

St. George's Spearhead: to parish, neighbor, and world

St. George's Anglican Church - a CANA Parish
56 Main Street, Helmetta, New Jersey 08828

Spring - Summer
Volume 494

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

This triumphant cry is circling the globe on this glorious Easter Day and proclaims an event and celebrates a person that changed everything for good. More than that, Easter changed your life and mine because we are an EASTER PEOPLE!

We are a people of FAITH. Not a faith in some obscure philosophy, or some vague hope, but a living faith in a living person, JESUS OF NAZARETH whom we now know to be the CHRIST. But how can we be sure? Our faith rests secure on the evidence of the resurrection and the testimony of . . .

- * women who went to the tomb on that first Easter morning
- * more than 500 people saw him after the resurrection - it was no make-believe
- * Peter and the other apostles whose lives were forever changed
- * the Church throughout the ages
- * and people today who have experienced resurrection power in their own lives as they have come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

We are a people who have known FORGIVENESS. When Jesus cried out, "Father, forgive them," he was not just declaring forgiveness for those at the foot of the cross on that first Good Friday; he was setting in motion forgiveness for all those who would turn to him. That includes the thief next to him, the apostle Peter, and you and me. No longer do we need to live in the darkness of our sins, separated from God, but we can have fellowship with him. The wall of separation has been broken down - we have been forgiven. And that forgiveness is contagious. Not only have we been forgiven but

we have been given the strength to forgive others also.

We are a people set FREE - set free to laugh! Set free to love! Set free to see miracles! Set free to serve! We are also . . .

Set free from FEAR of FAILURE. Let's face it: the cross looked like the greatest failure of all - but Easter shows it to be the greatest victory. And we have the promise that the same Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will also empower us and turn our defeats into his victories.

Set free from FEAR of DEATH. No longer do we look at death as being the end of everything. No longer are we in bondage to the hopelessness that surrounds death without Christ. Instead, as EASTER people we can look at death and see it swallowed up by Jesus' victory: the sting is gone!

But perhaps the greatest wonder of all is that we are a people set free to accept or reject God's love. This Easter Day I am sure that there are many people sitting in churches who have heard the Easter story but have never responded to it - never said yes to the gift of FAITH, the offer of FORGIVENESS, or the adventure of being set FREE. This would be a very good day to respond and become an EASTER PERSON!

AMEN!
Your Brother in Christ,
+Martyn

The Rt. Rev'd Martyn Minns
Missionary Bishop of CANA

HE IS
RISEN



The mission of St. George's Church is to know Christ as our Lord and Savior, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, to love Him, serve Him, and witness His love to the world.

Contact Us:

St. George's Anglican Church

Telephone: 732-521-0169
Fax: 732-521-0893
Mail: 56 Main Street Helmetta NJ 08828
E-mail: StGeorgeChurch @verizon.net
Web: StGeorgesHelmetta.org

Deacon: The Rev. Greg Ventura
Administrator: Kristen Tabert
Editor: Kathryn Hackett-Fields

St. George's Vestry:

Wardens:

2011: Steve Bauman – Senior Warden
2012: Barbara Raczynski – Junior Warden

Vestry:

2011: Jim Charlton, Peter Cirrotti, Douglas Wilson
2012: Bruce Eckman, Doug Miles, Chris Palmer
2013: Jose Gomez

Treasurer: Jan Kwiatkowski

Vestry Clerk: Bev Bauman

Parish Prayer Cycle

Pray each day for revival in the parish, the community, the nation, the world.

Monday: Parish Staff, (Rector, Parish Administrator, Choir Director, Sexton), Vestry, Treasurer

Parish Directory: Albergo-Briggs

Tuesday: The Sunday School, Youth Ministry, Youth Directors, Teachers, Helpers, Nursery and Parents.

Parish Directory: Capobianco-Gomez

Wednesday: Outreach, Evangelism, Alpha, Hospitality Activities, Newcomers Committee, Communications.

Parish Directory: Gray-Lackey

Thursday: Pastoral Care, Prayer Chain, Order of St. Luke, Alcoholism Counseling, AA Group, Al-Anon Group, South County Day Care and Prison Ministry.

Parish Directory: Lang-Ogden

Friday: Stewardship, Finance, Property, Scholarship Committee, Publicity, use and care of earth's resources.

Parish Directory: Oros-Simonelli

Saturday: Worship leaders, Choir, Praise Band, Musicians, Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, Altar Guild, Ushers, and Greeters.

Parish Directory: Smith-Zeintek

Sunday: Come and Worship!

Putting it All Together

Jan Kwiatkowski

Have you ever had the experience where all the "piece parts" just come together and the "big picture" emerges? That's what happened for me during Holy Week.

Over a year ago, the theme of the 2011 Women's Retreat started to solidify. Knowing the retreat was scheduled during Lent, we talked about focusing on the women at the cross, Mary and Mary Magdalene, and walking through the Stations of the Cross. Fast forward one year, to the April 8th-10th retreat, where we covered the planned material, as well as viewed The Passion of the Christ. With those images fresh in my mind, Palm Sunday was my first Sunday following the retreat.

At the same time, the Wednesday AM Bible study, of which I am a part, has been studying the Gospel of John. The Holy Spirit arranged it so that we were studying the last days of Jesus' life on earth the few weeks prior to the retreat. Digging into the Gospel, we learned small tidbits, such as the branch upon which the soaked sponge that was offered to Jesus as He hung on the cross, was hyssop – the same branch that was used to brush the blood of the lambs on the door lintels. We learned a Jewish man wore 5 articles of clothing and 4 soldiers accompanied the condemned on their way to crucifixion. Each of the soldiers took one article of clothing – and lots were cast for the fifth. These tidbits of information formed pictures in my mind as I listened to the readings on Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

In watching The Passion of the Christ, there was a scene where Pilate's wife urges him to have "nothing to do with that man". I took the part of Pilate's wife on Palm Sunday. In listening to the Passion as it was read on Palm Sunday, I could "see" the various scenes. I could see Jesus arrested in the garden; of Him standing in front of the Sanhedrin. I could see Pilate washing his hands. I could not shake the look of utter desolation on Mary's face as her Son was laid in her arms. The Gospel became alive for me.

Alleluia! The story does not end at the cross. He is alive! He has risen! As Fr. Johnny "boiled it down" for us on Easter morning....."Jesus wins". Thank you, God, for truly giving me a "Holy Week".

CANA THANK OFFERING

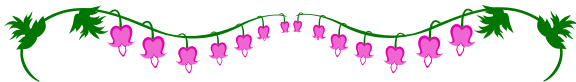
Remember the United Thank Offering (UTO)? Established in 1889, the UTO was a ministry of the women of the Episcopal Church. As a parish, we supported the UTO through our Spring and Fall ingatherings (remember the little blue boxes which would hold our spare change?).

The women of CANA have a similar ministry. For the past several years, the women of CANA have collected gift cards and sent them to the annual CANA Council Meeting with our elected CANA Council representative. The gift cards are then distributed throughout the year as encouragement to those who are in need in our CANA family.

During the month of June, we will have our own "ingathering" for this important CANA women's ministry. Rather than collecting gift cards as we have done in the past, we will be accepting monetary donations that will subsequently be used to purchase the gift cards.

Please use the "Special offering" line on your Sunday envelope to indicate your donation for the "CANA Thank Offering". Marking the Special offering line will ensure your donation is accurately recorded for your annual envelope offering statement.

Bless you and thank you for your support of this CANA women's ministry.



Clara Ericson Scholarship

Applications for the Clara Ericson Scholarship are available through the Parish Office. Please contact Kristen at stgeorgechurch@verizon.net or during office hours at 732.521.0169 to request an application. Applications can be picked up or sent via e-mail. The deadline for all applications will be Monday, June 6, 2011.

There is an additional scholarship opportunity available for any student who is interested in coordinating our Blood Drive this year courtesy of NJ Blood Services. Please contact the parish office for more information.

ANNUAL BASEBALL OUTING

Dust off your hats and baseball gloves, St George's Church will again go see the Lakewood Blue Claws (Philadelphia Phillies farm team) versus the Augusta Green Jackets (San Francisco Giants farm team) July 23rd, Saturday, at 7:05 pm for our annual baseball picnic outing. This year, we will be in the third base side picnic area.

Also new for 2011; Southern Style BBQ Picnic menu including: Honey BBQ chicken, Carolina pulled pork, Cherry wood smoked beef brisket, Bourbon Soaked baked beans, hot dogs, hamburgers, red skin potato salad, coleslaw, watermelon, fresh cookies, fountain soda and water. The prices remain the same as last year \$24.95 per adult, \$16.96 per child (5-12). The picnic starts at 6:00pm and continues for 1 ½ hours. We will be leaving the church on Saturday, July 23 at 5:15pm and car pooling to the game.

Sign-up sheets are available in the bell tower and all monies must be in by June 12th. Please be sure to make all checks payable to "St George's Anglican Church."

We welcome anyone who wishes to have a great time with us at this outing. Come, join us. For any further information call Jim Charlton at 732-348-8822 or e-mail me at charlton-james@ymail.com.



Jennifer Sands

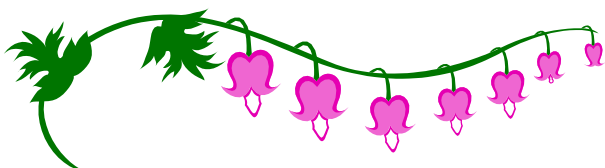
June 17, 2011

Jennifer Sands, Christian speaker and author, is coming to St. George's on June 17th, for a very special Ladies Night Out. Beginning at 7:00 PM in Ericson Hall, Jennifer will share her testimony of faith that began with the tragic loss of her husband who was killed in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Jennifer will share the amazing things God has done in her life. She is now determined to spread the Gospel and a message of overcoming trials -- and living everyday life -- through faith and trust in Christ and in the power of His Word.

If you've ever been through the pain of adversity and found yourself thinking, *this can't be happening...*, then Jennifer has encouragement for you. If you've ever searched for answers to life's toughest questions, then she has wisdom to share with you. If you've ever desired the most valuable riches, then Jennifer has a priceless treasure to offer you.

Please mark your calendars, as you don't want to miss this very special event. Invite your mother, sister, cousin, aunt, daughter, granddaughter, girl friend!

Help will be needed with set up, hospitality, and clean up. Please note how you can help on the sheet on the Bell Tower bulletin board. A free-will offering will be taken.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MAY

- 5 Vestry Reports due
- 8 **Mother's Day**
- 16 Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm
- 18 Last Women's Bible Study until September
- 21 **Armed Forces Day**
- 30 **Memorial Day**

JUNE

- 2 **Ascension Day**
- 12 **Pentecost**
- 17 Ladies' Night Out with Jennifer Sands
- 19 **Trinity Sunday**
- 19 **Father's Day**

JULY

- 4 **Independence Day**
- 7 Vestry Reports due
- 18 Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm
- 23 Annual Baseball Outing

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays:

Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:00 am
Coffee Hour following both morning services

Tuesdays:

Discipleship Group 1 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 8:00 pm

Wednesdays:

Men's Discipleship Group 8:30 am {Panera's}
Morning Prayer and Women's Bible Study 10 am
[will break from May 25 – Sept 7]
Discipleship Group [Smith's] 7:30 pm

Thursdays:

Serenity Seekers (Al-Anon) 1:00 pm
AA Step Meeting 7:00 pm
Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Praise Band Practice 8:00 pm

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR OTHER IMPORTANT DATES AT WWW.STGEORGESHELMETTA.ORG.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The search profile is being finalized now and should be sent to CANA within the next week or two. The next step will be to advertise our listing on the CANA and ACNA websites. We will then receive applicants and likely start talking with candidates in May. The process is moving along nicely and we'll keep you up to date

Love Letters

by Kit Rockwell

Resurrection Symphony

Dear Lord,

The trees, in mid March, were bare. We could see the far bank and the little brook that runs along the bottom of the ravine. Gradually the faintest hint of green appeared. The tiny, new leaves spread a thin, gauze-like cloak of green over the trees.

The cherry tree was among the first to fully leaf out. The sassafras had fuzzy little fists that gradually formed its mitten-like leaves. The maple trees added a rosy red with their blossoms. The oak leaves sprung fully formed, as little miniatures of themselves. The tulip tree's huge leaves soon appeared, and grew rapidly, as if to prepare a fitting rest for their beautiful yellow flowers, that will float like lovely water lilies on them.

One of the last to come was the leaves of the stately beech. Their tightly bound brown buds developed green tips that grew into its long graceful leaves.

It was like a great symphony that was led by You, Lord. Each tree played its part and brought forth its individual leaves; as the musical instruments in a great symphony orchestra bring forth their individual sound to create music.

Last of all, the locust tree, in a grand finale, burst forth not only in graceful, hanging leaves, but covered in beautiful white blossoms.

It is as if the locust tree, like St. Thomas, finally recognized You as the risen Lord, and joined in the Resurrection song.

Love,
Kit



Holy Week

Holy Week began with a glorious Palm Sunday service led by The Rev. Harry Zeiders. Fr. Zeiders is the CANA Chief of Staff and came to us from Virginia. Service began in the parish hall with the Blessing of the Palms. In song, we all processed into the church giving glory to God. The service began joyfully and ended with the solemn thought of what was to come during the week.

We were very blessed to have The Rev. Johnny Kurcina, from Falls Church, Virginia officiate at all the Holy Week services this year. The solemn and holy time began with Maundy Thursday and the Stripping of the Altar. As Fr. Kurcina removed each item from the altar, it reminded us of how bare and barren our life would be without Christ. The service ended in silence and only the plain wooden cross remained on the altar.

On Good Friday was conducted with the service of Tenebrae. It had been many, many years since this service was held at St. George's. Tenebrae, which means shadows, grew from a combination of night prayer and early Morning Prayer, with a focus on reading the Passion. Several readers took their parts and Fr. Kurcina spoke for Jesus. The significant part of this service is the gradual extinguishing of the lights in the church and the twelve candles on the temporary altar. The candles represent the apostles and all followers of Christ. There is also a larger candle, called the Christ candle. The candles were placed in a ^ shape and the Christ candle was in the middle. The temporary altar was draped in purple. As each reader completed their part, one by one the candles were extinguished, and the church grew darker. The dramatic point of this service occurred with complete darkness, a very loud drum sound at the death of Jesus and the Christ candle removed from the altar. Although there was a notice informing everyone about the darkness and the loud sound, many shared how they were very startled when it actually happened. Fr. Kurcina replaced the Christ candle to the altar, and closed with prayer. Soft lighting was returned to the church, and all left in silence. The service of Tenebrae touched many hearts and souls, and is something worth repeating.

Glorious Easter! And what a glorious day it was; radiant sunshine, perfect weather, and the

church was packed. Christ is Risen, Indeed, and all came to worship. Fr. Kurcina led a service that gave Christ all the glory and a homily that gave us all a few things to think about.

If Holy Week can be good; and we can be blessed by it, then this was truly a Holy of Holy Weeks.



WHO SHOULD READ THE BIBLE?

The Young - To learn how to live.
The Old - To know how to die.

The Ignorant - For wisdom.
The Learned - For humility.

The Rich - For compassion.
The Poor - For comfort.

The Dreamer - For enchantment.
The Practical - For counsel.

The Weak - For strength.
The Strong - For direction.

The Haughty - For warning.
The Humble - For exaltation.

The Troubled - For peace.
The Weary - For rest.

The Doubting - For assurance.
The Sinner - For salvation.

The Christian - For guidance.

- Author Unknown



Women's Retreat

The 2011 Women's Retreat was held on April 8th-10th in Ocean Grove, NJ. Twenty-eight women attended the retreat, ranging in age from 20 to 90!

The theme of the retreat was "The Way of the Cross". Teachings were delivered on Mary (A Faith to Follow) and Mary Magdalene (Delivered From Darkness). Small group sessions followed each teaching, providing the opportunity for deeper reflection on the teachings and sharing of thoughts. We walked through the Stations of the Cross, following the familiar Good Friday (evening) service. Saturday evening we watched the moving film, The Passion of the Christ. We concluded each day with worship (Compline; An Order for Evening; Morning Prayer)

Although we are committed to "what happened in Ocean Grove, stays in Ocean Grove", the women do wish to share their thoughts on "What this retreat meant to me".

- Wonderful opportunity to get to know everyone better and share in the praise and worship of our Lord. The shore setting added to the serenity and peacefulness we all love.
- Thank you, Lord, for putting the "right" people in my path.
- A better understanding of the cross and a growth for me.
- Last year I prayed and worked on a relationship. I'm grateful to my Lord that our relationship is much better and stronger.
- Getting spiritually centered; getting to know new people.
- A time of release, spiritual health and refreshment.
- Peace in my heart!
- Reinforcement of my faith and my role as a servant.
- Lets me know how much I am loved.
- It meant spending time with the beautiful women of St. George's. I received peace and joy from all the women and wonderful fellowship and many laughs.
- This retreat in Lent was very special. Jesus Christ was dominant – our love for each other came next.
- Peace, fellowship, love
- Finding peace, renewal of a different depth of faith.

- A time of loving presence, one with another, and with Christ.
- I needed to be here and get refreshed in the Lord! I needed to see once again what it cost my Lord to bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom. To Him be honor and glory forever. Amen!
- A joyful renewal of faith and a fulfillment of Christ's meaning to all of us.
- Being aware of others' pain. Watching the film – what a sissy I am about pain.
- Jesus is always there for me.
- It brought an awakening for my spirit and knowledge to my mind. It also brought me a bond with my sisters in Christ.
- The power of God's love in our hearts and in our relationships with all of God's children.
- That Jesus loves me that much to die for me.
- I thought it was a wonderful time, very spiritual time, and I feel closer to my sisters in Christ.
- The ladies touched and healed my soul. Their love is of our Father. I will take that love with me and pay it forward.
- I love the "getting to know you" aspect of these retreats. Women need women for support and love for one another.
- My faith was rekindled in you, Lord. I know that you will help my family and I through the trying times ahead. Through Him and with Him all things are possible.
- Helped me connect with peers on a spiritual level.
- "His sacrifice on Calvary has made the mighty cross a tree of life to me." This retreat has made this more clear and defined to me and I look forward to sharing this great truth. Praise and glory to my Lord.

Thank you to all who helped with the retreat and to all who participated!



The Whole Armor *[For All]*

Blessings and Peace in the Easter season of light, beauty and awe at what God has done for us. On Palm Sunday, Rev. Harry Zeiders' sermon brought to me 2 visions: a window like you would find in an old, neglected home, and the crowd of witnesses described in Revelation [ref].

I hope that any regular Sunday congregant is noticing the excitement and vibrant energy coming from all of our Celebrants. In addition to Deacon Greg, we have been treated with a glimpse of what Anglican clergy bring to worship and teaching. For those serving these men at the altar in various ways, and in the ministry of music and ushering, these visits bring certain challenges. But there has been no grumbling, just laughter and spiritual gifts of serving, hospitality and encouragement, as we have been taught.

The *window* in the vision is seen at once from both outside and inside. It's an old wooden-framed window, paint thick and encrusted at the edges from many, many layers; the color is now a light but deep green. From the outside, the paint has peeled and in spots, the bare wood can be seen. It's obvious that this window hasn't been opened in quite some time. If you know something about glass, you would recognize that this is very old window glass – it's uneven in surface and so the view is somewhat twisted and not at all as precise as the view you'll see when you step outside.

Fr. Zieders challenged us with some visions, also, some larger (more breathtaking) than others, yet if I think back, we have been similarly challenged by our parish leaders. Since I'm writing this before Easter Sunday, I can only imagine the strength of the Holy Spirit's coming wind, but I know it will come with power. This brings me to the *witnesses*. Fr. Bill Guerard...caught up by the Spirit and placed in another vein of life's journey, our friend and brother. He's happy, and we are using our spiritual gifts – there is joy all around! Our church is far from "leaderless." The Vestry and Search Committee are working effec-

tively, supported by prayer. What Fr. Bill kept whole, with much labor and sacrifice, is the path upon which we now all walk – our parish, and this stream of Celebrants flowing around Deacon Greg while we go. And so, I believe “The Whole Armor” must now move from a Youth-centered column to one of encouragement for all, because we’re all moving forward together.

Certain aspects of the Anglican faith, a “high” church, are restrictive despite their beauty. Like the green paint of the inner side of the window, it can seal the window shut. On the outside, Jesus has been knocking for so long for it to open, that some spots are bare! We could just tear out the whole window, and replace it with a heavy plastic triple-chamber efficient one. But we love the old one. The frame reminds us of the need for renewal and revival of the Church. The old panes remind us that all is not as we see it – God’s higher purpose will alter the landscape of tomorrow. But we must open His window.

No, better to cut around the edges of that hardened paint. Sand down the rough edges, marvel at the old weights inside the frame, a bit like our church Tradition. As a community, let’s renew carefully and lovingly, by hand. The hand you reach in Peace to another on Sunday, and the one you open to receive change, your chance to say, “Thank you,” and add (or ask) the giver’s name. You know, once you start working on a window like that, it doesn’t really take long to make it work well again. We are doing a good job of staying together and working as a Church – I look forward to seeing new and familiar “witnesses” each week, and wish you a renewed heart for Easter.

Kathryn Hackett-Fields



St. George’s Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 10 AM – 12 PM. Please remember our neighbors in need whenever you go shopping. We can always use canned or frozen food, personal care items and money.

Maybe you belong to a club or organization that would like to have a food drive? Think of our pantry when planning.

Thanks to all of our volunteers who help keep the pantry running smoothly and serving approximately 25 families each week.

ST. GEORGES VESTRY SEEK- ING FUNDRAISER IDEAS

By Bruce Eckman

At our March meeting, in light of our new mortgage obligation, your Vestry acknowledged the need for many fundraisers small and large. We have already held our first Lenten Fish Dinner, and we have plans for spaghetti dinners and home made pizza nights. As part of this effort we are soliciting ideas from all Parish members. You can call Fundraising Chairman Bruce Eckman at 732-599-4082 or contact the Parish Office or your Vestry person if you want to contribute you time and/or you have a good fundraising idea.

The following form is offered for use in planning your event. You don’t have to complete every last line to use this form. Simply convey the basics of your idea to us and we will work with you to finalize the planning process.

All fundraisers will also serve as opportunities for fellowship between current members of our parish family, and as a chance to show all the members of our community what good works we do here at St Georges. Thank you to Jan Kwiatkowski for several good suggestions already. We look forward to hearing from everybody. It is time to think outside the box. No idea will be rejected out of hand.

Check-list for Fundraising Events

1. What exactly is proposed? _____
2. Is the event in keeping with our stated values and identity? (see Policy Manual) _____
3. What are the date(s), times and location proposed? _____
4. Who will be overall in charge of the event? Bock-up person? _____
5. How much "seed money" will be needed?. What return is expected? _____
6. What is the estimated direct cost? (Speaker, activity, purchased material, etc.) _____
7. What are the estimated promotion and overhead costs (advertising, etc.) _____
8. What is the per person charge? Adult _____; Child _____; Family _____;
9. Number of tickets sales needed to "break even"? _____
10. Who is the "target market" likely to attend? _____; Parish Members, _____; Helmetta residents _____; Friends of Parishioners, _____; Families, _____; Youth, _____; Men, _____; Women, _____; Other _____
11. What support would be needed from parishioners and Vestry? (Personnel, facility, equipment, etc.) _____

12. Are any permits needed? _____
13. What outside vendors or providers are involved? _____
14. Will the event be held on parish property or someplace else? _____
- L5. Additional Comments or explanation: