agee



Mayumi Kato grew up in Japan. Her father worked for an international trading company, SUMITOMO, and her mother taught in an after-school program. Her parents were Christian, so she attended Sunday school with her little sister while growing up. Her family also had opportunities to live outside Japan because of her father's job, in places such as Iran, England, and Greece.

During high school, she attended an Episcopal boarding school in England and there became interested in math and science. She later studied semiconductor Physics at University of Tokyo, and eventually obtained a PhD in Physics in 2000.

She had always wanted to work for an international company, especially because she sought an environment where women have more opportunities to contribute than they do in Japanese companies. Her current employer, Lam Research, is a semiconductor Equipment Company, located in Fremont, California. She started working there in 2000. Lam Research sells etch, deposition, and clean tools to semiconductor device companies, such as Global Foundries. She moved to Saratoga Springs to support Lam in 2011 when they started working with Global Foundries. She likes meeting with customers to help them solve issues or develop new processes using Lam's equipment.

Mayumi has two daughters, Taylor (12) and Ashley (10). Every summer, they go back to Japan to stay with her parents, so they can learn to speak both Japanese and English.

Mayumi noted that Taylor likes to take leadership roles and that she is currently student body president at her school. Last spring break, Taylor wanted to attend a spring youth camp sponsored by the Episcopal Church in Japan, so she went Japan by herself. She wants to be a medical doctor in the future. Ashley is interested in art. Last summer, she spent two months finishing an oil painting at an art

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Consultation with the congregation at every stage of this effort has not only contributed to the campaign's success, it has been a blessing to Bethesda in other ways as well. We have held parish briefings, conducted surveys, and published information in Sunday bulletins, this newsletter and on the parish website. Information has been abundant, as the parish's response attests, and has brought us closer as a parish family.

In the coming weeks, the Capital Campaign volunteers will turn their attention to the community of Saratoga Springs. Design, program and availability of the New Parish House and Community Center, together with the Church restoration measures, have attracted enthusiastic interest throughout the community. Our work going forward will be to provide opportunities for members of the community to add their support to the parish's pledges and gifts. If you know of any family, friends or neighbors who may be interested in supporting our efforts, please send a list into the parish office with contact information.

In the interim, any parishioners who have not had a chance to send in a pledge card for the campaign are invited to do so at their earliest opportunity. Campaign brochures and pledge materials are available at the back of the Church or from the parish office. A profound thank you to all.

Vestry Minutes (abridged)

"The Vestry of an Episcopal Church has three primary responsibilities... to take care of the parish finances and parish buildings [and] to choose individuals to fill various positions of parish leadership"

-Christopher L. Webber

The Vestry Handbook: Revised Edition

APRIL 20, 2016

Pledge and plate is up \$13,784 from this time last year, but the higher diocesan assessment is hurting us on the expense end. Building maintenance costs are also higher than last year, likely because of the squirrel remediation.

This year the building fund party will focus on church restoration and we are otherwise looking to completely revamp our approach to this fundraiser.

The conditions report has been sent to the New York Landmarks Conservancy and we are investigating the possibility of securing financial assistance with replacing the storm drains on Washington St., perhaps from the State.

Dean Vang is planning a First Communion class beginning in September.

The vestry discussed the draft of the new employee handbook, prepared by the personnel committee, which met with resounding approval pending some minor clarifications.

Home of the Good Shepherd has had to raise its rates pending satisfactory resolution of the ongoing litigation.

For a copy of the official (and unabridged) minutes of any Vestry meeting, speak to Genna or Dean Vang.

Landon Moore, a very recent graduate of Marist College in Poughkeepsie, has chosen to attend the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale. He has meetings this summer with the Commission on Ministry, including the Bishop, and then a late August departure to New Haven. Landon will be with us at Bethesda for most of the summer. In addition to his liturgical ministry, he will make visitations to our home-bound and nursing home-bound parishioners. There will be opportunities for theological reflection as well. Again, our prayerful support and, looking ahead, financial assistance when needed, deserve our attention.

Soon those who return to Saratoga Springs from other parts of the country will augment our eight and ten o'clock congregations. Graduations are near at hand. Vacation plans are being finalized. Ground-breaking becomes more of a reality. *The Lord is doing great things for us, and we are glad indeed.*

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang ❖

Kato, cont. from p. 2

program she attended. Like many children, Mayumi said, Ashley keeps changing what she wants to be in the future. This summer, she is going to attend a summer youth camp, and Mayumi will serve as a volunteer there again this year.

Since moving to Saratoga Springs, Mayumi has become deeply involved with Bethesda and with the community. She said while she was living in California, she only went to church on Christmas and Easter with her children. However, after going through a divorce and moving to a new area, she felt a need to go to church more than ever. She said she had a lot of questions that needed answers. One day, she walked by Bethesda, "a beautiful church," and was happy to see it was an Episcopal church. She was baptized at Bethesda in 2014, and confirmed in 2015. She started attending regularly. Now she serves Bethesda in many capacities. She is a bell ringer and a coffee hour host. She also helped with the Spaghetti Supper in December. She said, "I'm so happy to be member of Bethesda where I am encouraged to do more."

She has also become more involved in the community. When she moved to Saratoga Springs, a friend from California suggested she try Zumba classes instead of just staying home. She said, "I didn't know anything about Zumba, but I tried it at the YMCA." She ended up making a lot of new friends in the Zumba class. After a few years, she decided to get a license to teach at the YMCA. She said, "Working at the YMCA makes me feel that I contribute to the local community." Recently she hosted a Zumba Kids class at their Healthy Kid's Day event. She's also part of a local bicycle group and rides whenever she can. She said she had gestational diabetes during pregnancy, so she now supports Tour de Cure (a charity bike event). She has ridden 50 miles of the Tour de Cure route the last few years. She also enjoys hiking. We are very fortunate to have Mayumi with all her energy and talent as an active member of our congregation.

Stop, In The Name Of Confeddi!

(or, how our former Choral Director caused a sensation in the organ world)

Vexilla Regis

In the April First issue of *The American Guild of Organists Magazine*, an article about a rare historical organ stop caused a major sensation amongst organists everywhere. The essay, "The Confeddi Stop At Chram Svate' Barbory In Kutna Hora: A Historical Perspective" was penned by our own former choral director, Ryan Chatterton. His story begins in the Czech Republic, while he was on tour with a college choral group.

At St. Barbara's Church in the city of Kutna Hora, Chatterton made a most interesting discovery. He spotted an organ pipe jutting out at an unusual angle, from the pedal division:

"This seemingly unexceptional pipe is... a single member of a rank of pipes whose function is nothing less than extraordinary: to disperse thin strips of colored paper from behind the organ and over the congregation gathered in worship. The ribbons of colored paper are contained in canisters that have been blessed by the pope in the Vatican, and are breach loaded into the pipes behind the organ by the organist or organ scholar before Mass. When the corresponding note is played on the pedalboard, the slips of paper are dispersed throughout the nave. This unique rank of pipes that operate the canisters is known as the Confeddi stop, after the namesake of this festive technology."

According to Chatterton, Venetian-born Giuseppe Confeddi (1588-1643) invented the stop named for him. As an adolescent, Confeddi studied the notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci and developed a skill for inventing. The prototype was originally a single pipe, and installed in St. Mark's, Venice, on Shrove Tuesday, 1627. The Confeddi stop was so loved by the Archbishop that he ordered an entire rank to be constructed.

The Confeddi stop became very popular in Rome, where orders for the blessed canisters poured in. Manufacturers began to produce colored paper that corresponded to the colors of the liturgical calendar: "red for Pentecost, white for Easter or Baptism and Christmas and green for Ordinary Time. Purple was not used as a standalone color, as it was associated with penitential times and could not be used in good taste." Variations were produced: "the *Incensivo* stop, which released sacred incense throughout the sanctuary." The stop was popular in France and Austria as well, and Austria even produced *Heiligengeist Wasser*, which could spray a fine mist of holy water throughout the nave.

The stop was highly popular for well over a hundred years. Special musical pieces were written with the Confeddi stop in mind: fugues, chorales, and toccatas were written to feature the

famous stop. But there were difficulties, as well. The stop was utilized so much that it took hours to clean up the mess in the nave afterward. And some clergy complained about slipping and falling due to the slick surface on the high altar. "In fact, the discharged strips were also reported to have tainted baptismal fonts and communion chalices to such a degree that specially designed palls were used to cover the communion elements."

What rises must fall, and after wild popularity and much overuse in the church, the Confeddi stop fell out of favor. Pope Clement XIV ordered the immediate removal and dismantling of all of the Confeddi mechanisms. Soon, Giuseppe Confeddi and his famous stop were all but forgotten.

However, due to the reception of Chatterton's groundbreaking article, great enthusiasm has been shown worldwide in the restoration and new construction of the Confeddi stop. And, the best news of all is the proposal of the installation of one in Bethesda's own Casavant organ! Pending vestry approval, the installation of the stop will take place during the restoration of the Casavant, as part of the general restoration of the church building. And, word is that for the inaugural service featuring Confeddi's invention, Mr. Chatterton will return to personally breach load the first canister. Won't that be something to see! ❖

A Short Quiz

- Do you find you have way too much free time on your hands?
 Yes No
- Are your Saturday mornings missing that certain extra task?
 Yes No
- Do you like working with chemical cleaners to make things shiny?
 Yes No
- Does the peace and quiet of the early Saturday morning energize you?
 Yes No
- Before a coffee hour nosh, do you have fifteen minutes to spare?
 Yes No
- Want to learn Latin to better understand the Sunday goings on?
 Yes No
- Ever wonder what's in all those closets in the sacristy?
 Yes No
- If your answer to one or more of these questions is a resounding yes, you have the makings of a member of the Altar Guild. Training and mentoring are provided, we work around your availability and you will be doing a great service for Bethesda. For further information or, better yet, to volunteer, contact Dean Vang at the office or Mary Withington at mwithington@lasny.org.

Look! Here's another irritating small space that I can't just leave empty! This would be an excellent place to put an announcement or a message or something, don't you think? Hey! Did you hear that Charles [Zeb] Woolley got his PhD?
Way to go, Zeb!

Celebrating a Bishop's Birthday

Saturday, June 11, the Feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle, will mark the ninetieth birthday of The Right Reverend David S. Ball, the Eighth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany and sometime Curate of Bethesda Church. At the invitation of The Reverend Benjamin Holmes, Bishop Ball arrived in Saratoga Springs in the mid-fifties. His ministry to the youth of the parish was singular in both its quality and energy. It was only a brief span of time before he would depart to the Mother Church of the Diocese, The Cathedral of All Saints, a holy place which became very dear to his heart. First Canon Ball [a designation which still brings a chuckle to those who hear it], then Bishop Ball, influenced countless numbers of souls, including those beyond official connections to the Episcopal Church, who continued to be graced by his presence, his precise articulation of the Christian Faith, and his love of Christ. According to the Church Pension Fund, he is designated as retired. Not in Bishop Ball's mind and heart. He continues to serve the Cathedral as Bishop-in-Residence. How delightful it is to know that it all began at Bethesda!

A celebration to honor the Bishop's birthday will occur at the Albany's Fort Orange Club on June eighteenth. Dean Vang will be in attendance. A tribute from Bethesda will occur during the festivities: the presentation of a framed lithograph [number two] of our church, painted by Lucy Kettlewell.

Dean Vang has invited Bishop Ball to visit Bethesda on the first Sunday of October, which is, by tradition, the Feast of the Dedication of the Church.

VBS Cave Quest

Mark your calendars and register now! VBS Cave Quest: Following Jesus, The Light of the World, is coming in summer 2016. Kids will embark on a VBS adventure that will light their way! Gear up for an over-the-top underground adventure. Ground kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love, a love that takes us through life's dark times.

June 27-July 1, 2016. 8:30-11:30am

Register your kids, grandkids, neighbors and friends for an exciting week of games, Bible adventures, singing, whacky experiments and delicious snacks. It is free for anyone to participate and everyone in the community is welcome! Registration is EASY online – go to the Christ Church website www.4christchurch.org and click on the VBS button.

From the Editor

Genna Henderson

Firstly, I would like to explain that there is no abridged copy of the Vestry minutes from the May meeting because I was truant and skipped out on the meeting in order to have dinner with a Visiting Aunt. Mary Withington kindly agreed to take minutes for me at that meeting, and it seemed unfair to ask her to provide me with them ahead of time, so the Abridged May Minutes will be in the next newsletter. Unless I forget. Which is possible. In that case, someone should remind me.

Secondly, I'd also like to say that, since the February edition of The Voice, it has been brought to my attention that, between approximately 2002 and 2010, Canon Kay Hotaling served as a Licensed Eucharistic Minister at Bethesda at the 12:10 services on Wednesdays when her schedule allowed, making her, to the best of my knowledge, the first female LEM to serve at the Bethesda altar. Although, when I spoke to Canon Hotaling about the matter, she was adamant that The Voice's error did not bother her, I find I've gotten to taking this whole Voice Editor thing pretty seriously. I keep envisioning a hundred years from now when someone's writing a book about the role of women in Upstate New York Episcopal Churches, and they dig out old dusty copies of The Voice from our archives. I don't want that poor beleaguered historian (Hello, beleaguered historian! Are there flying cars yet? No? Yeah, we're kind of disappointed about that even now, but I thought you guys might've sorted it out by then.) to get the wrong information from something I was supposed to be in charge of. Lord knows our current beleaguered historians (Hi Mom! Hi Jane! Hi Diane! Hi Stuart!) have been having enough trouble sorting through the archives to put together the Bethesda History Book which, I'm told, is well on its way.

History is important, and leaving clear and accurate records for the sake of future history is likewise important. I'll freely admit that I was highly skeptical when I was originally asked to take on the newsletter, but now that it's my job, I want to do it right, and I want to make it funny. I want it to give a clear picture of Who We Are, Where We've Been, and Where We Think We're Going, with actual news and not just propaganda. In this endeavor I'm thinking of you, poor Historian of the Future, and how I can make your life a little bit easier and, maybe, even get you to laugh until you breathe in too much dust and sneeze all over my newsletter.

God Bless You, future historian. ❖

The next edition of The Voice is due out in August! Start thinking about what you want to write now! The deadline is, as always, somewhat fluid (I'm finally being honest about that), but get articles in sometime in mid-July so I don't have to beg people in coffee hour.

geneva.k.hinkle@gmail.com

Philip E. Milledoler , M.D., Bethesda Church's Fourth Rector, (1846-1850)

Fr. Paul Evans

The earliest days of Episcopal Church ministry in Saratoga was generally provided by clergy from Ballston and recorded in their Register of Services. The worshipping community grew and was formally organized in 1830 and ministry was principally provided by Deodatus Babcock of Ballston Spa until 1840. The earliest assigned clergy were:

William Walker, 1840-1842
Samuel Hanson Cox, 1843-1845
John Henry Hobart [II], 1845-1846

Of the succession of early Bethesda clerics, the longest tenured of the first decade who offered hope of stable ministry was Philip E. Milledoler, M.D. He was the son of Philip Milledoler, Reformed Dutch Church scholar and pastor, who was president (1825-40), and revitalizer of Rutgers (then Queen's) College.

Philip "E" (to distinguish him from his father) was an 1820 graduate of Columbia College, New York City and Rutgers College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1827. He was ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church Diocese of New Jersey in 1840 and transferred to the Diocese of New York in 1843. After a two year ministry at St. Paul's Church, Poughkeepsie (Pleasant Valley), he followed Hobart at Bethesda. In addition, Milledoler was a noteworthy contributor to medical scholarship which included an 1829 paper on *Cases of Disease produced by the Poison of Putrid Animal Matter, with remarks*. His Bethesda ministry was cut short by illness in 1849 and he died the following year. Described as "the loved rector", a memorial stained-glass lancet window dedicated to him is found at the (geographical) north end of the east aisle.

Pause and give thanks.

Carolyn Hatch would like you to know that, according to a Yale Study by Professor Albert Mehrabian, communication of feelings is:
55% facial expression
38% tone of voice
and only 7% the words you use.

Last month's quote was attributed to Plato.
If you have an interesting fact or a quote you'd like to see printed, talk to Carolyn Hatch

Landon's Graduation Party!

You (yes you) are cordially invited to a celebration of Landon Moore's graduation from Marist College.

Monday, July 4th. 12 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Burgess Kimball Memorial Park
384 Rowland St
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

In the pavilion next to the Milton Town Hall.



Summer readers needed!
Sign up on the list in the back of the church!

Stay tuned for the August Voice, where we'll announce the name of the Turtle!

