



St. George's Journal

FROM YOUR INTERIM RECTOR

Well, I've been on the job for 6 weeks now, with no regrets! Thanks to everyone for being so welcoming and supportive. Please continue to wear your name-tags; it really does help! Since this is a part-time position, I thought it might be helpful to remind you of my regular office hours. Barring emergencies, and Hellertown Area Ministerium (HAM) meetings, I will be at St. George's on Wednesdays from about 9:30 a.m. until about 2:00 p.m. However, pastoral needs are important, so please feel free to contact me at home: 610-838-8206; or on my cell phone, 484-767-2489. Our home e-mail is: rcditterline@ptd.net.

UNITED NATIONS MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

These goals (hereafter referred to as the MDG's) were formally adopted by the United Nations in the year 2000, but many forces and voices were at work during the latter part of the Twentieth Century that led to the MDG's, including political entities and the private sector. One strong voice was that of Bono, the lead singer of the rock group "U2," who, among other things, called the churches of the world to task for not doing more to help the poor and suffering among us. The 2003 General Convention of the Episcopal Church endorsed these goals, which seek, among other things, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by the year 2015. You can see the list of the 8 goals elsewhere in this newsletter.

The 2006 General Convention again heartily endorsed the MDG's, and pledged to provide major support in the effort. Our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, has placed major emphasis upon achieving the MDG's. In her address at her Investiture at the National Cathedral on November 4, 2006, she said, "The Millenium Development Goals give us an image, an icon or a lens for how we can build the reign of God in our own day. They're achievable." It's interesting that Bishop Jefferts Schori's term ends in 2015, the target year for reaching the MDG's! Expect that General Convention this summer again will discuss and endorse the MDG's.

Now that we are about three-fifths of the way through this period of emphasis (2000-2015), it seems reasonable to me that we take a look at our progress toward achieving the MDG's. It's true that much has already been accomplished, but it's also true that much, much more needs to be done. We may think sometimes that we are doing enough. Certainly, the various efforts already in progress here at St. George's and in the Diocese of Bethlehem (e.g., the "New Hope Campaign") are commendable. And we hear about foreign aid coming out of Washington. In January 2007 I attended a workshop on the MDG's in the Diocese of Pennsylvania which was led by a priest who worked as an economist for 10 years before seeking ordination. Part of his job was to help develop the MDG's in the 90's. The following are a FEW of the statistics which he shared:

According to polls, most Americans think that the USA gives 25% of the federal budget for foreign development; the actual amount is 1%. The median response in the U.S. to how much **more** we should give is 10% -- and that's with most folks thinking that we already give 25%! The number of people who die throughout the world (as of 2-3 years ago) due to extreme poverty and preventable diseases are 40,000 per day, or about 16,000,000 per year. 11,000,000 of those are children under the age of five. To try to get our minds around that, consider if the total populations of our 4 largest cities (NYC, Los Angeles, Chicago, & Houston) were to die this year. And the number of kids under 5 who die **each day** is ten times the number of people who died in the 9/11 tragedy. Twenty-one poor countries suffered economic decline in the 1990's (4 declined during the 1980's), while the richer countries got richer. These same richer nations are the largest contributors to environmental degradation; out of 24 billion tons of harmful emissions annually, more than 5 billion tons come from the U.S.

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ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - HELLERTOWN, PA

From Your Interim Rector continued...

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Suffice it to say that the challenges are great. But the opportunities and possibilities are even greater! There are MANY success stories, including those at St. George's and our diocese. Your parish leadership has been discussing whether to return the Adult Forum to St. George's program. Deacon Wayne and I have talked about possibly offering a Forum 2 Sundays each month, starting in September. I PROPOSE that we use some of that time to take a look together at the MDG's: at what works and what doesn't seem to work; what we can do as individuals, and as a parish community; what some of the specific projects are that have helped other parishes and groups to focus their efforts; how we might include the youth of the parish; etc.

I have some Study Guides and other materials on the MDG's that I used at Trinity, Bethlehem in 2007. Other up-dated information should be available from the U.N., Episcopal Relief & Development, ONE Episcopalian, etc. As our presiding bishop says, the MDG's are "achievable." Let us examine together how else we, as a community of faith, can help!

Father Dick+

Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child Mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

SUMMER SUNDAY SERVICE

TIME CHANGE!

EFFECTIVE JUNE 14th

Holy Eucharist

will be held at 9:00 AM.



St. George's Journal

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A Parish of the Diocese of Bethlehem
The Rt. Rev. Paul Marshall, Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Richard Ditterline, Interim Rector
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.

Summer Service Schedule

(effective June 14th)
Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM

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VICTORY HOUSE DINNER!

The Outreach Committee invites you to participate in our next Victory House dinner on Saturday, June 20th. A list of items needed is available from any Outreach Committee member, so please let them know if you can assist. Many thanks in advance from your Outreach Committee: Gloria Quier, Pat Coble, John Coble, Diane Doll, Christine Stauffer, Tim Miller and Shari Vandergast.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Church School Picnic will be held at Dimmick Park on June 7th at 11 AM!

All are invited. Hot dogs will be provided, please bring a covered dish. We will play games and socialize. Don't forget to dress comfortably for the day!

I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped with the Christian Education programs this past year. We had lots of assistance from parishioners, parents and teachers. Believe me, without the help from all of you, we never could have gotten these things accomplished!

Next year, starting in October, St. George's will be having Youth Sunday on the 1st Sunday of the month. On that Sunday there will not be class, instead the children will have an opportunity to attend the service and participate as bell ringer, lectors, ushers, greeters and carrying the elements.

If there are any volunteers who would like to be an aid for a Church School class in the fall, please let me know. The younger children are ages 3-6 and the older children are 7-13. Church School starts at 9:15 and completes by around 10:00 at which time the children go into the church for the remainder of the service. Thank you in advance for your assistance! -Margie George, Christian Education Coordinator



THIS MONTH'S GREENTIP

Around St. George's... Ways kids can help!



Take care of your toys so that they last longer. Then you can pass them on to others or donate them to sell at the Hellertown Community Day White Elephant sale.

Donate old clothes that you have outgrown to a local thrift shop.

Use the "half towels" in the St. George's bathrooms to dry your hands. This will reduce paper waste.

There are many ways children can help the environment, let's encourage them to get involved!

BECOMING "OUTVOLVED"

St. George's is truly a generous congregation. When my family first joined the church, we were surprised that for a relatively small church, our members seemed very committed to outreach and support of community agencies such as the Hellertown Area Ministerium (HAM), the Hellertown Food Bank and New Bethany Ministries.

In mid-May we will again celebrate the Episcopal Church's generosity by collecting for United Thank Offering (UTO) Sunday. Many benefit from our UTO donations, and you can find out more by visiting www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.

At the end of May we will be taking an inventory of the many personal care items we have donated, which include shampoo, soap, toothpaste, towels, and deodorants, and we will be delivering these items to the agencies whose clients - financially stressed and in some cases homeless - have a great need. In June we will be preparing and serving another meal to the clients at Victory House, a long-term men's shelter just a few miles from our church.

All our church family members are "involved" - whether by attending committee meetings, bringing food donations and placing them in the basket at the last pew, or by donating items or preparing or serving food to those in our outreach ministry. We are increasingly becoming "outvolved", reaching outside our walls to respond to the many needs we see in our community and in our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are continually called by God to share what we have and do more. In the coming months, we will be exploring how we can help the soup kitchen at Trinity Bethlehem, by volunteering talents, time and resources.

In the words of Wilfred Grenfell, "The service we render to others is the rent we pay for our room on earth." Here at St. George's we live this motto. In the coming months, we hope that you will feel "outvolved" as we do more to help our community in this time of stress and need.

-Shari Vanderkast, Outreach Committee Chairperson



THE PARISH REGISTER

Baptismal Anniversaries: Karen Urbanowicz, 6/1; Jessie Peffer, 6/8; Joyce Raudenbush, 6/19; Ashley, Kayla and Shawn Kozak, 6/21 and Michelle Poehler, 6/27.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Father Richard Ditterline, 6/1; Anna May Miller, 6/10; Kyle Marshall, 6/12; Samuel Vandergast, 6/16; Jacob Kelly, 6/18; Sean Stauffer, 6/19; Patricia Lipsky, 6/21; Patricia Coble, 6/23; Devon Buskaritz, 6/25; David Coble, 6/26; Greta Salvaggio and Luc Mauro, 6/29.

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: June 7th, 14th and 28th

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



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SHERIDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN ALLENTOWN



This summer we're again collecting school supplies for the children at Sheridan Elementary in Allentown. The school serves one of the most economically depressed neighborhoods in the city and the children and staff have been very grateful and appreciative for our gifts in the past. Pads, notebooks, 3-ring binders and paper, pencils and pens, and other school supplies are needed. Just bring them to the parish hall and put them in the box labeled "Sheridan Elementary."

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please note in your directory that the Vandergast Family now have the following two email addresses: vandergast@yahoo.com or vandergast@ptd.net.

The Hughes net email address is no longer valid.

OFFICE FYI:

Please note the change of office hours for the summer beginning on June 9th.

Summer Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings

Newsletter deadline is June 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.

Church announcements for the bulletin should be turned in by Tuesday of each week.

**ECW INDOOR
PICNIC
MONDAY
JUNE 1st
6PM!**

THOUGHTS ON THE "SWINE FLU" FRIGHT IN OUR NATION

*From The Rt. Rev. Rodney R. Michel, Assisting Bishop,
Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania*

Folks have legitimate concerns about a potential "Swine flu" pandemic and I hope that the Church can encourage confidence during these times. I would offer these liturgical guidelines for all the faithful, and particularly for those who are responsible for public worship.

ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO GO TO CHURCH. As long as people are feeling well, we should all continue to worship as usual. Take the normal precautions if you or a family member is ill. (i.e. stay home).

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE. A handshake or hug is not mandated by the Church and should possibly be discouraged during this time. Continue to verbally share the Peace of our Lord. Making eye contact, slightly bowing your head, or a friendly wave are good substitutes for the traditional handshake or hug.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST. Please remind people that they make a full communion by receiving in one kind. For those who are concerned, they receive Christ's Presence in the holy bread and need not receive "in both kinds" during times of illness.

The Common Cup: Medical experts agree that the danger of transmitting communicable diseases by sharing the chalice is negligible. History has borne this out and we still encourage this ancient liturgical practice. Eucharistic ministers and chalice bearers should be sure to wipe the rim of the chalice and turn it after each person has received.

Intinction poses a greater potential threat, especially when the host is dipped into the chalice by the communicants themselves. This practice should be discouraged during this period.

Clergy and Eucharistic Ministers are encouraged to wash their hands and use an anti-bacterial gel before administering Holy Communion.



Don't forget to get your IRONPIGS tickets before June 14th! Please see Joan Goodwin if you would like to attend this outing on July 17th.

SUMMER REFRESHMENTS

Please consider taking a turn at providing refreshments after worship some Sunday this summer. All you need to provide is iced tea or lemonade and something to nibble on. If you're willing to make some coffee, that too will be appreciated. The sign up sheet is located in the church entrance.



LESSONS

June 7th

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

June 14th

Pentecost 2

I Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 20

II Corinthians 5:6-17

Mark 4:26-34

June 21st

Pentecost 3

I Samuel 17:32-49

Psalm 9:9-20

II Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

June 28th

Pentecost 4

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Psalm 130

II Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43



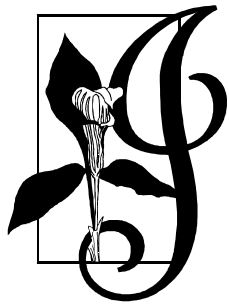
HELLERTOWN COMMUNITY DAY AUGUST 22nd

It is that time of year again and we are asking for your white elephant items. Suggested items are books, knick-knack, kitchen supplies, household items, jewelry, tools, etc. Item can be brought to church in July and early August.

Any other new ideas or if you are willing to participate on Community Day please call Jane Boden at 610-346-6377 or Diane Doll at 610-838-9242.

June Ministries Schedule - 2009

	June 7th	June 14th	June 21st	June 28th
Acolytes	Corinne Martinko	David Vandergast	Alesia Castillo	Mike Salvaggio
Altar Guild	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin
Altar Flowers (Given By)	-	-	Father Dick and Sue Ditterline	-
Chalice Bearer	David Vandergast	David Vandergast	Corinne Martinko	Tom Boden
Counters	Dianne Dalrymple	Dianne Dalrymple	Dianne Dalrymple	Dianne Dalrymple
	Debbie Rinker	Debbie Rinker	Debbie Rinker	Debbie Rinker
Greeters	Joan Goodwin	Joan Goodwin	Joan Goodwin	Joan Goodwin
Lectors	Trevor Jefferson	Karen Urbanowicz	Shari Vandergast	Roseanne Dalrymple
	Anna May Miller	Debbie Rinker	Christina Stauffer	John Hogan
Ushers	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin	Joan and Nancy Goodwin
Vestry Person of the Week	Polly Roberts	Mike Salvaggio	David Vandergast	Bruce Browne



JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 E.C.W. Indoor Picnic 6:00 PM	2 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	3 Quilters 9:00 AM	4	5	6 U.C.G.
7 Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Church School Picnic 11:00 AM	8 V.F.W. Aux. 1:30 PM	9 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	10 Quilters 9:00 AM	11	12	13 U.C.G.
14 Flag Day Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM SERVICE TIME CHANGES TODAY!	15 Newsletter Deadline Vestry 7:00 PM	16 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	17 Quilters 9:00 AM	18	19	20 U.C.G. Victory House Dinner
21 Father's Day Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM	22	23 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM	24 Quilters 9:00 AM	25	26	27 U.C.G.
28 Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM	29	30 Weight Watchers 7:00 PM				

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY...

...to all our fathers at St. George's Church!

We wish you and your families a wonderful day and
thank you for all you do for St. George's!

