



St. John's Messenger

April, 2009

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

GOOD FRIDAY BEGINNING

In the ancient church Easter began on Good Friday. For the earliest Christians Easter was a three day observance incorporating Good Friday, Holy Saturday and the Sunday of the Resurrection. These were not three separate commemorations but a single observance of the Passover of Christ from death to resurrection. Through their participation the faithful both honored the memory of Christ's victory through death and rising to life again, and were themselves renewed by the remembrance of their death and rebirth in Holy Baptism.

Our practice of Easter has its origin in Jerusalem at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. The church is constructed on the site of Christ's crucifixion and burial. Outside the church is a courtyard that surrounds Golgotha, the limestone dome of rock on top of which Christ was crucified. The church itself is built over the tomb of Christ and the place of his resurrection.

On the morning of Good Friday the early Christians would gather in the courtyard where a wooden cross, the supposed True Cross on which Christ was crucified, was displayed. Through out the morning those gathered would venerate the cross, offering their personal expressions of piety and faith. At noon the people assembled to hold a service of prayers. They then entered the church processing to Christ's tomb for the reading of the Johannine Passion of Christ ending with his burial. At the conclusion of the liturgy those who wished remained at the tomb for a vigil. Later this vigil included the offering of Holy Communion from the consecrated bread and wine reserved from Maundy Thursday.

As Christianity grew and spread the Easter practice of the first Christians in Jerusalem became the pattern of Easter worship for all people throughout the Church. Every church became at Easter a kind of mini Church of the Holy Sepulcher remembering in unison with the people in Jerusalem the celebration of Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

This is also the model for us at St. John's. Our observance of Easter based on the liturgy of the Episcopal Church is founded on the ancient understanding of Christ's salvation, "For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and on the third day he rose again." We understand we have been saved by Christ not because of one of these acts but through all three made on our behalf. In our Easter observance we seek to fully acknowledge the totality of Christ's salvation in his resurrection, in his death and burial and in his passion on the cross.

On Good Friday we begin as the first Christians to assemble at noon for prayers. For us this is in the form of Stations of the Cross. In the evening at 7:30 PM we silently process into the church where we hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. At St. John's the Gospel will be chanted by the choir for added solemnity. A wooden cross is then placed in the center of the church for those who want to offer veneration. At the close of the liturgy for those who wish to receive, Holy Communion is offered from the reserve sacrament in the Chapel of Repose, reminiscent of the vigil at Christ's tomb.

As we gather on Good Friday we do so with the saints of the city of Jerusalem, the saints around the globe and all the saints of ages past to begin our observance of Easter and experience our full oneness with Christ through his passion, his death and finally his resurrection. May our Good Friday be a good Easter beginning.

John +

FROM PASTOR JENNIFER E. LOOKER

Some of you may recall a pledge I made to my husband Craig almost one year ago exactly: no more cats! It was a very reasonable, long overdue pledge to make. The previous year had brought excitement enough: the arrival of Ruthie, our beloved mamma cat, and her four adorable, albeit troublesome, kittens. After a few hectic months the kittens were adopted, Ruthie began to settle in to life with our other two cats, Mr. T. and Mr. Darcy, and the guest bedroom was no longer a glorified cat mansion. We were no longer the crazy cat people. Life was beginning to look like normal. And normal was good. So it was only reasonable- rationale, even, to make the pledge I did- no more cats! Really!

Well this pledge, sincere and well intentioned though it was, lasted all of six months. My bleeding kitty heart was struck yet again, this time by the arrival of a very pregnant calico cat quietly meowing on the steps of our front porch. "Maybe I'll just give her a little water", I thought. "And I really should feed her. Just a little. She looks so hungry." And thus it began. Craig was on to my schemes, and after considerable begging and pleading, not to mention full use of my wifely charms, I convinced Craig that we should give her temporary foster care; temporary being the key to success.

So we prepared the guest bedroom, yet again, for the arrival of our newest kitty guest, who we named Sophie. And as we later discovered, Sophie was a very pregnant cat. So pregnant, in fact, that she was expecting not four, not five, not even six- but seven kittens according to our vet. What had I gotten us into??? How could we possibly find homes for seven cats? And what kind of people kept eleven cats in a house- with a baby!!!! Granted, eight of the cats were quarantined in the guest bedroom, newly named the "cattery", but still- eleven cats!!!!

Sophie did give birth to seven healthy kittens (what an experience that was!). And much to my mother's mortification, we did have eleven cats and a baby in our house for at least three months. We did eventually find homes for all seven kittens. And although life was more than a little chaotic at times, the word circus comes to mind, it was an incredible, humbling experience. We were constantly moved by the generosity of those around us- by our veterinarian who provided services at a very low discount, and by the many families who opened their hearts and homes to our very large brood of "babies".

We are still looking for a home for Sophie. We would love to keep her, but with three cats of our own, plus a rapidly growing toddler, our tiny little house has reached full capacity- and I did make a pledge, however temporarily dissolved. Sophie has spent many, many months in our guest bedroom, patiently waiting as we search for a good home. She is a sweet tempered cat, and I continue to hope and trust that a family will open their hearts to her.

I share this story for a number of reasons. One, and admittedly selfishly, I hope that one of you might help us find Sophie a good home. She is such a great cat. But secondly, and more to the point, as we prepare for the great, joyous season of Easter, I am reminded again and again of God's complete, perfect love for us. A love that always makes room. A love that is joyful and immediate. A love that takes genuine delight in the other.

I did make a pledge to Craig. And I hope to keep it. It is important to do. But it is a testament to his love and generosity that he was willing to open his home, yet again, to another stray. Eight, to be specific. And although my mother is convinced of a large and complicated scheme in which all stray cats of the world are dropped off onto our porch, a porch that apparently has "gullible crazy cat people" written all over it, I remain optimistic that a little bit of good was done, and the world is a slightly better place.

God's grace is like that. It sometimes happens in small ways, sometimes big; but it is almost always irresistible, stretching the boundaries of what is possible. We probably didn't have room for eleven cats and a baby, but we but couldn't resist trying, and I'm so glad we did. In this joyous Easter season, may we all find hope in the knowledge that God has made room for each and every one of us; and that we are loved perfectly, completely, just for being. Alleluia!

Jennifer

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week Services at St. John's

April 5—*Palm Sunday*

- 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms—Rite I
10:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms—Rite II

April 6—*Monday in Holy Week*

- 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

April 7—*Tuesday in Holy Week*

- 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

April 8 - *Wednesday in Holy Week*

- 12:05 p.m. Healing Service and Holy Eucharist

April 9 - *Maundy Thursday*

- 7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, and Stripping of the Altar
8:45 p.m. Vigil until after the 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

April 10 - *Good Friday*

- 7:00 a.m. Good Friday Liturgy with Communion
12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross with Communion
7:30 p.m. Choral Good Friday Liturgy with Communion

April 11 - *Vigil of Easter*

- 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil with Renewal of Baptismal Vows (*Incense*)

April 12 - *Easter*

- 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:30 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II w/ Renewal of Baptismal Vows
9:30 a.m. **PARISH BREAKFAST!!**
10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (*for Toddlers through 3rd grade*)
11:00 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II with Holy Baptism



Anyone wishing to remember a loved one(s) at
Easter through an Altar Flower Memorial
should please contact:

Betty Juslin-Asplin
717-392-1015

The deadline for receiving Easter Flower Memorials is:
Sunday, March 29, 2009.

Vestry Ministry Goals 2009

Rector - Fr. John Morris

Worship – Kathy Novosel:

Deepen our spirituality by offering retreat opportunities.

Education – Alan Walsh:

Strengthen our Adult Christian Formation offerings.

Pastoral Care – Paul Dorgan:

Advocate for better ways to support our parish leadership.

Evangalism – Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer:

Propose a plan to up date our parish mission statement.

Rector's Warden –Cynthia Mimmich

Outreach – Sibyl Freeman:

Better our means for financially supporting all our Jubilee Ministries.

Property – Jim Crothers:

Continue to improve our facilities, particularly our auditorium, sanctuary lighting, and HVAC/geothermal.

Vestry's Warden – Ted Loose

Community – Michael Stank:

Enhance our ministry of hospitality by offering funeral reception resources.

Communications – Ray Manlove and Molly Moyer:

Define a strategy to up grade our parish publications and newspaper communications.

Treasurer – Steve Latshaw

Stewardship – John Gouveia:

Develop a year round Stewardship Program with the support of a Stewardship Committee.

Finance – Kent Stickler:

Create a comprehensive financial plan that balances our operating budget and grows our ministries.

Executive Committee

Prepare an integrated Memorial Fund strategy.

Vestry Mission Vision 2009

To expand the mission and ministries of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster, the Vestry pledges to:

- + Create a comprehensive financial plan that balances our operating budget and grows our ministries;
- + Develop a year round Stewardship Program with the support of a Stewardship Committee;
- + Better our means for financially supporting all our Jubilee Ministries;
- + Enhance our ministry of hospitality by offering funeral reception resources;
- + Continue to improve our facilities, particularly our auditorium, sanctuary lighting and HVAC/geothermal;
- + Deepen our spirituality by offering retreat opportunities.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Those of you that attended the Spring Parish Meeting heard me talk about our financial status. I wish that I could have presented a brighter picture, but the fact of the matter is our income is significantly behind where we need it to be. Pledged income for February was over \$4,000 less than the budget amount. This comes on top of a \$7,000 shortage for January. We were projecting an \$88,000 deficit for the year and with the additional deficit through February, that number can only go up.

Expense control can only do so much. If we defer building maintenance, more costly repairs may be required. There are essentially no extras in the budget. The Vestry and Property Committee are doing their best to maintain the physical structures at the lowest possible cost.

I was asked at the meeting if we allowed for "shrinkage" between the pledged amount and the budget pledge amount. The answer was no. We viewed the pledges as a commitment to the parish. We trust that those commitments will be met. If you have any questions or suggestions, please send them to me either via email or by seeing me on any Sunday.

Faithfully yours,

Steve Latshaw,
Treasurer

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Following is a list of the elected Delegates and Alternates who will be representing St. John's at the annual Diocesan Convention in June, 2009.

DELEGATES

DREW DORGAN
MIKE GBUR
JOHN GOUVEIA
ADAM KILP
CAROLYN MAXEY
CHARLOTTE WEAVER-GELZER

ALTERNATES

MOLLY MOYER
AARON SPICHER

PARISH REGISTER

Deaths

Mary Haines
Theodore W. Schell

**THE DEADLINE FOR
SUBMITTING INFORMATION FOR THE**

MAY MESSENGER:

APRIL 20, 2009

VESTRY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vestry's Warden Message

At our March meeting, the Vestry thanked Molly Moyer for presenting an excellent slate of candidates for the Diocesan Convention. In addition, we talked about the Parish Meeting at which our current financial situation was shared with the congregation. We will continue to ask for ideas, questions and feedback from all members of the parish as we work together to resolve our budgetary issues.

If you missed the Parish Meeting, you might not have heard the good news about our boiler room wall below the church. After seeking advice from a number of qualified sources, it was decided that it would be necessary to spend roughly \$30,000 to repair this area. However, due to the persistence of Bill Gross our Property Manager, we found another option that will end up costing approximately \$3000. Our Property Committee continues to do good work.

Also at the Parish Meeting we heard the news about our Bhutanese refugee family. We are looking forward to welcoming this family and appreciate all of the great efforts by the Refugee Committee.

Please do not hesitate to speak with myself or other members of the Vestry with any questions, comments or concerns. Vestry contact information is listed on the back of the weekly bulletin.

A new "Ministries Directory" is now available on the Literature Table in the Parish Hall. This booklet is a helpful resource listing of all our parish ministries and their primary contacts (phone and e-mail).

Submitted by,

Ted Loose, Vestry's Warden

THANK YOU!

When Bill's mother, Helen Moyer, passed away in October 2007, memorials were sent to the church in her name. We struggled trying to decide what gift to give to St. John's in her memory. Helen worshipped at St. John's for nearly 50 years and was active in many areas including the Church School and Choir Mothers.

When Cynthia Minnich and I were talking one Saturday while involved with our Altar Guild duties, she mentioned that a new altar protector was needed. The church and our congregation meant so much to Helen that an altar linen was a gift I knew would please her.

The new linen will be placed on the high altar for the first time at the Easter Vigil on April 11. Our family is happy to honor Helen in this way and we find it especially appropriate, as well as poignant, that it will be on the altar this Easter Sunday when her third great-granddaughter, *Lily Charlotte Mausolf*, is baptized.

We extend our thanks again to those who donated memorial gifts in honor of Helen Moyer.

Molly Moyer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News

Karen DiPace, Sunday School Director

March was a busy and wonderful month for our Sunday School children. The children started the month learning about our food pantry and making weekly contributions of much needed non-perishable foods. Thank you, Aaron Spicher, for helping our children understand more about this ministry. A huge thank you to our Sunday School families for their contributions throughout this month, and for donations to the refugee family.

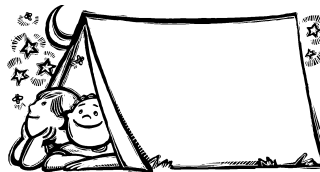
On March 8, the children got an opportunity to be a part of the parish coffee hour. We hope the congregation enjoyed witnessing their music and lesson time. The children also presented their pennies for peace collections to the church. The Pennies for Peace jar will be available throughout Lent to add your pennies. We hope to surpass last year's donations of \$235. To learn more about Pennies for Peace you can read "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortensen, or talk to a member of our Shalom Group. A special thank you to Fran Gouveia for her reading of "Listen to the Wind", the children's version of "Three Cups of Tea", to our children. This book will be on display on the piano if anyone is interested in taking a look, thanks to the generosity of Sue Martin.

Our children are looking forward to the month of April and what it will bring.....Spring and Easter! We hope you will all join us for the 2nd annual Liturgy of Light celebration and Potluck Supper to be held on Saturday, April 18. The Potluck will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Liturgy of Light in the Church at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend. Keep an eye out for the potluck sign up coming soon.

Cocoa hour has been a big hit with our children. They really enjoy having their own social time. Please let me know if you can help out just one week with serving cocoa to our kids. The following is our April volunteer schedule: 4/5- Sue Hurlburt, 4/12- no cocoa hour due to Easter breakfast, 4/19- Alan Walsh. 4/26+---fill your name here!?!:)

I know it seems early...but mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School!!! This year we will be enjoying Camp E.D.G.E. (Experience and Discover God Everywhere). This will run from Sunday 7/12 through Thursday 7/16 in the evening. Children up to 6th grade are invited to participate. Older children are invited to help out as 'camp counselors'. We will need many adult and teen helpers. We will also be looking to borrow any camping materials possible to enhance our experience. Please see either myself or Pastor Jennifer if you have any questions, or to sign up to help/attend. The sooner the better!

I hope you all have a happy Easter!!



INTERESTED IN ATTENDING CAMP MOUNT LUTHER IN AUGUST? IF SO, PLEASE VISIT THIS WEBSITE LINK FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM:

<http://www.campmountluther.org/>

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!!!

What? Maundy Thursday Youth Convocation Lock-In

Who? Young People, ages 13 and up

When? April 9th, 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Footwashing, 9:00 p.m. Lock-In

Where? St. John's Parish Hall

Why go? Fellowship with young people from other churches in the Lancaster Convocation. A special agape feast. Fun, games and the chance to enrich your faith. This is a great event-don't miss out!

What to bring? Yourself, a friend, a sleeping bag and pillow, toothpaste and toothbrush.

*The following morning, on March 21st, bright and early at 7:00 a.m., our young people will present a special **Youth Good Friday Service** portraying the passion narrative. This special service will include dramatic reading and miming- don't miss out!*



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

All are invited to St. John's first-ever.....

"Sound of the Music" Sing-Along!!!

When? Saturday, April 25th Time? 5:00 p.m. Dinner and 6:30 p.m. Show

What? A German style dinner, featuring bratwursts, sauerkraut, and hotdogs with mac and cheese for the little ones. A special show to follow, featuring the talents of young people and their leaders at St. John's. Favorite songs from the movie "The Sound of Music" will be performed with music, dance and just a little pinch of comedy!! Costumes will be encouraged, with rumors of certain leaders in German tights.....

Tickets will be sold for \$8 per adult, \$ 4 per child, and \$20 per family. Tickets will be available for purchase in advance, and on that night.

Please join us for a night of old-fashioned family fun!!!!



Graduate Sunday

Do you have a graduating senior in the family? St. John's will celebrate Graduate Sunday on April 26, with a festive coffee hour and special liturgy at the 10:15 a.m. service. Please let Mary Ellen Kilp or Pastor Jennifer know if someone in your family is graduating. We will include biographies of all graduating seniors for the next month's messenger. Please help us celebrate this important occasion!!!

Episcopal Diocese of Central PA
Summer Youth Conference 2009

June 21-26, 2009

Messiah College, Grantham, PA

SEUSSOLOGY:

A Seussical Look at Life

Rates and Deadlines:

May 1 - \$295

June 1 - \$335

Scholarships are available upon request

Special Discounts for siblings:

1 sibling- \$50 off; 2 sibs - \$75 off; 3 sibs - \$100 off

Please Contact Kelley Paulsen at

gkezap@yahoo.com

or 814-574-1989 with any questions!

Be Sure To Bring the Wospel

in Your Gospel!

from Eagle Scout—Adam Kilp

To St. John's Parish,

I would just like to thank everyone in our St. John's family that helped out with my Eagle Scout Project. Anywhere from physically doing the work to buying one sandwich or knife from me—every little bit counted. I have officially been approved by the National Scout Office of the Boy Scouts of America as an Eagle Scout. My ceremony will be held at St. John's on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 4:00 p.m. None of this would have been possible without your support.

Thank you,
Eagle Scout, Adam Kilp

JUBILEE MINISTRIES

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Meal Ministry Dates— “Volunteers Are Always Welcomed!”

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8—4:30-6:00 p.m. St. Paul's United Methodist Church,
South Queen and Farnum Streets, Lancaster.

Community Breakfast—(Contact: *Sue Martin*)

SATURDAY, APRIL 18—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.

Thanks to all of you who helped us raise funds for the Jubilee Ministry with our St. Nick's Knit sale last December. Because of your generosity and the lovingly knitted sale items donated by so many of our group, we were able to contribute \$1,002. , which is being used for the Refugee Resettlement currently underway.

In addition to that donation, we had a request to organize our area in the Sherman Study and were able to purchase sturdy shelves. Shelves were assembled by a guest male (Ken Zeller) and all our supplies were sorted and stored on a wintery Saturday by a group of our stitchers. A big thanks to Hager Scott for her purchase of clear storage boxes for our use. Please stop by the Sherman Study (next to the Nursery) sometime to see what a terrific workspace it has become.

Deliveries of warm hats, scarves and lap robes were made during February to Milagro House residents and to the folks at Conestoga View, our County nursing home.

The Pocket Prayer Shawls that were the highlight of our Diocesan Sacred Stitches event held at St. Thomas', Lancaster are a continuing project for our group. Forty-five women, from eleven churches throughout the Diocese of Central PA, attended the winter gathering on the last Saturday in February. So far, we have collected 55 pocket prayer shawls which will be blessed at our altar before being sent on their way. If you have a little bit of time to spare, and want to help out, we'll give you yarn and a pattern any Sunday morning. They're so small you can take one anywhere. P.S. (Pocket Shawls): Show you care!

Once again, we thank all of you for your prayers and support of our ministry.

Door Ministry & Food Bank - (Contact: *Bill Thompson & Julia Groom-Thompson*)

Non-perishable food 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.

JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

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 FEBRUARY, 2009: \$8,520.00

Total sales for February were \$8,520. This is \$200 more than January. I like this upward trend! Don't forget our goal for 2009 is total sales of \$100,000. 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.

YOU ARE NOT LOSING ANYTHING. YOU ARE GETTING "FULL VALUE" FOR YOUR CARD. THE STORE SELLS CARDS TO US AT A 5% DISCOUNT WHICH BENEFITS JUBILEE MINISTRIES.

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

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 Resettlement - (Contact: *Mike & Mary Lou 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.

Shalom Ministry is in the early stage of plans for a community-wide forum on the Millennium Development goals. If you are interested in serving on the committee for this exciting project, please contact Fran Gouveia at 717-392-1655 or frango47@hotmail.com.

Refugee Resettlement Update; We Await a New Family

By the end of March, the second Bhutanese refugee family whom St. John's is welcoming to this country will be in Lancaster. We expect it to be a longer resettlement project than our first family, which was only here for one week.

Our first family – the Chimariyas, consisting of a husband, wife, and their 22-year-old daughter – arrived in a snow storm on March 2. The very next day we learned that the daughter was married, and her husband had been resettled in Louisville, Kentucky, one month earlier. She was understandably eager to join him in Kentucky and was not willing to leave her parents behind. Church World Service worked with us and with the family to allow them to transfer their case files to Kentucky, and one week after they arrived, they were on a Greyhound bus bound for Louisville. We have learned they arrived safely and are happily reunited as a family.

This unexpected development came as a surprise to the committee, but everyone rolled with it, and soon Church World Service gave us the details of our next family: The Kafley family (another Hindu family) consists of:

Kamal Kafley (born 3-10-74), husband;
Renuka Kafley (born 1-10-76), wife; and
Ristha Kafley (born 12-22-02), their daughter.

Having a 6-year-old girl to sponsor will be fun for the committee and fun for the Sunday School kids.

The Kafley family will arrive in Lancaster on March 31. A week later, Kamal's 22-year-old brother, Dadi, will be arriving and also will be sponsored by us. The four will live together. Church World Service tells us that there are parents and a brother cross-listed in their files as well, and those family members probably will come to the US at some point. However, it's clear to all parties that if the extended family comes to Lancaster they will not be part of St. John's resettlement project. **Committee members:** The resettlement committee consists of St. John's parishioners and some neighbors, and it has been a talented, energetic, involved group.

Committee members are: *Mary Lou & Mike Higgs, Sue & Joe Hurlburt, Sue & Dave Martin, Marla & Matt Lester, Peggy & Nelson Craige, Mike Stank, Shirley Shaheen, Jackie Limroth, Sue Breneman, Sandy Wengert, Peter Novosel, Faith D'Urbano, Sherry & Scott Qualls, Nancy & Sam Neff, Deb Burcin, Hannah McEwen, and Fran Gouveia.*

On behalf of the committee, I'd like to thank everyone who donated household goods to fully furnish a two-bedroom apartment on W. James St. It's been a wonderful team effort. Also, St. John's has forged a fine partnership with Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren in Quarryville, which has contributed financially and in other ways.

If you have questions, comments, or donations for the committee, please contact Mary Lou Higgs (mlehiggs@earthlink.net) or Sue Hurlburt (sahurlburt@comcast.net). Thank you!

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Higgs

JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

Shalom Prayer Network—Six Months Old

The Shalom Prayer Network at St. John's Lancaster is a lively, interconnected and/or interrelated chain of 22 prayer partners. We are committed to praying 1) for the realization of one of the Millennium Development Goals per week and 2) an aspect of our church that presently responds or would like to create a new action group to respond to the fulfillment of that goal. The fulfillment of these Millennium Development Goals will go a long way in bringing about God's kingdom on earth.

The Jubilee Ministries has several ministries that work for the community, neighborhood and world that already respond to the MDGs and we support them in prayer as they fit the MDG goal for the week. The Shalom Ministry is a specific guiding force for exploring the MDGs and developing Action Groups to work toward their realization. In addition, any other group that works to bring about any of these goals has our prayer support.

The Shalom Prayer Network was the first action group to form on September 25 and has been praying ever since. A one-page Prayer Focus is created each week with prayers, scripture and a hymn to help unify the pray-ers. The Focuses are sent by e-mail on Saturday to those who have requested it; however, others who do not have e-mail receive theirs by snail mail or in church. If you want to be on the e-mail list contact Joan Lorenz jlhr2@epix.net If you want a copy in church, also please notify Joan (717-442-4916).

To include more of the congregation, we just started to publish the MDG for the week and St. John's response in the Sunday Bulletin and we invite you to pray with us in your own way. Every prayer can be a helping hand.

Some exciting news is the formation of the second action group in the Shalom Ministry, the Refugee Resettlement Committee. Mary Lou Higgs and her committee furnished an apartment, attended to a myriad of details to accommodate, feed, and welcome, the Chimariya family. Although that family has happily gone to Kentucky, we are expecting to sponsor a new couple and their 6 year old daughter waiting apartment. The Shalom Prayer Network was pleased to shoulder the committee and the refugees with loving prayer. In return we were not only showered with their commitment and joy in the experience, but humbled to be a part of God's plan in the continued work of resettlement.

Will new action groups form? We pray only that God's will be done. We pray for folks at home and abroad, one by one, each one's prayer, each one's action, a pebble thrown into the wide ocean of need, its impact ever circling outward to an unknown waiting shore.

Submitted by,

Joan Lorenz



PROPERTY

The Property Corner

Our own Doug Brown, through Weaver Masonry just completed replacement of damaged bricks and re-pointing of our Boiler Room walls. Next, we will be applying penetrating epoxy to strengthen the masonry assembly and use insulating shields to deflect heat away from the walls. This project is coming in at less than 10% of the original anticipated costs.

Eagle Scout candidate Max Heider provided our committee with drawings for the new Becker House sign which was approved. He will now pursue city approvals through HARB and zoning. Max will also be painting the wrought iron fence and railings around our property as part of his project. We are grateful to Max for choosing St. John's for his project.

Vestry Retreat property items will be spearheaded by the following members of our committee:

Kevin Henry—Geothermal and HVAC issues
Jim Crothers—Light Panel & Chancel Lighting
Janice Henry—Auditorium potential
Cynthia Minnich—Stained glass
Phil Becker—Slate roof maintenance
Bill Gross—General Oversight and coordination of all projects

“Spring Clean-Up” will be held on Saturday April 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in preparation for the Easter celebration. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish House. Many hands will make for light work toward making our property beautiful for Holy Week!

Submitted by,

Phil Becker, Property Chair

GROCERY CARD SALES PEOPLE NEEDED!

You have done such a good job of buying grocery cards that we are in need of additional sales people! We would like for each sales person to have a partner. We have had a few minor mistakes recently and feel that a “checks and balances” system (2 people selling) would alleviate this problem. You would be scheduled for every 7th Sunday.

If you are interested, contact Cynthia Minnich at cynnminn@verizon.net or 717-413-7030.



*Be sure to join us for an all
Parish Breakfast on
Easter morning starting at
9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall!*

MUSIC MINISTRY

...from Randy Day, Minister of Music

The musicians of St. John's have an enviable plight they experience during Lent: the singing of Alleluias. Preparations for Holy Week have been long underway, and those rehearsals are full of Alleluias, praise, looking forward to April when we will jointly sing those joyful words together. In my own denomination's history we will next week celebrate Laetare Sunday, the day when the frontals and other paraments are changed from the darker purple of Lent to a brighter pink. The music is a bit more colorful, the floral arrangements cast with flowers, all giving assent to the springtime soon to be around us. So praise continues unabated!

All of us had a hint of this celebration on Sunday, March 15, at the altar. Our floral arrangements contained three flowers. In the Oriental tradition they represented, from top to bottom, heaven, earth, and humankind. We also accidentally, and yet in a planned way, sang two slightly muffled 'alleluias' during the eucharist. And the hymn containing those two quietly sung syllables was recommended by the Choirmaster's handbook! Did someone sneak it in on the list without proper review? Well, from any angle approached, we did it, we sang that word we usually leave alone. Twice. So our Laetare Sunday came in a little earlier, but with no harm done.

As we look forward to Easter it will be our privilege to have four musicians back with us from York Symphony, and they are delighted to return to St. John's and your warm welcome and hospitality: Amy Best, Kathy Woodbridge (her Mom's a member), Lynn Murphy, and Cindy Ward. Our two later services will also include a new element, handbells in procession for two of our hymns.

Lastly, SUMMER MUSIC 2009 plans are under way. Musicians are already in the works with three Sundays spoken for. And there are some surprises in store; how about coming to worship hearing harp and handbells?!? If you had a favorite musician or ensemble you heard during our past two summers and would like them to return, contact me and I'll be sure to pass on the message.

To close, here is an Easter Psalm of Thanksgiving:

“Make a joyful noise to God!
All creation worships Thee!
Great Thy wonders here displayed,
Unexcelled in majesty.
Glorious is Thy sacred name,
Ages old, yet still the same.
Come and see what God has done:
Great the blessings to the just;
Walked the chosen through the sea;
Brought their enemies to dust.
Let us lift a thankful voice
For Thy mercies, and rejoice!
Bless the Lord, our refuge sure;
Let your song of praise be heard!
By whose justice, we are tried;
By whose grace, our guilt deferred.
When our life its end shall see,
Bring us home to dwell with Thee.”

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

E.C.W. News

Thank you for supporting the March ECW events. On Friday, March 13, we served lunch to 80 neighbors and members of the Northwest Ecumenical Cluster of Churches. The dining room looked great and the meal received many compliments.

On Sunday, March 22, we distributed and sold 29 flats of pansies and primroses, benefiting our hospitality expenses and we are looking forward to Sunday, May 3, when we hold our annual "BIG" Courtyard Flower Sale! This year, our sale will benefit a global women's cause to be established by the Diocesan Board.

In the meantime, please consider attending one of the following Diocesan offerings for ECW gathering:

April 25, 2009—The 104th ECW Annual Meeting at St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg. Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Mpho A. Tutu from 'The Tutu Institute for Prayer and Pilgrimage' in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Saturday schedule is as follows:

- 8 – 9 am Registration and Continental Breakfast.
- 9 - 10am Annual Meeting with ECW Board elections and voting on revised Constitution and By-Laws in the Cathedral Sanctuary.
- 10- 11 am Rev. Mpho Tutu- Keynote speaker.
- 11 – 12 pm Holy Eucharist, including a commissioning ceremony of newly elected ECW Board members. Co-celebrants: Rev. Tutu and Bishop Nathan Baxter will preside.

Early Registration for the Annual Meeting is advised and available through the front desk at the Diocesan Office. Send registration form and fee to The Episcopal Church Diocese of Central PA, P.O. Box 11937, Harrisburg, PA 17108. Attn. Debbie Robelyn. Seating is limited – please make reservations by April 15, 2009.

The \$15.00 registration and fee should be received at the Diocesan Office by April 15, 2009. Questions and contact information for Amy Swiernik, Diocesan ECW President: 717-285-2036 or amyecwcpa@comcast.net.

September 25-27, 2009—The 14th ECW Cape Map Retreat at the Marquis de Lafayette Hotel, 501 Beach Avenue, Cape, May, NJ.. Additional details on a speaker and theme will be forthcoming.

Submitted by, *Sue Martin*



Palms for Palm Sunday

The palms that will be used this Palm Sunday will be different from those used in the past because they will be coming from an ecologically friendly source. Anyone interested in helping to decorate the church for the Easter season is welcome to join us in the basement of the church for flower arranging, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11. Volunteers are also needed to deliver Easter flowers to our homebound parishioners. Flowers can be picked up in the Parish Hall during the week after Easter. Thank you.

Sue Breneman & Carl Hartman

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.

*Garth Alexander
Zach Andersson
Chet Connor
Patrick Cronin
Drew Dorgan
Ben D'Urbano & Family
Kate Dwyer
David Finney
Linda Frederiksen
Barbara Gutai
Joan Lorenz
Thomas Ludwig
Mary Selene Miller
Craig Patterson
Rachael Pedlow
Maureen Shannon
Ingrid Smith
Mikayleigh Stigelman
Wengert Family
Clifford Yackly*

*For Our Homebound Parishioners
and
For Those Suffering from Addictions*

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.*

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.

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

Rachel Needs a Kidney

contributed by Joan Lorenz

Rachael Pedlow, one of the kids, now 30, who grew up in our parish at St. John's Compass is in dire need of a new kidney. In 1998, she had kidney failure and her mother donated her kidney to Rachael. The kidney was to have lasted ten years and the ten years is up. She is now receiving dialysis three times a week. She is on a five-year waiting list for a new kidney, but she will not last.

If you, or anyone you know would want to become a donor, please call Stephanie Neal, Transplant Donor Coordinator at the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) 1-800-789-PENN-(7366) and ask to be transferred to her. You can also e-mail her as Stephanie.neal@uphs.upenn.edu. Let her know that you are calling in reference to Rachael Pedlow. If you cannot get Stephanie, call Theresa Holland, RN, Nurse Coordinator, Transplant Team at (215) 662-4447.

The initial qualification is that the donor is between 18 and 72 years of age. The first step is a telephone interview, then a blood test. If there is a match, further tests will be needed. There is no cost to the donor. The more people volunteer, the more likely a donor can be found.

Recovery for a donor takes about four weeks. Some funds have been set aside to cover as much of the four weeks of lost work as possible. A few more details are on the letter hanging on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. A call to Stephanie Neal or Theresa Holland will answer all of your questions.

SERVING SCHEDULE - APRIL, 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!"*

APRIL 5—PALM SUNDAY	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Kathy Novosel, Merle Schnee	Sibyl Freeman, Barbara McGraw
Eucharistic Visitor	—	—
Lectors	Sue Breneman	Bob Kilp
Readers	Kathy Novosel, Ray Manlove, Jay Williams, Merle Schnee, Joanie Kilhefner, Dale Landis, Cricket Johnson, Vince McGee	Frank Cummins, Eric Waskowicz, Dave Martin, Bruce Morgan, Karen Latshaw, Steve Latshaw, Alan Walsh, Carl Hartman
Server	—	Nhi Le
Crucifer	—	Dave Pennell
Torch Bearer	—	Emma DiPace, Dylan Stone
Altar Guild	Team 5	Team 5
Ushers	Team 1	Team A
Greeter	—	Leslie Morgan
Coffee Hour Host	To Be Determined	Greeters
Nursery	—	Mary Waskowicz

APRIL 19	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Bill Moyer, Ricky Smith	Carl Hartman, Adam Kilp
Eucharistic Visitor	—	Purdys & Honamans
Lector	Ricky Smith	Sue Purdy
Server	Max Heider	Brian Gross
Crucifer	—	Phil Becker
Torch Bearer	—	Kaitlin Grosh, Joanie Kilhefner
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Ushers	Team 2	Team C
Greeter	—	Jill Gross
Coffee Hour Host	Jubilee Ministries	Jubilee Ministries
Nursery	—	Mary Ellen Kilp

SERVING SCHEDULE - APRIL, 2009 (CONTINUED)

APRIL 26	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Kathy Novosel, Merle Schnee	James Glazier, Brad Moyer
Eucharistic Visitor	Stephanie McGovern	Joanna Sweeney, C. Weaver-Gelzer
Lector	Ray Manlove	Ellie Walsh
Server	—	Selena Hasircoglu
Crucifer	—	Dan Dorgan
Torch Bearer	—	Michael Hreben, Dylan Stone
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Ushers	Team 1	Team D
Greeter	—	Sue Martin
Coffee Hour Host	Rite 13	Rite 13
Nursery	—	Betsy Hasircoglu

★ HOLY WEEK	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY (7:30 P.M.)	EASTER VIGIL
Eucharistic Minister	Jan Brown, Kathy Novosel	—	Sibyl Freeman
Lector	Bob Kilp	Sue Breneman	Fran Gouveia
Readers	—	—	Eric Freeman, David Dissinger, Jan Brown, John Gouveia Jeannie Zeller
Server	Ellie Walsh	—	Eric Freeman
Crucifer	Adam Kilp	—	Phil Becker
Thurifer	—	—	Dave Pennell
Altar Guild	Team 5	Team 5	Team 1
Ushers	Mike Gbur, John Gouveia Bill Gross, Bob Kilp	Mike Gbur, Paul Dorgan	Mike Gbur, Len Jackson, Lorraine Nolan

★ APRIL 12—EASTER DAY	7:00 A.M.	8:30 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
Eucharistic Minister	Merle Schnee, Aaron Spicher	Ricky Smith, C. Weaver-Gelzer Eric Kilhefner, Bill Moyer	Judy Arnold, Karin Bleecker, Barbara McGraw, Peter Novosel
Lector	Merle Schnee	Dianne Cooney	Paula Wolf
Server	Aaron Spicher	Dan Dorgan	David Kilp
Crucifer	—	Brad Moyer	Adam Kilp
Torch Bearer	—	Joanie Kilhefner, Kaitlin Grosh	Rachel Hreben, Selena Hasircoglu
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1	Team 1
Ushers	Mike Kilhefner, John Miller, Jim Snyder	Paul Dorgan, Bob Kilp, Charlie Rahe, Julie Rodriguez	Doug Brown, Nick DiPace, Sharon Gromis, Len Jackson
Greeter	—	—	John Gouveia
Nursery	—	Karen DiPace	Karen DiPace