Dr. Ingram Answering the Call of Cotonou, Benin, West Africa

Health Alert!

Chris Ingram, our Fishers Island doctor, will be serving another community from December 23 to January 17 with the citizenry of Cotonou in Benin, West Africa. It is his hope that he and his brother-in-law, Tamur Mueenuddin, best friends from medical school and subsequently in-laws (as things go), will attempt to employ strategies used in neighboring countries to help prepare Benin for a potential penetrance of Ebola onto their shores. To date there have been no reported cases.

Benin, as a poor country, has few resources. Nevertheless, it has the full panoply of issues to address like any other nation. Preparation for a “possible” outbreak has been trumped by current and actual necessities. Doctors Ingram and Mueenuddin conceived of this project to help fill this gap. In short, their first goal would be to rationalize and digitalize the health worker registry (currently a card catalog at best), and a strategy used in Liberia to excellent end. The second goal, utilizing the new functional data base including cell phone numbers of the health workers, would be to establish an early warning system for potential cases using SMS (texting), another new tool used increasingly in the international public health arena.

During Dr. Ingram’s absence the community of Fishers Island’s medical needs will be covered by Dr. Kim Hodges and Dr. Craig Mochsen. Both are board certified emergency medicine physicians from New York-Presbyterian Hospital and each has had the pleasure of covering for Dr. Ingram on the island previously.

Fishers wishes Chris much success in reaching the project goals in this opportunity to assist the citizens of Benin and welcomes Kim and Craig to the island.
FISHERS ISLAND WELCOMES NEW MINISTER

Union Chapel Welcomes
The Reverend Candace Whitman

The Union Chapel Pastoral Search Committee recommended to the congregation in September that, "Candace Whitman be called to serve as our settled pastor and teacher." On Candidate Sunday in November the congregation voted to accept the Reverend Candace Whitman.

Candace brings experience and education and an eagerness to get involved in the Fishers Island community while helping to make our church and a spiritual life relevant in today’s world. She has a strong background in island living, ministering to a wide variety of people, pastoral counseling, visitation, organizing retreats, prayer life, crisis ministry, and more.

Born and raised in Garden City, NY, she attended the United Church of Christ church with her family. From childhood on, Candace (a.k.a. Candy) loved the field of art. She received her B.A. from Yale University where she majored in History of Art. She taught art to children, and later was appointed adjunct professor of art education at New York University. Candy also found great pleasure in writing and illustrating children’s books, thirteen of which have been published.

Living in Manhattan and attending a small, vibrant church she experienced a reawakening in her faith. She experienced the equally wondrous call to ministry while living on Shelter Island for four years.

Candy decided to pursue ordination in the Presbyterian (PCUSA) church. Her theological training included work at Grace Presbyterian Church in Montclair, NJ. Her sermons were recognized in her receipt of Princeton’s John Alan Swink Award in Preaching. Candy earned her M. Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2011, and is an ordained Presbyterian minister. She will be granted “Dual Standing” by the UCC. Most recently Candy has been serving as a chaplain at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

Candy enjoys spending time with her family – her mother and four siblings plus four nieces and a nephew. She loves long walks, swimming, backgammon, film study, and reading. For more on her work in art, please visit www.candacewhitman.com. She plans to always continue to create art as an avocation, and welcomes ideas about how to go about integrating the arts into the spiritual life on Fishers Island.

In a letter to the congregation this month Candace writes:

Dear Friends,

It is a thrill for me to be called to Union Chapel and I am very much looking forward to meeting each of you in the coming weeks - or whenever you may next be on the island. As I write I am becoming acquainted with the ministries of the church, settling into the parsonage, and getting around town to meet some members of the caring Fishers Island community. Thank you for the privilege of serving you, and also for the warm welcome I have received!

My first Sunday was November 23, and a number of you joined me after coffee hour for “Coffee and Conversation.” We had a good exchange of ideas on how we might move forward as a community of faith on Fishers Island. This was a first step in discerning how we might be part of the solution to issues facing our congregation and island.

Hearing from you is a priority for me, and so I hope you feel free throughout the year to be in touch with me regarding any needs, ideas, or issues you may like to talk about.

Right now we have Christmas to look forward to, and we are observing Advent on the prior four Sundays, beginning November 30. Advent is a beautiful season, a time of joyful anticipation, and I will be using the lectionary as a basis for our worship. We will also have our traditional Christmas Eve service where we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. Please keep an eye out for other holiday events at the church!

In this season of thanksgiving and joy, we are reminded again of our gracious God who provides for us, guides us, and whose promises do not disappoint. Psalm 108 puts these eternal truths in poetry: “Your steadfast love is higher than the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds."

In Christ, Reverend Candace Whitman
Fishers Island Community Center’s 4th Annual Turkey Trot included 105 runners and walkers on Thursday, November 27, 2014.

After registering at 8:15 (33 pre-registered) they were off to the one or three mile course at 9:00. First back to the finish line in front of the Community Center was Zach Hoch, followed closely by Will Strothe.

**Identified winners:**

1 Mile
- 18 & Under: Andrew Edwards and Serena Pollard
- 30 Under: Zach Hoch
- 60 Under: Cat Carlson
- Over 60: Ken Edwards and Ellen Parker

3 Mile
- 18 & Under: Dexter Benkard
- 30 & Under: Win Hotchkiss and Mackie Siebens
- 40 & Under: Rob Dunn
- 60 & Under: Andrew Benkard and Jenny Coleman
- Over 60: Karen Rogers

In addition to the Fishers Island community of family and friends (and a couple dogs), the island’s Thanksgiving race had two special runners this year. Karen Rogers and Kate Powers, two members of the Run 169 Towns Society, who traveled by ferry from Clinton and Wethersfield to run in the Turkey Trot.

To learn more about the Run 169 Society and see Turkey Trot 2014 photo, please visit www.FishersIsland.net.

**Turkey Trot long sleeved t-shirts** available at the FICC 2013 shirts 1/2 price $10.00, small & medium only left
2014 shirts $20.00, small & medium only left

Turkey Trot registration fees and t-shirt sales benefit the Fishers Island Community Center's programs and operations.

Hosted by the Henry L. Ferguson Museum on Friday, November 28, the trail clearing and beach clean up began at 2:00. Teams of families and friends spread out over the island and clipped, sawed, moved and cleaned up branches, weeds and new unwanted ground seedings from the Museum paths.

A new effort this year was the beach clean up - bags of debris were collected from Chocomount, Isabella and other favorite spots.

At the end of the chilly yet productive afternoon everyone gathered at the H.L. Ferguson Museum at 5:00 to enjoy each other's company, refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. Oyster shuckers of all ages pitched in to help!

More photos of the day’s event at www.FishersIsland.net.

Many thanks to Scott Reid for organizing this effort each year, and to Fishers Island Oyster Farm, Bottlerocket, Fishers Island Lemonade, and the Pequot Inn. A special thank you goes to all those who volunteered to help - nearly 80 people in all!
ENGAGEMENTS

Rachel Soper & Nathan Sanders
September 10, 2014
Lealt Falls, Isle of Skye, Scotland

Marilyn Mullen & Brad Pierce
October 25, 2014
Cape Henlopen State Pk., Lewes, DE

WEDDING

Ginger Cutler & Tread Snedecor
July 18, 2014
Corpus Christi, TX

BIRTH

Thayer Tolles & Ted Rogers
November 1, 2014
Fishers Island, NY

Brittany Murray & Sam Dillman
November 1, 2014
Lancaster, PA

Christopher James Goodwin
October 1, 2014
to Christopher & Jennifer Goodwin

NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY
COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE UNEARTHED FOR ‘MR. FISHERS ISLAND’

55 years of service to Fishers Island c. 1896-1951

Working with his metal detector on the Town Green in early-November and, after a bit of digging, Ryan Rodd found the In Memoriam plaque for Mr. Radford C. Shanklin - about 3” - 4” down at the foot of the big oak tree nearest The News Café.

Ryan shared his discovery with people at the Utility Co. Although she was very young, Patty Faulkner remembers the Shanklin family - Radford with his wife Viola and their son Bob - lived in Lily Ahman’s house. Mr. Shanklin worked for E.M. & W. Ferguson [Co.] until 1918, then Fishers Island Farms, the precursor company to FI Utility Co. (the latter was formed in 1965).

A little more ‘digging’ has revealed that, among his numerous rolls, Raymond was the Fishers Island Coroner for many years (at the least 1923 to the late 1940s) – he appeared frequently on the candidate list in the Suffolk County News and subsequent articles indicated he ran unopposed and held the position.

Fishers Island resident Mrs. Middleton shared an article written by Radford’s son Robert G. Shankin that appeared in The Day on Saturday, March 10, 1979. It is Robert’s remembrance of the Wreck of the Thelma Phoebe in 1923 and centers on the positions his father played during that tragedy.

“. . .After lunch, Mother, Dad and I chatted about taking a ride around the island in the afternoon, our usual Sunday recreation. Pounding on the front door sent me scrambling and when I opened it, I was confronted by Jimmy Young (Mr. Young to me), the constable, wet to the hips, purple in the face and slightly incoherent.

“Get your Dad,” he shouted, “He’s needed. We’ve got one this time!”

As Dad held most of the local offices including deputy town clerk, justice of the peace and coroner, he and Mr. Young comprised the entire officialdom of the island. We never knew what problem might come to the door at odd hours, but dutifully I ran to get my father.”

To read the newspaper story please visit FishersIsland.net and search Plaque
CRACKS PATCHED AT HISTORIC FISHERS ISLAND THEATER
November 29, 2014

From the Suffolk Times: The Fishers Island Theater received some much-needed repairs after the historic building was temporarily closed over the summer. Crews sealed the building to prevent further water damage and filled in small cracks with silicone and larger cracks with concrete. Workers also removed loose bricks that caused a safety hazard over the summer.

WALSH PARK BUILDINGS FOR RENT
December 1, 2014

A commercial space and a house are available. Both properties are located on Montauk Avenue.

All interested parties can email Walsh Park at info@walshpark.org for an application.

FI SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER WANTED
December 2, 2014

Fill a vacancy as a new interim member from January through the elections in May. This is a great opportunity for an interested Fishers Island year round citizen to participate on the Board for five months without needing to first be elected. Interested citizens should write a brief letter of interest to School Board President Jamie Doucette, in care of the school.

FI SCHOOL DRAMA: A NIGHT OF ONE-ACT PLAYS
November 21, 2014

Fishers Island School’s Drama Department presented ‘A Night of One-Act Plays’ on Thursday and Friday, November 20 and 21. The School gym was transformed into more of a theater atmosphere and the dramas began under the direction of Drama and Music Teacher Chris Dollar and English Teacher Jessica Hall. Thanks for everyone’s continued support of the performing arts at Fishers Island School.

ANDREA GRADER BRINGS FRESH PERSPECTIVE TO FAMILY BUSINESS
November 6, 2014

From The Day: A 2010 alumna of Fishers Island School, Andrea Grader is the third generation behind the counter at Grader Jewelers. She felt drawn to the profession, so she started taking on more hours in the summer. By the time she graduated with her BA from Southern New Hampshire University, she said, there was no question in her heart. She asked her parents to have her join the company full time.

ISLAND CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE
December 1, 2014

Please drop off any non-perishable food items by December 21 to Our Lady of Grace Church (on the steps to the Rummage) or Union Chapel (1st door on the right in the back).

These donations will be distributed on island for the holidays.
FROM MÉLIE’S GARDEN

Now that the holiday season has arrived, I have put together a list of garden books that I enjoyed this year that might be suitable Christmas gifts for some people on your list.

*Trees of Eastern North America* By Gil Nelson, Christopher J. Earle and Richard Spellenberg

This is a very informative book listing 825 species of North American trees, with excellent illustrations. I found it invaluable help with our Cemetery tree replanting this year on Fishers Island.

*The Living Landscape* By Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy

This is an inspirational planting guide on how to achieve biodiversity in your home garden, by the selection of plants that attract wildlife. Author Doug Tallamy has lectured on the Island and has done excellent work with the Fishers Island Conservancy.

*The Complete Kitchen Garden* By Ellen Ecker Ogden

A good "How To" book on growing vegetables in your garden, with charming garden plans and delicious recipes for the produce! I found the plant rotation chart especially helpful.

*Growing Tasty Tropical Plants* By Laurelyn and Byron E. Martin

An intriguing book, by the Martins of Logee’s Greenhouses in Danielson, CT on how to grow tropical, fruit bearing plants, such as oranges, lemons, limes and kumquats in your home. It is much easier than you might think, provided you select the right varieties of plants and Laurelyn and Byron give you great growing advice in their informative book.

*Highgrove* A garden celebrated By Bunny Guinness

A beautiful book about the different growing seasons at Prince Charles’s beloved Highgrove. The photographs are exquisite and the text is informative. The book is published in England, but available on Amazon. Order it ASAP if you want it in time for Christmas because it takes a week or two to cross the Atlantic.

*The Manor* By Mac Griswold

This is not an instructing gardening book, but is a fascinating account of Mac Griswold’s discovery of the Sylvester Plantation on Shelter Island. The Plantation operated for three hundred years and Griswold gives you a glimpse of what life was like on Islands in the Long Island Sound during that time. The Sylvester Plantation, with slave labor, participated in a very active trade of goods between England, and the Caribbean. Bagley Reid loaned the book to me this summer and I found it so interesting that I bought my own copy.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS AT FI POST OFFICE
**Library Book Group**

**Thursday, December 11**
7:00-9:00 pm
*The View from Castle Rock*
Fishers Island Library

**Open for Lunch**

**Monday-Saturday**

FI Community Center

**Fishers Island Fog Horn**

**P.O. Box 464, Fishers Island, NY 06390**

If you have something you would like posted on FishersIsland.net or in the Fog Horn - a story idea, an event ‘save the date’, photos to share, suggestions or an interest in advertising, please contact Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or info@fishersisland.net. Contact Sarah Porter to place an event on the Community Calendar at www.fishersisland.net/events/ at (631) 788-7683 or fishersislandevents@gmail.com.

**Senior Luncheon**

Thursday, December 18
Noon
Union Chapel

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<tr>
<td>FI School Winter Concert &amp; Art Show</td>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>4:45-6:45 pm</td>
<td>FI Community Center</td>
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<td>HLF Museum 4th Annual Holiday Open House</td>
<td>December 23</td>
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<td>Dessert Auction</td>
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<td>Everyone is welcome!</td>
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**November Senior Lunch Hosted by the Community Center Café**