

AUGUST CHART

Letter from the Rector

August 1, 2009

Dear Friends,

I hope you are having as good a summer as possible, considering the weather we have endured. I (personally) enjoyed the abnormally cool June and first half of July, but the rain was a bother. Now it is the humidity (with some heat) and the rain. Possibly August will be the charm.

We are already working on programs for the fall. We will have a chapel choir for the 9:30 AM service on Sundays and periodically the chapel choir will sing at the 10:00 AM service. Rehearsals for the choir will take place on Tuesday afternoons (when there are few after-school activities because of CCD for the Roman Catholic students). We are also working to add high school students to church choir.

We are exploring how Christ Church will be able to participate in Family Promise. Family Promise is a national program that seeks to support families with children that are struggling with homelessness. Fourteen churches and synagogues in Nassau County have agreed to make their facilities available to homeless families on a rotating basis. (Christ Church could not become a host congregation since the Parish House does not meet minimum standards for building-use.) Christ Church can become an 'assisting congregation' by providing support and services at host congregations. Beth Morningstar and Vince McGill have agreed to be on the Christ Church committee. Victoria Bindert has agreed to coordinate recruitment for the program as part of her senior Girl Scout project. With homelessness in Nassau County continuing to increase, the help of Christ Church and many other congregations is essential. Please call the parish office for more information about Family Promise or to volunteer your services.

The Diocese of Long Island has asked for volunteers for the service of ordination and consecration for the Bishop Coadjutor of Long Island on Saturday, September 19 at 11:00 AM. Ushers, altar guild helpers, acolytes and choir members are needed. It is expected that many from the Diocese will volunteer so not all who wish to participate will be asked to do so. If you would like to participate I will need to hear from you by **August 6**. Please call the office and tell us what you would like to do.

This comes with my best wishes.

Sincerely,

David B. Lowry, Rector

On Sexuality and the Episcopal Church

The Triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church took place in July in Anaheim, California. The one action of the Convention that has received substantial press notice is the rescinding of an agreement to **not** to ordain to the office of bishop anyone living an openly homosexual life-style. The original agreement was put in place at the 2006 General Convention at the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury in hopes that differences in beliefs about sexuality and ministry within the world-wide Anglican Communion could be resolved amicably. When it became apparent that differences within the Episcopal Church and between the American and Canadian churches and the African and South American churches in the Communion could not be resolved, the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies voted to rescind the ban and re-open the door to the possible election of another homosexual to the episcopate.

There are a number of issues attendant to this action of the General Convention about which I would like to comment. The first issue is how decisions are made in the American Episcopal Church and how that differs from other churches in the Anglican Communion and other denominations; the second is what the American Episcopal Church has declared about sexuality and the church by its decision to rescind the ban on ordinations.

The American Episcopal Church is, in spite of being 'episcopal' (that is headed by bishops), an egalitarian and democratic organization. Decisions about the doctrine and discipline of the church is made not only by the bishops of the church, but also by other clergy and lay-people acting in accordance with Canons and Constitution of the Episcopal Church while meeting in diocesan and/or national conventions. It is instructive to note how different this is from the governance of the Roman Catholic Church. About the same time the Episcopal Church decided to open the office of bishop to openly homosexual priests, the Roman Catholic Church issued an important encyclical (*Caritas in Veritate*) which dealt with economic life and justice. The encyclical

was prepared by a small group and clergy and laity and the broader Roman Catholic Church had no input into its content.

The democratic system of decision making in the Episcopal Church raises questions about how theologically informed decisions about doctrine and discipline might be; the Roman Catholic magisterium approach raises questions about the inclusiveness of the church.

This brings us back to the issue at hand in the Episcopal Church: The decision not to bar the ordination of openly practicing homosexuals is, in essence, a declaration of support for general homosexual unions. Many in the Episcopal Church see the decision as an attack on scripture, tradition and morality. Others note that for centuries, bishops and other clergy have been homosexual and have practiced their sexuality. The difference, they would say, is that the church is now publicly recognizing what has been done surreptitiously. They would further claim that making the behavior open and acceptable allows homosexuals to form healthy relationships that will help them conform to the more basic Christian value of transparency and integrity.

A number of people have enquired whether we at Christ Church will now solemnize homosexual unions. The simple answer is **no**. All legal unions in the United States are governed by state-law. Until the State of New York makes legal same-sex unions, no church or clergy-person may perform a marriage ceremony. Clergy can bless relationships, however.

Now, for my opinion about ordination and same-sex unions: one of the crucial elements of religious life is to help order personal, family and societal life. This includes marriage—traditional and alternative. Scientific studies of sexuality are not yet 'conclusive' about

Parish Notes:

Wednesday Informal Communion for the Month of August.

Valerie and Bill Sieners on August 7 at 7:00pm.

Lucy and Tom Chalys on August 12 at 7:00pm.

Betts and Bob Carpenter on August 19 at 7:00pm.

Marge and Lou Trapp on August 26 at 7:00pm.

Christ Church Web Page

Web page: Please take a look at our web page at Christchurchmanhasset.org. Our new webmaster, Laura Pavlovich, is trying very hard to update it. Please browse around, click on some of the links and check the facts. Then, PLEASE email your comments to Pavlovich.Laura@gmail.com. Many eyes will help find any inaccuracies! Many thanks to Bruce Sternemann for his excellent job as the previous webmaster!

Chapel Choir

Young musicians wanted for the Chapel Choir. As you begin to set your schedule for next fall, please consider joining the Christ Church Chapel Choir. Laura Pavlovich and Andrew Yeargin are looking for singers and instrumentalists in grades two through eight to lead the music in chapel every Sunday and to sing in the "big church" every six weeks. We will rehearse on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 beginning in September.

HELP WANTED!

With Susan Bunyon's retirement this past June, the Sunday School is looking for someone who would like to teach. The hours are Sunday mornings from 9:30 till it's over and occasional teacher meetings. The pay is, well ... you know. The rewards are enormous. Pre-requisites include but are certainly not limited to faith, a smile, love of God, Jesus and kids, too. Anyone interested should contact Heather Bennett (627-2727), Fr. Lowry or any of the teachers.

LICC Urgent Appeal:

We have received the appeal printed below from the Long Island Council of Churches. It is important that the church communities support efforts to help those who have been deeply (and negatively) affected by the current economic down-turn. Checks should be made out to the Long Island Council of Churches (LICC) with the memo "Sustain LICC Ministry." You can send you checks directly the LICC (as noted below) or to Christ Church and we will forward your check to the Council of Churches. If you are part of a matching gifts program, please request a matching gift for this worthy cause. Your support is deeply appreciated.

From: tomgoodhue@optonline.net

To: tgoodhue@suffolk.lib.ny.us

Sent: 7/16/2009 5:10:13 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: **Urgent appeal**

We know you're aware of the severe impact the economic crisis has had on individuals and families – people who lost their jobs, can no longer afford to send their kids to college, who may be facing foreclosure, or who no longer have enough to eat. We have helped more people in the past three months with rent and mortgage assistance, for example, than we did in all of 2008. What you may not realize is that nonprofits, especially those that care for the poor, have also been deeply wounded financially by the economic crisis. Donations are way down but the number of people we care for has more than doubled in the past nine months. To make matters worse, the counties are months behind in paying our contracts to care for the people they send us. We have plenty of food for our emergency pantries and plenty of money to help people stay in their homes, but we need to receive another \$50,000 this summer—or start closing programs and laying off staff. We urgently need your support. We cannot serve the poor unless we pay our staff who serve them, provide staff with health insurance, pay our rent and utilities so we have a place to feed the poor, and pay for the additional infrastructure costs that enable us to perform our ministry. Without unrestricted funds to pay for the infrastructure that supports our ministry to the poor, there are no programs. Like "love and marriage," you can't have one without the other.

The LICC's mission is to serve Long Islanders in need. We're feeding nearly 2,000 a month and helping another 500 to 700 a month with housing, utilities, transportation, prescriptions and other basic needs. Without our supporters to sustain our ministry, our clients go hungry, homeless, insufficiently clothed, and in ever worsening health because they don't have health insurance either.

We ask each of you to give \$100. For those of you who can give more – between \$500 and \$1,000 each – please send as much as you can so we can continue our mission to serve individuals and families in crisis. Please send your contribution today to the LICC at 1644 Denton Green, Hempstead, NY 11550 and write "Sustain LICC Ministry" in the memo. If you wish to charge your gift to your Visa or MasterCard, please call Yolanda Murray or Tim Denton at 516-565-0290 with the relevant information. Thank you for enabling us to continue serving Long Islanders in need.

Rev. Tom Goodhue
Executive Director

Rev. Erik Rasmussen
LICC Board President

Happy Birthday!!

We are pleased to congratulate these friends and parishioners this month on their birthdays...

Lisa Field, Vincent McGill Jr., David Lowry, Timothy McMahon, Sarah Phillips, Andrew Field, Jimmy Sherwood, Vera Davis, William McMahon III, Richard Kelly, Paul Subaiya, Peter Subaiya, Kenji Mapes, Claude Mapes, Margaret Pavlovich, Ryan Winters, Douglas Melichar.

Happy Anniversary!!!

Our congratulations to all those friends and parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries this month... David and Ariana Paterson, Joe and C.J.(Carole) Sevely, Vincent and Kathy McGill, George Faeth and Beth Morningstar, Bill and Emma McMahon, Kawall and Michelle Deosaran, David and Mary Lowry.

SUNDAY READINGS AND ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 2, 2009

2 Samuel 11:26, 12:13; Psalm 51:1-13; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of William F. Finn
by Doris Finn

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 9, 2009

2 Samuel 18:5-9,14.31-33; Psalm 130; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:35,41-51

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Andrew J. McNeill
by Jane and John DeHoff

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 16, 2009

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:51-58

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of William & Doris Boecker
by Lorinda Dobrick

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 23, 2009

1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11 2:8-13:10; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Sandra Payson
by Lorinda de Roulet

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 30, 2009

Song of Solomon 2:8-13:10; Psalm 45:1-2,7-10 ; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23

There is an opening for altar flowers on this Sunday. The flowers may be given as a memorial or thank offering. If you would like to make a donation to the flowers please call Mrs. Diana Tadler at 627-0128 or the church office at 627-2184.

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Calendar for the Month of August

Saturday, August 1	3:30 PM	Wedding	Church
Sunday, August 2/9 Pentecost	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
Monday, August 3	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, August 4	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, August 5 Valerie & Bill Siener 271 Park Avenue 516-570-0679	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Morning Prayer Informal Eucharist	Chapel Sieners'
Thursday, August 6	9:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Office Chapel Parish House
Friday, August 7	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, August 8			
Sunday, August 9/10 Pentecost	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	Chapel Church Chapel
Monday, August 10	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, August 11	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, August 12 Lucy & Tom Chaly 60 Mill Spring Road 516-627-5506	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Morning Prayer Informal Eucharist	Chapel Chalys'
Thursday, August 13	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 10:45 AM	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Sunshine Ministry	Chapel Chapel Parish House
Friday, August 14	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel

Saturday, August 15	11:00 AM	Wedding	Church
Sunday, August 16/11 Pentecost	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
Monday, August 17	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	7:45 PM	Vestry Meeting	Guild Room
Tuesday, August 18	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, August 19 Betts & Bob Carpenter 61 Shore Drive 516-627-7245	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	7:00 PM	Informal Eucharist	Carpenters'
Thursday, August 20	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	9:15 AM	Bible Study	Office
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
	10:45 AM	Sunshine Ministry	Parish House
Friday, August 21	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, August 22			
Sunday, August 23/12 Pentecost	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
Monday, August 24	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, August 25	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, August 26 Marge & Lou Trapp 35 Central Drive 516-627-0267	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	7:00 PM	Informal Eucharist	Trapps'
Thursday, August 27	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	9:15 AM	Bible Study	Parish House
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
	10:45 AM	Sunshine Ministry	Parish House
Friday, August 28	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, August 29			
Sunday, August 30/16 Pentecost	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
Monday, August 31	9:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel