



Grace Episcopal Church Honesdale, Pa.
Founded 1882

Grace Notes

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

827 Church Street
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431
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EPIPHANY-TIDE 2012

PARSON'S CORNER

The "Green" Season of Epiphany

HOW WE SAVE

The Season of Epiphany (Greek, for "Showing" - the showing, or demonstrating, of Christ to the world) is one of two "Green Seasons" of the Church Calendar. The other is the Summer weeks between the feast of Pentecost and the season of Advent. The color green was selected centuries ago for these times when the Lessons each Sunday reflect the growth of the Church, from the calling of the Disciples, to the spread of the Gospel throughout the known world. A season of growth - and a season of Stewardship.

I often say that the Episcopal Church (from our heritage in the Church of England) is the "Green Church." We have a foundation of the Celtic and Druid sensitivity to the holiness of Creation - especially as Christ came to indwell that Creation which God touched from the beginning of time. For that reason, I believe we have a mission to be good stewards of that Creation which God loves so much. We live that out in one way by being constantly alert to ecology and proper (Godly) use of the earth's resources.

A Green Season begs to ask the question, "How are we green?" Since January is also the time for our annual parish meeting, when among elections and other business, our Vestry presents the annual parish Budget, it is important again to ask, "How do we save?". So... How do we as a parish save? Are we good stewards of our offerings, donations, property and investments?

First let's look at the stewardship of the physical plant which former generations have provided for us. Are we taking care of preserving that great gift for future generations? Through the generous support of the annual Golf Outing, we are able to do many routine maintenance chores - you'll hear of the progress of some of those projects at the Annual Meeting. And yet, there is much more to which we need be responsible. We look particularly at heat conservation with restored doors, replaced window panes, and reduced thermostat settings. We have been honored by various local agencies for our "green" use of electricity - replacing even high wattage bulbs in the Church chandeliers with CFP bulbs.

Another area of our stewardship is communication. We have reduced the amount of printing of newsletters by sending out electronically, and by reducing the number of editions from the traditional monthly to seasonal Grace Notes. Many communications are done by e-mail. We personally hand out printed copies rather than mailing. And yet we have the challenge to increase how modern we are with our technology. We need to explore group texting, for example, as many are no longer even reading e-mails.

One perhaps unusual way we are stewards is our recycling program. Each week a trip is made to the county recycling center with cans, plastics, glass, cardboard (a *lot* of cardboard!), and office paper. One of parishioners "scraps" other unused discarded and irreparable items found in the basement, closets, etc. Another aspect of recycling is in our regular rummage sales. Not only does that allow you to clean out your closets, garages and attics, but it puts those items in the hands of others at a minimal cost.

These are just some of the ways we seek to save - both the parish finances, and the resources of God's creation. I encourage you to suggest others, and help us be a "green" parish. God breathes life and incarnates Creation. It is our responsibility to be stewards of the Mission to Restore and Renew that Creation.

Father Ed

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2011

At its December meeting, Vestry:

- + Heard the tentative report on the St. Nicholas Faire, that an anticipated \$1,700-1,800 profit was made. Thanks to many people for the sense of parish joy that was spread to the community.
- + Reviewed the holy day schedule of services and events. In addition to the Christmas Eve services, there will be only one service on Christmas Day at 11:00am preceding the annual dinner. A normal schedule will be held on New Year's Day at 8:00 & 10:00.
- + The Christmas pageant is well-planned this year by Richelle Stephens for the 4:00 service.
- + Our emergency shelter is getting ready to open again this year. Several new volunteers have come forward. We are exploring the possibility of purchasing one or two AEDs (emergency defibrillator); Fr. Ed is checking into grants.
- + Potentials for Nominations to Vestry and Diocesan Convention were discussed. Lee Erdman, John Sullivan and Jeanne Roskoski end their terms this year. Lee and John are eligible for a second term. Several names were suggested and will be asked to run for election.
- + The Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 15th. We will have one service that weekend at 9:00 am on Sunday with a covered dish brunch and meeting at 10:00.
- + Grace Church has been asked to be one of the host sites for the next Diocesan Renewal Assembly on Saturday, February 11th. We will be providing a simple soup and sandwich lunch.
- + The proposed Budget for 2012 was presented. We anticipate a \$13,000 deficit for the coming year. The good news is that the Estimate of Giving has increased considerably. It may be that an additional \$3,000 can be cut if we are careful in spending.

FEBRUARY 2nd - ~~GROUND-HOG~~ SQUIRREL DAY

There's a joke around the office. I'll walk into the kitchen to get some coffee, find something that needs to be put away, or cleaned or whatever, and come back into the office. Rose will ask, "Where's your coffee?" Back in the kitchen.

You've seen the movie "UP" with the dog who is easily distracted. The magic word is "Squirrel!"

So, I've declared a National Squirrel Day - a day to schedule nothing, but to do whatever comes my way. Distractions and diversions allowed. We all have a list of "This needs to be done;" "I should...;" and piles of things that need to be thrown out, organized, finished.

National Squirrel Day is a day to do whatever is on your desk, needing to be cleaned, repaired, thrown out. Begin somewhere (with a cup of coffee) and do whatever comes your way. If you're distracted by another chore, fine. Do it. Then go back to, what-was-it-now?!?

My Resolution is to have one Squirrel Day a month -set it on your calendar - maybe the 2nd of each month. My goal is to have one each week. To just do it. Join me in the National Squirrel Society.

St. NICHOLAS Reports:
The holiday A-Faire of December 10th

An initial counting suggests that a net result of your hard work and joyous offerings have netted the parish \$1,500. in profit from the St. Nicholas Faire!

So many thanks are to be offered, but especially to Sue Erb, Ed & Bernie Muller, and Fred Fisherman. And SO MANY people from the parish this was the largest congregation of helpful hands that I have ever seen! Thanks to you all, not only for the financial success, but for the good cheer that you spread to the whole community. The message of a healthy and hearty parish was shared to all who came in our doors! God's spirit is indeed within these walls!

We are especially thankful, also, to the Stourbridge Model Train Club for agreeing to open their display for us today. Thank you, thank you, and thank *you!*

The LOCAL BOYS

Brian Smith
Wyman Smith
Dave Seber
and Scott Bennett

will present a concert of
Country & Western
Blues & Blue Grass
Easy Listening

to benefit Grace Church's
Organ Renovation Fund

FOOD

RAFFLES

GOOD TIMES

And you can help by
manning the Raffle Table
or Kitchen



GOT THE WINTER BLUES?

"CABIN FEVER" CONCERT

Featuring "The Local Boys"

Date: January 14, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: The Grace Episcopal Parish Church

Free will Offering

Renewal Assembly IV

EMPOWERED LEADERS, RENEWED
CONGREGATIONS: A RETREAT FOR PRESENT
AND FUTURE VESTRY MEMBERS

- EMPOWER your vestry to become more mission-focused.
- DEVELOP your leadership skills as vestry members.
- CONNECT your leadership style and your parish's vitality.
- DISCOVER how to become a learning community of lay leaders.



SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 11, 2012

9:00 AM ~ 3:00 PM

To make the most of this opportunity, it is important that as many present and potential vestry members as possible from each congregation take part in this diocesan-wide vestry retreat.

At seven (7) locations
across the Diocese.

Registration now open at
www.diobeth.org

GRACE CHURCH TO HOST The DIOCESAN RENEWAL ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY, FEB. 11th

We Need Your Help for Hospitality.
Making Sandwiches, Soups, and Desserts
Being a Welcoming Presence as a Greeter

See Susan Treanor for info and to volunteer.

WHAT IS THE RENEWAL ASSEMBLY?

The Question for #4 is:

“What is God preparing us to be?”

Sooner or later every congregation must face this question.

On Saturday, February 11, 2012 the fourth Renewal Assembly will be a diocesan-wide retreat for current and future vestry members focusing on the leadership of the vestry.

The goals of the day are to:

- Empower your vestry to become more mission-focused.
- Develop leadership skills as vestry members.
- Connect leadership style and the parish's vitality.
- Discover how to become a learning community of lay leaders.

In keeping with the Prayer Book's description of mission that “the Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members” (p. 855), the Congregational Renewal Committee has designed the next Renewal Assembly to build up present and future vestry members across the diocese.

Our hope is that by having Vestries meet together with members of other Vestries from other parishes and from across the diocese, that they will know that they are not alone in their ministries, that the struggles they face in their own parishes are similar to the experience of other parishes and that, as a diocese, we have a common mission to proclaim the Gospel.

For this program to have the best possible effect, we need to have all or most members of each congregation's Vestry present.

If you'd like to attend, Vestry or not, see Fr. Erb.

JANUARY 21ST
FROM 4-9 PM
2012

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES WITH:
SURF!
SAND!
GAMES!
MUSIC!
FOOD!
FUN!

BEACH PARTY
WITH THE
BISHOP

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF NATIVITY
321 WYANDOTTE AVE.
BETHLEHEM, PA 18015

REGISTRATION ONLINE
\$20 UNTIL 1/13
VISIT WWW.DIOBETH.ORG OR
CALL 610.751.3931 FOR MORE INFO
SCHOLARSHIPS AND GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

Other Diocesan Offerings

FOR
THE
YOUTH

Sat. Jan. 21st
4-9 pm
The Cathedral
in Bethlehem

YOUTH -
DON'T FORGET OUR ANNUAL
ASH WEDNESDAY YOUTH SERVICE
FEB. 22ND at 7:30 AM

Register on-line for each at:
www.diobeth.org

AND
FOR
THE
WOMEN



A SPACE APART
NATIVITY'S 10TH ANNUAL RETREAT FOR EPISCOPAL WOMEN

March 9-11, 2012
at Villa of our Lady in
Mount Pocono, PA

Gather with other women in "a space apart"
to listen to the voices of women in the Bible.

led by
Julia McCray-Goldsmith
from the Diocese of California

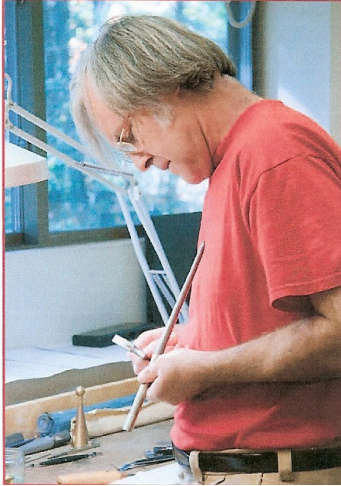
Sign up before January 31: \$185 (double occupancy)
After January 31: \$195. (single rooms add'l \$25)
includes dinner Friday through breakfast Sunday.

Call Canon Partee for more information at
610-865-0727 or mpartee@nativitycathedral.org
Sponsored by the Women of Nativity Cathedral

Julia McCray-Goldsmith serves the Episcopal Diocese of California as Ministry Development Officer and Working Group Head for Discipleship Ministries. That mouthful means that she is committed to equipping Episcopalians for authentic and joyful ministries in everything from Sunday school to vestry leadership. Her particular passion is teaching the biblical grounding and prayer practices that nourish and sustain Christians for meaningful action in the world.

STRANGE SOUNDS FROM THE ORGAN

If you are at the Church during the middle of January, you may hear some strange sounds - all coming from the organ. Strange - and yet filled with hope! For a friend of Maria's will be in America (he lives in Switzerland) and will be working on the organ as a free gift to his friend and her parish. Here is Maria, our organist's, tale:



I received an e-mail from Ken Wolfe a few days ago saying he would be in the United States for three weeks and asking if we were still pursuing our organ project. He stated that he would be happy to voice Grace's Moller organ at no charge so he could have the opportunity to work with me once again. I called Fr. Ed immediately for his approval saying that the Holy Spirit has landed once again on Grace Church.

When I attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ as an undergrad, Ken Wolfe was the Associate Curator of organs there. On the Organ Department bulletin board there was a request from Ken for assistants. I eagerly signed up for many hours. Ken taught me how to tune as well as voice. We found through many projects we worked on that our artistic needs and goals matched, thus creating a special bond. Ken became my colleague and friend.

In the early 1990's I had the opportunity to apply for Associate Curator of Organs and Harpsichords at the Choir College where Ken Wolfe was now the Curator of Organs. For the next five years I had the pleasure of working side by side with him once again. I marveled at how he could hear an organ and discern the proper tonal direction it should head. He would remove his tools and examining the pipes by the position of its languid, cut-up and nicking of its mouth. He knew exactly what to do in order to bring out each pipe's soul. When he was finished the pipes seemed to sing for the first time, each one having its own character but always sounding beautiful together. He was like a well-experienced choirmaster, letting each of his choiristers have their individuality, however, needing to sound as one choir. This is the true talent of a master organ voicer.

And more on the Organ:

Fr. Erb was working with a Boy Scout preparing for his Eagle project. "We're taking the old organ out of the Presbyterian Church. They want the chamber for extra storage and maybe an office. The wood and metal we're going to take to the scrap yard." "What!?!?" shouted Fr. Ed. "You don't take organ pipes to a scrap yard. Let me see them."

So what will happen in the next few weeks, in addition to Mr. Wolfe's work, will be that the old pipes from First Presbyterian Church will wander across the park. Some will be stored at Grace Church to be added sometime to our organ; others will be stored for Fr. Ed's home organ (which is still in storage since his move to Honesdale); and others will be given to another friend of Maria's and Fr. Ed's - Ray Brunner from Lancaster, who we hope sometime soon will be repairing our organ, and adding those extra pipes at Grace Church. Some of these "ranks" of pipes would cost us thousands of dollars. We are getting them for free. What great neighbors we have across the park!

And what about that piano-thingy? You say it's another harpsichord?

(The harpsichord appearing at Grace Church in December has two keyboards - thus called a "Double.")

Maria writes: This German double was built in 1995 by Philip Tyre and Terry Goudzwaard in Grand Rapids, MI. The harpsichord has a stringing schedule and architectural case design based upon instruments built in 17thc. North Germany.

The Delaware Valley Choral Society of Milford wanted to rent a harpsichord for their Messiah performance. I had to do some thinking as to which instrument would do best for them and for a pianist who never encountered a harpsichord. I contacted Joe Heise from New Hampshire whom I knew from working in Princeton. He said that he would be happy to rent it, however it would have to remain in Pennsylvania for several weeks. He asked if I could store it in my church; I was delighted he offered as I knew the talents of this instrument.

Many thanks to Joe; for his generosity in letting his instrument spend Advent and Christmas with us.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January/February 2012

	<i>Jan. 1 Holy Name</i>	<i>Jan. 8 The Epiphany</i>	<i>Jan. 15 Epiphany 2</i>	<i>Jan. 22 Epiphany 3</i>	<i>Jan. 29 Epiphany 4</i>	<i>Feb. 5 Epiphany 5</i>	<i>Feb. 12 Epiphany 6</i>	<i>Feb. 19 Last Epiphany</i>	<i>Feb. 22 Ash Wednes.</i>	<i>Feb. 26 Lent One</i>
<i>Preacher</i>	Fr. Ed	S. Treanor	Fr. Ed	Fr. Ed	S. Treanor	Fr. Ed	Fr. Ed	Fr. Ed	S. Treanor	Fr. Ed
<i>Thurifer</i>		D. Fink								
<i>Crucifer:</i>	T.Muller	A. Fink	E.Carroll	Jordan Peer	H.Stephens	E.Carroll	D.Fink	A. Fink	ANY	Jordan Peer
<i>Acolyte:</i>		G. Geinitz J. Hinds	E. Becker H.O'Connor	K. Peer D.Foshay	C.Stephens Jared Peer	K.Peer H.O'Connor	G.Geinitz J.Hinds	H.O'Connor E.Becker	WHO CAN	K. Peer D. Foshay
<i>Lector:</i>	various	D. Pursch	T. Stephens	A. Escalona	M. Corso	H.O'Connor	K. Skinner	R. Stephens	HELP?	H. Stephens
<i>Intecessor:</i>		J. Bunnell	S. Treanor	J. Slate	J. Roskoski	J. Bunnell	S. Treanor	J. Slate	----	J. Roskoski
<i>Chaliciat:</i>	J. Roskoski	J. Roskoski	J. Slate	V. Cheripko	J. Bunnell	S. Treanor	J. Slate	J. Roskoski	J. Bunnell	V. Cheripko
<i>Altar Guild</i>	J. Dohner J. Slate	J. Dohner J. Slate	J. Bunnell L. Casey	J. Bunnell L. Casey	S. Soden S. Wilding	S. Soden S.Wilding	J. Dohner J. Slate	J. Bunnell L. Casey		S. Wilding S. Soden
<i>Usher:</i>	E. Carroll J. Bunnell	D. Hinds R. Stephens	BJ Clark D. Kenyon	P. Mikulak C. Oconnor	D. Pursch L. Erdman	E. Carroll D. Hinds	J. Bunnell R. Stephens	BJ Clark D. Kenyon	L. Erdman	P. Mikulak C. OConnor
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	R. Sampson D. Pursch	M. Hinds V. Cheripko	Kenyon/ Peer family	S. Soden N. Petrosky	J. Albert M. Baker	J. Sullivan A. Sullivan	S. Clark P. Mikulak	C. Geintz J. Roskoski	----	J. Bunnell M. Wilson
<i>Counters:</i>	L. Erdman P. Oconnor	K. Skinner S. Wilding	V. Cheripko C. English	J. Roskoski B. Bazewicz	P. Mikulak J. Bunnell	L. Erdman P. Oconnor	J. Roskoski K. Skinner	V. Cheripko C. English	----	P. Oconnor P. Mikulak

Post this schedule on your refrigerator. 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 that we may make the change, too. *THANK YOU for all your help!*

January/February 2012 Birthdays

1/12- Conar Carroll, Mary Baker
 1/31- Maryann (Katz) Thompson
 2/1- Suzanne Clark
 2/2- Janine Panna
 2/5- Martin Hedgelon, Jordan Peer
 2/7- James Johannes, Maurice Brown,
 William Hoerter

2/8- Terry Smith
 2/14- Sue Erb
 2/16- Matt Corso
 2/17- Ellen Korb
 2/29- Alexa Escalona

Remember our Parish family in your Prayers

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

*You Are Cordially Invited
(cajoled, urged, begged)
to attend*

*The Annual Meeting of
Grace Church Parish*

*Sunday, the 15th of January 2012
at 10:00 am*

with Breakfast Brunch
(if you are able, bring a dish to share)

*There will be only one worship service that weekend, at 9:00 am
So that we may join together as one parish family.*

Grace Notes

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

827 Church Street

Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

EPIPHANY-TIDE 2012