

The Messenger

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

April 2009



Bytes from Mother Jo Ann's Apple. . . .

When I was interviewed to be your Rector, winter had already stripped the leaves from the trees, the flowers were gone, and the ground lay fallow. I was offered and accepted the call, then came back in January to meet you and look for a house. The wind blew cold and I saw a touch of snow that weekend. The moving van came in frigid February and I have been here ever since. This is all to say that I have only known Middletown in the winter and am happy to be here.

I live in faith that spring is coming and with it will come the daffodils and the dogwoods and the grass and the fresh air and beauty that bursts forth when that which is dormant comes alive. I have to believe that in faith because I have never seen it or experienced it.

So it has been in our liturgical year as we are in Lent—a time for self-reflection, discipline, and fasting. We think about Jesus and the suffering he endured for our sakes that we could be reconnected with God and be guaranteed eternal life. In faith, we believe that His crucifixion and death were not the end of the story. Through the greatest miracle ever, Jesus rose from the dead and lives that we will live with Him forever. I can't prove it to you but I believe!

I wait for spring in Middletown and believe it will come. I wait for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and believe He has died for me so that I can live with Him! From Handel's Messiah, I sing with joy, *I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.* (Job 19:25-26)

*In Christ's love,
Mother Jo Ann+*

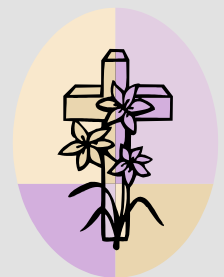
Holy Week Services

April 9
Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m.

April 10
Good Friday
7:00 p.m.

April 11
Easter Vigil
4:00 p.m.
Old St. Anne's

April 12
Easter
8:00 a.m. Rite I
10:30 a.m. Rite II



June 13
Mother Jo Ann Barker's Installation

June 14
Old St. Anne's Day

Wednesday Evening Prayer

For the past three years, each Wednesday at 5 p.m., St. Anne's Church has been conducting a service of Evening Prayer, Rite One.

From March to October, it is in Old St. Anne's (while Daylight Savings Time is in effect). In the winter, it is in the Barr chapel. We celebrate the special observances of the day with two or three Bible readings along with a Psalm and the traditional *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* canticles. It is a quiet service and a time for meditative prayer, including penitence, praise, intercession, and thanksgiving. It lasts about 20 minutes and is a good way to make God the center of your life for those special few minutes each week.

Jesus promised to be with us "where two or three are gathered together," and he keeps his word. The service is usually led by Peter Hall, and the entire service, including the lessons, is printed out for those attending. Please join us if your schedule permits.

Family Vacation Bible School

Come join us for our fourth year of Vacation Bible School! We'll be meeting every Wednesday evening in July at 5:30 p.m. in the town church. The younger children will be learning about *service* this year with an exciting game show called Studio GO! **And, there is a new segment this year for adults, so absolutely everyone in the family is included.**



Additionally, this year's program will incorporate more community outreach, and we need many more hands than in years past. So if you are an adult, J2A, or YAC volunteer willing to pitch in, we'll find something for you to do. **Go to www.vacationbibleschool.com/st-annes-church to register as a participant or volunteer.** If you have any questions, please contact TC Garrod (378-4854) or Jen Vail (378-8639).

J2A Invites the Congregation to a Tastefully Simple Party

May 3 beginning at 12:00 in the Great Hall

40% of proceeds will benefit the J2A pilgrimage to South Dakota. A sign up sheet will be posted on the library door for your convenience. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Kim George or Lea Hutchins. Please support your youth! Refreshments will be served!

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
15 East Green Street

Mailing Address
P. O. Box 421
Middletown, DE 19709

Rector
The Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Barker

Phone: 302.378.2401

E-Mail
office@st-annes-church.com

Web site
www.st-annes-church.com

Newsletter Editor
Lois Crouse

Send articles to
newsletter@st-annes-church.com

**Articles for the
May Messenger
are due Wednesday, April 15.**

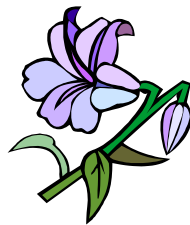
Parish Prayer List

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: _____ Date: _____



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, April 3, 2009

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

 Memorial Thank Offering

 Memorial Thank Offering

Donor's Name: _____ Phone No.: _____

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

Resolution to Ensure the Future Growth of St. Anne's Episcopal Church

WHEREAS, more than 300 years ago settlers in the Appoquinimink area chose to begin St. Anne's Protestant Episcopal Church to spread the gospel to settlers in a new land, erecting a building to provide space to worship and gather in fellowship; and

WHEREAS, 125 years ago the Vestry of St. Anne's Protestant Episcopal Church, recognizing the changes in the surrounding community and the need for expanded facilities to meet the growth and changes in the community, voted to erect a building on Green Street in the Town of Middletown; and

WHEREAS, St. Anne's has continued to grow and expand its worship space and facilities to better serve the community and spread the gospel; and

WHEREAS, the Middletown – Odessa – Townsend area has experienced unprecedented growth in the past decade, thus resulting in a shortage of space for worship, Christian formation, fellowship, and administrative offices for St. Anne's to serve its members and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Space Needs Assessment Committee was formed to study the feasibility of expanding the current facilities, and such committee reported to the Vestry that there was no way to practical means to expand the current facilities to meet the growing needs of the congregation, and

WHEREAS, the Vestry commissioned the FACTS (Financial, Architectural, Communication, Town Church and Site Selection) Committee to study various aspects of the potential for building new facilities in the surrounding community, and such committee has reported favorably to the Vestry, and

WHEREAS, the Vestry has determined that in order for St. Anne's to continue to grow and meet its commitment to serve the community, new facilities are necessary,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Anne's Protestant Episcopal Church will build a new facility to empower evangelism, worship, Christian formation, fellowship, and administration, so as to ensure that the Church will continue to grow to meet the needs of the community and serve as a beacon of light showing God's love to the people of southern New Castle County.

**Volunteers Needed!
Town Church Clean Up Day
Saturday, April 4**



9:30 a.m.
Please join in as we clean up the outside areas of the Town Church and Parish Office in preparation for spring. We will be starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Parish Office. Bring gloves and any tools you have.

**Everyone's Invited!
Saturday, April 4, at noon
Luncheon sponsored by the Altar Guild**
The Altar Guild invites you to a luncheon, to share in an afternoon of fellowship, and to learn more about this important and rewarding ministry.

**Rite 13 Babysitting Service
Saturday, April 4**
Rite 13 is offering baby-sitting services at the church from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. for \$5.00 per child to raise money for their end-of-year celebration. Call Andrea Casalvera at 376-0972 if you have questions.

Nursery
Nursery Care is available for children under the age of three during the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. We are also available during the adult class, 9:30-10:30 a.m. If you have any questions, please see Nicole or Tracey.

April Birthdays

Velma Johnson	2	
Joyce Foster	3	
Bill Cohee	4	
Ada English	4	
Laurie Ann Branner	6	
Michael Maier	7	
Laurie Wolinski	7	
Tyler Calder	9	
Donna Mower-Wade	12	
Alison DeFino	13	
Matthew Kline	13	
Kim Blasch	14	
Alexandra Cameron	14	
Alex Baker	15	
Maggie George	15	
Carter Ventura	15	
Harry White	15	
Kathryn Harper	16	
Madison Branner	18	
Jeffrey Calder	18	
Logan Cameron	18	
Cathy Hennings	18	
Gregory Hughes	18	
Caitlin Richards	18	
Stephanie Brons	20	
Jane White	20	
Ron Taylor	22	
Russell Poole	25	
Rebecca Roberts	26	
Jamison Delaine	27	
Jane Shetzler	27	
Jim Newton	28	
Randolph Reynolds	29	

God's Power and Light Company Performing Three Days

Three Days is a musical for Easter performed by God's Power and Light Company, the local amateur Christian theatrical and musical group that has been performing for 20 years. Fifteen singers, men, women and children, will relive the events of Holy Week in song and narration, based primarily on biblical texts. The performance is moving and inspirational, just right to put us in the frame of mind to walk the Way of the Cross for Holy Week. The musical was written by Deborah Craig-Clear and Camp Kirkland.

Nancy Florian has been performing with this group and handling publicity. Peter Hall will be in the cast this season.

St. Anne's welcomes this performance in the sanctuary, starting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1. Reservations are not required. There will be a free will offering following the performance.

Worship at St. Anne's

A representative from each of the various groups who participate in the preparation and worship at St. Anne's met to discuss our three unique worship services. The members of the committee include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mother Jo Ann Barker - Rector | Cim L'Heureux – Vergers / Chalice Bearers |
| Nancy Koenig – Chairperson/Service Participant Scheduler | Kathy Means – 8:00 Service Member |
| Dr. Norman Thompson – Music Director | Anne Nutter – 9:00 Service Member / Lectors |
| Beth Lamb – Altar Guild | Janet Vines – 9:00 Music – Youth from St. Andrews |
| Grace George – Acolytes | Scott Lawrence – Vestry / 10:30 Service Member |
| Kim George & Ethel Young - Sunday School | |

Changes beginning in April

Each of our services will have minor changes and we'd like to explain them to you.

“Layreaders” and “Chalice Bearers” to “Eucharistic Ministers” We use the terms “Layreaders” and “Chalice Bearers” for people who serve at the altar. However, to make it simpler, we will be using the term “Eucharistic Minister” for those who participate by reading lessons and Prayers of the People (formerly Layreaders) and/or administering the chalice during communion (formerly Chalice Bearers). To serve requires minimal training and certification by the clergy and license issued by the Diocese of Delaware. Depending on the service, the Eucharistic Minister may wear a robe.

Reading of the Psalm There are 150 Psalms in the Old Testament; each Sunday a Psalm is read or sung by the congregation. Beginning in April, the Eucharistic Minister will lead the congregation in this “song” responsively. She or he will read the verse and the congregation will respond with the second verse, also called reading it “antiphonally.”

Offering our gifts to God The Crucifer usually stands at the altar rail to receive the elements (bread and wine) from the ushers and again when the offering plates are brought to the altar. The ushers represent each one of us. Ushers will now bring the gifts directly to the altar. The symbolism of presenting our gifts directly to the priest is powerful indeed and an important moment in our worship service.

8:00 a.m. Rite I service lessons As part of our traditional liturgy, Sunday services include readings from the Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament and the Gospel. The Eucharistic Minister (referred as EM-OT/P on the schedule) will read the Old Testament lesson and lead in the reading of the Psalm. A Lector will be scheduled to read the second lesson from the New Testament following the Psalm. This is a person from the congregation who does not wear a robe.

9:00 a.m. Contact service A young person will be scheduled each Sunday to assist Mother Jo Ann in preparing the table for communion. He or she will also extinguish the altar candles after the dismissal. Another change is the invitation of the children to come to the altar during the song just before the Holy Eucharist. After all, this is a “contact” service!

10:30 Rite II service Instead of the Crucifer extinguishing the altar candles during the last hymn, she or he will do it after the dismissal. The candles represent the light of God's presence and the service is not concluded until the dismissal. The candles may be extinguished at the end of the service, but that light is simply transferred to each of us to take the light of God out into the world.

If you would be interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Crucifer, Torchbearer, Usher, Choir member or serve on the Altar Guild or Worship Committee, please contact Nancy Koenig 302-373-6650 or the church office 302-378-2401.