

St. John-In-The-Wilderness
Episcopal Church



THE CRIER

Year 2009, Issue 12

December 2009

Priest: Rev. Eric Brechner
Deacon:
The Rev. Martha Dooley
Organist & Choir Director:
Susan Arnold
Sr. Warden: Lu Ann Watson
Jr. Warden: David Reilly
Office Manager: Ruth Kearney

Vestry:
2007-2009
Patricia Hayden
Christine Botto
Tammy Moffett

2008-2010
Joe Janney
Virgil Johnson
Lelesi Samuel

2009-2011
Al Kohlmyer
Marilyn Pereira
April Mae Rugletic

Treasurer: Margaret Cavanaugh

“Crier” Editor:
April Mae Rugletic

ECW Co-Chairs:
Chris Botto & Susan Cavanaugh

ECW Treasurer:
Pat Hayden

Altar Guild President:
Dorothy Mueller

Church School Superintendent:
Cathy Brackin

Outreach: Dcn. Marty Dooley

Christian Cupboard:
Dcn. Marty Dooley
Bev Owens

April Mae Rugletic
Sexton: Mary Moffett



Mission Statement

The Episcopal Church of St. John-in-the-Wilderness is a welcoming, inclusive Christian community. We joyfully worship God in Christ Jesus with heart, mind and spirit and share the Good News of God’s love and saving grace.

Our ministry is established by God in Baptism and is nurtured continually through the Eucharist.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, we continue Christ’s work in the world.



John the Baptist said, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord,” as the prophet Isaiah said.”

(John 1:23)

Ham Dinner ~ December 5

Our great thanks to all who participated in our Annual Ham Dinner at St. John's this year. Joe Janney headed up and supervised the dinner, and so many other helped. The kitchen and downstairs were brought to order (after our water damage) by Joe Janney, Bonnie Winther, David Reilley, Dot Mueller, and Joe Donahue; the wintry-themed decorations (very appropriate to the snowy night, as it turned out) were set by Pat Hayden; many helped in the kitchen: Janet Greco, Claire Bryan, Chris Botto, Karen Janney; and Blaire Janney and Katie Botto helped to serve. A festive basket (arranged by Janet Greco) was offered for chances – congratulations to Cecelia Walters who won! Our thanks to all who sold and bought tickets and donated towards the dinner.

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Mitten Tree



The Mitten Tree will be up through the first weeks of December. Please bring in mittens, knitted caps, scarves, etc. to pin on the Mitten Tree.

All donations will go to benefit the Group Homes of Camden County. Please see Dot Mueller for details.

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Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

On Thursday, December 24th there will be no morning service.

The Family Eucharist for Christmas Eve will be at 6:00 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m. the Choir will present Christmas Music. The Festal Eucharist will begin at 11:00 p.m.

On Friday, December 25, the Eucharist for Christmas Day will be at 9:00 a.m.

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Thanks to Mikel Rice 12-19-2008
 THE "MANGER-ON-THE-GO" WAS BY FAR THE TOP SELLING STROLLER IN BETHLEHEM THAT YEAR

To Acknowledge:

In the November "Crier," in our Thank-you to those who helped with the Basket Auction, we failed to recognize Jerry (Jr.) and Jerry (III) Rugletic who both assisted with the setting up and taking down of the many tables and chairs.

Also, in thanking those who helped in the wake of the burst pipe downstairs, we omitted Joseph Donohue and his two children, Joseph and Katie, who helped to mop and clean up.

Thank you all for your time and service!

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Christian Cupboard

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS



The generosity of our parish is always amazing but never surprising. Gathering and packing goods for the Thanksgiving boxes, we were able provide food for a week for 15 families.

Come that Sunday, when families were to pick up their boxes, we were not surprised once again to see even MORE food donations from our parish. These, we thought, put us on our way to preparing Christmas food boxes for these same 15 families.

It does the heart good to know of such generosity especially when seen on the faces of those we serve in our community. They are graciously thankful to St. John in-the-Wilderness.

We ask your continued service to give these families a Christmas feast and food for a week.

Your Neighbors Need:

- Canned or Dried Beans ~ Canned fruit and Vegetables ~ Cold or Hot Cereal ~ Cranberry Sauce ~ Desserts (Cookies, brownie mix, Jello, pudding) ~ Macaroni and Cheese Pasta and Pasta Sauce ~ Rice, Dried Peas Soup (Canned or Dried) ~ Tuna fish Canned Meats ~ Peanut Butter and/or Jelly Pancake mix & syrup ~ Stuffing mix Sweet Potatoes / White Potatoes

HAMS / Turkeys / Turkey Breasts

Supermarket Gift Cards

Please bring your donations and place them in the Christian Cupboard basket at the back of the church.

If you have any questions, please see Deacon Marty.

OUTREACH NEWS:

*PAPER PRODUCTS/TOILETRIES
DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY*

The second Sunday of this month is designated for the collection of paper products and toiletries, and **the third Saturday of the month** is the day of distribution of these items. **The next ingathering will be on the day of Sunday, November 15th, and distribution will be Saturday, November 21st**

Baby Supplies

(ALL items need replenishing)

Disposable Diapers: Sizes 1 & 2 and especially Sizes 3, 4, 5; Pull-ups Training Pants
Baby Wipes, Baby Wash, Shampoo,
Lotion and Powder

Other (ALL items need replenishing)

- ~ Liquid Dish Soap ~ Liquid Laundry Detergent
- ~ Toilet Paper ~ Paper Towels ~
- ~ Tissues ~ Napkins ~ Shaving Cream & Razors ~ Toothbrushes w/covers ~
- ~ Toothpaste ~ Bath/Bar Soap ~ Deodorant (Unisex) ~ Shampoo ~
- ~ Feminine Hygiene Products ~

\$ \$ \$ Monetary Donations
are also greatly appreciated. **\$ \$ \$**

If you have any questions,
please contact Deacon Marty.

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Thanks to Nadine Fafard (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-24-2001

THAT'S THE BEST ONE-STAR HOTEL THAT I'VE EVER SEEN

KIDS' CONNECTION EXPLORES PSALM 23

On November 1, we started our rotation on Psalm 23 in the computer room. We spoke about the metaphor of God as the shepherd. The shepherd gives the sheep everything they need: food, water, rest, protection. Then we used one of our favorite programs, Cal & Marty. The humorous hosts John Calvin and Martin Luther (Cal & Marty) led us through unscrambling the psalm, verse by verse. The kids really enjoyed this.

The second week we had a fun lesson in the kitchen. We recited Psalm 23 and shaped breadsticks into shepherd's crooks. The shepherd would use his crook to rescue the sheep from dangerous situations. While the breadsticks were baking, we discussed verse 5 of the psalm, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." Sometimes there are people with whom we are not comfortable because they are different than us. At lunchtime, we all tend to choose to sit near our friends. But God wants all people to find peace among themselves. Next we made Reconciliation Lemonade. The sour lemons remind us that life can sometimes be sour. In order to actually swallow the lemon juice, we would have to add sugar. We squeezed our lemons and made lemonade and were reminded that God's loving presence brings us to a place of peace where we can celebrate that everyone is at the table.

The following week the rotation concluded with a visit from a shepherd (AKA Jerry R.) After hearing about the shepherd's life, we moved into the art room to weave shepherd's headbands. Yarn was woven in and out of drinking straws. The kids LOVED this craft.

Next we will start our new rotation, "The Incarnation."

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Advent Calendar

He will come like last leaf's fall.
 One night when the November wind
 has flayed the trees to bone, and earth
 wakes choking on the mould
 the soft shroud's folding.

He will come like the frost.
 One morning when the shrinking earth
 opens on mist, to find itself
 arrested in the net
 of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.
 One evening when the bursting red
 December sun draws up the sheet
 and penny-masks its eye to yield
 the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,
 will come like crying in the night,
 like blood, like breaking,
 as the earth writhes to toss him free.
 He will come like child.

Rowan Williams
Archbishop of Canterbury

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(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-25-2001

A CHILD IS BORN

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December Calendar

See below

December 2009



“What babe new born is this that in a manger cries?
 Near on her lowly bed his happy mother lies.
 Oh, see the air is shaken with white and heavenly wings - -
 This is the Lord of all the earth, this is the Kings of Kings.”
 ~ *Richard Watson Gilder* ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 6 PM ~ Bible Study	3 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist & Healing	4	5 4 to 7 PM ~ Ham Dinner
6 <u>2nd Advent</u> 8 & 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 10:45 AM ~ Coffee and Kids' Connection 11:30 AM ~ ECW Meeting	7	8	9 7:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 6 PM ~ Bible Study	10 Advent Clergy Day with the Bishop, Trenton	11	12
13 <u>3rd Advent</u> 8 & 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist (Ingathering for OUTREACH) 10:45 AM ~ Coffee and Kids' Connection	14	15	16 7:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 6 PM ~ Bible Study	17 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist & Healing	18	19 10 AM ~ OUTREACH Distribution
20 <u>4th Advent</u> 8 & 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 10:45 AM ~ Coffee and Kids' Connection 11:30 AM ~ VESTRY Meeting	21	22	23 7:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 6 PM ~ Bible Study	24 <u>Eve of the Nativity</u> 6 PM ~ Family Eucharist 10:30 PM ~ Music 11 PM ~ Festal Eucharist 	25 <u>The Nativity</u> 9:00 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 	26
27 8 & 9:30 AM ~ Holy Eucharist 10:45 AM ~ Coffee and Kids' Connection	28	29	30	31`		