

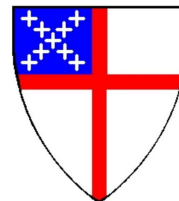


Saint Mark's Messenger

Beaver Dam, Wisconsin

Joann Ellis, Editor

February, 2010



"...the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it..."

The word "Eucharist" is one of the most magnificent words in our (or any other!) language. It comes from the Greek word, which means, "to give thanks" and is found in the above passage from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (11:23f). It explains why in the *Book of Common Prayer* (page 361) and in our Sunday bulletins that portion of our service is called "The Great Thanksgiving:" we are giving great thanks for Our Lord's gift of Self.

We 'give thanks' in so many ways. We give thanks to God in the choices we make about our time, energy, resources and efforts. We spend time with the people who need us. We offer food – or perhaps a soft drink – to someone in need of time and conversation. We volunteer for causes dear to our hearts, reach out by means of God-given ministries. God gives to us and we give to God every day, and so the joy of the Eucharist goes on and on.

Thanks for gifts given to St. Mark's by The Austin Foundation, this is the family foundation of one of my close friends, we have been able to give gifts to Church Health Service, PAVE and Clothes for Kids, local service agencies which serve as God's hands in our communities. Thanks to your pledge dollars, we have given gifts to three of our seminaries, to the Dodge County Food Pantry, to the Elks Club's Holiday Gift Baskets and to other local causes.

And now, Haiti... As of today (1/19/2010) members of St. Mark's have given almost \$1,000.00 in response to The Haiti Project's request for funds for earthquake relief. Your generosity astonishes and awes me. Jesus' gift goes on and on through your hearts and hands. And together we give thanks. God bless you all! Mary+

Lent is Coming!

Hard to believe, but Lent is coming. Ash Wednesday is February 17th and we need to make a decision about the book for our Lenten study series. I thought it would be good to take a look at W. Phillip Keller's A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23 (\$11.00), a lovely devotional book. A couple of folk, however, have asked me recently about William P. Young's novel, The Shack (\$7.00), another remarkable book. Either book would stir up excellent discussion and challenge our thoughts and prayers. **What do think you?** If you're planning to attend the Lenten series, contact me with your preference; I'll order the book voted in by the majority. **ALSO:** what would be best for you: Tuesday or Wednesday evenings? We will meet five times during the season (not the week of Ash Wednesday or during Holy Week). Be in touch. Thanks! Mary+



The following are Bishop Miller's appeal for help, excerpts from the Haiti Project e-news, our Project Coordinator, Jan Byrd's comments and links to a couple of interviews and the Haiti Project.

Bishop Miller's appeal to help

January 13, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to ask your prayers and assistance for the people of Haiti who have been so devastated by yesterday's earthquake. As a diocesan community we have had a long-standing relationship of deep affection and concern for the Diocese of Haiti and its people, particularly in the community of Jeannette.

I am pleased to report that the two young men who were part of a recent mission trip from this diocese, and who are still in Haiti, are safe, and, it is hoped, will return home soon.

At present we do not know the status of the facilities in Jeannette. We have received an unconfirmed report that the nearby town of Leogane was less severely affected. I pray that is the case for the people of Jeannette. I promise to keep you apprised of information regarding Jeannette as it becomes available.

The devastation in other parts of the country is great. I am asking each congregation to take a special collection, which will be sent through Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) for the people of Haiti as they begin to rebuild. Alternately, those wishing to make a direct contribution to ERD may do so at:

www.er-d.org/donate-select.php

Thank you for your compassionate response.

Yours in Christ,

+Steve A. Miller, Bishop

Molly and Christophe Nicaise returned from their trip to Haiti on Friday, February 8th - they had a joyous, wonderful adventure, and now their hearts are broken; they're worried about old and new-found friends. Such a beautiful, adventurous place that's turned to dust and tears with a few seconds of a shaking crust.

Coffee will continue to be a wonderful in-road to teaching people about Haiti and for assisting Haitian economic development. Although Molly purchased 10,000 pounds of green coffee beans last August [and thought she'd NEVER run out before getting more beans], because of the quake and greater importance on water, food, shelter and medicine, it's likely she'll run out of coffee. No matter, she has 3000 pounds left and am helping Haitian-based charities across the U.S. by using Haitian coffee to raise money for work in Haiti. Because our need for funding is now greater [there's a

mass exodus from Port au Prince to the countryside -- which is ultimately good, but will be taxing on Jeannette], the Haiti Project agreed that the price for **coffee be raised to \$10 for individual bags** and **\$8 for parish coffee hour**.

The **2 students -- James & Andrew** -- who where in Port au Prince Tuesday during the earthquake [they were on the roof-top patio of the guesthouse during the quake] are **SAFE**. The **other 5 students** left a day earlier & are safely home in the U.S.

Pere Gracia - the interim priest in Jeanette -- reports that he and his family are okay, our school children and friends in Jeanette, as well as friends from the Bondeau and Petit Trou communities are okay. Our Orthopedic surgeon left on Monday, January 18th and has arrived safely at the hospital in Leogane.

Jason Fischer of the WisconsinEye interviewed Jan Byrd this past week, the link to the video is: http://www.wiseye.org/wisEye_programming/ARCHIVES-business_profile.html#3042



The devastating earthquake on Tuesday, January 12th has put already desperate people in a hopeless situation. [Donate to our emergency relief fund](#) - we'll use our resources on the ground in Haiti to help bring food, water and medical assistance to those in need. Click on the picture for a link to the Channel 3000 **Interviews** of Jan Byrd, Molly & Christophe Nicaise about Haiti.

Jan Byrd wants to say thanks to everyone at St. Mark's in Beaver Dam and everywhere for their generosity in giving and caring. Please pray for the safe return of all those going to Haiti, for those who lost their lives, were injured and a return to normalcy for all our friends in Haiti. ~ Jan Byrd

February Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 nd Peter Panzer | 14 th The Reverend Mary J. Mail |
| 8 th Jena Clark | 17 th Sue Hilbert |
| 10 th Anastasia Rose Garrido | 17 th Timothy Onsrud |
| 12 th David Behling | 18 th Elinor Steffen |
| 12 th David Stelsel III | 24 th Aaron Onsrud |
| 14 th Cori Drexler | 24 th Dan Hilbert |
| 14 th Dan Rhode | |

February Baptismal Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 10 th Lucia Marie Chitwood | 10 th Anastasia Rose Garrido |
| 10 th Alajandro Garrido | 17 th Tom Guptill |
| 10 th Aishah Garrido | 20 th Judi Fischer |



February Wedding Anniversaries

Feb 28/29th Becky & Teddy Merwin



Focus on Finances ~ I want to thank everyone for getting your pledges in. The financial committee was able to put together a budget for the upcoming year. It will be a little tight again this year, but with everyone's prayers and the grace of God, I think we'll be ok. Please keep the church in your prayers.

Donations to the Haiti Project ~ I want to clear up any confusion there might be when writing a check for the Haiti Project. Please make your check out to St. Mark's then on the memo line write Haiti. We will send the check to the Haiti Project. If you would like the donation to go through Episcopal Relief and Development, please put ERD-Haiti on the memo line. We will get the check where it needs to go. Please free to donate to the Haiti Project any time. I am sure they will need money all year long.

	December 2009
Total Income	\$90,124.03
Total Expenses	<u>\$91,372.74</u>
Net Income	\$ - 1,248.74

~ Fred Ellis, Treasurer



Rectory Update ~ Tina Swain has been showing the property. One party was interested and we are waiting to hear back. Feedback has been concern about the busy street, the roof, and asbestos on the pipes; nice charm and beautiful floors. Thanks ~ Dan Hilbert, Senior Warden



Great Lakes **Scrip Center**

December Profit = \$303.55

Secret Sisters ~



I would like to say "Thank You!" to my secret sister for the great Christmas gifts! And a Happy and Blessed New Year to her! ~ Libbie Kacuba

I would like to Thank my Secret Sister for the lovely Christmas ornaments I received. May your 2010 be filled with blessings and happiness. ~ Joann Ellis

**February 2010
Liturgical Schedule
Year C**

DATE	Feb 7 5th Sunday After the Epiphany 9:00 a.m.	Feb 14 6th Sunday After the Epiphany 9:00 a.m.	Feb 17 Ash Wednesday 6:30 p.m.	Feb 21 1st Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m.	Feb 28 2nd Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m.
Acolyte	Zach Wajerski	Jody Langfeldt	James Merrill, Sr.	Elizabeth Peters	Sean Merrill
Altar Guild	Linda Zamzow & Barb Conley	Charlotte Snow, Phyllis Ecklor, Peg Rhode	Charlotte Snow, Phyllis Ecklor, Peg Rhode	Marsha Horne & Sue Hilbert	Betsy Lampert & Kathy Wajerski
Chalice Bearer	Jerry Frank	Fred Ellis	Joann Ellis	Jody Langfeldt	Deb Jenson
Intercessor	Sue Hilbert	MaryAnn Kenitz	None	Cori Drexler	Jody Langfeldt
Reader	Jody Langfeldt Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13] Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Deb Jenson Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]	Zach Wajerski Joel 2:1-2,12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21 Psalm 103 or 103:8-14	Dave Drexler Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13	Dan Hilbert Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35
Ushers	Dave & Connie Stelsel	Barb Conley & Vanda Wiegert	Barb Conley	Dave & Cori Drexler	Fred & Phyllis Ecklor

**March 2010
Liturgical Schedule
Year C**

Date	Mar 7, 2010 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m.	Mar 14, 2010 4th Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m.	Mar 21, 2010 5th Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m.	Mar 28, 2010 Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Acolyte	Dave Stelsel, Jr.	Deb Jenson	James Merrill, Sr.	Zach Wajerski
Altar	Linda Zamzow	Charlotte Snow, Phyllis Ecklor, Peg Rhode	Marsha Horne Sue Hilbert	Betsy Lampert Kathy Wajerski
Chalice Bearer	Joann Ellis	Jim Mertens	Jerry Frank	Fred Ellis
Intercessor	Bob Zamzow	Ken Peters	Connie Stelsel	Joann Ellis
Reader	Fred Ellis Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	Joann Ellis Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Zach Wajerski Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8	Maryann Kenitz The Liturgy of the Palms Luke 19:28-40 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 The Liturgy of the Word Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49
Ushers	Robert & Marsha Horne	Jerry & Marie Frank	Dave & Connie Stelsel	Deb Jenson Vanda Weigert

2010 Fundraising Update ~ We will have a rummage and bake sale May 22nd to



help the general fund and outreach You can begin to bring your rummage to church and place it in the upstairs classroom. We have done pretty well with this sale in the past, but are always open to suggestions on how to make it better. It should be a nice time of the year so should we have it outside?

How about a luncheon again or sell coffee and donuts. Any ideas to make it more profitable are welcome. If you have any ideas about any kind of fundraiser we can have, please talk to a vestry member.



The brat stand dates at Rechek's Food Pride are July 17th and August 14th. It's not too soon to mark your calendar. ~ Linda Zamzow

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MINUTES
December 13, 2009

Members Present: Barb Conley, Deb Jenson, Libbie Kacuba, Jim Merrill, Moira Steffen, Zach Wajerski. Also Present: Senior Warden Dan Hilbert, Junior Warden Ken Restall, Treasurer Fred Ellis, Rev. Mary Mail. Absent: Peg Rhode, Charlotte Snow, Linda Zamzow.

Senior Warden Dan Hilbert called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

1. Opening Devotion – Libbie Kacuba shared a devotional from Helen Steiner Rice, *From the Heart*.
2. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2009. Motion made by Ken Restall, second by Libbie Kacuba, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried.
3. Treasurer's Report.
 - A. Fred Ellis reported. November pledges are ahead \$471.16 for current pledges and contributions. Motion made by Deb Jenson, second by Zach Wajerski to approve the November Financial Report. Motion Carried.
 - B. Thus far we have \$64,330 in amounts pledged for 2010. One outstanding pledge to come in.
 - C. Audit report presented to Vestry. Approved and signed.
 - D. Personnel Compensation Resolutions presented as follows:

Resolved that the total compensation to be paid to the Reverend Mary J. Mail as Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, for the year 2010, shall be \$30,803 plus one-half of the social security of \$2,356 for a total of \$33,159 payable at \$2,763.25 per month. Of this amount, \$1,000 per month will be designated as Housing Allowance as set forth in the 2010 Housing Resolution.

2010 HOUSING RESOLUTION

Resolved that of the total compensation to be paid to Mary J. Mail during 2010, \$1,000 per month shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for her), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by Mary J. Mail for expenses of providing a furnished home for herself, including mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities.

Resolved that the salary to be paid Judi VandeBerg, the Administrative Assistant, for the year 2010 be \$11.25 per hour, with mileage reimbursement at the current rate established by the IRS for business travel relating to her employment.

Resolved that the salary to be paid to Barb Panzer, the Organist, for the year 2010 be \$61.00 per service, with extra compensation for special events.

Motion made by Jim Merrill, second by Libbie Kacuba to approve all compensation resolutions. Motion Carried.

E. Outreach Disbursement: \$1100 to distribute. Motion made by Deb Jenson, second by Jim Merrill, to designate the outreach funds as follows: \$800 Dodge County Food Pantry, \$150 to the Beaver Dam Elks Club and \$150 to the Wesley Center in Waupun. Motion Carried. Mary Mail will make a donation from the discretionary fund, Austin Fund monies, to Church Health Services, PAVE and Clothes for Kids.

F. Seminarian Education Allocation – Motion made by Jim Merrill, second by Moira Steffen to designate \$500 to C.D.S.P., \$250 to Seabury Western, \$250 to Nashotah House. Motion Carried.

4. Old Business

A. Scrip Update – November Profit – \$193.00

B. Rectory Committee Report – Tina Swain has listed the property. She agreed to a 5 percent commission. She recommended we list the property at \$124,900, and the property has been so listed.

5. New Business

A. Issues from the Rector

1. Mary will be gone a couple days after Christmas. Fred Ellis will do Morning Prayer on the 27th of December. Business as usual, lots of pastoral duties. Discretionary Fund is being used more than usual, gas and food cards are a popular item. Thanks to the Austin Foundation and to everyone for donations to the discretionary fund.

2. Consideration to discontinue the once a month Wednesday evening service. Attendance has been very low and sometimes no one is showing up. Will revisit after the 1st of the year. There will be no service the 1st Wednesday in January.

3. Annual Meeting date will be January 24, 2010 after the Sunday Service.

B. Jr. Warden's Report

1. Ken purchased eco-friendly material to put on icy walkways. Reflectors have been put up by the stone wall. Hoses are drained and put away.

C. Other New Business

1. Christmas Cookie sale - \$1,048 profit.

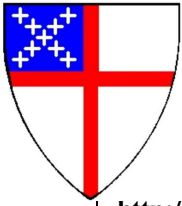
6. Next Meeting Date – Sunday, January 17, 2010, 10:30 a.m. Deb Jenson to do the devotional.

7. Closing Prayer by Mary Mail.

8. Jim Merrill made a motion to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Submitted 12-13-09

Debra Jenson, Clerk



St. Mark's

Episcopal Church

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Beaver Dam, WI 53916

<http://www.powerweb.net/stmark/>

Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee

<http://www.diomil.org>



SAVE THE DATES



Ash Wednesday Service

Feb 17, 2010

6:30 p.m.



Lenten Studies

Tuesdays or Wednesdays

During Lent

2/23-3/24