



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

MAY 2009

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## PARSON'S CORNER

C lergy  
R eflexion  
E ducation and  
D iscernment  
O pportunity

The Church Pension Fund offers a number of special programs for clergy, providing guidance for self-care and well-being, keeping your clergy in the Episcopal Church healthy in body, mind and spirit.



*Father Ed at CREDO 1 in San Francisco, 2003*  
OK, so he's more into Reflection than Education!

I have been invited to participate in a second CREDO event held by CPF this month in North Carolina. Normally, they ask the parish and the clergy-member to assist with the expenses, but I am pleased to say that the Pension Fund has offered a full scholarship - including transportation and all costs for the week conference.

Several parishioners, staff, friends and colleagues were asked a month or so ago to evaluate me with 93 questions! (I thank them for agreeing to such a task) On my own, I answered the same questions (to see what my sense of reality is), as well as segments on personal financial, medical/health, and vocational goals. All with the intent of discerning how I am (and how long I will continue to serve in ministry).

One of the issues raised at my first CREDO in 2003 is that I don't take days off, take real vacations. Structured days off (an oxymoron in itself) and vacations are not what I do. Yet I do find ways of re-creating. Perhaps not enough, and perhaps not well, and so my preaching of "Sabbath Rest" doesn't ring true. Which is why I think this photo from CREDO 1 is a hoot. It is who I would love to be, who I desire to be, and who I strive to be - the reflective, quiet, reader, thinker, dreamer.

How does that fit in with where I am in my ministry? With where I am in life? With where I am when I want to be with people and spreading the Gospel message? How to be an introvert in an extrovert profession.

That's what CREDO is all about. Finding the answers to an unbalanced life. While I am gone mid-May, I ask your prayers. But it's OK, cause I'm taking a few days following to go camping in the Great Smokey Mts.!

*Father Erb*

# VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

28 APRIL 2009

VESTRY had to postpone their April meeting and decided to join April and May's meeting due to Fr. Erb's absence in May.

Finance Committee's recommendation was accepted for allocation of the back-rental of the Rectory.

Father Erb shared the number of events/groups who will be using the Parish Hall and Church. The parish is becoming a community center for concerts and meetings.

Vanny & Carolyn Williams, local accountants, are advising Rose Rosler with financial matters.

Dates and plans for Fr. Erb's vacation in May (with Michelle White leading Morning Prayer and preaching on the 17<sup>th</sup>), the Annual Golf Outing, the Vestry Retreat and other events were shared.

Lent and Holy Week services, particularly service bulletins, were reviewed and recommendations made.

## ECW ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING - One in Christ?

WEDNESDAY MAY 13

at Kirby Episcopal House, Glen Summit



What is Christian unity? What would it look like if we had it? On Wednesday, May 13, The Rev. Maria Tjeltveit will explore these questions in her presentation, One in Christ? at the annual meeting of our diocesan Episcopal Church Women at Kirby House. Maria is rector of Mediator Allentown and serves the Diocese of Bethlehem as Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer. She will lead an exploration of the ecumenical movement, including dialogues on the national and international level as well as in our own parishes. This is an opportunity to learn and to share our experiences of working together and connecting with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Jesus prayed

that "they all may be one." Come find out how we, as women and as members of the body of Christ, seek to live out Christ's prayer. Send reservation, \$12, to Catherine Jeffery, 1839 Ulster Road, Allentown, by May 1. No reservations accepted after this deadline. Call Catherine at 610-868-6682.

## SPECIAL GUEST - Sunday, May 3

Fr. Charles and Fr. Fred from Southwestern Uganda.

The Church of the Epiphany in Clarks Summit will share with us one of their guests for a special presentation on Sunday, May 3. Church of the Epiphany has a long-standing ministry of outreach to the Pygmies of Africa. These two priests are visiting the United States to share their story in preaching God's Word.

Epiphany's ministry in Uganda which the Epiphany School, the McMahon Medical Clinic, vehicle donation and the sponsoring of individual children, plus special Christmas gifts and other promotions as needs arise.



Grace Church is honored to have one of these priests visit with us. Please come and welcome them and share our own Christian love for our sisters and brothers in Africa.

# UNITED THANK OFFERING

SPRING IN-GATHERING, SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>

Joan Merritt, our ECW - UTO officer, reminds us to offer Thanksgivings. "Mite Boxes" and envelopes to offer your gifts for God's Many Blessings will be presented at the Altar at services on the first weekend in May.

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: Accept, we pray, these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## BAPTISM by WATER and the SPIRIT

While we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on the feast of Pentecost, Kyle Soden, grandson of Sally Eno Soden will be baptized. Join with us as we welcome a new child into the family of God.

Pentecost is considered the birth of the Church - 50 days following the Resurrection of Christ - when the promise of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled. The Apostles and all those gathered in Jesus' name were energized with the power of God's Spirit to perform many miracles within their own lives and that of others. Each one is given a spiritual talent and a mission.



"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." *Ephesians 4:11-12*

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. *Galatians 5:22-23*

## Morning Prayer

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

Some of us remember in generations past when Holy Communion was only offered monthly, or quarterly, and Morning Prayer was the *de rigore* of Sunday worship. Sadly, many new to the Episcopal Church since the 1970s have not known this most ancient of expressions of our corporate prayer life.

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Michelle White with the Choir will lead us in Morning Prayer and will preach God's Word to us while Father Erb is away.

From the opening Invitatory "*Venite*" and Psalms, through the Morning Canticles *Benedictus* and *Jubilate*, the Preces and Responses, and Collects - we are brought together in Prayer and Singing God's Praise as the routine of daily Christian life. Many people read the "Daily Office" in private, even on-line. Join together, "Come, let us sing to the Lord," and "Be Joyful in God all ye lands."

## WELCOME TO THE PARISH:

Many new faces have appeared at Grace Church the past few months, and we'd like to recognize them. Here are some of the new-comers we want to welcome. Soon we hope to have a new photo directory to help face-name association.

Janet Burgan,

originally from Grace Church NYC, then in moving to PA attended St. James, Callicoon.  
More and more from the northern sector - time to re-open the Church in Pleasant Mount!

Jacqueline and Robert Dohner,

Jackie will be received and Dr. Bob confirmed when Bishop Croneberger visits in June.

Kathy and Harold Krieger,

formerly of St. John's in Hamlin, Kathy & Harold live at Fawn Lake,  
another indication that we need an Eastern worship space, as well!

WELCOME BACK to our Snow Birds as well!

## THE BISHOP IS COMING!

Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> there will be only one service at 11:00 to welcome our Assistant Bishop, Jack Croneberger. The Bishop will make his annual visit for Confirmations and Receptions. Bishop Jack is a local native, having been rector of St. Mark's Moscow, and now retired bishop of Newark NJ.

"Reception" is made for those who have been confirmed with the laying on of hands of a Bishop in a church with which the Episcopal Church is in Communion - The Roman Catholic, National Catholic Churches (Polish, for example), Lutheran, Moravian, the various Orthodox Churches.

"Confirmation" is required of any one who has been Baptized, but not confirmed in a Church with which the Episcopal Church is in Communion.

If anyone is interested in becoming a full-fledged, card-carrying Episcopalian, please see Fr. Erb soon. Plan also to be with us to celebrate the occasion, and to fellowship with Bishop Jack.

## A BIG THANK - YOU TO

Fred Fisherman, who has been helping Judy with many, many tasks and hard chores around the parish. Stripping and waxing floors, cleaning the garage and basement, carrying and lifting many heavy items

## CONGRATULATIONS !

To Al Schwartz and Lois Avery who exchanged vows of matrimony before a large gathering of family on Easter afternoon! Definitely a match made in heaven! God's blessings be upon you both.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE

## for May 2009

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
<i>Crucifer:</i>	C. Lathrop	C. Carroll	B. Pursch	C. Lathrop	M. White
<i>Acolyte:</i>	C. Carroll E. Carroll	K. Peer O. Johannes	H. Stephens J. Peer	C. Carroll E. Carroll	K. Peer O. Johannes
<i>Lector:</i>	M. Corso	J. Bunnell	D. Pursch	K. Skinner	G. Feldman
<i>Chalicer:</i>	V. Cheripko	G. Feldman	(Morning Prayer)	J. Roskoski	J. Bunnell
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	F. Mikulak E. Young	J. Slate S. Lathrop	J. Slate S. Lathrop	S. Soden	S. Soden
<i>Usher:</i>	Robin Sampson Jim Sampson	G. Mikulak P. Mikulak	C. Stevens J. Stevens	BJ Clark J. Merritt	C. Carroll E. Carroll
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	G. Mikulak J. Merritt	C. Smith E. Young	S. Soden D. Lewis	R. Sampson D. Pursch	V. Cheripko C. Escalona
<i>Counters:</i>	J. Bunnell R. Becker	L. Erdman R. Sampson	K. Skinner J. Merritt	G. Lowden N. Johannes	E. Young P. Mikulak

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!*

## MAY 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.

May 9 - Nichole Johannes	May 18 - Joshua Vinton
May 9 - Maria Zengion	May 19 - Kyle Peer
May 15 - Marie Roskoski	May 22 - Hobert Gunuskey Jr.
May 15 - Cynthia Smith	May 28 - Jane Cable
May 17 - Margaret Sampson	

SPONSOR OUR YOUTH -  
ROCKING & ROLLING,  
and ROCK CLIMBING CHALLENGE



## RUMMAGE SALE

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, May 29 & 30**  
**9:00 - 1:00**

**SPRING & SUMMER GOODS & CLOTHING**

Bring in your used items in good condition - "used, not abused"  
to aid those who could benefit from your un-needed goods.

Don't forget Set-Up, Sales Clerks, and Clean-Up!

## YOUNG ARTISTS RECITAL

42 musicians from Elementary to High School competed.  
20 will be presented in concert.

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30 PM  
come enjoy and support our next generation of stars.

## The CHOIR of St. TIKHON'S SEMINARY in concert

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM  
Sacred Music of the Paschal Mystery

The acappella choir of 8 students under the direction of Fr. Sergius,  
superior of St. Tikhon's Monastery, in South Canaan PA. A free-will  
offering will be accepted to benefit the Choir as they begin their tour.



## ROCKING & ROLLING

The Youth are Rocking and Rolling this month:  
Saturday - Sunday, May 2-3, 24-hours in a rocking or wheel-chair. Raising money for a projector,  
the Youth Fund, and for African Mission.

Plus, Rock-Climbing at Camp Watonka on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> - Ask for info. All are welcome.

**GRADUATES** - We honor our graduates in their accomplishments on Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup> Tell us  
who are graduating this year from High School, College, Grad School.



## MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25 at 9:00 A.M.

(prior to the Main St. parade and celebration in Central Park)

### Mass in Memoriam

of those who have given their life in the pursuit  
of justice, freedom and peace.

A Book of Remembrance will be placed in the Church Tower  
for names of those soldiers, sailors, airmen and women  
who have fallen in battle.

We offer our thanks, and share in the Communion of All Saints.

# *Grace Notes*

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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