

MANNA



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

March 2009

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

The Rev. Siobhán 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,

This past week, we entered the season of Lent. Lent is a time in the church year when we focus on repentance, reconciliation, and renewal -- among many things. This liturgical season is a time to open and prepare ourselves for conversions of mind, action, and heart.

Many people keep Lenten disciplines to help open and prepare themselves for these kinds of conversions. Some give up something for Lent like a favorite food, snack, or drink. Others take on something like a spiritual practice (fasting or saying Morning or Evening Prayer) or volunteering time or money to a good cause. Any Lenten discipline, whether it falls into the giving something up category or the taking something on category, any discipline helps us to make more room for God and God's transformative grace in our lives.

Although Lent is penitential in tone, it's not meant to be a dreary and joyless time when we make ourselves miserable. Lent is about making choices that help us better direct and order our lives toward God and what God hopes for us -- choices that may be difficult to make and keep at first but choices that can lead to a deep sense of purpose and joy.

However you decide to approach Lent this year, I hope that it is with an open mind and heart... a mind and heart open to deepening your relationship with God and to living out God's hope for your life.

In Christ,
Siobhán+



ECM Report

Kyle Hamilton

In a conversation the other day I was trying to remember exactly how long our ECM had been volunteering at the Soup Opera. My best recollection puts it at about twelve years – but I really can't be certain! Regardless of my failing memory, this ministry has been an outstanding way to reach out into our community and work as Christians helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

On Saturday, February 21st we served just over seventy free meals at the Soup Opera. (I use the term 'free' because they are just that! No strings attached... no questions asked – just a warm, nutritious meal at no cost to the patron.)

The 'superstar' volunteer team was comprised of: Lisa Baker, David Carlot, Mike Haislip, Bruce & Dot Hamilton, Kyle Hamilton, Mike Lawson, and Dana & Steve Riedeman. They were ably assisted by Travis DeVault, Monica Dunlap, Gabi Jenab, Lauren McClain and Resa McClumphy from the Interact Club at Fairmont Senior High School.

As I write this report we are preparing for our annual *Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Buckwheat Supper* on Tuesday, February 24th. The proceeds from this event are used to fund our food purchases each month at the Soup Opera.

For anyone in the church looking for ways to exercise their Christianity, please join us on the third Saturday of each month when we 'serve God through serving others' by providing a free meal and lively Christian fellowship.

The next date for our Soup Opera Saturday is March 21. Please mark that date and make an effort to join us in this worthwhile outreach ministry.



REMINDER: Monthly Church Gatherings Every Fourth Saturday of the Month

Saturday, February 28, is our first monthly church gathering beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINNER AND FUN!

February 28	6:00 pm	Indoor games - Nerf Battles in the Gym	Soup/Sandwiches/Salads
March 28	6:00 pm	Indoor games - Nerf Battles in the Gym	Pot Luck



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>

Office Change: Secretary Bessie McCardle is no longer with us. The Rector and Vestry are in the process of searching for a new secretary. Please contact a Vestry member or the Rector if you know of someone who might be interested in the position. If you are unable to reach the Church Office during this interim period, please contact the Rector by phone at 304.617.9589.



Important Dates to Remember

<i>Sunday, March 1</i>	<i>First Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson Children's Mass with Children's Sermon</i>
<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	<i>Second Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Monday, March 9</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting</i>
<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	<i>Third Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for children and youth - Parents' Meeting - no adult class 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Saturday, March 21</i>	<i>10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Soup Opera (Need Volunteers) Call Kyle Hamilton at 366.5148</i>
<i>Sunday, March 22</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Sunday, March 29</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>



Christian Education Update

March 2009

Several of you completed the survey, and we appreciate your feedback and commitment to enhancing our programs. Here is where the fun begins... and we need your help and prayers.

We are acting rather fast to **"Spring"** into action, and Lent is the perfect opportunity to do so!

Lenten Christian Ed Classes will begin at **9:30 am** in the classrooms.

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

High School and Adults – Library (no class on March 15)

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.

Lenten Box/Container – on March 1, please bring a container (oatmeal box, Pringle can, cereal boxes, etc) to be decorated by your child to collect coins during Lent. We will decorate them on March 1 and begin collecting for one local charity and one missionary project.

Lenten Prayer Pot - Each week during Lent your child will be sent home with something to add to a Lenten Prayer Pot, reminding us through Lent of God's Love and how to share it.

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.

March 15 – Parents Meeting - there will be no adult lesson on Jonah, so we would like to take that opportunity to meet with the parents to discuss upcoming Christian Education events and plans and how you can help.





LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

For Adults and High School Students

LED BY DEDE BURNELL

Sundays at 9:30: March 1, 8, 22 & 29

Please join us in the Library for a study of Jonah!

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](http://www.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.

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 a March schedule.

Sally Tennant: (304) 694-0107 or sjotennant@aol.com



Liturgical Assistants Calendar

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristans	Ushers *	Counters
3/1/09 <i>Lent I</i>	10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist Children's Mass</i>	K. Hamilton L. Lawson	B. Metheny Alec Wadsworth	M. Marsh N. Greely M. Jacquez	Team 2 Purple	Youth Ushers	K. Hamilton J. Wallace
3/8/09 <i>Lent II</i>	10:30am <i>Holy Eucharist</i>	J. Miller B. Barkley	D. Burnell C. Wood	C. Boyles J. Wood F. Tennant	Team 3 Purple	G. Boyles K. Brown	S. Tennant L. Withers-Boyles
3/15/09 <i>Lent III</i>	10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i>	N. Hamilton C. Carlot	K. Hamilton J. Hamilton	B. Metheny N. Lopez L. Marsh	Team 4 Purple	Steed-Marsh Family	N. Hamilton C. Wood
3/22/09 <i>Lent IV</i>	10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i>	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	J. Wood Alec. W. Abby W.	Team 1 Purple	B. Metheny J. Wallace	G. Metheny J. Wallace
3/29/09 <i>Lent V</i>	10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i>	B. Barkley M. Lopez	T. Steed J. Burford	M. Marsh B. Metheny F. Tennant	Team 2 Purple	J. Burford L. Leon	S. Tennant K. Brown
4/5/09 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i>	L. Lawson J. Miller	C. Boyles N. Lopez	N. Lopez Alec W. N. Greely	Team 3 Red	Youth Ushers	K. Hamilton T. Balenger

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

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)

Hey Gang,

Well, I'm back on African soil and safely ensconced in the village of Amagoro. Relatively uneventful flight over, with the Bishop's son Mark, studying law in Nairobi, kind enough to meet me at the airport and see me to a local hotel before the next morning's hop to Eldoret. Almost missed that flight though. A colossal traffic jam, the kind possible only in a place like Kenya where five lanes of traffic on a two lane road is par for the course, had gummed up the entire highway between Nairobi and the airport. Only through the expert reactions of my cabby, replete with driving the wrong way down the highway, careening across the median, and using both a construction zone and local suburb as a shortcut, was I able to catch my flight. Once in Eldoret, the Bishop himself picked me up, and we headed home to Amagoro. The only real problem at that point was our driver. Moses, the Bishop's usual driver and a good friend to boot, was out of town on a family errand. So instead of Moses we had Richard. Richard is quite possibly the worst driver on the entire African continent. He doesn't follow the rules: he's slower than molasses, brakes for bicyclists, yields to oncoming traffic even when having the right-of-way (i.e. the bigger vehicle), and never uses the horn. I thought for sure it must be broken, as no Kenyan drives without incessant horn blasts, but, no, it worked fine. It seems that only a matatu minivan backing into us at high speed while trying to beat another matatu to the gas pump can compel Richard to act like every other Kenyan, i.e. honk, yell, and make lots of erratic hand gestures. We were cut off at every major intersection, out classed and outgunned on the highway, and time and time again compelled to stop for livestock in the middle of the road. Shameful, just shameful. Fortunately, I was so jet lagged that I fell asleep through most of the drive and was spared the embarrassment of being seen (conscious) in the same car. We did make it back to the house in one piece, though.

The last couple days have been about the business of settling into village life: reconnecting with the Bishop and his family, long discussions with Job (Bishop's chaplain and diocesan administrator) about our plans for 2009, and nodding off at inopportune moments as my body tries to figure out the time change. This morning we made the first of many visits to Amagoro Junior Academy, the shining star in Elewana's school partnership program. Amagoro's partner in the U.S., the Greenbrier Episcopal School, had sent over a number of soccer balls, as well as letters and artwork from near about every class, and these were all delivered into the care of the school head, Mr. Jeremy. Unfortunately, today was an exam day, so I wasn't able to hang around and play soccer with the kids or present the letters in person. Next week, Jeremy tells me. I did get to see the new class room that the Parents Association had built for the computer lab we're putting in this year. That level of community involvement and ownership is typically a good sign in development and educational work, so I was pretty excited to see it. Might even have that lab up and running by the end of the month. Other than that, I'm happy and bit relieved to be back. Miss my friends, of course, but hey, its your turn to visit now;-)

As always, I'll post this blog on the Elewana Webpage and, now that I think about it, will set up a new photo album with pictures of the usual suspects (Bishop, Job, Mama Bishop, etc) so people know who I'm talking about. I appreciate all of the concern expressed about the Land Rover. No news on that front, but tomorrow we'll get a gang together to push it down the road and get it running, then look for a large mud puddle to 'rhino-charge'.

Hope all is well with you. Now write back!

Mad Love, Zach

The Rev. Zachary Drennen

The Elewana Education Project

www.elewana.org

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*"Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,
Ever constant by thy side;
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide."*

...George Hunt Smyttan

