
Trinity Chapel Newsletter

March 2008



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You!

Rector: The Reverend Marsha Hoecker
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*Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m., followed by Coffee Hour.
Childcare and Sunday School through high school age also at 9:30 a.m.*

Vestry Members

Senior Warden: Paul Wade
Junior Wardens: Maureen Panetta/Nancy Sawyer
Treasurer: Michael King Assistant Treasurer: Karen Akins
Lindsay Comeau, Amy Grundy, Betty Mahon, Tom Shepherd, Beth Wade

Holy Week and the Story of Salvation

Lent is half over and Holy Week is coming soon. We are approaching the climax of the Christian year; the pivotal week in our salvation story.

Ours is a story of liberation from sin and death through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It sounds so simple sometimes...Jesus died for our sins and in his resurrection overcame death once and for all. In Jesus is our salvation. But what does that mean?

In the book we are reading in our Lenten Book Study, *The Heart of Christianity*, Marcus Borg reminds us of three ways that Jesus' work of salvation is understood.

- Jesus is a liberator, who like Moses, leads us from captivity through the wilderness to the promised land. Jesus shows us the way of life that brings freedom to the spirit; the way of faith and hope.
- Jesus is the "Way" out of exile; the way of return to full relationship with God.
- Jesus offers forgiveness and acceptance; a clean slate, a new beginning.

Most of us have probably experienced such salvation...maybe by surviving an ordeal, or reconciling with an estranged friend or relative, or by being unconditionally forgiven.

These are our Easter moments.

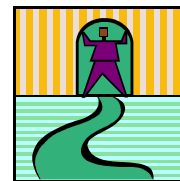
But Jesus' work of salvation is not just personal; it's universal, and global. It is not just you and I that are liberated, reconciled and renewed. It's the whole world, the whole creation. The story of salvation is the story of love confronting evil, and redeeming the world, not through violence, but

through self-sacrifice and forgiveness; a journey of ultimate connectedness, rather than separation.

I invite you to enter into the drama of our salvation story this season by attending our Holy Week services and responding in prayer and reflection. This year I would like to offer an additional service for those who wish to enter more deeply into the story.

At 8:00 p.m. on Holy Saturday I invite you to gather in the darkness as we light the Pascal candle. Then let us re-tell the stories of God's saving grace and renew our commitment as followers of the WAY. We will end our Vigil without a celebration of Eucharist. That will happen after the sun rises on Easter morning when we gather again at 9:30. Our Vigil will be informal. We will choose readers from those who are present and will read the readings we choose at that time. The chancel will remain in darkness until morning and our vigil will be confined to the nave.

May the remainder of your Lent be fruitful for the spirit and may the joy of Easter awaken you to new life in Christ.



This is your newsletter! Your family news, special prayer intentions, and information you want to share about the world around us should be forwarded to Lynn Gresock by 2/26/08 for the March issue: 978-448-6947 or lynn.gresock@amec.com



WARDEN'S CORNER

Lent is a time for faith. The Lenten book discussion group has been reading "The Heart of Christianity" by Marcus Borg, which is helping us to understand what we really believe.

Lent is also a time for works. Last Saturday, a group of volunteers started cleaning up the Parish Hall. It looks bigger now! A couple of other ideas:

1. The refrigerator in the Parish Hall has died, and the water heater is starting to leak, so it will soon die also. We can replace them by recycling: many of us have a jar of small change sitting around somewhere – bring it in for recycling. Together, I'll bet we have enough change for a replacement.

2. Firewood for the Rectory. There is lots of dead wood out behind the Rectory, and the best time to collect it is early spring, after the snow is gone, but before the ground thaws and the bugs come out. Then it has time to dry before next winter. Weather permitting, how about Sunday afternoon, March 9...?

Paul



In Our Prayers. We continue prayers for parishioners, family and friends who are in need of healing, whether from sickness or sorrow. Please offer special prayers for strength and healing for:

- † Adele Lamoreaux;
- † Phil Lamoreaux;
- † Dorothy Nichols;
- † Betty Mahon;
- † Prudy Harris;
- † Louise Longley;
- † Cathy Longley;
- † Jane Bouvier;
- † Jessica Halloran;
- † Renee Raymond (Bert's brother);
- † Martha Blanchard (Mona's aunt);
- † Keith Warden;
- † Carol Dozlis (Monique's mother);
- † Judy Knox;
- † Bessie Haynes (John's mother);
- † Donald Cobb;
- † Margaret Thompson;
- † Myles Gray (Frances' son);

- † Helen Wilkins (recovering from surgery);
- † Grant MacLean;
- † Gina Ledger (a friend of Maureen's);
- † Leslie Wilkins (Karla and Karen's niece);
- † Marion Groze (Anna's friend); and
- † Micky and Mike Carter.

Prayers continue also for our men and women in the armed forces, especially:

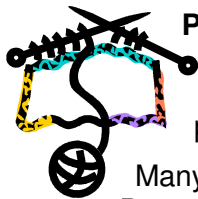
- † Hector Fernandez;
- † Ned Sullivan;
- † Mike Adelberg;
- † Tim Fahey;
- † Frank Main;
- † Charles Therrien;
- † Christopher Phelps;
- † Bill Duddridge;
- † Marin Ladd;
- † Jorge Carrillo;
- † Joseph Hillenbrand;
- † Nathan Tarleton;
- † Steven Holmes and Stu Younger in Afganistan;
- † John McLure and Bruce Gibson who are in Iraq; and
- † Anthony McAuliff who has been shot in Iran.

Good Friday Walk for Hunger. Trinity Chapel is always a strong participant in the Good Friday Walk for Hunger held in Harvard, MA. Several parishioners have sponsor sheets in the Parish Hall. Those of you who would like to sponsor walkers need to know that, this year, payment is required before the walk. We are hoping for a beautiful spring day!

Loaves and Fishes. Our ministry to Loaves and Fishes is a critical means to feed the hungry. In addition to your support of the Good Friday walk, please continue to bring offerings of food and other supplies each week. Whether a Lenten observance or an Easter thanksgiving, thinking of others is always a gift to ourselves...



Secret Prayer Partners. Don't forget to pray daily for your secret prayer partner, and send them anonymous notes. Easter is coming, and the time for you to bring an inexpensive gift and reveal your identity.



Prayer Shawl Ministry. Do you knit or crochet? Did you know your handiwork could be a spiritual practice, a way of prayer?

Many congregations have started Prayer Shawl ministries over the past few years. In such a ministry members of the congregation knit or crochet shawls or small afghans for people who are needing their prayers. As they work on the piece they pray for its intended recipient. When completed, the item is blessed by the prayers of the group and given to the person. The shawl or afghan is a symbol of the love and prayers of the community and the love and healing presence of God that surrounds the person as they wrap themselves in the shawl or afghan. Some communities have knitted and crocheted baby afghans for new mothers, or hats for seafarers and the homeless.

Individuals work on their projects at home but also gather as a group on some regular schedule to work together, share ideas, and pray for the recipients of their work. The fellowship is important to those who do the work, as is the spiritual fellowship that the prayers woven into the work represent for those who receive this ministry.

Could we start such a group at Trinity? Prayer Shawl patterns are available in both knit and crochet, and I'm sure many of us have easy afghan, baby blanket, and hat patterns.

If you think you might be interested in being part of such a ministry, join us for a brief meeting on Sunday, March 9, after the service.

Time Flies! Don't forget that we lose an hour of sleep as the clocks "spring ahead" at 2:00 a.m. on March 9. Change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time before you go to bed on Saturday, March 8 so we don't miss seeing you at church on Sunday!



Diocesan Happenings. The February 2008 publication of F.Y.I. provides information about a number of activities, including:

- A spring learning event on March 15 at Boston University featuring Dr. Marcus Borg as guest speaker (the author of the book we will focus on for our Lenten program) to address ways of speaking about faith in our everyday lives;

- Ongoing monthly (March 26, April 23, and May 14) Radical Welcome Circles at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Boston to address ways of being more welcoming to all;
- On March 7 -9, the New England dioceses of Province 1 invite our attendance at a Conference on Stewardship, Evangelism and Congregational Development called "Toward Resurrection" at the Doubletree Hotel in Westborough; and
- "Rise Up!", a hip-hop Easter Vigil, combining hip-hop, gospel and spiritual traditions, will be held on March 22 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

For more information, consult www.diomass.org for the full publication.

Late Lent and Holy Week at Trinity Chapel

Thursdays (March 6 and March 13)

7:30 p.m. Book Study: *The Heart of Christianity*, by Marcus Borg – Parish Hall.

Wednesday, March 12

6:30 p.m. Seder Meal at the Parish Hall, with Paul Wexelblat.

Sunday, March 16. Palm/Passion Sunday

9:30 a.m. Gather in the Parish Hall for the Palm procession.

Thursday, March 20. Maundy Thursday.

7:30 p.m. Service with footwashing, Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar. Following the service, the sanctuary will remain open for quiet prayer through Good Friday.

Friday, March 21. Good Friday.

7:00 p.m. Good Friday liturgy.

Saturday, March 22. Holy Saturday.

8:00 p.m. Informal Easter Vigil, lighting the Pascal candle, recounting the story of salvation, renewal of Baptismal vows...but no Easter celebration.

Sunday, March 23. Easter Sunday.

8:00 a.m. Festive breakfast.

9:30 a.m. Festive Eucharist. Bring bells to ring! Egg hunt after the service.



Easter Flowers. If anyone is interested in making a donation towards the Easter flowers (or flowers for any time) for the church, please see Mona Longley before Easter Sunday

CONGRATULATIONS and THANKSGIVINGS

- **Virginia Lyon** for a splendid job playing the part of Jo in the Shirley Arts production of Little Women.
- **Jane Bouvier** who is recovering well from hip surgery and actually looking forward to the next one!



"Sharing Jesus: Talking the Talk" Spring Learning Event with Marcus J. Borg. The diocesan community and interested visitors are invited to the 2008 Spring Learning Event, which will take place on Saturday, March 15, 2008, at Sherman Union at Boston University from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The special guest speaker will be Marcus J. Borg, Hundere Distinguished Professor of Religion and Culture at Oregon State University. Often cited as one of the leading historical Jesus scholars of his generation, Borg is the author of numerous books, including the bestsellers *Jesus: A New Vision*, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, and *The Heart of Christianity*, (the book we are reading in our book study this Lenten season).

This event is an occasion for reflection and refreshment in community with others who have a desire to listen, learn and explore together themes of deepening personal Christian belief and ways to speak about Jesus and faith in public life and local settings.

There is no charge for this event. However, we will be taking donations for the St. Andrew's Church housing project in Ramallah, the West Bank.

Would you like to go? Sign up in the Parish Hall for ride sharing. If you want to know more about Marcus Borg, talk to some of the folks in our book study group: the Wades, Nancy Sawyer, Amy Grundy, Nancy Shepherd, or Betty Mahon.



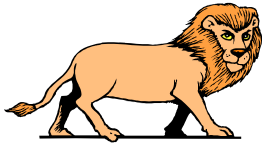
Ring in the Season of Alleluia!

Bells aren't just for Christmas anymore. Easter is a season of joyous celebration, so please come to the Sunday Easter Service with bells on. When we welcome the risen Christ with Alleluia, let's celebrate by making a joyful noise!

Spring Could be Just Around the Corner... It is hard to imagine in these cold days, but we know that it will come. The Middlesex Conservation District will hold its annual Spring Plant Sale on Friday, April 25 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 26 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. This will be held at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Westford. All items can be pre-ordered, and everything will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. The sale will feature tree and shrub seedlings, perennials, herbs, fruits, groundcovers and garden supplies (rain barrels, compost bins, fertilizers, etc.). All proceeds are to this nonprofit agency. Whether thinking about gardens at the church or at home, this can be a worthwhile event. For orders or more information contact www.middlesexconservation.org or call 978-692-9395.

With a Song in Our Hearts. New England Voices in Harmony is the women's *cappella* singing group based in Nashua, New Hampshire with which Maureen Panetta and Lynn Gresock sing. We will be co-hosting a concert with the Granite Statesmen, our "brother" chorus. The show will be held on the evening of April 5 at the Nashua South High School. We would love to see you there! Contact either Maureen or Lynn for more information.





**MARCH
2008 CALENDAR**



Sunday, March 2. The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Lector: Steve Longley Chalice: Lew Sheen

Prayers: Sally Tucker Acolyte: Lily S.

Crucifer: James G.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Stephen's Church, Cohasset; Trinity Church, Concord; Calvary Church, Danvers; Chaplaincy at University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth; and the Concord River Deanery.

Thursday, March 6.

7:30 p.m. Trinity Chapel – Book Study: The Heart of Christianity, by Marcus Borg.

Sunday, March 9. The Fifth Sunday in Lent. Daylight Saving Time.

2:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist.



Lector: Beth Wade Chalice: Paul Wade

Prayers: Marge Halloran Acolyte: Patricia S.

Crucifer: Lindsay C.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Church of the Good Shepherd, Dedham; St. Paul's Church, Dedham; All Saint's Church, Dorchester; St. Mark's Church, Dorchester; and the Social Ministries/Public Policy Ministry Area.

Wednesday, March 12.

6:30 p.m. Seder Supper with Paul Wexelblat.

Thursday, March 13.

7:30 p.m. Trinity Chapel – Book Study: The Heart of Christianity, by Marcus Borg.

Sunday, March 16. Palm Sunday. Sunday of the Passion.

9:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist.



Lector: Meg Gresock Chalice: Tom Shepherd

Prayers: Nancy Shepherd Acolyte: Dakota T.

Crucifer: Sam S.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Mary's Church, Dorchester; Epiphany Middle School, Dorchester; St. Dunstan's Church, Dover; Deanery Coconveners; and Hospitality Homes.

Monday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day.



Thursday, March 20.

First Day of Spring.

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, Trinity Chapel.

Friday, March 21.

All day. Walk for Hunger, Harvard, MA.

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service, Trinity Chapel.



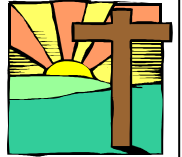
Saturday, March 22.

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Service, Trinity Chapel.

Sunday, March 23.

Easter Sunday.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.



Lector: Sue Cody Chalice: Kirsten Lind

Prayers: Bunny Stewart Acolyte: Lily S.

Crucifer: Meredith C.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Church of St. John the Evangelist, Duxbury; St. Andrew's Church, East Boston; St. Andrew's Church, Edgartown; Grace Church, Everett; and Organists, Choirs and Other Church Musicians within Congregations.

Sunday, March 30. Second Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Lector: Karla Leonard Chalice: Tom Shepherd

Prayers: Nancy Sawyer Acolyte: James G.

Crucifer: Tyler S.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. John's Church, Franklin; St. John's Church, Gloucester; St. John's Chapel, Groton School, Groton; Sextons and Custodians within Congregations; and Ministries to the Homeless.

