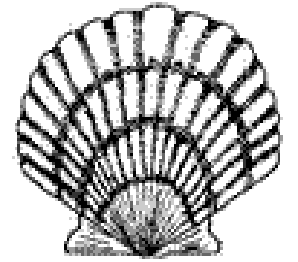


# The Messenger

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

December 2007



## Who Makes Us Who We Are

*Dear friends in Christ,*

The other day as I watched TV, there appeared a man who claimed to be a self-made millionaire. The comment caused me to chortle just a bit as I wondered how anyone can claim to be self-made. What about his mother and father? And what about his teachers, friends, and other members of his family, like his wife? I recalled a statement about self-made men which goes something like this: "The trouble with self-made men is that they are often too pleased with the product." (By the way, the same is true of self-made women.) A corollary of this is that if life is a rat race, only rats can win.

I recognize that some people use their talents to make money. We know that the person who is described as self-made is referring to his ability to climb to the top regardless of the obstacles placed in front of them. Poverty or a lack of education are the things most often cited. A second part of this is that sometimes people who have had some apparent advantages have somehow become lesser persons. Actually, sometimes advantages of wealth and education can be obstacles that must be overcome. Jesus referred to this when He said that for those to whom much has been given much is required.

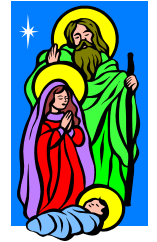
We are all interdependent. The best preacher in the world is useless without a congregation to listen. The greatest musician is worthless without an audience. I am sure you yourself could add plenty of examples.

The problem is that much of the world has inverted the values of Christ. Somehow having a million dollars is more a sign of success than knowing the love of Christ and showing it forth in the world. Being the brightest in your class is considered more important than sharing your knowledge with others. As long as athletes make more money than teachers, we are in an inverted society. As long as parents and grandparents think giving expensive gifts makes them good parents, our society is inverted.

What makes us what we are is how we relate to others, not how we relate to ourselves and the image we try to create. God and the people around us are what makes us what we are. Whether we have a million dollars or one hundred dollars makes no difference to God and, hopefully, not to you.

During this Advent season, I pray you recognize that it is God's gift that makes you God's child. The gift of love from those around you does not have a price tag; the gift of eternal life has no price tag. We are not self-made. We are God's creation.

Peace,  
*Father Karney*



### Christmas Worship Schedule

#### *Sunday, December 23*

8:00 a.m. HE Rite 1  
10:00 a.m. HE Rite 2

#### *Christmas Eve*

4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant  
7:30 p.m. HE Rite 1  
10:30 p.m. Choir Prelude  
11:00 p.m. HE Rite 2

#### *Christmas Day*

10:00 a.m. HE Rite 1

#### *Sunday, December 30*

8:00 a.m. HE Rite 1  
10:00 a.m. HE Rite 2

#### *January 1*

10:00 HE Rite 1

## Christmas Pageant Rehearsals

**The Christmas Pageant is open to anyone who would like to participate.** Dates and times are as follows:

December 2, 9, and 16: 9:30-10:30 a.m., Sunday School Classrooms

December 23: 11:00 a.m. to Noon, Dress Rehearsal in the church

December 24: Pageant at 4 p.m. Meet in the Parish Hall at 3 pm.



## Advent Traditions

Advent begins on December 2. During the Advent season, we observe a solemn time of preparation for the birth of Our Lord.

Episcopalians are "symbol minded people," so we use symbols to express our time of preparation. The most obvious things we will do are during the liturgy. For example, we will be using the Penitential Office at all services. These services are found in the Prayer Book on page 319 for Rite 1 and page 351 for Rite 2. The "Alleluia's" after the breaking of the bread are omitted (see pages 337 and 364). Also the proper preface for Advent will be used as called for in the Prayer Book (see pages 345 and 378).

We use the Advent Wreath, lighting one of its candles for each week. Flowers will be replaced by greens as adornment for the season.

On December 2, there will be an opportunity for each family to create Advent Wreaths for use at home.

*Father Karney*

## Candles Needed

Please bring old or used tapered candles to the church foyer. We collect and deliver them to a man who uses them to light his small house. He has no electricity. Thank you.

*Grace George*

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**Articles for the January  
Messenger are due  
December 15.**

**Keep up with current church  
events.**



**See our online calendar at  
www.st-annes-church.com.**



### Christmas Plant Donations

If you would like to make a Memorial or a Thank offering toward Christmas plants, please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate on Sunday, bring it to the office, or mail it to the office

*By Monday, December 17, 2007*

Please print the name(s) you would like to have remembered, as you wish the name(s) to appear in the Bulletin.

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of                       in thanksgiving for

\_\_\_\_\_

in memory of                       in thanksgiving for

\_\_\_\_\_

in memory of                       in thanksgiving for

\_\_\_\_\_

in memory of                       in thanksgiving for

\_\_\_\_\_

in memory of                       in thanksgiving for

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Plants are \$7.00 each. Please make checks payable to St. Anne's Church and note "Memorial Plants" in the memo line.



### Parish Prayer List Update

We will be updating our parish prayer list by the middle of December. If you have placed someone on the list, please call the office (378-2401) or fill out the form below and place in the collection plate or mail to the office.

Please continue to keep on the prayer list:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please add to the prayer list:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

# OUTREACH



### Support Angel Tree

Each year, the people of St. Anne's generously give both time and money to help spread Christmas joy to children in the MOT area who have a parent incarcerated. This year, we will purchase gifts for nine children on behalf of the absent parent. Soon you will see the evergreen in the foyer that will have Angel Tree tags with the names of these children. Select a child for whom to purchase a gift. A sign-up sheet will be under the tree.

Please wrap the gifts and securely tape the Angel Tree tag with the child's name and the parent's Christmas message to the gift. **The gifts need to be underneath the tree or given to Fuad Masso no later than December 16.**

Your continued support of the Angel Tree program is very much appreciated. Please contact me if you have any questions about the program or would like to help with delivering the gifts.

*Thank you, Fuad Masso, 449-0897*

### Habitat for Humanity

Building was completed during the spring on Faith Way and the families are busy building new lives in clean, affordable housing thanks to the generosity of many people in our faith community here in the MOT area.

However, St. Anne's financial commitment of \$25,000 over 5 years remains. As the year winds down, you may wish to make an end-of-year charitable donation. **Please consider supporting our pledge by donating to Habitat for Humanity.** You can write your check to St. Anne's and list Habitat for Humanity in the memo portion.

*Jessie Ventura*

### People's Place

People's Place, a group home, provides a home-like environment for teens in the foster care system ages 12 through 18. We'll be collecting gift cards for them for Christmas for clothing and shoe stores, Wal-Mart, Kohl's, theaters (Dover or Midway), school or craft supplies, and games (indoor and outdoor).



Information brochures and needs lists will be posted on the bulletin board. A small artificial tree will be placed in the foyer of the Great Hall. Gift cards can be hung from the tree, any denomination gratefully accepted. **It is important that we have gift cards for all of the eight young men on the tree by Friday, December 7.**

For information or to help with this Christmas project, call Shelia Carlisle at 653-2584.

### Neighborhood House

Please remember to take a food slip from one of the baskets located at the back of the Sanctuary and on the organ. If you attend the 10:30 service, you can get a slip from one of the Acolytes after you've received communion.

Please bring the item listed on the slip with you the next time you come to church and we'll make sure it gets to the Neighborhood House's food pantry.

*Jessie Ventura*



## A View From the Pew

### My Thanksgiving Story

"It takes a village," Hillary said, and she is right! We do not live in a vacuum and we succeed when things around us work to our advantage. It is little that we can really do on our own without some help from somewhere.

On January 6, 2007, I graduated from the University of Delaware; the end of a journey that started seven years earlier. I would be remiss if I were to let this season go by without thanking those who made my success possible.

Paula Szczuka made me computer literate; BP (before Paula), I didn't even know what e-mail was. For those of you who are in the process of learning how to use a computer, you can appreciate what a daunting task that was! Paula built a computer for me and remained on call, day and night, for every crisis and question I had. Learning how to use a computer was my first and most important step. I will be forever grateful for that knowledge and her patience.

My son Matthew and grandson Liam, the family math wizards, coached me through three math courses. Need I say more! They can fill you in on the gruesome details. My daughters-in-law, Tracey and Kim, cooked extra and packed containers so that I would have lunches at school and supper when I arrived home late. My son Michael saw to it that my house and yard did not fall into entropy. My son Bill kept my car alive and well. The love of my grandchildren kept me alive and well!

My friend Shelia Carlisle let my dogs out, let the cats in, let the dogs in and let the cats out, day

after day after day, on her way home from work and miraculously remains my friend to this day!

Kathy Stegg tutored me through a very difficult course on computer technology, web sites, etc. She took one look at my notes, e-mailed my professor and arranged for me to tape the lectures. Just knowing that Kathy was helping with his problem student, he became the happiest professor on campus that semester.

Tom Vail allowed me to interview him on the sidelines of a soccer field for a very important writing assignment about his role in the school system.

Leslie Sparks, principal of Silver Lake School, agreed to have her teachers complete a survey for my project group that provided us with important information on diversity.

Charlotte Webb not only offered help with math but cheered me on every step of the way as did so many of St. Anne's parishioners.

This is only a short list of the many kind and generous folks who played a part in my journey. Most importantly, I cannot forget all of the students and professors with whom I shared many hours of class time and class work. They were gracious and helpful and included me without hesitation. They were the BEST!

To all of you and the many others who rooted from the sidelines. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. It would have been impossible without you.

Grace George R.N. B.S.

## Photo Directory



If you were unable to attend the previously scheduled sessions to have your picture taken for the Member Directory, please contact Karin Cooney Newton at 378-1309 or at [kjnewton@verizon.net](mailto:kjnewton@verizon.net) to arrange a time for your photo op!

## The Episcopal Church: Ordained Ministers

More questions were generated by the short article explaining the meaning of Dean and Canon in the November *The Messenger*. It seemed appropriate to follow up with some other information. In the Episcopal Church, there are three orders of ordained minister: bishops, priests, and deacons. All baptized Christians are ministers but not all of us are ordained.

**Deacons** are persons who have been ordained "to service." Some deacons are "vocational," which means that they will remain deacons. Deacons as ministers of the liturgy are limited to reading the Gospel and assisting at the Altar. Transitional deacons will be ordained priests after their service as deacons.

**Priests** not only can do the liturgical functions of a deacon but they also able to celebrate communion and baptize. In the Episcopal Church, except in special circumstances, priests, not deacons, conduct weddings.

**Bishops** are priests who have been elected by clergy and lay people of a diocese to that order. Bishops can do what deacons and priests can do but they are further empowered to ordain men and women as priests and deacons. They also confirm persons when they have reached the age of decision.

Our next newsletter with explain the various functions and titles of ordained ministers.

Father Karney

## Vestry Positions Available

If you are interested in serving your church and are able to commit to the three-year term, please **contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Kim Blasch, Lea Hutchins, AnnMarie Smith, or Jessie Ventura.**

### What is the Vestry?

Originally, the word "Vestry" referred to the room where the priest would put on his vestments, at which time local laity would meet with him to discuss the affairs of the parish. Later, the word came to refer to the leaders instead of the room.

The Vestry is the governing board of an Episcopal parish consisting of the Rector, the Wardens, and lay members. The Rector presides at the meetings (or, in his/her absence, the Wardens), during which the parish's business and temporal matters are handled. The Vestry also acts as a council of advice for the Rector. It is a representative form of government instead of a pure democracy. Members of the Vestry are elected at the parish's annual meeting.

The Vestry's basic responsibility is to:

- Help define and articulate the mission of the congregation;
- Support the mission by word and deed;
- Select the rector;
- Ensure effective organization and planning;
- Ensure adequate resources in leadership and in financial stewardship;
- Manage resources effectively;
- Determine that appropriate programs, policies, and procedures have been developed and are followed;
- Assess its own performance.

Vestry members choose to work on aspects of running the church that best meet their strengths and interests. They also serve as liaisons on parish committees.

While the Vestry is much like a board of directors, it is important to remember that the success of a congregation is not measured in the number of members nor size of the endowment, but rather in the degree to which it is working toward fulfillment of the mission of the Church.

## Baptisms

November 11, 2007

Ethan Jeffrey Budinger

Savannah Mae Fritz

Cameron Christopher Luis Lorenzana

Cameron Charles Vreeland

Samantha Diane West

## December Birthdays



Claude Poole	2	Carson Hanna	16
Todd Smith	2	Annika Ly	17
Hope Cochran	3	C. Malcolm Cochran IV	19
Sarah DiAngelo	4	Matthew Zelinskas	20
Christopher Cook	5	Michael Sterrett	21
Jack Webb	5	William Davis	24
Brodan Lee	6	Dianne Myers	24
LeAnn Slaughter	7	Gwyneth Casalvera	25
Andrew Ball	10	Howie Halverson III	25
Shannon Cameron	10	Patrick Cronin	26
Robert Colburn	12	Rhonda Owens	26
Mark Hennings	12	Rickey Walker	27
Julia Machulski	13	Ellen Jennings	28
Kirsten Ly	15	Jaden Mills	29
		Kristina Newton	30

