



# OUTLOOK

## April 2011 Newsletter

St. Asaph's Church is called to be a progressive Christian community

We will welcome everyone to God's table.  
We will stand with those in need and advocate for the poor, the sick, the friendless and the marginalized.  
We will make children central to our life as a community  
We will celebrate the presence of God with joyful, engaging and inviting worship.



APRIL 2011

*Simon Peter saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself...*

Easter and spring cleaning do go well together. We are able to clean up those things we have some control over. I may dislike cleaning- that is putting in mildly- but it does leave one with a certain satisfaction after you have gotten somewhere. I do know that there are those of you out there who actually like to clean!

John's telling of the resurrection of Jesus has many of its own wonderful details. I have always enjoyed the particular detail that John includes about the linen wrappings that had been used as the shroud over the body, now being neatly rolled and put in their proper place, wherever that might have been. I have heard others comment on this passage and speak about the tidying up of death. Death never quite feels very tidy to me: the loss of control over one's emotions, the loss of a loved one, not to mention the obvious failure of the human body. There is nothing tidy there.

That we might have a God who is able to tidy up even death is a most remarkable claim. I am not so sure why

there is such a debate about resurrection from the dead, when even more remarkable is the claim that ours is a God who works resurrection even in the living. It seems to me that life and the living of it can be much messier than dying and death. I am not always so sure that my own life is ever going to know any tidying up. There are always so many loose ends dangling out there, things to do, unfinished projects, and unfinished relationships. Who has time to clean, really?

We have been celebrating the washing we all receive in Baptism. There are more Baptisms coming at the Easter Vigil- such a blessing for us here at the Church of Saint Asaph to celebrate this rite and welcome the newest members into the body of Christ. We remember that we are baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ. We remember that we are washed clean once and for all, and again and again. Such is our God, always resurrecting, always creating, always making new.

I do appreciate when others do the cleaning, I dislike it so! (Usually that person is my Mom!) Happy spring cleaning to you all, and even more so, a very Happy Easter, God has done it again and again and again, where there was death, now there is life.

Barry+

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**The Holy TRIDUUM the great three days which comprise our Easter Celebration begin this year on Thursday, April 21 (see the schedule below).** The Triduum is an ancient practice of the church observing the last days of Jesus' life and the telling of the resurrection.

**Maundy Thursday** we gather over a meal (of lasagna, salad and bread) and remember the exodus of a people from bondage to freedom. We gather in the sanctuary to hear again the story of the washing of feet and we are invited to engage in this most personal act. We celebrate the blessed sacrament; strip the altar hearing of stripping of Jesus and his being condemned to death. We leave in silence and await the continuation of the liturgy on Good Friday.

It is at the **Good Friday** liturgy we hear John's telling of the Passion of Christ, the cross which has been ever central to our Lenten liturgies is surrounded with the candles of our petitions. Slowly the light grows dim and we are left with the cross to contemplate and our prayers to offer.

The liturgy of the Triduum continues at the **Great Vigil of Easter**. We will gather outside, weather permitting to light the first fire, bless our Paschal Candle and begin to hear of the great acts of God's saving throughout history. Again, our youth and others will offer their own unique perspective in the telling. We will move from the parish hall to the font to remember God's acts of salvation through water. Right now, there are two baptisms that will take place. From the font we move into the sanctuary for the first Eucharistic celebration of Easter.

The Triduum is one service, spaced over the three days. I hope that this will be the year you are able to join in the whole celebration. If not, of course, come as you are able.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- **Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion 8:00**
- **Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist 10:00**  
Gather outside on the Labyrinth, weather permitting, for the blessing of the Palms and then process into the sanctuary for our celebration of the Eucharist.
- **Wednesday Tenebrae 7:00** a service of readings and shadows, come and hear and see.
- **Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm Dinner, 7:00 pm Liturgy**
- **Good Friday:** two services both similar in their approach at **12:00 noon and 7:00 pm**
- **Easter Vigil begins at 5:00 pm** with Egg dying for the kids in preparation of the great hunt after our Easter morning service and a light Supper. At 6:00 pm the liturgy promptly begins outside with the lighting of the fire. We will attempt to be finished as close to 8:00 pm as possible.
- **Easter Day, the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord**, there will be two services, at 8:00 am we will begin outside. The 10:00 am service will be our joyous

celebration of the day with all your favorite hymns and some new ones, celebration of the Eucharist, **our annual Easter Breakfast**, and of course the famous **Easter Egg Hunt for all ages! Bring your baskets.**

*A note on **Hospitality**- many will be new to our community here at St. Asaph's over the great three days. Be sure to welcome everyone, lend a hand as needed, share a bulletin, provide gentle direction, invite to the meal and the hunt, and please be sure to invite everyone back again!*

*As to Parking: if you remember- please park in the lot behind the shopping center. Parking will be limited on the grounds and it would be nice if we could save those spaces for the visitors. Well over 200 folks joined us last year for our second liturgy! The parking lot is really quite easy, the walk simple and there is but one step the entire route.*

*Thank you for your faithfulness in your Lenten Journey. I am certain ours will be a wonderful celebration of Easter. Barry+*

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### Liturgy

**Innovative Worship.**  
**Spirituality**  
**Popular Culture**  
**Multimedia**

St. Asaph's Church  
27 Conchohaddon St. Rt. 6  
Rata, Cynwyd, PA 19001  
<http://www.saintasaphs.org>

**Conversations on the Edge of Faith**  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 5:00

With Blue LeMay



**Pablo Picasso. "Girl Before a Mirror"**

What is the significance of such multi-faced faces? There are many ways to see and know an individual. There are always new, different and unexpected ways to see and know others and ourselves. Reflections help to see the different faces of ourselves and others. Do you engage in self-reflection? What is gained by knowing the multi

faced nature of yourself? Are you willing to risk changing? Are there people you're comfortable with to take that journey of self-reflection together?

The above questions and art were part of Blue's discussion during one of her Edge services. Included in her service were words from **John 4:5-42** and a song by **Rachel Bishop, "The Woman at the Well."**



During Lent as you explore your faith and uncover "you," include Blue's services on the second and fourth Sundays at 5 pm as part of this discovery.

A light supper follows.

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## Baptism



The St. Asaph community celebrated the joy of Baptism for **Ibrahim Kourbeh** on Transfiguration Sunday, March 6.

Ibrahim is shown here with his wife **Lisa**.

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## Lenten Devotions

- **LDP the Lenten Devotional Project**

Through-out the season of Lent, those of you who are electronically connected to the office via e-mail will receive a daily devotional. Members of our own Saint Asaph's family and friends are submitting their reflections triggered by the scripture for the given day.

There are forty days in this season, not counting the Sundays. The e-mail from the office will be sent out simply stating "Day 1" through day forty. Read the scripture if you so choose (I hope you will simply have to click on the scripture entry and be sent to an NRS Version of the text), certainly read the reflection, offer a

simple prayer. Steve Lindsay has been seeing to our receiving of the daily lectionary that we might, along with people around the world, be reading the same passage on the same day. This Lenten Devotional invitation, I hope, will stir your interest in more regular reading of the scriptures. Join us!

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- **Midweek Opportunity for Study, Reflection and Fellowship**



**Wednesdays in Lent ending on April 13**, we will gather in the parish hall at **6:15** for a light supper and conversation led by Mary Chris Lindsay **around the ideas of living simply**.

In these busy and hectic days, yes, add one more thing to your schedule- one thing that I believe is an important thing to add, time to listen, reflect and discuss the things in this life which are most important to us. **Please contact Mary Chris** if you have any questions. There will be opportunities for our youth as well. **Steve and Julia** will be hosting the youth in the new room for their own discussion of the topic at hand.

Our evening will conclude with a brief **Eucharist at 7:00** and we will have you **out the door by 7:30**. Please come and be a part of our mid week Lenten journey.

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- **A Lenten Day of Reflection: April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Save **Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM** for a Lenten day of reflection to be held at St. Asaph's. Wherever you are on your Lenten journey, join us for a few hours of prayer, meditation, spiritual exercises, and quiet reflection. We will end with a simple meal and thought-provoking conversation. Conveners are Linda Sterthous and Mary Chris Lindsay. Look for the sign-up information.

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**"We will make children central to our life as a community."**

## Children's Formation



**Julia Miller**

It's SPRING! March has been a busy time for us. In March, our Sea Monkeys finally hatched and came to join us in the classroom, so feeding them is now part of our morning routine. The kids are currently trying out different names for each one, but I have no idea

how they tell the Sea Monkeys apart!

Starting in March, we deviated a bit from the standard lectionary based format for lessons, and did a Liturgy Day. I borrowed chalices, patens, fair linen, and brought in my own Alb and stoles so the kids could see and touch the items we use in worship and learn what they're used for. We had a Liturgical Relay Race. FUN!

We also made Alleluia banners to bury for the Lenten Season and discussed the decision Jesus made in the wilderness during the Temptation in the context of larger decision making by playing a game of situational choice making called Would You Rather?.

Mid March also started our midweek Lenten services and discussing the theme of Living Simply by addressing the five basic needs of all people--water, food, shelter, healthcare, and technology as a need and a want.



The kids have been collecting spare change to donate to the efforts of **GlobalWater.org**. The children are collecting money to provide water filters and wells in Guatemala, to bring clean water to villages

and save the lives of their peers Steve and I chose the **Global Water Crisis** as a cause for the kids to support during Lent because water is a basic need for all people, and the lack of it affects children most of all. **6 million children die every day** from dehydration and preventable diseases caused by contaminated water. The need to bring water to their families keeps the kids from going to school. The lack of water stunts the growth of crops and livestock, and contributes to starvation. Parasites from water that has been contaminated by livestock and sewage cause rampant illness in rural

villages, and children are the most at risk. The donation jar is in the parlor and will be there until Easter, after which we will send in a check to **globalwater.org** and receive a report on how our money was used. Please give what you can and help the kids reach their goal.

We will continue our lectionary lessons for the texts in Lent, and our Wednesday Formation. It is also my hope to extend our Liturgical Meal (snack) time during one class and explore the basics of a Seder meal. The kids will make their own palm fronds for Palm Sunday; discuss the foot washing of Maundy Thursday; bake bread for the Maundy Thursday service; decorate Easter Eggs starting at 3pm on the Saturday before Easter, and join with the youth to tell the story of Crossing the Red Sea during our Easter Vigil Service. **On Easter morning, there will be no regular Formation class, but we will have the Egg Hunt.** The kids will contribute their own cross to flower, with a social justice theme. There's LOTS to do and fun to join.

Blessings, Julia

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## Youth Formation By Steve Sheeran

**Rice and Tea Coffee Hour:** The rice and tea coffee hour on March 13 raised over \$70.00 for Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti. Thanks to those of you who contributed. And thanks to **Neve Brennan, Mary Chawaga, Kevin Harte-McCormick Maddy Ragsdale, Lisbet Drivdahl and Steve Chawaga** for their help.

**Hospital Albert Schweitzer:** Even though it has been over a year since the earthquake in Haiti HAS still ongoing support. For example one of the lasting effects from the 2010 earthquake in Haiti is a tremendous increase in the number of amputees due to the types of injuries suffered during the quake. Following the earthquake, Hanger Orthopedic Group together with the Hanger Ivan R. Sabel Foundation created The Haitian Amputee Coalition which established a long term prosthetic and rehabilitation center on-site at HAS. After shipping in over 7 tons of manufacturing equipment, and initially staffing with U.S. prosthetic experts, in conjunction with Haitian medical professionals, the center became active within 90 days of the earthquake.

The Hanger Clinic remains as one of the very few opportunities in Haiti for earthquake victims to receive rehabilitation services that will enable them to regain mobility. Patients receive professional evaluation, prosthetics manufactured on-site, physical therapy and ongoing support for needed adjustments and repairs.

On a typical day more than 40 patients are seen in the clinic working through the process of being outfitted with an artificial limb and learning to regain lost mobility. The

clinic has provided artificial limbs to more than 500 earthquake victims since opening in 2010.

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**Behold what you are; become what you see.  
(St. Augustine)**

## Outreach



**Philabundance Garden Kickoff.**  
**Sunday, April 3 following both the 8 and 10 am services. Lunch will be provided.**

Wear work clothes to church to help in any way that you can. Feel free to bring ideas going forward.

Bring clippers, garden saws, axes, picks, spades, shovels, hoes, heavy rakes, pitch forks, etc. Be sure to put your name on your tools and wear old clothes, boots, and gloves.

Additionally, there is a beginning wish list, for whatever you can donate: **bags of manure; extra garden tools to leave on site; a bale of hay; seedlings.** (Most of all we need your hands!)

We love it that people contribute a lot of labor or a little in big or smaller blocks of time, consistently or in bits throughout the season. And then there are those folks who offer monetary gifts or goods we need. It all adds up to growing more and more fresh food for our hungry neighbors through Philabundance and other food banks--just what we are called to do.

Talk to **Wendy Flegal or Katherine Kurtz** about details.

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## St. James School



**Help build the St. James School library collection.** Either donate slightly used new books to the St. A's Book Drive or donate book store gifts cards to help St.

James School, in the West Allegheny section of Philadelphia—ages 1st grade through 8th grade.

**Help tutor at St. James in their after school program,** which meets from 3:30 through 6:00 pm weekdays and from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm Saturday mornings. All areas of expertise are welcome. Please contact David J. Kasievich, the Executive Director at Phone: 215.226.1276 or [dkasievich@stjamesphila.org](mailto:dkasievich@stjamesphila.org). Contact Tim Gavin for any initial questions or concerns.

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## St. Asaph's WALK FOR HOPE May 21, 2011



**Sally Pearne and Dr. Sataloff**

On **Saturday morning, May 21, from 9:30 to 11:30, St. Asaph's** will offer to the parish and Bala Cynwyd communities its second Walk for Hope. Proceeds will benefit **Breastcancer.org**, an international, informational website, providing the most up-to-date, vetted medical and research advances as well as patient and family support in an engaging, uplifting, easy-to-understand format. The goals of this event include:

- Providing an accessible and manageable opportunity to participate in fund-raising and awareness for this cause.
- Raising money for a locally based international breast cancer organization.
- Gaining new understandings of the remarkable progress in the fight against this disease, which strikes one out of every eight women.
- Having a great time!



**The 2010 St. Asaph's Walk for Breast Cancer**

Breastcancer.org was founded by its director **Dr. Marisa Weiss**, herself now a breast cancer survivor, who is the head of breast cancer radiation therapy at our nearby Lankenau Hospital. The offices of breastcancer.org are located in Ardmore. Dr. Weiss is an inspiring leader in the fields of early detection and treatment of breast cancer, and appears frequently on NPR, at congressional hearings, and on network TV.

Our speaker following the 45-minute walk will again be **Dr. Dahlia Sataloff**, whose discussion and power point presentation were greatly appreciated by last year's Walk for Hope participants. Dr. Sataloff is a renowned breast cancer surgeon with an impressive resume of publications and presentations, and a Bala Cynwyd resident.

Refreshments, balloons, water and flowers will be provided to all participants!

Some comments from last year's participants might encourage you to participate in our second Walk for Hope.

**Margaret Stineman:** "A search for meaningful experiences, shared community, and to look beyond my own personal challenges to honor those of others."

**Mary Chawaga:** "My 3 friends and I usually go to one of the big walks – one of their mothers had breast cancer – so it just seemed like a fun thing for us to do."

**Jay Love:** "For the cancer walk, it's more about the small things that add up. Set an example, take an hour out of your busy weekend schedule – it doesn't take much."

**Jenna Love:** "It was the second time I rode my bike without training wheels. Daddy was keeping me safe. I crashed only four times...at church there was a cancer walk. They gave me a balloon and I tied it to my bike. The walk was fun."

Please come join us on May 21. For questions, please contact **Sally Pearne or Connie Stelzenmuller**.

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### **ElderNet "Picnic in the Park"**

At this **May 1st** fundraising event at the Appleford Estate in Villanova, St. Asaph's will be recognized publicly for our generous food donations to their food pantry at their Ada Mutch Community Resource Center. We hope many parishioners will attend this lovely Sunday afternoon recognition ceremony. If you cannot attend the ceremony, there are other opportunities to support St. A's.

You can take out a Program Book ad; or, for \$10, you can list your name on a St A's appreciation page. Jane Carton will be in the parish hall during the four Sundays in March with AD Book order forms.

Our generosity has supplied their shelves for food distribution to more and more residents of the Main Line, who have lost their jobs.

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### **Music and Arts**

**Roy Harker, director of Music and Arts**



### **Art in the Gallery**

**Stations of the Cross: Art for Holy Week**

Our own **Johnathan Zellers** has been commissioned to create a series of images for our Lenten devotions. In particular, Johnathan will be creating photographic perspectives – set in today's real life views – of the **Stations of the Cross**.

Traditionally, the Stations are usually a series of 14 pictures or sculptures depicting scenes from Christ's passion, beginning with the trial and conviction of Christ before Pilot and ending with the deposition in the tomb. Rites developed over the centuries combine with the images to reenact the Via Dolorosa, or the "Way of sorrow and pain" as part of a pilgrimage and Lenten devotion.

The stations will be used in coming services during the week of **April 18 as prelude to our observances of Holy Week**.

## Artists by Nature: An Ensemble of Botanical Artists Watercolor Paintings



**Marylyn Waltzer** is a botanical illustrator, she is a nationally recognized artist who paints and teaches. Her work can be seen throughout the year at many art exhibitions and also hangs in private collections. Artists by Nature" is a group Marylyn

has created of local botanical illustrators who have all studied with her for the past few years. They are; Monica Anderson, Molly Hechscher, Barbara Hewson, Lucretia Robbins and Maureen Sexton

**April 29 through May 22, 2010. Opening reception April 29 from 6 – 8 pm.**

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**Jim Bloom** Mixed Media Paintings and Drawings through April 10, 2011

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## An Interview by Katherine Kurtz with members of the Elysian Camerata



The Elysian Camerata will present its last concert of the season here at **St. Asaph's on Sunday May 1.** Next year you will be seeing-- and hearing -- some of the

members as they contribute to our music program at worship services, so I am taking this opportunity to introduce them to you more personally.

**KK:** Can you give us an idea of who your favorite composes are.

**Talia Schiff, Cello:** More and more I feel that there is Beethoven and then there is all the rest.

**Rachel Inniger, Pianist:** Robert Schumann

**Beth Dzwil, Viola:** Mozart, Beethoven, and Paul Simon

**Louise Jaffe, Viola:** Brahms

**Barbara Jaffe, Violin:** I can't come up with one answer that feels "right". In the chamber music genre there are pieces by Mozart, Schubert and Brahms, but then there is also Bach, and how could I leave out Beethoven and Schumann?

**KK:** Then how in the world do you decide what to play?

**Louise:** We fight about it and the loudest person wins...just kidding!

**Barbara:** Each of us comes up with a list of music we would like to play. We try to put together programs based on these requests and when the same piece comes up two or three times, we know we have hit the jackpot!

**KK:** Who has been most influential in your life as a musician?

**Talia:** My parents were both Juilliard graduates. There was always music in my household, sometimes to point of annoyance (like waking up in the morning to Wagner's Ring Cycle coming up through the heating ducts). But hearing music so consistently throughout my life certainly had the most impact on me.

**Barbara:** My mother, Maxine Jaffe. She was a pianist and a wonderful musician. Because of her there was always music in our home. She instilled the passion for music in me.

**Rahel:** My piano teacher Rosmarie Stucki-Balmer who taught me at the Conservatory Bern. She was an excellent and wonderful performer and at the same time an outstanding teacher. She showed me a love and passion for both playing and teaching.

**KK:** I wonder if there are challenges in blending your intentions when you play in a group.

**Rahel:** Yes. Talking about musical details can make rehearsing treacherous. There is sometimes no way around it, though. The best way yet is to "talk through the playing".

**KK:** Are there also distinct rewards in group playing?

**Talia:** Making music with others is where I find the most enjoyment and playing chamber music is the ultimate because you experience the camaraderie of playing in a group, but with an intimacy that is lost in orchestral playing.

**KK:** As you've played at St. Asaph's over the years, has your sound changed in some way?

**Barbara:** We love our new setup of playing "in the round". I think that has made our sound more cohesive because it is easier for us to see and hear each other.

**KK:** I know many of you teach and I wonder if performing influences your teaching -- and vice versa.

**Louise:** Teaching and performing are so related. I bring the love from each to the other.

**KK:** What are your favorite kinds of student?

**Louise:** Any student who has a great attitude is my favorite kind of student. The student doesn't necessarily have to be "talented".

**KK:** If you weren't a professional musician, what would you be?

**Rahel:** A walking and hiking guide

**Louise:** I can't imagine being anything else.

**Barbara:** A chef/owner of a little café.

**KK:** Hmm. As we all know from the refreshments at your receptions, you are also incredibly good cooks. There must be some connection.

**Rahel:** The creative part, definitely. In both activities you start and wonder what the outcome of a project will be. Also, in both cases you need to learn how to deal with faux pas.

**KK:** What advice do you have for our young people who want to become musicians? What about not so young people?

**Talia:** In recent years half of my teaching studio has become adult students. I always encourage adults to pursue their love of music simply for that reason – they love it.

**Louise:** For both young and old, my advice would be: work hard and LISTEN to your teachers, colleagues and friends who are musicians. There is nothing as satisfying as playing music. It is worth all the work, which never ends, by the way! Becoming a musician is a lifelong commitment.

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St. Asaph's Church is a progressive and inclusive Christian community. We offer the message of Christianity to those who sometimes find organized religion ineffectual, irrelevant or repressive. We see our faith as an agent of justice and peace. We are a community that embraces search, not certainty. We believe faith is a process not a destination.

## Property

By Robert Powell

### The All-church Second-Saturday Manual Labor Workday Series

Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

This year's boiler-busting weather is coming to an end. Which means we **ALL** once again are given the **opportunity** to get outdoors with work gloves and fashionably ratty oversized hats...and do our bit to reduce expenditures.

This time around, any functioning **leaf blowers** you happen to have lying around will be welcomed, so the grounds can be freed from its burden of accumulated debris.

If you find your leaf blower supply lacking, the deficiency can be compensated for by bringing any **garden tools** appropriate to the trimming of wanted or digging out of unwanted plants in the graveyard.

**Enter it on your iPad now**, before you schedule something else!

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## Congregation



**It's wonderful to introduce you again to Penny Pether and David Caudill.**

I'll let Penny tell you in her own words about her background and her journey to St. Asaph's.

"We began attending the Sunday after Christmas in 2009. In the Fall of that year we were in a position to find a church: for the previous four years, since we had moved from Virginia to Philly, David had traveled to Virginia every other weekend to be with his son (from his first marriage) who was completing high school, and as we both travel a lot for work, Sundays when we were both in the jurisdiction were rare.

I have had a much more vexed relationship with organized religion than David, and so I figured that if a church was going to stick, it had to fit with our core values (you'd have hoped someone with four university degrees would have worked that out before her fifties, but there you go). That meant the church would ideally be racially integrated, despite the odds against that given the sociology of religion in the contemporary U.S., and that it needed to be both of a denomination that ordained gay men and lesbians, and a local congregation that was diverse as to the sexual orientation of its members. That left the Episcopalians, among the mainstream Protestant denominations.

I knew that there were schismatic congregations in the area, and given what I have just written, we wanted to avoid any of those. So I went on line and in the yellow pages to try to find a church that looked likely in our

area. St. Asaph's yellow pages ad signaled that it would probably be a good fit, and indeed it was.

I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church, and became a communicant Presbyterian in my teens. For much of my childhood my family practiced in the Anglican Church, but as a teenager and adult, when I have practiced before St. Asaph's, it has been in the Presbyterian Church (or in Australia in the Uniting Church, which was formed, inter alia, by progressive Presbyterians, Methodists, and Congregationalists decades ago).

I was born and grew up in various parts of rural New South Wales, the state that Sydney is the capital of. I had lived in Sydney for the 22 years before I emigrated to the U.S. in 1998.

I did undergraduate and law degrees at the University of Sydney, then practiced in a major national law firm in Australia before being hired to help set up and to manage the first civilian unit that investigated complaints of police misconduct in New South Wales. In that office I also investigated prison conditions complaints and allegations of some more general government malfeasance and corruption. While in law practice, I began doing a Master's degree in English Literature in a part-time, distance education program offered by a regional university. I then decided I wanted to do a PhD, and after some qualifying work entered the PhD program in the English Department at the University of Sydney, where I taught for five years. I was then offered a teaching job at a new and very innovative law school at the University of Wollongong, 50 miles South of Sydney, teaching constitutional law, law and literature, and lawyering skills. After I had been there two years I was headhunted by a wonderful new dean at the University of Sydney Law School, to join that faculty. In my second year there, I both met David and was a visiting Professor in the University of California-Irvine's English and Comp. Lit. Department for a quarter. I completed the PhD (at long last).

David and I decided to marry, and I began the tricky business of finding work in the U.S. without U.S. qualifications. I was a visiting professor at Cardozo Law School at Yeshiva University on Manhattan for a semester; then, got a tenure-track position at Southern Illinois University School of Law.

After two years on the faculty there I moved to American University Washington College of Law in DC, where I was Professor of Law and Director of Legal Rhetoric. We joined the Villanova faculty 5 ½ years ago. I teach constitutional law, comparative constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure, and a seminar in law and literature. Scholarly work is a major professional focus: I publish work in legal theory, constitutional and comparative constitutional law, and in law and literature, legal discourse and legal professional subject formation, and law and language. I also have a current research

project on law, culture, race, and food, based on the life and work of the African-American chef and food writer Edna Lewis, and will be speaking on that work at the University of Tel Aviv this summer.

My stepson, Chris, David's son, is a sophomore at Trinity University in San Antonio. Chris is ethnically Korean, and was adopted as an infant. We have three (shelter) cats: Virginia, Lytton, and Carrington.

I like to cook for family and friends (and to eat good food); and to read (mostly American legal history at present, but also some fiction – am currently enjoying "The Elegance of the Hedgehog"). I would like to have more time to garden. I enjoy exercise (long walks, usually daily unless work boils over, as it has been too much over the last year, and weight-lifting).

St. Asaph's has been a genuine blessing for us. We look forward to attending church and find the congregation both spiritually nurturing and warm and welcoming. Barry is an inspiration, a really wonderful minister. I would like to be more involved in the life and work of the church over time: as you might have worked out from what each of us has written, "work-life balance" is a bit of a challenge chez nous."

**Here is David's story:** David was Baptist prior to college, then attended a Nazarene Church in college, then Episcopal, the Presbyterian, and back to Episcopalian. He went into the US Air Force after college to fly as an F-4 fighter jet back-seater; then went to grad school in philosophy in Amsterdam and after that went to law school at the University of Houston, working his way through school as a C-130 cargo plane navigator in the Air Force Reserves.

He graduated from law school, clerked for a federal appellate judge for a year, and practiced law for 3 years in San Diego and 4 years in Austin where he started teaching as an adjunct at the University of Texas Law School. In 1989 he won his Ph.D. and joined the law faculty of Washington and Lee University. Penny and David married in 1998, and in 2005 they both joined the Villanova law faculty.

He plays the guitar and banjo. Penny revealed some interesting background about David's music. In the early 70s he was the lead guitarist in one of the pioneer "**Jesus rock**" bands, **Earthen Vessel**. You can Google him and buy copies of the album they cut with Elvis's record producer, either on vinyl on E-Bay, or in a re-pressed cd. One of the local Christian radio stations did an interview with him in the last year or so about that part of his life.

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## End of Life Seminar By Mary Allen

On March 21, 15 people attended this seminar to hear presenters **Barbara Rideout, Mary Allen, Barry Harte, and Robert DeLong, Esq.** **Margaret Stineman** was a well-informed volunteer contributor.

**Barbara Rideout, MSN, ANP-BC** has a good handout available at church describing Hospice and Palliative Care. In her handout she states that the goal of hospice and palliative care is to promote and improve the patient's quality of life through the relief of suffering along the course of illness, through death of the patient, and into the bereavement period of the family.

**Robert DeLong, Esq** is a practicing estate planning and administration and elder law attorney and a member of the National Association of Elder Law attorneys. He offered advice on the importance of wills and the need to develop other legal paper naming those who will make decisions for you when you are unable. He can be contacted at:

### **Robert DeLong, Esq.**

17 Veterans Square, PO Box 604  
Media, Pennsylvania, 19063, USA  
610-627-5865  
FAX 610-627-5867  
[robertdelongesq@hotmail.com](mailto:robertdelongesq@hotmail.com)

My interest was to help understand body donation. Attendees were interested to learn that it saves on funeral expenses and protects the environment by not using embalment fluids or the wood and metal for coffins. Note that the ashes will be returned to the family upon request, if you wish to be interred in a particular place. You can still have a funeral service without the body and celebrate the life of your loved one.

Inform your loved ones where to find your will and your living will. DO NOT keep them in a safety deposit box – it will take too long to retrieve them!). Most importantly, file copies at the church office and communicate with Barry.

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## Diocesan Middle East Study Group

### By Peter Doris

The Middle East Study Group of The Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania in partnership with the Church of Saint Asaph, Bala Cynwyd, announces an **8-week course on the search for peace for Israel and Palestine, "Steadfast Hope."**

The program is designed for Episcopalians who have an interest in learning about the history and the current

realities of the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis which remains unresolved after 63 years.

The presenters are teams of Christian and Jewish adult educators who have successfully presented the outstanding "Steadfast Hope" course to Christian congregations around the Delaware Valley.

Participants will learn:

1. how the Gospel mandate for peacemaking integrates with Palestinian efforts to seek a just peace in the Holy Land.
2. the competing historical narratives of Jews and the Holocaust and Palestinians and the Nakba and how Christians in Israel and Palestine are affected by this narrative.
3. the facts concerning Israel's 44-year occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem and what international law and the Geneva Conventions say about Israel's occupation enterprise.
4. the impact of the occupation on the lives of Palestinians: house demolitions, land seizure, restricted movements, water and other natural resources and unfettered Israeli military incursions.
5. the facts about the United States' role as peacemaker, the American media, the Israel lobby in the United States and Christian Zionism.
6. the views of the Episcopal Church USA on the conflict and information about Sabeel International, American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, Palestine Israel Network of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship and the Kairos Document's call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions.

Here is what you need to know to participate

**Place:** Church of St. Asaph  
27 Conshohocken State Road  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

**When:** Wednesday, April 27 through June 15

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Fee:** \$20 per participant. Includes course materials.

**Contact:** Mary Allen, registrar 215-473-0655 or email at [marydallen@gmail.com](mailto:marydallen@gmail.com)

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### **Mazin Qumsiyeh** Talk on March 18, 2011

#### By Mary Allen

About 50 people gathered in the St. Asaph sanctuary to hear **Mazin Qumsiyeh** speak about the history of "popular resistance" in Palestine. He uses the term "popular" rather than "non-violent" because, although the oppressed may be non-violent, the oppressors are not. He also emphasized that resistance began long ago,

when the whole country was called Palestine; there has been resistance against the Romans, against the Ottoman Empire, against the British, and now against the Zionists.

When the UN set up Israel as a Jewish nation in 1948, the Jews moving in from other countries immediately undertook the Hagannah, Hebrew for "cleansing." Isn't it ironic that victims of ethnic cleansing even use that word for their activities? This took the form of utter destruction of 587 Palestinian villages. Still 500,000 Palestinians refused to be chased away in 1948.

Mazin gave many examples of the injustices now being perpetrated by Zionists:

1. The Palestinian village of Al-Walaja between East Jerusalem and Bethlehem (West Bank) has been cut in two by the unilateral annexation of territory by Israel, and Jews are gradually infiltrating the remaining part of the village.
2. Israel has declared many existing villages "not recognized" thereby depriving them of basic services: water, trash removal, education.
3. Israel has established "concentration areas" (another ironic choice of words) for people from destroyed villages.
4. When a village refuses to give up and continues to rebuild, Israel comes back repeatedly with bulldozers.

Mazin ended his talk with a prayer/poem by Auden.

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## Bala House

I see *very interesting* changes for your child at **age 6**. Oh! And at **age 12**. Wait! Also at **18! And 24!!!**

Actually, it's nothing mysterious! **Maria Montessori** discovered *The Four Planes of Development* that we *all* go through



**Come Thursday, April 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM** and learn about Montessori's discoveries and their secrets of childhood.

Speak to **Virginia Powell** the visionary!

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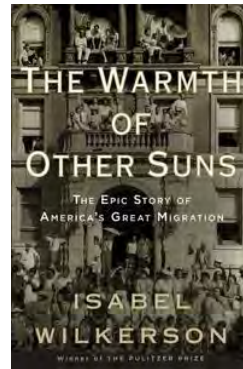
## Book Review

### "The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson

**Barry Harte** will lead a discussion of Isabel Wilkerson's book on **Monday, April 11 at 7:30**. All our welcome to attend.

Ms. Wilkerson received a Pulitzer Prize in journalism in 1993. She has also been awarded the George Polk Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship.

The following is an excerpt from an NPR review of the book by **Karen Grigsby Bates**.



Reading Isabel Wilkerson is like hearing the stories of my parents' friends and their parents, the handed-down (and often sanitized) tales of their exodus from the South. The exits occurred for various reasons: the desire to escape the near-starvation of tenant farmer existences; the need to leave because their own prospects were so restricted, and they wanted more for their

children; the middle of the night departures because a son had not been deferential enough to an outraged white townsman; the vaporization of an entire family overnight, because their pretty eldest daughter had attracted the lingering glance of a white man she would not be allowed to refuse, with dire consequences to her entire family. They're all reflected in *The Warmth of Other Suns*; Wilkerson's sweeping history of the Great Migration.

Wilkerson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for the *New York Times*, has taken what many would consider an indigestible chunk of history — long and sometimes famously written about by earlier historians and sociologists — and given us an extraordinarily palatable narrative. Much of it is seen through the eyes of three people: Ida Mae Brandon Gladney, who left Mississippi for Chicago and exchanged a grinding servitude to become the matriarch of a large family; George Swanson Starling, who departed the Florida orange groves for Harlem and a life as a Pullman porter; and Robert Joseph Pershing Foster, who escaped Monroe, La., and eventually settled in Los Angeles, where he became a prominent surgeon.

How the three got to their respective Northern meccas, what they gave up to remain there and what they got in return is the most American of stories.

## Flower Guild



**Easter** is not until, **Sunday, April 24**, but it is not too early to think about ordering your memorial Lily plants. As we have done in the past, **a donation of \$10 is requested.** The Flower Guild will use these plants to flower the church; you are invited to take them home following the Easter service. Please look for the

envelopes and the signup sheet to record the memorial names of your loved ones.

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## Loaves and Fishes



### By Karen Love

St. Asaph's celebrated Mardi Gras on March 8, Shrove Tuesday, with a pancake supper. The 61 attendees not only enjoyed delicious pancakes with all the sides, but also were given the chance to enjoy each other wearing the glitter of beads and masks.



The evening of enjoyment continued with entertainment by the **Margaret Stineman Trio**, composed of **Margaret** on guitar, her **mother Margaret**, and her friend, **Jim**

**Parcher** on the washtub!

**Emma Ragsdale**, who played several original tunes on the guitar, was another crowd pleaser.



Our biggest thank you must go to **Stevie Graves** who purchased all the supplies and organized our kitchen.



She unearthed Mr. Van's "secret" recipe and followed it to the letter. She reports that we consumed 12 pounds of pancake flour and 180

sausages. Our cooks included **Gwen Hauser, Virginia Powell, Jay Love, Zach Love, Linda Sterthous, Carol Linfoot, Marlene Milner and Audrey Dempster.**



A special thanks to **Johnathan Zellars, Joanne Behm and Bill Severson** for their fine job in cleaning up after the party.

Thanks also to **Mary Ann Harshbarger** for counting out all the beads and helping to decorate the tables.

People were most generous in making donations to the supper. After expenses, we were able to turn in \$139.00 to the church. A big thanks to **Linda Nelsen** who donated beads and masks and to **Jay Love** who donated the wine. Thanks also to **Gwen Hauser** who also supplied donated beads.

Everyone agreed we should do it again next year!

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Loaves and Fishes will visit **The Philadelphia Antiques Show on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. For information, call **Karen Love @ 610-896-5943.**

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## Other Parish News

**Christopher Murphey**, son of St. Asaph parishioner **Allene Murphy**, and a former choir boy at St. Asaph's, wrote the story and script and produced the ABC-TV Tuesday night series "Body of Proof" with Dana Delany. The first episode aired on Tuesday, March 29 at 10 pm

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### An editorial by Connie Stelzenmuller

We were on a plane heading south to visit my sister in Florida and I got bored with what I was reading and picked up Bernie's copy of an old Bloomberg's Business Week. I was snared into reading a long article devoted to "America's Gun," the Glock. I never heard of the Glock until I was reminded in this article that Jared Loughner used a Glock pistol in Tucson where he wounded 14 people including Rep. Gabrielle Gifford and killed six others. After reading the article, I became aware that I had just been introduced to America's favorite killing machine. That said, I wanted to share some of the article with you.

I discovered that what makes the Glock pistol such a serious weapon is the magazine capacity choices—33, 17, 10, 8--and the ease in which the user can shoot fast and true. The light frame of the pistol is made from a corrosion-resistant plastic that is lighter than steel (it almost looks like a toy gun). It has fewer parts than comparable guns (less likely to have mechanical problems). The trigger has a light consistent pull weight. The manufacturer even advertises a smaller Glock that still packs an ammunition punch and can be tucked into a pocketbook. "A perfect size for women."

Although 33-round clips are not available to civilians, that's the clip that Jared Loughner used in his Glock 19 that he emptied within a minute or two. Thankfully, Loughner was subdued when he paused to insert another clip. Who were others who used this weapon to do their mayhem and destruction? In 1999 Byron Uyesugi used a Glock 17 to kill seven people in a Honolulu office; in 2007 the Glock 19 was used by Seung Hui Cho to murder 32 Virginia Tech folks; in 2008 the Glock 17 was used by Stephen Kazmierczak to shoot 21 people at Northern Illinois University. The Oklahoma bomber, Timothy McVeigh, was packing a 9-mm Glock when he was stopped by the police 90 minutes after the bombing.

The background on this killing machine is interesting. The maker of the Glock, Gaston Glock, lives in Vienna (now retired) where he made curtain rods and ran a radiator plant. In 1980 the Austrian Army was looking for a new sidearm, a light durable pistol capable of holding more than eight rounds. Gaston Glock was up for the challenge and after consulting with European firearm experts; he patented, manufactured and sold his Glock

design to the Austrian Army, beating his competition of well-known European arms manufacturers. Gaston Glock was now in the gun business and in 1985 he set up an American subsidiary. With the help of a salesman with past experience in selling rifles to American police departments, the Glock made its way into police departments around the country. Today the Glock commands 65 percent of the American law enforcement market including the FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration. The Glock controls over \$1 billion of the hand gun market. Not bad for a curtain rod maker.

According to the Bloomberg article, high-efficiency weapons make American criminals deadlier and large magazines deadlier still. U.S. does not have an especially high level of crime or even violent crime, but it does have about 5 times the Western European/Canada/Australian average of homicide. Today 48 states allow concealed carry. Only 10 of these states require applicants to provide a reason.

With those statistics I'm wondering not only how do we keep guns from people who are ticked off with society and are willing to settle the score with a gun, but also, how do we contain this killing machine whose clips far outnumber the five or six shots of our old hand guns that had to be reloaded one bullet at a time.

*Bloomberg Business Week January 17 – 23, 2011.*

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### **Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will visit the Diocese of Western North Carolina to preside and preach at a Service of Repentance, Healing and Reconciliation in support of that diocese's work to dismantle racism:**

Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church will visit the diocese Saturday, April 9, to preside and preach at a major Service of Repentance, Healing and Reconciliation at Trinity, Asheville, located at 60 Church Street in downtown Asheville. The service will begin at 11 a.m.

At this service, **Bishop Taylor**, bishop of the diocese of Western North Carolina, will extend an official apology for the diocese's complicity in the institution of slavery and segregation. All 65 parishes in the diocese will be represented and will offer up their history and relationships related to segregation and slavery.

Efforts to coordinate this service have been ongoing for the past two years under the direction of the Commission to Dismantle Racism, which trained teams from dozens of parishes to lead the "truth and reconciliation" process. Subsequently some have reached out into their communities and begun to build bridges across historic racial divides. Additionally many parishes have started collecting oral histories of racially charged events. (*Episcopal Café "The Lead"*)

## PRAYERS

**Those for whom our prayers have been asked:** We pray for Jamie Dent, The Achuff Family, Alice Longdin, Stephen Novak, Emerald Randolph, Kayte Reeves, Joan Schroeter, Doretta Walker, and Robbie Walters.

**Those who have recently died in the parish:** Robert Weimar (Doris Weimar).

***St. Asaph's Church is a house of prayer for all people and a community that works to be progressive in belief and inclusive in practice.***

### Sunday Schedule

- 8 am, Contemplative Communion
- 9 am, Spiritual Formation for all ages
- 10 am, Parish Eucharist
- 5 pm, Emerging worship (2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

### Holy Days as announced

### Summer Schedule

9:15 am

### Parish Staff

Roy Harker, Director of Music & Arts  
Steve Sheeran, Youth Formation  
Julia Miller, Children's Formation  
Lynda Staton, Parish Administrator  
Tim Gavin, Seminary Intern

**Pastoral Care Team:** Rev'd Barry Harte, Lynda Sterhous, MaryChris Lindsay, Tim Gavin

### Parish Vestry

Teresa Wallace, Accounting Warden  
Chris Dennis, Rector's Warden  
Mary Allen, Laura Brennan, Sandra Haye-Carr, Mary Chris Lindsay, Bob Powell, Smith Ragsdale, John Silbaugh, Linda Sterthous, Kristen Stewart, Lori Wernersbach

### Parish Office

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9a-3p  
Phone: 610-664-0966  
Fax: 610-664-3760

### Diocese of Pennsylvania

The Rt. Rev'd Charles E. Bennison, Jr, *Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev'd Rodney R. Michel, *Assisting Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev'd Allen Bartlett, *Assisting Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev'd Ed Lee, *Assisting Bishop*

Contact **Connie Stelzenmuller**, [stelzen@verizon.net](mailto:stelzen@verizon.net), newsletter editor, to submit articles or to request changes.

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**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL -- PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY**

## OUTLOOK

CHURCH OF SAINT ASAPH  
27 Conshohocken State Rd  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

On the web at  
[www.saintasaphs.org](http://www.saintasaphs.org)

Check and return to church office  
If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list.