

The Geewouldy mind GEMS

Music Fills the Chapel Vespers Outdraws Concert *What is this, a church camp?*

The chapel was filled with all sorts of musical inspiration last night with Vespers and the Barb Siftar and Bill Milford concert. Vespers focus was on the view of fixed versus malleable vision of God as expounded by our Chaplain Jim Peters. (*Editor's Note: The GEMS regrettably points out that we were given a day of rain after this homily was presented. Coincidence? We think not.*) Truly raising the rafters in the chapel were a number of beautiful rounds by Winni newcomer, Joanne Hamill.

In another concert worthy of their long history of camp-welcoming shows, Barb Siftar and Bill Milford provided an evening of fun, sing-a-longs and folk-inspired music. This year, however, they were bolstered up by the talented support of singer/songwriter/guitarist wunderkind Chris Peters, bassist extraordinaire Rudy Rumohr (who was visiting camp for the day and was recruited to play at the last minute), and the man you just can't beat, Trevor Davis on the drums.

The concert was marked by great sing-a-longs and impressively lengthy ballads. Marking his domain with skill and talent was Chris Peters with a virtuoso rendition of John Phillip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" with Bill and a solo vocal performance of his own composition, "And the World Stood Still."

Bill's composition of "Winni, A Great Place to Call Home" (see next page) will be considered for the next NNESRE promotional campaign as it highlighted the special qualities of each area of the camp. He also tracked the careful progress of his wife Joann's cash through the money chain in the "Dollar Bill Song." Barb again impressed with her vocal prowess with the most lovely "Embraceable You." The show closed with a moving and timely encore of "Blowing In The Wind" and "River of Peace", written by former Winni camper and musician, Lindy Hearne.

For those wishing to relive the entire set in their mind, here are all the happy memories:

Hey Good Looking!, Great Place to Call Home, Cat Came Back, Trouble with Time, Sousa March, All God's Critters, Bear Missed The Train, Bill Grogan's Goat, Dollar Bill Song, Embraceable You, Inch Worm, And The World Stood Still, With A Little Help From My Friends, Gospel Train, Blowing in the Wind, and River of Peace.

Monday Night Schedule

- 7:00PM Vespers - Chapel
- 7:30PM Weston Family Campfire - Council Ring
(stay tuned for potential location change)
- 7:30PM Movie - "An Inconvenient Truth"
Meetinghouse Main Room
- 7:30PM Labyrinth Walk (raindate Thursday)
- 9:00PM Dancing with Barb - Barn
- 9:00PM Fireside Chat - Dock Road (weather permitting)

Weather Conditions**Tonight:** Scattered Showers**Tomorrow:** Partly Cloudy w/Thunder Showers late in the day**Wednesday:** More Rain**Great Place to Call Home**

Winni's a great place to call home,
 It's a great place to call home,
 No matter where you are,
 It's a part of your heart,
 It's a great place to call home,

Winni

Winni's the vacation we all love to choose,
 Some come for the people,
 some come for the food,
 Some come for the swimming on the pretty
 lake shore,
 But everybody comes for some more s'mores,

Dock Road

We set up our cabins, we unpack the trunk,
 As we sink 6 inches in our rock hard bunk,
 We clean out the bugs and then we go to bed,
 But we wake in the morning with our heads in
 a web,

Chapel Line

Chapel Line is lovely, they got carpet inside,
 Just like home in their double-wides,
 Chapel Line people keep their loved ones
 near,
 They keep them close to their heart but away
 from their beer,

Campers

We are the campers, we're strong and we're
 proud,
 We pitch our tents and sleep on the ground,
 And while snoring in the next tent can be a
 pain,
 It ain't nothing compared to the wind and the
 rain,

Gibbes House

Life in Gibbes House just can't be beat,
 It's the only place in camp where you can find
 clean sheets,

The most popular phrase in Gibbes House to
 be heard,
 Is "Excuse me, Bubbie, I'd like that shaken, not
 stirred!"

Lakeview Lodge

Lakeview Lodge is quite lovely it's true,
 Sunset and sunrise, they've got a wonderful
 view,
 But after midnight is the prettiest scene,
 That's when they come out with their skinny
 dipping team.

The Inn

Living in the inn is a quaint as you can go,
 Rooms are decorated with rejects from the
 Antiques Road Show,
 You've got to walk down the hall to get to the
 bathroom at night,
 Once I made a wrong turn and peed on
 someone's nightlight.

Everybody Else

Wherever you live we are glad that you're
 here,
 It's the people here at Winni that make the
 place dear,
 And remember that wherever you stay and
 whoever you are,
 We all smell the same after dancing in the
 barn!

Praying

By Mary Oliver

(As read by Jen Hanarahan at last night's
Vespers)

It doesn't have to be
 the blue iris, it could be
 weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
 small stones; just
 pay attention, then patch

a few words together and don't try
 to make them elaborate, this isn't
 a contest but the doorway

into thanks, and a silence in which
 another voice may speak.

Tuesday Menu

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, hash browns, lemon poppyseed muffins

Lunch: Popcorn chicken, Buffalo chicken, Caesar salad, peanut butter cookies

Dinner: Mexican fiesta tacos, Mexican rice, refried beans, red beans/rice, strawberry shortcake.

Off The Dean's Bean

Voices In a Choir

For me, camp is all about the singing. There are many great opportunities to sing throughout the year, but camp is special. I love that we are a singing community and have such a rich tradition in song.

When I was about the age of my daughter, I remember sitting in a circle of kids in the barn as Dotti Siftar taught us some songs. When we came to one that I already knew, I proudly sang out much stronger and louder than everybody else. Later, Dotti quietly pulled me aside and taught me a very valuable lesson that I remember well. One of the most important elements of singing is listening to others while we are singing. Sometimes we are so concerned with how we sound that we fail to listen, to ourselves and to each other. In listening, we become better singers and blend with each other to form a better choir.

I have heard many folks say that they cannot sing, but I find that many of these self-proclaimed tone-deaf folks actually have very good voices. Through better listening, they become better singers.

And what of those people that simply can't sing to save their life? Is there no place for their presence in the choir? Well, without a congregation, the choir sings to an empty church. So whether you are a bass, alto, soprano, tenor or someone who prefers to

simply listen, we all belong to this Winni choir. – *Tom Weston*

Polite Conversation

Little-known Facts about your fellow campers

Who, do you suppose, might have revealed the following?

- "I've had more than a dozen children"
- "I can't eat shrimp"
- "I was an undefeated tomahawk thrower when I was a Redcoat during the Bicentennial"
- "I once 'borrowed' books from a library without permission"
- "I was Smith College ping-pong champion in 1969"

Chat with your fellow campers and see if you can figure out who revealed what.

If your little-known fact appears above, please come to the Inn Porch at 5:15 tomorrow evening to chat with your fellow campers. Answers will appear in tomorrow night's GEMS.

SWIMMI LOOMS

Newly-appointed Sultans of Swim Bob Ganley and Ed Cunningham announce this year's Swimmi to take place on Thursday morning or afternoon. Stay tuned for further details.

Favorite Winni Meditations

From Larry Kern

Contemplating the pronunciation and meaning of the one-word Mantra "MöInlycke." Usually performed in a sitting position.

GEMS Editors Ambushed

While diligently toiling to bring you tonight's edition of the GEMS, we were invited outside by a sweet invitation from oh-so-innocent Kate Milford to step out on the porch for a "special project" by the 5th and 6th grade class.

We swung open the Chapel door to see teacher Kim Holstrom standing out front but no children in evidence. A closer look revealed them crouching alongside the porch and concealed behind pillars. Suddenly, in a scene reminiscent of Sonny at the tollbooth in "The Godfather," we found ourselves in a merciless hail of mini-marshmallows (and saliva) shot from their home-made blowguns. A sweet invitation indeed.

After taking down the GEMS staff, the marauders moved on to pelt other classes in Pine Haven and the Inn Porch before settling finally on an appropriate target, Mike Nissin.

All of which reminds us: Weston campfire tonight, followed by S'mores. Be sure to inspect your marshmallows carefully.

Chaplain Chat

Many thanks from Jim Peters

I'm so grateful to everyone who participated in last night's service. Thanks to Leslie Ganley and Jen Hanrahan for reading passages from Thich Nhat Hahn and Mary Oliver. Thanks also to Jean Peters and Joanne Hammil and the small army of song leaders who helped our collective choir sing so movingly. As I watched us learn "Roll it Over" and then sing it in eight, count 'em eight parts, I was struck by how energetically and enthusiastically Winni campers rise to

challenges like that. It seemed the perfect illustration of the kind of "I can do it if I put effort into it" way of thinking I was talking about during the service. Maybe that's part of the magic of Winni—we give ourselves permission to believe that anything's possible—and then we all get to enjoy what happens as a result!

Choir call

I've been approached about choir singing in chapel this year. Both Sue Hawthorne and Tom Weston have brought some sheet music, and other pieces may be in the offing. Those who are interested should seek out either Sue or Tom.

Musicians (that includes us all) invited at 6:45 in the Chapel

Each evening at 6:45 we'll have a music call for singers, guitar players, or anyone who wants to get a "heads up" on that evening's musical offerings. Please just come into the chapel and we'll warm up our voices, tune up our instruments, and prepare for worship.

Correction:

-The GEMS Editors regret the error in the misprint that the "Yankees Suck". What was originally written was the "Yankees are a poor team with over-rated, over-paid, players who fail to live up to their mothers' expectations, let alone the overblown, narcissistic railings of their owner George Steinbrenner." We poorly chose the substitute phrase for lack of space.

Thanks to Laura Cheek

For volunteering to ride shotgun with Ginny Houghtaling tonight on her trip to Manchester.

KNITTING KNEWS

Knitting as a Ministry – Prayer Shawls

Sue Hartley invited all knitters or those who are interested in knitting to meet. On Sunday afternoon, 8 knitters arrived on the side porch of the Meeting House to share stories and learn a few new stitches. Sue shared her ministry where prayer shawls were made and their pastor distributed them to those in need or in celebration of life events.

At Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven, the prayer shawl ministry is coordinated by a layperson who plans quarterly gatherings at various homes, but also collects and distributes the shawls to those in need in our parish community. Along with the instructions on how to knit, comes the following prayer that is said at the beginning of each knitting session:

Prayer for a Mantle of Healing

I call nine blessings from above
in the name of God:
The Creator, the Giver of Life,
the Holder of time;
In the Name of Jesus:
The Savior, the Healer and the Lifter of Pain;
In the name of the Spirit:
The Comforter, the Consoler,
and the Sustainer of Life.
I knit a mantle of protection.
I knit a mantle of wholeness.
I knit a mantle of strength.
I knit a mantle of healing.
I knit a mantle of patience.
I knit a mantle to enfold you.
I knit a mantle to encircle me.
I knit a mantle to empower you.
Cathleen Murtha, D.W.

We discovered that we not only loved to knit, but also loved to read stories about knitting. Several books were shared – Friday Night Knitting Club, Kate Jacobs;

The Shop on Blossom Street, Debbie McComber.

No matter how much you plan your knitting projects before vacation, you find that you never bring enough – maybe you brought the yarn, but not the pattern. Maybe you brought the wrong needles. So, we are planning a field trip to Meredith where there is a bookstore and shops at Mills Falls.

We are meeting on Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 at the Meeting House to set up car pools. All are welcome – especially new knitters.

SPECIAL THANK YOUS FROM ALL OF US

For the Fantastic Concert! - Bill Milford, Barb Siftar and the band – Chris Peters (WOW) Trevor Davis, Rudy Rumohr and to our sound man extraordinaire, Kevin Weston.

To Barb for leading us in a second wonderful evening of dancing.

To Bob Ganley for setting up our Dock Road campfire.

-- From the Evening Coordinators

Chimers Unite

Susie Hawthorne has unequivocally stated that there will be a bell choir rehearsal sometime today, tomorrow, or during this week once she completes her class on goal setting. Stay tuned to the GEMS for all great acts of indecision.

It Ain't Gonna Rain No More

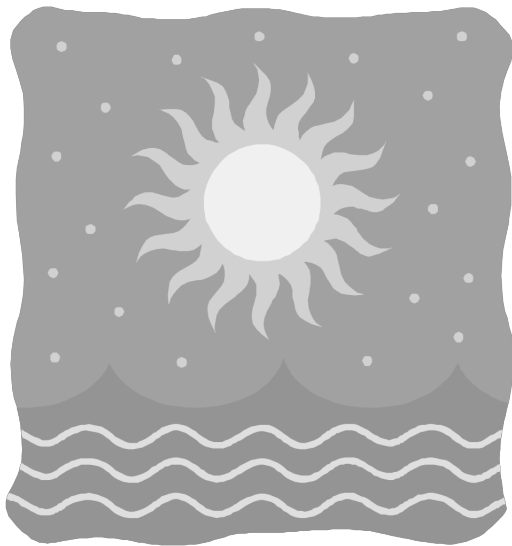
Chorus:

It ain't gonna rain no more no more,
It ain't gonna rain no more,
So how the heck can I wash my neck
If it ain't gonna rain no more.

The butterfly has wings of gold
The firefly wings of flame
The bed bug has no wings at all
But he gets there just the same.

A peanut sat on a railroad track
His heart was all a-flutter
A chooka train came round the bend,
TOOT TOOT Peanut butter.

A pig and a chicken went for a walk
Just to stretch their legs,
A motorcar came round the bend,
TOOT TOOT Ham and eggs.



BOOM DE AH DA:

*I love the mountains, I love the rolling hills
I love the flowers, I love the daffodils
I love the fireside,
when all the lights are low
Boom De Ah Da, Boom De Ah Da
Boom De Ah Da, Boom De Ah Da*

Tonight's Grace

Mayberry RFD

We give thanks, for, the food we eat
The sun that shines so warm and sweet
We give thanks, for, the folks we meet
Our thanks to you Oh God

Thank you Lord
Thank you Lord
Thank you Lord
For all these gifts you are adored

We give thanks, for, the food we eat
The sun that shines so warm and sweet
We give thanks, for, the folks we meet
Our thanks to you Oh God

By Tom Weston