

ST. LUKE'S



SHARED VISIONS

OUR SAVIOUR



We welcome the faithful, the seeker and the doubter, for God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all!

IN THE July 2009 ISSUE

- 1 LORD GIVE ME PATIENCE
Right Now!
- 3 END-OF-YEAR PICNIC
- 4 ACOLYTE RECOGNITION
Adult Study
COMING EVENTS
- 5 BIRTHDAYS
Sign Up
PRAYER LIST
CONCERT
ANNIVERSARIES
- 6 GENERAL CONVENTION
2009
- 7 OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES
RESIST GRUMBLING
Smiles
- 8 ST. LUKE'S/OUR SAVIOUR

LORD GIVE ME PATIENCE, *Right Now*

I am, by nature, an impatient person. I will drive to another restaurant (which takes longer) rather than put my name on a waiting list. I have often wondered aloud if there is not something faster than instant gratification.

I say this by way of confession and certainly not to brag. For what I have described may be how I am wired, but it is not God's way with the world. I may live in a world of email, cell phones, text messages and Fed Ex, but I still worship and serve the God who made the Hebrews take 40 years to make the otherwise quick trip through the Sinai desert to the Promised Land.

I assume that patience comes rather naturally for an eternal being. Not being time bound, God is more concerned with what is best for us than with how long it takes us to get there. And time itself is frequently part of the solution. So, if the Hebrews needed a

generation for a desert hike, then it would take a generation.

But that's not what I want. I want to get on with it. Keep things moving. Make some progress. Get ahead. All of these are just ways of saying that I continually struggle with rushing out ahead of God's will. I can charge past my leader out to a crossroads with no idea where God's will would guide me.



The French pastor Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) observed of human nature, "We should like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new, and yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability—and that it may take a very long time."

The Sinai desert was, for the Hebrews, the essential intermediate stage between working as slaves under

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
MASS. AVE. & GRANT ST.
HAWORTH, NJ 07641
(201) 384-0706
StLukesHaworth.ORG

Patience continued on page 2

Patience continued from page 1

Pharaoh in Egypt to living free in the Promised Land. It was an unstable, uncertain time and the people grumbled to Moses saying that they were better off in Egypt. The intermediate stage lasted longer than they wanted it to, but not longer than it needed to last.

De Chardin went on to write, "Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give our Lord the benefit of believing that His hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete."



This is the part with which I have the most difficulty. When things slow down or stop — when I can't push ahead — I often feel like I need to force things forward. My slogan might be something like, "If it jams, force it. If it breaks, it needed fixing anyway." But I have found through experience that the wall I hit may be an answer to prayer.

For example, when I graduated from college, I was praying that Merrill Lynch would find themselves in

need of a bright young person like me, so that I could get on with my dreams of making my fortune right away. That job did not happen at that time in my life and I went to work for a bank in the lower East side of Detroit. No glitter, a lot of working with good people trapped in poverty, a few robberies and a lot of soul stretching later, I realized if I had gotten the job I wanted, things would not have worked out the way God had obviously planned for them to happen to me. I became one of the bank's community redevelopment officers and saw things and met people who changed my life forever.

So the prayer I often use for myself — and when praying for others — is that God will close the doors to the path that is contrary to God's will, while opening the doors to the path that is God's will. I use this prayer often with people who come wanting to decide about a career move, a decision about their marriage, or other areas of discernment. I have found that the prayer is answered in wonderful ways, but not usually quickly. It is a prayer that requires patience.



Often the first part of the prayer will be answered, and some opportunity that seemed like a good alternative is suddenly and inexplicably closed off. The sure thing becomes impossible. Then there is an awkwardly long in-between time with no options available. This is the time to "Trust in the slow work of God" to borrow another phrase from de Chardin.

Remain faithful in that place of uncertainty; trusting God to make a way where there is no way. Trust God to open up the path toward God's will. It will happen, but almost never on your timetable.

Eventually the wall you have been beating your head against will fall, but usually in such a way that you can see it as the answer to prayer that it is. In the meantime, you have to hang in there and trust God with as much patience as you can muster.

Fr. Dewey +

Christianity is not just Christ in you, but Christ living his life through you.

Visions, the newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, is published 11 times per year. Submissions for the upcoming month's issue should be *mailed* to Visions, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Massachusetts Avenue and Grant Street, Haworth, NJ 07641, *placed* in the Visions mailbox in the church office, or *e-mailed* to dbrown2289@optonline.net. Firm deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

Visions Board: Editor: Debi Brown. Editorial Staff: Rev. Dewey Brown, Janet Beddoe, Maureen Bownes. Photography: Jim Wilkie. Advertising: Jo Stephenson.

RICH GONCI
201-568-7956
General Maintenance & Repairs
Painting, Carpentry
Ceramic Tile, Bathrooms
Furniture Refinishing, Carpeting, Flooring

Fast Reliable Service - References
NO JOB TOO SMALL

Elvis Impersonator for your party

END OF YEAR PICNIC

On Sunday June 14, 2009, the day dawned very wet, so the End-of-Year Picnic and outdoor worship service were held inside. Grill masters Bob MacDonald and Bob Plinio tended the coals in the rain and then grilled some wonderful hot dogs and hamburgers. The feast was inside but still a feast!



At left: Members of St. Luke's and Our Saviour (and our guests from the Sisters of Zion) posed in front of one of our new signs.



Pie Eating Contest. Gloria Jonanssen shows that pie eating is for the young at heart. However, the prize goes to Chris Mertz!

When the rain stopped, the fun moved outdoors for games organized by Bob MacDonald. The water balloon toss is below!



"Where care goes beyond your smile"



Gentle DENTISTRY, PA
ESTABLISHED 1991

Andrew M. Spector, DMD
Michael W. Migdal, DMD

Cosmetic • Implants • Family

173 Terrace St.
Haworth, NJ 07641
201.384.1611
www.gentledentistry.com

Barrett Funeral Home, Inc.

148 DEAN DRIVE - TENAFLY, NJ 07670
201-568-8043-8048

JOHN J. BARRETT, Senior Director
N.J. Lic. No. 2964

ACOLYTE RECOGNITION

On Sunday June 21, 2009 at the 10 AM service, St. Luke's/Our Saviour recognized the corps of young people who serve at the altar each week as acolytes. Acolytes assist in worship by carrying a processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel

book, holding candles or "torches", assisting the clergy to set up and clean up at the altar, hand the offering plates to ushers, and many other tasks as assigned by the priest or acolyte warden. We are proud of them and grateful for their service.



Left to right: Junius Stephenson, Acolyte Warden, Christian Coleman (2 yrs.), David Astorga, Hannah Riede and Hailey Riede (3 yrs.), and Helena Riede (6 yrs.), Fr. Dewey. Not pictured: Caitlin Craig, Jessica Griffin and Kara Kuehnrich (8 yrs.)

SHACK ADULT STUDY CONTINUES

Have you read The Shack by William Paul Young? I am sure some of you have and others of you would be interested. It is a current bestseller and theologically controversial.

The main story centers around the abduction and murder of Mack's daughter while camping. Her body is dumped in a remote abandoned shack. In the years that follow, Mack struggles with his

idea of who God is and his relationship with God. One day Mack receives a note to meet God at the shack.



What ensues is the rest of the story that looks at suffering, loss, grief, faith, and the nature of God. If you haven't read it, come anyway. You'll have the next month to read it as our discussion continues. 12:15 PM following church and a mini-coffee break.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 5, 2009

5th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, July 12, 2009

6th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist



Sunday, July 19, 2009

7th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, July 26, 2009

8th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist

Sunday, August 2, 2009

9th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, August 9, 2009

10th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist



Sunday, August 16, 2009

11th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night

Sunday, August 23, 2009

12th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist

Sunday, August 30, 2009

13th Sunday after Pentecost
10 AM Traditional Eucharist
6:30 PM Parish Fun Night



JULY

- 6th Alfred Astorga
- 12th Jeanne Griffin
- 14th Edith Biondi
- 17th Jessica Maxfield
- 18th Nancy Smith
- 20th Linda Brescia
- 24th Terrence Pellegrin

AUGUST

- 1st Rita Wagner
- 6th Jessica Griffin
- 10th Russ Shaw & Jim Wilkie
- 15th Vida DeCambre
- 18th Joan Grzenda
- 25th Tammy Lynch
- 27th Mickie Keating
- 29th Oliver Pellegrin



JULY

- 6th Jane & Jackson Coleman

AUGUST

- 8th Helen & Russell Shaw
- 14th Chris Emerizy & Karen Moylan

Sign Up!



Sunday Flowers. Sign up in the Parish Hall to offer flowers in thanksgiving for a blessing, in memory of a loved one, or for any reason. More than one person may offer flowers on any given Sunday. Please make your \$40 check payable to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, write "altar flowers" and the date in the memo area and give your check to Claudia Smith or Carole MacDonald.

Coffee Hour. Sign up (individually or with a friend) to host coffee hour after the service. Nothing demonstrates hospitality like a bite to eat and a nice cup of coffee or tea!



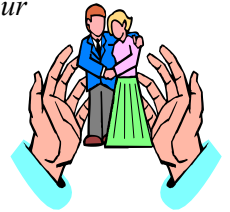
CONCERT

The Bergen Brass Quintet held a benefit concert at St. Luke's/Our Saviour on Sunday June 28, 2009 at 7 PM. A good will offering was taken to benefit the Center for Food Action in Englewood.



PRAYER LIST

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following parishioners and extended family members who are sick, troubled or grieving:



Pat Stephenson, Lillian Nelson, Eleanor Craig, Penny Elie, Bill O'Daniel, Warren Lynch, the Gonci family, Pauline Pedreira, Lawrence H. Horn III, Rita Wagner, Celia Braxton, George Stubbs, Murray & Roberta Nobleman, Deb Riede, Carol Maxfield, Jean Turner, Kimberly Roig, Beth Gross, Debra Mayer-Quezada, Jean Block, Marrine Romaine, Doris Rosa, Bill Repp, Charlie and Fran Napolitano, David Storicks, Nancy Smith, Noel, Jeffrey, John Casper, Betty Meyer, Jeanean and Peter Chraplewski, Dot Dillinger, Laura Reutlinger and family, Bishop Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop of ECLA, Bishop E. Roy Riley, Jr., Bishop of New Jersey Synod, ECLA, James Penney, Jamie, Laura Smith, Linda Brescia, Ellen Pollifrone, John Tibbs, Venetta Smith, Pat Kay, Muriel Andersen, Marylou Bonney, Jimmy Russell, Beverly Pitsenberger, Jane Denny, Doug DeVito and Caroline Kouta, the family of Louise Egan (nee Rusnak), Russell Gibbs and his family

TELEPHONE 201-384-0013
FAX 201-384-8011

Frech Funeral Home

FRANK MAGDA
OWNER-MANAGER

NJ LIC. #2761
161 WASHINGTON AVENUE

DUMONT, NEW JERSEY 07628-2397

GENERAL CONVENTION 2009

The 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church will meet in Anaheim, California from Wednesday, 8 July through Friday, 17 July 2009.

The first General Conventions (starting with the first meeting in Philadelphia in 1785) decided on a bicameral house in which elected (rather than royally appointed) bishops would make up one house (the House of Bishops), and lay and ordained deputies (equally represented) would make up the other house (the House of Deputies).

All bishops of the Episcopal Church, active and retired, are entitled to seat, voice and vote in the House of Bishops (unless deprived of the privilege). Each of the Episcopal Church's dioceses (and the Convocation of Churches in Europe and the Navajoland Area Mission) is entitled to elect eight deputies, four lay persons and four priests and/or deacons, to the House of Deputies. (The diocesan electors of deputies are themselves elected representatives from local parishes.)

Deputies are not delegates; that is, they are not elected to represent the electing dioceses. Deputies vote their conscience for the good of the church. They cannot be instructed to vote one way or another, for to do so would preclude godly debate and preempt the work of the Holy Spirit.

Resolutions proposed for discussion at convention are referred to legislative committees, which consider, amalgamate and perfect them before presenting them on the floor of convention.

The House of Bishops and House of Deputies meet, deliberate and vote separately. To be enacted, resolutions must pass both houses in the same language. Both houses have the right to amend legislation, but the

amendment must be accepted by the other house.

In the House of Deputies three lay or clerical deputations may request a vote by orders. In a vote by orders each diocesan deputation has two votes: one lay vote and one clerical vote. To cast that vote the deputation is polled. If a majority of a deputation is in favor, the diocesan lay or clerical vote is cast as a "yes." If a majority of a deputation is opposed, the vote is cast as a "no." Tied deputations count as "divided" and, in effect, as additional "no" votes.

General Convention meets prayerfully. Each day bishops, deputies, registered alternates and delegates to the ECW Triennial gather for Bible study and Holy Eucharist. At this year's General Convention the themes for these gatherings will reflect the theme of General Convention: Ubuntu.



Ubuntu speaks particularly about the fact that you can't exist as a human being in isolation. It speaks about our interconnectedness. You can't be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality - Ubuntu - you are known for your generosity.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Both the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops have chaplains, who lead their houses in regular prayer at the beginning and end of sessions and daily at noon. Chaplains are also asked to pray before the enactment of important legislation. Organizations within the church sponsor additional worship services, while

volunteers staff a prayer room in which there is continual intercession for the work of convention.

A highlight of every General Convention is its festival Eucharist at which the United Thank Offering is presented. (The United Thank Offering is taken up in parishes twice each year for the mission of the church.)

Convention is more than legislation. One of the most interesting parts of convention is the Exhibit Hall. The Exhibit Hall is a marketplace of goods and ideas in which the organizations and interest groups within the church present their wares, recruit members and do their best to influence legislation. It is a colorful part of convention, and it would not be General Convention without it.

General Convention is a combination of legislative assembly, bazaar of goods and services and family reunion. It is one of the most exciting and, truth be told, one of the most awe-inspiring gatherings in the world.

You can follow the doings at General Convention online at www.episcopalchurch.org/gc2009.htm

We get no deeper into Christ than we allow Him to get into us.
John Henry Jowett

Madeleine's Petit Paris
French Restaurant & Catering
Fabulous Prix-Fixe Luncheon & Dinner

416 Tappan Road
Northvale, NJ 07647
201.767.0063
201.767.6443 Fax
www.madeleinespetitparis.com

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Camp Lots-of-Fun on August 25, 2009 - Camp Lots-of-Fun provides an educational, fun-filled 2-week, end of summer day camp experience for 30 children who are residents of the Interreligious Fellowship's (IRF) two sheltering programs for families. We will be preparing bag lunches for children at Camp Lots of Fun for their field trip.



Walk-in Dinner on September 2, 2009: Since 1991, participants in the Walk-In Dinner Program have been feeding dinner 365 days a year to as many as 150 hungry, needy people. Each evening, a different congregation, civic or social organization is scheduled to provide, prepare offsite, and serve dinner at Christ Episcopal Church on State Street in Hackensack. Hosts and meal providers are urgently



needed for this date (recipes will be provided) to meet the pressing need. Word also is that the atmosphere of the new venue is a most hospitable one, so you'll really enjoy this experience.

Please contact Janet Beddoe with any questions about these volunteer opportunities with the Interreligious Fellowship for the Homeless. Sign-up sheets for both dates are in the parish hall.

RESIST GRUMBLING

Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The judge is standing at the door!

James 5:9

The marketplace is filled with temptations, blurred lines of right and wrong, and, it seems, more opportunities to fall into the traps of our culture than opportunities to draw others closer to Christ. It is a struggle with every word, every choice throughout the day, to glorify God or to tear down the body of Christ.



One of my biggest challenges is venting my frustrations about

coworkers. This kind of talk is non-productive gossip, but I fall into it sometimes anyway. God calls us to love each other and not to complain about one another. Two experiences in particular helped me to realize how to change my pattern of behavior.

I was having lunch with a coworker who shares my work-related frustrations. Although I had expected to have a rap session about some of our other coworkers, this time we prayed before we ate and everything changed. For every negative thing that came up, we found a positive quality about the person that



outweighed it. Soon we had moved into a completely different discussion that was not about what we thought of other people. Later, while talking with another like-minded coworker, I was able to share with her all those good qualities that I had re-discovered about our teammates.

Since the three of us wanted to be happy in our jobs and were not planning on leaving our company anytime soon, we made a decision. We decided that in order to stay happy we needed to continue to remember the good qualities in people and dismiss all others.

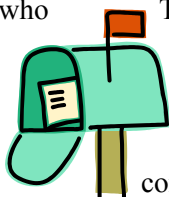
Staying focused on the positive things about my coworkers is still difficult at times, but in order to show that I belong to Christ, my behavior needs to be a reflection of him and his love for all of us.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE: Do you indulge your frustrations with your coworkers, or strive to overcome them and focus on their good qualities?

By: Jennifer Ellis

Smiles

I had just moved into a new apartment and was having problems with the mailman, who was delivering the previous tenant's mail to my address. Hoping to resolve the situation, I enlarged my name on the mailbox, but he still kept giving me the wrong letters.



Finally, I left a note saying that he was delivering the mail incorrectly.

The next day I went to the box to find this addition to my message:

"Sir, I am delivering the mail correctly. You're just living at the wrong address."



SHARED VISIONS
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Massachusetts Ave. & Grant St.
Haworth, NJ 07641



**We welcome the faithful, the seeker and the doubter, for God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all!
Sunday Services at 10 am. Sunday School at 10 am.**