

The Beacon

March 2010

A monthly newsletter from
Epiphany Episcopal Church
Dulaney Valley, Maryland
410-252-4465

~A progressive and inclusive community of disciples committed to the ministry of Christ through our worship and actions~

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BOOKS FOR BARCLAY

By Margaret Fries



I am working for AmeriCorps this year as a Volunteer Coordinator of the Story Pals Program at The Barclay School in Baltimore City. At Barclay, more than 90% of the students are

economically disadvantaged. Since up to 70% of economically challenged children become poor readers, the children at Barclay face great challenges.

The Story Pal program at Barclay works to provide a literacy-rich environment for our students. I work to match volunteers with children for paired reading, and to help reading specialists in their classrooms. I also collect books that are given away to students, older siblings and parents. Our hope is that if a young student sees their own family reading for pleasure, that they will be encouraged to improve their own reading skills.

I want to ask the congregation of Epiphany to donate gently, used books for children, teens and adults. The books should be appropriate to put on a give-away shelf in the entrance of Barclay. I will collect books until April 15, and small numbers of books can be left in bags or boxes marked Barclay at the entrance of Epiphany.

Please contact me if you have a large number of books, and I will arrange to pick them up at your home, or you can drop them at my home. If you have any questions about donating books, or about the Story Pals Program please contact me, **Margaret Fries**, mafries@comcast.net or at 443-468-4459.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2nd - Good Friday
April 4th - Easter Sunday
April 17th - Basket Bingo
April 25th - Epiphany Anniversary Celebration
May 1st - Spring Fair & Flower Festival

YOUTH GROUP RETREAT

By William Hardisky

From the 6th to the 8th of February, Claggett Center was the home to an entourage of youth and supervisors from a number of Episcopal churches in the region and Epiphany. Our own group consisted of myself, Alyssa & Daniel Kornick, Scott & Thomas Thomsen, Ashley Thomas, Anisha Cornish, Kate McAllister, and Rev. Kristofer Lindh-Payne. Their mission: to interact with the unknown youth and form lasting relationships which would, in return, tighten the bonds of our diocese.

The stay there was eventful to say the least, with a snowfall on the night of our arrival, thus; allowing people to wake to a winter wonderland. We had plenty of activities to keep us preoccupied over the weekend. With large groups in which all of the people gathered to talk about the most recent projected subjects (all having to do with the theme of spirituality). Then the small groups were for closer interaction between kids and two supervisors.

Of course there were fun and games as well. Several activities were going on at the same time such as football in the snow and a nature hike in the woods. Then there were spiritual activities such as art drawing, a nature scavenger hunt, and a meditation prayer lead by our own Kristofer.

To end our final night, there was an excitement filled talented show. This activity led us to be the audience to a number of musically talented youth and the art of their hard work. Though of course there was the awkward tongue which left us laughing and cheering at the same time. We also were presented to a unique trio play of the drums.

Sunday morning found us winding things up with a church service in the residing chapel. Overall, a retreat meant to wake up the hearts of youth, and the connections we hold with each other.



Clergy Musings
By Rev. Dr. Kathryn Wajda

Lent into Easter

“You do not have to be good. You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves. Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine. Meanwhile the world goes on. Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of rain are moving across the landscape, over the prairies and the deep trees, the mountains and the rivers. Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clear blue air, are heading home again. Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting – over and over announcing your place in the family of things. Mary Oliver titles this poem Wild Geese. It could be a poem for Lent.

As the snow batters our land and perhaps even our hearts and minds and souls, I begin to imagine what the season of Lent 2010 can offer us. In the book, *Bread and Wine Readings for Lent and Easter* by C.S.Lewis, G.K/Chesterton, Philip Yancey, Fredereck Buechner, Madeleine L’Engle, Henri Nouwen and many others, Dorothy Day begins the Introduction with this: “to make the Easter story into something that neither startles, shocks, terrifies, nor excites is ‘to crucify the Son of God afresh.’” Most of us who commit to a season of Lent, who follow Jesus through the stories at the end of his life, understands the drama of these events. But I wonder how many of us really allow ourselves to reflect on and embrace their pain and promise? To observe Lent is to return to the desert where Jesus spent forty days preparing for his ministry, where he allowed himself to be tested, where we are invited to do the same.

There are probably as many approaches to Lent as there are people. People give up things like eating sweets, or take on things like a new diet or a prayer routine or spending time with a family member or a shut-in. A guiding principle in choosing your Lenten discipline might be to find something you want to have as part of your life, or not part of your life,

beyond Lent, hence the “new” life that comes with resurrection. Lent is “forty days and forty nights” as the song goes, but it is also about the rest of your life.

We encounter many wildernesses during our lives, painful, isolating situations that appear like deep chasms in our landscape. Along with the many times of wilderness come many times of resurrection. Lent is a purposeful time to attempt to be quiet and find clarity, to experience God’s presence in the midst of what fills our lives. T.S. Elliott, in his acceptance of the 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature, wrote: “(Poetry) may make us from time to time a little more aware of the deeper, unnamed feelings which form the substratum of our being, to which we rarely penetrate; for our lives are mostly a constant evasion of ourselves.” Lent is a good time to be intentional about welcoming ourselves.

My hope for you this Lent into Easter is that you will love yourself enough to listen with the ears of your heart to the other voices of yourself speaking. Good Luck on the journey and God Bless.

Kathryn

SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKING FOR YOU

Saturday, March 13, 9:00-noon

Identifying and exploring how your Spiritual Gifts can work for you. Spiritual Gifts Identification:

Understanding the Gifts: Three Different Categories

1. Ministry gifts: Ephesians 4:11 *“And his gifts were varied; he himself appointed and gave men (and women) to us, some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.”* These gifts are vocations to which people are called for the sake of training and leading the Body of Christ.
2. Gifts of the Spirit: 1Corinthians 7-10; Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discernment, Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues.
3. Motivational gifts: Romans 12: 6-8; Perceiver, Server, Teacher, Encourager, Giver, Administrator, Compassion person. These are gifts we possess that can be observed in childhood. Each is of equal value in the kingdom of God.

Come spend a couple of hours with other parishioners and friends and take a peak at the gifts given to you by God.

HOLY WEEK

While some churches have tent meetings or revivals, the Episcopal Church has Holy Week. Worship during Holy Week is central. It is transformative. These Prayer Book services challenge comfortable commitments and shed light on confused thinking. They sharpen our hunger for God. This won't happen if we turn away, stay at home, and refuse the invitation to participate.

Palm Sunday is a service of startling contrasts, from celebration and parade and shouts of "Hosanna" to the passion and cries for death. The Liturgy of the Palms begins in front of the office doors where people gather and set out in procession to the place of worship. Palms are blessed and carried into the church in celebration of Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. We experience the joyous demonstration of our loyalty to Jesus, who comes in the name of the Lord and also begin to encounter again the ambiguity of our own participation in Jesus' passion. On Passion/Palm Sunday the whole congregation gathers to recall and celebrate the dramatic beginnings of these days of the passion and death of Jesus.

"Maundy Thursday" is a term derived from the Latin *mandatum novum*, "a new commandment." On this night we remember and celebrate the final supper Jesus shared with his disciples. This event institutes the mystery of Jesus' abiding presence in the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, or Eucharist. This evening also marks the beginning of the most solemn and joyful celebration of the entire Christian Year. We enter what Augustine referred to as "the triduum during which Jesus died, was buried, and rose again." Worship on this evening will include the liturgy of the word, footwashing, Holy Communion, and the stripping of the church followed by a walk into the memorial garden – weather permitting.

Good Friday allows us to experience God's coming to us in the midst of profound suffering offering grace and abiding goodness. The Good Friday Liturgy is a commemoration of the salvation of the human race through the victory of Christ, who dying destroyed death. The Book of Common Prayer on page 281 says, "We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

The Great Vigil of Easter tells the story of redemption. We experience the passage from slavery to freedom, from sin to salvation, from death to life. God has promised to be with us and God's promises are good. The vigil of the Christian Passover marks the beginning of the Sunday of all Sundays. The whole liturgy has four principal parts: 1. The Service of Light 2. The service of the Word 3. The Service of the Water 4. The Service of the Bread and Cup.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



March 28: The Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday
Holy Eucharist and Blessing of the Palms, 8 a.m.
Palm Procession, Reading of the Passion and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

March 29: Evening Prayer, 7:30 p.m.

March 30: Evening Prayer, 7:30 p.m.

March 31: Evening Prayer, 7:30p.m.

April 1: Holy (Maundy) Thursday
Holy Eucharist, Footwashing, Stripping of the Altar, walking to the garden 7:30 p.m.

April 2: Good Friday
Stations of the Cross for Adults, 11:00 a.m.
Good Friday Liturgy with Communion from the reserved Sacrament, noon
Stations of the Cross for Children, 2:00 p.m.
Tenebrae: Service of Darkness with choir, 7:30 p.m.

April 3: The Great Vigil of Easter with baptisms, 7:30 p.m.

April 4: Easter Day
Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
Festival Eucharist of Easter (all choirs) 10:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt following last service



**BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT,
MAKING
THE CONNECTIONS**

Saturday, March 20,
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Come enjoy an experiential day to connect your health to spirituality, your relationship with God and your ability to serve others. You will be able to walk a labyrinth and learn about various complementary energy works, which support the restoration of balance to our be-ing.

Workshops will include learning about:

Alexander Technique: a way to change movement habits and tension patterns and learn how to balance your own body and take charge of your own health. You learn how to sit, work at a computer, stand and move with safety, efficiency and ease; **Reiki:** The word Reiki is made of two Japanese words-Rei which means “God’s Wisdom” and Ki which is “life force energy.” “Reiki is a spiritual healing practice that can help us restore balance to our body / mind / mental / emotional / social be-ing, regardless of age or state of health.” (Pamela Miles, Reiki Master); How the **Laws of Nature** can help support you in each season, and Qi-gong healing sounds.

Other offerings: Seated massage (\$20 cost), Reiki – seated, hands on experience, and reflexology. All will be held in the bowl of prayer

Sign up in the Narthex to reserve your place. AM / PM sessions may done on their own. Brown bag lunch.

YES, UCAN

By Kate McAllister for N2N

One of the partners in the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Initiative is UCAN (United Churches Assistance Network). We thought you might like to know a little more about them.

UCAN began through monthly ministerial luncheons. Sr. Rose, the outreach minister at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, observed at these meetings that a number of area churches were being sought out by people in need. She asked the various ministers if they would keep track of the people and monies given for one year. At the end of that year, it was decided to form an assistance network that began on the grounds of Sherwood Episcopal Church. When the house across from St. Joseph’s became available, it was agreed that UCAN would move to this new, more central location.

Volunteers from a variety of faith communities are the backbone of UCAN. They take phone calls, register folks in need of assistance, keep records, offer alternative resources in the community, make hard decisions about who gets monetary assistance for what, and are involved in many other service-oriented projects as well. UCAN has been in existence for, I believe, eight years, and receives its funding through grants and donations. There is a board that meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

If anyone is interested in learning more about UCAN or ways that you can participate, please feel free to contact either myself or Kristofer Lindh-Payne.

THE MIRACLE OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

By Helping Up Mission

2010 is a very important year for HUM. We will celebrate our 125th anniversary and open a new 40,000 square foot building that will house all the program support space for 500 residents on the 1000 block of East Baltimore Street.

The new facility replaces the old 1029 building HUM purchased in 1955 and housed the old chapel. It has a lot of memories for all, including many of the men who are now graduates of our one-year recovery program who slept on mattresses on the chapel floor while waiting for a permanent bed. To keep the memoires of the old chapel, we are creating a huge cross (twelve feet by six feet) made of the wood of the old chapel floor and placed the cross on the entranced wall of the new facility. Be on the lookout for open house activities this summer where you will have the opportunity t tour the new building.

“SOMETIMES OUR PRAYERS MAY TAKE THE FORM OF WRITING”

by Denise Thomsen

It happens on Wednesday when I realize I haven't finished preparing for my week's lesson and again on Thursday morning as I realize I need to take time out of my day and my never ending tasks, that I think to myself, "Why? How did I get myself into this?" Prayer group, I call it. Bible study, *Companions in Christ*, spiritual formation, it has many names...and, I am extremely thankful for it.

I have noticed that the moment I receive my participant's book something changes within me. The way I feel, the way I respond to everything and everyone around me. I don't even need to open the book to feel different, more spiritual, closer to Jesus and God our Father. How could I not open it, when I know it is full of wonderful new ways to make connections with Christ through prayer and opening to God while practicing his presence?

What I sometimes dread doing has become a very important part of my life over the last several years. It has become a very important part of me, and who I am.

Group meetings are wonderful. Sharing is although sometimes frightening, always heartfelt, very productive and a cherished experience. I know I speak for myself and most of the ever-changing group as I quote "We are expressing our desire that God will give us a word of life and that we will be able to hear and respond." (Companions in Christ: Feeding on the Word: The Mind of Christ)

Please consider joining one or all of Epiphany's Adult Education Opportunities. It will illuminate your mind, heart and soul and it just might transform your life.

HALLELUIAH- ANOTHER BASKE BINGO!!!

By Denise Thomsen

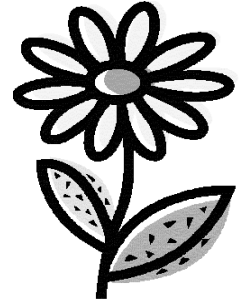


Save the date **Saturday April 17, 2010** for Epiphany's Basket Bingo Fundraiser with Fun, Food and Fellowship.

In order for this event to be successful, we really do need the help of all parishioners. Donation letters are available for distribution to local businesses.

There are sign up sheets in the narthex. Tickets will be on sale soon. Questions or ideas, please contact Denise Thomsen. This is truly an exciting and fun event which won't want to be missed!

SPRING FAIR & FLOWER FESTIVAL LET'S BUILD ON SUCCESS By Richard and Janet Fawcett



The 5th Spring Fair and Flower Festival will take place on Saturday May 1st. We want to make it bigger and better than ever. Janet Fawcett and Marge Bryant already have a full slate of vendors of high quality crafts ready and eager to come.

The Spring Fair & Flower Festival is not only an important fund raiser for Epiphany, it is a social event for us and for those living in our neighborhood. We intend to improve publicity greatly so that more people will know about it and to build on publicity of previous years. **This is an excellent opportunity to let the neighbors know what Epiphany is like.**

The center of the event is of course the beautiful flower stall with it's bought in hanging baskets, bedding plants, small perennials, herbs and donated plants. **As usual pre-orders will be encouraged with the forms available from April 4th.** Alicia Cool & Michael Wajda are making this happen once again! Kim Farrell will be selling gorgeous cut flowers for bouquets.

Marge Bryant is concentrating on publicity and a new flyer, Lou Hubner is making a very large sign for the front shrub bed and Diana Woltereck & Jim Ralls are donating signs to go out in the local community. **A team of folk will be needed to take the flyers to as many homes as possible the week before.**

Kevin Webb is dealing with the donated used books and CD's (only) and setting up but **Kevin will need folk to look after the Book Stall on the day.**

Denise Thompson is working on an interesting craft for the children to make. **Responsible people are needed to look after the Bouncy Castle & kids play area.**

Inspiring cup cakes, small cakes and cookies have so far been suggested for the bake tent. **Some one with a love of cooking is needed to gather in the bakers and organize this.**

Folk are needed to organize a Mother's Day basket and a cake for the raffles.

A few Epiphanyites are needed to shop, organize the lunch area and cook the delicious burgers & hotdogs.

THIS EVENT WILL ONLY BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS WE ALL PLAN TO MAKE IT!!

Please join in; giving your names to Janet Fawcett or Marge Bryant, SOON will be most helpful.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PLANS

By Sue and Emil Elinsky



Your anniversary committee has been hard at work this past month. A save-the-date postcard has gone out to friends and former members - far and wide! Former rectors, assistant and associate rectors and deacons have received letters from Kathryn. The Church History is almost complete. Details for the commemorative service and the luncheon at the Crowne Plaza are shaping up.

We're delighted to announce that Bishop Eastman will be with us for the day. Kathryn has asked him to preach at the 10 a.m. service. She, Kristofer and Mary are busily planning the service.

Former parishioner, the Rev. Ken Phelps, who preached at Kristofer's ordination, will be our luncheon speaker. Ken and his wife, Dianne, met and were married here at Epiphany about 25 years ago. Obviously, Epiphany is very near and dear to their hearts and they are happy to return on **April 25**.

We are rounding out the luncheon program which will have some happy surprises and appeal to all ages. Speaking of which, the committee very much wants to make this an affordable family affair. You will find in the annual report that the Vestry has approved a generous amount to help defray expenses. However, the less impact we have on a deficit budget, the better we all will be. If you care to contribute to the anniversary fund, it would be appreciated. A check can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office, payable to Epiphany Church with "50th Anniversary" on the memo line. You will automatically become a member of the Epiphany 50's Club! How cool is that?!? More next month.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH

Jason Bryant	5	William Meloy	19
Jason Niemeyer	5	Janet Raffetto	19
Katlyn Huber	6	Sierra Webb	25
Kim Farrell	10	Sheila Bentz	27
Jonathan Andrews	15	Elizabeth Fort	27
Lois Harker	15	Dana Siperko	27
Alex Obaza	15	Richard Fawcett	30
Anthony Blades	16	Maynard Keadle	30
Emil Elinsky	16	Faith Townsend	30

Anniversary for March:

Mr. & Mrs. William Bauer: March 3

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE IN MARCH

Phyllis Babcock	Lucy Middleton
Mary Bauer	Pat Irvin
Lisa Beckwith	Jesse Jacobs
Jim Biggs	Carol Kelly
Wendy Bowman	Heather Manson
William Canepa	Kathy Mays
David Carroll	Barbara Murphy
Tim Cherry	Laurie Oleynick
Mary Ann Clark	Kay Partridge
Tim Cork	Rich Persinger
Robert Duffy	Mike Radcliff
Jeanette Eatherly	Deborah Ritter
Betty Fort	Christina Rubie
Nicholas Fuller	Brianna Schmidt
Carla Fultz	Irene Schumacher
Eva Gilbert	Kori Sparr
Bill Graham	Charlotte Spencer
Brenda Grier	Sam Thompson
Lois Harker	Vivian Toney
Lena Herald	Lois Turner
Carol Higgins	Joanne Wegner-Wolf
	John Zavitz

Calendar of on-going events for Epiphany

Sunday Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

8:00am and 10:00am

Sunday School 9:45am

MARCH 2010

2

50th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MTG

Tuesday 12:30pm

3, 10, 17, 24, 31

STAFF MEETING

Wednesdays 11:00am

3, 10, 17, 24, 31

TREBLE CHOIR

Wednesdays 4:30-5:15PM

7, 21, 28

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Sundays

Middle school 4:30-5:30pm

Dinner 5:30-6:00pm

High School 6:00-7:00pm

8

DAYCARE EXECUTIVE BOARD MTG

Monday 11:00am

9

DAYCARE BOARD MTG

Tuesday 7:00pm

9, 23

ARDEN COURT

Tuesdays 1:30pm

10

MERCY RIDGE

Wednesday 12:15pm

11, 18, 25

PARISH CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursdays 7:30pm

11, 18

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Thursdays 6:00-7:30pm

12

CASSEROLES DUE

Friday 9:00am

13

SPIRITUAL GIFT WORKSHOP

Saturday 9:00am - Noon

15

BEACON ARTICLES DUE

Monday

15

VESTRY MEETING

Monday 7:00-9:00pm

20

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

23

LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday - Noon

27

VESTRY DAY

9:30am-3:30pm

28

PALM SUNDAY

29, 30, 31

EVENING PRAYER

7:30pm

The Beacon

Epiphany Episcopal Church
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Timonium, MD 21093

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rector: Reverend Dr. Kathryn Wajda
Associate Rector: Reverend Kristofer Lindh-Payne
Deacon: Reverend Dean Pugh
Vergers: Jon McAllister
Director of Music: Mary Hamlin Spencer
Parish Secretary: Doris Rapp
Financial Secretary: Liz Witty
Daycare Center Director: Elaine Kraus

CONTACT INFORMATION

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