



The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

December 2014

A Word from Our Rector

234 N High St
Hillsboro, OH 45133

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Softly, we observe the season we call Advent. We force ourselves to settle down and reflect on the reason for the season. Can we even comprehend the majesty of God's gift to us? A child like one of us is about to come into the world to change us forever. Yes, we know it happened over 2000 years ago, but we yearn to remember each year. Perhaps it is because we cannot imagine it, or maybe we just need to relive the beauty of the tiny child, born in a simple home.

Someone like us; hard to believe. Special, yes, but like us. Two arms and two legs. Dirty diaper and sweet smelling hair. A

heart that beats to a rhythm pumping new blood to all parts of the tiny body.

But Jesus is our gift. He had to be like us for us to understand. He had to be one of us so we could identify with his Word and Ways. He had to begin as we begin and live as we live. God saw to it so we could imagine holding something so precious in our hands.

We journey the season of Advent to let our hearts imagine the magnitude of God's gift to us. Jesus taught us so much as a man and he started out as a tiny, helpless baby, born to an inexperienced mother who knew

she had to cradle him and protect him from all harm. Jesus had a father who's experience did not include caring for the Son of God.

Keep silent, then, and ponder the wonder of all this season can bring us. Let your heart soak in the beauty of Advent, it is such a short time to reflect. Join us at church for worship and praise.

Rev. Judi+



JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

I apologize for not putting an article in the Red Door last month. Roy and I were on vacation. I had sent in my writings to John, but didn't check with him to make sure he received it, so I think my article got lost in cyber space.

The Christian Education Building looks good! That has me thinking we hired the right people for the job. I want to thank Jan Vosper for working with the contractors. I had been putting in some extra hours at work and was unavailable to meet with the contractors after the initial contact. Regarding Buildings and Grounds: I am maintaining a list of things that

need painting, repairing, and improving in the Church and the Christian Education Center. If you'd like to add something to that list, please let me know. I will be passing all the information that I have compiled on to the next Junior Warden in January.

I spoke a little about Convention in church, but I forgot to tell you "Thank You" for allowing me to be one of your delegates. It was quite an experience. Before I left, I was busy reading the biographies of those running for an office and reading the resolutions. At the Con- *(continued on page 5)*

MUSIC AT
ST. MARY'S
2014-2015
needs you!

LOOKING AHEAD

EfM has moved to Wednesdays! The class meets in the EfM room in the CEC at 1 pm.

Wednesdays in Advent

Dec 3rd: 6pm—Simple Supper, Evening Prayer, Rite II and Centering Prayer

Dec 10th: 6pm—Simple Supper, Compline & Meditative Prayer

Dec 17th: 6pm—Simple Supper, Evening song and Healing Prayer

Karen Vlaskamp is organizing the Simple Suppers. Please let her know what you can bring. This year, Peace Lutheran is combining their Advent with the Confirmation practices, so they will not be joining us for Advent. They do intend to join us for Lent in the Spring.

The worship will be creative and beautiful. We will end with prayers and leave in silence. Please join us and allow yourself to experience God's Peace and Grace.

DECEMBER 21st: Phyllis Johnson has written a play for our children to perform

for us. This play will be the sermon during our 10:00 am worship. You won't want to miss this!

Christmas Eve Services—We will have the usual 7:00 pm Family Service with a sermon suited for our children. Please bring the little ones to hear God's story of the Gift of the Christ Child.

Then at 11:30 pm, we will begin with music by John Glaze and others, followed by worship. There will be Holy Eucharist and plenty of candle light!

Christmas Candlelite Walk—This year we will participate in the community-wide Candlelite Walk beginning at 6:00 pm. Here is the schedule:

6:00pm First United Methodist Church

6:30 pm First Baptist Church

7:00 pm St. Mary's Episcopal Church (with Peace Lutheran Church)

7:30 pm New Hope Baptist Church

8:00 pm First Presbyterian Church (with St. Mary's Catholic Church)

SERVICE NOTES: During Advent, we will be using Eucharistic Prayer C and Prayers of the People, Form III. The Psalms will be chanted.

DECEMBER 28th: We will enjoy **LESSONS AND CAROLS** for our morning worship, incorporating Holy Eucharist. This is our time to hear the prophecy and the Gospel messages, as well as sing many of the carols we love. Service begins at 10:00 am.



Southern State Singers
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
December 7
2:00 pm

*A St. Mary's
Christmas*
December 21
2:00 pm

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

As we enter the season of Advent in our church, we are also planning for the new year and part of that planning includes providing a budget for 2015. This is to be presented at our annual meeting scheduled for January 25, 2015. An important part of preparing a budget is knowing how much income will be available to support that budget. The sources of St. Mary's income are pledges from the congregation, open plate, apartment rental, building use donations, other income and investment income. Our investment income comes from investments at PNC Bank, as well as NBT Bank in Wilmington. That interest income varies according to the rise and fall of the stock market. We cannot use the principal of the Trust at NBT Bank, therefore we rely on the interest income. The principal from our investment/endowments at PNC is being drawn down at a rate of \$50,000.00 each year in order to support

a deficit budget. The draw down of the principal results in a decrease of yearly interest income.

As most of you know, St. Mary's is the beneficiary of a Trust from the Martha Chaney Estate which was given to the Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio and reads: "with the request that the income and principal be used as Trustees may determine for the benefit of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hillsboro." National Bank & Trust of Wilmington was the Trustee of the Martha Chaney Estate and I was informed on October 14th by Janet Dixon of NBT that a check for \$500,431.04 was being delivered to the Trustees of the Diocese to invest. The Trustees of the Diocese will be meeting in early December and hopefully will determine how we are to benefit from this wonderful gift. To my knowledge the Jack Chaney Estate has not been settled as of yet according to Ms.

Dixon.

Why am I sharing this information with you? To inform and clarify our finances and because I think that we need to be more financially responsible in how we use and spend the gifts of past parish members who cared enough about the future of St. Mary's to remember us in their estates. All of our investment income was given by past members of St. Mary's. How are we honoring them? What are we doing for the future of St. Mary's to insure that she will be here for our families and other families who will be seeking a church home? I guess what I am saying is that when future budgets are being planned that we won't always have a source to make up the short fall and then what?

My best wishes to each of you for a Blessed Christmas.

Jan

December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00am Art Guild LH B: Don Lederer B: Merry Jane Wunsch B: Alana Miller B:	2 B: Jan Vosper 5:30pm Rector's Study TR	3 10:00am Well Wishers TR 12:00n HE & Healing Prayers SAN 1:00pm Efm 6:00pm Supper & Evening prayer & Centering prayer B: Peggy Larkin	4 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR	5 6:30pm AA LH 8:00pm AA LH	6 B: Deborah Shuler
7 10:00am HE II SAN 2:00pm MASM: Southern State Singers Christmas Concert	8 10:00am Art Guild LH B: Carol Drummond	9 5:30pm Rector's Study TR	10 10:00am Well Wishers TR 12:00n HE & Healing Prayers SAN 1:00pm Efm 6:00pm Supper, Compline & Meditative Prayer	11 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR	12 6:30pm AA LH 8:00pm AA LH	13
14 10:00am HE II SAN Blanket Sunday Collec- tion* B: Marilyn Rotroff	15 10:00am Art Guild LH	16 5:30pm Rector's Study TR B: Grant Joy	17 10:00am Well Wishers TR 12:00n HE & Healing Prayers SAN 1:00pm Efm 6:00pm Supper, Evensong & Healing Prayer	18 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR	19 6:30pm AA LH 8:00pm AA LH	20
21 10:00am HE II SAN 2:00pm MASM A St. Mary's Christmas Concert B: Lizzy Zumwalde	22 10:00am Art Guild LH	23 5:30pm Rector's Study TR B: Kelly Fenner	24 10:00am Well Wishers TR 12:00n HE & Healing Prayers SAN 1:00pm Efm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR	26 6:30pm AA LH 8:00pm AA LH	27 4:30pm Praise Time 5:00pm Soup's On
28 10:00am HE II SAN A Service of Lessons and Carols	29 10:00am Art Guild LH	30 5:30pm Rector's Study TR	31 10:00am Well Wishers TR 12:00n HE & Healing Prayers SAN 1:00pm Efm			

Dec 14 Special Collection for Blanket Sunday of Church World Service. Each \$5 is used to provide a blanket for those suffering due to natural disasters or political conflict anywhere in the world. Several blankets given to a family that is homeless can provide shelter and comfort. Please be generous. Thank you—Peggy Addington



GOD'S PEACE IS WITH YOU

Karen Vlaskamp

“The Lord your God is with you. He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love. He will rejoice over you singing.”
Zephaniah 3:17

You’ve heard Fred say, “God’s peace is with you.” God has always desired to have a relationship with people. That’s why He set Abraham apart to begin a new nation. God brought Israelites out of Egypt to have a relationship with them. Time and again God sent Moses and other prophets to straighten out his people. Time and again they fell short in keeping His covenants. God loved the world so much that He sent His only son

to earth to walk among us as a perfect model of obedience, love and kindness that He wished to see in all of us. Jesus’ very name, “Emmanuel”, means “God with us.”

When Jesus was here, He had John baptize Him and He received the Holy Spirit as the dove sent from His Father. Then He started His ministry. Each of us received the Holy Spirit at baptism as well. So, God is with us from that point on. We only need to call on it as our counselor and comforter. It’s here to guide and instruct us.

Before Jesus ascended into Heaven, He promised His disciples to send “the

counselor” to be with them always. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to the disciples as flames of fire. God was with them, enabling them to speak numerous languages to spread the Gospel to all nations.

God’s wish is that we would know Him and the Son and that His grace is for us all. Knowing Jesus and our Heavenly Father gives us joy and peace. So, you see, “God’s peace is with you.”

Karen Vlaskamp

Serving Schedule for DECEMBER

DEC	LECTOR	CHALICE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	NURSERY	ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR	INTERCESSOR
7	Jennie Harner	Jim Heathcote	Karen Vlaskamp	Judy Franklin	Larry Wiley Lizzy Zumwalde	Paul & Phyllis Johnson	Zumwaldes	Betty Heathcote
14	Jim Heathcote	Connie Reynolds	Paul & Phyllis Johnson (play practice)	Andrea Harner	Larry Wiley Bob Lowell	Paulette & Roy Goerler	Jennie Harner	Karen Vlaskamp
21	Larry Addington	Jan Vosper	Paul & Phyllis Johnson (play practice)	BJ Gee	Larry Wiley Bob Lowell	John & Carol Joy	Vlascamps	Deanna Flinn
24 7pm	Jennie Harner	Paulette Goerler	N/A	OPEN	Larry Wiley Alana Miller	Larry & Peggy Addington	N/A	Deanna Flinn
24 11:30 pm	Jan Vosper	Larry Wiley	N/A	OPEN	Larry Wiley Jan Vosper	John & Carol Joy	N/A	Jan Vosper
28	(Lessons & Carols)	Larry Wiley	Paul & Phyllis Johnson	Deanna Flinn	Lizzy Zumwalde Bob Lowell	Larry & Peggy Addington	Soup’s On Leftovers	Betty Heathcote

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello from your Sunday School. We are busy preparing for Christmas. On December 21, we will present our Christmas Play, “Symbols of Christmas,” for you. The children love to dress up and sing and perform for you.

You may have noticed we have a skinny tree in our big room now. It is a “theme” tree. In October, it was a Hal-

loween tree and in this month, it is a Thanksgiving tree. We will try to keep it decorated according to the seasons.

We are so glad to add Karen Vlaskamp to our teaching staff and it is wonderful to have Shirley Gilliam doing music with the children. Music is such an important part of Sunday School.

A WORD FROM PHYLLIS JOHNSON

I want to thank everyone at St. Mary's for allowing me to serve on the Vestry for the past six years. Sadly, most of the time I was in the minority and thus did not get done everything I would have liked to accomplish. It is so important that those of you who wish to see our church prosper and grow, get on the Vestry and make things happen. There is a faction in our church that always makes sure they have the majority and they will not vote for anything that costs money. If something needs fixed, they go the cheapest route which is not always the cheapest in the long run. If St. Mary's is going to be here for the next generation, we are going to have to step out in a leap of faith. We should know that if God is with us, we will not fail. We have a rector who actually wants to be here and would like to lead us in making St. Mary's an even better church than it is now. We may never have a better opportunity to move forward.

A while back, I overheard several people wondering what Rev. Judi does with her time, so as a Vestry member, I thought I should find out, so I "nosed" around for about a month. You would not believe what Rev. Judi does in a week's time. Believe me, she earns her money. She's supposed to have Fridays off, but I found her doing church work then, also. She does visit people, visits nursing homes and calls people.

I heard negative things about EfM, so I signed up last year to see what it was about. It was been the most amazing thing I have ever done. I have always been in a Bible study somewhere since age 16, but I've always felt I wanted something more and someone who knew more than I did to teach me. EfM is just what I have been looking for and Rev. Judi is the one who knows more than I do. Her faith is amazing and she is so learned. I could listen to her all day, and after listening to her, I have no doubt she is a real priest. We are so lucky to have her and I wish we would let her make the dreams she has for St. Mary's come true.

It breaks my heart to see the way some of our members talk to her. If they have no respect for her, they should at least respect her position as our rector.

Together, my friends, we can do wonderful things, but divided we will accomplish nothing.

Phyllis Johnson

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



Christmas Eve

8:30pm—10:30pm

Deanna Flinn's home

430 W. South St.

R.S.V.P. 393-4193

Or talk to Deanna at church

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following members and friends of St. Mary's. Our Father knows their needs.

All persons serving in our Armed Forces, especially Darrell & Kelly Easler, Eric Hopper, Adam Strawmyer, Philip Townsend.

These with special needs: Sarah Fullencamp, Georgetown Veterans' Home-Staff & Residents, Paulette Goerler, Willis Hamilton, Herschel Hook, Phyllis Johnson, Adam Kritchek, Danny Lawwell, Frank Lowe, Margaret Lyons, Brenda O'Cull, Nancy & Paul Orth, Cecil Robertson, Rick & Deb Sansone, Violet Schmidt, Robert Schuler, Ann Staffeld, Ann Stamps, Bub Taylor, Ann Tieman, Jackie Tucker, Jane Turner, Mary Brown Turner, Marilyn Varvel, Pearl Wiley, Tammy Wynn, All our ministries: Soup's On, the Highland County Homeless Shelter, Samaritan Outreach Services and the people these organizations serve.

JUNIOR WARDEN *(continued from page 1)*

vention I saw something in the Bishop that made me grin-he has a cool sense of humor! He spoke about all of us getting out (of the church) and making connections with others. One of his lines while speaking was: "Get out and DO something!.....crazily!" That was just one of the phrases that stuck with me. I talked with a lot of people during the exercises they had us doing at Convention. At my table, one man spoke of his church of 25 people. Their major problem was keeping the utilities on. I felt so sorry for them, and secretly thanked God that we don't have that problem. I thought there must be somewhere they can go for help to keep the lights and heat in their church. I don't remember the name of his church, but maybe we should pray for them. I hate to think that there are 25 people that want to worship together and can't for the lack of lights *(continued on page 6)*

St. Mary's Statement of Purpose

The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal Church is to share the joy of a loving God through worship in the Anglican tradition, fellowship and service.

The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St.
Hillsboro, OH 45133
Phone: 937.393.2043

**The Next
Music At St. Mary's
Concerts are
Dec 7 & Dec 21!
Please plan to attend
and help us promote
them!**



St. Mary's Episcopal Church Information

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-393-2043

Church office is staffed Thursdays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The Diocese of Southern Ohio
The Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal, Diocesan Bishop
The Rev. Judi Wiley, Rector

Rev. Judi is available by arrangement at all times.
Mobile: 937-205-4292
E-mail: revjudi.wiley@gmail.com
Senior Warden's e-mail: janjv122@gmail.com

WEB SITE: www.stmaryshillsboro.diosohio.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 am

**WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST with
HEALING PRAYERS: 12:00 noon**

JUNIOR WARDEN *(continued from page 5)*

and heat. One of the displays at Convention was about Mission trips to Russia (an orphanage). I have never been on a mission trip and they are looking for people to work in the area of art, music, and of course, spreading the word. I would love to go on this mission trip, and work with the kids. There are a few things holding me back: A passport, \$2500 (the money needed to go) and Roy's blessing. He's worried it's not safe for me to go. So, we'll see what happens. The trip is in July so I have a few months to overcome those obstacles.

Very soon we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting, and will be electing four people to the Vestry. Currently we have five people running for election, and of course, nominations will be taken from the floor. I'm so glad that we have a lot of interest in serving on the Vestry. It's not an easy job, but very necessary to the operation of St. Mary's. Serving on the Vestry can be very rewarding, and there are several committees to serve on. There is a committee for everyone. So, if you don't serve on the Vestry, perhaps you'd be interested in serving on one of the many committees.

As always, thank you all for your trust in me and allowing me to serve on your Vestry the past two years.

Paulette Goerler