



# THE SHEPHERD'S CALL



The Episcopal Church  
of the  
United States of America



The Diocese  
of  
Connecticut

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## The Interim Rector's Letter

March 2010 - Vol. 27, No. 03

Dear Friends,

As we move deeper into Lent we move towards the spring, which will arrive on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The days are getting longer. There is more light each day. We notice those days that smell like spring. We look for the first bulbs—the winter aconite and the crocus. It is still far too early to be thinking about leaves on the trees, but we find ourselves casting about for the greening of the grass.

As we move through this month preparing for the “days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection,” we find ourselves looking for signs of God’s grace. They may be small or great. Sometimes like a mighty wind they buffet us. More often we seek God’s fingerprints with a magnifying glass. But always what we search for and find is God’s immense love for us.

Palm Sunday is the last Sunday of the month followed by Holy Week. As we approach the passion (which means “suffering”) of our Lord Jesus, we can feel overwhelmed by the emotions that these events elicit. We join in the triumphant joy and hope of the entry into Jerusalem. We feel the intimacy and joy of the Last Supper, the horror of the Crucifixion. God is in it all. Every bit of it is about God’s love. For you, for me, for every soul on the planet.

Here is Augustine of Hippo:

*As they were looking on, so we too gaze on his wounds as he hangs. We see his blood as he dies. We see the price offered by the redeemer, touch the scars of his resurrection. He bows his head, as if to kiss you. His heart is made bare open, as it were in love to you. His arms are extended that he may embrace you. His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be rightly weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul.”<sup>1</sup>*

We welcome to annual remembrance of these events not as spectators, but as participants. Let us give ourselves to this story, as God has given Jesus to us.

In Christ,

Bevan+

(The Reverend Dr.) E. Bevan Stanley  
Interim Rector

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in *The Cross: An Anthology*. Nelson Publishers

## Parish News, Notes and Notices

### LENT SERVICES

During Lent there will be a service on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 31, Holy Wednesday, Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.  
April 1, Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist, foot washing and stripping of the Altar 7 p.m.  
April 2, Good Friday, Liturgy of the Day, Veneration of the cross and reading of the Passion narrative. Noon  
April 3, Holy Saturday, Great Vigil of Easter, Lighting of first fire, vigil, and first Eucharist of Easter. 7 p.m.  
April 4 Easter Sunday, 7:30 and 10 :00 am Holy Eucharist

### EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in memory of your beloved deceased, envelopes are in the narthex. Please print name (s) of your loved ones on the outside of the envelope and enclose a check for \$25.00. The deadline is March 22, 2010. The Easter Memorial List will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin.

Lenten Program: “Walking Christ’s Journey”

This year during Lent we will offer a program on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30. The first session will start with the story of the Transfiguration and the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday. At each subsequent session we will look at one of the events of Holy Week in the Bible and how that event is celebrated in the special liturgies of Holy Week. The sessions will be as follows:

March 1	The Entry into Jerusalem and Palm Sunday
March 8	No session because the Vestry meets that evening
March 15	The Last Supper and Maundy Thursday
March 22	The Crucifixion and Good Friday
March 29	The Resurrection and the Great Vigil of Easter

No preparation is required, although reading the Bible passages ahead of time would be helpful. For more information, please contact Bevan Stanley at the office—203-795-6577 or bevanstanleycgs@optonline.net.



But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

-Luke 15:20

## Parish News, Notes and Notices Continued...

### ECW NEWS

Thanks to everyone who came and helped with our February crop! We raised over \$900 for the church and \$400 to send to Susan G. Komen on behalf of Stefanie LaPetina (one of our faithful croppers), who will be participating in the Susan G. Komen 3-Day in Washington, DC, this October. Stef says: "Most of all, I wanted to extend my most sincere gratitude to this wonderful cropping community and all the ladies who supported me last year and this year. I tell you what, when the going got tough, like walking in a tropical depression, or blistering heat, I remembered all the touching stories the ladies shared with me last year. It makes me appreciate who I am doing this for. And I will continue until we quit losing our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends to breast cancer. Thank everyone from the bottom of my heart." Stef is a breast cancer survivor herself.

Sometimes, it makes sense to look backward; sometimes, it makes sense to look ahead. Right now, I'm not seeing either way very clearly. I think it has something to do with the inevitable let down that comes after having a great year (like the ECW's 2009) and the daunting expectations placed on the next year, which is now *this* year. These expectations are my own. I expect the crops to go well - yet and always amazed when they do. I expect the ECW to pull together for all the fellowship programs and fundraisers we run - and am deeply grateful when they are truly fun and beneficial. But this leaves me in a strange place. Things are humming along nicely. We have chairs for our functions. We've increased our pledge to the church and are well on our way to keeping that commitment. But there's that tiny voice in my head going, "OK - what next?" In Matthew (17:20), Jesus teaches us: "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." So I'm asking you: What next? What mountain? Our next meeting is March 7th. We have some time to think about it. Which mountain shall we move first?

#### Dates to Remember

March 7 (Sun) - ECW Meeting after the 10am service

March 13 (Sat) - Scrap booking crop

March 20 (Sat) - Movie Night

Thank you~ Jennifer D'Inzeo

### MEN'S CLUB FLEA MARKET

Our Flea Markets are from 8:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m. Vendors can rent space by calling Peter Boppert at 203-799-2760. A sign-up sheet for helpers is posted in the Undercroft. Contact Peter with questions or ask how you can help. Our next Flea Market will be March 20, 2010.

2010 Flea Market dates are; April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13 and December 11.

Several members of our Men's Club will be cooking pancakes at the High Plains Community Center to raise money for the Orange Community Fuel assistance program. This event will be held on Saturday, March 6th, 2010 from 8:00 to 11:30 am. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and \$15.00 for a family. For advance tickets contact the Community Services Office at 203-891-2154 or see Peter Boppert.



### YOUTH GROUP

The COGS kids would like to thank all of the intrepid travelers for coming out for the shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Not even the storm could keep people away! It was a wonderful night of fun and hospitality.

We continue to go to Loaves and Fishes on the third Saturday of every month. Feel free to join us--we meet in the parking lot at church at 8:00. This month we will be having class on March 7 and March 21.



Are you brave and interested in a chilly dip? Some of the youth group will be taking the "penguin plunge" on March 6th in Westport in support of Special Olympics. Help the kids with a sponsorship if you can. Any questions?

Contact John Barton or Lynda Anderson

# News from the Pews

Vol. 6, Number 3– March 2010

*Susan Shaw*

Rector's Warden

*Scott Halliday*

People's Warden

**Note:** We requested this space in order to share some of our insights & observations as it pertains to the “management” of our parish. Each month we’ve been **trying** to address different topics that (we hope) have encouraged open communication as well as highlight those challenges that face our Church Family. Please look for this section of the Shepherd’s Call – read it and share your comments and observations with us.

Susan & Scott

Here are a couple of “updates” we thought all should be aware of...

The roof loan...we have “re-financed” this particular loan – casting the balance over a ten-year term to reduce the monthly payment. This lowers our payment from approximately \$1,000 per month to \$700 per month – giving us a little relief on our overall monthly expenses. We will be putting up a sign-up sheet, as we have in the past, if you are interested in making a payment towards this loan. If you have any questions regarding this, please check with one of us or a member of the Vestry.

Safe Church Training...Susan, Lynda Anderson and I completed the Safe Church Training this past weekend. The program was held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Newtown. John Barton and Holly DeLorme completed this program some time ago. This brings us to five members certified in Safe Church. Applause is appropriate.

Safe Church Training covers a myriad of topics from covers on outlets, to fire exits, to peanut allergies and all that is in between about people, relationships, and group dynamics. Matters of confidentiality, trust, embezzlement were covered as part of the “consciousness raising” component of the agenda. Then there is the gnarly stuff about abuse – in all of its ugly forms – including emotional, child, and elder abuses. Discussions about detection and prevention filled most of the day.

One “take-a-way” from the experience for us was the realization that we, as a parish, should heighten our awareness of the nuances of this subject and broaden our ability to safeguard against the unthinkable. Members of our community who are mandated by the diocese to attend Safe Church training are those in regular contact with children including Sunday School teachers, members of the Vestry and those involved with visiting parishioners. As others in the parish complete this training, we should think about how we as a congregation can bring another level of care to the community outside of Good Shepherd. We may volunteer outside of the Church in a variety of capacities (coaching little league, Boy Scouts, etc.) or be in a work environment where this kind of training can be as useful as CPR and First Aid.

We do a pretty good job of taking care of another – this is another way to do so – and more. *Back to...what our children can teach us...* I shared a story in this “column” a while ago – about the experience(s) I’ve enjoyed with the class Sarah Greifenberger and I teach. Well – they did it again!!! We were discussing all things GOD (not a bad thing for Sunday School) and how God provides all we really need. Somehow – we changed gears and were deep into a discussion of gardening and growing vegetables! “What if we were to have a garden at church?” I asked. “What would we plant?” We ran over options and ideas like the shopping cart in the produce section. Seems we agreed tomatoes, squash and carrots might be a good idea. I explained that we probably didn’t have enough room to really do corn...so peppers and cucumbers were added – to the – salad mix.

Then it happened...they concluded...Native Good Shepherd tomatoes would become Good Shepherd Native Tomato Sauce, which we could use for our spaghetti suppers and – help feed the folks at the shelter.

What our children can teach us.

I think we’ll give pumpkins a go as well for – all of us.

*Thank you*

*Susan Shaw*  
Rector's Warden

*Scott Halliday*  
People's Warden

## More Parish News, Notes and Notices...

### **BAPTISMS**

The book of Common Prayer lists four days as particularly appropriate for the rite of Holy Baptism (p312). They are in order they next come to us: The Great Vigil of Easter (Sunday, April 4, 2010), Pentecost ( Sunday, May 23, 2010), All Saints Day (Sunday, November 7, 2010), and Feast of the Baptism of our Lord , (Sunday, January 9, 2011) If anyone is anticipating a baptism, please plan to have it on one of these days. To make arrangements or learn more about preparing for this rite, contact The Reverend Bevan Stanley 795-6577

### **SCHEDULE**

Liturgical Assistants, Lectors, Acolytes and Healing Team, the schedule for the next two months is out. I have emailed and sent out copies. A copy is also on the volunteer board. If you need one please call the office. If you can not serve when it is your turn, please find someone and let me know so I can update the Bulletin.

~Thanks Rachel

### **NEW FAMILIES**

We would like to welcome four new families to our Parish. Tony and Kelly Molina and their children, Alexander and Taylor, Mark and Melissa Zigmont and their children, Marc and Dominic, Anita DiGioia and John Jenkins and Rita Andiuolo and her daughters Alyssa and Ashley. Please welcome them the next time you see them.



**PRAYER SHAWLS** Our next prayer shawl blessing will be March 7th. Plenty of time to pick up a pair of Size 11 needles and 3 skeins of Loin Brand Homespun yarn. Cast on 63 stitches, Each row, begin by Knitting 3 stitches, followed by Purling 3 stitches, and then repeat (K3, P3) to the end of each row. Any questions, please call Kathie Bellis at (203) 387-7311. If you know of some one who would enjoy receiving a prayer shawls, please let us know.

**ALTAR GUILD** Mark your calendars! On Sunday, March 14, following the 10 a.m. service, all Altar Guild members are invited to a luncheon followed by a "fun event." If you have a hand-held hair dryer, please bring it!

Betsy Kyle  
Altar Guild Directress

### **LENTON COIN FOLDERS**

Please take a moment to pick up your Lenten coin folder from the Church Narthex and use it during this Lenten Season.

### **MOVIE NIGHT**

Nim's Island/PG/95 minutes

When the young island-dwelling Nim ([Abigail Breslin](#)) loses contact with her scientist father ([Gerard Butler](#)) who's lost at sea, she reaches out to her favorite author ([Jodie Foster](#)) for help. Problem is, the writer -- of adventure stories, no less -- is a recluse who hasn't left her house in years. Can the agoraphobic author summon the same courage she's instilled in the hero of her novels in time to rescue her biggest fan?



### **SHELTER SUPPER**



This months Shelter Supper is sponsored by the ECW. If you would like to help with this ministry please sign up in the Undercroft. Here is the 2010 Shelter Supper line up, April – Choir, May – ECW, June –Vestry, July – Men's Club, August – open, September – open, October – open, November – Usher Corp, December – open. If you have any questions please call the office @ 203.795.6577



## Birthday and Anniversaries

Christine Viall	3/6	Michael DeLorme	3/24
Tim Wilkins	3/7	John Barton III	3/26
Mary Stephens	3/10	Karen Cook	3/28
Janet Mansfield Scaglia	3/13	Lynda & Ed Anderson	3/24
Tom Bremer	3/16	Chris & Jenn D'Inzeo	3/25
Renee DeLaurentis	3/18	Kathryn & Edward Freda	3/29
Kaitlyn Rebollar	3/20		
Laura "Peach" Reid	3/22		



### **THE SHEPHERD'S CALL IS MOVING ON**

On-line, that is! May 2010 (will mark a change in the publication of the *Shepherd's Call*. The *Shepherd's Call* will be e-mailed to everyone who has e-mail, rather than being sent through the mail. The April 2010 issue (next month) is the last that will be mailed to everyone. All the same information contained in the print version will be included in the e-mail version. This shift will streamline our communications and help to keep everyone up to date.

The *Shepherd's Call* is a combination calendar of events and newsletter. The calendar will be e-mailed weekly to help everyone keep abreast of changes in schedules and to act as reminders for the week's events. The newsletter part will arrive the first week of every month, and will contain both the calendar and items such as the Interim Rector's Letter and the News from the Pews. The weekly e-mails will begin going out in March. The monthly newsletter will begin e-mailing in May. See below for answers to some common questions

### **FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)**

#### **What if I don't have e-mail?**

The monthly *Shepherd's Call* will be available for pick up in the Narthex on the first Sunday of the month. The weekly e-mails will be similar to the Sunday inserts.

#### **How do I know I am on the e-mail list?**

Weekly e-mails will begin in March. If you are not receiving weekly e-mails by the end of March, contact the church office to have your e-mail address added to the list.

#### **Why the change?**

It keeps you up to date better. The weekly e-mails will remind you of events for that weekend.

It is in keeping with our commitment to sustaining this parish as self-supporting - paper and postage costs add up every month! And it saves trees!

#### **Can I still have the monthly *Shepherd's Call* mailed to me?**

Yes. If you would like to have the *Shepherd's Call* mailed to you monthly, please contact the office to have your name added to the list of those who prefer this method of delivery. Please consider donating a book of stamps to offset the cost of postage.

#### **What if I don't want the weekly updates but still want the monthly e-mail *Shepherd's Call*?**

These lists will be maintained separately. If you opt out of the weekly updates, you will remain on the monthly e-mail list.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience while we transition to this new way of communicating. We are doing our best to plan, but there are certain to be bumps in the road along the way. Please contact the office or Jennifer D'Inzeo if you have any further questions or concerns.

**PARISH NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES CONTINUED .....**

**EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Enclosed is your Easter Offering Envelope. Please be generous.

**COFFEE HOUR**



Please consider hosting an hour of fellowship. The sign up sheet is posted in the Undercroft. If you have never done it before and want to know what to do, there are directions next to the sign up.

**WHITE ENVELOPES**

Ladies, the White Envelopes are here. Pick up your box in the Church Narthex and take part in the Diocese of Connecticut Episcopal Churchwomen White Envelope Program.

**PALM SUNDAY TEA**



The ECW is looking for someone to host (organize) the Palm Sunday Tea. It is on March 28, 2010 after the 10 a.m. worship. If you are interested or want more details please contact ECW President Jennifer D'Inzeo at 203-934 -1793

**TRAINING**

On March 6, Bevan will be holding several training sessions for the following.  
Acolyte and Liturgical Assistant Training – 9:30 a.m.  
Lectors (or Readers) Training – 11:00 a.m.  
Healing Team -12:00 p.m.

**HAITI**

Believe it or not, the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti is the largest in the Episcopal Church. The earthquake destroyed the whole complex of Holy Trinity Cathedral and its School, the College of St. Pierre, Bishop the Convent of the Sisters of St. Margaret, and the Bishop's home. St. Vincent's Center for Handicapped Children and the Le Bon Samaritan School are damaged. Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin of the Diocese of Haiti and many clergy and laypeople are caring for about 23,000 displaced persons in a football field in the city of Port au Prince. You can view a video produced by the *Wall Street Journal* about their work in this emergency camp at [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org).

ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) is the Episcopal Church's main vehicle for delivering emergency aid to the sites of major disasters and great need. You can be confident that any money you send through ERD will reach its intended goal. Make your check payable to: Episcopal Relief and Development and specify that it is to go to Haiti. Mail it to P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058 or donate on line at [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org).



**PUBLICITY**

To help promote the good news from the Church of the Good Shepherd, we would like to submit press releases to the Orange Bulletin and other local papers. So many great people and wonderful events make for good copy! Please share details about an upcoming Church event, personal promotion, school award received by one of our parishioners, and/or other noteworthy accomplishments as they occur so we could turn it into a press release. Details should be sent by mail to Kathie Bellis at [kathryn.barry@metallc.com](mailto:kathryn.barry@metallc.com)

**VESTRY MEETING**

The next Vestry meeting is on March 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.