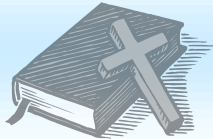


# MAGNIFICAT

PARISH NEWS FROM THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LADY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2009 – JANUARY 2010

## FROM YOUR RECTOR



“Advent is both a beginning and an end, an alpha and an omega of the church’s year of grace. Too often considered merely a season of preparation for the annual commemoration of Christ’s birth, this rich and many-layered season is actually designed to prepare the Christian for the glorious possibilities of the parousia. It is a season of longing expectation – “Come, Lord Jesus” (Rev. 22:20)” --from Days of the Lord, by W. Storey

The Word ‘Advent’ comes from Medieval Latin which means ‘arrival’. We read in our lessons in Advent about expectation and judgment. Expectation because we look back at this time a little over two thousand years ago, when God was preparing to take action that had not been done before. In the reading for Advent I, Jeremiah says, “In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.” And Judgment because the waiting is over. The time of waiting has come to an end, and action replaces hopeful expectation. Justice will be parceled out.

The Christian Church has adopted this prophetic language from the Old Testament as the Prophets spoke of the return of a remnant from captivity as a way of capturing the jubilant sense in Israel. People were recovered from their servitude! God has

brought them to this day when they are reunited with their kin. Our bondage is not from some foreign power but it is in our own fears, bigotries and sinful desires. William Storey in his statement about Advent reminds us that this season kickstarts our Christian year. It is the theme upon which we enter this cycle of remembrance and thanks for how God has acted in our lives and in human history. When he said Advent “is actually designed to prepare the Christian for the glorious possibilities of the parousia”, I believe he captures the sense of bringing the Kingdom of God that we are called upon as stewards of Christ’s ministry in a wonderful way. The parousia is simply a way of speaking about the presence of God, the Spirit, in our midst. Its root is from the verb ‘to be’ so it is immediate and exists now in our midst. It harkens the creative word of God at creation “Let there BE”!

The glorious possibilities come from our own stories. The barren woman beyond child-bearing years becomes pregnant and bears a son who will become the prophet John the Baptist. From a human dead-end, God recreates, through parousia, and something wonderful is created...not an end but a beginning. So many times we read in the Scriptures about human dead-ends and how God recreates the story of life to bring a new beginning from a place where humanity could only see brokenness. Let the Spirit refresh you this Advent and allow the onset of this new Christian year bring you to a place of expectant hope and action for justice. O God, Let it BE so!

--see you in Church

Fr. Clyde+

## FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

A few weeks ago someone asked me what I thought about finishing up my term as Senior Warden. “You must be so burned out,” she said. I thought about that. I replied that I didn’t really feel “burned out” because that implies a sort of fed-up angriness that I just don’t have. I’m not burned out I explained, I’m dry. But not like a desert. I’m more like a raisin. Still sweet. Still useful. But there’s not a lot of juice left in me.

Does that sound bad? I hope not. I think it’s the very best way to feel after finishing a commitment like church warden. I wonder how good a job I could have done if I left feeling as fresh and “juicy” as when I had begun. Not very. Being a warden is sometimes difficult and requires lots of time and patience. And more patience. And did I mention time? But what an opportunity! I’ve participated in such exciting things at Annunciation these last few years. I love this place and everyone here and while I’m dry now, I feel great satisfaction in knowing that I am because I’ve poured it all into this parish.

And that leads me to the next question...How will I fill back up? Because that’s the Grace in all of this, you know. That’s the truth of emptying. You can fill back up with something even more wonderful than what you started with. I’m thankful that we have so many opportunities here for filling our dried up, raisin-like souls and I mean to take advantage of them now, more than ever. You should do that too. And you should think about being a Warden. We need a Junior Warden, you know. You have something to give. Pour it out!

-Maggie Attiyeh

## FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

The Advent season is again upon us. Now we are preparing for the birth of Christ on that glorious Christmas day. All of us will see family or relatives over that holiday period, and give presents to loved ones. Over the past year, we, at Annunciation, have given the presents of time, talent, and treasure to help those in the congregation and also outside the congregation. For many of us this has not been easy. Some have lost their job, or been forced to take salary and benefit reductions. But through all of this we have continued to support Annunciation and its commitment within the community.

Within the Annunciation community, we are now doing things differently. We have Parish Planning sessions to decide what we really want to do over a particular period of time. Some activities have dropped off, but many have stayed. In fact some new activities to enrich us have appeared. Committees are now formed to carry on the work of the parish. Some provide support for the program Committees. The Publicity, Fellowship, Finance, and Building and Grounds Committees support the Program Committees of Worship, Education, Music, and Outreach. This structure arrived because you, the congregation, asked for them in the Growing Together Plan. These organizations make it easier for the parish to accomplish its stated mission “To know God and make God known.” Now we are planning for 2010, and again we need you to help to insure that the leadership of Annunciation is doing what you want it to be doing. Come to the Planning Sessions and come to the Annual Meeting and help Annunciation continue to improve.

-Rich Ringhofer

## FROM THE VESTRY

Another note from Dale.  
This time Dale the nurse.

Some facts about time spent worrying  
40% About things that never happen  
30% About things that can't be changed  
12% Misinterpreting others feelings  
10% Over health - which gets  
worse if you worry  
8% Left for legitimate concerns



So if you are all stressed out from worry, it might be well to CHANGE. If you have a hard time committing to change, try to remember one of the sayings from Alcoholics Anonymous, "If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you always got."  
-Dale Sander

## CRAFT FAIR REPORT

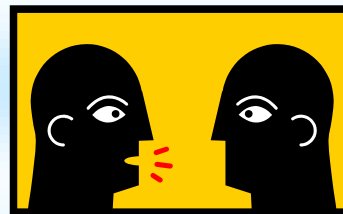
Our craft fair was held on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. We had 22 booths and a nice assortment of items for sale. Terry and Virginia want to thank everyone who helped – whether you helped clear out the room, set up tables, baked, served food, cleaned up or helped figure out where everything went – we could not have done it without your help. Our youth group manned the bake sale, helped in the kitchen and pulled tickets for the raffle. And a fine job they did! A total of \$1075.48 was raised and it is being divided three ways. \$655.00 from the booths will go to the church; \$266.48 from the bake sale and snack shop to the Youth Group; \$154.00 from the raffle to the Dustan family fund. The tentative date for the craft fair next year is November 13, 2010, and many who participated this year expressed an interest in returning next year. If you are interested in assuming the role of chairperson for the craft fair, Terry and Virginia will help out, but no longer want to chair the event. Virginia has a book and CD with sample

documents and information to assist you in planning the craft fair. For more information you can contact Virginia at 847-212-7619 or e-mail her [ginsbox@yahoo.com](mailto:ginsbox@yahoo.com).

## EDUCATION UPDATE

"Adult Christian Education"

Those of you who have been with Annunciation for a long time may have noticed a change in Adult Education within the past couple of years. To put it less subtly, we have gone from little to no Adult Education on Sunday mornings, to interesting and vibrant discussions, with a great deal more attendance and participation. That's a wonderful thing. I've asked myself, as has the rest of the education committee, what's different. Certainly we've been blessed with some great new instructors in Jennifer Haworth and Rob Quirk, but I think we've seemed to get more engagement from the congregation. I believe that choice of subject matter has helped as well. Using *Wired Word* to speak to application of our faith to current events, and get beyond traditional partisan views, and think about what the Bible teaches us has been popular, even if sometimes the discussion leads in unexpected directions. Perhaps on the other extreme, discussions around personal spirituality have been very popular as well.



If you haven't attended our Adult Education at 9 am on Sundays, please give it a try. Education isn't supposed to end once we've become adults. In fact, it should become more interesting. We're always open to ideas for new topics and material, so if you have opinions or ideas, please share them with any member of the Education Committee, Reverend Kate, or Father Clyde.

-Mark Johnson

## LAKE COUNTY UNITED

Lake County United Fills the Nave!

On the evening of November 11<sup>th</sup>, Lake County United had its Fall Delegate Assembly here at Annunciation. In attendance was Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Lee, our Bishop, Steve Carlson of the Lake County Board and Suzi Schmidt, Lake County Board Chairman, and many clergy from a variety of faiths, to name a few. We had 300 people! Can you imagine, what a sight to see every pew filled!

Lake County United (LCU) is a broad based citizens organization composed of 38 churches (including Annunciation), synagogues, mosques, and non-profit organizations that work to improve the quality of life of Lake County's residents.

We opened with an inspirational song performed by a group of children from Lions Math and Science Christian Academy. Fr. Clyde chaired the event and gave a rousing call to action. "This kind of work is tough. But at heart, this work is the very essence of our democracy. It only works when people take part in the process, active citizens taking personal responsibility for their faith communities, their local government and their country."

First, we listened to a review and presentation of the progress and future plans to build a new Winchester House in Libertyville. Parishioners from Libertyville United Methodist and Church of the Holy Spirit Episcopal gave moving testimonies of their family experiences at the facility. Steve Carlson also reiterated his concerns and support.

Next, Fr. Clyde discussed building depth in our member institutions and tackling new issues. "Last year we undertook an ambitious effort with our sister organizations

in Cook and DuPage Counties to Re-Imagine Illinois – to re-think how public life in Illinois is organized." Many of the LCU members, including the youth group from Annunciation were present in Highland Park when we challenged Governor Quinn to provide much needed leadership in Illinois.

LCU's "Waukegan 2 College (W2C)" initiative was recapped. Several LCU leaders have worked with educators to put together resources to facilitate college interest and readiness. Several students currently involved in the program, or having children in the program spoke about their experience. Special recognition was given to Episcopal Charities for their generous support. Fr. Clyde has been quite instrumental in getting this grant procured.

We ended with a group of students in the W2C program being asked to stand up in front, introduced, and stating the anticipated college graduation date. Bishop Lee asked the many clergy present at the event to stand behind them and led a blessing with the clergy. It was quite moving and I was very proud to have our church hosting such an event. Thanks to all of you who attended and helped to make the evening a huge success!

-Mary Jones

## Lake County United

A unified voice for collective action in the name of justice and the common good

Lake County United is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of civil society institutions: Churches, synagogues, mosques, civic and labor groups. As a broad based citizens organization, they build relationships across Lake County, identify community concerns and needs, and work together as a united power for human dignity, social justice and the greater good. Want to know more? Ask Mary Jones or Fr. Clyde!!

## Mens Group Event

The Men's Group has planned an event that will certainly excite our significant others.



We are going to cook you dinner! Carol Eads will be joining the men in the kitchen and will provide professional advice on preparing a multi-course dinner paired with a

variety of different wines. After the men cook dinner, our partners will join us for a wonderful meal and fellowship.

Here are the details:

*When:* Saturday, January 23rd, 2010

*Time:* Dinner is served at 6:30pm

*Where:* Annunciation of Our Lady

*Cost:* \$75 per couple (the man cooks early in the day, then both enjoy dinner).

Here is how this works:

The participating couple will need to pay in advance before January 13th, 2010. This will allow us to buy the food and wine in advance of January 23rd.

The man from the participating couple will arrive on Saturday, January 23rd, in the early afternoon to learn from Carol and help prepare the dinner.

At 6:30, our special someone arrives and all enjoy our wonderfully prepared dinner. Please register with Dave Fulton Jr., Gary Reimer or Todd Shumate.

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

*"As I See It"*

Dear Friends--

Recently, the secular press reported that the Roman Catholic Church was making new overtures to Episcopal Church clergy and laymen urging them to "come home to Rome." Several people sent me articles asking me to comment. Having examined such articles, I have come to the conclusion

that not all that much is new. For years Roman Catholics have prayed "that we all may be one." But in reality, they have not been all that serious because "coming home to Rome" means completely on their terms. Some accommodations were made years ago that allowed some married Episcopal priests to become Roman Catholic priests. But they still had to become reconfirmed and re-ordained.

The articles also fail to note that "crossing the Tiber" to Rome is nothing all that new. It also fails to note the "crossing the Tiber" goes both ways. Many former Roman Catholics are now Episcopalians. Fully, one third of my Episcopal parish in NE Illinois are former Roman Catholics. Some of the Chicago Episcopal Diocese's best priests are former RC priests and nuns. As far as I know, there are no accurate statistics on the numbers that go from one church to the other. Let's look at some of the reasons some people go from one church to the other:

### *Roman Catholic to Episcopal*

- Priests that want to marry.
- Nuns that want to be priests.
- Divorcees that want to marry again without going through expensive and time consuming church courts.
- Protestants who marry Roman Catholics find that the Episcopal Church is a great compromise where both can find a good church home.
- Gay priests who do not want to be closeted.
- Clergy and laypeople upset with top-down management.
- Laypeople who wish to practice birth control openly.
- People who want pageantry but none of the guilt.
- People who miss good church music.
- People who know that being gay or lesbian or transgender is not a matter of decision and want to be accepted for who and what they are.

### *Episcopal to Roman Catholic*

- Laypeople and clergy upset with the 1979 Prayer Book revision.
- Laypeople and clergy upset with the ordination of women first as priests and later as bishops.
- Laypeople and clergy upset with gays and lesbians being ordained as priests and being open about their sexuality. This issue became larger after the laypeople and clergy of New Hampshire elected V. Eugene Robinson to be their bishop.
- Laypeople and clergy who actually believe that "coming home to Rome" is the only path for them.
- Laypeople who still think that being gay is something one chooses.

For Roman Catholics, it is easy to become Episcopalian. Because the Episcopal Church recognizes the validity of Roman Catholic confirmations and ordinations, they are not reconfirmed or re-ordained; they are received.

For Episcopalians wanting to become Roman Catholics, it is somewhat harder. Because the Roman Catholic Church does not recognize Episcopal confirmations and ordinations, it insists that all laymen be confirmed in "Christ's one Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church" similarly be similarly ordained. Why is this a problem? One cannot be confirmed again if you honestly believe you are already confirmed. For a priest, this means admitting that you were

never really a priest and that every mass you said was a fraud. It's a tough pill that some have swallowed, perhaps with fingers crossed behind their backs.

I have seen in the blogs of *The National Catholic Reporter* some former Episcopalians claimed that they were "received." I don't doubt that they were told this and if it were up to clergy at the local level, there would be mutual recognition of one another's

ministries and routine concelebration of masses. Indeed, I have witnessed or heard about a half dozen concelebrations between priests that were personal friends. All this is officially illegal and one such concelebration in the Phoenix archdiocese led to the suspension of the Roman Catholic priest.

So if a Roman Catholic priest did offer to "receive" an Episcopalian, he is doing so without permission of his bishop and, more importantly, Rome. In other words, offering to "receive" someone means that he recognizes the validity of the prior confirmation. A local priest cannot officially repudiate Pope Leo XIII, who said in *Apostolicae Curae* in 1896 that Anglican orders were "absolutely null and utterly void." Strong words; not much room to wiggle.

It is important that all find a good church home. But if the current Pope wants Rome to be that home, he could start by repudiating *Apostolicae Curae* and let people move seamlessly. For more information there is a good article in Wikipedia labeled APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION.

-John Anderson



## **OUR MISSION IS,**

***"to know God and to make God known."***

Office hours: Monday – Thursday from 9-1.

### **Vestry Members:**

Maggie Attiyeh, Sr. Warden

Rich Ringhofer, Jr. Warden

Deb Gallinger

Bill Hagan

Laura O'Connor

Greg Percival

Deb Rakestraw

Gary Riemer

Dale Sander



## LET'S CELEBRATE!

If you should be on this list, and you're not, please make a note on the Parish Administrator's clipboard in the office. Thanks!

### December Birthdays:

Andrew Kreutziger	12/3
Paul Kreutziger	12/4
Mick Siver	12/5
Deb Gallinger	12/6
Mac West	12/11
Skylar Hucker	12/12
Logan Hucker	12/12
Jill Adkins	12/13
Hailey Hucker	12/13
Kelsey Hagan	12/13
Mitch West	12/14
Emily O'Dowd	12/14
Fr. Clyde Elledge	12/15
Maya Moreno	12/16
Ryan Potochnik	12/17
Ian Dustan	12/20
Mike Bill	12/22
Allison Pullinger	12/26
JoEllen Siver	12/27
Tony Waynick	12/27
Ellie Penticoff	12/27
David O'Dowd	12/29
Brian Penticoff	12/29
Andrea Potochnik	12/29

### December Anniversaries:

Jane & Brian Penticoff	12/1
Barb & Dave Behmke	12/15
Megan & Tom Carrick	12/31

### January Anniversaries:

Anne & Jeff Wolcott	1/2
Laura & Tim Emmerling	1/2
Jaime & Chris Dustan	1/24

### January Birthdays:

Joseph Celebuski	1/2
Tori Shumate	1/2
Pam Myers	1/3
Taylor Boyke	1/3
Elliot Harold	1/3
Tyler Christensen	1/6
Mary Rose Elledge	1/7
Rich Gallaher	1/8
Evan Moreno	1/10
Sharon Cruise	1/11
Laura O'Connor	1/13
Marilyn Grant	1/21
Charlie Elledge	1/22
John Jones	1/24
Trevor Pullinger	1/24
Richie Gallaher	1/27
Reg Collymore	1/29
Marissa Turturro	1/29

## SOMETHING TO SAY?

The deadline for the February Magnificat is January. 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are coordinating an event or have a news item please submit your article to Rev. Kate [knelligence@sbcglobal.net](mailto:knelligence@sbcglobal.net).



## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Beginning December 24<sup>th</sup>, Molly Shumate, the parish administrator, will be out of the office, returning on January 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have a pastoral emergency, please do not leave a message on the answering machine. In cases of emergency, you may contact either Rev. Kate or Fr. Clyde directly at 847-662-2145 or 224-627-2768. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!