

ST. DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELLSWORTH

TID BITS FROM THE TABLE ~ APRIL 13, 2024

Dear ones,

I don't know about you, but I'm still delighting in my Easter joy...!

That was further heightened this week when early in the week we all enjoyed the eclipse. Arthur (and his best friend Ava) came home from school on Monday with little crafted eclipse models made from paper plates and popsicle sticks, and eclipse glasses. Along with Ava's great-grandmother (our next-door neighbor) we checked in on the eclipse throughout the afternoon and enjoyed this astonishing event.

One of the reasons we adults so appreciated the rare event of the eclipse is probably because it was a wonderful chance to indulge in a news story that was far from the tense and worrisome fare we've got used to over the last few years. We absolutely took our time to relish in the glory, beauty, and sheer majesty of the universe. I hope you did too.

I've heard how lovely Tracy+'s Service of the Word was last Sunday, and I'm incredibly grateful for Tracy+ and her many gifts. I'm so looking forward to seeing and being with everyone this coming Sunday for Holy Eucharist. I know we'll all enjoy our time together, worshipping and then fellowshiping. This Sunday, during our service, we'll take the opportunity to look closely at some of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances in all their complexity. Thank you to everyone who makes our services possible.

Office hours next week are Thursday, 9-11:30am. If you'd like to ensure time alone, simply email carolynkrosen@gmail.com or text/call 406.696.4113.

Enjoy your Friday, and I'll look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Sunday, on Zoom and in person!

With love,
Carolyn+

Happy Birthday to Stephen Fallica, John Sheridan, and Jerry Whitney! Enjoy!



Our **2024 Parish Directory** is complete!

If you do not yet have a copy, please let us know by emailing or calling the parish office. (207) 667-5495 stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for St. Alban, Cape Elizabeth, and St. John, Bangor. We pray especially for new members of the Church, penitents, and seekers.

We Pray Especially For: Kathy O'Connell, Robbie Johnston, Jesse Pierce, Eve Mitchell, Skip Stevens, Larmie Knuesli, Tony Rowan, Sally Rowan, Dorothy Sweeney, Lorna McCormick, and Sharon St Claire for comfort and healing.

(Prayer requests will remain for three weeks unless notified that the request needs to remain longer.)

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or continue a name on the list, please let us know at stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com or leave a message at the church (667-5495).

It is important to us that the list is up-to-date and accurate.
To everyone, please stay well and safe. Blessings to you all.

Almighty and merciful God, we ask in our prayers that the conflict in Ukraine and the others around the world can be resolved peacefully. Bless the people that have been affected by the unrest and grant them peace and justice. We also ask for the people in our own country that have been impacted by the hurricanes, violence and loss of loved ones as they grieve, pick up their lives. Grant them strength, comfort, and healing. All this we ask with the power of your love to all through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ UPCOMING WORSHIP / EVENTS SCHEDULE ~

At this time the Sunday services will be both in church following safe practices and via Zoom. Compline is every Thursday at 7:00p.m via Zoom

The sanctuary is open for quiet reflection and prayer on Mondays from 1 to 3.

Access to the sanctuary is available through the lower level parking lot doors of the church during this time.

April 14 ~ Holy Eucharist, 9:30 am

April 21 ~ Holy Eucharist, 9:30 am

April 28 ~ Morning Prayer, Tracy as Officiant & Homilist 9:30 am

May 5 ~ Holy Eucharist, 9:30 am

Upcoming Events:

- **April 19th** – Literacy Night and spaghetti dinner at the pantry

Loaves & Fishes
of Ellsworth

News for
Congregations



Family News

We would love to hear about **your news** and for **what you are thankful for during this year**. Submit your news to stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com



St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Final Approved Vestry Minutes
Meeting of February 25, 2024

Present on Zoom: The Rev Dr. Carolyn Rosen (Priest-in-Charge), Muffet Stewart (Treasurer), Mary DeLong (Assistant Treasurer) Tom Hancock (Senior Warden), Dave Wells (Deputy Senior Warden), Kim Peterson (Junior Warden), Jaci Hancock (Clerk), Valerie Doebler, Brianna Chattin and Caiden Chattin (Junior Member), Sally Rowan; Tracy Shaffer (Deacon) joined the meeting during the Treasurer's report and Carol Mason joined the meeting during the Priest-in-Charge report

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 11:42 am. Tom Hancock offered the Land Acknowledgement and Carolyn Rosen the opening prayer. Dave Wells and Mary DeLong were welcomed to the vestry.

Check-In: An opportunity for check-in was provided.

Acceptance of Minutes: Upon motion by Valerie Doebler, seconded by Muffet Stewart, the draft minutes of the January 7, 2024 vestry meeting were unanimously approved without change.

Reports -

Treasurer Report: Muffet shared the spreadsheet of the year-to-date 2024 budget and actual results. Muffet noted that the monies from continued sales of Liz Tracy's crafts are listed on the ECW line item as a placeholder; those funds will go towards community outreach grants paid towards the end of the calendar year. In response to Tracy Shaffer's question, Muffet confirmed that the purchase of the Lift Every Voice and Sing hymnals was made at the request of our Music Director, Paul Dickson and will come out of the Music fund. It was agreed that Carolyn will put a notice in Tid-Bits regarding the new hymnals.

Priest-in-charge: Carolyn reported that Sylvia Monteux passed away peacefully, in her sleep, on Sunday February 18th. Plans for a service will be determined at a later date.

Carolyn reported that she met with Marian Wells, Sacristan, to work out the details of our Holy Week services per the outline agreed to by the Liturgy Committee and thanked them for their work as well.

Deacon: Tracy provided an update on the current session of Sacred Ground, facilitated by her and Valerie. She noted that it is a small group and will likely be the final session hosted by St. Dunstan's unless there is an overwhelming demand for another session. Once she has the MDI churches' Holy Week schedule she will circle back to Carolyn to coordinate her schedule. She reported that the MDI churches made progress in their merger efforts and are looking to create a "Super Vestry" with members from each church to address those items of common governance.

Senior Warden: Tom Hancock apologized for not soliciting input on potential agenda items from Vestry members prior to finalizing today's agenda. He will do so in the future while continuing to have the agenda, prior meeting minutes and other items for review prior to the meeting out to members early in the week before each meeting. All other items that he wants to address will be addressed later in the meeting.

Deputy Senior Warden: Dave Wells noted that it has been five years since he served on vestry and he is looking forward to helping Tom and the vestry. He shared that he has always been a "good co-pilot".

Junior Warden: Kim Peterson reported that the recent sprinkler test, during which Tom and Dan DeLong were notified of a fire/sprinkler alarm, was momentarily "alarming", but showed that the system is working.

Kim is trying to find a solution to the excessively hot temperature and high humidity in the undercroft last summer, which were too much for the dehumidifier to handle.

One suggestion provided by a plumber who has worked in the building is to install an 80 gallon water heater/heat pump/dehumidifier in the area where the book shelves are located in the undercroft. The need to review/cull the books and find another location for the shelves as well as concerns about the appearance of such a large piece of equipment in the undercroft were raised. After discussion, it was agreed that Kim should put together additional information on this proposal for vestry review and discussion at its next meeting.

Dave raised the question of whether we will be going back to annual spring and fall clean-ups which were suspended during Covid. Dave and Kim will work on this.

With respect to the top of the steeple which needs to be repainted (it was last painted about five years ago), Muffet will provide Kim with contact information for a painter she recommends.

In response to Dave's question Kim confirmed that he still needs to figure out the wiring upstairs in the former office so he can have the exterior front light configured so it can be controlled remotely. He also noted that the wiring providing light to the rear parking lot needs to be investigated.

Finally, Kim confirmed that he is working on developing a maintenance manual. He was told that Bill Thomas and Bob Pulver may have worked on a maintenance schedule and he will follow-up with them.

Committee Reports -

Building Use and Fees: The draft Building Use Policy was reviewed and discussed. As there were a number of changes agreed to, Tom will craft a revised draft for review and approval by the vestry at its next meeting.

Safety and Security Committee: Tom advised that the committee met on January 17th and, given the progress made with respect to implementing the items on the safety and security list, will meet on an as-needed basis going forward. Tom confirmed that the Ellsworth Fire Department recommended that all interior doors and shutters be closed while the building is not in use. They also recommended a fire safety video that will be shown one upcoming Sunday after service. Two outstanding items that need to be addressed are installing safety screen/tint on the exterior door to the Lottie Horn Room and the feasibility of purchase of an AED Defibrillator.

Old Business -

Mutual Study of Ministry: Canon to the Ordinary Tina Pickering is going back to serve the Diocese of New Hampshire full time. This means that The Rev. Suzanne Roberts, Transition and Deployment Officer, is our new diocesan contact for MSM. Carolyn will reach out to her to move the MSM process forward.

New Business -

Parochial and Annual Congregational Reports: The Parochial Report is due March 1st. The Stewardship and Financial portions have been completed and Carolyn will complete the membership and clergy portions. Muffet will share the membership list she has as treasurer with Carolyn. The Congregational Report is complete and needs to be printed for the office.

Stewardship: We are moving back to having Stewardship season in the fall so actual pledge figures can be included in the next year's budget. However, we have not yet received pledges for calendar year 2024. It was agreed that a "mini stewardship" program be held in March. Tom Dave, Muffet and Carolyn agreed to spearhead this effort.

St. Dunstan's Website Hosting Options: The webhost that we use, Reach ME Marketing, through the Ellsworth American, raised their prices by \$10 a month to \$39 a month. Tom provided information about rates charged by other entities offering web hosting, some of which were lower than the \$39/month. Jaci Hancock and Carol Mason shared the positive experiences they had working with the staff at our current webhost. Following discussion of the church's needs and what the current provider offers, upon motion by Jaci, and second by Carol, it was unanimously agreed to remain with the current web host.

Ellsworth Pride Event: Tracy shared the notice that we received regarding Ellsworth Pride Fest, to be held on June 9th. Upon discussion, and motion by Muffet, seconded by Valerie, it was unanimously agreed that St. Dunstan's will again contribute \$250 to the event, and that, this year, we share a table at the event with other organizations (Everybody Eats, Downeast Community Partners and Lamoine Community Arts were suggested). Carol, Muffet, Tracy, Carolyn and Jaci volunteered to assist; Tracy noted that Dan Wilkey had previously expressed an interest in participating. Tracy will organize St. Dunstan's effort in support of Ellsworth Pride. Tracy will also get information about Ellsworth's Juneteenth celebration to vestry once it is available.

Other New Business: Kim reported that there are accessibility issues with the Ring Camera set up outside the office. Muffet and Carolyn will work with Rain and Kim to address this issue.

Next Meeting: The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 7th. It will be via Zoom.

Tracy shared a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jaci Hancock, Clerk to the Vestry

Faith in Maine:

This is a podcast produced by our Episcopal Diocese with various members of the clergy giving their thoughts and prayers. The podcast changes each week. Feel free to call and listen. You can call **207-223-6402** at any time. They last approximately 4-5 minutes.

FAITH IN
MAINE

GOD AT WORK IN OUR
COMMUNITIES

A PODCAST OF THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MAINE



**American
Red Cross**

National Blood Shortage

Please schedule your next blood donation at redcrossblood.org

This week we are **Green** according to CDC for our county.

Even with the wind down of **COVID 19**, we know that it will be with us for some time to come. The CDC is now resuming coding the occurrences of COVID. We will keep you informed.



We at St. Dunstan's we will continue to follow CDC data and the practices in our Diocesan parishes. Our vestry has voted to not require masks. If you wish to wear one, masks will be available. Of course, if you are feeling unwell, we ask that you rest and join us on Zoom. Our hope is that you will stay well and will join us for our worship services each Sunday.



One of the stunning Easter arrangements!

Special thanks to Muffet Stewart for submitting these beautiful photos of our sanctuary each week.



Priest - Rev. Dr. Carolyn Rosen
Deacon - Rev. Tracy Shaffer
Senior Warden – Tom Hancock
Deputy Warden – Dave Wells
Junior Warden - McKim Peterson

www.saintdunstansellsworth.org

You can contact us by leaving a message by telephone or email:

Phone: 667-5495 Email: stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

Muffet Stewart and Mary Delong: stdunstanstreasurer@gmail.com

Rain is in the church office Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8 – 9 am