While decorating our tree this week, I once again came across one of my favorite ornaments. It is a pewter dove carrying an olive branch and it reads: "There is no way to peace. Peace is the way." A. J. Muste

It reminded me of my walk (and now sometimes ride) to St. Cuthbert's on Sunday mornings. The last uphill climb with the chapel in sight, nestled in the woods, sometimes enveloped in sun and sometimes in mist or rain, offers a peacefulness like no other. With winter right around the corner, I find that image one I treasure, as it signifies all of what we share each summer on our glorious island.

In the year 2013 we celebrated the lives of four wonderful men; Chris Kennedy, Bill Strathdee, John Stebbins and David Stone. They are missed by all who knew them. If you arrived on the island early, you also were able to celebrate the marriage of Laura Strickler and Mark Davies on the only sunny, warm weekend in all of June!

Repairs to the Rectory and Chapel seem to be ongoing, just like cottages! The Rectory kitchen underwent some work due to leakage. At this writing, work has been completed. Gratefully, the chapel will get some sprucing up, but nothing major that we know of at this time.

Looking ahead, Rev. John Morris (Jim) from St. John's Episcopal Church in Lancaster, PA will serve at St. Cuthbert's in July. In August we will welcome back Rev. Hill Riddle, who some may remember served several times in the 1970s, proof that once you discover MacMahan, you don't forget!

And finally, St. Cuthbert's would welcome any tax deductible donations you might consider this season. Please send your check to Jane Kennedy 299 Bristol Rd. Damariscotta, ME 04543.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FILLED WITH PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY AND YOUR NEW YEAR HOLD MANY BLESSINGS