



Grace Episcopal Church Honesdale, Pa.
Founded 1832

Grace Notes

of GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Rev'd Edward K. Erb, *rector*

827 Church Street
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431
(570) 253-2760

LATE SUMMER 2009

PARSON'S CORNER

"SCHOOL DAYS"

I remember years ago at University, registration day for grad students. The Field House was a scene from many movies - long lines waiting for the Bursar to accept your check, registrars waiting to verify your schedule and numerous tables and booths of organizations and clubs waiting to fill your schedule with extra-curricular activities. So many things happening, so many things vying for your participation.

A new academic year. And I have a sense of that same anxiety at Church. Youth Group, Church School, Choirs, everyone returning from vacations with stories to tell, the Fall Rummage Sale, Stewardship program waiting in the Wings, oh, and over there is a sign-up for First Communion Classes, and do you think I should volunteer to be a Chalice-bearer this year - oh, and what's this CROP-Walk thing?

This issue of *Grace Notes* is jam-packed with current offerings, a veritable Field House of possibilities. All of which are meaningful activities, clubs, organizations, committees. And we would love to have 100% of the Parish sign-up for each event. But just like at University, maybe you'd be better at Glee Club than the Rugby Team. Do you really need to take Communion 101? I think maybe an advance seminar on St. Luke's Gospel would be better for me right now. It's a pre-requisite for service in healing ministries...

There is a double-edged and sharpened sword here. You can just back away and say, "Sorry, my schedule is already full. Maybe some other semester." And of course, that time never comes. Or you can sign up for way too many things, and then you flunk out because of burn-out. The best option is to pick one committee, one activity, one group - whatever it may be - and devote yourself to full participation, being responsible to attend meetings, add into the discussion, dream up ideas of creativity. And do it with "gusto"!

Faith is like Education. Church is like School. One does not come in a split second of miraculous transformation to perfection in Christ. At least for many folk, it is a growth process. We are on a journey of bettering ourselves in Christ, and bettering the world around us. And that takes care, training, encouragement, study of Scripture, exercise in prayer and sharing in the community of believers. Being a full participant in the worship life of the Church, for example, means your voice is heard reverberating with sounds of praise and prayer around the walls of Grace Church. It means active movement in the playing field around the Altar. It is buying a place in the stands and boisterously cheering on those who are engaged in action. The analogies are both perverse and profound.

It is a new academic year, and in many ways the Advent of our Church Life. We begin again, and though December begins the Christian year with the anticipation of Christ's coming, we have much to do to get ready for that new era. Take time to read the many offerings listed in this newsletter and become fully involved in your faith with your sisters and brothers at Grace Church.

Come learn with us, come grow with us, come and even play with us. And celebrate the richness of Grace.

Fr. Ed

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

JULY 2009

Vestry Highlights from the July 21, 2009 meeting.

- + Planning is well underway for the annual golf tournament. The mailing will be going out the second week in August.
- + Godly Play will continue as the program for Sunday School in the Fall.
- + ECW fundraisers – Fall rummage sale will be Sept. 11th – 12th.
- + Harvest Home Ham dinner will be Oct. 20th.
- + The Annual Vestry Retreat is scheduled for Oct. 16-18 at the Forest Lake Club.
- + The Steinway piano fund has received some donations thus far and more are being welcomed.
- + Michelle White's last Sunday with us is August 2nd. We will have a party in her honor during coffee hour. Vestry resolved to thank her for her time with us.
- + Judy and Fred will be holding a potato pancake sale the 2nd Sunday in September to benefit Grace Church.
- + September 13th at 6:30 there will be a joint communion service open to all faiths at the Methodist church. This "full communion" celebrates our Christian unity.
- + Fr. Ed discussed that at convention the Episcopal church has recognized that gay and lesbian people are to be accepted for ordination as bishops in the Church, among other actions taken. Adult Forum will discuss General Convention, beginning in September.
- + A CROP- Walk for Hunger is being planned for October 4th by the Ministerium. Fr. Ed will be co-chairing this event

submitted by Paige Corso

At the August meeting,

- + further plans were made for the Golf Outing;
- + plans for repairs to the rectory were discussed;
- + Harvest Home Ham Dinner and the Lions' Club Christmas Dinner were discussed;
- + A review of the summer worship bulletin and communion distribution was made;
- + Finances, though tight, are pretty much on schedule. Rose has a School Tax bill waiting payment.
- + Christian Education plans for a second year of Godly Play are well under way, beginning Sept. 13th



"HEINRICH"

wishes to THANK the following donors to the Piano Fund:

by

James Smith
Val and Donald Morris,
James and Janet Morris
Carl and Betty Roberts
Judy Stephens
Carolyn Wilson
Patricia Sutton
William and Jean Hoerter

Eleanor Young
Todd and Richelle Stephens

Adam and Trisha Hill
Fr. Ed and Susan Erb

in memory of

Dr. Grace Smith

John and Carolyn Morris
Richard Roberts
Wayne Stephens
Earl L. Wilson
Arthur C. Sutton
Alma Nassauer, John Bonivita

in honor of

their wedding
the birth of Adam Douglas Erb



PARISH PICNIC Sunday, August 30th

at Ponderosa Pines Campground
north of Prompton Dam,
maps will be available



meats & beverage
provided

Holy Communion at 11:00
picnic, fun and games throughout the day

home-made
ice-cream, too!

\$5 per person, "a special deal" made for families.
SIGN-UP by Sunday Aug. 23rd

Swimming, volleyball, horseshoes, basketball, baseball, fishing (bring your gear). Paddleboat for our use for the day. Mini-golf available for \$1.00 per person. Two additions this year: Walking trails and Frisbee golf!

There WILL be an 8:00 service at the Church that day. The 11:00 service will be held at the Picnic.

ECW NEWS *The Episcopal Church Women*

The 2009 Episcopal Church Women's Children's Project

+ sweatpants + sweatshirts + undies +

Take advantage of back-to-school specials on children's clothing and help someone in need.

For the 2009 Diocesan Convention we'll be collecting sweatpants and sweatshirts (sizes 5 to 18), plus undies for children at risk. The Convention will be held October 9th and 10th. Our parish delegates will present a token sample during the Offertory at Convention Eucharist. The remainder of the collection will be distributed by us locally. See Jane Bunnell for more information.

Fall Rummage Sale

FRIDAY September 11 9:00 - 3:00
SATURDAY, Sept. 12. 9:00 - 1:00

FREE BAG LUNCH at 11:00 on Saturday!

Bring in your goods and clothing - used not abused - any time now.

SET-UP on Thursday from 9:00 on.

See Jane Bunnell for information.





SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th
“Kick-Off” at 1:00 PM
at The Half-way House Restaurant

Walk, Run or Bike 10 miles, 6 miles, or 3 miles
“We walk because they walk”

In Africa, many have to walk up to 10 miles a day for a meal - just one meal.

Raise money through sponsors to help the hungry in our neighborhood.

Get a packet of information, gather your sponsors, and join us Oct. 4th!
See Fr. Erb or Rose Rosler for your sign-up.

YOUTH - This is your first “service project” for Confirmation Class this year!

WE ALL ARE ONE IN MISSION WE ALL ARE ONE IN CHRIST

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13th at 6:30 PM at
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Honesdale Area Ministerium
Celebrates our Common Communion

as each denomination has nationally worked towards
the implementation of Full Communion -
the sharing of ministries and sacraments

*We join in communion,
as we celebrate common mission.*

The Rev'd Patrick Walker, regional representative for
Church World Service will be our guest preacher. Pastor
Walker has been an integral force in ecumenical work.

Let us join with our brothers and sisters in Christ as we
for the first time celebrate Communion together.

A joint choir will meet earlier that day to sing God's
praise under the direction of Fr. Erb.



“WHERE IN THE WORLD IS...”

No, not Waldo, but CURTIS SAMPSON?

August 15th very early in the morning Curtis and older brother “Pack” flew out of Newark for San Jose, Costa Rica. Pack will be back to Philadelphia in a week and Curtis will be home at Christmas break - return to Costa Rica for the remainder of the school year and be home in June 2010.

Curtis is spending his 11th grade year of high school at Monteverde Friends School on a mountain in the cloud forests of Costa Rica. He will live with a Spanish speaking host family and attend the bilingual high school. He wanted an adventure - more challenge at school - and to see the world. Sounds like he get it all!

“Via con Dios, Curtis!”

CONGRATULATIONS to

MICHELLE WHITE on her new ministry at All Saints' Church, Hoboken New Jersey.

MATT, PAIGE & ETHAN on their new home.

PHILIP ERB & THERESA BLACK on the birth of Adam Douglas, born August 5th.

LESLEE & JOHN KLINKOWICZ on the birth of Leah Morgan, born August 8th.

OFFER YOUR PRAYERS for:

Jennifer & Chauncey Stevens

as they anticipate new birth within the next few weeks.

New life coming once again into the parish!

and for

Trisha Rogers and Adam Hill as they prepare for their wedding on September 6th.

and SPEAKING of NEW LIFE:

We celebrate with Colleen and Charlie Caruso with the baptism of Madison on Saturday, Aug. 29th

A BIG **THANK - YOU** TO

Bob Lathrop for the new banner pole

Judy Driver and Fred Fischerman for the refinished tables in the Parish Hall. What an improvement!
and for their pancake sale this month! We are deeply in your debt for all your hard work.

and don't forget to patronize Fred's new shop: *Taco A-Go-Go* just off Main Street on Chapel St.

The **BLESSING** of **ANIMALS** -

Our annual service of Animal Blessing - cats, dogs, gerbils, goldfish, pythons, you name it.

Saturday, September 26th at 5:00 + in Central Park.

We bless the animals as they bless us, and commit ourselves to their care.



GODLY PLAY SPOKEN HERE !

A Montessori-Style
"Hands-On"

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Beginning Sunday, September 13th at 10:00am

for ages 3 and up.

See Sue Erb for details and for a family registration form.

THE GIDEONS are COMING!

Sunday, September 20th at both 8:00 & 11:00 services, we will welcome representatives from the Gideons, who not only provide Bibles for your hotel room, but send billions of Bibles around the world each year.

For our first Adult Forum on the 20th, they will provide a special presentation detailing the work of the Gideons.

WHAT IS THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH DOING NOW ???

Adult Forum will be looking at the various actions of General Convention this summer. Beginning at 10:00 am on Sunday, September 27th.

Coffee and goodies, of course.

Let's have a lively discussion!

The YOUTH / CONFIRMATION CLASS

will meet for breakfast at 10:00 am on September 13th

Let's plan a fun year of activities and service projects.

First up, is the CROP-Walk on October 4th.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

for September 2009

| | Sept 6 th | Sept 13 th | Sept 20 th | Sept 27 th |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Crucifer:</i> | E. Carroll | C. Carroll | R. Becker | C. Becker |
| <i>Acolyte:</i> | K. Peer O. Johannes | H. Stephens J. Peer | K. Peer O. Johannes | H. Stephens J. Peer |
| <i>Lector:</i> | G. Feldman | M. Corso | J. Bunnell | D. Pursch |
| <i>Intecessor:</i> | D. Lewis | G. Feldman | J. Roskoski | J. Slate |
| <i>Chalicer:</i> | J. Bunnell | J. Slate | V. Cheripko | G. Feldman |
| <i>Altar Guild:</i> | J. Bunnell S. Soden | S. Wilding J. Slate | S. Wilding J. Slate | E. Young F. Mikulak |
| <i>Usher:</i> | BJ Clark J. Merritt | C. Carroll E. Carroll | R. Sampson J. Sampson | P. Mikulak G. Mikulak |
| <i>Coffee Hour:</i> | J. Merritt R. Becker | S. Erb N. Kuzminski | P. Mikulak J. Slate | G. Mikulak J. Bunnell |
| <i>Counters:</i> | L. Erdman J. Merritt | S. Lathrop L. Chavey | G. Lowden N. Johannes | J. Roskoski K. Skinner |

If you cannot serve on a date you are scheduled, please contact someone else on the list to switch - then call the parish office (253-2760) so we can make the change, too.

THANK YOU for all your help!

SIGN-UPS and TRAINING SESSIONS for
 ACOLYTES
 LECTORS/READERS
 INTERCESSORS
 CHALICE-BEARERS
 USHERS
 ALTAR GUILD

It's the beginning of a new season. And with summer over, a good time for new ministries. Stay tuned for schedules of Trainings for Ministries. And see Fr. Erb if you are interested in any of these services to God and the Church.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Remember our Parish family in your Prayers

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as he begins another year. Grant that he may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his trust in your goodness all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sept. 4 - Olivia Johannes
 Sept. 6 - Ethan Becker
 Sept. 12 - Joyce Skinner
 Sept. 16 - James Pasquale
 Sept. 18 - Elana Carroll
 Sept. 27 - Russell Vinton, Jacqueline Dohner
 Sept. 30 - Patrick Sampson

Choir practices start soon!

*Lift your voice, rejoicing -
singing and making a joyful noise to the Lord.*

Stay tuned for times and dates.

Grace Notes

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
827 Church Street
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER 2009