

# The Messenger

## January 2007



Dear Friends,

Many years ago I had the pleasure of hearing Leontyne Price in concert. She sang one beautiful aria after another. Her voice was exquisite and her repertoire truly impressive. For her closing song, she sang "This Little Light of Mine." With all of her sophistication and training, she had not lost her appreciation of this simple tune.

I often think of her singing this song when I am pondering the mission and ministry of the Church. One of the joys of our work together is watching people offer their gifts to the service of others. It seems to me that part of what we uphold as a community of faith is a commitment to helping people open themselves up to hearing what God is asking them to offer.

January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany. We read about the wise men coming from a distant land to offer gifts to the Christ child. They were led to God through their keen observation of the heavens. Despite their noble birth, they knelt before this child of humble origin and committed themselves to his service. They came to the child offering what they had as a gift to him.

As Christians, each of us is called to consider the light that God has placed within each of us. What is it that God is calling us to offer for the good of others? Perhaps God is encouraging us to cultivate a sense of gentleness to those around us. Maybe we have a talent that can be developed to make life better for others. It could be that we have financial resources that could be used for a good purpose.

Whatever it is, Epiphany is the season that radiates with the promise that "This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!"

Yours in Christ,

Vicki



the star which they had observed at its rising went ahead of them

### ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 27



The annual meeting is the time when the parish gathers to celebrate its ministry, to honor those who have made special offering of their time, talents and gifts throughout the years, and to elect members to the vestry for the coming year. This year's meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**, following a single service at 10AM. The meeting will take place in the Great Room and breakfast will be served.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of candidates for 2008:

- For Warden, term of 2 years: **Scott Seabridge**  
For Warden, term of 1 year: **TBA**  
For Vestry, term of 3 years: **Mhorag Hay  
Brian Mitchell  
Ray Owens  
Tracey Povio  
TBA**  
For Diocesan Delegate: **Tom Marullo**

Information about these candidates, including their photo, is posted in the church lobby.

According to the Vestry Guidelines, eligibility for voting at the Annual Meeting is determined by three things:

1. You must be at least 18 years of age.
2. You must be regular in your attendance at worship.
3. You must be a contributor of your time, talent and resources to the ministry of the parish.

Please mark *January 27<sup>th</sup>* on your calendar. We look forward to the participation of all of our members.

### Children's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

Will be held in the Great Room  
during the 10AM Coffee Hour  
on Sunday, February 3



Come for cake, ice cream, balloons, party  
decorations and more!

This is the kids' chance to celebrate



## **2008 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT A SUCCESS!!!**

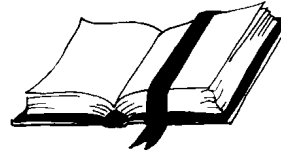
If you attended the 10AM service on December 16<sup>th</sup>, you know what a terrific job the children did in this year's Christmas Pageant! Led by **Sherry McCarthy** and **Sara Cegelski**, the children retold the traditional story of Joseph, Mary & Jesus in the stable with the animals and the wise men being guided by the angels to visit them. Thank you to all the children who participated:

- Narrator:** Will Cost
- Prophets:**
- Jeremiah: Ana Leeper
  - Isaiah: Nate Walsh
  - Micah: Ket Cost
  - John: Dylan Valcore
- Angel Gabriel:** Leah McCarthy
- Mary:** Tallia Maness
- Joseph:** Jonathan Novak
- Innkeeper:** Theo Cegelski
- 3 Wise Men:** Nick Maness (Gold)  
Katie Novak (Frankincense)  
Gavin Flood (Myrrh)
- Angel with Star:** Dana Owens
- Angels:** Morgan Brant, Paige Jones,  
Taylor Marshall, Drew McDermott, Carly Seabridge,  
Alyssa Walsh
- Shepherds:**
- Shepherd 1: Daniel Melnick
  - Shepherd 2: Alec Leeper
  - Shepherd 3: J.R. Marshall
  - Shepherd 4: Jacob Povia
- Animals:**
- Donkey: Andrew Alexis-Hay
  - Cows: Sam Maness, Ryan Povia,  
John Seabridge
  - Goat: Jack Maness
  - Sheep: Catherine Alexis-Hay,  
Cleo McDermott, Lindsay Povia,  
Elena Skizim

Thank you also to the parents and grandparents who sat through many rehearsals, and helped their kids practice at home.

Finally, we want to acknowledge the adults who volunteered their time during a busy holiday season:

- Pageant Directors: Sherry McCarthy, Sara Cegelski
- Organ/Piano: David McCarthy
- Set Crew: Mike Povia, Scott Seabridge
- Photographer: Ron Simmons



## **FAITH AND HEALING**

The Gospels give many examples of Jesus' healing presence to those around him. In some cases people were cured of illness; in other instances he mended the brokenness of people's lives.

"Healing" in the Christian sense is not synonymous with "cure". One may find healing in the last stages of a terminal illness. Healing refers to being brought into wholeness between oneself and God. In that sense it is closely related to reconciliation.

### ***Lenten Series on Healing***

Our Lenten study this year will take on the topic on "Healing in the Christian Tradition". It will be led by the Rev. Miriam Owens and the Rev. Vicki Prescott.

Sessions will be held on Sunday mornings from 9am to 9:45 on the following dates:

February 17, February 24, March 2 and March 9.

### ***8 a.m. Healing Services***

Beginning on Sunday, March 2, healing services will be incorporated into the 8 a.m. Eucharist on the first Sunday of every month.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- Jan 15 Vestry meeting – 7pm
- Jan 27 Annual Meeting – one service at 10am**
- Feb 2 Election of new Bishop
- Feb 3 Children's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party in Great Room during 10AM coffee hour
- Feb 3 Boy Scout Sunday – wear your uniforms
- Feb 5 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Feb 6 Ash Wednesday services – Noon & 7pm



Save the date! The Vestry is hosting Incarnation's **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** on **Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Great Room! Don't miss this great event!

# Thank You

- ❖ To **Mike & June Harvey**, for donating the money needed to purchase a “gently used” folding machine for the church office. What a time saver it has been!
- ❖ To **Bud Baumer & John Wilder** for donating the labor needed to install the new roof, walls and storm door which now cover the stairs leading outside from the Great Room.
- ❖ To the **Flower Guild** for purchasing the Christmas tree ornaments that were given out to the children during the 4pm Family Service on Christmas Eve. The ornaments depicted the manger scene, which fit into the Guild’s decorating theme this year, “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”
- ❖ To **Roger & Betty Quinn**, for donating the new shed located on the Whalen Road side of the church where the garbage is stored. What an improvement!

*There are extra photo frames leftover from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. They are the black, cardboard photo frames which have gold imprinting on the bottom which reads “Church of the Incarnation, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.”*

*Please feel free to stop by and take as many as you like. They are located on the table behind the sanctuary.*

## FAMILY SERVICES DATES

Dates for Family Services for the remainder of the school year are as follows:

January 20  
February 17  
April 20  
May 18  
June 22 (Church School Recognition)



These are the dates when Vicki gives a Children’s Homily during the service, which replaces church school for that day. All children are invited to come up front at the time of the homily. **NOTE TO PARENTS:** Please encourage your children to sit facing Vicki, with their backs to the congregation. If you have any questions or ideas regarding Family Services or the children’s homilies, please speak to Rev. Vicki Prescott or Sherry McCarthy.

## RETIREMENT GIFTS FOR JACK & LINDA MCKELVEY

In lieu of other gifts, the McKelvey’s have asked the diocese to establish a fund to support ministries that are in line with the Millenium Development Goals established by the United Nations. The Millenium Development Goals are listed below:

1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
2. Achieve Universal Primary Education
3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
4. Reduce Child Mortality
5. Improve Maternal Health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability
8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development

A committee of three people will be established by the Bishop of the Diocese in consultation with the Standing Committee who will make grants on an annual basis while preserving the fund’s principle. This restricted fund has been established by the Trustees. It is intended that grants be for projects and programs outside the United States; however exceptions can be made for good and agreed upon projects within the U.S.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, you may send a check to the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester indicating that it is for the MDG. Checks can be mailed to:

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester  
Attn: Twila Anderson  
935 East Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14607

## GAME NIGHT FOR ADULTS



If you haven’t been to Game Night yet, you don’t know what you’re missing!! All adults are welcome. We ask that you bring your own beverages and a snack to share. Game nights start around 7:00 p.m. and usually last until 11 p.m. Upcoming dates & locations are as follows:

February 16 – David & Sherry McCarthy’s home  
March 15 – Shirley & Phil Rosini’s home  
April 19 – Scott & Janet Seabridge’s home  
May 17 – location TBD

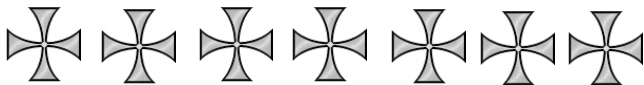
If you are interested in hosting a game night at your home or at the church, please contact Tracy Povio at 872-7431 or tap55@rochester.rr.com.



We remember those who have gone before us

We pray for the repose of the souls of:

- + **James Barrett**, father of Doug Barrett
- + **Lloyd Omphroy**, father of Gary Omphroy



### THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD SHELF

*This note recently came from the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf. They asked that it be shared with everyone in the parish.*

One has only to drive into the nearest gas station to know that the effects of increasing gas costs ripple everywhere into daily life. The Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf also feels the ripple effect, and as you can guess, has seen an increase in families needing support over the past couple of years. We have been able to weather the increase, thanks in no small part to the members of *Church of the Incarnation*, and we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your many continued efforts to support us.

Your donations of a wide variety of non-perishable food items in the past have always been so helpful to us. And it is wonderful that Incarnation has adopted the dish soap and paper products shelf as part of the Adopt-a-Shelf program. These are two items that are notoriously difficult to keep in stock, and targeting these two major items for collection really makes a difference.

On behalf of the coordinators (Kathy Cummins, Joe Gersitz, and Ted O'Brien), the many volunteers, and of course, the families who are supported by the food shelf: Thank you so much for your gifts.

Marie Cinti  
Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf



### PARISH NOTES

- ✓ Congratulations to **Leah McCarthy** for her recent role as a Munchkin in the Rochester Children's Theatre production of "Wizard of Oz." She performed in three shows at the Nazareth College Arts Center in December.
- ✓ Congratulations to **Kathy Cost** for having recently been designated (October 2007) a Certified Employee Benefit Specialist (CEBS) by the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She qualified for the designation by passing a series of national examinations on employee benefit subjects. Kathy is also an associate of the Society of Actuaries (SOA) and American Academy of Actuaries and will next pursue fellowship in the SOA. Way to go, Kathy!
- ✓ Congratulations to **Shelley Hooker** on her recent engagement. While no date has been set yet, Mom and Dad couldn't be prouder!
- ✓ Anticipation is mounting in the Gray and Lewis households! **Antonio, Keri and Aiden Gray** are expecting another member to join their family, due sometime in early March. **Brad and Alexa (Machemer) Lewis** are expecting their first child, due in June. Way to grow, Incarnation!

*If you have news you would like to include in the "Parish Notes" section of the Messenger, please send an e-mail to the church office at [incarnation@frontiernet.net](mailto:incarnation@frontiernet.net).*

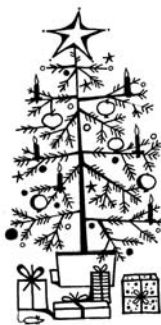
### FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

The Senior and Bell Choirs visited the Atria nursing home here in Penfield on December 23, where they had the chance to perform their Christmas Eve musical pieces, along with a carol sing-along, for the residents. They even had a surprise guest in the audience: Esther Brown, a resident at Atria. It was Esther's husband who donated the first octave of bells for the bell choir at Incarnation. What a memorable performance!



## Christmas Notes

We heard from the following former parishioners at Christmastime who sent their cards and letters here to the church and would love to hear from you:



### **Mary Baker**

The Hearth at Windermere  
9745 Olympia Drive, Apt. 108  
Fishers, IN 46037  
317-913-7427

### **Mary writes:**

I hope this finds you all happy, healthy and enjoying a wonderful holiday season. I must say I am enjoying my good health and family as my 88<sup>th</sup> birthday quickly approaches on December 22. I keep busy with Bingo twice a week and activities that the Hearth provides. My family continues to amaze me with all their busy schedules. My very best wishes to all and would love to hear from you.

### **Frank & Nancy Bradley**

427 Timberlake Drive  
Melbourne, FL 32940

### **Nancy writes:**

Incarnation always has a place in our hearts. We pray all is well with you and your flock. Please say 'Hello' to Andy Johnson and anyone else who remembers us.

### **Tom & Mariam Wessels**

5424 South Hoyt Street  
Littleton, CO 80123

### **Mariam writes:**

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all of you! Enclosed is a photo of our family. It was taken at my sister, Margaret's wedding. She was married in September. They are both so happy!

*Editor's note: Their photo is posted on the bulletin board.*

### **Wendy Walmsley**

30 Old Country Roses  
Bluffton, SC 29909  
843-705-6006  
wendybird@hargray.com

### **Wendy writes:**

I feel I have been spinning in a whirlwind this past year with moving. I've settled in, the seasons change and the rhythm of life has slowed to a less erratic beat! ...I have had the pleasure of reconnecting with many friends as well as the spiritual community of The Church of the Cross. The Church of the Incarnation in Penfield was hard to leave, but I did make a trip up north and joined in their exciting 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service on a weekend in October. It was a great celebration.

The move all happened before I knew it... Last April, visiting Tim and Alison and little Adler for Easter in Savannah. The previous winter up north had me fighting off one "bug" after another and Tim had suggested I needed some "southern living". I looked here, at Sun City just for fun and found myself owner of a new house even before I left again for the north!!! So a difficult wrenching away from New York and some panic about "just what have I done!" But I am feeling settled and sure of all that is unfolding. I've resolved to make painting my focus, (beyond the walls of this new house!) and have joined the All About Art Club. I will be the librarian for the Art Club starting in January, so will learn much between hands-on and study. Being involved in the club will keep me focused on developing my "art". The Bird Club will keep me in touch with the treasure of natural surroundings here at Sun City. I have started a fitness training session and am staying spiritually fit at The Church of the Cross. I have also just started as a volunteer reader at a school in Beaufort connected with the Air Force base and working there on a project to do some mural work. Lots of new beginnings!

The welcome mat is always in place! My new contact numbers are [listed to the left]. Birding, beaching, Art Galleries, good food, etc. ....or just a stopping off place.

Love at Christmas and may your new year be merry and bright - full of health and good things.

Peace,

Wendy