



OUTLOOK

March 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.



Dear Fellow Radicals?

Reflecting on the state of world affairs, I heard these words: "Does anything I do really make a difference?" These words were offered to me more as a lament than a question. The signs of revolt across northern Africa give me hope more than cause for distress, even if gas prices here at the corner of Conshohocken State Road and City Avenue are nearing \$4.00 a gallon- again. But I digress - back to the very plainly put question about making a difference.

Yes, I want to say, everything we do makes a difference.

Choosing to take public transit just once makes a difference. It may not change the way you consume energy but maybe, just maybe you will see all those folks who depend on public transit every day of their lives. "Think globally, buy locally," I often quote- just make one grocery trip to buy only locally grown and made foods. No truck had to travel great distances to bring you that produce. Less energy was consumed. Local growers benefit from the dollars you spend and will return those dollars into the local economy. Say hello by name to the check-out person at the grocery store and see if you make a difference in that moment and in that life, maybe even in your own life.

One person may not feel like they are changing very much, however if one hundred of us chose to do it, the effect, however small, would make a ripple that might just spread. All revolutions do not necessarily involve dramatic and violent overthrow. Some revolutions are quiet and discreet and happen one person at a time.

Lent is the time of preparation for Easter. Candidates for Baptism are invited into intense study. The rest of us are invited into our own time of study reflecting on the faith and our place in that journey. Might I suggest that this season of Lent, you remember that you indeed do make a difference. You make a difference through your choices, in your relationships, in your participation and the lack thereof.

One itinerant Jewish Rabbi never set out, I believe, to change a whole world, but rather to change people's hearts, the people he encountered each and every day. Who knew that an entire world would be transformed by a small time revolution in Palestine, some two thousand years ago?

Thanks for the differences you do make. Let this Lent be a time for us to change not only our own lives, but maybe even to change the world.

Happy Lent,
Barry+

Liturgy

Conversations on the Edge



On Sunday, February 13, 2011, Blue did not disappoint those of us who attended her third service. This one was among the most provocative I have attended. She showed clips from a film called *Exam*. These clips were unnerving in that the characters, who must have been subjected in other clips to some grueling competition for a job, came together in a room to take their final exam to see who would win the job. As we watched the tension among the candidates while listening to their instructions, we all felt the pressure, too. What heightened the pressure was that these applicants had to not only discover the question, but also discover the only one answer to the question. Whew!. In addition, there were rules that they could not break in the process of their discovery.

After we watched the clip, Blue then asked the question "Find the outcome to Easter, but only through rubbings that you find around the sanctuary.". Was this really what she wanted us to do? Or, was the process in answering this question more important. In your life have you found the answers or are you still in the process. What is important to you, the answer or the process?

Following the service we sat down to a good meal and more talk.



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!

Midweek Opportunity for Study, Reflection and Fellowship

Wednesdays in Lent beginning on March 16 and 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.

A Lenten Day of Reflection: April 2nd

Save the date for a Lenten day of reflection to be held at St. Asaph's on **Saturday, April 2nd from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM**. 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. Sign-up information will be available this Sunday.

The Kids were Wonderful

On Sunday, February 6, 2011, the youth of our parish were really involved in the liturgy and the running of the service.



The Offertory Anthem, *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*, was sung by **Neve Brennan, Kate Harte-McCormick and Maddy Ragsdale**. Each of the girls sang solo parts during their musical gift to the congregation.



During Communion, the above musicians—**Lucy Silbaugh** on cello and her friend **Eleanor Avril** on violin played Handel's *Thine is the glory (Judas MacCabeus)*. Lucy also read the Lessons.

I also want to recognize **Clara Porrata-Doria and Kate Harte-McCormick** for their role as Greeters

Baptisms

Another Baptism??? We welcomed into our community **Isaac Adam**. He is a very precocious toddler who, walked at 10 months, according to his proud grandfather.



Here is **Isaac** being held by his mother, **Mary**, surrounded by aunts, grandmothers and grandfathers.

St. Asaph Annual Meeting



Nicky Garvan and Joanne Behm are two of the outgoing vestry members. Here they are handling the balloting for the election of new vestry members.



Teresa Wallace, chief cook and finance officer



There was not only good food served at the annual meeting following the 10 am service, but the vestry articulated some good news. **Chris Dennis** the rector's warden chaired the meeting and called on several to give reports. **Teresa Wallace** organized the food which included a variety of sandwiches, wonderful desserts and her delicious tomato basil soup

The Strategic Planning Committee chaired by **Steve Chawaga** gave highlights from the report which was summarized in the February Newsletter and in the Annual Report. Steve said that about 75 participated in the strategic planning discussions and that one third have been in the church 3 years or less. That tells you that we are a growing church and those who come feel the energy of a vital parish life. Responses to the Welcoming piece feel St. A's does a good job in welcoming and integrating new folks in the parish.

Steve hopes by spring to have the report turn into a plan for St. A's and promises to continue openness as the plan is shaped.

Steve Sheeran reported on Size and Growth. He said a dream is to have a community contact committee where we can go out into the community and invite people in and to have a self sustaining community where investment is used for Outreach. We are presently enjoying 10 new families a year

Barbara Rideout and Blue Lemay reported on the results from Liturgy and highlighted that parishioners like the way we blend the traditional and the new; that we include children in Liturgy and that we need to market

what we do inside to the outside community. Blue explained how her emerging service tries to connect with daily life and attendees on the 2nd and 4th Sundays help design the discussion.

Laura Brennan reported that folks are amazed at our outreach and how much gets accomplished. A good response from the conversations was "we are a parish who has thrown open the front door." We are now looking for ways to reflect in winter what we do in the garden in the summer. Also folks would like more interfaith gatherings and want to continue to support artists and musicians

Teresa Wallace our accounting warden gave a promising picture of our increase in pledges over last year; increase in rentals; cutbacks in expenses and a sharp eye on spending. A goal is to begin lessening our reliance on invested funds. Teresa reminds people that gifts of stock are always welcomed. **Chris Dennis** compares Teresa to "**Jacob wrestling with the angels.**" Here is her finance report:

Finance Report from the Annual Meeting

For those of you who were unable to attend the annual meeting, I wanted to take this opportunity to summarize my report to the congregation on our 2010 final financial report and the 2011 budget. In general, the church's financial picture at the end of 2010 was better than expected and we have definitely taken steps to improve our financial picture. But we are still not out of the woods. The vestry continues to work towards a balanced budget; we are making progress but we are not there yet.

2010 Year End

We ended the year with \$29,200 more revenue for the year than we had originally budgeted. In particular, pledge income was up significantly; while we budgeted for \$160,000 in pledge income but we actually received \$183,500! Thank you to everyone for your generosity. We also received increase rent from Bala House because they rented an additional room during the year and had a larger summer camp. Our rental income from other sources was down for the year, however. We recognize that increased rents from the building are an excellent way to increase our income and we will be looking to expand our rentals during the coming year. If you would be interested in serving on a committee to expand our rental business, please let me know.

We were also successful in keeping our expenses down this year; our total expenses for the year were \$53,000 less than budgeted and reflect lower amounts in almost

every category. We were able to keep expenses under-budget because the vestry chose not to fund some items and the staff was extremely conscious about expenditures throughout the year. We were also under-budget because we not yet able to make pension payments for our rector. As soon as Barry is officially a member of the Episcopal clergy, we will need to begin to make up the payments we owe him over time.

Property is also always a concern but Steve Sheeran and Bob Powell were able to hold down our expenses so that we were only \$3000 over budget this year. We made up for some of that increased expense by limiting expenses for grounds maintenance; landscaping costs were \$5000 under budget this year. Thanks to everyone who has come out for parish workdays; the work we do ourselves definitely helps our bottom line.

Even with our increased revenue and our decreased expenses, we still needed to liquidate assets from our invested funds in order to meet our expenses. A total of \$113,000 was liquidated from our account, but because of donations of stock and some increases in the value of some of our holdings, we ended the year with a loss of \$85,000 in our invested funds. At the end of 2010, our liquid endowment was at \$302,000.

2011 Budget

Looking forward to the coming year, the vestry approved a budget that reflects increased revenue of \$25,000 and decreased expenses of \$45,000. This means we are \$70,000 closer to a balanced budget. But we are not there yet; we anticipate needing to liquidate \$65,000 from invested funds in the coming year to make ends meet. The vestry's goal is to continue to work toward a balanced budget within the next three to four years and the 2011 budget is a definite step in the right direction.

The increased revenues reflect \$20,000 in increased pledges and \$5000 in increased rent. While the rental figure may be slightly aggressive, the vestry plans to make a concerted effort to get the word out about our excellent facilities. On the expense side, the budget reflects decreases based on last year's actual expenses in most categories. A few areas do reflect changes, however. The vestry approved a 2% salary increase for Barry while decreasing the amounts allotted to him for reimbursement. The vestry also elected to hold the line on supply clergy so it may be necessary to hold Morning Prayer some Sundays during the summer. All other members of staff received no increase this year. We also reduced the amount budgeted for our paid choir,

our office expenses, and we made the difficult decision to reduce our pledge to the diocese by \$5000.

The year-end financial report as well as the 2011 budget are available at any time to any parishioner; please let me know if you would like a copy. As always, I welcome your questions and comments





New Vestry Members

Linda Sterthous, Smith Ragsdale and John Silbaugh are our new vestry members. They will each serve a 3-year term. Nicky Garvan and Joanne Behm are stepping down following their 3-year term. Smith Ragsdale, who was fulfilling a term for a vestry member who stepped down last year before completing his term, had to run again for election according to the by-laws.

Bishop Bennison Visits



Left to Right: Barry Harte, Steve Lindsey, Bishop Bennison and Tim Gavin.

“We will make children central to our life as a community.”

Youth Formation By Steve Sheeran



Souper Sunday was a huge success. The kids were proud of their collection of canned soup, thanks to the generosity of our congregation. Over 200 cans of soup were collected for the ElderNet Food Pantry.

Sunday, March 13 our youth will have a Tea and Rice Sunday Coffee Hour to benefit Share Food Philadelphia.

During this season of Epiphany a special thanks to our youth lectors: **Kevin Harte-McCormick and Ann Silbaugh**; our youth singers: **Neve Brennan, Kate Harte-McCormick and Maddy Ragsdale**; our youth musicians: **Lucy Silbaugh and her friend Eleanor Avril**; and our youth chalice: **Mary Chawaga**.

Confirmation Candidates

Mary Chawaga and Margaret Nelsen are preparing for Confirmation this spring. Please encourage, support and pray for them as they prepare to affirm their faith and commit to their Baptismal responsibilities.

Co-leaders

Steve Chawaga is the new Rite-13 co-leader with Lisbet Drivdahl. Thanks to Steve & Lisbet for all the work they do with our youth.

Annual Meeting Dessert Sale

The dessert sale raised **\$184.25 for Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti.** Thanks to those of you who contributed desserts and thanks to all who purchased desserts.

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

Outreach

St. Asaph’s joins Bala House for their International Dinner fund raiser to benefit **Philabundance**; and the **The Heifer Foundation**, which helps to provide livestock for needy families in third world countries



March 5 from 12:30-3:30.

Bagging at the **Philabundance** warehouse. Dress in layers. **Children must be at least 14 years old.**

Food for the Rest of us

If you can't go to the food market for whatever reason, help yourself to a bag of food which we have supplied in the empty office across from Lynda's office. It is our goal to replenish the food each week

St. James School

Below is a link to a Valentine from the kids and staff at the St. James School where we participated in MLK day. If you click on the link and then **News**, you will see more photos and recognizable faces from that day.

<http://www.stjamesphila.org/news/index.php>

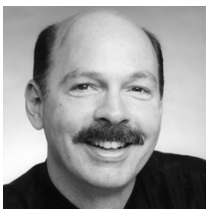
ElderNet "Picnic in the Park"

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.

Music and Arts



Roy Harker, director of Music and Arts

The Elysian Camerata Sunday, March 6, 2011, 3:00pm

Haydn's *String Quartet in C Major*, Op. 20 no. 2, Honegger's *Sonatine for Violon et Violoncelle*, and Mendelssohn's *String Quintet in B Major*, Op. 87 make up this program by the Elysians at St. Asaph. This, the

third concert of four this season is offered free to the public (a free-will offering will be requested) and will be followed by a reception in the Gallery. These concerts have been very well attended, so come early for the best seating.

Art in the Gallery



Jim Bloom

Presented by the Coalition Ingenu Self-taught Artists' Collective and the Outsider Folk Art Gallery Mixed Media Paintings and Drawings **March 18 through April 10, 2011 Opening Reception: Friday, March 18, 2011, 6:00-8:00pm**



Piety Choi Acrylic and Mixed Media February 18 through March 13, 2011

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 Steve Sheeran

If you haven't noticed, there are newer wing chairs and newer lamps in the parlor, thanks to **Keith Shively**. Also thanks to **Jeff Moody** for contributing a newer 37" TV and DVD player.

Congregation



Please welcome Tim and Marisa Peterson

I asked Tim and Marisa some questions about their relationship with St. Asaph and about themselves. Here is our interview:

How did you find St. Asaph's and how long have you been in the congregation?

We found St Asaph's after searching the diocesan offerings online. The website portrayed a fresh, forward-thinking organization that stood apart from other websites for churches in our vicinity. We've been attending since September.

I see that Tim is a graduate student at Widener in Clinical Psychology. How about Marissa's work? Please describe.

Marisa is a 1st grade teacher at Agnes Irwin School, a private all girls school down the road from Villanova. She's been teaching 6 years. I will graduate in 3 more years and am exploring both consulting and private therapy avenues of practice.

Where do you live now and where did you grow up?

We live now in Havertown in a 2nd-floor home apartment. We both grew up in San Antonio and hope to settle in Texas somewhere close to our families, who are between San Antonio and Austin.

Are you both Episcopalian? Are you from another faith as so many of us are? Tell us more about your faith background.

We were both raised Catholic. Marisa still is a Catholic. I converted to the Episcopal tradition while in college after uneventfully drifting from Catholicism. I appreciated the similarities Episcopalianism shared with Catholicism, but I knew I wanted a more progressive theology.

I notice that you worship at both 8 and 10. Is one a preference over the other?

Which one we attend depends both on when we wake up, and how much work we've got in the rest of our

weekend. We love the music of the 10 o'clock, but it sure is nice to get home to feed ourselves before noon and carry on with the remaining chores of our school.

Do you feel comfortable in the St. Asaph congregation?

St Asaph's has been a most welcoming and hospitable congregation. Thank you for receiving us so warmly.

Other information

Tim has been living in Philly for a year and a half; Marisa moved up in August. They celebrated their one-year anniversary June 26.

Tim is the youngest of 7 (that includes a twin!); Marisa is the oldest of 3 girls. He says that part of their good fit together--the oldest/youngest match-

Tim goes on to say that they both love to cook; special ingredients is probably the biggest drain in their budget; Marisa's latest specialty is a from-scratch Pad Thai; Tim's is a red sauce enchilada.

They are avid movie-goers, but highly selective. They rarely go to a show without reading a review, though Marisa would go without watching the trailer Tim's also a web designer and developer. In other words, a tech-savvy guy

They are looking forward to warmer weather to resume their nature walks. They miss Texas, but are grateful to spend a few years in wonderful PA. They are planning their return to Texas at the earliest convenient time

Thanks Tim and Marisa for sharing your story with us. We are fortunate to have you in the congregation. I know you will tell us when you make your return to Texas.



I'm not doing **Janet Barrett** justice. She looked so wonderful on Sunday, following her complete knee replacement surgery due to arthritis. She wanted everyone to know how grateful she was for the food, flowers and good wishes. Let's hope that Barry and Janet haven't begun an outbreak of knee-replacement surgeries in the parish.



A lovely picture of **John Chou with his mother Jean**. She often visits Teresa and John from her home in NJ



Barry Harte, Mary Allen and Sally Pearne visited **Emerald Randolph** in her retirement home in Ridgewood, New Jersey.

A card can be sent to **Emerald Randolph c/o Ridgewood Center 330 Franklin Tpk. Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450**



Peace at St. Asaph's



From left to right: **Sonnie McFarland, Barry Harte, Virginia Powell and Diana Force**.

Sonnie McFarland "Peace" Talk Touches Many By Virginia Powell, Dir of Parent Education

Despite concerns about the weather, the Sonnie McFarland event held Thursday night, February 3rd in the St. A's sanctuary drew perhaps seventy-five people. Staffers and parents from Bala House, Montessorians

from the area, and a good sprinkling of parishioners heard Sonnie speak on *Unveiling the Authentic Child-A Cornerstone of Peace*.

Sonnie came with a spirit that would be familiar to someone who's lived in the Western part of the U.S. and who has been influenced by the Native American philosophy of life. She shared Montessori's philosophy of peace, which resonated with that of Gandhi (the two conferred long and often while Montessori was living for a time in India). She invoked a model for the learning process formulated by a yogi master from India when she talked about *the mind* and how it directs *the brain*.

Sonnie spoke of Montessori's concept of "the authentic child", and how he/she is, by nature, positive and loving. We promote this side of children when we provide them with appropriate environments that reflect a *respect* for the child by reflecting a true *understanding* of the child.

Through concrete lessons given to the child, we enable them to understand the four parts of themselves: body, mind, emotions and spirit. By giving the child tools, like an emotional vocabulary, an ability to calm their bodies and emotions through deep breathing, and practicing positive mind sets, we enable the child to be his/her "authentic self". When we talk about the "love light" coming through a child's smile or eyes, we help the child see this positive side in others. Sonnie showed pictures depicting different emotions. They're shown to children, in order to bring to their consciousness the many different feelings people have. In this way they recognize them in themselves and others.

Montessori (and Gandhi) believed it was through the child that we can all find peace, and that if we can bring out her/his loving side, "the authentic child", we would be doing a lot to more to promote peace—by raising a peaceful generation.

But we have to see this glow. We have to help it grow. We have to help them know, to recognize so they can sow this powerful love and pass it on, this empowering peace that is so strong.

This sure takes work, a LOT of work! But, what a positive work! If you'd like to know more about it, you can ask me—or, copies of Sonnie's book are available in the Bala House office for \$25.

Diocese of PA Middle East Study Group By Mary Allen

The Church of Saint Asaph and the Middle East Study Group of the Diocese of Pennsylvania present **Mazin Qumsiyeh**, author of *Popular Resistance in Palestine: A history of Hope and Empowerment*, at The Church of St. Asaph, 27 Conshohocken State Rd., Bala Cynwyd on **March 18th at 7:30 pm**.

Mazin is a Palestinian who taught genetics in the US for 30 years before deciding to return to become a full-time non-violent activist against Israeli settlements on the West Bank, including in his hometown, Beit Sahour. He is a tireless advocate for the human rights of Palestinians and for a just peace with security and dignity.

I will pre-order copies of Mazin's book at a 40% discount: \$20 for those who request them.

If you would like to join us for dinner at 5:30 at Aldar's Bistro, 281 Montgomery Ave., Bala Cynwyd (at your own expense), please let me know so I can make appropriate reservations.

Please respond by email <marydallen@gmail.com> or telephone 215-473-0665 if you'd like to buy a book or to join us for dinner.

All are welcome. Free-will offering at the door.

Book Review

**Review of *Barabbas*
By Norman A. Hjelm**

Please join us in the parlor of St. Asaph's to discuss and hear Norman's words on the book *Barabbas* at **7:30pm on Monday, March 14.**

Pär Lagerkvist (1891-1974) was one of the great persons of letters in 20th century Sweden – poetry, drama, novels. He was elected a member of the Swedish Royal Academy in 1940, and he received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1951. Lagerkvist stood in the 20th century tradition of Rainer Marie Rilke, Albert Camus, T.S. Eliot, writers who in great literature reflected on the most basic human, philosophical, and theological questions.

On the evening of March 14, the Book Club at St. Asaph's will meet to discuss what is perhaps Lagerkvist's best-known novel, *Barabbas*. Published in Swedish in 1950 and in English in 1951, this is a parable centered around the story of Barabbas, the bandit, rebel, insurgent, freedom fighter who, according to all four of the New Testament Gospels, was chosen for freedom provided that the Romans would put Jesus to death. Of the several novels by Lagerkvist translated into English – others include *The Dwarf*, *The Sibyl*, *The Death of Ahasuerus* and two collections of short stories (a partial list) – this is perhaps his best-known work. Barabbas becomes for Lagerkvist's readers a haunted person whose whole existence is centered around the crucified Galilean whose life was taken in exchange for his. This short and deceptively simple novel raises crucial questions of New Testament theology and interpretation,

even as – perhaps more importantly – it raises deeply personal existential questions of doubt, faith, responsibility, and destiny.

Andre Gide famously wrote that "... Pär Lagerkvist has shown the mysterious springs of an emerging conscience secretly tormented by the problem of Christ at a time when the Christian doctrine was still in the process of formation, when the dogma of the Resurrection still depended on the uncertain evidence of a few credulous witnesses who had not yet bridged the gap between superstition and faith."

It has become a kind of Book Club tradition to consider during each Lent works of undoubted art that raise truly ultimate questions. *Barabbas* is such a work. You are welcome to this discussion on March 14.

Looking Ahead to April for Book Club:
Barry Harte will lead the group, but the book hasn't been chosen.

Flower Guild



Marlene and Connie arranged the above memorial flowers. If you have a special event or date that you would like to honor with flowers, call the church office to arrange a date. We ask for a donation of \$40. Three years ago Connie, Marlene and Jane took the flower arranging course at the Washington Cathedral— "Flowers for Sacred Places."

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 sign-up sheet to record the memorial names of your loved ones.

Altar Guild

By Stevie Graves



Please note that the **Altar Guild retraining workshop has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 26, 9:30-11:00 AM**

The Altar Guild is a ministry of preparation and details, working closely with the minister to prepare

the Altar and worship space for Sunday morning liturgy, weekday services, funerals, weddings, baptisms and other special services. Altar Guild sets up the chalices, wine, water, and bread for each service. They are responsible for washing and ironing the linen used for the services as well as cleaning and polishing the candlesticks, brass rail, crosses and plaques that ordain our sacred space. **New membership is always welcome!**

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Loaves and Fishes



**Mardi Gras at
St. Asaph's**

Good will offering, please.

Don't forget to plan to have family night out at the church on **Tuesday, March 8 at 6 pm.** Pancakes, sausages and applesauce are the fare and will include beads and entertainment as the Mardi Gras snare.

Other Parish News

End of Life Seminar

**March 20, 2011
11:45-1:15.**

Plan while you can! Whether you are an older or younger adult, **St. Asaph's** is inviting you to a streamlined introduction to various options for facilitating end-of-life decisions. This seminar is for all who prefer to make independent decisions while in good health mentally and physically.

Here is an opportunity for you to learn what you can do now to make decisions on:

- Extent of medical care in an emergency
- Distribution of your assets
- Burial service
- Donating your body to research
- Who will make decisions for you if you are unable
- How to discuss your end-of-life wishes with those who need to know

Barry Harte, our priest, will be on the panel along with a legal advisor from Villanova and our own **Barbara Rideout** and **Mary Allen**. Barbara is a nurse practitioner with extensive nursing experience. In 2006 she completed the End of Life Nursing Education program (ELNEC) and developed the curriculum for the graduate program of the College of Nursing at Drexel University. Mary Allen is a spokesperson and advocate for the Human Gifts Registry (body donation).

The presentations will cover wills, living wills, long-term care arrangements, hospice, funerals. You will have an opportunity to ask questions.

This seminar is free, but we ask you to pre-register so that we can provide a light lunch for all participants after church. **RSVP to Lynda at the church office:** 610-664-0966 or "Parish Administrator" office@saintasaphs.org.

For more information, contact Mary Allen, 215-473-0665 or marydallen@gmail.com.

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori,
Appointee for Member, President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

According to the Episcopal Café news the White House announced the appointments to its faith advisory council. The group includes a dozen religious leaders representing a wide variety of religious traditions. The panel includes **The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.**

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori is the 26th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, where she serves as Chief Pastor and Primate to the Episcopal Church's members in 16 countries and 110 dioceses.

Bishop Jefferts Schori is the first woman to head any of the 38 member churches of the world-wide Anglican Communion. From 2001 to 2006, she served as Bishop of Nevada. Between 1994 and 2000, she served as a priest in Oregon, working closely with the Latino community.

During this time, Bishop Jefferts Schori was a hospice chaplain, and taught at Oregon State University. Before she pursued her studies for the priesthood, Bishop Jefferts Schori was a research oceanographer. She holds a B.S. in Biology from Stanford University, an M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from Oregon State University, an M.Div. from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and several honorary doctorates.

PRAYERS

Those for whom our prayers have been asked:

We pray for Janet Barrett, Jamie Dent; The Achuff Family, Alice Longdin, Lily Milroy, Stephen Novak, Anthony Outlaw and his family, Emerald Randolph, Kayte Reeves, Joan Schroeter, Doretta Walker; and Robbie Walters.

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 4th 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 Sterhouse, 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
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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, newsletter editor, to submit articles or to request changes.

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OUTLOOK

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www.saintasaphs.org

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