

Holy Week-Easter

- ✠ **Sunday, April 17**
Passion/Palm Sunday
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

- ✠ **Monday, April 18**
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Deadlines for Easter Flowers
and Easter Basket items

- ✠ **Tuesday, April 19**
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

- ✠ **Wednesday, April 20**
12 Noon Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

- ✠ **Thursday, April 21**
Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and
Foot Washing
8:30 p.m. (all night) Vigil at the
Altar of Repose

- ✠ **Friday, April 22**
Good Friday
9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer,
12 Noon Holy Eucharist
3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

- ✠ **Saturday, April 23**
Holy Saturday
9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:30 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter

- ✠ **Sunday, April 24**
Easter Day
10:00 a.m. Festal Eucharist



The Evangel

April 2011

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Worship the Lord in holiness.” And the Lord knows there are plenty of opportunities to respond this month!

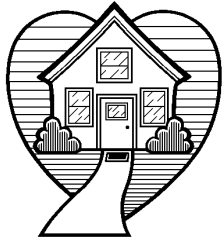
Holy Week, for me, is a series of high feasts in which we tell our story. We remember. We recall and memorialize. We do all sorts of unusual things – washing feet, stripping the altar, staying up all night with the Sacrament in the Garden of Repose. Our guest preachers, Judy Taylor on Monday the 18th and Steve Shugert on Tuesday the 19th, will point us toward the final days, and I was delighted that they said “yes” to our invitation.

On Maundy Thursday we begin the Triduum, the great three days of the week. We shall start the evening with an “Agape” supper, a light meal during which we shall enjoy the fellowship of our community. We’ll then move to the church where we will recall Jesus’ own last supper with his disciples – those named and those unnamed. Jesus humbled himself – a servant to the end – and he washed the feet of his friends. We have the opportunity to do the same. Do not be anxious! It was during that meal that Jesus broke bread and poured wine, and said, “This is my body; this is my blood. Do this in remembrance of me.” And so we do. Our last Eucharistic Feast until the Feast of the Resurrection (yes, we have Communion on Good Friday, but it is from the bread and wine made particularly holy at the service of Maundy Thursday). We will remove the blessed Sacrament to the Garden of Repose, and everyone has an opportunity to simply sit in the Presence of Christ. When I have come at odd hours of the night I have heard people praying, chanting Psalms, and I have heard... silence.. We all experience the Sacrament in slightly different ways, and I encourage you to spend some time that night in the Garden.

On Friday we will close that Vigil; we’ll hear the traditional words of the Good Friday Liturgy at Noon and we will walk the way of the Cross in the afternoon.

And then... and *then!*. We shall celebrate with joy the Resurrection of our Lord! Do come for the Vigil – or on Sunday morning! Celebrate, celebrate – rejoice and be glad!

In Christ,
Fr. Wayne +



Remember our Homebound Members

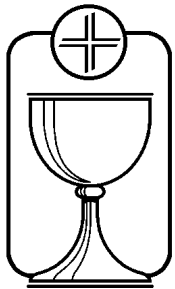
Stop by to visit or drop a card to our parish members who are homebound.

Stella Prybyla - Rosebush Manor,
4210 E. Rosebush Rd., 433-0150

Verna Schurr
Applewood, 5775 West Isabella Road

Connie Smith,
1526 C Canterbury Trail, 772-4577

Maribeth and George Injasoulian
Prestige Place, 5785 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant



Home Communion

Just a reminder: you should let the parish office know if you are ill and wish to receive communion or a visit from either the clergy or a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

St. John's Prayer Group

The 16 members of the Prayer Group offer petitions daily for the church and for specific requests. All parishioners are welcome to become members of the Prayer Group or to submit requests by contacting Sandy Wood, 773-9326, Martha Rarick, 773-7510, or the church office.



Meijer Community Rewards Program
St. Johns' Account Number 972219



Shirley Robinson	1
Lisa Ferden	3
Seth Hartshorne	7
Ralph Baber	8
Jennifer Dingman	14
Henry Fulton	16
Bryce Kantak	16
Harold Cook	17
Megan Blackburn	22
Jacklynn Cosan	24
Alex DeLong	24
Chris DeLong	24
Forrest Robinson	28
Pamela Dingman	29
Andrew Schurr	30

ANNIVERSARIES

David and Paula Shirley	7
Brad and Debi Peterson	19
Steven Berkshire and Eileen Swinehart	30

Ongoing Rummage Sale Info:

The St. John's Rummage Sale Committee is accepting good used clothing all year long! Please leave all contributions in the Parish Hall kitchen. Thank you!



Altar Flowers for 2011

There are still many dates available for providing Altar Flowers. Please find the Alter Flower Calendar posted outside the door of the Sacristy and sign up!

Outside the Tent

Come to be . . . and I will give you rest.

These words from the Gospel of Matthew, which have accompanied me all my adult life, are the text on sympathy cards I produce from a photo I took in the garden of the Washington National Cathedral. The photo depicts a stone statue of Jesus cradling a small child. The photo and the text always comfort me, and I have learned that others find them helpful as well. Right now, I believe we all need comfort as we watch the unfolding horror of earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown in Japan. We grieve for the people of Japan because they are part of humankind. We grieve, in particular, because we have sister-state and sister-city relationships with Shiga Prefecture and with the city of Okaya. Henry and Charlie have both visited Japan as part of those relationships, and over the years we have entertained numerous visitors from Okaya, as well as Japanese students attending CMU. We know Americans who live in Japan and who were visiting there when the earthquake struck. And one of my colleagues at Woodland Hospice is Japanese. Her family in Japan is safe, but we all grieve with her for her country: for the countless persons dead or missing, for the loss of home and community, for the contamination of air, water, and food.

When destruction and death are catastrophic, the usual rituals—writing a note of sympathy, calling at the funeral home, or attending a memorial service—seem inadequate. Sometimes the usual rituals are impossible, because there are too many dead to bury. This was certainly true in the seventeenth century, when the plague decimated the population of Europe. There were few proper funerals: the fear of contagion was so great that burials happened quickly. Men with carts walked through the streets of London at night, crying “Bring out your Dead.” Children stood howling beside their dead parents as the men loaded their bodies into the carts and wheeled them away to mass graves of fifty or sixty bodies each.

No ritual here, just a brutal goodbye that goes against our human need to say goodbye to those we love in the ways we deem best. But even in the midst of catastrophe, it is possible to honor the dead, as I read in a story on the CNN webpage of March 21. Sixteen-year-old Hiroki Sugawara was spending the day with his grandparents, who lived in a low-lying area near Sendai. Had he been at school—high above the neighborhoods that were washed away—he would have survived. Instead, ten days after the tsunami, his parents loaded his battered body into their car and drove to his school so that his friends could see him and say goodbye to him. As the writer says, “This was not a planned funeral. It was barely a funeral at all. But this was the best his parents could do given the massive number of fatalities in Japan’s historic tsunami.” And so his father stood before his son’s classmates, weeping as he asked them not to give up hope: “Keep living for my son.” Then he, his wife, and his surviving son bowed deeply to their son’s friends. The father covered his son’s face, placed his body back in the front passenger seat, and they drove away

We see ourselves in this man, in his need to honor his son, to mark his passing from this world. And while the simple funeral might not have met his own standards, it was a remarkable display of love and courage that must have comforted his family, as well as the boy's schoolmates. Something similar happened after the public, humiliating death of Jesus on the cross. His friends, afraid of the authorities and in a hurry because the Sabbath was about to begin, made sure that he had some semblance of burial according to Jewish custom. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, and Joseph of Arimathea wrapped the body of Jesus with the herbs in a clean linen cloth and laid him in his own new tomb. And on the Sunday following his death, the women went to the tomb to make sure all was well with the body of their friend.

As a doer of funerals, I always hope to give those who grieve a dignified, comforting service to remember, mourn, and say goodbye to someone they have loved. And so it is hard for me—as I would guess it is for all of you—to know that through the centuries countless men, women, and children have had to make do with less because of war, disease, ethnic cleansing, natural disaster. It's even harder to contemplate when the country is familiar to us, when some of its residents are our friends. In the midst of this sorrow I think of the simple statue in the garden in Washington, D.C., and I hear the words of Jesus as recorded by Matthew: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls" (11:28-29). I believe that the God who made us all holds fast the people of Japan in their grief. I believe that in time they will find rest for their souls.

Peace,
Nancy

Next Gathering of The Red Tent

The Red Tent will gather on Saturday, May 7. In honor of Mother's Day, we will discuss *Traveling with Pomegranates*, a journey into spirituality by Sue Monk Kidd (author of *The Secret Life of Bees*) and her daughter, Ann Kidd Taylor. As the blurb on the book's cover notes, "The intimacy of travel and the wondrous nature of the sites they visit bring forth each woman's internal struggle and provide fertile terrain for reflection and inspiration. They also give voice to that most protean of human connections: the bond between mothers and daughters."

We gather at 9:30 for coffee and prayer, and we conclude after a noon lunch, which will be provided. Please join us for this wonderful morning of fellowship and conversation. If you have questions, check with Nancy Fulton, Eileen Swinehart, or Jeanne Maxon.

Easter Baskets

Each year we hope to provide Easter Baskets for six needy families and twelve candy baskets for children. Parishioners who would like to help may leave donations of canned or boxed foods in the narthex of the Church. Financial donations clearly marked "Easter Baskets" may be placed in the collection plate up to **Sunday, April 17th**.

Food items needed for each family:

Ham	Bread	Oleo	Milk
Canned Vegetables	Canned Fruit	Oil	Eggs
Cake Mix	Frosting	Cereal	Jam/Jelly
Peanut Butter	Crackers	Cookies	Jell-O
2 Cans Soup	Paper Towel	Paper Napkins	



12 Easter Baskets

Candy Easter Grass



Please have **ALL** donations in by **Monday, April 18th**!
If you have questions please see Renee Babcock or Jane Gilmore.



Easter Flowers

Those who would like to contribute to a fund to provide flowers for Easter should use this form to designate that contribution. The donations may be made in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for a special blessing, or simply to glorify God. Contributions will be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Contributions may be placed in the Sunday offering plate and need to be in the church office **on or before Monday, April 18th**!



I would like to contribute to the Easter flower fund.

I do so in honor _____ or thanksgiving _____ or in memory _____ of:

Contribution given by:



April 2001 Sunday Lay Ministry

DATE	LESSONS	PRAYERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	ACOLYTES	ALTAR GUILD
April 3 Lent 4	8:00 a.m. Steven Berkshire 10:00 a.m. Karen Varanauskas	8:00 a.m. Peg Hicks 10:00 a.m. Henry Fulton	David and Carrie Blackburn and family	Joyce Baugh and Roger Hatch	Zach Dearing and Sandy Wood	Alice Louisell, Cindy Seger, and Harriett White
Lectionary: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41						
April 10 Lent 5 5:00 p.m. Evensong	8:00 a.m. Barbara Sheperdigian 10:00 a.m. Sandy Wood 5:00 p.m. Karen V.	8:00 a.m. Eileen Swinehart 10:00 a.m. Nancy Hartshorne	Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall 5:00 p.m. Ralph Baber	Joan Kadler and Mary Kiesgen	Zach Dearing and Seth Hartshorne 5:00 p.m. John Rousseau	Alice Louisell, Cindy Seger, and Harriett White
Lectionary: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45						
Evensong 5:00 p.m. Readings: Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11						
April 17 4 Palm Sunday	ONE Service 10:00 a.m. Multiple Readers	ONE Service 10:00 a.m. Jo Redman	Tim Brockman and Harold Cook	Lynne L'Hommedie u and Sandy Wood	Zach Dearing and John Rousseau	Sally Goodrow, Lynne L'Hommedieu, and Martha Rarick
Lectionary: Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14- 27:66						
April 24 Easter Day	ONE Service 10:00 a.m. Steven Berkshire and Nancy Hartshorne	ONE Service 10:00 a.m. Henry Fulton	David and Jennifer Dingman	David and Jennifer Dingman	Zach Dearing, Seth Hartshorne, John Rousseau	Sally Goodrow, Lynne L'Hommedieu, and Martha Rarick
Lectionary: Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18						
May 1 Easter 2	8:00 a.m. Peg Hicks 10:00 a.m. Anne Alton	8:00 a.m. Martha Rarick 10:00 a.m. Mary Kiesgen	Ford and Pamela Dingman	Jo Redman and Harriett White	Zach Dearing and Sandy Wood	Pamela Dingman and Paula Shirley
Lectionary: Acts 2:14a,22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31						



Lay Ministry, Holy Week 2011

April 17, Palm Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Readers: Anne Hiebert Alton, Ralph Baber
Steven Berkshire, Nancy Hartshorne
Henry Fulton, Harry Kelley, Karen Varanauskas
Prayers: Jo Redman
Acolytes: Zach Dearing and John Rousseau

April 18, Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Reader: Barbara Sheperdigian
Prayers: Jo Redman
Acolyte: Zach Dearing
Guest Preacher: Judy Taylor, MDiv.

April 19, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Reader: Steven Berkshire
Prayers: Martha Rarick
Acolyte: Zach Dearing
Guest Preacher: Rev. Steven Shugert

April 21, Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Reader: Nancy Hartshorne
Prayers: Nancy Hartshorne
Acolytes: Zach Dearing and Sandy Wood
Greeters: Ralph Baber and Karen Varanauskas

April 22, Good Friday, 12 Noon

Reader: Joan Kadler
Prayers: Martha Rarick
Acolyte: Zach Dearing

Stations of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.

April 23, Saturday

Morning Prayer, 9:00 a.m.

Easter Vigil, 8:30 p.m.

Readers: Ralph Baber, Nancy Hartshorne
Henry Fulton, Harry Kelley, Karen Varanauskas
Chalice/Prayers: Jo Redman
Acolytes: Zach Dearing, Seth Hartshorne, John Rousseau
Greeters: Ralph Baber and Karen Varanauskas

April 24, Easter, 10:00 a.m.

Readers: Steven Berkshire, Nancy Hartshorne
Chalice/Prayers: Henry Fulton
Acolytes: Zach Dearing, Seth Hartshorne, John Rousseau

April 2011 at St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 3, <i>Lent IV</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist 6:00 p.m. "Flicks and Faith: The Deer Hunter"	4 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> Noon Daughters of the King 5:30 p.m. E F M	5 7:00 p.m. The Compassionate Friends	6 Noon Eucharist 7:00 p.m. CCS "Moral Medicine"	7 <i>Tikhon, Patriarch and Ecumenist</i> 5:30 p.m. Choir	8 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;">Diocese Convention</div> <i>Office Closed</i>	9
10, <i>Lent V</i> 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist 5:00 p.m. Evensong for Lent	11, <i>George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop</i> 5:30 p.m. E F M	12 5:30 p.m. VESTRY	13 Noon Eucharist	14 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Choir	15 <i>Office Closed</i>	16 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Quiet Day 3:00 p.m. Palm Sunday Readers Rehearsal
17 <i>The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday</i>	18	19	20	21, <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	22 <i>Good Friday</i>	23 <i>Holy Saturday</i>
Holy Week						
10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist	7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Judy Taylor, Guest Preacher	7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Steve Shugert, Guest Preacher	Noon Eucharist with Healing Prayer	5:30 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Eucharist All Night: Vigil	<i>Office Closed</i> Noon: The Liturgy of Good Friday 3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. Compline for Good Friday	9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 8:30 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
24 <i>The Feast of the Resurrection</i> 10:00 a.m. Festal Easter Eucharist	25 <i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i> 5:30 p.m. E F M	26	27 Noon Eucharist	28	29 <i>Catherine of Siena</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	30
May 1 <i>The Second Sunday of Easter</i>	2 <i>Athanasius, Bishop</i>	3	4 <i>Monnica, Mother of Augustine</i>	5	6	7
Fr. Wayne Away – Clergy Conference						
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. Choral Morning Prayer	5:30 p.m. E F M			5:30 p.m. Choir		<i>Tomorrow: A Very Special Evensong for The Feast of the Visitation</i>

**Morning Prayer is held Monday-Thursday, at 9:00 a.m.
For Updates: Visit the Parish Website and Click on "Calendar"**

This is our Greeter/Coffee Hour Host Schedule—If you cannot serve on the date you were given, please exchange dates with someone else on the list and call the Parish Secretary at 773-7448

Greeter Rotation

April

- 3 David and Carrie Blackburn and family
- 10 Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall
- 17 Tim Brockman and Harold Cook
- 24 David and Jennifer Dingman and family

May

- 1 Ford and Pamela Dingman
- 8 Roger Hatch and Joyce Baugh
- 15 Joan Kadler and Mary Kiesgen
- 22 Lynne L'Hommedieu and Laura Cochrane
- 29 Marian Matyn and Rod Leslie

June

- 5 Betsy Richard and Jim Eikrem
- 12 Susan Paton and Martha Rarick
- 19 John Rousseau and Sandy Wood
- 26 Colin, Ann and Matthew Alton

Coffee Hour Rotation

April

- 3 Joyce Baugh and Roger Hatch
- 10 Joan Kadler and Mary Kiesgen
- 17 Lynne L'Hommedieu and Sandy Wood
- 24 David and Jennifer Dingman

May

- 1 Jo Redman and Harriett White
- 8 Betsy Richard and Jim Eikrem
- 15 David and Paula Shirley
- 22 Colin, Anne and Matthew Alton
- 29 Babcock/Zygmantowicz

June

- 5 Steven Berkshire and Eileen Swinehart
- 12 David and Carrie Blackburn
- 19 Gordon Bloem and Nancy Parshall
- 26 Christine Brooks and Laura Cochrane

St. John's Episcopal Church - Vestry Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Special Vestry Meeting: Sunday, April 3rd after the 10am service
Next Regular Meeting: April 12th, 5:30pm

Present: Gordon Bloem, Laura Cochrane, Harold Cook, David Dingman, Pam Dingman, Rod Leslie, Rev. Wayne Nicholson, Betsy Richard, John Rousseau, and Karen Varanauskas.

Rev. Wayne Nicholson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm with an opening prayer for the Parish.

Announcements:

***Updates** of members of the parish

***Mission:** Special Sunday offerings continue to be successful; Red Cross is very appreciative. There will be a special Easter basket project, which Renée will coordinate.

***St. Luke's** parish is facing difficulties and we will be keeping them in our prayers.

Program

a. Current and coming up:

i. "Moral Medicine" ("Priest and Physician") is a great success; 22 people were in attendance at the first session, March 16th. The series will continue through April 6th from 7-9pm.

ii. Flicks and Faith – Sunday's group of 6 watched "The Pianist" and enjoyed the film, food, and conversation. March 27 will be "Enemies of War" with Gordon leading the discussion, and will conclude on April 3rd with "The Deerhunter".

b. Center for Christian Spirituality:

Henry Fulton has done a wonderful job heading this program, but has submitted his resignation effective May 2nd. Although the numbers for the programming have not been large, many people have personally told Fr. Wayne that it has made a huge difference in their lives. The Vestry is grateful to Henry for his diligent work; finding a replacement will be difficult.

Building and grounds:

1) Ongoing needs:

***Paint** is needed in the undercroft and in the stairwells. Karen has one bid for labor for \$650. She will get another bid before a final decision will be made.

***Lighting** that Ford and David Dingman have offered to complete will happen when the weather finally cooperates!

2) Building and Capital Campaign:

***Capital Campaign** has no current updates.

***Building and Grounds:** David is working on revitalizing the building and grounds committee.

***Sunday School** for children has interest; Rob will continue to work out details.

***The Safe has arrived!** Pam Dingman reported that she ordered it from A-Z, an on line company, for \$309. Discussion of installation followed.

3) Liturgy and Music:

***Rearrangements of the Church** and reactions of the congregation were discussed. There are both positive and less positive reactions although those that are a bit less enthusiastic have expressed that they know much good will probably come from this experience. Although several people have missed the color, it also serves as a reminder that we are in the Lenten season.

***Music and Liturgy Committee** has been revived to plan for replacing both Mina and Marcus, although Marcus may still be interested in the position.

The committee has drawn up a job description, which combines the two positions into one person as the position was previously handled. The description has been posted on several websites and applications will be coming in and reviewed by two members of the Music and Liturgy Committee.

***April 3rd is Refreshment or Mothering Sunday** and the music will be very different for that special day.

***Palm Sunday** will have one service at 10am with a special Dramatic Reading.

The tentative schedule for Holy Week is: (Daily morning prayer at 9am)

Monday (4/18), 7pm, Holy Eucharist with a Guest Preacher, Judy Taylor,
MDiv, Potter's House

Tuesday (4/19), 7pm Holy Eucharist with a Guest preacher, Rev. Steve Shugert,

Wednesday (4/20), 7pm No Service

Thursday (4/21), 7pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Rev. Dn. Nancy Casey Fulton,
Preacher, Stripping of the Altar, Vigil of the Altar of
Repose, Footwashing; Agape supper to precede

Friday (4/22), Noon, The Good Friday Liturgy; 3pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday (4/23) 8:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter

Holy Saturday, Morning prayer at 9am

Sunday (4/24), 10am Easter Sunday, The Feast of the Resurrection, One Service Only

4) Finances:

***Gordon** made a motion that the members of the Vestry who are authorized to sign checks and move money in the Churches accounts at the bank be: Harold Cook, Gordon Bloem, Elizabeth

Richard, Eileen Swinehart, and Barbara L'Hommedeau. Two signatures are always needed. Karen seconded the motion and it passed by acclamation.

***A pledge report** was presented by Harold; based upon our current budget we are falling behind by \$181 per week. Discussion followed. Gordon suggested that the Vestry devote more time in our meeting to discussing financing or to hold a special Vestry meeting to discuss finances. Fr. Wayne concurred and asked that the Vestry look over the financial report and look for places to cut as well as opportunities for fundraising. A special meeting of the Vestry to discuss finances will be held on Sunday, April 3rd after the 10am service and coffee hour. Wayne requested that the finance committee meet prior to April 3rd to offer some recommendations. Wayne will also discuss this with the Music and Liturgy Committee.

Gordon approved to accept the minutes from February 15th, Karen seconded and the motion was passed by acclamation.

Karen moved to adjourn at 7:13 pm; the motion was seconded by Fr. Wayne and the motion was passed by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth (Betsy) Richard, Vestry Clerk

The 130th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women

Saturday, March 26, 2011, Jo Redman and Sandy Wood attended the 130th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women (E.C.W.) of the Diocese of Western Michigan held at the Church of the Mediator in Harbert, Michigan.

Those attending included women from many churches in the Western Diocese. The day's activities began with a "Meet and Greet", and then all the women walked a large labyrinth guided by Rev. Paula Durren, Rector of the Church of the Mediator.

The business meeting followed where the budget was adopted; the revision of the By-Laws was approved; and new officers were elected.

Following a delicious lunch prepared and served by the Harbert E.C.W. and a social hour, a thought provoking program on Women at Risk (www.warinternational.org) was presented. Representatives displayed products from various countries with all profits to be used to assist women and children in danger of exploitation, being sold into slavery, HIV/AIDS, death traps and those who come up missing.

The afternoon break out sessions included presentations on the Church Periodical Club, Anglican rosaries, and the Chickaming Open Sands Project which conserves natural resources such as forests, marshes and wetland areas.

The day concluded with a Eucharist service, lovely music and the installation of the new officers.

With good roads and sunny skies Jo and Sandy agreed it was a worthwhile, pleasant day spent with women from various parishes around the Diocese of Western Michigan.

E.C.W. is for all women of the Church. Any women wishing to have more information about E.C.W. can contact Sandy Wood, 773-9326, or Jo Redman, 772-2326.

Anglican Worthies

245. Moore, Clement Clarke (1779-1863)
Professor of Greek & Hebrew

Clement Clarke Moore, son of Benjamin Moore, Bishop of New York, was born into considerable wealth in the city of New York. Whether he was expected to follow his father into the Church is not known, but we can assume so. Instead, the boy showed an aptitude for studies, especially in languages, and graduated from Columbia College in 1798, after which he took an advanced degree. His church was Trinity Wall Street, but Moore helped found another parish, St. Luke's on Hudson Street, now famous for its concert series. Moore was appointed Professor of Greek and Oriental Languages (Hebrew) at Columbia, and in 1809 published his Hebrew and English Lexicon, which he considered his most lasting contribution to learning and culture.

Moore can be grouped with the New York writers, which included James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851), James Kirke Paulding (1779-1860), Washington Irving (1783-1859) whom he knew, and later, Herman Melville. Moore married a daughter of the Van Courtlandts, a well-established Dutch family, by whom he had three daughters. There are several indications that Moore, like his father, was politically conservative. He opposed the abolition of slavery and had slaves himself. Growing up in rural Manhattan, what is now known as Chelsea, a neighborhood of apartments and shops, Moore resisted the city's inevitable growth, especially as he viewed the inevitable "land-grab" as nothing more than the chance for a few men to get rich at the expense of their neighbors. He wrote against the assessment citizens were obliged to pay for the development of new streets, which he termed "a tyranny no monarch in Europe would dare exercise." Nevertheless he donated to the diocese the land on which General Theological Seminary is presently located. Eventually he taught there.

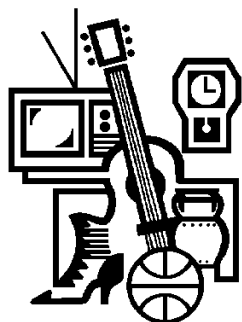
Moore is mostly forgotten save for one significant incident in his life. Legend has it that on Christmas Eve 1822 he composed for his girls a poem entitled "An Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas." It was such a hit in his family that word of it began to spread; a newspaper in Troy, NY reprinted it on Christmas Eve the following year. Thereafter the poem was reprinted anonymously in other newspapers until Moore acknowledged it in 1834 and reprinted it in his Poems of 1844. (Its authorship has been challenged recently, and a distant relative of Moore's wife has been suggested as the real author. But the overwhelming evidence is on Moore's side.)

According to Penne Restad, author of Christmas in America: A History (1995), the impact of Moore's poem on how we imagine Santa Claus and observe certain domestic holiday customs is profound. The description of "jolly old St. Nicholas" has a

disputed provenance. Moore himself declared that he drew it from "a portly rubicund Dutchman" from his childhood, but modern scholars believe Moore took it from Washington Irving's Knickerbocker's History of New York (1809), a popular send-up of early Dutch settlement of Manhattan, particularly Irving's satirical portrait of Woulter van Twiller, the first governor of New Netherlands, whom the author described as "exactly five feet six inches in height, and six feet five inches in circumference." (One of the oddest moments in Moore's poem occurs where St. Nicholas lays his finger in the side of his nose before scrambling back up the chimney. Van Twiller apparently did the same thing, Irving said, whenever he came to a decision.) The poem moved the visit of St. Nicholas from his own saint's day, 5 December, which the Dutch still observe, to Christmas Eve--at least in this country. The legend of St. Nicholas has his sleigh pulled by a single reindeer; Moore gave him eight--and named them. No other artifact has solidified the manner in which we "teach" Christmas to our children than "The Visit of St. Nicholas." Second perhaps in the formation of our holiday narrative are the colorful Coco-Cola magazine ads in the 1930's and 1940's depicting a jolly Santa refreshing himself during his lengthy travels with a bottle of the famous soft drink. These ads confirmed our traditional view of Santa as a kindly man who struggled all his life with a weight problem.

In later years Moore served on the board of the New York Institute for the Blind, now the New York Institute for Special Education. He died at his summer home in Newport, Rhode Island and was buried at St. Luke's in New York; later his body was moved to the cemetery at Trinity Wall Street. The small but well-used park at 10th Avenue and 22nd Street was named after him. We are told that residents gather there the last Sunday of Advent for a reading of "Twas the Night before Christmas." --hlf

Get Ready for the Rummage Sale!



With spring in the air, we start to think of spring cleaning, and that tends to lead to stuff for the church rummage sale. This year's rummage sale will be the second weekend in June—that's June 10th and 11th. We can't accept rummage until Sunday afternoon, June 5th, so you'll have to stash your donations until then. From June 5th through the 11th, and the following weekend, for the rummage reprise of the City Wide Sale, we will need volunteers to price and arrange the sale, and help us rake in the cash on sale days. In the meantime, we are accepting clothing year round. Please leave clothing donations in the Parish Hall kitchen.

Pledge Report and February 28, 2011 Financial Report

As of March 21, total pledges continue to stand at \$142,000. Additional pledges of no more than \$6,000 to \$8,000 are expected. At this time last year, pledges of about \$157,000 had been received. The Vestry will in the near future be examining the implications of this drop in pledges (and expected total receipts).

The following is a financial report for the first two months of 2011, or 16.7 per cent of the year.

Unrestricted operating fund receipts.....	\$28,858	(about 17.3% of year's budget)
Unrestricted operating fund expenditures.....	<u>32,195</u>	(about 18.3% of year's budget)
Excess of operating expenditures over receipts.....	\$ 3,337	(11.6% of the receipts)
Operating cash balance on January 1, 2011.	<u>28,075</u>	
February 28, 2011 operating fund balance	\$24,738	

Both receipts and expenditures were slightly higher than expected. While it is difficult to infer much from two month's experience, lower receipts are occurring in March.

Another way of looking at our finances is to compare the average weekly year-to-date receipts with the expected average weekly expenditures for the year. These two numbers are as follows:

Year-to-date weekly average receipts.....	\$3,206
Budgeted weekly average expenses.....	<u>3,387</u>
Weekly year-to-date deficit.....	\$ 181

Questions about details of the church's finances may be directed to Pam Dingman or Harold Cook.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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Our Mission:

St. John's Episcopal Church, with God's help and in the Anglican tradition, lives to proclaim the Gospel of Christ by ministering through worship, outreach, fellowship and education. We welcome all who enter our doors, and we support the diverse callings of each member as we seek to serve Christ in every person

Rector:

The Rev. Wayne Nicholson, 772-1203

Deacon:

The Rev. Nancy Casey Fulton, 773-7193

2011 St. John's Vestry Officers:

Senior Warden: Karen Varanauskas, 506-3750

Junior Warden: David Dingman, 633-8413

Vestry Clerk: Betsy Richard, 772-2369

Treasurer: Harold Cook, 773-9781

Vestry Members:

Gordon Bloem, 773-5480

Laura Cochrane, 493-5885

Jane Gilmore, 317-0343

Rod Leslie, 386-8131

John Rousseau, 630-6798

Eileen Swinehart, 773-9961