



The COMMUNIQUE

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion

March 2007

Vol. 11 No. 2

Special Events For March

March 3	Men's Prayer Group
March 3	Dessert at Currey's
March 7	Guild Sandwich-making
March 7, 14, 21, 28	Guild Lent Bible Study
March 7, 14, 21, 28	Living the Examined Life*
March 11	Black Rep Pot Luck*
March 14	Women's Movie Group*
March 15	Vestry Meeting
March 17	5:00 PM Service
March 18	Trinity Homeless Meal*
March 18	Meal A Month Ingathering*
March 28	Ladies Day Out*
March 31	Parish Work Day
March 31	Bazaar Work*
April 1	Palm Sunday
April 4	Guild Sandwich-making

*Event details inside or call the office for more information

Worship Schedule

Sunday, 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist

9:15 – Christian Education

Tuesday, Evening Prayer 5:00 pm

Thursday, Morning Prayer 9:00





From the Rector

I write this a day after returning from a retreat for the clergy of the Diocese of Missouri. Our bishop, G. Wayne Smith, led the retreat and gave a series of meditations on discerning God's presence in places that he, the bishop, had lived or visited. As he spoke of West Texas, Israel, Southern Sudan, and the Midwestern U.S., I couldn't help but think about the work we are doing here at Holy Communion this Lent. This season's Adult Education classes and liturgies call attention to the God who pervades all that is, the "profane" as well as the "sacred". I heard the bishop's words against the backdrop of our seeking the Sacred in all of creation and integrating this search into our spiritual lives.

Such a search is an extended response to that part of our Baptismal Covenant which asks, "Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?" (BCP 305) For 2,000 years Christians have sought and served Christ in others, but lately we've realized that it is not only in the human community that God chooses to dwell incarnationally: God inhabits and is manifest in every bit of space and time and matter in Creation. Our human capacity to compromise the global environment has forced us to broaden our search for Christ and to take seriously our responsibility of service to Earth.

Ours is an age of monumental transition from a world-view which calibrates Creation's worth only in its ability to provide for human needs and wants to a world-view which celebrates Creation's worth as intrinsic, independent our needs or desires. I am thrilled to be alive at such a time as this! It is a time to reconcile humanity with the rest of creation. As difficult as this epochal reconciling work is, we have no choice but to engage in it, both for God's sake and for ours. I believe we can accomplish it in an authentic and ultimately successful way only if our theology, worship, and prayer place the sacrament of Creation in the center.

I'm looking forward to this month's educational and liturgical offerings at Holy Communion. I pray for myself and for all of you that we may join with Bishop Smith and a growing host of others who call us to seek and serve Christ in one another and, indeed, in all of Creation.

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Speaking of times of transition, the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion find themselves neck-deep in the tides of change. The Church of our parents will not, in all likelihood, be the Church of our children. Relationships between and among congregations, dioceses, bishops, presiding bishops (primates/archbishops), and other member bodies of the Anglican Communion are disintegrating and being reshaped. Only God knows how and when these conflicts will be resolved and what the new Anglican/Episcopal reality will look like, but we do well to stay abreast of developments. In order that we can participate in an informed and prayerful manner, I have prepared copies of various documents and news stories about these ecclesiastical goings-on. They are on the long table in the entry way between the church and the Lounge. Please take a look!

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Even though we're not even half-way through Lent, it's not too soon to be thinking about Holy Week and Easter at Holy Communion. **Maundy Thursday**, April 5, will be observed with a supper and

service in Mitchell Hall at 6:30 PM. At its conclusion, the altar and sanctuary will be stripped of adornment and the crosses covered. You will have three opportunities to enter into the mystery of Christ's death on **Good Friday**, April 6, at 7:00 AM, 12:00 Noon, and 7:00 PM. Our celebration of **Easter** begins with the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 7, at 8:00 PM, and continues the next morning, April 8, at 8:00 and 10:30 AM.

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It's time to gather together those of you who wish to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, or to renew your baptismal vows. There will be a service at the Cathedral to allow for these things in the Spring of 2008. If you are interested, or if you'd like to learn more about these opportunities for spiritual commitment, please come to a meeting on Sunday, April 15, at 9:15 in the Vestry Room on the lower level near the Jackson St. entrance.

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Grateful for this parish and our journey together, I am yours in Chris's love,



Senior Warden's Message

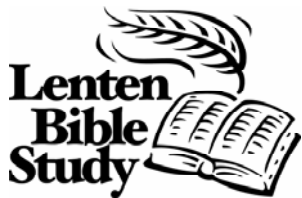
Brad Currey

Let me begin by saying thank you in this space. Thanks to Bob Hulett for agreeing to serve as Treasurer of our church. This job includes not only the arduous task of preparing our financial statement each month, but also checking in with the Vestry in meetings to explain what's going on. Thanks to Matt Chapman for agreeing to serve this year as Junior Warden. You may recall that while the Senior Warden is appointed by the Rector, the Junior Warden is elected by the Vestry. Everyone on the Vestry was thrilled that Matt was willing to take this leadership role. Thanks to former Senior Wardens Jean Parker and Butch Sterbenz for their advice as I try to get a handle on this job. Finally, thanks to Brooke Myers for his counsel and his terrific spiritual leadership. We are all very fortunate to have such a truly gifted Rector.

The first meeting of the 2007 Vestry took place in the evening of February 15. After the usual preliminaries, Bob reported on our finances for January, and answered questions from several of us. Next, we thought and discussed together about the coming year and how we want to minister as a Vestry. Matt was elected Junior Warden, Brooke's report included a description of Lenten preparations, and my report included thoughts that I had about Holy Communion's response to the call of the Millennium Development Goals. We had a good discussion and several vestry members had some great new ideas. We also reviewed together the Vestry's commitment to certain goals that arose from the Strategic Plan Report of 2006. Lastly we made plans for our Annual Vestry Retreat.

I am very excited to report a result of another more recent meeting. Yesterday I attended a meeting of the Robert Committee, which is chaired by Butch Sterbenz, and includes Paul Bange, Sondra Ellis, Randy Mariani, and Jean Parker. Brooke was also at the meeting. This committee's charge is to watch over the Robert Fund: Holy Communion's largest endowment fund. Butch had asked the Robert Fund's financial advisor John Lamping to look into options we might have toward a more active pursuit

of socially responsible investing. Mr. Lamping gave us a nice report with some sound options. I am pleased to report that the committee decided to make a significant decision to invest in an exciting new Social Index Fund. Thanks go to Sam Fiorello for initiating the dialogue and giving all of us a great overview of socially responsible investing at a recent adult ed meeting, and to Butch Sterbenz and the entire committee for making it happen.



Guild News

Marlene O'Brien

LORD TEACH US TO PRAY by John C. Purdy will be the book for our studies during Lent. Fr. Myers will lead the discussion beginning on Feb. 21. Feb. 28 there will be Ladies Day Out at the St. Louis University Art Museum. Wednesday book studies will continue on March 7 thru April 4. We will take turns bringing soup for lunch beginning March 7. On March 28, we will combine our book study with becoming familiar with a labyrinth. Betty Farnsworth will be placing one in the undercroft.

Other guild activities will be knitting lessons from some of our expert knitters. Times for these sessions have yet to be determined.

Everyone is welcome to our activities. We meet at 10 am every first and third Wednesday.

Bazaar '07

Beth Ann Bynum

Our first work night is behind us, our next to come this weekend and I'm still very excited! With the cold rainy weather the turn out was small but we had a good time and got some things made. I also got some suggestions of additional items that we could make easily. All in all, I consider it a successful evening.

I encourage all of you to come out and participate one night. You don't need to be able to sew or knit, you just need to be able to laugh and have a good time. There are items for every level of expertise from simple beading and stuffing to crochet and more. It's a great opportunity for us to get together socially and hang out for a good cause. Remember, all proceeds will go to the refurbishment of the main kitchen.

If you're truly not led to join us, consider a donation to the cause. Any crafting items you have that are taking up space or you know you'll not use will be a treasure to us. Keep an eye out in future articles about our 'wish-list'. As we get deeper into the projects there will most certainly be things we need to complete our found project treasures. Or donate a gift card from a local craft shop towards our goal. Every donation helps.

Travelers don't forget us! Remember to pick up items of \$10 or less to donate to the sale. Neat ornaments, magnets, note cards, and other souvenirs will help us towards our goal.

Below is the list of the upcoming work dates. Mark your calendar to join us! Ages 12 and up are welcome and if you need a sitter, I've got a fabulous one available to us, just let me know!

March 31, April 28, May 19th

We'll meet at 6pm each evening and go till 9pm or so. Plan on bringing food and drink to share and we'll see you there!

If you have questions, feel free to contact me. ba_bynum@charter.net; 314-267-3715 or 314-521-4566.

Ride needed, Betty Farnsworth would like to hear from folks who would be able to help her with transportation to church on Sundays. She would like to arrive in time for the 9:15 education hour. Betty lives just off Delmar in the U. City Loop. Her phone number is 726-5946.

Dinner



Movie Group

Rosemary Burrows

March will bring the last of the Transformation series with "An Inconvenient Truth" on March 14. We will be including men and will also be partnering with the Lenten Wednesday program - please bring some type of pot-luck dish. As he jokingly refers to himself, "former President-elect" Al Gore felt an urgent personal calling to draw attention to the increasingly desperate crisis of global warming, and this riveting documentary is basically a filmed version of the PowerPoint lecture that Gore has presented to attentive audiences all over the world. Considering Gore's amiable, low-key approach to charts, graphs, statistics, and photographs that leave no room for doubt regarding the reality of global warming as Earth's ultimate environmental crisis, many viewers will be surprised by just how fascinating and convincing this no-frills film really is. Gore effectively rises above political differences with a stern but hopeful eye toward a better future for our children. Pot-luck dinner starts at 6:30. Movie starts at 7:00.

2 Buck



Two-Buck Pot Lucks - A Pilgrim's Progress, Part Deux

Jan Munro

Come see the second and final presentation about the Way of St. James, the great Christian pilgrimage path that crosses northern Spain. Church member Joe Lawler will describe his 500-mile walk with photos, stories, and legends, all set to music of the Medieval and Classical eras. The talk will touch on the history of this ancient path, the saints and sinners who trod it a thousand years ago and today, the architecture, the monasteries, and the miracles. The talk ends with a tour of the famous Cathedral at Santiago de Compostela, where the remains of the apostle St. James the Greater are enshrined. The pilgrimage begins at 6 pm on Sunday, March 11. Bring a side dish and enjoy the second half of Joe's trip.

Denise Carpenter Describes the Prisoner Visitation and Support in May.

Jan Munro

At the May 6 \$2 potluck, Denise Carpenter will discuss the work of Prisoner Visitation and Support, a national organization which focuses on providing social visits for the men and women in federal and military prisons. PVS has access to all federal and military prisons, and the organization and its volunteer visitors give priority to prisoners with the longest sentences, prisoners at the highest security levels, women, and persons in "special housing units." Visitors commit to visiting prison once a month, and visit prisoners regardless of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or crime committed. While most PVS visitors are motivated by a religious faith, they carry no religious agenda to their prison visits. The meeting will include a video concerning the work of PVS, and an opportunity for questions. Be watching for reminders as we bring this season to a close with this worthwhile organization that surely does the work Jesus set us out to do.



Trinity Hot Lunch Program

Doug Black and Steve Mapes

The Trinity Hot Lunch Program prospers as our system of monthly hosts continues into its second year. We have volunteers for every month except July 15, November 18, and December 16. If you're interested in volunteering for any of these months, please contact Doug or Steve. You and your group will have a good time and know that you've made a difference to those who need our help.

The Trinity Food Pantry

Jan Munro

Our food drive effort continues to thrive as parishioners take paper bags with the month's suggested foodstuffs and bring them back full. Look for our bags and the basket in the Narthex and make the shopping list part of your own shopping routine. We appreciate your participation in these days when so many are in need of basic food supplies.

Black Rep Productions' First Group Discussion

Jan Munro

A small but lively group met Sunday, February 11, to discuss "Ain't Misbehaving," and, of course, to enjoy shared food! The production was just pure energy and fun, and the discussion reflected that. Our next gathering will take place Sunday, March 18th, following the production of "Crossin' Over" which runs from February 14th through March 11th. This musical is a stirring historical depiction of the experience of African Americans from their origins as noble men and women in Africa through their capture and sale in the new world, the ravages of slavery, the struggles and injustices of gaining freedom, and to the present age of jazz and hip-hop. Treat yourself to the theater and then to our discussion starting at 6 on March 11th.



Saturday, March 31 Starting at 9 AM

Join us for food, fun and work on Saturday, March 31. Bring your cleaning, painting and fix-up skills to Church and we will tackle several projects. See Burt Mayfield for additional information. Sign up in Lounge.



Feb. 28, March 7, 21, 28, Apr. 4

Adult class: "The Examined Life: Living Multidimensionally as Christians" 7 to 8 PM

March 7, 14, 21, 28, & April 4

Wednesday Eucharists

10:30 AM in the Chapel;

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray" Study

11:00 to Noon in the Lounge

April 1

Palm Sunday: Liturgy of the Palms

8:00 & 10:30 AM

April 5

Maundy Thursday: Service & Meal

6:30 PM in Mitchell Hall

April 6

Good Friday Liturgy

7:00 AM, 12 Noon, 7:00 PM

April 7

Easter Vigil

7:00 PM in the Chapel

April 8

Easter Day Eucharists

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Staff

The Rev. Brooke Myers, Rector
Judy Prange, Parish Administrator
Mary Carol Schlueter, Director of Music/Organist
Mary Chapman, Choir Director
Jerome Harris, Sexton
Bob Hulett, Treasurer
Kimberley Vuitel, Children's Education Coordinator
Lucy Krieg, Adult Education Coordinator
Mary Bass & Wanda Spencer, Nursery Coordinators
Karen Sterbenz, Jr. High Coordinator
Donna Robey, Youth Group Coordinator
Burt Mayfield, Building
Paul Bange, Grounds

Vestry

Brad Currey	Jan Hulett
Rosemary Burrows	Lisa Hummel
Matt Chapman	Marlene O'Brien
Jim Davis	Pat Redington
	Gretchen Wilkes

Parish Mission:

To worship God, share our Christian vision with the world, and equip others for the work of ministry. We will: Glorify God with liturgy in the Anglican tradition; Support the making of music and outreach placing our current emphasis on young people and the hungry; **Invite and include all people into our fellowship regardless of who they are or where they are on their journey of faith; Stand in solidarity with the oppressed against all forms of oppression;** Encourage diversity in this congregation; Provide resources for this congregation's continued growth and ministry; Offer educational programs for children and adults, to nourish each person's growth in Christ; and Take an active role in the life of our Diocese

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Published eleven times a year. The editor of this issue is **Rosemary Burrows**. Please have articles to the April editor Claudia Moran, Claudia@obatadesign.com, by March 15, or put articles in the Communique mail box by the offices.