

MANNA



Christ Episcopal Church, 824 Fairmont Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554

April 2009

Church Phone: 304.366.3471
E-mail: christchfmt@wvdsi.net
Website: www.fairmontepiscopal.com

The Rev. Siobhan Patterson, Rector
Rector's Cell Phone: 304.617.9589
Rector's E-mail: christchfmt.rector@gmail.com

Worship Services: Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. A nursery is provided.

*Our mission is to...
know God, love God, and serve others.*

Rector's Message

Siobhán Patterson

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Holy Week is soon approaching. Holy Week is the time in the Church year when we reflect on Christ's Passion – his physical, spiritual, and mental suffering before and at the time of his trial and execution by crucifixion – and when we celebrate his Resurrection and our salvation, which Christ won for us once and for all through his Passion and Resurrection.

Our Holy Week schedule includes the **Palm Sunday** liturgy on April 5th at 10:30am beginning in the Memorial Garden (or, if raining, the Parish Hall); a **Maundy Thursday** Christian Seder Supper in the Parish Hall on April 9th at 5:45pm followed by the Holy Eucharist with the Stripping of the Altar at 7:00pm; the **Good Friday** liturgy on April 9th at 7:00pm; and on **Easter**, April 12th, a Festival Holy Eucharist with a Cantata at 10:30am (a Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held before hand at 9:30am). Please take a look inside this newsletter for more details about our Holy Week Schedule.

Let us gather together at these times during Holy Week and live into the mystery of Christ's Passion and Resurrection and the salvation that it accomplished for all people.

In Christ,
Siobhán +



ECM Report

Kyle Hamilton

A total of 84 meals were served to the clientele at the *Soup Opera* on Saturday, March 21st. With the economy in the doldrums, the number of clients needing meals and packaged food is on the rise. During the last few months the *Soup Opera* has distributed a record number of dry good/canned good packages to people in the area. Thus far, community response has been sufficient to keep up with the demand, but additional items are always needed and utilized. Please keep the *Soup Opera* in mind for canned goods, dry goods or cash donation in the months ahead.

Our volunteer team on the 21st consisted of Nancy Hilsbos and her mother Helen Rea, Dick Hawkins, Steve Riedeman and a group of six students from Fairmont Senior High School.

The next scheduled volunteer day is Saturday, April 18th at 10:30am. New volunteers are always welcome and we typically have an enjoyable time providing this outreach ministry.

Multiphasic Report

Barb Barkely

Many thanks to Lisa Baker, Chris Metheny, Dana Riedeman, and Laura Withers-Boyles for working shifts at Fairmont General Hospital's Multiphasic Blood Testing Day last month. We will let everyone know how much we earned when we get our report.

Christian Seder Supper



Maundy Thursday, April 9
5:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall
Contact Lisa Baker at 304.363.7134 for details.

The Seder Meal as a Christian Celebration

From "Preparing and Celebrating the Holy Thursday Meal" by Gerald Twomey, C.S.P.

Passover is the great Jewish feast of redemption and liberation, the memorial of the Israelites' deliverance from their bondage in Egypt. The word Passover means "deliverance," since in the story of the Exodus Yahweh "passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt" (Ex. 12:27). Passover is also known as the Feast of Unleavened Bread, since in their haste to flee Egypt, "the people carried off their dough, still unleavened" (Ex. 12:34). The lamb offered at each paschal meal recalls the first Passover sacrifice, whose blood protected the Israelites from the avenging angel of Yahweh (cf. Ex. 12:21-33). Passover is a festival of great rejoicing, which reveals how God "led us from captivity to freedom, from sadness to joy, from mourning to feasting, from servitude to redemption, from darkness to brilliant light."

The ritual meal which commemorates the events of the Exodus is called the Seder. The primary aim of the Seder is to transmit to future generations the story of the Exodus, the central event in Jewish history. Ideally, a family gathers around a table in its own home to celebrate the Seder, sharing in a meal which symbolizes their consciousness as a people and their faith in the future. The Exodus story pertains to all persons, since it tells of the right of all persons to be free.



In the Christian tradition the Passover Seder is also believed to be when Jesus instituted the Eucharist. Gathered around the supper table with his disciples, Jesus told them, "I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

Then, taking a cup, he gave thanks and said, 'Take this and share it among you, because from now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the kingdom of God comes'.

Then he took some bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body which will be given for you; do this as a memorial of me'. He did the same with the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you.'" (Luke 22: 15-20)

This Christian observance of this ritual meal celebrates not only our tradition of Christ's last supper but our own Jewish heritage which provided the context for Jesus' institution at the last supper.

Vestry Contact Information

If you have any issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact one of the vestry members.

| <i>Vestry Member</i> | <i>Phone Number</i> | <i>Email Address</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Kent Brown</i> | <i>366-9445</i> | <i>wbrown6@ma.rr.com</i> |
| <i>Toni Balenger</i> | <i>363-7825</i> | <i>nonatoniwv@yahoo.com</i> |
| <i>Kyle Hamilton</i> | <i>366-5148</i> | <i>kyle@wilsonfordlm.com</i> |
| <i>Neal Hamilton</i> | <i>677-1779</i> | <i>neal@mountain.net</i> |
| <i>Gary Metheny</i> | <i>366-2033</i> | <i>garymetheny@comcast.net</i> |
| <i>Sally Tennant</i> | <i>694-0107</i> | <i>sjotennant@aol.com</i> |
| <i>Carla Wood</i> | <i>363-7938</i> | <i>carla414@msn.com</i> |
| <i>Jeff Wallace</i> | <i>594-1436</i> | <i>jeffmwallace@yahoo.com</i> |
| <i>Laura Withers-Boyles</i> | <i>363-2295</i> | <i>dds1910@aol.com</i> |

Starting the Day Off Right

1. Wake Up !! Decide to have a good day.

"Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" Psalms 118:24

2. Dress Up !! The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart." I Samuel 16:7

3. Shut Up!! Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking . "He who guards his lips guards his soul." Proverbs 13:3

4. Stand Up!!...for what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..." Galatians 6:9-10

5. Look Up !!...to the Lord.

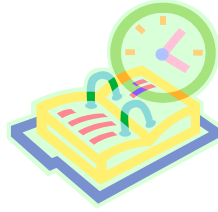
"I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

6. Reach Up !!...for something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, And He will direct your path." Proverbs 3:5-6

7. Lift Up !!...your Prayers.

"Do not worry about anything; Instead **PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING.**" Philippians 4:6





Important Dates to Remember

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Sunday, April 5</i> | <i>Palm Sunday 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for children and youth 10:30 a.m. The Palm Sunday liturgy will begin in the Memorial Garden (or, if raining, in the Parish Hall)</i> |
| <i>Thursday, April 9</i> | <i>Maundy Thursday 5:45 p.m. Seder Supper in the Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson and Solemn Stripping of the Altar</i> |
| <i>Friday, April 10</i> | <i>7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</i> |
| <i>Sunday, April 12</i> | <i>Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. Children's Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson and Easter Cantata</i> |
| <i>Saturday, April 18</i> | <i>10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Soup Opera (Need Volunteers) Call Kyle Hamilton at 366.5148</i> |
| <i>Sunday, April 19</i> | <i>Second Sunday in Easter 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for children and youth 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by supply clergy</i> |
| <i>Monday, April 20</i> | <i>6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting in the Parish Hall</i> |
| <i>Saturday, April 25</i> | <i>6:00 p.m. Monthly Church Dinner in the Parish Hall</i> |
| <i>Sunday, April 26</i> | <i>Third Sunday in Easter 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for children and youth 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i> |



Monthly Church Gatherings

Every Fourth Saturday of the Month

PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINNER AND FUN!

*April 25 6:00 pm Indoor games - Nerf Battles in the Gym Pastas/Casseroles/Sides/Desserts
As a fun idea, bring some photos of a favorite family vacation in an album or other display mechanism. It's more about
fellowship and sharing than actual content.*



DIOCESAN EVENTS



2009 Bishop's Ball and Tee Time

April 24th-25th

Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, West Virginia

For more information contact the Parish Office or go to

<http://www.wvdiocese.org/pages/pdfs/BishopsBall09.pdf>



May 15th-17th – The 2009 **Women's Conference** will be held at Peterkin. For more information, contact the Parish Office or visit the web link:

<http://www.wvdiocese.org/pages/pdfs/WomensConfBrochure2009.pdf>



Join Bishop Mike
for an
EASTER EGG HUNT
at
Sandscrest
Saturday, April 11

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Call 304-277-3022 to register.

It's FREE and SPACE IS LIMITED so REGISTER EARLY!



Christian Education Update

April 2009

We want to start off by thanking you for your continued support of our Christian Education Program. We are truly blessed by having your kids (all ages) in classes learning, crafting, playing, talking, and exploring God's love.

On Easter Sunday (April 12) the fun will begin with our annual Easter Egg Hunt in the Memorial Garden (or, if raining, in the Parish Hall). Children should meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 a.m. There will be a "non-messy" craft for the little ones while the older children hide the eggs.

New Christian Education Schedule

Christian Education classes for the youth (preschool, elementary, junior, and senior youth) are now being offered each week before the service, beginning at **9:30 a.m.** **Christian Education classes and forums for adults** will soon be offered before the service on a regular basis as well. Stay tuned for details!

Juniors – Orange Junior Room

Elementary – Yellow Spaceship Room

Preschool – Yellow Room off the Nursery

Depending on attendance we can combine or divide age groups

Please plan to attend! We need your presence to continue our ministries in all age groups.

April 5 - Palm Sunday – Making Palm Crosses

April 12 - Easter Egg Hunt

April 19 – Regular Classes

April 26 – Regular Classes

If interested in participating, providing snacks, teaching, etc. please let us know. We love the help.

Lenten Box/Container – The kids are still collecting money in their boxes/containers, and will do so through April and most likely May. They will be sending this money to Zach for the Elewana Project in Kenya.

Lenten Community Outreach Project – Please bring all sizes of hygiene items and health items to church for our outreach project for Hope or other agency.



Peterkin Camp Schedule Summer 2009

Senior Camp: June 21 – June 27

Junior Camp: July 5 – July 11

Intermediate Camp: July 12 – July 18

Family Camp: July 19 – July 25

Hallelujah Hike (note: extended one extra day): July 25 – August 1

Creative Arts Camp: July 26 – August 1

Camp registrations are now available online through the Peterkin website (peterkin.org), at the bottom of the "Summer Camps" page, or by using this web address: <http://www.peterkin.org/pages/camps.html>).

Full details are available in the church office and in the entryway of the church.

Register by April 15 to take advantage of the early registration discount!



A co-ed, all-ages **church softball team sign up** is at the entrance of the church and in the Parish Office.

For more information, contact Luke Huggins (huggins@wwc.edu).

Yoga Community Outreach

Place: **Christ Episcopal Church**

824 Fairmont Ave., Fairmont

Price: Donation Based

Donation Recommendation \$3.00-\$7.00



With Certified Instructor Sally Tennant
Contact Sally for more information and an April schedule.
Sally Tennant: (304) 694-0107 or sjotennant@aol.com



Liturgical Assistants Calendar

| Date | Service | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors | Acolytes | Sacristans | Ushers * | Counters |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4/5/09 <i>Palm Sunday</i> | 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | L. Lawson J. Miller | C. Boyles N. Lopez | N. Lopez N. Greely Alec W. | Team 3 Red | Youth Ushers | K. Hamilton J. Wallace |
| 4/9/09 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | 7:00 pm <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | B. Barkley | K. Hamilton J. Hamilton | B. Metheny Alec W. | Team 4 White | Volunteers | Sacristans |
| 4/10/09 <i>Good Friday</i> | 7:00 pm <i>Good Friday Liturgy</i> | N. Hamilton | N. Hamilton | N. Lopez C. Boyles | Team 1 No Hangings | Volunteers | Sacristans |
| 4/12/09 <i>Easter Sunday</i> | 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | K. Hamilton M. Lopez | C. Wood K. Brown | B. Metheny J. Wood F. Tennant | Team 2 White | J. Burford K. Brown | G. Metheny S. Tennant |
| 4/19/09 <i>Easter II</i> | 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | C. Carlot B. Barkley | D. Burnell T. Steed | Alec W. N. Lopez Abby W. | Team 3 White | Steed-Marsh Family | K. Brown T. Balenger |
| 4/26/09 <i>Easter III</i> | 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | B. Hamilton D. Hamilton | B. Hamilton D. Hamilton | C. Boyles M. Marsh L. Marsh | Team 4 White | G. Boyles B. Metheny | K. Hamilton L. Withers-Boyles |
| 5/3/09 <i>Easter IV</i> | 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> | L. Lawson J. Miller | B. Metheny Alec W. | J. Wood B. Metheny N. Greely | Team 1 White | Youth Ushers | C. Wood N. Hamilton |

Easter Memorial Flowers:

If you would like to make a donation to the Easter Memorial Flowers, please fill out this form and return it to the collection plate or church office with your check. It can be mailed to the office at Christ Episcopal Church, 824 Fairmont Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554

Your Name (as you want it to appear in the Easter bulletin) _____

In Memory of _____

And/or

In Thanksgiving for _____



Amount of Donation: _____



AN UPDATE FROM ZACK DRENNEN (Episcopal priest and missionary in Kenya with the Elewana Project who visited our congregation in January)

Beloved Gang,

Today was supposed to be my 'office day', but t'was not in the cards – a funeral happened by and promptly hijacked every last bit of daylight. I have a personal policy about funerals: attend when possible. People are just different at the graveside – more open with their emotions, their grief, sadness, even their relief. Everything is a bit more 'real'. And people appreciate the company, even when you're eating their food. So I go. But this is a much larger commitment in Kenya than in the U.S. For starters, more people die here, at least it sure seems that way. AIDS, tribal/political violence, and a lack of quality health care will have their due. Secondly, as intimated above, a African funeral is a day-long commitment, so there is no hope of ducking out of work for a couple hours to attend a service, grabbing a bite at the bereaved's house, and still making it home for the six o'clock news. Nope, Kenyan funerals have their own pace from which they will not be deterred, despite the convention of having the body in the ground no later than three p.m. The sobriety of the pall bearers, increasingly questionable later in the day, may have something to do with that particular custom.

Today's highlight was the picture taking, admittedly new to me. Once the hearse pulled into the church parking lot, honking all the while to alert the tri-state area of the funeral's eminent commencement, the pall bearers removed the coffin and placed it on a stand in front of the church. Professional photographers then spent the next hour taking photos of various friends and family members posing (no smiles) around the coffin. My waspish sensibilities immediately sent my nose straight in the air, but I eventually got with the program and had my picture taken the rest of the attending clergy (I didn't smile either). In this line of work, sometimes its important to remind Toto that we're not in Kansas anymore. The photos took so long that the Bishop had to cut his sermon short (10 minutes - unheard of) so we could hustle the body into the ground in a timely fashion. But it ended well, with the family – in from Uganda, Nairobi and most towns in between – grateful for the proper send-off.

In other news, I've hired an assistant, one Peter Omaset Etyang: a young man who, despite a lack of formal education, is quick study on the computer and knows how to drive, both rare commodities in Kenya. Peter's main job is to keep track of our sponsored students and oversee work at the mission house – still hurtling forward at a good clip, by-the-way. I'm grateful for his help. Lastly, I should mention that Elewana is now a fully registered 501c3 non-profit corporation. This means that the Diocese of West Virginia will no longer need to launder our donations and we have a bit more legitimacy within the educational and funding communities. Many thanks to the Elewana Board and particularly Sarah Drennen, who served as the point person for dealing with that mountain of paperwork. You rock, Mom.

I miss you all and hope to hear back from you soon.

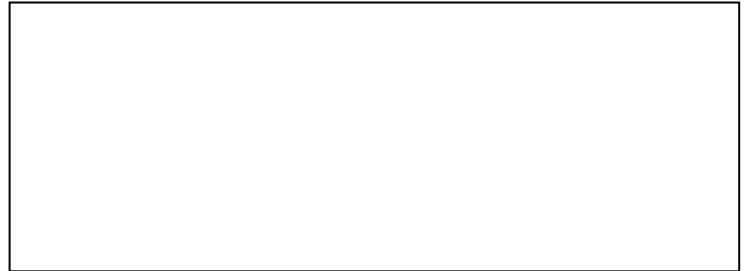
Mad Love,
Zach

The Rev. Zachary Drennen
The Elewana Education Project
www.elewana.org



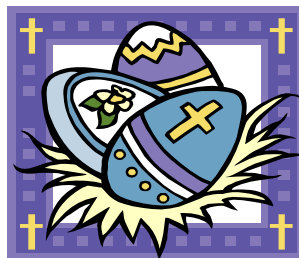
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*The strife is o'er, the battle done,
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!*

...Francis Pott



SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Thursday, April 9 - Maundy Thursday, 5:45pm Seder in the Parish Hall and 7:00pm Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Friday, April 10 - Good Friday Service at 7:00pm

Sunday, April 12 - 9:30am Children's Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30am Holy Eucharist with Easter Cantata



