



*St. Aidan's Mission:  
Spread the promise of Jesus Christ in and beyond our  
community through worship, education, and outreach.*

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
GRESHAM OREGON  
NEWSLETTER:  
MARCH 1, 2009

## From the Rector's Desk

On Saturday, March 14, 2009, from 9:30am to 2:30pm, St. Aidan's will host a quiet day. The title of the quiet day is ***Discerning and Discovering Our Call to Serve***. The day is open to all who wish to make it a part of their Lenten discipline. It is especially appropriate to anyone who feels he or she is at a crossroads in their life. The cost of \$5.00 covers materials, lunch and snacks, and scholarship is available.

All of us go through passages when we must feel our way forward; when we must discover God's call for our lives. For Christians, this is a time when quiet prayer can help inform our next move. This retreat owes its shape to the book, *Stations of the Heart*. It is a simple set of 'stations', reminders for the orientation of the heart, preparing the ground for feeling the presence of God and the movement of the Holy Spirit. In this journey, each 'station' begins with a brief meditation and is followed by an activity that anyone can participate in. The stations each focus participant's attention and imagination on one or another of the factors that make up part of the discovery or discernment of God's call. The stations visited on this retreat are: Presence, Communication, Detachment, Receptivity and use of Visual Explorer.

Please be on the lookout for our sign-up list. Pre-registration is not required, but does allow us to prepare ample food and materials for our time together.



*Keeping  
a Holy Lent*

The season of Lent marks a season of penitence and fasting in preparation for the celebration of Easter. We are called to examine the state of our own souls and to rededicate ourselves, by a discipline of self-denial and repentance, to live lives befitting the fol-

lowers of Christ as we journey with Jesus through his temptation in the wilderness and as we enter with him into Holy Week with his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his celebration of the Last Supper, his Trial, and Crucifixion. All Christians are invited "to the observation of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word," (Book of Common Prayer, page 265).

"Lent is really a good time for a spiritual tune-up," said the Rev. Terry L. Martin, program officer for evangelism in the Episcopal Church's Center for Evangelism and Congregational Life, in an interview.

What about "Giving Something Up" for Lent? Well, Lent is not just a convenient time to diet - although it may well provide a good reminder to provide better care for our bodies. So "giving up" desserts or chocolate (or excuses not to exercise) may indeed be helpful health-wise. More importantly, practicing a bit of self-denial (i.e. "giving something up") may provide us with reminders to be more mindful about what we really need in life.... We may need to spend more time in prayer. We may need to open that Bible that's been sitting on the shelf.... Perhaps we "need" to give up an evening of TV each week in order to spend more real time with our families. Perhaps we need to give up an hour of "surfing the Internet" so that we can call someone who is lonely. Perhaps we need to "give up" a grudge and spend this Lent "forgiving" someone. Suggestion: Pray about it...you'll probably discover pretty quickly if you'll benefit from giving something up this Lent...and what it should be. (And we all need to remember Scripture's admonition to refrain from being boastful about our fasting and self-denial.)

Fasting? Isn't that a little old-fashioned? We know that Jesus fasted and taught others this spiritual discipline. Some people eat a little less one or two days a week (reminding themselves about what they "truly" hunger for). Giving up meat on Fridays was not intended just to be a boon to the fishmongers. Friday fasting reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross. Fasting also reminds us of those who go without food because they have no food. The idea of "meatless Fridays" is to have a very simple meal at least once a week - so that the money that might have been spent on a fancy meal - can be given, instead - to those who are hungry. (Some families prefer to have "soup suppers" once a week rather than giving up meat.) Many people keep a collection box on the dining room table during Lent and place money there (alms-giving) to be given away to those in need.

At Saint Aidan's we have a number of observances to assist us in the second of these tasks. We have appropriate lessons in the lectionary for the Sundays in Lent, we keep the Stations of the Cross every Wednesday night in Lent, and we have study groups on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings.

We have the ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) Lenten Devotional Book, *Peace & Compassion: To Heal a Hurting World: A Daily Devotional* from Episcopal Relief and Development is a Lenten devotional featuring an adaptation of the Rev. Barbara C. Crafton's "Almost-Daily eMos" meditations and highlights the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), offering ways for parishioners to help achieve these life-saving goals, especially through Episcopal Relief & Development's Millennium Development goals. It provides a prayerful way to consider the needs of

*Cont on page 4*

## CHURCH MOUSE MARCH 2009



By the time you read this, we will be in Lent; the crab feast will be in full swing, and our new Vestry will have retreated to set goals for the coming year. How time is flying — I really hate getting older day by day — I do enjoy the days one at a time! Little new things are coming up out of the ground. Our grounds team, **Gloria Trunk, Mary**

**Hamilton** and **Joyce Burley** are busy as bees getting the ground ready for the coming growing season — It's a little early for bees, but things are sprouting.

With Lent on the way, March 4 starts an evening church study schedule, with the **Stations of the Cross** on Wednesday evenings (6:00 p.m.), followed by a simple **soup and salad supper** (at 6:30 p.m.) and **Lenten Study** (at 7:00 p.m.). We are ready to go home by about 8:00 p.m.; it's a healthy discipline to ready us for the **Joy of Easter. Sunday Morning Forum** will be a study of the Gospel of John using the Lambeth Conference Bible Study. These sessions are open to everyone — you need not make reservations.

Our new Vestry people are excited to be taking over the leadership of our parish family. I thought our Annual Meeting was quite productive — and peaceful. A friend mentioned that they had a fight at theirs. Lucky us! It was funny that we failed to pass the budget at the annual meeting — and had to have a short budget-passing session after church two weeks later. We are going to have to dig a little deeper to keep up our financial plan — it's the best we could do, but there is not much money to do any programs — just have to keep the place warm and lighted. Senior Warden, **Angie Groce**, is going to have her hands full keeping us on target, but she will do it with good will. And Jr. Warden, **Byron McKinlay** is going to find plenty to keep him busy — not that he wasn't before.

I think **Mike** and **Shirley Vidito** will keep on doing things around the parish to fit his own schedule. Bless their hearts! One thing that we can all do is fill one of those little glass jars with "Change for St. Aidan's" — then dump it in the receptacle in the parish hall. Those nickels and dimes do add up.

I also wanted to mention one of the ongoing ministries that is mostly unsung, but that helps keep our parish running smoothly — and that is **office volunteers**. There is a team of people who come in on Thursdays to fold bulletins and other papers. Usually these people include **Mary Anderson** and **Louise Pfeiffer**, but may include **Noriko Sutton** or **Marlene Lucas** — and **Pat Rose** on other occasions. There are others but I can't remember. **Marilyn Pierik** spends Wednesday afternoons doing odd jobs — calling to remind people of their calendar assignments (Altar Guild, LEM service, ushers, etc). She also mails the readings, prayer list and announcements to about a dozen shut-in members. If you know someone who would like to be included in this service, please let the office know.

A few people around the parish have need of our prayers. One we have been missing most is **Deacon Jean McAfee**, who has been on the sick list for over a month. She spent a fair amount of time in the hospital, trying to get stabilized. Her absence means that our Lay Eucharistic

are stretched to the limit. At the eight o'clock service we have **Paul Koksha, Lorraine Crawford, Joyce Robinson** and **Byron McKinlay**, but **Joyce** and **Byron** are also on the list for ten o'clock along with **Chuck Kyer** and **Marilyn Pierik**. **Tammie** and **Donovan Sartwell** help out with serving responsibilities but are not licensed to serve Communion. With no **Deacon Jean**, we have to have two lay ministers every Sunday, making a pretty tight schedule. We pray that two or three more people will feel called to assist in this very worthwhile and spiritually rewarding service. There is the possibility that one or more of the LEMs will have family responsibilities or a problem that keep them away from church for scheduled times.

**Bob Booher** and **Bob Pierik** are both in the hospital.

**Byron** and **LindaCarol McKinlay** have had quite a time this winter. In early February they made a trip to Angel's Camp, California to attend the memorial service for **LindaCarol's** father. (she lost her mother last fall). Now **Byron's** mother in Eugene is suffering from failing health. She is in her nineties so it is to be expected; times are not easy for them.

Another parishioner who has been caring for an aging parent is **Jan Iseli**, whose centenarian mother died last month. She had outlived all her friends in Olympia, so her memorial service was held here at St. Aidan's at the eight o'clock service by **Fr. Coulter**, supply priest while **Fr. Scott** took one of his well-deserved days off. (Remember, he's a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time clergy person).

It was good to see **Coleen Howard** with her granddaughters from Eastern Oregon for the President's Day holiday. I hear **Cebert Bryan** has a new great-grandchild. **Mary Anderson** is looking forward to several grandchildren's high school graduations, from California to Alaska. She is hoping they'll be able to visit her later in the summer. She is going to let them enjoy their friends by themselves on graduation. I see **Pauline Nolder** is back from Colorado where she missed our snow, but had plenty in the Denver area to make up for it. She enjoyed visiting her family there. Well, I'm out of news. More next month. - CM



### Cursillo News

In the last six months all the people of St. Aidan's who have been to a Cursillo [A short course in Christianity] in the past, formed a Group Reunion which meets once a month. We have 17 members who are excited to be together and looking forward to sponsoring members of St. Aidan's to experience this gift of Love. Anyone can go to

Cursillo. The time-frame is Thursday evening to Sunday afternoon and they are held in churches. There is no cost to you, your way has been paid by those who have gone before you. Usually 3 Cursillo's a year are held, one for women, one for men and a Co-Ed in the Fall. Cursillo is an experience of worship, study, and fellowship in an atmosphere of fun, joy and music. There is much to experience and your sponsor can give you a larger picture of what to expect. A Women's Cursillo will be April 16 - 19 at St. Francis of Assisi in Wilsonville. If you are interested please contact me by phone or at church. 503-558-1354. Judie Cox



## First Sunday in Lent is *Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday*

We're please to announce that Sunday, March 1, 2009 will be *Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday*. The Presiding Bishop has asked congregations across the country to set aside this Sunday to support *Episcopal Relief & Development's* life-saving work through prayer and a special offering.



**Episcopal  
Relief & Development**

Healing a hurting world

*Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday* is a special opportunity to live out the promises made in our Baptismal Covenant, by dem-

onstrating our commitment to care for people who are hungry, sick or living in extreme poverty.

All gifts collected for *Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday* will be designated for the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund to fight deadly diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS, and provide basic health care that saves lives every day.

*Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday* is a special opportunity for us to help heal a hurting world. Envelopes will be available in the Sunday Bulletin. Please give generously.

### About the Lenten Veils

The chancel of the church looks bare during Lent, doesn't it? Not much left to see. The word "Lent" comes from the old English word "lencten" (meaning lengthen), and is a reference to the lengthening of days that occurs during this time of the year. For that reason, Lent is associated with spring. As the earth sees a rebirth and renewal of the plants and flowers during this season, so Lent is a time for Christians to consider our rebirth in Baptism and engage in spiritual renewal as preparation for Easter.

The veiling of the cross during Lent recalls the ancient custom of covering all crosses and images to suggest that Lent is a time of purification and spiritual cleansing and austerity for all in the Church of Jesus Christ.

To assist in that spiritual renewal, the Church makes noticeable changes in its worship. The "Alleluia" (Hebrew for "Praise the Lord") and the Hymn of Praise "Glory to God" (Gloria in excelsis) are removed from the liturgy. Hymns become more reflective in nature. The Cross is veiled to emphasize how sin separates us from God. The spirit of the Lenten veiling seems to be that the Church would draw off our attention from everything but him whose suffering and passion are commemorated. The Invisible God becomes visible as when the veil is torn at the crucifixion. The church bids us to consider that Christ endured such contradiction of sinners. It is also symbolical of the hiding of our Lord's glory during his earthly life, and especially during his ignominious and bitter Passion. Everything turns inward until the victorious Resurrection when the colors brighten, the veils are removed, and the Alleluias and praises break forth in joyous celebration. Easter literally bursts forth like the Lord from the tomb when the church is returned to normal state.

Lent draws us unrelentingly to the Cross. Like the cross under the purple veil, our lives are veiled by sin.

Out of the barrenness of Lent, the silence of Good Friday and the dark night of Holy Saturday, glory shines forth and draws us back into light and warmth. We see the Risen One again, and he comes to tear down all that separates us, his beloved ones, from him.

### Commentary on the Sunday Readings in Lent

**First Sunday in Lent (March 1, 2009):** The readings during the five Sundays of Lent provide a short course in the meaning of baptism, with each reading referring directly to part of the baptismal rite in the Book of Common Prayer. On this first Sunday in Lent, the readings focus on turning away from evil.

**Second Sunday in Lent (March 8, 2009):** Continuing the liturgical "short course" in baptism, today's readings focus on turning toward Jesus Christ. In baptism, we offer ourselves to God in Christ—a sacrifice of our selves reinforced in the reference to self-offering found in each Eucharistic prayer.

**Third Sunday in Lent (March 15, 2009):** After focusing on turning away from evil (March 1) and turning toward Christ (March 8), the readings today further continue Lent's exploration of baptism by looking at what we thirst for in life.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent (March 22, 2009):** Today's readings seek empowerment from the Holy Spirit.

**Fifth Sunday in Lent (March 29, 2009):** Concluding five weeks of readings focused on the meaning of baptism, today's readings invite us to put our whole life and trust in Christ, who leads us through death into life.

### Come to the Lenten Study groups

"Welcome to the Wisdom of the World," by Joan Chittister will be our featured study book for the Wednesdays in Lent evening study. It is available at our bookstore (see Shirley Vidito or Olive Mangas-Larson). The whole parish is invited to join for that study and/or the Stations of the Cross and Simple Supper on Wednesday evenings.

A bible study on the Gospel of John, **Signs on the Way** will be offered at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The Adult Forum is timed to allow for participation between the two celebrations of the Eucharist. The recent study on the New Testament will resume after Easter.

### NEW AT ST. AIDAN'S BOOKSTORE

#### *Welcome to the Wisdom of the World*

by Joan Chittister

Text for the Lenten Wednesday night Forums.



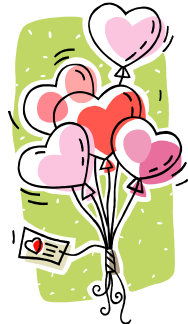
We also have a number of other books to make the season of Lent more meaningful. Stop by and take a look at what we have.



## March

**Happy Birthday** — Because time itself is like a spiral, something special happens on your birthday each year: The same energy that God invested in you at birth is present once again.

- 2 Jack Malcom
- 5 Bill Pratt
- 6 Robert Evans  
Coleen Howard
- 7 Claire Anderson
- 8 Rachel Hayashi  
Tim Pfeiffer
- 9 Jocelyn Goodnight
- 12 Betty Brouseau  
Esther Murdock
- 14 Lil Yasumiishi
- 15 Bill Berninghausen  
Lyman Houk
- 17 Carolyn Vidito  
Pat Rose  
Diana Starr-Salnave
- 18 Janice Erickson
- 20 Chad Ferguson  
Christine Young
- 21 Nancy Knoles
- 22 Carl Hirsch
- 26 Judie Cox  
Marlene Haldors
- 27 Tracy Pendus
- 28 Patricia McVay
- 30 Barbara Lambert



### THE "DASH"

One thing that keeps coming to our minds is the truism that no matter what year we were born, or what year we die, it is ultimately the "dash" that we lived in between, that counts. We pray that each of us remember to try to speak with kindness, listen with patience and understanding, feel with compassion of the heart, touch with tenderness, and always try to "see the rose on the table. . . rather than the dust." Our prayer is that we all truly learn to give more than we take, and in the end, may we be remembered for the "dash"—that was full of love.

The new vestry had its annual orientation/retreat at the Bishop's close in Lake Oswego on Sunday, February 22. It was a productive planning session for the year ahead—a time of getting to know each other a little better, prioritizing and choosing ministry teams on which to serve. (See back page) If you have any questions regarding any of these areas, see the liaison(s) assigned to it.

Angie Groce, Senior Warden

## A Note from the "Senior Warden"

Angie Groce

While I don't necessarily think of myself as being neither a "senior" nor a "warden," I nonetheless am proud and honored to have been asked to hold this important position in our church. I will do my best to carry out the duties expected of the "Rector's Warden." It's especially challenging to take on such a position when your predecessor has raised the bar so high (thank you, Mike Vidito!), but having had such a fine example has been just that—a very fine example. I'm looking forward to the year ahead with our vestry. By the time you read this, the vestry will have had its annual retreat (scheduled for February 22). This will be a time of goal setting and prioritizing. So much has been done this year, but we still have lots more to do! St. Aidan's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary will occur in the summer of 2009, and I challenge everyone to be a part of that celebration and help prepare for it. Also, when you attend church on Sunday, look around and take note of the enormous amount of time, talent and treasure at work in our parish. Fr. Scott and I recently met and we discussed the idea of seeing the need for something to be done and then doing it—**SEE THE NEED, DO THE DEED!** It's short and sweet and I like it.

THANK YOU TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO PLAYS A ROLE IN OUR CHURCH—WHETHER IT BE ON SUNDAY OR MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY IN PREPARATION FOR SUNDAY'S SERVICE!

**SEE THE NEED, DO THE DEED!**

### TEAtime: A Cup of Friendship

Dear Ladies,



Due to the Lenten season, there will be no TEAtime in March. The next one will be on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the kitchen of Murdock Hall.

WE ESPECIALLY WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ANY NEWCOMERS TO ST. AIDAN'S TO JOIN US. Any questions, please call Angie Groce at 503-665-8242.

### St. Aidan's @ Fifty Years

#### HELP NEEDED

Pictures before and after the 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary [1984] are welcome and needed. If you wish your pictures returned, submit them in a large envelope or bag, with your name, address and phone number on the outside. (Names, Dates, Locations attached.) They will be returned to you as soon as processed for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary publication. Address to "Historian".

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# SAINT AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. Box 1319 (503) 252-6128  
Gresham, OR 97030 staidans@pacifier.com  
www.staidans-gresham.org

## EASTER FLOWER DONATION FORM



Contributions for Easter Flowers are welcome. Please include this form with your gift in a *Flower Donation* envelope; place in the collection or mail in to St. Aidan's. *Please include your Offering Envelope number.* Donors and memorials will be published in the Easter Day service bulletins. Please make checks payable to "St. Aidan's Flower Fund." Call the Parish office for more information.

*The deadline is Wednesday, April 1, 2009*

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Pledge No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
In thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_  
In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
To the Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

## Fasting and Feasting

Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

With this in mind, we present a reflection by William Arthur Ward entitled **Fasting and Feasting**.

Lent should be more than a time of fasting. It should be a joyous season of feasting.

Lent is a time to fast from certain things and to feast on others. It is a season in which we should:

- Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling in them.*
- Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.*
- Fast from thought of illness; feast on the healing power of God.*
- Fast from words that pollute; feast on the phrases that purify.*
- Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.*
- Fast from anger; feast on patience.*
- Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.*
- Fast from worry; feast on hope.*
- Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.*
- Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.*
- Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.*
- Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.*
- Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.*
- Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.*
- Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.*



*Cont from page 5*

Written recollections &/or videos will be most helpful. **Think of your first day at St. Aidan's** – tell us about it. Subjects to submit:

- Easter pictures. Brunch, Easter Egg Hunt.
- Vestry Meetings.
- Sunday School Picnics.
- Mass on the Grass, Parish Picnics.
- Christmas services, Greening of Church, Florals.
- Winter Garden.
- Rummage Sales.
- Crab Feast.
- Baptisms, Weddings.
- Bishops' visits.
- Youth Group Activities.
- Sunday School.
- Playground Building.
- Church Work Parties.
- Former members, names, addresses, contacts.
- ?? Suggestions ??

**Albertsons  
Community Partners  
Re-Launch  
Deadline to Re-register is  
February 28, 2009**

In order for St. Aidan's to continue earning fund raising money through the Community Partners Program, we must re-link our cards at [www.albertsonscp.com](http://www.albertsonscp.com). You will need the organization number #49000114374 and the number from your card. If you cannot remember your card number, call (877)932-7948. If you do not have a Preferred Savings Card, you can get one at any Albertsons or online at [Albertsons.com](http://Albertsons.com). Don't Delay. Do it now!

## **ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**PO Box 1319 (mailing)**  
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WEB: [www.staidans-gresham.org](http://www.staidans-gresham.org)  
e-mail: [staidans@pacifier.com](mailto:staidans@pacifier.com)

### Office Hours

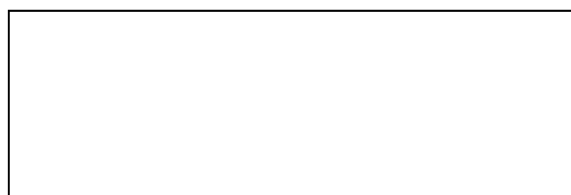
Tuesday — Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM,  
or by appointment

### Treasurer's Office Hours

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

This newsletter is published monthly by St. Aidan's  
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## ***Return Service Requested***

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## **The Leadership of St. Aidan's**

### **Clergy**

The Right Reverend Sanford "Sandy" Hampton  
Assisting Bishop of Oregon  
The Reverend Scott M. Dolph, Rector  
The Reverend Tom Murdock, Associate Priest  
The Reverend Jean McAfee, Deacon

### **Vestry**

#### ***Vestry Liaisons to the Ministry Teams***

Senior Warden, Angie Groce, Parish Life (2010)  
Junior Warden, *Byron McKinlay, Facilities (2012)*  
Betsy Berninghausen, Worship (2010)  
Marlene Lucas, Administration & Finance (2010)  
*Judie Cox, Outreach (2012)*  
Jeanne Pinkerton, Parish Life (2011)  
George DeWitz, Outreach (2012)  
Bruce Richardson, Administration & Finance (2011)  
Mary Hamilton, Facilities (2011)  
Gloria Trunk, Facilities (2010)  
*Patrick Hoyer, Christian Discipleship (2012)*  
Bonnie Buckmann, Outreach (2011)  
Rob Stoltz, Clerk of the Vestry

### **Other Lay Leaders and Staff:**

Parish Office Administrator: Rob Stoltz  
Treasurer: Janice Erickson  
Organist and Choirmaster: Mark Jones  
Sexton: Stan Rickerd  
Altar Guild Chair: Julie Kyer  
Sunday School Director: Shirley Vidito  
Youth Group Leader: Lori McCoy  
Childcare Provider: Nicole Epperly & Logan Larsen  
Media Coordinator: Pat Rose  
Master Gardener, Grounds: Gloria Trunk  
Offering Counter Coordinator: Shirley Bush  
Web-master: Marilyn Grendele  
Newsletter Co-Editors: Shirley Bush & Marilyn Grendele  
Proofreader: Pat Rose