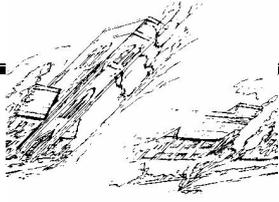


THE BELLRINGER



St. Luke's Church

Forest Hills

June 2008

FOREST HILLS SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH HUALIEN

Dear Friends,

As summer approaches, vacation plans take shape. Before those special events and trips occur, please don't forget to circle the dates that will be making for wonderful events right here at Saint Luke's. You'll find many of them listed in this month's newsletter.

Speaking of summer vacation, when I am away from Saint Luke's this summer, I'll be at Saint Luke's—Saint Luke's Church, Hualien, Taiwan, that is. I have the good fortune to be returning to Taiwan this July. Last year I made friends with The Church of The Good Shepherd, Taipei and their Rector, Diane Wong. I'll be returning there on July 6 and preaching on July 20. Before that, though, I will be in eastern Taiwan, staying for one week at Saint Luke's Church in Hualien. Our namesake in Taiwan is a struggling parish, presently without a priest. They have a lay caretaker who is studying for Holy Orders. The church facility also has a small guest studio apartment where I have been welcomed to stay. I look forward to making the connection with this parish and will bring your prayers and well wishes. The Church in Taiwan is part of The Episcopal Church USA.

While staying in Hualien, I will also visit the Tzu Chi Buddhist Monastery and Outreach Center—a lively, large community dedicated to spiritual growth, education and outreach. My summer vacation promises to be a creative Anglican and Interfaith experience. I hope to bring back some salient insights for our own development. I also hope to come back this time with more Mandarin language under my belt than only being able to order coffee in Chinese!

July is also the month of The Lambeth Conference in England, the once every ten year gathering of bishops who serve the world over and are related through the Anglican Communion's bonds of affection. Let us all pray, please, that these bonds be felt as the ligaments of love they are meant to be—connective tissue, human and divine, holding in communion the Body of Christ.

Faithfully yours,

PARISH CENSUS

In May of 2007, Saint Luke's conducted a census of our membership. One year later, for the benefit of those who didn't get around to filling out the form the first time, and due to the happy circumstance of many new families joining the parish, we're doing it again.

In this issue of *The Bellringer*, you will find a form that each household is asked to complete and return to the church. Much of the data requested is for our compliance in organizing the Parish Register. Each parish of the Episcopal Church is required to maintain a membership register that records a variety of dates related to the sacraments of the church. In addition, we are seeking other information that strengthens parish communications. **If you filled out the form last year, there's no need to do it again.** But if you haven't done it yet, or are new to Saint Luke's, now is the time to stand up and be counted. **Please note that if you can't find your birth, baptism, or confirmation records, you may enter approximate dates.**

**GOD'S LOVE WE DELIVER (GLWD):
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE**

The mission of GLWD is to bring nutritious meals to those who are so ill they can no longer shop or prepare food for themselves. To realize this mission they need funding as well as a huge network of volunteers. Without both kinds of resources, the mission becomes IMpossible.

In January of 2008, Saint Luke's Outreach Committee awarded \$4,000 to GLWD. The money pays for food, cooks, and drivers; but the purchase of ingredients, cooking the food, and delivering it distribution locations would be futile if there were no place to deliver it, no one to receive it, and no one to take it to a person in need. GLWD has asked if Saint Luke's would be willing to participate in achieving their mission by becoming a distribution site for several seriously ill people in our immediate vicinity. What would this entail?

1. A GLWD volunteer would deliver meals, bags, and client cards to Saint Luke's on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday around 11:00am.
2. A Saint Luke's volunteer would distribute the meals into bags, as noted on each client card. The client card also provides the name, address, phone number, and instructions regarding how to contact the person (ring door bell, call on intercom, etc.). A map of the area showing the location of each residence is also provided.
3. Between 12:00 noon and 2:00pm, two Saint Luke's volunteers would deliver a meal to the person listed on each card.

The task is easy and rewarding. The neighborhood is friendly and familiar. Saint Luke's role in this worthy project would be to provide enough volunteers necessary to sustain a year-long commitment *without its becoming a burden to any one person.*

Can we do it? Let's find out. **On Sunday, June 8, following the 10:30 Eucharist**, the Outreach Committee will hold a feasibility meeting to see if we can make this mission

possible. By putting our heads together, we might be able to come up with a way to do this.

Our Invitation/Our Challenge

If you are moved to help these seriously ill people, please come to the meeting. Come if you know you can help. Come if you aren't sure you can help. Come if you think you can't possibly help, but are open to exploring ways to do so. It is because of people just like us that thousands of people are being fed right now. But there are thousands more for whom this work will be a God-send, if we only step forward and say "I will, with God's help!"

Let's put our mouth where our money is. Mark your calendar for June 8 – God's Love – *We Deliver!*

– Barbara Gratz
Outreach Committee Co-chair

**“TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY
BEATITUDES”**

As you prayerfully consider the Outreach Committee's request, also consider the following, excerpted from a meditation by the Rev. Matthew Moretz, a curate at Christ's Church, Rye, NY and creator of the YouTube series *Father Matthew Presents*. He asks us to reflect on the ramifications of Jesus' poetic words in our own day:

Blessed are you who beg for your daily bread;

Blessed are you who have eaten out of the trash;

Blessed are you who eat junk food as the affordable option;

For you will be filled.

Blessed are you who lost your partner to cancer;

Blessed are you who lost your child in battle;

Blessed are you whose world was taken by a storm;

For you will find joy.

WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE

Please note that the midweek Holy Eucharist with intention for healing will continue at **10:00am** rather than returning to 10:30 as previously announced.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR SAINT LUKE'S BOOK CLUB

On Wednesday, June 4th and Wednesday, June 11th at 7:30pm, please join us as we read and discuss *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. The author, a celebrated Episcopal priest and preacher, shares her spiritual journey with warmth and humor, and encourages us to consider what matters most about our faith and life as Christians. Copies of the book at \$15 each are available in the church office. As an added inducement, dessert and coffee will be served. On June 4th Joyce Egginton will open her home to the group, and on June 11th Jane Thornton will be our host. Please sign the list in the narthex so they will know how many people to prepare for.

CALLING ALL ACTORS:

"ARSENIC AND OLD LACE"

AUDITIONS COMING UP IN JUNE

The hilarious crime-comedy, "*Arsenic and Old Lace*," Gingerbread Players' fall production, will be directed by Mim Paquin. Auditions will take place in the parish hall later this month on date(s) to be announced. For further information, contact Mim at maryannepaquin@yahoo.com.

BISHOP COADJUTOR SEARCH

On Sunday, May 4th, Saint Luke's parishioners and Episcopalians throughout the Diocese of Long Island participated in a Diocesan survey relating to the search for a Bishop Coadjutor. Joyce Egginton and Stephen Banci led us through the process of filling out the questionnaires provided by the Search/Nominating and Transition Committees. The completed questionnaires will create a profile of our parish that will be taken into consideration as the Committees deliberate. "Our committees consist of people from all across the diocese, from

Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk," says Fred Miller, who chairs the Search/Nominating Committee. "We are united in our commitment to you and to our diocese. We will listen hard, pray often, and do all we can to present the best possible slate of talented nominees to Convention. We have all endorsed a covenant for our work: We understand that as stewards of an important process during a difficult time for our church, we are your servants."

Web Site Established

For ongoing updates on the search process, parishioners are encouraged to visit www.bishopforlongisland.org, where educational material about the election and traditions of our church, the profile of our diocese, information for prospective nominees, contact details and other documents will be posted. All are also welcome to write to the Search/Nominating Committee at P.O. Box 712, Port Washington, NY 11050, or leave a message in their voice mailbox at 1-877-823-4334.

"READY NEW YORK"

Being prepared for any emergency is as simple as planning ahead. The Inreach Committee has placed copies of two pamphlets, "Ready New York: Preparing for Emergencies in New York City," and "Ready New York for Seniors and People With Disabilities," in the narthex. Everyone is encouraged to take a pamphlet home and learn how your household can take control in an emergency.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT (ERD) – A VITAL MINISTRY IN THESE TIMES OF EXTREME GLOBAL CRISIS

Thanks to all who participated in our Lenten Project by making self-denial offerings to ERD's life-saving work. But that was then. This is now, and the need of our suffering brothers and sisters is even greater.

Healing a Hurting World

In light of such tragic natural disasters as the Myanmar cyclone and the deadly earthquake in China, our support is more essential than ever. Please consider making another donation directly to ERD, either online at www.er-d.org, or by sending a check to Episcopal Relief and Development, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

And remember, ERD's "Gifts for Life" catalog isn't just for Christmas. It offers a special way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries – even Father's Day. Purchasing a gift in honor of a loved one gives direct support to people in need. Catalogs are available in the literature rack in the parish hall, or you can make your purchase online at the address above.

"LIBRETTI & SPAGHETTI: ITALIAN OPERA FOR ALL" **SUNDAY, JUNE 8 AT 3:00PM** **A FEAST FOR THE EARS!**

Can't get enough of the glorious voices of Saint Luke's choir soloists Jason Robinette and Mim Paquin? Then you're in luck, because on June 8th these two brilliant young singers, along with several equally talented guest vocalists, will serve up a veritable banquet of Italian opera and traditional song in Saint Luke's parish hall. At a suggested donation of \$10 (seniors and students a mere \$8) it's an incredible bargain. And this feast of song is completely calorie-free – unless, of course, you indulge in wine and cheese at the reception afterward!

CELEBRATING SAINT LUKE'S YOUTH MINISTRY

Appropriately enough in this spring season, at the 10:30 service on June 15th the focus will be on youth, with Saint Luke's children and young people reading the lessons. The Festival Youth Choir, directed by Louise Guinther and Velma Adams, will sing "You Visit the Earth" by William Ryden, and Steffani's "Come Ye Children and Listen to

Me." The Rector's homily will inform us older folks "How Our Children and Youth Take Care of Parents and Adults," and Louise Foisy and David Smith, Christian Education co-chairs, will award each Church School student a Certificate of Recognition. It's a service you won't want to miss, particularly since it will be followed by...

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN AT SAINT LUKE'S SPRING PICNIC

The celebration continues after the 10:30 service on June 15th with our annual spring pot-luck picnic in the parish hall and, weather permitting, on the lawn. Please sign up on the list in the narthex or at coffee hour, indicating what dish you'll bring to share – salad, side, main course, dessert.

MORE FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN

Saint Luke's annual Parish Barbecue has been a popular event since its inauguration a few years back. This year's festivities are coming up on Saturday, July 19 (rain date July 20). Please save the date for this all-American classic, and invite a friend who isn't part of the parish to come along and discover what a welcoming place our spiritual home can be. For a mere \$5 you get burgers, hot dogs, potato salad – the works! A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex beginning in July, so be sure to let us know you're coming and if you'll be bringing guests.

Instead of the usual pot-luck system for side dishes, we're looking for three or four people to sign up as sous-chefs for specified salads and desserts, and we could use a good grill-meister to take a turn flipping burgers. We're also in need of a few extra lawn chairs. Please give me a call at 718-268-6292, or email me at lgt@operanews.com if you can provide any of these services or items.

– Louise Guinther

DOUBLE BAPTISM

At the 10:30 service on Sunday, May 4th, we joyfully welcomed Fisher Robert Brown and Margaret Lillian Dippel into the fellowship of Christ's Body, the Church, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Please keep Fisher and his parents, Ethan and Noelle, and Margaret and her parents, Claire and Christopher, in your prayers. We also celebrated with the Dippel family as their older daughter, Charlotte, received Holy Communion for the first time.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Michael Boyce
- 3 Lori Sbordone
- 5 Steven Seligman
- 6 Joe Dinas
- 6 Sheila Miller
- 8 Joyce Egginton
- 9 Varghese K. Varghese

- 9 Alberta Haynes & Tipton Carlson (A)
- 14 Georgina Smith
- 15 Shibu Varghese
- 18 Shirley Vickers
- 20 Elijah Williams
- 21 Lucia Tasker
- 21 Tipton Carlson
- 24 Marguerite Molloy
- 25 Jim Bates
- 25 Shibu & Shalini Varghese (A)

“WHERE’S MY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY??”

If you don't see your important dates listed in the appropriate issue of *The Bellringer*, or if they aren't mentioned in the Sunday service leaflet, that's most likely because we don't know what they are. Check the back pages of Saint Luke's Directory – if your birthday or anniversary isn't there and you would like it to be, please contact Sally Friedman in the church office (718-268-6021) or send her an email at stlukesoffice@verizon.net) with the information.

St. Luke's Church Vestry

Rector: The Reverend Thomas F. Reese
Wardens: Anne Harte Su, Jonathan Wallin
Vestry: Sandra Baker, Dennis Khare, Frances Sergi, Allan Smith, Velma Adams, Gary Carldon, Barbara Gratz, Joe Occhiuto, Paul Dinas, David Smith, Jean Tessier, Jane Thornton
Treasurer: Arthur Tasker
Asst. Treasurer: Kim Su
Clerk: Jean Tessier

Parish Staff

The Reverend William A. Doubleday,
Priest Associate
William J. Stokes, Interim Organist
and Choir Director
Sally Friedman, Parish Administrator
Omar Garcia, Sexton

Office phone: 718-268-6021
e-mail: stlukesoffice@verizon.net
Fr. Reese phone: 917-714-5647
e-mail: stlukestom@yahoo.com
www.stlukesforesthills.org



Saint Luke's Church
85 Greenway South
Forest Hills, NY 11375

NONPROFIT
ORG
U.S. Postage
Paid
Flushing, NY
Permit No. 524

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED