



St. George's Journal

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HELLERTOWN, PA

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write this ten days before my last day as your priest and pastor. I don't know what you have planned for February 22nd. My hope is that it will be a time to give God thanks for our time together; for all the blessings God has given us, for whatever we have done, working with God, to build up the Body of Christ and the life of this parish. I expect there may be tears and, I hope, laughter as well. I pray that you will go forward from that day with full confidence in the power of God's Spirit to strengthen and guide you in the life and ministry to which you are called.

The Wardens and Vestry will soon seek an interim rector. I expect that a Search Committee will be formed to assist the Vestry in finding and calling your next rector. Welcome each of them in turn as your priest and pastor. During my time with you, we have come to know one another and bonds of affection have been formed. I will want to hear news of how you all are and will continue to care about you and to pray for you. But, please do not ask me to baptize your child or to officiate at a wedding or burial. Let the priest with whom you worship and work be your pastor.

May God bless, strengthen, and guide you in your life together. Trust in God. Love one another and seek, in every way you can, to make God's love known to others. And pray for me as I will for you.

In Christ's love,

Fr. Ray



WORSHIP NOTES

Our guest celebrant and preacher on the First Sunday in Lent, March 1, will be the Rev. John Brndjar. Our guest celebrant for the rest of March will be the Rev. Richard Ditterline. Please welcome them.

The Vestry has decided that we should continue having **announcements** at the end of the service. The Wardens will make announcements and then give others the opportunity to come to the lectern and make their own. Committee chairs and others who wish announcements to appear in the bulletin and weekly Emails or to be made in church should submit them to the parish office (by Email or in writing) by Tuesday at the latest. Good communication is especially vital at this time in our parish life.

An ad hoc **choir** may be formed for Easter. If you are interested, please see our Organist, Phyllis Cragin or Gloria Quier.

The restored Ciborium is expected to arrive some time early in March. (A ciborium is a covered vessel used to hold the consecrated Bread. It is kept in the aumbry or tabernacle where a light burns continually to remind us that our Lord is really present there under the forms of the consecrated Bread and Wine.) The work of restoration was done in loving memory of Eleanor Snyder.

A GIFT OF HEARING

One of the topics of discussion at our recent Annual Meeting was how we make announcements in church so that all can hear them. Nancy Goodwin responded by giving the parish a system that will assist those whose hearing is impaired. It comprises a transmitter and four receivers and will be located at the rear of the church. We are very grateful to Nancy for this gift and to Mike Salvaggio for installing it. It will be just one more way in which we can welcome and include all God's people in our worship.

HELP WITH HOSPITALITY

Month by month, on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays Jane Boden and Carol Sandrock, Paula Martinko, and Gloria Quier provide us with drinks and goodies for Coffee Hour.

Now that Cindy and Bobby Reccek have retired from 1st Sunday Coffee Hour duty (Thanks for their years of service!) we need volunteers for the 1st Sundays in March, April, May and beyond. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the church entrance hall. If you have any questions, please ask Jane Boden or Gloria Quier. Help keep the welcome warm.



St. George's Journal

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735 Delaware Ave.
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A Parish of the Diocese of Bethlehem
The Rt. Rev. Paul Marshall, Bishop
The Rev. Wayne Sherrer, Deacon

Vestry

Bruce Browne, Senior Warden
Margie George, Junior Warden
Tim Miller, Diane Doll,
Paula Martinko, Mike Salvaggio,
Joan Goodwin, Polly Roberts,
David Vandergast
Tim Miller, Treasurer
Karen Urbanowicz, Financial Secretary

St. George's Vision

To see the world
through Christ's eyes.

Service Schedule

Sunday School 9:15
Holy Eucharist
9:30 AM
Adult Forum 10:45

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month.

A SHELTER FROM THE STORM

By the time you read this the new awning will have been installed over the McGee Entrance. It is a memorial to Lorraine Granlund and Franklin Rinker.

FROM THE DEACON

It has been my pleasure to be here at St. George's for the last seven months and I thank Bishop Paul for assigning me as a deacon to continue our shared ministry. St. George's is a vibrant community with a proud history of loving God and of sharing God's love with others. Through participating in your centennial celebration, I learned quite a bit about how God has brought you to where you are today and I decided to take a few moments to tell you a little more about my journey to St. George's.

I was born in Phillipsburg to a mixed marriage—an Episcopalian mother and a Lutheran father. I was baptized at Trinity Episcopal in Easton, but once my parents bought a house around the corner from my father's home church, it was inevitable that I went to Sunday School and confirmation classes with the Lutherans. I moved to the Los Angeles area and earned my BA degree from Immaculate Heart College. I was active in peace ministry at All Saints Episcopal in Pasadena, Calif. and used my voice and guitar for campus folk masses.

For several years I was active in south-central Los Angeles in the urban ministry of All Peoples Christian Center, sponsored by the Disciples of Christ. That work with people on the margins of society—young, old, poor, handicapped, non-Anglo—was a blessing to me, as I received more than I gave. When funding was reduced and my job was eliminated, I began driving public transit buses through the same neighborhood and discovered a new ministry of hospitality. I welcomed and respected people who were so often ignored, feared or otherwise treated shabbily by society.

Hearing God's call to ordained ministry, I entered seminary in Chicago. My field work was in the Bridgeport neighborhood—an historic immigrant area with a dozen ethnic Roman Catholic parishes (much like South Bethlehem). I also drove Chicago Transit Authority buses during my summers. I received my M. Div degree from McCormick Theological Seminary, moved back to New Jersey, and was confirmed at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in North Plainfield. After returning to my baptismal home of Trinity, Easton I began attending classes offered here in Bishop's School and began the Episcopal ordination process by which I have become your deacon.

I was one of the founding members of the Warren County (NJ) Habitat for Humanity chapter and served as trustee on their first board. I also serve on the board of Phillipsburg Cemetery and Phillipsburg Area Historical Society. My favorite pastimes include bicycling, music and genealogy. Many of you have met my wife Mildred and my two children Philip and Regina. They plan to worship at St. George's after my son's confirmation at Trinity in May. We look forward to however long the Lord allows us to be a part of your life.

Your brother in Christ,

Deacon Wayne

YOUR HELP IS WELCOME

St. George's has plenty of opportunities for your involvement in ministries. Here are some areas in which contributions of time and talent are welcome!

Christian Education: Sunday School teachers are needed ongoing. There is also a need for overall leadership and organization of the Church School program. If you are interested, please see Bruce Browne or Margie George.

Evangelism Committee: Our Evangelism committee is shrinking! If you are interested in joining, please contact Sue McGee at: 610-974-8565 or by email: smcgee@rcn.com.

THIS MONTH'S GREEN TIP

Buy Recycled Products

Buying new products made from recycled materials allows you to “close the loop,” creating a market for the recycled material items recycled curbside or in other recycling programs.



THE PARISH REGISTER

Baptismal Anniversaries: Margie George, 3/1; Bill T. Frey, 3/2; Thomas Goodwin, Jr., 3/3; Charlotte Gross, 3/5 and Gloria Carnes, 3/21.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Susan McGee, 3/1; Deborah Rinker, 3/3; Cynthia Hasz and Marcus Iorio, 3/6; Eva FaRannte, 3/15; Marie Mauro, 3/26; Maynard Peffer, 3/27 and Tim Miller and Christine Hogan, 3/28.



NEW 2009 ALTAR FLOWER SCHEDULE

The **NEW 2009 Altar Flower Schedule** is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you desire a certain date for flowers, please fill in the appropriate date. Please indicate for whom they should be "in honor of" or "in memory of" and for "silk arrangement" (cost is \$10.00) or "live flowers" (cost is \$35.00). Please give first and last names. All monies should be paid to St. George's.

Upcoming available dates include: 4/26 and 5/10

As a reminder: if you are having live flowers on the altar, it is YOUR responsibility to take them or have someone remove them. A letter is submitted quarterly showing the dates on which live flowers are requested. If you have any questions please contact me (Carol Sandrock: 610-838-8114). It would be appreciated if you would send your offering for the flowers prior to the Sunday you have requested.

—Carol Sandrock



OFFICE REMINDERS!

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**Newsletter deadline is
March 15th!**

PLEASE make sure to call the office if you are hospitalized. Hospitals won't always let the church office know under the new privacy laws. If you would like someone to visit, the best thing is to call or have a family member call so we don't miss you.

If you want something added to the calendar, please call or email (stgeorges@rcn.com) the office with ALL the details and we will be glad to put it on the Master Calendar in the office. We also WELCOME items for the newsletter and bulletin.

FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

To all parishioners:

In this time of transition - please do not hesitate to contact the office if you need any help or have questions. If I don't know the answer - I will find it! In addition, I welcome announcements, information for the bulletins and newsletter as well as any updates I might need to know about. Father Ray was often my conduit to the "goings on" at St. George's, so please keep me informed! I'm here to help make sure things go as smoothly as possible for you, your ministries and your committees.

If we don't have your email address already, please make sure to give it to me. We are now sending out weekly email announcements and would be happy to include you on the list of recipients.

-Dana

HAM: Hellertown Area Ministerium

HAM is an organization created by representation from the pastors of the various churches in the Hellertown Area. We seek to be a group operating with an interest in serving the needs of our community. Its goals are numerous, from providing community education, pastoral collegiality, and community worship, to providing spiritual and financial aid to those in need.

We meet the fourth Wednesday of every month, Sept.- May, from 9AM-11AM, at various church locations in the Hellertown Area.

HAM provides a variety of MINISTRIES to our community.

Crisis Fund - Money gathered from our various churches serves to help any person in a legitimate crisis.

Community Food Bank - HAM supports the community food bank housed at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church.

Pulpit Exchange - The pastors of the various HAM churches lead worship at a different congregation than the one they usually serve.

Thanksgiving Service - A community worship service held at a HAM church the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Community Programs - such as, "Christian-Muslim Dialogue and Dinner" HAM provided Hellertown Residents the opportunity to have dinner and dialogue with the Lehigh Valley Dialogue Center, a Muslim organization promoting dialog with other faith organizations.

Worship services monthly at Saucon Valley Manor - each HAM church shares in monthly worship services at the Manor.

Mission Trips - Nov. 1-8, 2008. HAM's THIRD mission trip for Hurricane Katrina Relief has concluded. Over 100 people from the HAM churches and the Hellertown Community will have helped residents rebuild their homes and lives. COSTS STILL NEED TO BE COVERED FOR THIS YEAR'S MISSION TRIP. All donations are appreciated.

LESSONS

Lent I	March 1st
Genesis 9:8-17	
Psalm 25:1-10	
I Peter 3:18-22	
Mark 1:9-15	
Lent II	March 8th
Genesis 17;1-7, 15-16	
Psalm 22:23-31	
Romans 4:13-25	
Mark 8:31-28	
Lent III	March 15th
Exodus 20:1-17	
Psalm 19	
I Corinthians 1:18-25	
John 2:13-22	
Lent IV	March 22nd
Numbers 21:4-9	
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	
Ephesians 2:1-10	
John 3:14-21	
Lent V	March 29th
Jeremiah 31:31-34	
Psalm 51:1-12	
Hebrews 5:5-10	
John 12:20-33	

CHRIST THE TEACHER

The icon of "Christ the Teacher" that hangs in the church entrance hall is a gift of Fr. Ray. This icon is also known as "Christ Pantocrator". The Greek word pantocrator means "Ruler of All." This "image expresses the central reality of the Christian Faith; the Divine Majesty of the creator and ruler of all the world, made flesh and visible to us in Christ Jesus our redeemer." The oldest known icon of Christ Pantocrator was made in the sixth century and is preserved in the monastery of St. Catherine in the Sinai desert.

In the image of Christ the Teacher, our Lord holds the Word of God in his left hand while raising his right hand in blessing. His cloak is a dark blue signifying the mystery of his divine life. His tunic is bright crimson to signify the blood he shed for us all.

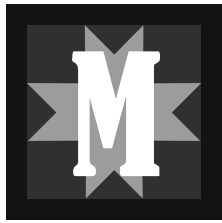
Christ's halo is inscribed with the Greek letters omicron, omega, nu which is translated "WHO AM", the name of God in Exodus 3:14. On the background is written "IC XC", a shortened Greek form of "Jesus Christ."

The face of Jesus follows ancient traditions. The eyes are large and open, looking directly into the viewer's soul. The forehead, the seat of Wisdom, is high and convex. The mouth is small and closed in the silence of contemplation. The neck and body are powerful reminders of His strength and majesty.

May this icon move us to worship our Lord with love and awe.

March Ministries Schedule - 2009

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Acolytes	-	-	-	-	-
Altar Guild	Jane Boden and Polly Roberts	Jane Boden and Polly Roberts	Jane Boden and Polly Roberts	Jane Boden and Polly Roberts	Jane Boden and Polly Roberts
Chalice Bearer	Joan Goodwin	Dianne Dalrymple	Debbie Rinker	David Vandergast	Joan Goodwin
Counters	Anna May Miller	Tim Miller	Tom Boden	Tom Boden	Tom Boden
	Polly Roberts	Polly Roberts	Jane Boden	Jane Boden	Jane Boden
Greeters	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden
Lectors	John Hogan	Anna May Miller	Debbie Rinker	Trevor Jefferson	Roseanne Dalrymple
	Trevor Jefferson	Karen Urbanowicz	Christina Stauffer	Shari Vandergast	John Hogan
Ushers	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden	Tom and Jane Boden
Refreshments	-	Jane Boden and Carol Sandrock	Paula Martinko	Gloria Quier and Judy Salvaggio	Dianne Dalrymple and Joan Goodwin



MARCH 2009

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sunday School 9:15 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Adult Forum 10:45	ECW 7:00 PM	Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	Quilters 9:00 AM			U.C.G.
8 Sunday School 9:15 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Adult Forum 10:45	9 VFW Aux. 3094 1:30 PM	10 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	11 Quilters 9:00 AM	12	13	14 U.C.G.
15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday School 9:15 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Adult Forum 10:45	16	17 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	18 Quilters 9:00 AM	19	20	21 U.C.G.
22 Sunday School 9:15 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Adult Forum 10:45	23	24 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	25 Quilters 9:00 AM Vestry 7:00 P.M.	26	27	28 U.C.G.
29 Sunday School 9:15 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Adult Forum 10:45	30	31 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM				

St. George's Episcopal Church
735 Delaware Ave.
Hellertown, PA 18055

FIRST CLASS MAIL

GROCERY SHOPPING...IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE FOOD ANYMORE!



St. George's will continue the Giant Card program this year. If you are not familiar with how the program works, it is an opportunity to give financially to St. George's without spending an extra penny out of your pocket! If you shop at Giant or you buy gas there, you have an opportunity to give 5% of every purchase you make to St. George's. Simply buy Giant gift cards in advance on Sunday and then use them to make your purchases! They are available in \$25, \$50 or \$100 amounts.

5%? What does that mean to St. George's?

For every \$100 you spend, St. George's gets \$5.

*For example, if you spend \$100 a week in gas or groceries St. George's gets approximately:
\$5/week or \$20/month or \$240/year*

See Margie George at the church on Sundays or Wednesdays (9 am -1 pm) to buy your cards!