

# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## The

# EPISTLE

March 2015



PO Box 1449 (Traver Rd. at the corner of Rte. 44), Pleasant Valley, New York 12569  
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**Bishop of New York**  
The Rt. Reverend  
Andrew Dietsche,



**Interim Pastor**  
The Reverend Robert Flanagan

**Wardens**  
Debby Glynn, 635-8756  
Roger Tumbarello-635-1220

**Vestry Members:**  
Nancy Adams  
Donato Caferra  
Amanda Evans  
Karen Garrison  
Rick Harris  
Sandy House  
Kay Saderholm  
Nancy Tompkins  
Liz Whitman

**Treasurer** Marilyn Kirchner  
**Assistant Treasurer**  
Terri Ghee  
**Clerk of the Vestry**  
Kay Mackey

**Music Director**  
Marilyn Kirchner  
**Organist**  
Alice Cann

**Epistle**  
Kay Mackey

## On Being a Professional Episcopalian

*A message from Father Bob*

What are the hallmarks of someone who has been an Episcopalian for many years? I wonder how you might answer that question. It is important for us to know who we are and what makes Episcopalians different, and similar, to other Christians and people of faith.

There is no one answer to the question. However, there are signs that let others know that you're a professional Episcopalian. Three totems stand at the heart of Episcopal spirituality, namely, the hymnals, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Bible. So if you are a professional Episcopalian, you have to own copies of each.

Why do I say that? Well, each is a facet of how we worship, but there is more. Owning a copy of these books shows others that you're serious about your faith. Also, having copies of these at home allow you to grow your spirituality Monday through Saturday.

For instance, the Book of Common Prayer includes prayers that you may use in the morning and evening. It includes prayers for special occasions, like prayer number 50, which is for a birthday, or prayers for everyday use, like prayer number 63 which you may say in the evening. There are short liturgies called Daily Devotions. You may pray these in the morning, at noonday, or in the evening. You might enjoy saying Compline each night before you go to sleep. It's longer than the devotions, but if you say it enough, you'll memorize it. It is a wonderful way to drift off to sleep.



Owning one of the Episcopal hymnals is not just a great way to discover favorite hymns, but also a way to deepen your spiritual life. Perhaps you like one of the hymns sung on Sunday morning. If you have a hymnal at home, you can spend time singing it to yourself or just reading the words. The words of our hymns are rich in theology and spirituality. Having the opportunity to sing or read the hymns of our church will enliven not just your Sunday morning experience but will grow your faith.

What's more is you can bring your Book of Common Prayer and Bible to church on Sunday. Doing so is a true sign of a professional Episcopalian. Before the service begins, you may open your Bible to the reading, which will allow you to place the reading in the greater biblical context or narrative. You will enrich your experience of the Word of God.

If I've convinced you of the worth of having copies of the books we use on Sunday, find your way to a bookstore, an online bookseller, or the Episcopal Church website. Purchase your copies of the tools of our trade. Your faith will be better for it. Listen for the bells!

*Father Bob*



### *Sunday Services*

*Holy  
Eucharist*

*8AM-Rite I*

*10AM-Rite II  
With music*

*9:45AM– Sunday  
School*

*Join us for fellow-  
ship and refresh-  
ments following the  
10 AM service*

*Evening Prayer  
6 PM Fridays*

### **February Reflections**

The Annual Meeting, which was held February 5, 2015 was a chance for us all to gather in fellowship as well as to conduct the business of the Parish. After church, we all gathered for a delicious pot luck lunch. This is always a special treat, as the food never fails to be wonderful. Thanks to all the people who set up, cooked and cleaned up after the event. At the meeting we thanked those leaving the vestry:

**Nancy Lutz**, retiring as warden, **Terri Ghee**, **Toni Howell** and **Lesley Sprauer**, stepping down from their vestry duties. We really appreciated their hard work and thoughtful ideas during their tenure. We also welcomed new vestry: **Roger Tumbarello**, as warden, and **Nancy Adams**, **Amanda Evans**, **Kay Saderholm** and **Nancy Tompkins** as vestry members. We are so grateful that they are willing to serve during this exciting time! Other business included a discussion of our budget for 2015, presented by our most able treasurer, **Marilyn Kirchner**; a report on our new fundraiser, Adams Gift Cards, which made \$2,300. in the first year; and our commitment to the Carpenter's Kids program for the last year of the program as it is now organized. This marks 10 years of continuous support to this valuable program. (See article on page 3)



The Winter Blues Dinner was held on Saturday, February 21st. Despite the snowy weather, a good group of hardy souls braved the elements to enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by Barbara Rawls. Thanks go to her, to **Liz Whitman** and many others who pitched in to make the evening such a success.

As we prepared for Lent, a good group of people from St. Paul's attended a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at the Methodist Church. We had two services on Ash Wednesday, one at noon and one at 7 p.m.

The vestry has been working overtime reviewing information collected by the Search Committee. The preparation of the information presented to the vestry took the Search Committee untold hours to collect, including conference calls, parish visits, discussions and more. We all are indebted to that Committee for their competent and thorough work. The Vestry is now moving forward using all the information given to them.

The new bathrooms—we can't forget the new parish hall bathrooms! That committee, chaired by Nancy Adams is moving forward. Once the weather warms up, (will it ever?) the demolition work will begin. The construction will be organized so that there will always be bathrooms for us to use. I can't wait!

Our ESL program is growing! We are now up to 8 students who meet Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall. Denis Freeman is the teacher. We will be adding another teacher in the near future. The program is coordinated from Grace Church, Millbrook, by Evelyn Garzetta. Our **Gina Olson** takes care of child care for families who bring their children with them to class.

*Debby Glynn*

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## CARPENTER'S KIDS

This is our last year to support the Carpenter's Kids in Tanzania. We would like to go out with all flags flying! These children are Aids orphans, and would not be able to attend school without our help. Anyone may support a child by donating \$70, which buys breakfast for a child each school day, a school uniform, shoes, socks and soap—all for a school year. The number of children remaining in elementary school from our group is fairly small, so people need not support multiple children this year, or even a 'whole' child. Any donation will be helpful. Money collected beyond that needed for the elementary children will go towards secondary children, whom we have supported in the past.

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**March 14th, 2015-** 4:30-7 p.m.– Parish Hall– St.Paul's Church– Traver Rd. Pleasant Valley,NY



### **Traditional Irish Dinner and Silent Auction**

Menu– Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Homemade Irish Soda Bread.

Dessert– Stewart's Ice Cream and Homemade cookies and beverages.

Cost: Adults \$14. Seniors: \$13. Children 6-10 \$7. Those un-

der 6 and over 90 eat for free.

Take Out Available. For further information please leave a message at the Church Office- 845-635-2854.

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**The Season of Lent** continues through March 28th. Palm Sunday is March 29th. Remember, everyone is invited to join the Tuesday Bible Study group. We meet in the parish hall between 12:30 and 2:30. The discussion begins at 1 p.m. Currently we are studying sermons of prominent Episcopal priests and ministers of previous centuries.

On **Sundays at 11:30** (or thereabouts) Father Bob joins us for a spirited discussion of his sermon, readings of the day or questions we may have and were afraid to ask. All are invited to join us.

**Evening Prayer**– Friday 6-7 p.m. You will find comfort in joining this group of people for discussion and prayer. As part of the informal service we follow the prayer book, read from the Bible, learn about Holy men and women and offer up the prayers from the prayer box.

### **Excerpt from "Holy Humor"**

For many Christians, Lent is a time for fasting and penitential sorrow over sins. But an early church saint, John Climacus (649 A.D.) spoke of Lenten disciplines as a "joy creating sorrow" leading to the joy of Easter.

"God," he wrote, "does not insist or desire that we should mourn in agony of heart; rather it is His wish that out of love for Him, we should rejoice with laughter in our soul."



**St. Paul's Episcopal  
Church is a Christian  
family of caring  
people who strive to  
support and nurture  
each other and  
their community  
through faith and the  
grace of God.**

## **Easter Flowers**

Marilyn Kirchner will be taking names of those you would like to honor or remember at Eastertide. Since Easter is the first Sunday in April (April 5th) she will need the names no later than March 29th (Palm Sunday) See her at church or contact her at 845-636-3431 or –email at [UserK3939@aol.com](mailto:UserK3939@aol.com)



## **Labors of Love**

Our small parish really does run like a family and each of us contributes to the welfare of all. In this space each month we will focus on the different ways that we work together to keep St. Paul's going—from the tasks on Sundays to keeping the grounds beautiful to our wonderful dinners and other fundraisers.

Keep an eye on this space to learn more.

*Liz Whitman*

## **Spring Schedule**

### **SET CLOCKS AHEAD SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 7th**

- March 9 Vestry meeting @ 7 p.m. Committees 6:30
- March 14 Annual Irish Dinner 4:30-7 p.m. (see pg. 3)
- March 15 Window Walk– 1st Presby. Church, P.V. 3p.m. Free  
Open to the public 845-223-5717
- March 21 St. Andrews, Beacon, NY 3-5 p.m. UBAKA HILL  
Performing and teaching drumming.
- March 29 Palm Sunday– Services at 8 and 10 a.m.

### **BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK**

Please refer to the Church Bulletin for time schedule for Holy Week Services. They will also be listed in the April Epistle.

- Apr. 2 Maundy Thursday Service followed by Night Watch
- Apr.3 Noon-Good Friday service  
6 P.M. Community Ecumenical Service
- Apr. 5 8 & 10 Easter services at St. Paul's  
The Ecumenical Town sunrise service 6:30 a.m. at the Mill  
Park—

### **In Memory– The Rev. Dr. Robert Merrill Dresser**

It is with great sorrow that we mourn the death of the husband of The Rev. Dr. Deborah Dresser. Mother Dresser was a great inspiration to the congregation of St. Paul's Church as a member of supply priests who led us during our transition period. We had the pleasure of worshiping with Father Dresser. A Requiem Eucharist will be held Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. St. George's Newburgh. The Rt. Rev. Andrew M.L. Dietsche, Presiding. Condolences may be sent to Deborah at her home: 12 Bay View Terr., Newburgh, NY 12550.

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## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1. Brian Platel  
Marge Root
2. Trent Stone
3. John Borchert
4. Vincent DeMarco
5. Michael Shipley
6. Babs Wilcox
10. Corin Kutner
12. Christine Kirchner
13. Pam Moustakas
16. Rosemary Jones
17. Rhoda Gruner  
Pat Johnson
18. Kay Mackey
19. Colleen Kutner  
Piper Delaney Macak  
Austin Jacob Shipley
21. Katherine Ottaway Kittredge
25. Rudy Macak
27. Tracy Rouse



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### **The Sunday of the Passion**

*March 29*  
Palm Sunday

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,  
 “Hosanna!  
 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord——  
 the King of Israel!”  
 ——*John 13*——

