



# *St. John's Messenger*

**February, 2009**

*from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector*

## **TRANSFIGURATION**

Sunday, February 22, the Last Sunday in the season of Epiphany, is popularly known as Transfiguration Sunday. The Gospel for that Sunday recounts the journey of Jesus with the disciples Peter, James and John to a high mountain where "he was transfigured before them and his face shone like the sun and his garment became white as light," Matthew 17:2. The Transfiguration marked the turning point in the ministry of Jesus from his focus on teaching and healing to beginning his journey to Jerusalem and his passion, death and resurrection. Transfiguration Sunday acts as our transition from the season of Epiphany to Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.

At St. John's this year's Transfiguration Sunday will be unlike any other. First we hope to have an exceptional display of floral arrangements. The day before, Saturday, February 21, the Flower Guild will be hosting a flower workshop. Anne Yellott, Chair of the Flower Guild of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Harrisburg will be leading the workshop. Anne's training in floral arrangements has included the Flower Guild of the National Cathedral in Washington. Those attending the workshop will have the opportunity to create an arrangement for them to take home. Additionally, instruction will be offered in liturgical floral arrangements with those displays employed to enliven our celebration of Transfiguration Sunday.

Our Transfiguration Sunday festivities will also include a time of great thanksgiving for the ministries of two true heroes of the St. John's Flower Guild – Lois Breitegan and Betty Juslin-Asplin. As the Flower Guild Chair, Loie has served tirelessly over many years organizing the magnificent decoration of our sanctuary for Christmas and Easter. Her ministry covered arranging for altar flowers every Sunday and for all weddings and funerals. Loie's vision and creativity have touched countless lives at St. John's.

Betty has served for a similar period as the Flower Guild Treasurer. It is Betty who coordinates all the donations for all the flowers for Christmas and Easter. She has handled the billing for all flowers used to decorate the altar and managed all the Flower Guild funds. Betty's ministry has provided a powerful pastoral link between St. John's Church and those who seek to remember loved ones departed this life.

These two ladies have understood the power of grace and beauty in the form of floral arrangements to transfigure lives. In times of happiness and joy flowers express our feelings of wonder and awe. In times of sadness and loss flowers represent the remembrance of our thanksgiving and the hope we live for. Flowers in and of themselves are simple and natural. As an offering to God they speak of our faith in the beauty and goodness of God in our lives.

In the same way that the blossom of a flower opens and unfolds to reveal its greater beauty, so in his transfiguration the hidden magnificence of Christ was revealed. To the casual eye Jesus was an ordinary child of the earth but when seen in his transfiguration, the vision of his full life offering in service to God, the radiance of Christ is visible to all. It is this beatific vision we celebrate on Transfiguration Sunday.

*John+*

## FROM PASTOR JENNIFER E. LOOKER

It was one of those nights. We had recently returned from a long trip to Connecticut and our thirteen month old daughter Anna Gail had reached her limit. She was tired, cranky, and for an added bonus- a new molar was beginning to cut through her gums. Bath time, which is usually the great joy of her day, was ruined by the need to wash hair that had been encrusted by pieces of cheese and crackers. When bedtime finally arrived, and with visions of a peaceful, sleeping (did I mention non-screaming?) baby dancing in my head, I settled down to nurse her.

All seemed to go well, and after a brief period of nursing, Anna Gail rubbed her eyes and seemed ready for sleep. I kissed her on the forehead, placed her gently in the crib, and closed her door with an audible sigh of relief. I crept quietly down the stairs, sat on the couch to open a book, and just when I arranged the pillows in a comfortable way- I heard the sound of a screaming, angry baby. Poor thing, I thought. Her tooth is really bothering her. And she has had a rough couple of days.

So I went back up the stairs, ready and prepared to comfort my daughter. The screaming immediately stopped, and she happily nursed until I settled her back into the crib. Finally, I thought, she will get the rest she needs, and so will I! I crept quietly back down the stairs, opened my book, made the pillows comfortable, and began to read. I had made it through a chapter or two, and was starting to feel confident that Anna Gail was in a deep sleep, when I heard the sound of screaming. My immediate reaction was not "poor baby", but rather "again?!".

I had reached the limits of my mommy-compassion. I was exhausted from taking a long trip with a not-so happy baby, and I was ready for some adult time. Craig offered to take a turn soothing Anna Gail, but being in an over-functioning kind of mood, and determined to make the screaming stop in the quickest, most efficient way possible, I insisted on nursing her. So back up the stairs I went. And it ended up being one of those nights.

By the sixth or seventh time I went in to soothe her (this being very late at night ) I was beyond exhausted and not particularly happy with my "bundle of joy". I envisioned all other babies as happily sleeping through the night, their parents refreshed and looking like models from a J Crew magazine. In a moment of frustration, I looked down at Anna Gail and snapped "Aren't you finished yet?" I immediately felt terrible. I had snapped at a little baby! A baby who was trying to soothe a painful tooth! Would she remember this incident? Would she feel rejected? Was I a bad parent? Anna Gail simply looked up at me in surprise and went back to the task of nursing.

It was a very human moment. One of many I've experienced since becoming a parent. And as I nursed my daughter late through the night, I found myself thinking about the upcoming season of Lent. Thinking about how much I appreciate the opportunity to fully name my humanity for what it was- incomplete, broken but graced by God's love. I often feel stretched thin as a parent, as a priest, as a person. I am aware, on a daily basis, of how very limited I am.

This is what I cherish about the season of Lent. This is what I appreciate about the symbol of ashes and the call to "walk humbly with God". It is a relief to be fully myself, a relief to name my humanity for what it is; a relief to remind myself that as hard as I may try, I will never be perfect. It is a relief to name my condition, to name my sin, and ultimately, to trust in the grace of our God. As the season of Lent draws near, may we all take comfort in the knowledge that are loved, just as we are. And with that knowledge, may we continue to grow and change and learn, not with the hope of being perfect, but of more perfectly loving, for the sake of the one who loved us.

*Jennifer+*

## VESTRY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### *Vestry's Warden Message*

At our January meeting, the Vestry passed several resolutions. Based on a recommendation from the Finance Committee, the agent for processing all investment activity was changed from Morgan Stanley to Janney Montgomery Scott.

It was also resolved that the Vestry give an endorsement for the ordination of the Rev. John W. Symonds to the Sacred Order of Priests. We wish the best for John and thank him for all that he has contributed to St. Johns.

Our final resolution was an exciting one that will most likely be mentioned in another part of this Messenger. The Vestry authorized the formation of a Refugee Resettlement Committee which in conjunction with Church World Service will sponsor a refugee family for a minimum of three months. The money needed to launch this project will not be taken from St. John's operating budget.

Finally, your Vestry will be meeting for a day long retreat on Saturday January 31 to discuss our goals and vision for the future of St. John's. If you have any thoughts, questions, or ideas, please don't hesitate to speak with members of the Vestry. Our contact information can be found in the weekly bulletin.

Submitted by,  
*Ted Loose*, Vestry's Warden

## PARISH REGISTER

### *Baptisms*

Penelope Jane Rhodes

### *Births*

Evelyn Frances Carroll and Cooper James Hillen

### *Deaths*

Richard H. Klemm

### *Transferred In*

Mary Anne Piccirillo

## LENTEN GATHERING

### *Come To The Table*

#### Lenten Gathering Begins March 1

As in the past few years, there will be a gathering time for Lenten Reflection beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> through Palm Sunday, each Sunday evening in the Parish Hall beginning with a light dinner at 5 p.m.

In addition this year will be the opening of the Labyrinth each week at 4 p.m. for individuals – “A journey begins in the mind, moves the body and lives in the Spirit.”

Further information to be posted in the Bulletin, Parish Hall and The Messenger.

Contact: *Barbara Landis*

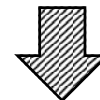
## ST. JOHN'S SENIORS



### *Calling All Seniors!*

On Saturday morning, February 14, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, we will be gathering in the All Purpose Room to plan and discuss a new group to be formed for all parishioners age 60 and older.

The more the merrier and bring some ideas and opinions, or just a desire to share coffee with fellow wise ones. If you can't attend and would like to have some input, please call Kathy Novosel at 717-299-9738.



**THE DEADLINE FOR  
SUBMITTING INFORMATION FOR THE**

**MARCH MESSENGER:**

**MARCH 16, 2009**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Parish Family,

Your Vestry has recently approved the budget for 2009 and it contains some significant financial challenges. I thought this would be a good time to share with each of you how your contribution works to support St. John's and its mission.

The total operating budget expense for 2009 is \$535,970. 60% of this cost supports staff salaries and expenses. 5% is administrative costs. 19% is used to maintain our building and grounds and 16% are for non-Jubilee ministries

The revenue budget for 2009 is \$450,025. This is based upon an income of \$340,000 that was pledged during the recently completed stewardship campaign. \$48,025 is estimated for other contributions, such as Christmas and Easter offerings and non-pledged income. \$48,000 will be drawn from the Endowment Fund and the remainder coming from other income sources. As you can see, our expected income is almost \$86,000 less than our expected expenses.

The recently completed stewardship campaign received pledge cards from 170 households of which 159 made pledges. Considering the difficult economic times that we are experiencing, it is a credit to the parish that 81% of those making a pledge were able to maintain or increase their pledge. We understand that not everyone is in a favorable financial position and we thank everyone for having prayerfully considered what level of support could be given. While the pledge level that has as many above as below remained the same at \$1500, the average did rise slightly to \$2158.

Now we all must support our Vestry and Finance Committee as they go about the difficult task of reconciling the significant difference between revenue and expense. Two ways we all can help are to increase our own level of giving whenever the situation permits and to work to bring more families into St. John's.

Again, I wish to thank everyone for the support over the past year and thank you in advance for your continued support during the coming year. If you have any questions regarding the finances of the parish, please do not hesitate to contact either me or any member of the Financial Committee.

Faithfully yours,

*Steve Latshaw,*  
Treasurer

### *New Staff Member*

We welcome Stephen Stitzel as the newest member of the St. John's staff. Stephen has been hired as our *Nursery Caregiver* and additional information about him will be forthcoming in the March "Messenger". Please welcome Stephen as you visit the Nursery.

## ...FROM THE FLOWER GUILD

### *"Thank You!"*

By all accounts, our parishioners were delighted with the appearance of the Church for the holiday celebrations. Those of us who work with flowers appreciate the suggestions and participation of each member of the congregation and look forward to having you help us next year. Many hands make for short work during a busy season, so a special thanks this year to the following families: Henry, Higgs, Jackson, Gross, Miller, Becker, Graeter, Doug Brown, (the "high-wire" man), the always faithful Aaron Spicher, Carl Hartman & Patti Varchol for their unique floral skills, as well as the many other faces who popped in to offer their help. Immense thanks also to the last minute recruitment of the "un-decorating" teams: the Loose, Gross, and Latshaw families. All help was greatly appreciated.

Submitted by, *Sue Breneman*

### *Flower Workshop Offered*

The Flower Guild is once again offering a workshop for liturgical flower arranging which will be led by Anne Yellott on Saturday, February 21 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The registration fee is \$10 and will cover the purchase of your flowers. Please bring your own clippers and a container to take your arrangement home in. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall and the deadline is Sunday, February 15 so we will know how many flowers to have on hand. We will try to accommodate last minute applicants but there is no guarantee of extra posies!

*Questions?* Please contact *Carl Hartman* or *Sue Breneman*

## "THAK YOU"

### *...from Fulton Elementary School*

Dear St. John's,

I am writing to thank you for the holiday gifts you provided for the Robert Fulton Elementary School students. For some children, the gifts and goodies may have been the only presents they received during the holiday.

The kindness and caring of individuals in our community is overwhelming and limitless. As I reflect on my position as a school counselor, I believe that some of the most rewarding relationships are the community partnerships that I have been so fortunate to be a part of. The students at Robert Fulton are blessed to be surrounded by such wonderful people! Thank you again for the gifts for the students and for your sustained commitment to enriching their lives each week throughout the school year.

Sincerely, *Carol Campbell*, School Counselor

## ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

### *The Rev. John W. Symonds*

We are pleased to announce that The Rev. John W. Symonds will be ordained to the priesthood on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at St. James' Episcopal Church where he has recently been named, Curate. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The Rev. John W. Symonds was a graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary and Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. John was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate in June, 2008 during the Diocesan Convention at Bucknell University and served as a chaperone on the recent J2A pilgrimage to Alaska.

It has been an honor to be a part of John's journey and we are delighted to celebrate with him on this joyful occasion.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



### *Sunday School News*

*Karen DiPace*  
Sunday School Director



The Sunday School has been enjoying the new Cocoa Hour started last month!! In case you haven't heard we have begun a children's cocoa hour starting at 9:00 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. Families are invited to attend. This is followed by music with Randy at 9:15 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. We hope all children will be able to join us!

Our children have also been busy bringing in their "Pennies for Peace"...great job so far! Thank you all for helping to decorate our All Purpose Room. A special thanks for Carol Stigelman for her wonderful artistic additions to our windows! We hope you all enjoy the art work!

### *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner!*

Please help support our Journey To Adulthood program at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on February 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The J2A group will be serving pancakes, sausage, fruit, applesauce and juice.

The suggested donation for the dinner is **\$5.00 for adults** and **\$3.00 for children**, or **\$10.00 for a family**. "We hope to see you there!"



# JUBILEE MINISTRIES

## *DATES TO KEEP IN MIND*

### *Meal Ministry Dates— “Volunteers Are Always Welcomed!”*

**Dinner Out**—(Contacts: *Dave Martin & Janice Henry*)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**—4:30-6:00 p.m. St. Paul's United Methodist Church, South Queen and Farnum Streets, Lancaster. St. John's will be responsible to help serve the meal. Volunteers are always needed!

**Community Breakfast**—(Contact: *Sue Martin*)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**—7:30-11:00 a.m. at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 40 East Orange Street, Lancaster.

## *OTHER MINISTRIES*

**Blankets & Sew On** - (Contact: *Jeannie Zeller*)

Meets every Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall and every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Becker House to knit hats, scarves, etc. for donation to those less fortunate.

**Door Ministry & Food Bank** - (Contact: *Church Office*)

We are in need of receiving: *canned meat, tuna, Spam, chix peas, fruit, fruit juice, pasta sauce, cereal, peanut butter, and jelly*. Donations can be delivered to 1.) church office, or 2.) given to the Ushers on Sunday mornings. Weekly food orders are then organized for “families” or “single” people and are distributed from our church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays to those in need. Thanks to Julia Groom-Thompson and Bill Thompson for heading this St. John's ministry.

**Eagle's Nest After School Program** - (Contact: *Dave/Sue Martin*)

An after-school program for 4th and 5th graders from Robert Fulton School held every Wednesday throughout the school year from 2:00-5:00 p.m. Volunteers help with reading, academic support, crafts, games and cooking. *Help with this program is always welcome!* Contact Sue Martin if interested in volunteering.

**Grocery Cards** - (Contact: *Cynthia Minnich*)

**TOTAL SALES FOR DECEMBER, 2008: \$9,580.00**

Total sales for 2008 were \$94,175. This figure is \$18,000 more than our total sales in 2007. ***GREAT JOB!!!*** Jubilee Ministries receives \$4,708.75 - \$80 (total from 4 free \$20 cards earned from punch cards) which makes the actual earnings \$4628.75. **LET'S GO FOR \$100,00 IN 2009!!! I KNOW WE CAN DO IT.** Remember that a \$100 card can be used as often as it takes to use it up. You don't have to spend it all at one time.

**AND YOU ARE NOT LOSING ANYTHING. YOU ARE GETTING FULL VALUE FOR YOUR CARD. THE STORE SELLS CARDS TO US AT A 5% DISCOUNT.**

**Participating Stores: Darrenkamp's, Giant, John Herr's, Oregon Dairy, Stauffer's, and Weis.**

## JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

### **Martin Luther King Day Activities**—(Contact: Dave Martin & Sibyl Freeman)

The theme for the day was *Si Se Puede/Yes We Can!*

Children arrived shortly before 10:00AM and participated in a variety of table activities which included jumbo puzzles, coloring of peace symbols, books for browsing, word finds, all related to the theme of Dr. Martin Luther King. Dianne Cooney facilitated a morning session, setting the mood for the day's agenda, reviewed expectations, and introduced the concept of - Yes, we can! Children moved to the second floor of the Parish House and participated in a Brazilian danceform (Capoeira). Thanks to Sue Heilman for arranging this successful activity. Lunch followed of chile, rice, cornbread, and a birthday dessert of cup cakes. There were 70 people at lunch making it a real party, especially with snow falling lightly outside. Thanks to all the good cooks who contributed the chile. After lunch Pastor Jennifer gave a walking talk in the sanctuary, elaborating on the individual heroes from the hanging banners made by the J2A group. A special guest, Pedro Rivera, superintendent of the School District of Lancaster was introduced by Eric Freeman. He focused his remarks to the youngsters and adults on the Si Se Puede/Yes We Can theme. The children had time to ask questions and interact with him. Three afternoon activities facilitated by Jamie Nace, Sibyl Freeman, Cindy Morris and a host of volunteer helpers rounded out the day. Everyone gathered together on the main floor of the Parish House for an effective closing done by Faith D'Urbano.

Thanks to all 27 volunteers who made this a SPECIAL day, and the 26 children who participated in meaningful activities that made the day SPECIAL for them, too. St. John's should be proud.

### **Recycling** - (Contact: Sue Heilman)

Recycling containers for cans, plastic, glass, and styrofoam are available at St. John's. You can park in the Becker House parking lot (on Concord Street between Walnut and Chestnut) and walk to the left side of the dumpster where you will find the recycling containers sitting just outside the rear Parish Hall door.

### **Refugee Considerations** - (Contact: Mary Lou and Mike Higgs)

Discernment by a small group of people to determine how St. John's can become a part of a Refugee Resettlement continues. If interested in becoming involved please contact Mary Lou or Mike Higgs. Please see a separate article in this publication.

### **Robert Fulton School Partnership**—(Contact: Dave/Sue Martin)

Collection of the following items can be found on the ledge next to the kitchen counter in the Parish Hall. Moo Money (bottle caps), Box Tops for Education, Printer Cartridges, and Campbell Soup Labels.

### **Shalom Ministry**—(Contact: Fran Gouveia)

This ministry is the guiding force for responding to the Millennium Development Goals. Action groups are continually forming. Please consider participating.

## JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

### *"Thanks for a Great New Year's Eve!"*

A huge and heartfelt thanks to all of you who supported the happenings at St. John's on New Year's Eve, from potato peelers, to pie makers, from table servers to ticket takers and ushers. We could not have done this evening without your very generous contributions of time and effort. Once again, we saw a large number of families come through our doors as part of Count Down 2009. The community meal format may change next year. Volunteers will continue to be an important part of its success, as well as the prospect of our new leadership. Please consider stepping up to the challenge, secure in the knowledge that you will have great support from your fellow parishioners in whatever direction you choose.

St. John's, again, was a site for hosting a juggler in the upstairs parish house auditorium as part of "First Night - Lancaster." Over 450 total people attended the 4 shows during the evening. Snacks and drinks were sold on the first floor of the parish house. \$200 was cleared in support of the Refugee Resettlement Project. Thanks to all who helped. 50 volunteers made the entire evening a great success. What better way to spend New Years Eve, working and having fun with your church family!

With much appreciation for your assistance,  
*Sue Breneman & Michael Stank*

### *Angel Tree Ministry*

*Thank you, St. John's!* 65 children from Crispus Attucks, 25 children from Eagle's Nest, and 23 community children received gifts this Christmas season thanks to the kindness of our parishioners. We were also blessed this Christmas with three generous monetary donations which enabled us to purchase necessary additional gifts. *Thank you!*

Gift delivery was once again efficiently executed by Max Heider and Boy Scout Troop #102. Thank you Max and Scout Leader Mike Heider, for helping with the very important task of delivering gifts to several different locations the week before Christmas. Again, a warm thank you to everyone who contributed to the Angel Tree Jubilee Ministry!

Faithfully submitted,  
*Connie Burch and Leslie Tahsler*

### *Ash Wednesday Services*



On February 25, two Ash Wednesday services will be offered at St. John's:  
7:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m., St. Thomas will host the annual Convocation Ash Wednesday service. Each of the four Episcopal churches in Lancaster- St. Edwards', St. James', St. Johns', and St. Thomas will participate. This service of choral Holy Eucharist Rite II, with imposition of ashes, will feature the combined choirs and shared liturgical leadership of the clergy from the four parishes. The Rev. David Peck, of St. James will be offering the homily.

## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

St. John's has a long and successful history with refugee resettlement, and we are about to embark on a new chapter with this ministry. The Vestry recently authorized a committee to work with Church World Service to sponsor a refugee family that soon will be arriving in Lancaster. We don't yet know the makeup or size of the family, what country they are coming from, or when they will arrive. Most refugees currently coming to Lancaster are from Burma, Bhutan or Iraq. Most have been in refugee camps for many years. It is likely we will meet our family whose transition we will support in February or March.

As many of you who have been involved with this in the past already know, the goal of refugee resettlement is to enable the sponsored family to become self-sufficient as soon as possible. Another goal is to provide a welcoming presence to a family that has been forced to flee their country to escape religious or political persecution.

### Can you help us?

To make this a successful project, we need all types of support from as many people as possible. There are numerous ways you can help. Following are a few:

- 1) Join our committee:** The newly formed committee at St. John's is an interesting, diverse mix of people – some are parishioners, some aren't. Some have decades of experience with refugees, others are new to it. If you'd like to join us, we'd love to have you. If you don't want to join the committee but you are interested in the ministry and want to be kept apprised of what's going on via email, send an email to [mlehiggs@earthlink.net](mailto:mlehiggs@earthlink.net) and ask to be added to the list.
- 2) Donate household goods:** Our immediate task will be to find housing for our family and to furnish their first home in the U.S. This will have to happen quickly. Do you have beds, sofas, chairs, linens, blankets, kitchen things? What about dining sets, lamps, area rugs, waste baskets? Anything you no longer want could be a treasure for a family that has nothing. If you have things to donate – anything! -- call or email Mike and Mary Lou Higgs (email and phone below). Pickup can be arranged.
- 3) Donate money:** If you are moved to help, but have no excess "stuff," you can donate funds. St. John's will be supporting the family for four months and although we have accumulated some funds, more resources are always welcome. Simply make out a check to St. John's, write "refugee resettlement" on the memo line on the check, and drop it in the collection plate. A family eager for a new start in a new country thanks you.
- 4) Support this effort:** Nothing to donate? No funds to spare? You still can help this effort by being supportive, by offering prayers, by welcoming the family when they visit St. John's. If you have any questions and/or thoughts and ideas about how to make this project work better, please contact Mary Lou and Mike Higgs or Sue and Joe Hurlburt (contact info below). Thank you!

*Mary Lou and Mike Higgs*  
717-290-6778  
[mlehiggs@earthlink.net](mailto:mlehiggs@earthlink.net)

*Sue and Joe Hurlburt*  
717-872-0972  
[sahurlburt@comcast.net](mailto:sahurlburt@comcast.net)

## PROPERTY

### *The Property Corner*

The committee extends an invitation to all of our parishioners interested in fellowship and service as a member of the Property Committee. Responsibilities include one meeting on the first Monday of every month to plan and recommend church property maintenance, repair and improvement projects to our Vestry. We value input from all callings. Please join us during one of our meetings at 7 p.m. in the Becker House.

**Boiler Room Wall** – Plans are under way to epoxy the boiler room wall. Bill Gross is obtaining quotes to re-point the walls prior to the epoxy application. The epoxy was recommended to thwart the deterioration of the brick. The committee appreciates the donation offered by Jack McSherry, Jr. Civil Engineer and Jack III, for their evaluation, research and recommendation on this project.

**Life Safety** – Two more emergency lighting units were installed before the Christmas holiday within the Nave in time for the holiday services.

**Becker House Painting** – The Becker House exterior painting was finished prior to the Christmas holiday by Amos Beiler.

**Cleaning Service** – We started with Spotless Cleaning. Bill is addressing some issues with this new contractor and hopes to have these resolved before the end of the month. Please contact Bill with any concerns you may have regarding cleanliness or anything else regarding the property.

**Restrooms** – Bill has installed automatic switches in the restrooms in the parish house. Although wanting to reach for the light switch himself, Bill reminds everyone that these switches should remain in the AUTO position so that the light will automatically turn ON and OFF without any action taken by the user of these facilities. The switches were installed as an energy conservation measure, which is often compromised by people's altering of the switch. Please see Bill if you have any questions or concerns.

**Vestry Representative** – Members of the Property Committee extend their gratitude to Phil Becker for his service to our committee as Vestry Representative. Phil has offered his intimate knowledge of our property to the parish leadership, as well as our members from his life long experience(s) while growing up in what is now the Becker House. His old house provides our parish with office space and small meeting areas used by many of our church's committees. We are relieved that Phil plans to remain an active property committee member. The committee is also grateful to Cynthia Minnich, Rector's Warden for her continued service and contributions to our committee.

Submitted by,

*Bill Gross, Property Manager*

### *"Where's My 2009 Offering Envelope Box?"*

The 2009 offering envelope boxes are located on the literature table in the Parish Hall. Be sure to stop by and pick up your assigned box. If you are in need of one, please contact Barb Baker, Financial Secretary.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### *...from the Music Desk*

Change. How often we've heard that term in the recent past. Count Zinzendorf admonished the Moravian folk with the adage, albeit a translation: "Change is good." New years, new leadership, new music, new programs, new schedules; each brings new life and new beginnings. So what's new in the Music Department of St. John's?

Last year (fall of 2007) a concrete plan was begun while singing with the **Sunday School children** at 9:15 a.m. each week. Throughout the next 9-10 months each attendee was introduced to the seasons of the liturgical year, along with colors and symbols and music to match. This year, beginning in September 2008, Sunday Schoolers began a **combination music and instructed Eucharist curriculum**. Based on guidance from a coloring book I found in Seattle last January each Sunday we've journeyed step-by-step through a typical 10:15 a.m./Rite II Service. We started with the Prelude, ending at the Sermon slot by Christmas. This past week we began with the Nicene Creed. The following is an outline of what we'll be doing through May 2009:

1.11: Nicene Creed	3.1: Holy, Holy, Holy!
1.18: Prayers of the People	3.8: Bread/Wine/Acclamation
1.25: Confession and Absolution	3.15: The Lord's Prayer
2.1: The Peace	3.22: Receiving Communion
2.8: REVIEW	3.29: REVIEW of Communion
2.15: Offertory Pt. 1	4.5: Palm Sunday
2.22: Offertory Pt. 2	4.12: Easter Sunday
4.19: REVIEW of RITE so far	
4.26: Prayer of Commission	
5.3: Dismissal	
5.10: Coloring Books of Rite II to be handed out	
5.17: FINAL REVIEW	

Why is the parish musician doing this, you might ask? Well, as a parent and educator I know how lost children can be in a worship designed for adults. For all potential singers and worship leaders it is vital that all senses are engaged when entering the Nave, from the smell of incense and colors of vestments and paraments to the order of service and how one fully participates or observes the process. Which brings me to a question for us adults? Could we share with newcomers the story of each stained-glass window? Hmm...a curriculum for another year!!!

Beginning 2009 the **Children's Choir** has embarked on a new learning experience with our newly acquired **ChoirChimes**. Starting this January two Sundays a month will be devoted to developing their ringing skills and the other two Sundays to anthem preparation. We've done our two Chime weeks and I can assure you the kids are pumped!

In memory of Jean Elder, a parishioner who loved music, a set of bells has been purchased. These bells will be specifically geared to our youngest children in the parish. They are color-coded and come with color-coded music designed to help teach music reading and allow our smallest members participate in worship. More news on that later...

## MUSIC MINISTRY (CONTINUED)

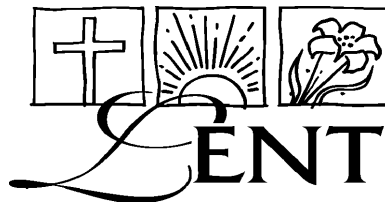
Lastly, 2009 brings an opportunity for growth...and I'd especially like to address this as regards the Chancel Choir. This faithful group of singers and worship leaders meets for an hour each week to rehearse and prepare to lead us in the musical portion of the mass. The esprit de corp of the ensemble is infectious, the rehearsals a time of learning, humor and good music-making, and a gift they'd not like to keep to themselves.

The size of our Chancel would allow for us to gain at least 10 new singers. To keep a balance of sound, here is our proposed goal: 2 sopranos, 3 altos, 2 or 3 tenors, and 3 basses. Perhaps those of you reading this could fill one of those slots. Maybe friends or family members you know might be able to join us. There is no required audition; the chairs are comfortable and the companionship pleasant. Remember: singers get the best seats in the house...for free!!

Won't you join us? Let's continue to make 2009 a year of growth, learning, and change. Blessings to you from the church basement.

Yours,

*Randy Day*, Minister of Music



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

### *Lenten Luncheon and Service*

During each Lenten Season, we are called upon to offer a luncheon for the Friday Northwest Cluster programs. We have been asked to provide this on Friday, March 13. It is our chance to host our neighboring churches. Volunteers are needed to prepare, serve, and clean up for this event. A planning session will be held on Friday, February 27 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Anyone who is available to help should plan to attend this meeting.

Our early Spring plant sale offering pansies and primroses will be held in March. It's hard to think of pansies now, but just wait!

Submitted by,

*Sue Martin*



## PRAYER LIST

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please contact the church office and that particular person will be prayed for, for four (4) weeks. Continued prayers for that person necessitates another contact with the church office.



### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Carolyn Archer  
Judy Arnold  
Linda Frederiksen  
Lauren Kulka  
Carolyn Leitheiser  
Kim Lempp  
Thomas Ludwig  
Anna Mae McGallicher  
Cynthia Minnich  
Julie Siefert  
Ingrid Smith  
Jim Snyder  
Rob Wilson  
Clara Yackly  
Clifford Yackly*

*For Our Homebound Parishioners*

*and*

*For Those Suffering from Addictions*

## SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Please remember those who are serving in our armed forces. If you would like to add or delete anyone from this list, please be sure to contact Patti Means in the church office.

*Joey DeMora  
Tim Graeter  
Brian Hobbins  
Matthew James  
Alex Kelly  
Kyle Kulka  
Joseph Lombardo  
William May  
Sean McCormick  
Karl Miller  
David Smith  
John S. Waltz  
Joshua Watkins*



### *A Prayer For Those in the Armed Forces of our Country*

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please share with us information about your loved one(s) who are serving our country.

If you are in need of either an Episcopal service medal or Anglican rosary, please contact the church office.

## SERVING SCHEDULE - FEBRUARY, 2009

### FOR ALL THOSE SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S: PLEASE NOTE!

If you are unable to fulfill your serving duties, it will be your responsibility to find a replacement.

Once you have located a replacement, please be sure to call the Church Office with your name, the name of your replacement, and the date you were scheduled to serve. If you reach our voice mail system, **simply dial "0"** to leave your message. If you call the Church Office after working hours, your call will still be received by a staff member prior to the Sunday service.

Please avoid contacting Aaron Spicher, personally, with this type of information. Aaron will receive your information through the Church Office. *"Thank you for your cooperation!"*

FEBRUARY 1 - SERVERS	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Bill Moyer, Ricky Smith	Michael Stank, C. Weaver-Gelzer
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	Bill Moyer, Kathy Novosel	Don Durand, Sue Heilman Fred & Eleanor Honaman
<b>Lectors</b>	Ricky Smith	Bob Kilp
<b>Server</b>	—	Max Heider
<b>Crucifer</b>	—	Dan Dorgan
<b>Torch Bearer</b>	—	Emma DiPace, Rachel Hreben
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Shelby Kilhefner, Sandra Jackson Helen Miller	Shelby Kilhefner, Sandra Jackson Helen Miller
<b>Ushers</b>	Team 1	Adam Kilp, David Kilp, Mike Heider, Dave Pennell
<b>Greeter</b>	—	Peter Novosel
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	St. John's Boy/Girl Scouts	St. John's Boy/Girl Scouts
<b>Nursery</b>	—	Mary Ellen Kilp

FEBRUARY 8 - SERVERS	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Kathy Novosel, Merle Schnee	Karin Bleecker, Jan Brown
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	—	Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin
<b>Lector</b>	Ray Manlove	David Dissinger
<b>Server</b>	Max Heider	Eric Freeman
<b>Crucifer</b>	—	Dave Pennell
<b>Torch Bearer</b>	—	Dylan Stone, John Waskowicz
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Loie Breitegan, Kathy Novosel	Loie Breitegan, Kathy Novosel
<b>Ushers</b>	Team 2	Team B
<b>Greeter</b>	—	Robin Ott
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	Vestry	Vestry
<b>Nursery</b>	—	Betsy Hasircoglu

## SERVING SCHEDULE - FEBRUARY, 2009 (CONTINUED)

FEBRUARY 15 - SERVERS	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Bill Moyer, Ricky Smith	Sibyl Freeman, Carl Hartman
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	Phil Becker, Ricky Smith	Peter Novosel, Robin Ott, Fred & Eleanor Honaman
<b>Lector</b>	Peggy Craige	Fran Gouveia
<b>Server</b>	—	Selena Hasircoglu
<b>Crucifer</b>	—	Garth Alexander
<b>Torch Bearer</b>	—	Kaitlin Grosh, Michael Hreben
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Nancy Puffer, Aaron Spicher, Jeanie Zeller	Nancy Puffer, Aaron Spicher, Jeanie Zeller
<b>Ushers</b>	Team 1	Team C
<b>Greeter</b>	—	Bruce Waskowicz
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	J2A	J2A
<b>Nursery</b>	—	Alan Walsh

FEBRUARY 22 —SERVERS	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Kathy Novosel, Bill Moyer	James Glazier, Brad Moyer
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	—	Phil & Sue Purdy
<b>Lector</b>	Kathy Novosel	Bob Kilp
<b>Server</b>	—	Lauren Waskowicz
<b>Crucifer</b>	—	Phil Becker
<b>Torch Bearer</b>	—	Emma DiPace, Sarah Gordon
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cynthia Minnich, Aaron Spicher	Cynthia Minnich, Aaron Spicher
<b>Ushers</b>	Team 2	Team D
<b>Greeter</b>	—	Leslie Morgan
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	Jubilee Committee	Jubilee Committee
<b>Nursery</b>	—	Cindy Morris

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME INVOLVED IN SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S:**

For Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Servers, Crucifers, or Torch Bearers—Contact Betty Finney  
 For Eucharistic Visitors—Contact The Rev. Priscilla Ginolfi  
 For Altar Guild—Contact Cynthia Minnich  
 For Ushers—Contact Mike Gbur  
 For Greeters or Coffee Hour Hosts—Contact Bruce & Mary Waskowicz

\* Contact telephone numbers for these people can be found in the new Parish Directory and copies are available in the Parish Hall on any Sunday.