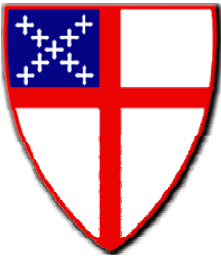


March, 2010

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Chronicle

Clergy Notes — Fr. Ray Nelson



BETWEEN THE TIMES

We have 18" Koi fish, Mimi and I do. In a large pond, five feet deep, in the garden behind our home. Right now, the pond is dark with ice and the Koi are out of sight, moving very slowly at three beats a minute near the chilly bottom. It's dark for them and they – can we say - wait? But that would imply they anticipate something for which they are waiting; to eat again, most likely, or see the light of day again and each other. But no, they aren't waiting so much as enduring, abiding, and reposing in Nature's fishy rhythm. They're Koi fish, in the dark about their future.

But topside, with us, it's so very, very different even though we're just as cold, at least some of the time. Times for us are three-dimensional – past, present and future. And we've got gradations for each dimension. A moment ago, two hours ago, yesterday, last month, last year, college graduation, wedding anniversary, early childhood. You see the complexity of it all. Time for us can be very personal. Secrets. They're time locked up and only we humans have them. "From whom no secrets are hid" – that doesn't apply to my friends in the pond!

The same applies to the future for each of us. There's tomorrow and that list of things to do we're preparing today, and then there's spring/summer and happy memories from the past we project, by imagination, into the future. Going back to Nantucket (we should all be so lucky!) again next July. And that, we know, would be six months from now. Time for us humans is extraordinarily rich and complex. And everyday, almost every moment, we are switching and living back and forth among those many complex time dimensions.

State of the Union (now past), my granddaughter's birthday (near future), Super Bowl Sunday (near future but past by the time you are reading this!) You get the point, I'm sure.

And then there's what German theologians call Heilsgeschichte or Holy Time – God's fourth or eleventh or infinite dimension interacting with our time. God, we believe, to be beyond and outside of time and all other created dimensions. Eternity, if that's the word for God's time, isn't just a very, very long time. It's beyond time and inconceivable for humans. And yet we Christians assert, "in the fullness of time, God sent his Son to be born of a woman and to live and die as one of us". Thus in celebration and thanksgiving for this incomprehensible miracle of the collision and interpenetration of times, we humans have established the "liturgical year", which is a glory of human adoration for what lies beyond us and before us and beneath us. Epiphany ends. Lent begins. Easter gleams ahead. We await a Between-the-times Rector (an "Interim") and beyond that time a "new time and a new Rector".

Alleluia!

My dear fishy friends in the pond are simply waiting it out. You are not. You are living it out. Every day. Every hour. Every minute. You and I are enveloped in a mystery that we partially comprehend. And so we celebrate our times and care for the fish and all God's other creatures.

Fr. Ray

Inside this issue:

Fellowship	2
Outreach	2
Youth News	3
Youth Group	4
Finance Corner	4
Spotlight	5
March Calendar	6-7
Holy Week Schedule	8

From the Parish Register

Baptism

Ryan Anthony
Ruggiero
2/14/2010

News From Fellowship

Are you interested in Fun and Fellowship with Advent Families? Sign up for a Sugar and Spice Dinner.

March 20

April 17

These dinners are gatherings of three to five families at a host house. The meal is a cooperative effort. The host prepares the main course, and the participating families provide the sides and desserts. Sugar and Spice Dinners provide a great sense of community, offering Advent families the opportunity to build kinship in our homes.

Please sign up in the church foyer today. You will be contacted in advance of the event with the details.

Advent Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, 4/4/10

Don't miss the Annual Easter Egg Hunt held Easter Sunday directly after the 9:00 am service. Meet with your children (ages toddler to 5th grade) in front of the Memorial Garden. If you are willing to help or would like to donate eggs or decorations for the event, please contact Rachel Frey at freyragr@comcast.net or Tracey Firth at tafirth1@verizon.net or sign-up in the foyer.

Steve & Michelle Griffith would like to thank the Keller and Reindl families and everyone who volunteered and participated in this year's Spaghetti Dinner. Even the snow storm could not keep the approximately 130 attendees away. The decorating committee provided the ambiance of an Italian restaurant. The wine glasses donated by the Shubert family also added a nice touch to the affair. The new power strips were key in enabling service from both sides of the buffet table. Congratulations to the Waibel family on their well deserved first place sauce. All in all, the whole evening was a huge success and we are happy to see this event growing in popularity.

Outreach News

January Jazz Concert Benefited Episcopal Relief and Development

On Sunday, January 24th, a wonderful event took place at Church of the Advent. Wilson Somers, students from the Tatnall choir, local musicians and, of course, Leon Spencer, put on an amazing concert. Someone said after the concert, "people pay a lot of money to hear music of that quality." Well, people did pay a lot of money to listen to the concert since the free will offering totaled \$4044.00 to benefit the **Outreach Emergency Fund**. The Outreach Commission decided to donate 100% of the collected funds to **Episcopal Relief and Development** to benefit the people of Haiti. This organization has worked in Haiti for years, so our money will not only help Haitians now, but will continue to assist efforts to restore and develop Haiti long after the news media has forgotten this devastated country.

You may visit the website at www.er-d.org. If you wish to donate to this worthy cause, you can still do so by writing a check payable to Church of the Advent with a note "**Outreach/Haiti**".

Don't miss Advent's next concert on March 14th which will benefit the **Doris Haley Prison Ministry**.

If you want to learn more about this ministry, contact any member of the Outreach committee or Larry Bosley at 610-608-1008, or lbosley@lgbproperties.com.

Thank You For Stocking Stuffers!

Thank you to everyone who donated items for stockings for **His Mission**. Eighty one-gallon bags were put together for men, women & children, 20 airline bags were made up for men, 35 airline bags were made up for women, 8 stuffed animals and lots of brand new baby clothes were donated.

Pat Casey

Youth News

GOOD NEIGHBORS WORK CAMP July 18-23.

For the 7th year running, Advent's youth group will participate in the GNWC, a local mission to assist area homeowners in need. Groups are assigned to homes and spend the week making needed improvements to houses. Repair skills are learned from skilled professionals while growing in faith and relationship to God, one another and the homeowner. Lodging is at Avondale Presbyterian Church which has a new and air conditioned facility. Activities include Brandywine River rafting, evening games, small group time and worship.

This trip has filled up faster than expected and GNWC has limited availability for this summer. If you are at all interested in attending, make sure you have signed up and made a \$40.00 deposit to hold your space. Ask any member of last year's team – this is an unforgettable experience! Sign up deadline is March 1st. Total cost: \$80.00. Email advent-youth@comcast.net to sign up or use the sign-up sheet by the Youth Room. Contact Jan Schroeder with any questions.

NEW RESOURCE FOR PARENTS AND TEENS!

Each month we offer a newsletter for parents of teens called Parentlink. These are available in hard copy outside the Youth Room or online through the Youth Ministry link on the Advent website. Each edition features a theme with tips for talking on important issues with your teen and ideas for teens to use on their own. The latest issue is on helping teens love and value themselves as God's own. Here are some tips from this month's issue on the messages we give to others about our self worth.

- 1. We know the world sends messages about our worth, but what messages do we send ourselves? Consider these helpful insights from *Guy Talk, Girl Talk*. Start describing yourself by your character instead of your appearance.** The next time someone asks you to describe yourself, reveal elements of your personality rather than physical attributes.
- 2. Take extra time to examine what's in your heart.** If we are more than our bodies, we need to start taking time to see what is hidden in our hearts. We should discover the things that are good and help them grow stronger. We also must find the things that need work and spend time making improvements to the condition of our hearts. We need to love our souls!
- 3. Reflect what's in your heart for others to see.** Carry yourself confidently and walk with your head lifted high. Now that you know the good inside your heart, make sure you reflect it to others. You'll be surprised how people respond to the new confidence you have found within yourself.

From Parentlink, February 2010

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS for children and their Families

This service was offered for the first time last year and was so well received, that we are making it a new Lenten tradition. Young children through 6th grade are invited to attend, with their families, to hear the story of Christ's passion told in language and images geared especially for young believers. Activities at each station offer opportunities for participation in a family friendly worship service that moves throughout the church building and grounds (weather permitting) ending in the sanctuary. Meet in the parish hall at 4pm on Good Friday afternoon and experience this special service together. *Perfect for families with young children of all ages, and grandparents too!*

DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENTS

The Diocese of Pennsylvania is offering some exciting opportunities for youth. Contact Jan Schroeder in the church office for applications and registration for any of the following events.

Nightwatch at the Cathedral

Join youth from across the diocese and explore the Philadelphia Cathedral and your spiritual side. Evening opportunities include meeting other young Episcopalians from across the diocese, music, small groups, prayer stations and midnight Eucharist. Advent will take a group if there is enough interest.

March 5th – 6th. Cost: \$20.00

Provincial Youth Event at Buckeystown, MD

Each year young people from the 13 dioceses of Province III gather and celebrate their faith together. This year's theme is delight. Weekend activities include workshops, music, Eucharist, small groups and time to meet other young Episcopalians. **April 9th-11th.**

City Camp

In its second year, this is a week long urban camping adventure combining a Christian camp with urban mission work. Camp on the property of St. James the Less and run a day camp program, clean up vacant lots, tackle construction projects and more.

Create community with other like minded youth and make a difference in the big city next door! **Cost: \$200.00 for housing, meals, supplies and a camp T-shirt.**

Guatemala Mission Trip

A team of 12 young people will work with the organization constru Casa to construct 3 homes. This project will include staying with host families, working alongside the families that will live in the homes and many opportunities to learn and grow. Trip dates are **July 23rd through August 1st**. Applications need to be made by anyone interested.

YG ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

MARCH

7 – **Youth Group Lent III**
6:00-7:30PM

14 – **Youth Group Lent IV**
6:00-7:30PM

21 – **Youth Group Lent V**
6:00-7:30PM

28 – **PALM SUNDAY**
YG does not meet on the last Sunday of each month for family time; Spring Break for some area schools

31 – **Tenebrae Service**
Wednesday, 7:30 pm in the Church – attend with family or friends

APRIL

1 - **Maundy Thursday Nightwatch 9pm**
Vigil is kept in the chapel with other activities to commemorate this holy night. Sign-up outside the Youth Room.

2 - **Good Friday Stations of the Cross for Families**
Confirmation candidates and Sr. High Youth assist in this service for younger children in the parish and their families.

4 - **EASTER SUNDAY** *YG does not meet tonight. Enjoy this holy day with your family*

January 2010 Heating Repair Costs

The bills are in for repairs to the HVAC system failure at years end. Total costs were \$10,149. The good news part of the story is the compressor unit was still under warranty. The warranty covered the cost of a new compressor unit (\$2,643) and the 4 circuit boards (\$3,133). The net out of pocket repair cost to Advent was \$4,373. Needless to point out, we did not budget expenses at this level. Our recent years expense level has been in the \$1,000 to \$1,500 level for parts and service above the annual service agreement. Any contributions toward this expense will be gratefully accepted !

Anyone desiring further details on the outage or the repair costs expenses, please stop me when you see me, call me at 610-269-7892 or e-mail me at WMarshallE2@aol.com.

Marshall Evans
Building & Grounds



Wilson Somers and his talented musical partners will be presenting another outstanding concert on **Sunday, March 14th** at 4:00 PM. Come and enjoy outstanding music and help with the Outreach Commission ministry. The free will offering from this concert will benefit the **Doris Haley Prison Ministry**. This is a ministry for families whose parents who are in prison.

Hope to see you there!!



On January 24 we presented the 2009 financial results for the church and the 2010 budget. Over the next several months, we will include excerpts of what was discussed at that meeting. This month we will talk about how the church did financially for 2009.

We started 2009 with a \$40,640 budgeted deficit. Going into December 2009 there was concern about whether the actual deficit would exceed budget as revenues to-date were falling short of budget. December ended up being very good for the church financially. We ended up falling short of expected pledge revenue by \$13,814, but the church received \$25,602 of non-pledge revenue in December. As a result we ended the year with \$14,306 more non-pledge revenue than was budgeted. The non-pledge overage more than offset the pledge shortfall resulting in actual total revenues slightly exceeding budgeted revenues. The other revenue sources for the church approximated budget when summed together. The vestry and staff did a good job controlling spending in 2009. Actual 2009 spending was \$29,781 less than budget. Personnel costs, Pastoral Emergencies costs, the Stewardship campaign and the Building & Grounds costs were all under budget by at least \$2,000.

With revenues approximately at budget and expenses approximately \$30,000 under budget, the church ended the year with a \$9,977 deficit or \$30,663 better than was budgeted.

Advent Spotlight

Altar Guild working behind the scenes of Church services

Committee chairperson hopes to attract new members for this important role.

By Tony Cadwalader

While many people and committees work behind the scene at the Church of the Advent, perhaps no groups' job requires it not to be seen as staunchly as the Altar Guild. The Altar Guild's role is to prepare the Church for the many services each week, especially for the three Sunday services, then quietly step away while services are performed.

Altar Guild chairperson Troy Patterson said that, in addition to the three services on Sunday, there are also chapel services on Wednesdays, and the four visiting communions to set up for each month at Jenner's Pond, Kendal, Crosslands, and Friends Home in Kennett Square. "And of course there are also the funerals and weddings," Patterson said.

Indeed, the Altar Guild is charged with specific duties and areas of responsibility. The altar guild's domain is within the altar rail and the surrounding area, from the railing where the pulpit stands. The sacristy has two sides, one half is for the clergy. That's where the vestments are, which the Altar Guild is responsible for as well, said Patterson, who lives in Pocopson Township with her husband Frank.

"The other half of the sacristy is where we do our work. That is setting up for communion, that's for three services, cleaning up after the services, putting the hymns out," she said. "I guess just preparing so that everything is set for the clergy to come in and do their services."

There are 10 on the Junior Altar Guild, who are always grouped with a senior member, she said, and there are 25 on the Senior Altar Guild.

Ideally, Patterson tries to schedule four members to come for set-up on Saturday and a service on Sunday, but not necessarily on consecutive days. Usually there are two members for the 7:45 a.m. service, three for the 9 a.m. service, and two or three for 11 a.m. "I try not to schedule people for more than one set-up per month," she said. But these are lean times for the Altar Guild, which is stretched thin. Three members are out till March, one is out for illness, and one resigned.

"What we really need are new members, desperately," Patterson said. "If anyone is interested they can contact a clergy member who will contact me." New members will go through training and celebrate with a Eucharist. Because of its behind-the-scenes role, Patterson suspects some parish members may not know about the Altar Guild.

"One thing that's nice to know about the Altar Guild is that it's not necessarily supposed to be seen. We definitely work behind the scene."

March 2010 Calendar			
<i>(This calendar was prepared on 2/4/10 and is subject to change)</i>			
Note: PCOC is the Pastoral Care & Office Center			
Tues	3/2	6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	3/3	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
		6:00 p.m.	Lenten Potluck Supper - Parish Hall
Thurs	3/4	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Jenner's Pond
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	3/5		Chronicle Deadline
Sat	3/6		Turn clocks ahead
		6:00 p.m.	Family Fun Night (rescheduled from February 6th)
Sun	3/7	3 Lent	
		7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Adult Confirmation Class - PCOC
			Bible Study with Fr. Ray - St. Nicholas Room
			Coffee Hour
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel
Mon	3/8	9:30 a.m.	Grief Support Group — Chapel
		7:00 p.m.	Outreach Meeting - PCOC Conference Room
Tues	3/9	6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	3/10	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
		6:00 p.m.	Lenten Potluck Supper - Parish Hall
Thurs	3/11	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Sat	3/13	3:00 p.m.	Concert Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Sun	3/14	4 Lent	
		7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Adult Confirmation Class - PCOC
			Bible Study with Fr. Ray - St. Nicholas Room
			Coffee Hour
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		4:00 p.m.	Sacred Classical Music Concert - Sanctuary
		5:00 p.m.	Reception following the concert - St. Nicholas Room
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel

Tues	3/16	11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Kendal
		6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	3/17	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Chapel
		6:00 p.m.	Lenten Potluck Supper - Parish Hall
Thurs	3/18	9:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Fri	3/19		Chronicle Folding - St. Nicholas Room
			Chronicle Mailing Date
Sun	3/21	5 Lent	
		7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Newcomer Coffee - St. Ann Room
			Adult Confirmation Class - PCOC
			Bible Study with Fr. Ray - St. Nicholas Room
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Group - Youth Room, PH, St. Jude, Chapel
Tues	3/23	11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Friend's Home
		5:30 p.m.	Vestry Meeting - PCOC Conference Room
		6:30 p.m.	Youth Choir
Wed	3/24	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
		6:00 p.m.	Lenten Potluck Supper - Parish Hall
Thurs	3/25	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
		11:00 a.m.	Eucharist at Crosslands
		7:30 p.m.	Chancel (Adult) Choir
Sun	3/28	PALM SUNDAY	
		7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite I
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
		10:00 a.m.	Adult Confirmation Class - PCOC
			Bible Study with Fr. Ray - St. Nicholas Room
		11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - Rite II
			No Youth Group - Family Time
Wed	3/31	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study - St. Ann
			E.F.M. - St. Timothy Room
		10:30 a.m.	Eucharist - Chapel
		7:30 p.m.	Tenebrae Service - Sanctuary

Assistant Rector
The Rev. Raymond Nelson

Deacon
The Rev. Nancy Hauser

Parish Administrator
Jim Power

Music Director
Wilson G. Somers

Christian Education Director
Kathy Prible

Youth Ministry Director
Jan Berry Schroeder

Office Manager
Kathy Gebhart

Parish Secretary
Ann Daemer

Sexton
Brian Walls

Chronicle Editor: Karen Chew
karen.chew@comcast.net



The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Church: 401 N. Union Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348
Offices: 201 Crestline Drive, Kennett Square, PA 19348
Phone: 610.444.4624 Fax: 610.444.1842

Website: www.AdventKS.org

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Kennett Square, PA
Permit No. 18

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist

Sunday, March 28, 2010 at 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

Tenebrae Service of Lessons and Hymns

Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing

Thursday, April 1, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Vigil

Thursday, April 1, 2010 starting at 9:00 p.m.

Good Friday Liturgy

Friday, April 2, 2010 at Noon

Stations of the Cross

(For parents, grandparents & their children)

Friday, April 2, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday Lighting of the Paschal Candle and Baptism

Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services

Sunday, April 4, 2010 at 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.