



The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

February 2015

A Word from Our Rector

234 N High St
Hillsboro, OH 45133

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There are many faces of February, depending on where you live. It can be cold, dark and snowy or the gateway to spring. I remember living in Orlando, Florida and having picnics at the beach in February! But as a child, growing up in Pennsylvania, I had to dig the snow away from the back porch to go to school!

But that is not why I love February. February holds the key to our future. Yes, you read right! **The Key to our future!** Have you forgotten Ground Hog Day?? Growing up in Pennsylvania, Punxsutawney Phil and Ground Hog Day produces a day cele-

brated on February 2. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early; if it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow, and the winter weather will persist for six more weeks.

Modern customs of the holiday involve celebrations where early morning festivals are held to watch the groundhog emerging from its burrow. In southeastern Pennsylvania, Groundhog Lodges (Grundsow Lodges) celebrate the holiday with fersommlinge, social events in

which food is served, speeches are made, and one or more g'spiel (plays or skits) are performed for entertainment. The Pennsylvania German dialect is the only language spoken at the event, and those who speak English pay a penalty, usually in the form of a nickel, dime, or quarter per word spoken, with the money put into a bowl in the center of the table.

The largest Groundhog Day celebration is held in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, with Punxsutawney Phil. Being of German descent, as was most of the people nestled in the mountains and valley near my hometown, we loved ole' Phil. On Ground Hog Day, we watched movies in school all day, parents brought in cupcakes and we had gallons and gallons of homemade root beer! We had art class all day and drew pictures of the sun and Phil!

Then we would go home and our parents would tell us whether Phil saw his shadow and we cross our fingers hoping for a "yes"! That means we had 6 more weeks of snow. That was the best ever! Awwwww, to be a kid again!

Rev. Judi+

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

As you read this February newsletter, our annual Parish meeting will have taken place and a newly elected vestry will be in place for 2015, as we enter into another year of planning and preparation in the life of St. Mary's. One of the first actions of the new vestry is to take part in an overnight retreat at the Proctor Conference Center on Friday, February 13th beginning at 6:30pm. Rev. Judi is planning the agenda/structure and our hope is to come away with a vestry and committees formed that will

be dedicated to working together for the mutual benefit and goal of service to and for our congregation at St. Mary's.

We, the vestry, and your rector would appreciate hearing from you, the congregation, as to what some of your concerns are, as well as what the goals/desires for St. Mary's should be and you would like addressed at this retreat. Please keep us in your prayers. May God's Peace be with each of you.

Jan

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

LOOKING AHEAD

Episcopal Appalachian Ministry Commission will meet at St Mary's in Hillsboro on Saturday, February 7 from 11 am-1 pm. Everyone is invited to attend and there will be people from all over the diocese.

VESTRY RETREAT is Friday and Saturday, February 13-14. We will run away to Proctor Conference Center in London. The purpose of the retreat is to organize, set goals and pray for the future of St Mary's.

ASH WEDNESDAY & WEDNESDAYS IN LENT begin with a worship service with the Lutherans on Wednesday, February 18th, 7 pm, at St Mary's. We will have the

disposition of ashes. Then we will alternate with Peace Lutheran on Wednesday evenings for Simple Supper and worship by the following schedule:

2/18 Ash Wednesday St. Mary's @ 7pm
2/25 Simple Supper and Worship @ 6 pm at Peace Lutheran
3/4 Simple Supper and Worship @ 6 pm at St Mary's
3/11 Simple Supper and Worship @ 6 pm at Peace Lutheran
3/18 Simple Supper and Worship @ 6 pm at St Mary's
3/25 Simple Supper and Worship @ 6 pm at Peace Lutheran

Rev Judi will be at **Education for Ministry Mentor Training** on February 26-28th in Dublin Ohio.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SOUP'S ON. Can you help?

Well Wishers will be expanding their ministry in 2015. Watch for details!

Woman's Retreat is March 7th. See enclosed brochure and register today!

February 1st - There will be a special collection. "SOUP-ER BOWL" for Samaritan Outreach Services.

IS ALTAR GUILD A MINISTRY FOR ME?

- ◇ Is this just a task?
- ◇ Is my faith strengthened by this opportunity?
- ◇ Is there growth in this opportunity?

As an altar worker you will be entrusted with the care of treasures of your church. These beautiful things; the silver and brasses, the silks, and embroideries are an offering of our best to the Glory of God.

In your preparation and care of these you will be of great help to the priest. Your responsibility and attention to detail assures that the altar and its appointments are in perfect order as she begins each service. In this way you will also be helpful to the congregations as the people enter the joy of the Eucharist.

This is the most important of all: our Lord Jesus Christ is present at every Eucharist whether it is celebrated in a tiny chapel or a great cathedral. Because He reaches out to draw us to Him in this Holy Communion, we try to offer the best we have, the best we can do, and the best that we are.

QUESTIONS ABOUT LENT

What does the word Lent mean?

It comes from a Middle English word "lente" meaning lengthening of days. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, always falls during February or early March just as we are beginning to notice the lengthening of the days. Lent is forty days long representing our Lord's fasting in the wilderness. Count the days from Ash Wednesday through Easter Eve except Sundays, which are never a part of the fast days.

What does fasting mean?

Fast means to give up or to abstain from certain foods or drink as an act of penance. It is an offering of our will subjecting it to the purpose of God.

What does Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras mean?

Our observance of Lent is preceded by a day of celebration on Tuesday. It was traditionally a day to use all the foods we give up during Lent. Pancake suppers have become a way of using up the rich foods. Shrove Tuesday, the other name for the day,

comes from the word shrove. One is shrove as Confession and Absolutions is made.

Why do we use ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Imposition of ashes is a reminder of the ancient symbolism that man was created from dust and ashes. Throughout the Old Testament people would wear sack cloth and put ashes on their faces as an act of penitence.

Why do we veil the cross during Lent?

Veils on the crosses, pictures and statues in church remind us of the barrier that our sins place between us and God. Our vision of Him is unclear and we seem out of touch. Through the death and Resurrection of Christ, the barrier between God and man was broken. The veils are removed at Easter; because of Christ, man and God are together again. The veils also remind us of the veil on the temple that was torn from top to bottom on Good Friday.

(continued on page 5)

February 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 10:00am HE II San
Sp. Coll: "SOUP"er Bowl for Samaritan Outreach Svcs*
B: Deanna Flinn

2 10:00am Art Guild LH
5:00pm TOPS
B: Jennie Harner

3 5:30pm Rector's Study TR

4 10:00am Well Wishers TR
12:00n HE & Healing
Prayers SAN
1:00pm EfM CEC
6:30pm Prayer Circle CEC
A: Jim & Betty Heathcote

5 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR
B: John Joy

6 6:30pm AA LH
8:00pm AA LH

7 11:00-1:00 Episcopal Appalachian Ministry
B: Jim Gee

8 10:00am HE II San
B: Lily Martin

9 10:00am Art Guild LH
5:00pm TOPS
B: Henry Dance

10 5:30pm Rector's Study TR

11 10:00am Well Wishers TR
12:00n HE & Healing
Prayers SAN
1:00pm EfM CEC

12 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR
Prayers SAN
1:00pm EfM CEC

13 VESTRY RETREAT @ Procter
6:30pm AA LH
8:00pm AA LH
B: Judi Wiley

14 VESTRY RETREAT continues
B: Judi Wiley

15 10:00am HE II San
A: Larry & Judi Wiley

16 10:00am Art Guild LH
5:00pm TOPS

17 5:30pm Rector's Study TR
A: Don & Jan Lederer

18 10:00am Well Wishers TR
12:00n HE & Healing
Prayers SAN
1:00pm EfM CEC
7:00pm Ash Wed at St. M.

19 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR

20 6:30pm AA LH
8:00pm AA LH

21 B: Nancy Strawmyer

22 10:00am HE II San

23 10:00am Art Guild LH
5:00pm TOPS
B: Robert Schneider
B: Randy Martin

24 5:30pm Rector's Study TR

25 10:00am Well Wishers TR
12:00n HE & Healing
Prayers SAN
1:00pm EfM CEC
6:00pm Lent @ Peace Luth

26 6:00pm Women's Alanon TR

27 6:30pm AA LH
8:00pm AA LH

28 4:30pm Praise Time
5:00pm Soup's On!

San = Ssanctuary
LH = Lacy Hall
CEC = Christian Education Center
TR = Telfair Room

* Soup-er Bowl Sunday—see story on page 6!

I WILL DELIVER YOU

Karen Vlaskamp

I've been reading **FRESH WIND, FRESH FIRE** by Pastor Jim Cymbala. He says, "God is attracted to weakness. He can't resist those who humbly and honestly admit how desperately they need him. Our weakness makes room for his power."

Another commented, "You can tell how popular a church is by who comes on Sunday morning. You can tell how popular a pastor is by who comes on Sunday night. But you can tell how popular Jesus is by who comes to the prayer meeting."

Cymbala believes that the church should "become the Holy Ghost emergency room where people in spiritual trauma could be rescued. The greatest answer to prayers is more prayer. What matters most is that we

encounter God of the universe, not just each other." You are not a New Testament Christian unless you have a prayer life. The best prayer is a cry out for God's help. God tells us again and again to call on his name and he will be there. Our human endeavors don't worry the devil. But the devil knows his kingdom is in trouble when we call on the Lord and lift our hearts to him.

The main thing God asks for is our attention. God promises to be rich in mercy to those who call on him. "I will deliver you and you will honor me." (Psalm 50)

The Holy Spirit is in the spirit of prayer. Only when we are filled with the Holy Spirit do we feel that need for God wherever we turn. God no longer dwells in just one build-

ing. The New Testament teaches us that we are now his dwelling place. He lives in his people! Do you look for Jesus in others? Can others see Jesus in you?

Nothing about God changes. If we follow his promises, we will see him do things we could never imagine or ask or think!

Prayer is so important to the well-being and growth of our church and community. Prayer empowers us with the Holy Spirit. If you are interested in the great commission Jesus gave us, please join me in attending weekly prayer circle, beginning Wednesday, February 4th in the Christian Education Center at 6:30 pm. We'll try to find a time suitable for all.

Karen Vlaskamp

Serving Schedule for FEBRUARY Altar Guild: Jan Vosper, John & Carol

FEB	LECTOR	CHALICE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	NURSERY	ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR	INTERCESSOR
1	Jan Vosper	Jim Heathcote	Karen Vlaskamp	Judy Franklin	Randy Martin Larry Wiley	Paulette & Roy Goerler	The Harners	Betty Heathcote
8	Jennie Harner	Connie Reynolds	Larry Wiley	Andrea Harner	Angie Martin Lizzy Zumwalde	Paul & Nancy Orth	Open	Paulette Goerler
15	Paulette Goerler	Jan Vosper	Andrea Harner	B J Gee	Larry Wiley Bob Lowell	John & Carol Joy	Open	Deanna Flinn
22	Jan Vosper	Connie Reynolds	Betsy Miller	Deanna Flinn	Larry Wiley Randy Martin	Larry & Peggy Addington	Jim & B J Gee	Karen Vlaskamp

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



Mark your calendars for February 17th when your vestry members will once again be preparing and serving a pancake and sausage supper with serving beginning at 5:30 pm in Lacy Hall. It won't be quite as festive as New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebration, but we promise you will enjoy our hospitality and festive atmosphere.

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Happy New Year, Dear Congregation of St. Mary's!

As I write this I glance out the window at sunshine and blue sky. It has me thinking of gardening, picking flowers and getting fresh veggies out of the garden. It won't be long now! Since we have some more cold weather to deal with and we must stay inside, it is a perfect time to have meetings and plan church activities.

I hope your new year started out well. I'm looking forward to some exciting things this year at St. Mary's that will bring in some new folks and will appeal to the "old" folks as well. I am looking forward to working this year on our Task Force as well as serving you as a Vestry member. It means a lot to me to represent you on the Vestry, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Even though it is me sitting at the table during meetings, it is important that you have a voice in what is happening at your church. Please do not hesitate in bringing your concerns - whatever they may be - to Vestry members.

Something I have not mentioned in past reports is the music in our church. We are so blessed to have John Glaze as our organist. I guess his title is organist, but I call him "Music Man." John does a fantastic job at planning the music, playing various instruments, and bringing groups in for concerts for the community to enjoy. Additionally, John puts the brochures together to advertise the music at our church, and edits the "Red Door" newsletter. He, along with our other talented musicians, Jennie Harner, Lynn Lowell, Mary Brown Turner, Henry Dance and Shirley Gilliam has blessed us with their talents. Jennie has a magnificent voice when she reads and sings; and everyone agrees they love it when she plays the flute. Jennie is a very versatile musician who also plays organ and piano. Lynn Lowell showcases our baby grand when she plays, and she sings beautifully. And Mary Brown Turner, although she doesn't play much for us now, has an outgoing and supremely happy way about her when she is at the piano. Mary's love for music shows on her face. I miss hearing Mary play. On contemporary music Sundays we get to listen to Henry Dance's guitar. It always perks me up when I see that Henry is going to play. Shirley Gilliam has worked with the children and organized their musical presentations to the congregation. So, thank you, musicians! You are an important part of worship at St. Mary's! What better way of praising God than to listen to music.

Well, that's all I have for this month. Let's make 2015 the best year ever at St. Mary's!

Paulette Goerler

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.

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE NEWS

With the New Year our Facebook page is getting many new friends, as well as old postings 2013 or older are being removed to keep us current. Our Facebook page is for discussions related to the newsletter or any concerns of our members, as well as proposing any ideas that they would like to see either on Facebook or on the webpage. I prefer that we keep it light and save any controversial discussions for our Priest.

As of beginning this year, our website has been redesigned. Some pages were removed due to lack of use, and I'm still in the progress of adding or updating pages. As with the Facebook page, any changes you would like to see or updated, please advise Rev. Judi, Jim Heathcote or myself. There has been discussing about adding a Paypal account in order to receive donations, and attaching it to the website. Hopefully this will be done this year.

The Bishop wants us to be current where social media is concerned. That's where people seeking a church will be looking, so we should want to be as current as possible.

Roy Goerler

Webmaster

QUESTIONS ABOUT LENT *(continued from page 2)*

Why are the Stations of the Cross used during Lent?

The Stations of the Cross came into being when the Holy Land was in the hands of the Muslims. The people began putting up plaques which represented Jesus' route to Calvary. Visiting each Station with appropriate devotions was a way to do "the way of sorrow" when one could not visit the Holy Land. Fridays during Lent have been days when these special acts of devotion seem appropriate.

Why is Lent a time for baptismal preparation?

Since Easter Eve has been the traditional time for baptisms, preparation for re-birth—the rising of life through the Resurrection—is most appropriate for the Lenten season.

Why is it called Good Friday?

The day has been called Good Friday to remind us of the great good deed God did for us on that day. It has also been called Black Friday to remind us of the death of the Son of God and the world falling into darkness.

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, Philip Townsend, Eric Hopper and Adam Strawmyer.

These with special needs: Herschel Hook, Cecil Robertson, Ann Tieman, Ann Stamps, Jane Turner, Ann Staffeld, Paulette Goerler, Rick & Deb Sansone, Paul & Nancy Orth, Pearl Wiley, Mary Brown Turner, Adam Kritcheck, Danny Lawwell, Brenda O'Cull, Phyllis Johnson, Sarah Fullencamp, Claire & Cora, Robert Schuler, Jackie Tucker, Marilyn Varvel, Margaret Lyons, Susan Price, Georgetown Veterans Home, Frank Lowe, Tammy Wynn, Willis Hamilton, Ebola victims, family of Travis Gard.

The Red Door

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

St. Mary's
Episcopal
Church
2014-2015
Music at
St. Mary's
Concert Series
234 N. High Street
Hillsboro, Ohio



**Concerts
begin
again
in
March!**



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**

SOUP-ER BOWL of Caring

On Sunday February 1st we will be participating in Souper Bowl of Caring by having a special collection for Samaritan Outreach, we will be collecting monetary donations and starting this year **NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS**.

"Souper Bowl of Caring works to mobilize those looking to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

In the weeks leading up to or on Super Bowl Sunday, young people take up a collection (many use a soup pot), asking for one dollar or one item of food for people in need. They give 100% of their donation directly to the local hunger-relief charity of their choice.

Started by a youth group in 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring has since grown all over the world, collecting more than \$100 million donated back into their own community"

Andrea Harner