

The Messenger

The Church of St. John in the Wilderness, Copake Falls, NY
A Non-Network Parish in the Diocese of Albany

SUMMER 2009



The Country Fair and Auction and Barbecue

Saturday, July 11 and Sunday, July 12

Thanks for everyone's hard work and effort, this year's Country Fair & Auction and Pork Barbeque were very successful indeed! As in years past, the church benefitted from the generosity of volunteer effort, donated items, gifts in kind, and cash donations. We are especially grateful for the large donation of the furnishings of two homes in Hillsdale and Ancram; to the "People with Trucks" who picked up the furniture; and to Elen and David for storing everything in their barn.

We appreciate all the donations of items (including generous cash donations) from the church family and friends. Special mention goes to Karen and Bobby Flynn for a delicious Pork Barbeque! The only problem was that there was no pork leftover. Thanks also to Father John for his help in assuring us a glorious weekend, weather-wise.

We are pleased to report that the profit this year (preliminary report as of 07/20/09) is \$8205, an increase of \$2905 from the previous year. The Country Fair and Auction and BBQ are an important part of St. John's operating budget and we are grateful for all the time and effort (lots of "sweat equity") which makes this event possible. It is also fun for our community and the community beyond our doors to get together for a great cause. A photo album capturing the weekend events is available during Coffee Hour.

Once again, thanks for all your help. We couldn't have done it without you.

Susan Mollo (329-0395)
Lucy Eldridge (329-0530)
Co-Chairs of the Country Fair and Auction

Episcopal Church Women

Thank you one and all for your support! The next meeting of ECW will be September 1, 2009 at 1:00 PM in Burke Hall. Following that ECW will meet October 6, 2009 at 1:00 PM in Burke Hall.

Winners of our raffle were:

First Prize - Babs Croteau

Second Prize - Flo Evers

Third Prize - Susan Mollo

Enjoy your summer - Marg McClurg and
Babs Croteau

Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Committee continues to monitor our facilities and the mechanicals contained therein to insure their continued operation. The old electric pole outside the parish office has been removed and placed as a bumper block along the parking lot are of the church to insure cars are not placed in jeopardy backing into a parking place. The overhead wiring on the parking lot poles has also been corrected.

It has been brought to our attention that the west side of the garage has developed a condition requiring replacement of the sill and possibly some of the supporting exterior wall studs. This condition was evidently rotting/deteriorating for some period of time and went unnoticed until recently. A big thank you to a volunteer who has stepped forward to see that it is repaired in due time.

At the present time we are actively engaged with the members of the vestry and the New York State Office of Historic Preservation as we review handicap ramp possibilities. The latter being necessary because the church is listed on the New York State Historic registry and located in an Historic District (Copake Iron Mine). This can and in all probability will dictate how and where we install our ramp. However, there is one misunderstanding that must be clarified - which is that the church is under a 'grandfather clause' which basically states that we are not mandated to install a handicap ramp. This is true, but when we do commit to build one, we must be in compliance with ADA standards, obtain a building permit from the Town of Copake and our ramp design must have prior approval from building inspectors. The Building and Grounds Committee has met with the Town to clarify this procedure. As progress unfolds, we will remain dedicated

to keep our parishioners informed.

And last, but not least - If you should happen upon anything in the Church, Rectory, Burke Hall that you feel requires attention, repair or whatever, please let one of us know - Jane Peck, Harry Garrett, Bob Flynn, Charles Fox, Hank Croteau - Your Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Hank Croteau, Chairperson



Diocese of Albany 141st Convention

David Chittick, Elen Freeston and myself (Jane Peck) attended the diocesan convention June 5th-6th at The Camp of the Woods in Speculator, NY. David and Elen have been several times before, but this was the first time I attended the convention. The setting was beautiful, the convention was staged; the business portion was planned and set prior to the convention.

Several elections were held. All nominations were made prior to the convention:

The Cathedral Chapter -

The Rev. Susan Waldron

Paula-Christie Heighton.

Convention Representative to
Diocesan Council -

Lay person for 2 years -

Byard Clemmons

Trustees of the Diocese -

4 yrs.-

The Very Rev. John L. Scott III

Doris Bedell

1 yr. -

The Rev. James Shevlin

The Rev. Sandra L. Tatem

The Ecclesiastical Trial Court - 3 yr. Terms
The Rev. N. Bradley Jones
The Rev. F. John Kelly
Alice McNab

Alternate for two year terms
The Rev. Scott A. Garno
Byard Clemmons

The Standing Committee. - 3 year terms
The Rev. Paul H. Hartt
The Rev. David K. Ousley
David A. Beaulac
Sue Ellen Reutsch

There were seven (7) resolutions that the convention had to vote on, most of which were quickly resolved with voice votes. One required a show of hands and one resolution was drawn out with several amendments and ending with a counted standing vote.

Delegate packages were supposed to include colored paper to use for the voting, but not all packages had the paper and some had different colors.

Resolution 1 - Passed - Moved by the Rev. Mark Diebel - in summary asking the NYS legislature to establish procedures that would enable adoptees to secure information regarding their historical heritage, medical history, and genetic derivation without the necessity of court action. (This resolution was also passed by the recent General Convention).

Resolution 2 - Defeated - Moved by Dennis Wisnom - in summary to allow delegates to attend only the business portion of the convention for a nominal fee to be determined by the Standing Committee with the consent of the Bishop.

Resolution 3 - Bishop declared it out of order, no vote taken - Moved by Dennis Wisnom - future conventions to be held at the Cathedral of All Saints.

Resolution 4 - Passed as amended - Moved

by Paula A. Sippel. This resolution was amended and amended several times. When all was said and done the meaning of the resolution had been turned 180 degrees. The **original amendment** stated that the Diocese of Albany should re-affirm its allegiance to an loyal membership in Province II and to the Episcopal Church, and that the diocese recognizes the legislative authority of the General Convention and supports The Episcopal Church and further, the diocese shall take no actions that would jeopardize remaining fully in support of the Episcopal Church, including but not limited to **declining to support** the “Bishop’s Statement on the Polity of the Episcopal Church” promulgated by the Anglican Communion Institute.

The resolution as **amended and eventually passed** - the Diocese of Albany should re-affirm its loyal membership in Province II and to the Episcopal Church, and that the diocese recognizes the legislative authority of the General Convention and supports the Episcopal Church as outlined in the “Bishop’s Statement on the Polity of the Episcopal Church” and further the diocese **endorses** the “Bishop’s Statement on the Polity of the Episcopal Church” promulgated by the Anglican Communion Institute.

Resolution 5 - Moved by The Rev. Canon Robert Haskell - in summary the schedule for clergy and supply clergy stipends be unchanged for 2010.

Resolution 6 - Moved by Sue Armstrong - Diocesan Operations Budget for 2010.

Resolution 7 - moved by Sue Armstrong - reduced Standard Assessment Formula be used for calculating Parish Assessments for 2010

Resolutions 5,6,and 7 were voted for and

passed as a group - with no discussion.

Other than the elections and resolutions the Bishop did make an important announcement. The Diocesan education Committee has completely redone the confirmation curriculum. In addition the Bishop is recommending that the age for confirmation be lowered from 16 years of age to 13.

In conclusion, I am glad I was able to go and see “the workings of the diocese” ion person. I think everyone should experience this at least once.

Jane Peck



General Convention 2009

The Episcopal Church’s 76th General Convention, held in July in Anaheim, California, has come and gone. Many of its results are of little relevance here in Copake Falls, but a few are worth brief mention.

Two resolutions, D025 and C056, restate the Church’s year 2000 declaration that its orders and sacraments, ordination and marriage included, shall be accessible to *all* baptized members. These resolutions passed in both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies by margins of more than two to one. After six years of dodging foreign and domestic opposition over sexuality, the Episcopal Church has made its position very clear, while reiterating its respect for those with different views and its commitment to the Anglican Communion.

The Church has also made it clear

that its last words on homosexual ordination and same sex marriage are yet to be spoken. Its resolutions concerning inclusiveness contain “opt out clauses” for dioceses and bishops that oppose full access for LGBT’s. No doubt Albany, whose delegation opposed both resolutions, will make use of those clauses.

Fr. Mark Diebel’s resolution to open birth records to adoptees, adopted by Albany’s Convention in June, was also approved by GC 2009, as were resolutions to initiate or expand our Church’s communion with Presbyterians, Methodists, AME’s, and Moravians.

Not all of the news from Anaheim was good. A three-year budget requires bone-deep cuts in programs and some aspects of mission. Thirty priests and lay workers at Church Headquarters have been laid off already, with more belt-tightening to come. This situation makes it imperative that parishes and dioceses strive to support the national Church as best they can.

By all reports, the Anaheim convention was far more collegial than the explosive GC 2003 and the fractious GC 2006, though many of the same issues were in play. We have good reason to be proud of our Episcopal Church and the delegates who worked long and hard in our behalf during GC 2009. They deserve our thanks.

Robert T. Dodd



Lay Ministries

Date	Altar	Ushers	Lector	Prayer	LEM
7/26	Elen F.	Dorothy and Jeff Baker	Kent Kay	Elen F.	Harry Koeppel
8/2	Jane	Hank Croteau Charles Fox	Mibs Zelley	Marilyn Kay	Harry Koeppel
8/9	Wendy L.	Jean Peck Sue Mollo	Mibs Zelley	Marya Dodd	Pauline Royal
8/16	Mibs Zelley	Bob Dodd Jeff Baker	Elen F.	Kent Kay	Marya Dodd
8/23	Lucy/Jeanne	Charles Fox Hank Croteau	Marilyn Kay	Kent Kay	Jean Peck
8/30	Elen F.	Jean Peck Sue Mollo	Mibs Zelley	Elen F.	Margaret Anderson

Please keep this chart and check it weekly. Updated versions will appear in the bulletins. If you know that you are unavailable for a date get a substitute if you are already assigned. Inform Marya Dodd (325-1492) ahead of time so you won't be assigned a job that day.

Lectionary Lessons for Sunday Eucharists in August

August 2 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost:

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a
 Psalm 51: 1-13
 Ephesians 4:1-16
 John 6:24-35

August 9 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33
 Psalm 130
 Ephesians 4:25-5:2
 John 6:35,41-51

August 16 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 2:10-12,3:3-14
 Psalm 111
 Ephesians 5:15-20
 John 6:51-58

August 23 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11
 Psalm 84
 Ephesians 6:10-20
 John 6:56-69

August 30 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
 Psalm 45:1-2,7-10
 James 1:17-27
 Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23