

The Messenger

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

March 2008



A Priestly Journey

Dear friends in Christ,

On March 15, I will have been ordained 48 years. In some ways, it seems that this happened only yesterday. In other ways, it seems like I was ordained eons ago. The world has certainly changed since then. Fourteen men were ordained with me in 1960. At that time, only men were ordained. The church has certainly changed since then. Now almost half of the people ordained are women. When this first happened, many thought the world and the church would come to an end. Lo and behold, not only the world but the church has survived and thrived. In my ordination class, there were two homosexual men. One of them is still a priest and a respected scholar. The other was deposed—we have lost contact. The ordination of gay men was happening 48 years ago. The world and the church has survived this as well.

In 1970, lay people were allowed to assist at communion by administering the cup. There was much ado about this touching of holy objects by the unordained. The world did not end but rather it became possible for a congregation with only one ordained person to receive communion in a more orderly way. Later, this would be expanded to allow lay persons to bring communion to shut-ins.

In 1979, almost 20 years into my ministry, we received a new prayer book. Now, over 25 years later, we have learned that it is possible to pray in a form of English different from that which had been used by Shakespeare. Besides the language change, this new book expanded the use of the Bible in the liturgy. Until 1979, we read only from the epistles and the gospels. The Old Testament was seldom used, and we had no provision for reading a psalm. Moreover, we used the same lessons every year instead of the current cycle of three years (this is year "A"). The 1979 prayer book also acknowledged that people other than clergy can read, so we now say prayers in the middle of the service, such as the prayer of humble access, the thanksgivings, and the prayers of the people. I can only believe that the extensive use of the Bible and the participation of people in the worship has been a good thing.

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Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 16

Blessing of the Palms
Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Holy Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Adult Bible Study
with
Tree of Life Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and
Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday

Liturgy of Good Friday
7:00 a.m. and 12 noon

Stations of the Cross
(designed by our children)
7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday

4:00 p.m.
Lighting of the Paschal Candle
Vigil of Easter
Baptism
Holy Eucharist

Easter Day

Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

A Note of Appreciation

Carolyn and I wish to thank you for your cards and kind words since my mother's death. She celebrated her 93rd birthday on January 25. I visited her and having time together was important to both of us. I knew when I left Chicago it was the last visit. Her soul is with "all the faithful departed."

Father Karney

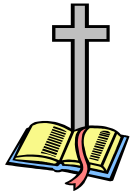
Lenten Adult Formation

**9:40 – 10:24 a.m., Sunday
Led by The Rev. Louise Howlett**

"Lord, teach us to pray...."

March 2: Praying in praise: thanksgiving and adoration.

March 9: Praying without words: contemplation, prayer beads, labyrinths, yoga....



Lenten Bible Study

(with Tree of Life Lutheran Church)

10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesday

Following the 10:00 a.m. Healing Service, we meet for Bible Study from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, then have a "bring your own sandwich" time of fellowship; coffee is provided.

February 27:	John 9:1-41	Amazing Grace
March 5:	John 11:1-45	The Raising of Lazarus
March 12:	Matthew 26:36-75	
	Matthew 27:1-66	Palm Sunday
March 19:	John 13:1-17	The Last Supper

Lenten Suppers

**6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Thursday
The Rev. George J. Karney, speaker**

February 28: What is marriage in the Episcopal Church?

March 6: What is the view of the church n burial, cremation, and life after death?

March 13: Who may be ordained and how?

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**Articles for the April
Messenger
are due March 15.**

**March 9
Daylight Savings Time begins
Spring Ahead**



**Set your clocks
ahead one hour
before you go to bed on
Saturday, March 8.**

A Priestly Journey, *continued from Page 1*

During the 48 years of my ministry, the ordination of gays and women; the 1979 prayer book; and the expanded participation of you, our members, has enhanced our worship. These changes have caused some tensions, but it is hard to imagine when there were no women on the Vestry nor at Diocesan Conventions or when people with alternate life styles were shunned. Please do not think I did not struggle with all these changes, but as I reflect on these changes, I often shake my head in disbelief that they could have generated so much anger. There have been some things that have not changed and for them I am most thankful. These constants have been the righteousness of God, our church's leadership in the cause of racial justice. Many men and women who were maligned for their beliefs have remained true to their faith. Our church leads the way in reaching out to those in need.

What I know about myself is that I love every minute of these past 48 years. Zen Buddhism says that only beginners have all the answers. My guess is that when I was first ordained I thought I had all the answers. Now, 49 years later, I am not even sure I know the questions. I do know this, however; any ministry seems to be limited by study, liturgy or other clergy. In reality, ministry is limited only in so far as the priest tries to be in control. The prophet Micah reminds us that true religion is "to love God, do mercy, and walk humbly with God." Forty-eight years of change or three thousand years have not changed these words. The tools are different but God is the same.

*Peace,
Father Karney*



Discernment Committee News

Discernment Kickoff!

The Discernment Team, which is charged with searching for a new rector for St. Anne's, met Feb. 9 with our consultants to prepare for tasks ahead. Centered on prayer and Bible study, we have begun the organization process. One of our first tasks will be to compile the Parish Profile. We'll keep you updated on our progress each week in the Sunday bulletin and every month in *The Messenger*.

If you have any questions, ask any member of the team: Charlie Dunham, Chelsea Frederick, Ed Masterson, Kathy Means, Amanda Shepard, Janet Schreppler, and Jesse Ventura.

Vandalism at St. Anne's Cemetery

We are faced with a serious vandalism problem at St. Anne's cemetery. We have had a number of sporadic incidents in the past, the most serious going back a number of years when tombstones were broken. The latest incidents involve the Remembrance Garden. The slate floor in the gazebo has been torn up, slates broken, and lights smashed. Estimated damages are more than \$1,500.

The floor of the gazebo contains burial spaces. According to police, this constitutes desecration of grave sites and is a felony.

If anyone has any information about any person or group who might be hanging out at the cemetery, please give the information to a member of the Old St. Anne's Committee, a member of Vestry, or the church office. Anyone who has occasion to be at the old church or the cemetery and sees any suspicious activity should call 911 and report it to the police.

Charlie Dunham

2008 Vestry Members

Charlie Wolf, Senior Warden
Tom Vail, Junior Warden
Diane Dudderar-Foster
Ed Fletcher
Ellen Jennings
Scott Lawrence*
Toni Meadowcroft*
Sue Norfleet
Ann Nutter *
Shanna Shuler*
Sally Sutton*
Norene Taylor

We greatly appreciate the contributions of those members who finished their terms this year: Kim Blasch, Lea Hutchins, AnnMarie Maier Smith, and Jessie Ventura.

* newly installed

Women of St. Anne's

Beautiful recruiting posters made from the drawings of Nancy Florian have been hung in the church office and the Great Hall. We hope that they will serve as a reminder to everyone that you are welcome to join us at our monthly lunch meetings and that they will remind you that all women belong to this historically long-standing and important organization. We bring a bag lunch at noon and try to keep the meeting to one hour. Men are also welcome and a vital part of the group.

Our last meeting was on Tuesday, January 15, with 11 members present. The 2008 budget was approved. The November Card Party was a success, with a profit of \$1,200. At the request of Rev. Karney, we planned the Lenten Suppers of soup, bread, and beverage, held on Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. (free-will donation only).

The next WSA meeting is on Tuesday, February 19 at noon in the Great Hall. We are looking forward to seeing some new faces.

Grace George

A "Moving" Thank You Note

Many thanks to the musclemen of St. Anne's for the successful move of the electronic organ from Old St. Anne's to the town church. Muscle power was provided by Dave and Richard Blasch, Jim Newton, Scott Ventura, and Brian Lanham. Ott Menzen and I did the prep and clean up.

The organ console weighs more than 300 pounds, and the speaker assembly is also heavy. The movers carried these items down the stairs with its 90-degree turn, under the head knocker, down the sidewalk to the truck, and had them installed in the town church within one hour. An hour later it was buttoned up and operational.

This is a great example of stewardship, where people give their time and talent and strength. They saved the parish several hundred dollars over a professional mover. The total cost was \$115 for renting a dolly—which they didn't even use.

Pete Hall



Renewal of Ordination Vows

March 18, 2008

Cathedral of St. John

This is a service for the entire diocese, and all members of St. Anne's are both invited and welcome.

10:00 a.m. Social gathering in Great Hall

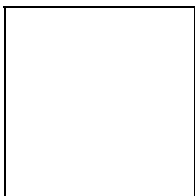
10:15 a.m. Public Forum with
Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett

11:30 a.m. Break

12:00 p.m. Celebration of Holy Eucharist

RSVP by March 10 (lunch is provided):
656-5443 or
cyndebimbi@dioceseofdelaware.net

Attention Acolytes!



If you are scheduled to serve and you will not be available on the Sunday that is assigned to you, please use phone numbers on your schedule to try to switch with another acolyte. If you have no success, please telephone me and I will find someone to take your place.

Welcome to our new acolytes, Carter Ventura and Danny Blaasch. Thanks to all of you who serve so faithfully each Sunday.

Grace George, 378-7358

Sunday School News

On Sunday, February 3, more than 50 students of different ages gathered in the Great Hall to work on a Lenten project: creating personalized and unique banks for their sacrificial donations, thus recalling the "Reason for the Season." Parents and other parishioners looked on from the sidelines, enjoying every minute of the experience as busy little hands decorated the jars with a myriad of stickers. It was wonderful to see them working in harmony and helpfulness.

The Sunday School is now in the second phase of the curriculum with more than 60 students. Some of the intermediate students are in training to be acolytes, and we are grateful for their willingness to join the others who serve so faithfully.

Our Sunday School provides many different learning experiences interspersed with the scriptures and the religious curriculum. Historically, in the Delaware Diocese,

*Sunday Schools were not religious at first, but simply schools being held on Sunday to teach children and adults reading, writing, and arithmetic, since many of them were at work in factories on weekdays. One of the first such schools was started in Delaware about 1815 in the dining room of a home on the Brandywine River. Religious instruction came only after it was incorporated as the Brandywine Manufacturers' Sunday School in 1817; but even then it was limited to only a small portion of the total hours the students were in school. The Diocese of Delaware gave its approval of the Sunday School Union at the 1829 Convention. Trinity Church operated a Sunday School in 1819 in a building on Market Street and had about 300 students. (Silliman's *The Episcopal Church in De. 1785-1954*).*

Those of us who are part of this ministry find it to be a most rewarding experience and welcome anyone who wishes to volunteer their help. You won't regret it.

Grace George



Book Reviews from the Rector

When Carolyn and I vacation as we did in January, it is my practice to bring a few books with me. We find just relaxing by the pool or the ocean the best tonic. During this past trip, I read two books and started a third. Following is my attempt to share with you some thoughts:

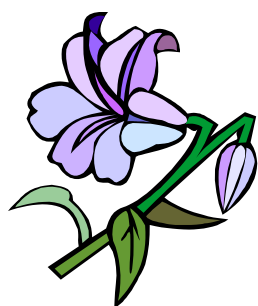
The first book was *The Year of Living Biblically* by **A. Jacobs**. Mr. Jacobs goes by A.J. and is a professional writer. He is a "non-practicing, non-religious Jew" (not unlike many of the people we meet in the Christian community—especially at Christmas and Easter). His goal was to live a full year following all of the laws in the Bible—there are at least 614 in the Book of Leviticus. Since the Old Testament is roughly two-thirds of the Bible, he spent eight months concentrating on the Old Testament with the last four months focusing more on the New Testament. There was, of course, overlap. The most striking part of the book was learning the details of "beard growing," dieting, and sacrificing. For persons wanting to know more about why some people of faith do what they do, this is a fascinating book. The author does his readers a favor by treating the various laws with dignity and insight as to why they were needed. He also speaks of why some still insist on following some of these ancient rules.

The second book I read was *Boom* by **Tom Brokaw**. Mr. Brokaw was born in 1940 and began his career in the 1960's. This book is subtitled "*Voices of the 60's*." Actually, he

covers the period from the assassination of John Kennedy to the resignation of Richard Nixon. The book is a series of interviews and reflections of people who were prominent in that era. It gives the reflections of people like Mayor Daley of Chicago, Gloria Steinem, George McGovern, Bob Kerry, the Chicago Seven, and many more. Reading the book made me realize how different things are now. Many of the racial problems of that era have been and are being dealt with. Medicare is a fact. Yet Vietnam is over but we have Iraq. All in all, for a history buff, this is an easy-to-read and informative perspective on where we were and where we are.

The third book, which I am still reading, is *A History of the Great War 1914-1918* by **C. R. M. F. Crutwell**. The author was an officer in the British army during the war and later became a professor at Oxford University. The interesting aspect of this book is that it was written in 1934, well before WWII, so it has, unlike other books I have read on the First World War, no reflections on what might have been done differently to prevent WWII. Reading this can give you a sense of how tragic the mistakes were that led to so many soldiers killed. Moreover, it includes a great deal about the Russian army's collapse, which ultimately led to the fall of the Tsar Nicolas, and the role of Japan and China as trading nations. So far, I am not up to the entry of the U.S. into the war but only how we and other neutral nations sought to trade with the warring nations.

Easter Flower Donations



If you would like to make a Memorial or a Thank Offering toward Easter flowers and plants, please use this form. Place the form in the offering plate on Sunday, bring it to the office, or mail it to the office

By Friday, March 14, 2008

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

Names: _____

Memorial

Thank Offering

Memorial

Thank Offering

Memorial

Thank Offering

(You may use another sheet of paper for additional names.)

Donor's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Plants are \$7.00 each. Please make checks payable to St. Anne's Church, Memo Line: Flower Fund.



Parish Prayer List

Names will remain on the prayer list for one month. Use this form to add a name or to continue a name for another month, then please place in the collection plate or bring/mail to the office. You may also call the office (378-2401) to add, continue, or remove a name.

Please continue to keep on the prayer list:

Please add to the prayer list:

Requested by: _____

People's Place Gift Cards

Brenda Beissel, Public Relations Coordinator for People's Place, sent a letter of great appreciation for the nearly \$500 in Christmas gifts cards donated by the members of St. Anne's:

These donations certainly brightened the lives of the residents in this program during the holiday season, but most of all it let them know others care.

The People's Place organization strives to "help people find their path to growth and independence."



March Birthdays

Franklin Brons	1
Cody Malcolm	1
Sandy Cohee	2
Thomas Meyers	2
Brian Willey	2
Brian Halpern	3
Robin Vaughn	4
Valerie Biddle	5
Laura Ellis	6
Karli Frederick	6
Sheri Kreshock	6
Andrew Shepard	6
Brendan Adams	7
Cameron Capp	7
Owen Cook	8
Jason Stevens	8
Kaitlyn Foster	10
Ray Woodward	10

Michael George	11
Zachary Sterrett	11
Jack Aiken	12
John Aiken	12
Riley Foster	12
Greg Masso	12
Kelly Collins	13
John Foster	13
Deann Widener	13
Ken Branner, III	14
Veronica Poole	14
Katelyn Rowley	15
Patricia Bird	16
Mark Smith	17
Jamie Richards	18
Ryan Vitola	18
Judith Delaine	20



Teresa Dessin	21
Nancy L'Heureux	21
Ruth Reynolds	21
William Seeley	21
Robin Slaw	21
Scott Ventura	22
Sadie Aiken	24
Pat Sands	25
John Koehler	26
Tom Vail	26
Irene Weigel	26
Rosalie Davis	27
Deborah Davis	28
Jeffrey Foster	28
John Koehler	28
Beth Lamb	28
Shane Cronin	29
Hanna Hutchins	29
Ginger Pierce	29
Jan Russell	29
Lillian Widener	31

