



The Messenger



The newsletter of St. Mary's Church, an Episcopal-Lutheran Community

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MARCH 2008

The Padre's Pulpit

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with very mixed emotions that I present this formal notification regarding the conclusion of my ministry at St. Mary's. I have to smile in amazement when I realize how an agreement to provide emergency ministry during Advent and Christmas of 2005 has stretched into the third year. You have been long-suffering and patient, open to learning and willing to make changes.

I have been blessed with an amazing group of talented and committed servants of Christ as partners in ministry and I have no doubt about that commitment continuing.

In light of developing circumstances in my life, the congregational vote on February 3rd, and discussion with the Vestry and Father Macgill, Sunday, April 6th will be my last day of official ministry at St. Mary's. However, this does not mean the severing of all ties. As my schedule and St. Mary's requests coincide, I would be honored to assist.

I can only thank God for our time together. My prayers join with yours and those of your new priest for God's blessing upon your second century of ministry. May you continue to reach out with the love of God to all.

Sincerely, your servant in Christ,

Father B.

From the Senior Warden

The Diocese of East Carolina is holding a series of four Warden's Workshops throughout the year. They are designed to give support and training to Wardens, Vestry members, and all others who are interested. The series is being lead by Canon Matthew Stockard. (You may remember that Canon Stockard was with us at St. Mary's for one of our congregational meetings.) The first session was held on February 10th, and the topic was vestry leadership and decision making. The session started with a Eucharistic service. There were about twelve parishes represented. Pat Casaw and Van Reid represented St. Mary's at this first session, and Bert Yepko will attend future sessions.

VESTRY NEWS

Hearty thanks to both Griff Weld and Jack Stocks for their time, effort, leadership, and dedication in serving on the Vestry and their respective committees. We also acknowledge with deep gratitude the leadership of Julian Anderson, Senior Warden, and Bert Yepko, Junior Warden, during the last year. It was a very busy year that demanded a great deal of time, energy, and initiative.

We welcome Jimbo Robbins and Linda Hadden to the Vestry and look forward to their input and support.

Pat Casaw

WORSHIP NOTES

We are recruiting members of St. Mary's who would be willing to serve as lay readers or crucifers. Those serving now are few in number and are called upon often. Please consider this opportunity for service.

Many of you know that 60 Lutheran service books were ordered last year. At this time 56 have been paid for, given in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please take time to look at the bookplates on the inside front covers. If you find a book without a nameplate, please call it to my attention. Many thanks to all of you who made contributions.

Bob Goslee

Diocesan Convention Report

On Sunday March 2 during the Coffee Hour, Father Baietti, Linda Hadden, Pat Casaw, and Van Reid will report the highlights of the 125th Diocesan Convention in New Bern. Please be present to hear about their experience!

Easter Lilies

Once again, St. Mary's members have the opportunity to honor or remember loved ones with the gift of an Easter Lily. The Easter lilies will decorate the altar and the chancel on Easter Sunday, March 23. The Easter Sunday bulletin will include a list of lilies given in honor or in memory of loved ones.

The cost for an Easter lily is \$15.00. Please make your check payable to St. Mary's Church and place it in an "altar flower" envelope (found in the narthex by the front door or in the Fellowship Hall on the bulletin board next to the altar flower poster). Write your gift message ("in honor" or "in memory") on the envelope and give it to Heidi Robbins *no later than Sunday, March 16*. Easter lily requests cannot be accepted after the 16th.

Please plan to take home your Easter lily after worship on Easter Sunday.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) News

Pat Casaw attended a diocesan ECW Board meeting held at Trinity Center in January. The ECW board members are opening their meetings to any one interested in attending. They are seeking ways to make ECW more appealing and relevant to women at both the diocesan and parish levels. One action taken was to redefine ECW as EVERY CHURCH WOMAN. This is particularly important for us at St Mary's, as we are both Episcopal and Lutheran women.

The diocesan ECW Board wants to share information regarding outreach activities with others through an email newsletter. This newsletter can be printed at the parish level for those who do not like to give out their e-mail addresses or who do not use a computer. Pat will collect e-mail addresses and will forward the newsletter when she receives it.

Shopping bags still available!

Are you still using many Plastic grocery bags with each trip to the store??? Our ECW (EVERY CHURCH WOMAN) group still has a few MESH BAGS just for you!

Food—For Thought

Can you have "Good News From Hell?" That is sort of what it seems like in the latest newsletter (on the table in the narthex) from BREAD FOR THE WORLD, a national interdenominational organization dedicated to ending hunger at home and throughout the world. Its motto is HAVE FAITH - END HUNGER.

The article in question gives a listing of the 2008 projects the organization will be tackling, particularly with government lobbying to influence Congress concerning various bills addressing national and world hunger. In light of the many proposed projects listed, the article mentions the improvements made world-wide with reference to world health, hunger, and starvation. Part of that reads FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1960, FEWER THAN 10 MILLION CHILDREN UNDER FIVE DIE EACH YEAR.

Can you imagine that being "good news?" Since a record of the world wide deaths of children under 5 has been kept (1960), the number of such deaths fell below 10 MILLION in 2007. Can you imagine rejoicing over the fact that there were only 9 & 1/2 million preventable deaths of little ones last year? This is truly "good news from hell!" Thank God the churches of our land are involved, including TEC and the ELCA.

We will be hearing more about this. As part of TEC & the ELCA, we're involved!

WATER SAVING TIPS (Continued from last month)

Drip....drip....drip....Sometimes the sound of the constant drip drives one crazy. Sometimes we deny it so well we don't even hear it. But haven't we all dealt with the situation at one time or another?

Drip....drip....drip. Sometimes it's simply a problem of needing to turn that faucet off a bit more forcefully than all the other faucets - and we forget to do so. Drip....drip....drip. At other times it could be a washer needing to be replaced or something more serious. That's a little harder to handle and may be costly. But while deciding what to do - if anything, water keeps on being wasted. Drip....drip....drip.

Please, please, at least arrange a way to catch the dripping water while you are trying to decide what to do. We say, "it's only dripping slowly. What's the big issue?" Just start catching it and you will soon realize how quickly those drips add up.

So many folks around the world would be ever grateful if they could only have those wasted drops. DRIP.....DRIP.....DRIP.

March 2008 Sunday Servers

MARCH 2

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Preacher	Father Dan Macgill
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Joan Weld
Cantor/Crucifer	Brian Zygmunt
Oblations	Van Reid and Pat Casaw
Usher	Van Reid
Sunday School	MarthaAnn Blake
Altar Guild	Laura Zygmunt
Coffee Hour Angels	Annette Olesen

MARCH 9

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Linda Hadden
Crucifer	Bob Goslee
Oblations	Larry and Annette Olesen
Usher	Larry Olesen
Sunday School	MarthaAnn Blake
Altar Guild	MarthaAnn Blake
Coffee Hour Angels	Van Reid and Pat Casaw

MARCH 16

Palm Sunday

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Pat Casaw
Crucifer	Jimbo Robbins
Oblations	Jack and Susan Stocks
Usher	Jack Stocks
Sunday School	MarthaAnn Blake
Altar Guild	Pat Casaw
Coffee Hour Angels	Jimbo and Heidi Robbins

MARCH 17

Ninnemann Funeral

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Preacher	Pastor Sara Sosa
Organist	Kay Lowell

March 2008 Sunday Servers (con't)

MARCH 20

Maundy Thursday

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Bob Goslee
Altar Guild	Marion Clark

MARCH 21

Good Friday

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Bob Goslee
Altar Guild	Annette Olesen

MARCH 23

Easter Sunday

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Joan Weld
Crucifer	Bob Goslee
Oblations	Julian and Donna Anderson
Usher	Bert Yepko
Sunday School	MarthaAnn Blake
Altar Guild	MarthaAnn Blake
Coffee Hour Angels	Jack and Susan Stocks

MARCH 30

Second Sunday of Easter

Presider	Father Lawrence Baietti
Organist	Kay Lowell
Lay Assistant	Brian Zygmunt
Crucifer	Jimbo Robbins
Oblations	Bob & Katherine Goslee
Usher	Bob Goslee
Sunday School	MarthaAnn Blake
Altar Guild	Heidi Robbins
Coffee Hour Angels	John and Catherine Wynne

VESTRY MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

Bob Goslee

March Calendar Notes

- March 2:** Lenten Bible Study at 10:00 AM
Worship at 11:00 AM (Lutheran)
Diocesan convention report at Coffee Hour
- March 3:** ECW meeting at 10:00 AM
- March 9:** Lenten Bible Study at 10:00 AM
Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal)
Vestry meeting after the Coffee Hour
- March 16:** Palm Sunday Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal)
Deadline for Easter Lily requests
- March 17:** Ninnemann Funeral at 11:00 AM (Lutheran)
Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall
- March 20:** Maundy Thursday Worship at 5:30 PM (Episcopal)
- March 21:** Good Friday Worship at 5:30 PM (Episcopal)
- March 23:** Easter Sunday Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal)
- March 25:** Deadline for April newsletter submissions
- March 30:** Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal)

March Birthdays

04-Julian Anderson
04-MarthaAnn Blake
04-Bert Yepko
20-Heather Ruddell
20-Brenda Starling
26-Katherine Amos
28-Katherine Goslee

March Baptismal Birthdays

14-Bettie Phelps
14-Helen Crouch
15-Bert Yepko
21-MarthaAnn Blake
21-Joe Lowell
25-Gunner Martin
25-Nova Martin

