

# COMMUNIQUÉ

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MARCH 2011 EDITION

*We are God Servants, Working Together:*  
A Sermon Following the Death of Barbara O'Neill

It's been a hard week for us at St. Francis. We've endured a shock and suffered a loss in the sudden death of Barbara O'Neill. I have a word to speak – a word of God, I hope – to that sense of shock and loss. But to get to that word, I want to begin with this morning's reading from First Corinthians.

St. Paul is writing to a church divided between groups claiming loyalty to the several apostles who have preached to them -- Cephas (whom we know better as Simon Peter), Apollos and Paul himself. Paul is not at all happy about these competing allegiances. *What then is Apollos? What is Paul?* writes Paul -- *We are servants of God through whom you came to believe... I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.*<sup>i</sup> Making much of human leaders in the church, let alone fighting over them, is, says Paul, a big mistake.

But what strikes me today about Paul's words is his underlying vision that in Christian life, human beings and God are engaged in a shared enterprise. Part of Paul's point reflects our own experience of the Church at its best: *The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose...* Paul says of himself and Apollos: *We are God's servants, working together.*<sup>ii</sup> When we're living as God desires, Christians work in partnership towards shared goals.

But Paul has a more basic point that he wants the Corinthians and us to get: *I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.* We human beings are not the only workers involved in the Church's mission. There is another Partner in this work who is the One who really makes things happen – God. Often we miss this truth, and that's when people can get overly attached to human leaders. So Paul emphasizes that God is the senior partner in this shared enterprise. Indeed, he goes so far as to say, *neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.*

But the whole of what Paul is getting at is far richer than an either/or mindset that focuses only on the human contribution or only on God's to the Church's work. The whole truth is rather more like this -- that we human beings and the God who created us are involved in a co-creative partnership with each other. We create together – human beings as God's servants for God's

purposes; God working in and through our human efforts to give the growth that only God can; all of us, divine and human, creating together. Christian life is a co-creative partnership between ourselves and God, a partnership rooted in God's creativity, the divine desire that brought us into being. Since we are made in God's image, we have a share of that creativity ourselves; and when we work in partnership with God and each other, a marvelous synergy occurs as we create together.

When we're involved in such co-creative work, we sometimes experience that synergy as a shared flow of energy, an energy that our bodies often register better than our minds. We may feel a sense of being alive; a physical delight, a column of energy within, an energy shared with whomever our partners in an act of creation are. We Christians have a name for that Holy Energy -- the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, the divine energy at work in creation from the very beginning, bearing witness that we are co-creative partners with God. We might also call that shared energy Love -- love growing as we work in partnership with each other and with God; the Holy Spirit's love binding us together ever deeper in Christ as we create together. <sup>iii</sup>

Since we are bound together in that holy love with each other and with God in the Holy Spirit, we matter to each other. And because we matter to each other, we are shocked and saddened when one of our partners in co-creation is suddenly, unexpectedly gone from our midst, as has happened to us this week.

Barbara O'Neill was a servant of God with whom many of us have worked together, sharing a common purpose in this small plot of God's field called St. Francis'. Whether on the Altar Guild or in the Choir, on the Vestry or at Grace's Kitchen; in voicing her opinions honestly or welcoming newcomers and greeting old friends at the door with her bright smile, Barbara was a partner with us and with God in co-creating the life and ministry of this congregation. Some of us have shared that co-creative partnership with her for only a short time; some for many years -- but we all been bound together with Barbara in the Holy Spirit's love in the work we have done together. There is so much to be grateful for, so much God has given us in our partnership with Barbara and God, so much about her that has come to matter to us. It is no wonder that we grieve the ending of that partnership in this life.

Yet to say that our co-creative partnership with Barbara and God is ended is not really true. Though she is no longer physically with us, that partnership persists both within time and eternity.

Within time, we at St. Francis will be blessed to live with the continuing fruits of the partnership we have had with Barbara and God. Like many others before her, much of what Barbara helped create here will endure. That is true of physical things she had a hand in making or planning such as the refinished vases behind the altar -- which are, by the way, in part also the work of Barbara's dear friend, Nellie Reid; of Herbert Taylor, in whose memory they were first given decades ago and the Altar Guild of that time who gave them; of those of you who made contributions for the refinishing, the artisans who did the hands-on work, and, of course, God. Do you begin to see how rich this co-creative partnership really is?

But the physical results of co-creative partnership are not all that endure. What Barbara helped create in the corporate soul of the congregation and in the impact she had on people's lives will

have lasting power, and not just for those of us who knew her. Future members of St. Francis' to whom her name may be a distant memory at best, will benefit from what we, God and Barbara have created together in our time. I learned this well in my last congregation: a rector who died back in the 30's and the leader of the Girls Friendly Society of the following generation left living legacies with which God and parishioners of Grace-St. Paul's in the 21<sup>st</sup> century are still in co-creative partnership. The work we do with God and each other in the time of this world endures.

But it is not just in time that the work of our partnerships with each other and with God endures. It endures for all of eternity, for it is kept alive in the memory of God. The memory of God is astounding, far beyond our capacity to comprehend. God remembers all that was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: every tree, every blade of grass, every breath of wind and each small wave of the seas; every creature of the wild and every pet in our households. God remembers, too, every deed we've done, every thing we've made, every word we've said, every thought, desire or longing that has pulled us forward into life and every creative work we leave behind.

In the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Revelation, a voice from heaven utters these words of blessing: *'Blessed are the dead who . . . die in the Lord. So it is,' says the Spirit, 'they will rest from their labors, for their works follow them.'*<sup>iv</sup> Everything that we have created in partnership with God and each other, visible and invisible: altar vases, friendships, meals, laughter, music, memories, exercise classes, and so much more, all of this follows us into eternity at God's call. This is part of what we Christians mean by *"the resurrection of the Body"* -- *the taking up into the life of God of our concrete, real persons and real personal worlds [by] a God who made us co-creators with and for [God's very self].*<sup>v</sup>

This is true of the life and work of Barbara O'Neill, as it will be true of the life and work of each of us. Even as we grieve that Barbara is no longer with us, we remember that our co-creative partnership with her and with our God will last in this life and will endure in eternity.

*For we are God's servants, working together, with each other and with our God -- and our works follow us.*

Thanks be to God.

The Rev. Jack Zamboni  
February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

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<sup>i</sup> I Cor. 3:5-7

<sup>ii</sup> I Cor. 3:8-9

<sup>iii</sup> For the idea of Christian life as co-creative partnership with God, I am indebted to the Rev. Martin Smith, which I first encountered in his now out of print Cowley RetreaTape, *Co-Creators with God* (Boston, Cowley Publications).

<sup>iv</sup> Rev. 14:13

<sup>v</sup> *The Memory of God*, unpublished sermon preached by the Rev. Martin Smith, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1980.

I note that my re-use of Martin's sermon, preached over 30 years ago, as well as his teaching on co-creative partnership and the memory of God in the *Co-Creators with God* RetreaTape and other writings is itself an instance of co-creative partnership.

## ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH

### Happy Birthday to:

Brent O'Neill – 3/1  
Jim York – 3/3  
Sharon Benjamin – 3/4  
Nicole King – 3/5  
Natalie Toke – 3/7  
Samantha Meyer – 3/7  
Marisa Myers – 3/8  
Francis Thomas – 3/9  
Ricky Jaeger – 3/13  
Don Hirsch 3/14  
Scott Torzewski – 3/15  
James Jaeger – 3/15  
Martin Wilson – 3/15  
Lucas Doesburgh – 3/15

Steve DeCandia – 3/15  
Lawrence Burns – 3/15  
Adrian McConney – 3/16  
Bernard Heirholzer – 3/18  
George Hirsch – 3/18  
Cathy Hirsch – 3/23  
Ava Parmelee – 3/25  
Karen Meyer – 3/27  
Brenna Conway – 3/27

### Anniversary of Baptism

Jim York – 3/1  
Tyler Neal – 3/7  
Nicholas Neal – 3/8  
Melanie Rojewski – 3/9

Edith Peters – 3/22  
Althea Heirholzer – 3/28

### Anniversary of Confirmation

Jack Zamboni – 3/12  
Barbara Dalto – 3/14  
Anthony DeRogatis – 3/17  
Daryl DeRogatis – 3/20  
Geri Peters – 3/22

### Wedding Anniversary

Mark & Joanna Torzewski – 3/3  
Thomas & Susan D'Alessandro – 3/21  
John & Maryann Doesburgh – 3/23

**PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY DATES ABOVE,  
OR IF THEY ARE INCORRECT.**

## Serving The Church During March

### **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> – Acolyte Sunday**

8 AM Lector - Amy Myzie  
Chalice - Paul Sinckler  
Usher - Ed Myzie  
10 AM Acolytes - **ALL ACOLYTES**  
Lectors - Mary Kate Hunter, Nancy Dunham  
Chalice - Lisa Webb, Elaine Patania  
Ushers - Pam Maiolo, Norma Tucker  
Greeter - Leslie Oliver  
Counters - Nancy Dunham, Pam Maiolo  
Altar Guild - Norma Trimmer, Muriel Wilson

### **Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Looking for volunteers for Acolytes, Lectors,  
Chalice, & Ushers for the 7:30 PM  
service.*

### **Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8 AM Lector - S/A Benjamin  
Chalice - Norma Tucker  
Usher - Carroll Wilson  
10 AM Acolytes - Nancy Crowther, Amanda Telesco,  
Jonathan Parmelee  
Lectors - Elaine Patania, Leslie Oliver  
Chalice - Princess Thomas, Tiffany  
O'Sullivan  
Ushers - Karen Williams, Geri Peters  
Greeter - Audrey Johansen  
Counters - Amy Myzie, Leslie Oliver  
Altar Guild - Leslie Oliver, Pam Maiolo, Cordell  
Trotman

### **Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8 AM Lector - Amy Myzie  
Chalice - Paul Sinckler  
Usher - Ed Myzie  
10 AM Acolytes - Ashley Beam, Evelyn McNelis,  
Cecil Baker  
Lectors - Lisa Webb, Pam Maiolo  
Chalice - Elaine Patania, Norma Tucker  
Ushers - Leslie Oliver, Cordell Trotman  
Greeter - Norma Trimmer  
Counters - Amy Myzie, Elaine Patania  
Altar Guild - Geri Peters, Karen Williams,  
Barbara Dalto

### **Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8 AM Lector - S/a Benjamin  
Chalice - Norma Tucker  
Usher - Carroll Wilson  
10 AM Acolytes - Kelsey Pelliccia, Vito Pelliccia,  
Everette Pfeiffer  
Lectors - Princess Thomas, Norma Tucker  
Chalice - Princess Thomas, Lisa Webb  
Ushers - Elaine Patania, Tom Patania  
Greeter - Norma Tucker  
Counters - Waring Webb, Audrey McConney  
Altar Guild - Audrey Johansen, Norma  
O'Sullivan, Sharon Benjamin,  
Natalie Edwards

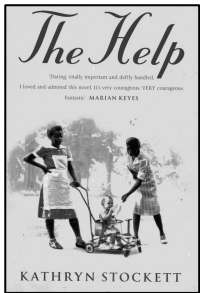
## *Ecumenical Service at Christ Methodist Church*

*485 Hoes Lane Piscataway, NJ 08854*

*Each Wednesday in Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, Christ United Methodist Church will host an Ecumenical Lenten Service followed by a soup and sandwich lunch beginning at 12 Noon. Clergy from different area churches will take turns preaching*

*Fr. Jack will be preaching Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, which means St. Francis' is responsible for providing lunch that day. Pam Maiolo will coordinate contributions of food for lunch. If you can help by making some sandwiches or a big pot of soup, there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex.*

## **Book Group**



We welcome Barbara Dalto back to book group on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon with the book, "The Help" by Katherine Stockett. On March 9<sup>th</sup> the group will meet following the Ash Wednesday noon service at St. Francis, and on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, the meeting time will be approximate, following the noon Lenten Services at Christ United Methodist Church on Hoes Lane. With Father Zamboni preaching and St. Francis' in charge of lunch, the group will not meet on March 30<sup>th</sup>. As is always the case, all individuals are welcome to attend the meetings.

A Jewish businessman in Chicago sent his son to Israel for a year to absorb the culture. When the son returned, he said, "Papa, I had a great time in Israel. By the way, I converted to Christianity."

"Oy vey," said the father. "What have I done?" He took his problem to his best friend, Ike.

"Ike," he said, "I sent my son to Israel, and he came home a Christian. What can I do?"

"Funny you should ask," said Ike. "I too, sent my son to Israel, and he also came home a Christian. Perhaps we should go see the rabbi."

So they did, and they explained their problem to the rabbi.



"Funny you should ask," said the rabbi. "I, too, sent my son to Israel, and he also came home a Christian. What is happening to our young people?"

And so they all prayed, telling the Lord about their sons.

As they finished their prayer, a voice came from the Heavens:

"Funny you should ask," said the voice. "I, too, sent my Son to Israel..."

## **Episcopal Education Scholarships**

Applications are now being accepted for more than 60 scholarships available through the Episcopal Church for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Earmarked for education and schooling for Episcopalians, the scholarship money is derived from numerous trust funds that have amassed over the years.

The list of scholarships, the guidelines, the application form and the instructions for filling out the form - are available here: [http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109539\\_110675\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109539_110675_ENG_HTML.htm)

The list of trust funds and scholarships is here:

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/documents/ScholarshipTrustFunds121609.pdf>

Applications are reviewed by scholarship subcommittees comprised of representatives from throughout the Church. Their recommendations are then reviewed and announced by the Scholarship Committee of the Episcopal Church. Deadline for applications is April 15, 2011.

The amounts of the scholarships vary according to the availability of payouts from the funds. Annual payouts from the funds are determined by the Episcopal Church Executive Council upon recommendation of its Investment Committee. Principal amounts of each fund are always maintained.

For the 2010-2011 academic year, the Scholarship Committee awarded over \$275,000 for 80 students.

Eligibility: In most cases, the scholarships are geared to particular audiences and students, explained Antoinette (Toni) Daniels, Co-director of Mission and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. "Trusts are given for particular areas of interest," she said. "Some of the scholarships are very specific."

Among the specific communities are: American Indians/Native Americans, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Latino/Hispanics, children of missionaries, medical missionaries, men in the ordination process, Pacific Island Americans, children of living or deceased bishops and clergy; Chinese girls; and others.

Requirements: In order to apply, Daniels stated, the applicant must: (1) be an Episcopalian, (2) be a member of an Episcopal congregation, and (3) have the endorsement of his/her bishop. She stressed that only complete applications will be considered.

The complete list plus instructions for applying available on line here:

[http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109539\\_110675\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109539_110675_ENG_HTML.htm)

For information contact Terry Foster, Mission Office Associate, e-mail to: [tfoster@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:tfoster@episcopalchurch.org)

## **SAVE THESE DATES**

### **Clergy, Wardens, Vestry, and Finance Officers Day – Saturday, April 2 (for all)**

**Leaders:** Pattie Christensen, Assistant Vice President, Church Pension Fund; The Right Reverend George E. Councill, D.D., Bishop, Diocese of New Jersey; Phyllis Jones, Chief Financial Officer, Diocese of New Jersey; Rose G. Lawson, Regional Relationship Specialist, Province II and V, Episcopal Church Medical Trust; Dorothy-Jane C. Porpeggia Esq., Attorney, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP, New York

What do we need to know about the resolutions of General Convention that require all dioceses to participate in the Denominational Health Plan and provide health insurance and pensions for lay employees who meet certain criteria? Come hear Rose Lawson, of the Church Medical Trust, and Pattie Christensen, from the Church Pension Fund, address these matters. In the afternoon our Chief Financial officer, Phyllis Jones, will provide help for planning your annual audit, and Province II Chancellor and labor law attorney Dorothy-Jane C. Porpeggia will address matters of labor law that all employers, including churches, need to know.

These annual events are particularly helpful to lay leaders who were recently elected at annual meetings to serve their congregations. For more information, download a one-page flyer (PDF).

**When:** Saturday, April 2, from 9.30am to 3 pm. Cost: \$10, lunch provided.

**Where:** Trinity Cathedral, 801 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08618, (609) 392-3805

**Deadline:** By Monday, March 28. Check payable to the Diocese of New Jersey must be received by this date.

**Register online here:** <http://tinyurl.com/4m6tf7t> or email [spaige@newjersey.anglican.org](mailto:spaige@newjersey.anglican.org). Or fax registration form to 609 394-9546, mail form, or phone Sarah Paige, 609 394-5281, ext. 10.

**Contact:** The Reverend Canon Lee Powers at 609 394-5281, ext. 21 or [lpowers@newjersey.anglican.org](mailto:lpowers@newjersey.anglican.org)

### **COMPANION DIOCESE COMMITTEE**

Save the Date!

**September 27 - October 4, 2011**

Diocesan trip to live, work and worship with our companions and partners in  
the Diocese of Ecuador Central


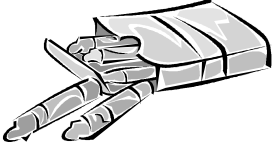


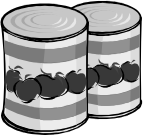
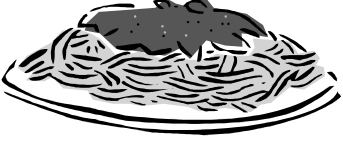




Details to soon to follow.

Pete Ackerman  
Companion Diocese Committee, Chair.

March 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 8 AM – Holy Eucharist 10 AM – Choral Eucharist, Sunday School & Nursery	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Noon – Book Group 7:30 PM – A.A. 7:30 PM – Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM – Country Dancing <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 150px;">Diocesan Convention</div>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 – Acolyte Sunday</b> 8 AM – Holy Eucharist <b>9:15-9:50 – ECW            Organizational Meeting</b> 10 AM – Choral Eucharist, Sunday School & Nursery	<b>7</b>	<b>8 - Shrove Tuesday            Pancake Supper            5:30-7:30 PM</b> 	<b>9 Ash Wednesday</b> Noon – Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes 12:45 (approx..) – Book Group <b>7:30 PM – Choral            Eucharist with Imposition            of Ashes</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:30 PM – Country Dancing	<b>12 – Lenten Retreat            All Saints' Church            Princeton, NJ            10 AM – 3 PM</b>
<b>13 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> 8 AM – Holy Eucharist 10 AM – Choral Eucharist, Sunday School & Nursery <b>COME!</b> Meeting after Church <b>11:30 - Lenten Program</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Noon – Lenten Service at Christ Methodist Church, Hoes Lane, Piscataway 12:45 (approx..) – Book Group 7:30 PM – A.A. 7:30 PM – Choir	<b>17 – Lenten Program</b> 6:30 – supper 7:15-8:30 – Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life  <b>Happy             St. Patrick's Day</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30 PM – Country Dancing	<b>19 – 5:30-7:30 PM            St. Patrick's Dinner</b> 
<b>20 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> 8 AM – Holy Eucharist 10 AM – Choral Eucharist, Sunday School & Nursery <b>11:30 - Lenten Program</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7 PM – Vestry Meeting	<b>23</b> Noon – Lenten Service at Christ Methodist Church, Hoes Lane, Piscataway 12:45 (approx..) – Book Group 7:30 PM – A.A. 7:30 PM – Choir	<b>24 – Lenten Program</b> 6:30 – supper 7:15-8:30 – Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM – Country Dancing	<b>26</b>
<b>27 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> 8 AM – Holy Eucharist 10 AM – Choral Eucharist, Sunday School & Nursery <b>11:30 - Lenten Program</b>	<b>28            Grace's Kitchen</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Noon – Lenten Service at Christ Methodist Church– Fr. Zamboni is preaching, St. Francis is providing lunch 7:30 PM – A.A. 7:30 PM – Choir	<b>31 – Lenten Program</b> 6:30 – supper 7:15-8:30 – Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life	<b>1</b> 7:30 PM – Country Dancing	<b>2</b>

# MONTHLY FISH DONATION

## 2010/2011

<p><u>JULY</u></p> <p>Peanut Butter/Jelly</p> 	<p><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>School supplies</p> 	<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>Cereal Cold/Hot</p> 
<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>Milk powdered or Parmalat box</p> 	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>Canned Vegetables</p> 	<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">?</p> <p>Your choice</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">? ?</p>
<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>Pasta/sauce</p> 	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>baby food/supplies</p> 	<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>Rice &amp; Beans</p> 
<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>Paper goods Napkins/paper towels Toilet paper</p> 	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <p>canned/jarred fruit</p> 	<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">?</p> <p>Your choice</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">? ?</p>

- The suggestions for each month are just suggestions for donation. You may give any food or personal product at anytime.
- Please remember to check expiration dates on the food that you donate. All products with expired dates will be discarded.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

COME! met Feb. 6 instead of the usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. because of the planned Little Big Band concert.

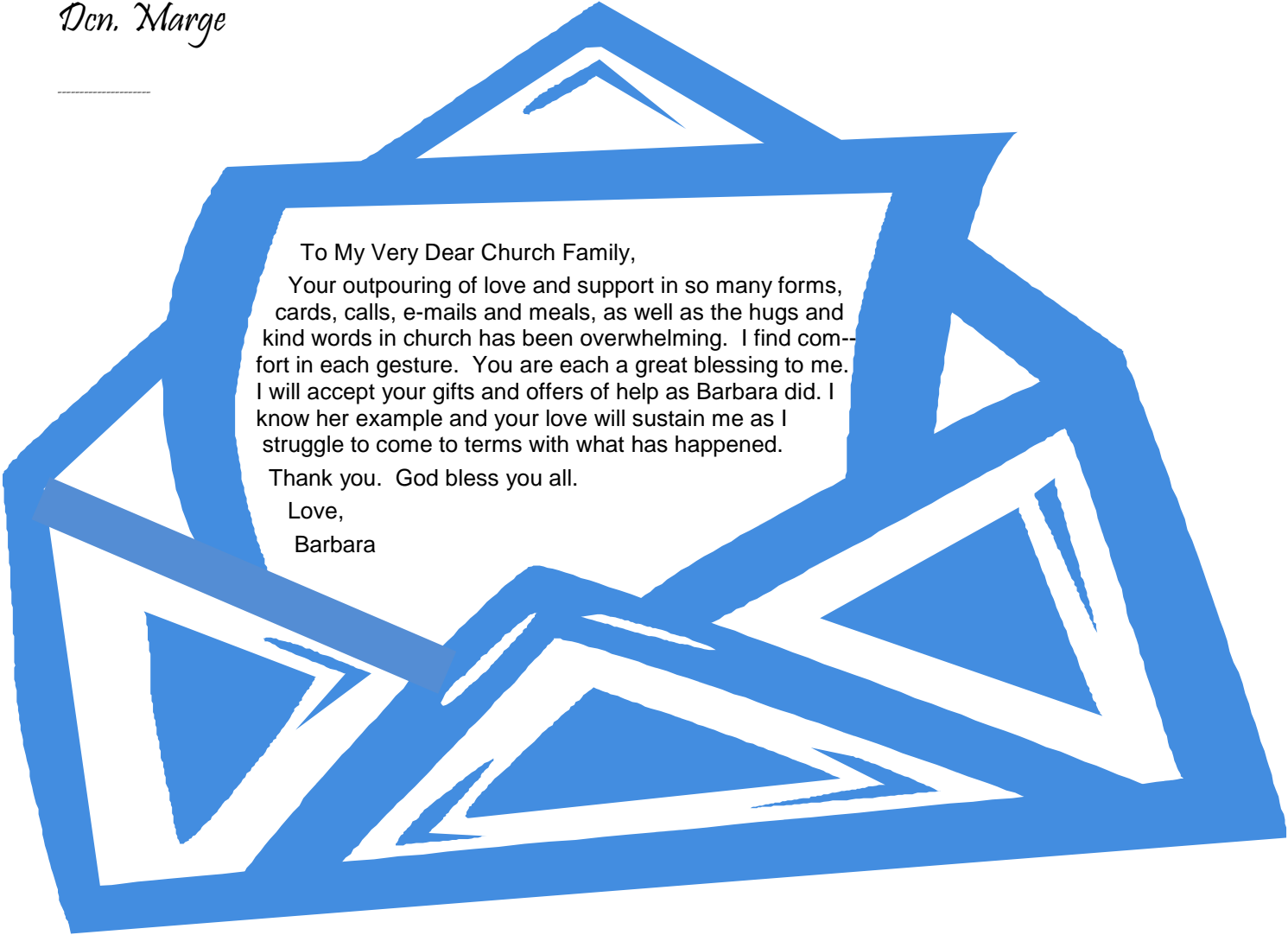
Fr. Jack requested that the group take on the care of the tract rack, which is certainly appropriate. Princess Thomas, Lisa Webb, and Norma Tucker volunteered to go through the Forward Day by Day catalog, and make suggestions to the group.

One of the issues was cost and budget. The group decided that up to \$100 should be spent on this, and specifically, that we should also order a set of Spanish titled tracts, as well as purchasing a couple of Spanish Bibles. A Spanish BCP has been located and is on the table in the back of church for any Spanish speaking visitors we have.

I will be going to Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY for a 3 day retreat followed by a trip to New Hampshire to visit my daughter and her family. I will be gone 2/17 – 2/27.

*Dcn. Marge*

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To My Very Dear Church Family,  
Your outpouring of love and support in so many forms, cards, calls, e-mails and meals, as well as the hugs and kind words in church has been overwhelming. I find comfort in each gesture. You are each a great blessing to me. I will accept your gifts and offers of help as Barbara did. I know her example and your love will sustain me as I struggle to come to terms with what has happened.  
Thank you. God bless you all.  
Love,  
Barbara

## Stewardship

### *Strengthening Our Roots -Using our Time, Talents and Treasures*

Thank you to everyone who sent in pledges for *Strengthening Our Roots* campaign 2011. Our projected pledge income has increased by 11% and about 78% of our parish families participated in the campaign. This is a significant growth in funds and faith. It reveals the depth of commitment to St. Francis by many generous givers who put their money where their faith is. Remember it's never too late to pledge and pledges may be changed at any time if your circumstances change.



Our **treasures** are only one aspect of Stewardship. A Christian steward works as an instrument of God. In all aspects of daily life, he or she cheerfully performs the work God has planned for His people. This past year, St. Francis has had many outstanding accomplishments due to the work performed by the leadership and this parish family. A vision of mission and ministry goals have been set for the next few years and we all need to see where we can fit in and how we can use our **time** and **talents** to further the mission of St. Francis. Review the Annual meeting reports, listen for announcements, read this Communiqué, or go to [www.stfrancisdunellen.org](http://www.stfrancisdunellen.org); you will notice many opportunities that may match your time and talents. Your **Time, Talents** and **Treasures** make things possible. We're counting on you!

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Cook-Off:**



On Tuesday, March 8th, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, will be the third installment of our now traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Cook off. Fr. Jack will continue in his Iron Chef role. Standing in for Amy Myzie this year is Vin Maiolo (Amy will be out of town). Come have some good food, and vote for your favorite pancakes! If you plan on attending, please sign-up in the Church Narthex, call the church office (732-968-6781) or email Fr. Jack ([jjzamboni@juno.com](mailto:jjzamboni@juno.com)). If you forget to sign up, come anyway. The two cooks are Italian - and Italians always make sure this is plenty of food!

*Ash Wednesday Services. The Holy Eucharist with imposition of Ashes will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon and 7:30 PM. Please join us for the beginning of a Holy Lent.*

## **Lenten Program: *Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life.***

Spiritual living is something that is *done*. Like anything else that matters in life (family life, work, hobbies that we enjoy) it involves a set of practices that we engage in on a regular basis and develop competence in over time. In our Anglican/Episcopal heritage, there are traditional spiritual practices that can shape our lives in Christ more deeply in the contemporary world.

This Lent, Fr. Jack will lead a Lenten series exploring these practices and how we might engage in them more richly and effectively as individuals and a congregation, based on Michelle Heyne's new book, *In Your Holy Spirit: Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life*. Participants will read a short chapter in preparation for each week's session. Copies of the book have been pre-ordered at a cost of \$14 each (scholarship assistance is available if needed). To be sure we have enough, please sign up in the Narthex if you are interested in participating. (While this theme may sound similar to the *Ways of Praying* Lenten program 2009, the content and approach are significantly different, though complementary.)

As in prior years, the program will be offered twice each week to accommodate differing schedules:

### **Sunday mornings** (starting March 13<sup>th</sup>)

Following the 10 AM Eucharist, starting @ approximately 11:30.

### **Thursday evenings** (starting March 17<sup>th</sup>)

6:30 PM Simple Supper (for those who desire)

7:15 PM *Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life*.

8:15 PM Compline (night time prayer from the *Book of Common Prayer*)

8:30 PM Conclusion

Child care will be available for the Thursday evening sessions

## ***Adult Confirmation/Reception Class to begin with Lenten Program***

The Episcopal Church, blessedly, is full of adults who were baptized and raised in other Christian traditions, but who later in life found their spiritual home in the Anglican tradition. All baptized people are welcomed to join the Episcopal Church simply by stating their desire to live out their Baptism in this community of faith. In addition, people who come to the Episcopal Church from other Christian traditions are strongly encouraged to be **Confirmed** or **Received** into the Episcopal Church in a special service led by the Bishop.

For those baptized in another Christian tradition, **Confirmation** is the liturgical way in which to claim membership in this branch of Christ's one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church. For those who have been baptized and confirmed in another denomination, the same liturgy provides the occasion for to be **Received** into the Episcopal Church by the Bishop. Those who have been baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church, may also **Reaffirm Baptismal Vows** as a formal way to publicly reaffirm faith in the presence of the Bishop.

Watchung Convocation will be having a joint service for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation with Bishop Councill on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Church, Somerville. To prepare interested members of St. Francis, Fr. Jack will be offering a program of preparation this Lent and into the Spring. Since much of Christian life in the Anglican tradition is about what we do, the first part of the program will be the Lenten series, *Traditional Spiritual Practices in Today's Christian Life*, described elsewhere in this *Communiqué*. Further sessions will explore some of the history and structure of the Episcopal Church. If you are interested in participating or want to know more, please sign up in the Narthex or speak to the Vicar.

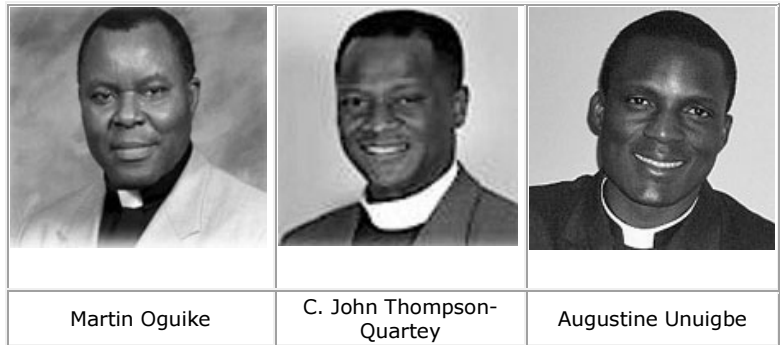
**Thank you to:**

- Carroll Wilson & Elaine Patania for their dedicated service on the Vestry.
- Amy Myzie for her commitment & challenging service as Senior Warden.
- All parishioners who stepped up and became intentional stewards at St. Francis'. Our overall pledge commitment increased by 11% over 2010.
- All the altar guild members for their efforts in decorating our church for Christmas.
- Cathy Hirsch for her extraordinary patience & understanding while preparing a wonderful annual report.
- Elma Adams for coordinating the music for our Christmas services.
- The nine St. Francis' volunteers at Grace's Kitchen in January.
- All those who afforded us a fellowship opportunity by providing delicious coffee hours.
- Amy Myzie & Pam Maiolo for organizing and tidying up the church office.

**Lenten Retreat: The Experience of God in African Spirituality - March 12 (for all)**

Leaders: The Reverend Canon Martin Oguike, Vicar, St. John’s Church, Woodbridge, New Jersey; The Reverend C. John Thompson-Quartey, Rector, St. Mary’s-by-the-Sea, Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey; The Reverend Dr. Augustine Unuigbe, Rector, St. Augustine’s Church, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Come for a day centered in the Daily Office and for a Holy Eucharist with African music. There will be four sessions focused upon worship, meditation, community life, and healing. The retreat will provide witness, advocacy, and prayer for justice for the people of Sudan and Darfur in this continued time of crisis and war. You will learn from teachers of African spirituality and prayer.

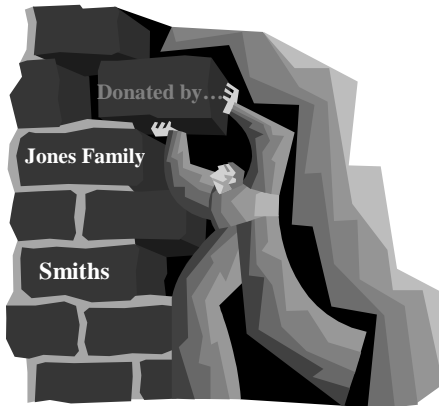


This retreat supports the new campaign by The Episcopal Church, “A Season of Prayer for Sudan”, which is committed to the welfare of Sudan, its Episcopal Church, and the country's future.

Sponsored by the Sudan/Darfur Committee.

When	Saturday, March 12, from 10 am to 3 pm.
Cost	\$15, lunch provided
Where	All Saints’ Church
	16 All Saints’ Road
	Princeton, New Jersey 08540
	609 921-2420
Deadline	By Friday, March 4. Check payable to the Diocese of New Jersey must be received by this date.
Registration	<a href="#">Register online</a> or email <a href="mailto:spaige@newjersey.anglican.org">spaige@newjersey.anglican.org</a> . Or fax registration form to 609 394-9546, mail form, or phone Sarah Paige, 609 394-5281, ext. 10.
Contact	The Reverend Dr. Hugh Brown, 609 921-2420 or <a href="mailto:ascprin@aol.com">ascprin@aol.com</a>

## Outreach



Episcopalians helping Episcopalians - Our Lenten outreach project will be to assist the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) in efforts to rebuild the Episcopal Church in Haiti. When the earthquake hit Haiti in January 2010, nearly all the church buildings in the Diocese of Haiti were effectively leveled, damaged or destroyed including Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince. St. Francis' parishioners can "buy a brick" for as little as \$10 to begin to rebuild The Episcopal Church in Haiti. Look for the drawing of a church in

the Narthex that will provide us with a visual rendition of our donation progress. As parishioners "buy a brick" donors' names will be filled in the blocks. Our initial goal is 100 bricks for a \$1000 donation to ECF. Donations may be made in your regular giving envelope by marking the special section with *Haiti*. If you don't have regular envelopes there will be special envelopes in the back of the sanctuary for your use. Our campaign begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9th and will end on Easter Sunday, April 24th.

Grace's Kitchen - Next dates for St. Francis' volunteers - February 28 & March 28. St. Francis' had nine parishioners who served in January. Thanks to all.

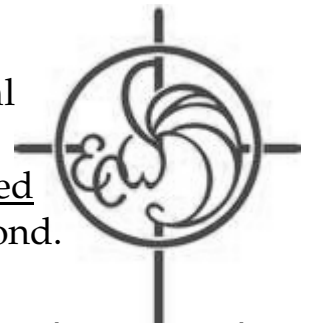
FISH - Suggested donation for March is Rice & Beans.

Eyeglass collection - We are continuing to collect used eyeglasses/ sunglasses that we pass on to the local Lions Club for their Recycle Eyeglass campaign. Adult & children's glasses are needed. Used glasses can provide new sight for people around the world.



Coupon Clipping - We are **no longer** collecting coupons. Thank you for your past support.

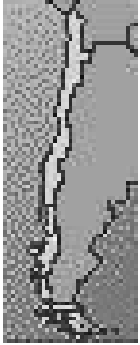
Episcopal Church Women (ECW) – will hold a quick organizational meeting on Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from approximately 9:15 to 9:50 AM, between services. All women of the church are invited, no, requested to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Rilette Hammond.



Acolyte Sunday – is on March 6<sup>th</sup>. All acolytes are requested to attend the 10 AM service for recognition and distribution of crosses.

## World Day of Prayer 2011

Women, men and children in more than 170 countries and regions will celebrate World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 4, 2011. The women of Chile have written the service around the theme ***“How Many Loaves Have You?”*** They ask us to enter

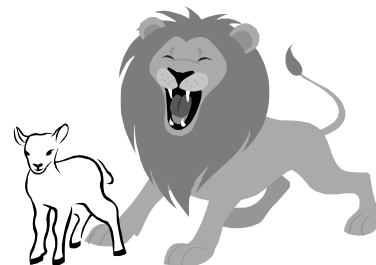


a process that draws us into the Bible, into the context of Chile and into the real situations of our lives and communities. Together, we are asked to respond to what we have and how we can share it with others. In this past year, Chile has been challenged by a devastating earthquake and the collapse of a mine in which many miners were trapped. Again we are reminded to share our bread and to receive the bread that is shared with us. On March 4, 2011, let us reach out our hands and hearts to touch the lives of sisters and brothers in Chile and around the world.

This year's service will be held on Friday, March 4 at 1:00 p.m. at Grace Church in Haddonfield, 19 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield. Invite your friends, family and communities of faith to join the women of Chile in prayer and song to support women's ecumenical ministries toward justice, peace, healing and wholeness. The annual offering will support the work of World Day of Prayer USA and help meet the needs of families who are victims of many forms of poverty, violence and human trafficking. World Day of Prayer (WDP) is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Services begin at sunrise in the Pacific and follow the sun across the globe on the day of celebration. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service. World Day of Prayer was founded on the idea that prayer and action are inseparable in the service of God's kingdom. For more information, visit [www.wdpusa.org](http://www.wdpusa.org).

Susan Getz  
Parish Administrator  
Grace Church in Haddonfield  
19 Kings Highway East  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

*St. Francis Episcopal Church*  
*400 New Market Road*  
*Dunellen, NJ 08812*



**ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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Dunellen, NJ 08812

[www.stfrancisdunellen.org](http://www.stfrancisdunellen.org)  
732-968-6781  
732-968-7794 (Fax)

**March 2011**

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	The Rev. Jack Zamboni	Grounds
^ I Co	<u>Deacon</u>	up
	The Rev. Margaret Forsythe	nce
	<u>Organist &amp; Choir Director</u>	ounds, Finance
	Elma Adams, B.A., M.A.	OME!
	<u>Wardens</u>	p, Finance
	Pam Maiolo, Sr. Warden	
	Paul Sinckler, Jr. Warden	
	<u>Sunday School Administrator</u>	mation
	Barbara Dalto	Grounds, Finance
	<u>Treasurer</u>	
	Cynthia Pelliccia	
	<u>Finance Team Leader</u>	
	Audrey McConney	