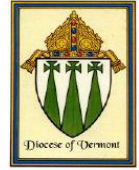


St. Paul's Epistle



MARCH 2011

Vergennes, Vermont
February 19, 2011

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's Church,

In the calendar of Western Christendom, the latest possible date for Easter is April 25. This year we come almost to the wire as Easter falls on April 24. This makes for a later Lent which doesn't begin until March 9. The previous day is always awaited enthusiastically at St. Paul's. On March 8, the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will begin at 6 p.m. Once again the extended family of Bill Hanson are planning to provide a tasty meal. This will be followed by the Talent Show. Please look elsewhere in this *Epistle* for details around offering a few minutes of your talent as entertainment.

On Ash Wednesday, two services will be offered at St. Paul's. At both noon and 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated and the Imposition of Ashes will be available. Please do consider coming to one service or the other. A good and holy Lent is ushered in by this particular liturgy which sets a tone for the entire season. These six weeks are a time for honest self-examination, reflection, and possible amendment of life. The joy of Easter is unsurpassed but becomes even more meaningful when it's the culmination of serious Lenten practice. When I was growing up, churches were packed on Ash Wednesday. Perhaps I'm sentimental, but the large number of fellow believers who gathered certainly helped to fortify one's faith.

During Wednesday evenings in Lent there will be an adult education offering. This will be at 7 p.m. on March 16, 23, 30 and April 6 and 13. Many of you have told me that you've read some Marcus Borg. This series will be an opportunity for additional exposure to him, but more importantly, for a deeper look at our own beliefs. Please see the notice that contains further information on another page of this newsletter.

The year 2011 marks 200 years since the formation of St. Paul's Church. The Bicentennial Committee is meeting at 11:30 on March 6. There have been some initial meetings, but if you're at all interested in offering further ideas or energy, please come to this meeting. As one part of commemorating our two centuries of existence as a congregation, Bishop Ely will be with us the weekend of July 30-31.

Across the entire Episcopal Church, the First Sunday in Lent, March 13, is being observed as E.R. D. Sunday. Episcopal Relief and Development is a healing arm of the church, reaching out in particular to those who've undergone disaster. Financial support sent from our parish is a real means of extending the Good News.

Friday, March 25, is the Feast of the Annunciation when a noon Eucharist (Rite I) will be celebrated.

For a Holy Lent,

Alan +

MARCH 2011 AT ST. PAUL'S, VERGENNES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7pm Choir	2	3	4 8pm AA	5 9-3 Rector at Diocesan Council
6 Last Epiphany 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday School 10am Eucharist 11:30 Bicentennial Planning Comm. 7pm AA	7	8 Shrove Tuesday 6pm Pancake Supper and Talent Show 	9 Ash Wednesday Noon & 7pm Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes	10	11 8pm AA	12 Spring Forward 
13 1 Lent ERD Sunday 8am Eucharist 10am Family Service 11:30 Pastoral Care and Outreach 7pm AA	14	15 7pm Vestry 7 pm choir	16 7pm Adult Class Parish Hall	17	18 8pm AA	19 EPISTLE DEADLINE Submissions to: pbarrows@gmavt.net jerm@gmavt.net
20 2 Lent 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday School 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	21	22 7pm choir	23 10:30 Morning Prayer Service Vergennes Residential Care Home 7pm Adult Class Parish Hall	24 8pm Cornell University Chorus Vergennes Opera House	25 Feast of the Annunciation 12 Noon Holy Eucharist Rite I 8pm AA	26 9:30 Prayer and Healing Group
27 3 Lent 8am Eucharist 10am Sunday School 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	28	29 7pm choir	30 7pm Adult Class Parish Hall	31		

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE DAY SHOWN PLEASE ARRANGE TO SWITCH SUNDAYS WITH SOMEONE. THANK YOU.

MARCH SUNDAY CHART

<u>Date</u>	<u>Flower Guild</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Chalice</u>	<u>Welcome Comm.</u>	<u>Acolyte Crucifer</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Readings</u>
March 6 Last Epiphany	Lenore Morse	Sarah Stroup Sarah Hale	Diane Merrill MaryBeth Hamilton	Steve Lowe	Tim Earle Diane Rooney	Lee Martel	Fiona Robertson Aaron Robertson	Cricket Laidman	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9
March 13 1 Lent	No flowers during Lent	Family Service	Sarah Cowan	Tim Earle	Carol Knauss Diane Rooney	Mary Gordon Ann Haigis		Stephen Lowe Nate Guilmette	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
March 20 2 Lent		Bo Price Lenore Morse	Cricket and Bob Laidman	Bob Laidman	Tim Earle Diane Rooney	Steve Lowe Jim Schuler		Mary Gordon Kim Hatgen-Carrig	Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17
March 27 3 Lent		Rebecca Chauvin Meghan Olsen	Pam Macauley	Sarah Stroup	Carol Knauss Diane Rooney	Lee Martel Lenore Morse		Betty Bristol Carol Knauss	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42



***SHROVE TUESDAY**

PANCAKE SUPPER AND TALENT SHOW*

A Mardi Gras party on Shrove Tuesday is planned for March 8th starting at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. St. Paul's parishioners and guests are invited to join in the festivities. There will be pancakes, Vermont Maple Syrup and sausage (for FAT Tuesday) provided by Mary Cassidy and her infamous flapjack cooking crew.

This is a family friendly event that we have enjoyed for many years. People of all ages are welcome. After the supper an après dinner talent show will be presented in the Parish Hall.

Here is your chance to participate and share your talents. Consider volunteering to share a poem, a story, a few jokes, sing a song, play a musical instrument or dance. Contact Bob Laidman if you would like to share a talent with us. Note: Jokes need to be child friendly.

There will be a sign-up sheet for those who would like to bring a dessert or side dish (not required) or you can contact Mary Cassidy. In order to plan for the appropriate quantities of sausage and syrup, please sign-up indicating number of attendees you plan to bring. This sheet will be in the Church entryway or you can send email to Bob at blaidman@gmail.com.

Feel free to wear your Mardi Gras attire including beaded necklaces, boas, hats, costumes and masks.

THE BICENTENNIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE will meet on Sunday, March 6th, at about 11.30 am in the church. Please come if you are interested in helping with this project. There are ideas floating-we need to nail them down, cull them out, and get busy doing them! Thanks.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY: EMBRACING AN ADULT FAITH

Ash Wednesday falls on March 9. Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be offered at both noon and 7 p.m.

On subsequent Wednesday evenings during Lent (*7 p.m. on March 16, 23, 30 and April 6 and 13*), a 5-session course will be offered. This is based on Marcus Borg's work, ***What It Means to Be Christian***. Over the 5 weeks, these questions will be addressed:

- *Who was Jesus? *
- *Who is God? *
- *What is salvation? *
- *How do we practice our faith? *
- *How do we live in community?*

Each session will begin a brief DVD presentation to stimulate thought. This will be followed by group conversation and reflection as we go more deeply into each theme.

If interested please speak with the Rector or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. We need to have a precise number so that enough workbooks can be ordered.



MOTHERS WITHOUT BORDERS VERMONT: NEW BORN KITS COLLECTION

Mothers Without Borders Vermont (MWBVT) is an organization dedicated to helping endangered and vulnerable children wherever they are in the world

The New Born kits consist of:

- 1 receiving blanket
- 1 layette gown, size newborn or 0-3 mo
- 1 newborn hat
- 1 pair newborn socks
- 1 bar of soap
- 6 cloth diapers
- 4 diaper pins
- 3 plastic pants, newborn size
- 1 bar ivory soap

Thank you for any contributions that you can make.

Rebecca Chauvin (Sunday School)
Bo Price (Outreach Committee)



CORNELL UNIVERSITY

CHORUS COMING TO VERGENNES!

On March 24, 2011 the Cornell University Chorus, a sixty-member female choir directed by Professor Scott Tucker, will perform at the Vergennes Opera House in Vergennes, Vermont at 8:00pm. This concert is part of an eight-day tour of Canada and the Northeast that features stops in Rochester, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Vermont, and concludes with a concert in Cornell's Sage Chapel.

The Chorus performs a wide repertoire ranging from African folk music to Mozart Masses. The group has also, since 2001, made a special point of commissioning new works from women composers, using texts by women writers. With its annual commissioning project, the Chorus has added more than a dozen new works to the repertoire for treble choirs. This year's repertoire consists of selections by Daniel Friderici, Hans Leo Hassler, David Conte, Daniel E. Gawthrop, and Johannes Brahms, in a variety of different languages including English, Latin, Italian, French, and German.

Parish member, Helen Cowan, will host her fellow chorus members in Vergennes, beginning with a workshop at Vergennes High School, an afternoon on the town and then a potluck meal at St. Paul's. The students will be hosted for two nights in the Vergennes area. Please see Sarah Cowan if you wish to assist in the potluck or if you would like to host chorus members for the nights of March 24 & 25.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sybil Osborne
- 3 Madelaine Glassberg
- 7 Alan Frost
- 9 Nicholas Lareau
- 19 Barry Vrooman
- 22 Patrick Knauss
- 25 Marcie Means
- 25 Ferg Alleman
- 25 Julie Burroughs
- 25 Haley Shahan
- 25 Margaret Davis
- 25 Riley Coffey
- 26 Alan Kittelson
- 18 Jen Cassarino
- 29 Jeanne Wisner
- 29 Kristi Jennings
- 31 Josephine Chauvin

VERGENNES COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF

Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 2-4

Saturday 8-10

If you know of anyone who could use a little help please tell them about the food shelf! We try to have a few toiletry items-soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes on hand too, and those would make welcome donations. Thank you!