



MANNA



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

January 2009

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

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

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that you are off to a great start in 2009! While we are on the subject of new things...

On Monday, February 2nd at 6:30pm, Bishop Klusmeyer will be here to lead the service for the Celebration of a New Ministry (Book of Common Prayer, page 559). As it says in the BCP, this service is held when a priest is being instituted and inducted as the rector of a parish. But, it's not just a celebration for the priest. It's a celebration for the whole congregation. This service marks a new phase in the life and ministry of the parish and celebrates the ministry that we are entering together. I hope you all can be pried away from any Groundhog Day festivities you were planning to attend (haha!) and that you can be here at church for this special service. If you need an extra incentive, the Very Rev. Kevin Kelly, a good friend and colleague of mine who I worked with in Huntington, will be preaching. He's an *excellent* preacher!

I also want to tell you about **three upcoming additions to Sunday mornings**. Recently, I have spent some time talking with our Christian Ed. leaders and Vestry about youth ministry. I have to say that I am really impressed by and excited about the energy and care for the youth there is at Christ Church.

We often hear that the youth are the "future of the church." This is very true, but they are also the church right now. *And*, if they are going to be in the church in the future, they need to be nurtured in church in the present. So, it's very important that our youth always know they are a vital part of the congregation and that we are always thinking of new and creative ways to



encourage their participation, draw out their gifts, and help them claim their place and voice in the church.

After talking with the Christian Ed. leaders and Vestry, we have decided to try three new things in the near future to help further integrate our young people into the life of the parish.

First: Beginning on Sunday, January 11th, instead of going directly to the Sunday school classrooms when they arrive, the kids will gather with everyone in the church first and then process to their classrooms as a group after the Collect of the Day and before the first reading. It's important that we all gather together and that the kids are sent out to Sunday school classes in a way that shows them they have the support of the community. This will also help guests and newcomers to be aware that Sunday school classes are available for kids and that kids can begin going right away. Plus, it will give families a little extra time in the morning to get to church before classes start!

Second: Beginning on Sunday, February 1st, at each Children's Mass (first Sunday of the month) after the Collect of the Day and before the first reading, the Sunday school age kids will be invited to come to the front of the church for the Children's Sermon. This will give me a chance to talk with the kids about the lessons, God, faith, etc. on a regular basis – since I cannot be present with them during a Sunday school class. Children's Sermons will also give *everyone* an opportunity to hear and learn from the kids. Children often have some of the most profound insights, which can shape our understanding in significant ways.

Third: Also beginning on Sunday, February 1st at each Children's Mass, the youth (of all ages) will be invited to gather around the altar with me during the Eucharistic Prayer (and they will go back to the pews after "The Gifts of God for the people of God..." is said so that they can come up and receive communion with their families). This will give the youth closeness to the altar and the sacrament that they might not otherwise experience. My hope is that it will emphasize to the youth the point that God is close and accessible to us.

Please feel free to talk with me, the Christian Ed. leaders and the Vestry members about these additions. We truly hope these additions will enrich worship on Sunday mornings, not only for the youth but for all of us.

Christ's Peace,
Siobhán+

Senior Warden

Kyle Hamilton

Please mark your calendars now!
Sunday, January 18th, 2009 – Annual Meeting



ECM Report

Kyle Hamilton

The ECM sponsored lunch for 87 patrons at the Soup Opera on December 20. Dana and Steve Riedeman served as co-captains and were assisted by Lisa Baker, Jim Burnell, Gary Jack, Mike Lawson, Siobhán Patterson, and Leisa Riedeman. Kyle Hamilton and five Fairmont Senior High School volunteers reorganized the Soup Opera's pantry that same day. We will serve meals again on January 17. Please mark that date and make an effort to join us in this worthwhile outreach ministry.

Christmas Mini-Bazaar Report

Barb Barkley and Louise Starr

The Christmas Mini-Bazaar was a success even though bad weather prevailed. The holiday coffee and bake sale were enjoyed by those attending. Special thanks to Louise Larry, Carla Wood, Nicholas Greely, and Lisa Baker who helped make it a nice event, and thanks to all who contributed to the bake sale. We hope you had a happy holiday!

Stewardship Reminder:

Pledge Cards for 2009 are now available. If you have not received your pledge card, please contact Mike Lawson or Carla Wood.

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>wkbrown@access.k12.wv.us</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>Ann Heim</i>	<i>366-5580</i>	<i>ann@trailerinc.com</i>
<i>Neal Hamilton</i>	<i>366-2000</i>	<i>neal@access.mountain.net</i>
<i>Mike Lawson</i>	<i>366-0759</i>	<i>mike.lawson@novelis.com</i>
<i>Sally Tennant</i>	<i>287-2515</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>

Christian Education

Chris Metheny

New Schedule: Please refer to Rev. Patterson's message on page one of this *Manna* for an update on changes to our Christian Education schedule. It is important that we gather as a church family for a few moments to worship with all the members of our family present and to witness how our children are growing in God's love through this ministry. Please support this new ministry by encouraging our children to participate.

Caroling Dinner: Special thanks to those families and parishioners who came to our Christmas Caroling Dinner on December 14th. The weather was very cooperative, and we attempted to make a joyful noises we strolled the blocks close to the church. (We need to make this a mandatory event for choir members!) A good time was had by all in attendance.



Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Coats, and More! Even with all the chaos, your generosity has been overwhelming! The collection of hats, gloves, scarves, coats, toys and more was lovingly delivered to the Soup Opera for distribution in December. Thank you so much for helping with this ministry. We will be collecting hygiene items during the spring to distribute just before Easter. Please look for more details coming soon.

Small Group Hosts/Hostesses Needed

The Vestry is still looking for parishioners to host small group get-togethers during the early part of 2009 to facilitate the process of "getting to know" our new Rector, Siobhán Patterson. Three parishioners have graciously volunteered thus far. We need more! These get-togethers can be in homes, at restaurants, at the church, or anywhere the host/hostess would like. If you would be willing to help by hosting a small group, please contact one of the members of the transition group formed by the vestry to provide support for Siobhán during her first year. Those members are Kyle Hamilton, Toni Balenger, Louise Lawson, Christ Metheny, and Dana Riedeman.

Important Dates to Remember

<i>Sunday, January 4</i>	<i>Second Sunday After Christmas 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Rev. Zach Drennen as guest preacher and presenter A collection will be taken to help support his missionary work in Kenya. Coffee Hour</i>
<i>Sunday, January 11</i>	<i>First Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Siobhán Patterson First Sunday that children will gather in church before going to Sunday School 11:45 a.m. Jr. Class.</i>
<i>Monday, January 12</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting</i>
<i>Saturday, January 17</i>	<i>10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Soup Opera (Need Volunteers)</i>
<i>Sunday, January 18</i>	<i>Second Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Siobhán Patterson Children gather in church before Sunday School. Annual Meeting</i>
<i>Sunday, January 25</i>	<i>Third Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Siobhán Patterson Children gather in church before Sunday School. 11:45 a.m. Jr. Class</i>
<i>Sunday, February 2</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Siobhán Patterson Children's Mass with the first Children's Sermon and invitation for the youth to gather around the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer.</i>
***Monday, February 3	6:30 p.m. Service for the Celebration of a New Ministry Bishop Klusmeyer will preside, and the Very Rev. Kevin Kelly from Trinity, Huntington, will preach.



Liturgical Assistants Calendar

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristans	Ushers *	Counters
1/04/09 Christmas II	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	L. Lawson J. Miller	K. Hamilton N. Hamilton	N. Lopez A. Wadsworth	Team 2 All Season	Steed/Marsh Family	S. Tennant C. Wood
1/11/09 Epiphany I	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	N. Hamilton K. Hamilton	C. Wood A. Patterson	J. Wood B. Metheny C. Boyles	Team 3 All Season	L. Leon J. Burford	J. Wallace A. Heim
1/18/09 Epiphany II	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	M. Lopez B. Barkley	D. Burnell T. Steed	N. Lopez M. Marsh M. Jacquez	Team 4 All Season	K. Brown Volunteer	T. Balenger K. Brown
1/25/09 Epiphany III	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	C. Boyles M. Jacquez	Team 1 All Season	B. Metheny G. Boyles	N. Hamilton M. Lawson
2/01/09 Epiphany IV	10:30 am Holy Eucharist Children's Mass	C. Carlot L. Lawson	C. Boyles N. Lopez	N. Lopez B. Metheny A. Wadsworth	Team 2 All Season	Youth Ushers	K. Hamilton S. Tennant

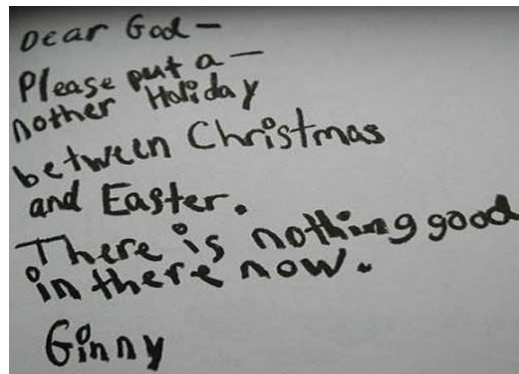
If you cannot be at church on one of your appointed days, please make arrangements on your own for a replacement ahead of time.

Anyone still willing to volunteer for any of the above positions, please contact Bessie at the church office.

Anyone that will not be available to serve on a Sunday for the upcoming month is asked to contact Dana Riedeman or Bessie McCardle.

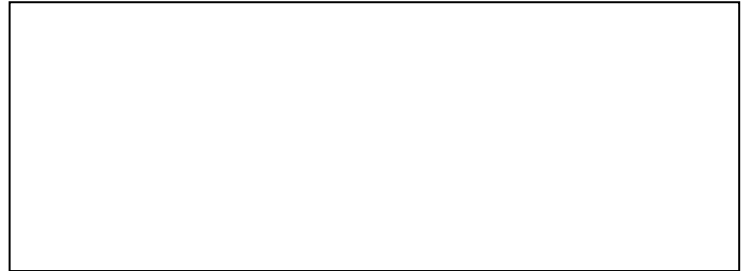
Remember - we are asking that "families" volunteer to be ushers - can be parents with children, husband and wife only, parent and one child, etc.

A Child's Letter to God...



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*"Glorious now behold him arise,
Kin and God and Sacrifice;
Heaven sings alleluia:
Alleluia the earth replies."*

...John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

