

# The Messenger

## November 2008



Dear Friends,

As people of faith we are invited to live on the boundary of this world and the next. The beauty of the created world permeates our existence with a sense of wonder at the majesty and the mystery of God. The full radiance of God stands before us this time of year when we see the leaves turn from green to red, orange and yellow. I often find myself driving through a canopy of sparkling gold as the branches of the trees touch each other across the highway.

And yet we know that soon the leaves will fall from the trees and the earth will take on the barren look of a sleeping world. The darkness of these days is often mirrored in our souls. We are more prone to depression. Despair seems to be near at hand in the cold and dark days that stretch before us. Our minds are attuned to the fact that death, too, is a part of life.

The Church, in its wisdom, gives us the Feast of All Saints this time of year to remember those who have died, and to reflect upon our own mortality. We use this feast day to publicly remember those who rest close to our hearts as they now live fully in the eternal being of God.

The liturgy for All Saints provides a container that holds memories, feelings, questions, and the numbness of spirit that accompanies the loss of a loved one. It is a place where we offer to God the unanswered questions and the unspoken words of past relationships.

When we think of those who have died, we often wish that things had been different. We wish we had told the person more often how much we love them. We wish we had been less judgmental and more compassionate. We wish they had not let us down and that we could have created more happy memories together.

God stands on that boundary with us – between this world and the next, between joy and sorrow, between hope and despair, welcoming us into his blessedness, both here and in the life to come.

Yours in Christ,  
Vicki

## INCARNATION'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee was appointed at the September Vestry meeting. It is comprised of the Rector, the two Wardens and the four Vestry members whose terms expire in January 2009 (Judy Masten, Greg Skizim, Chuck Jones and Marlene Williams). The Committee Chair is *Marlene Williams*. The following positions are up for election this year:

Warden	2 yr term
(3) Vestry member	3 yr term (3 spots)
Vestry member	1 yr term
Convention Delegate	3 yr term
Alternate Delegate	3 yr term
Alternate Delegate	1 yr term

Please give thought to people you would like the committee to consider. Suggestions may be given to any member of the Nominating Committee for their consideration.

Qualification for Vestry are as follows:

- *has been a baptized member of the congregation for at least one year & is at least 18 years of age;*
- *shows regular participation in both worship & parish activities;*
- *is a pledging member of the parish;*
- *has a commitment to the vision of the ministry of the parish and works well with people;*
- *listens to parish concerns and works through the Vestry process to achieve goals set by the Vestry.*

Below is a copy of Section 8 of Incarnation's Vestry By-Laws, pertaining to Nominations to the Vestry:

- (a) Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting [11/26/08], the Rector, or in the Rector's absence, the Wardens, shall appoint a nominating committee composed of three persons, preference given to the Vestry persons whose full terms are nearest to expiration. The committee shall elect its own chairperson.
- (b) Forty (40) days prior to the Annual Meeting [12/16/08], the nominating committee, upon Vestry approval, will make known to the parish the list of candidates it has chosen.
- (c) For a period of fourteen (14) days following this notification to the parish, members of the congregation may make nominations through the church office, with the provision that they must have the consent of the person they are nominating, in order to present the nomination.
- (d) Immediately following the expiration of the fourteen day period in paragraph "c" ballots will be printed [12/30/08].



Veterans' Day

May the memory of past wars and the experience of present wars strengthen our efforts for peace.

May the memory of those who died inspire our service to the living.

May the memory of past destruction move us to build for the future.

O God of peace,  
O Father of souls,  
O Builder of the Kingdom of Love.

(Prayer by George Appleton, from *The Oxford Book of Prayer*)

### MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP UPDATE

The Middle School Discussion Group got off to a lively start this year, with 5 seventh graders meeting twice in September, and once so far in October. We meet in an informal setting, and focus on a passage from the Bible being read in church as a basis for our discussion on that particular day. The focus of the group centers on what the themes from these readings mean in the every-day lives of these young people.

The themes we have explored thus far include:

- making choices *you* believe are right ones
- Changing course, taking a different path
- what "golden calves" do you deal with in middle school?

Group discussions, learning games and fun exercises to stimulate thought and creativity have helped to create an environment in which group members have freely shared their thoughts and feelings. Each student also has a personal journal for recording private thoughts. I am so proud of this group of middle-schoolers for their honesty, great ideas and willingness to share.

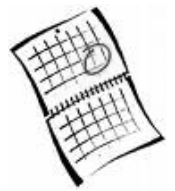
Upcoming plans include participating in food sorting at the East Rochester food pantry on November 2, hosting a coffee hour on a Sunday in November or December. Starting in January, this group will also participate in confirmation classes with Rev. Vicki.



You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

- Mahatma Gandhi

### IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH:



- Nov 8 Chili Cook-Off – 5-7 p.m.
- Nov 9 Healing Services – 8 & 10 a.m.  
ESWA & Convention reports
- Nov 23 **\*\* One service at 10AM \*\***  
**Parish Ingathering and Capital Campaign Celebration**  
"Bring a friend to church" day  
Children bring a canned good  
Brunch following the service
- Nov. 30 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

### SAVE THE DATE:



- Dec 5 Vestry Christmas Party
- Dec 10 Patchwork Women's Christmas Luncheon  
12:00 p.m. at Shadow Lake
- Dec 21 Christmas Pageant
- Dec 24 4:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Family Service  
10:30 p.m. Musical prelude for late service  
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Holy Eucharist

Please remember to wear your nametag on Sunday morning

### CHILI COOK-OFF TIME!



Fall is in the air, and Penfield's version of "Iron Chef" is on the calendar! The Annual Chili Cook-Off is being held on *Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>* from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Chefs from the church will compete, votes will be tallied, and trophies awarded to the top three!

Children will be given the option of eating either chili or pizza. Don't miss this feast, for the low cost of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child (age 12 or under) with a maximum of \$15 per family. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please see the signup sheets on the easel in the foyer if you are able to help.



## PARISH POSTINGS

- ✓ Congratulations to **Lyn Omphroy**, who was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Diocese of Rochester at the annual diocesan convention.
- ✓ Thank you to **Teddy Ahern** for her recent donation of an overhead projector to our church. It will definitely be put to good use!
- ✓ Thank you to the **Patchwork Women** through whose efforts we were able to have the slate floor in the lobby cleaned and polished.
- ✓ Thanks to **Bud Baumer** and **John Wilder** for recently sanding down our some of our older exit doors so they open easier. Thanks also to **Bud** for crafting a homemade cover for our sump-pump in the basement, which was becoming a source of many unwelcome odors.
- ✓ Thanks to **Scott Seabridge** for assisting in the replacement of a toilet in one of the handicapped restrooms off the lobby.



## GAME NIGHT

This month's Game Night is being hosted by Scott & Janet Seabridge on *November 15* at 7:00 p.m. All adults are welcome. Bring your own beverages and a snack or game to share for a fun night out. Mark your calendars now for next year:

January 17  
February 21  
March 21

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



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Back by popular demand... this year's Christmas Pageant will be held on *Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>* during the 10am service. It will be similar to last year's pageant,

with rehearsal occurring on Saturdays and Sundays in December. All children are encouraged to participate - we're looking forward to working with everyone again! If you'd like to help out, or have any questions, contact Sherry McCarthy at 242-9840 (mccarthy95@ hotmail.com) or Sarah Cegelski at 249-9538 (scegelsk@rochester.rr.com).



ASK  
THE  
RECTOR

### **What are the doors for that are up by the altar?**

You may sometimes see one of the servers going in and out of the door on the right, but the door on the left never seems to be opened. In fact, both doors lead into rooms that provide space for the preparation for our weekly worship. The door on the left is the Flower Guild room. In it the Flower Guild arranges the flowers for the altar on Sunday morning.

The door on the right leads to what is called the **sacristy**. The sacred vessels and vestments used for worship are stored there. As you enter the sacristy, on the left you will see very large drawers. The different colored altar frontals are neatly arranged in these drawers. On the right hand side of the room is a special sink called a **piscina**. This sink is used for washing vessels used at the Eucharist and for disposing of consecrated wine. The drainage does not go through the normal plumbing system but drains directly into the ground.

If you would like to see the inside of these rooms, do not hesitate to speak to someone from the Flower Guild, the Altar Guild or the Rector.

### **Parents with young children --- Do you have a will?**

Part of responsible parenting is making plans for what will happen to your children should one or both parents die. Who would take care of your children if you were no longer living? Have you expressed your wishes to those whom you expect to be the guardians of your children? Do you have life insurance to help cover the expenses involved in raising your children?

Consideration of end of life issues is critical for people of all ages. I hope you will plan to meet with a lawyer to draft a will or update your will if you already have one.

#### **From the Book of Common Prayer , p. 445, Service of Thanksgiving for a Child:**

*"The Minister of the congregation is directed to instruct the people from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."*



**PIES – PIES – PIES!**

What goes together better than Thanksgiving and pies? The Penfield Churches Habitat Project is again this season offering pies from Kelly's Farm Market for your holiday celebrations.

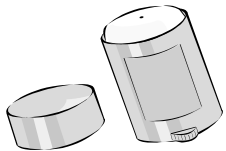
These extra deep 10" fruit pies will arrive just in time for Thanksgiving week celebrations. Kelly's grows the fruit and makes each pie from scratch and without preservatives. Each pie weighs approx. 4.5 lbs. and will provide 8 to 10 generous servings. They freeze well, so consider ordering for both Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Pies are \$14.00 each, and come in four varieties:

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Apple Crumb | Apple-Cranberry |
| Pumpkin     | Apple-Raspberry |

**All orders must be pre-paid – deadline is Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008.** Mail your check, made payable to Church of the Incarnation (note: "Habitat Pies"), along with the quantity and type of pies you wish to purchase to the Church office.

**Pies must be picked up on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 6:30 p.m.** at the Penfield First Baptist Church on Rt. 441 (next to the fire house). Questions? Call Cork Dinan at 381-8740.



**A MEAL AND MORE**

**50 men's deodorants** are needed for the annual "Christmas Dinner and Gift Day" at A Meal and More.

This is a switch from previous years' requests for razors. A basket for deodorant donations has been set up in the Church Office – watch for coupons in the paper and pick up an extra to donate if you can.

**INCARNATION  
LEGACY SOCIETY**

As you write your will and do estate planning, please consider including the Church of the Incarnation in your plans. You may want to make a bequest to the church in your will. You may also name the Church of the Incarnation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement plan, or savings/mutual fund account. It is recommended that you consult your attorney or estate advisor about these matters. Do not hesitate to speak to the rector if you would like to discuss this further.

**Shepherd Home  
Holiday Bazaar**

**Saturday, November 8th  
10am to 3pm**

**Penfield Community Center  
1985 Baird Road**

**Featuring over 20 vendors including:**

- Holiday Decorations**
- Craft Items**
- Wreaths**
- Jewelry**

**And much, much more!**

**Parish Ingathering**

**Sunday, November 23**

*Bring your pledge card to church*

*Children, bring a friend to church  
and a canned food item to donate*

**Brunch following**

## INTRODUCTION TO INCARNATION

*"Introduction to Incarnation" is a monthly feature designed to help us get to know what groups are currently active at Incarnation. We hope to enlighten as well as to possibly entice you to choose a team with which to work.*

### ***This month: The Flower Guild***

I have been asked to share information pertaining to the Flower Guild with the congregation. Presently we have sixteen members – 12 are weekly arrangers and 4 others work with us on special projects such as Easter, Autumn Festival and Christmas. And, this year everyone was heavily involved with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Flower Festival. Members of the Flower Guild are: *Rose Marsden, Judy Masten, Joan Ryan, Dorothy Wojnowski, Hazel Squier, Marlene Williams, Betty Donahue, Betty Goodwin, Doris Williams, Sue Houppert, Janice Hunsinger, June Harvey, Anna Bingham, Pauline Mitchell, Shirley Rosini and myself.*

- First of all, if it weren't for the generous weekly donors and the donors for Easter and Christmas decorations we would probably not be in business. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
- We host an annual geranium sale each May.
- The Saturday preceding Thanksgiving, a team of 6-7 members go to the Rochester Public Market to purchase the fruits and vegetables that we decorate the church with and the items are donated to the Eastern Service Workers Association. This activity is funded through our treasury.
- We meet as a group, at least, twice a year - to plan Easter and Autumn Festival/Christmas decorations. Everyone works to decorate.
- During Lent we do not have flowers on the Altar.
- We have been fortunate to keep our weekly donor amount to \$30. We welcome multiple donors each week.
- A few weeks ago we met to plan Christmas around our theme "Born the King of Angels".
- We use Flower Barn in Penfield for our weekly and special occasion Altar flowers and Chase's Greenhouse in Rush for plants – geraniums, Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias. Both companies deliver to the Church at no cost.
- I have been a member for at least 20 years and the Director for 14 years.

A few years ago when the Church was going through some rough times, we had six members who diligently took turns arranging flowers. We have truly been blessed to have so many join our Guild. The above ladies do an incredible job and are a lot of fun to work with. Anyone seeking additional information please contact me at 654-8296 after 6:00PM.

*~Terry Mitchell, Director*

## THE MEANING OF ALL SAINTS' DAY

All Saints' Day falls each year on November 1<sup>st</sup>, a date it has occupied on the liturgical calendar since the ninth century. At this time, the Church recalls faithful witnesses of the past. It is a reminder to all of us that we live in the communion of the saints. That is to say that in the present time our lives are intertwined with those who have lived before us.

In the New Testament understanding, a "saint" is one who has been baptized in to a life with Christ. It is through Christ that the here and now intersects with the beyond and the eternal. This feast day provides the opportunity to reassure children that loved ones who have died continue in a life that is more glorious than we can come to know during our time on this earth.

Many of us experience the death of a family member or a friend during the years of childhood. It is important that children understand that life eternal is not a reward for good behavior, but that it is available to each person through the love that God has for all of us.

All Saints' Day provides an opportunity to affirm with our children our love for them in their failures as well as their successes. When they receive that from us, they will understand what it means to speak of a God who loves unconditionally.

### WHO'S IN THE PEWS .....*The Omphroy's*

Gary & Lyn Omphroy have been members of Incarnation for over 20 years. They are proud parents of two adult children, Kyle (24) who graduated last year from Columbia College in Chicago and who is employed by the Democrat & Chronicle and Keri (21) who is a senior at University at Buffalo majoring in Nuclear Medicine Technology.

Gary & Lyn are originally from Brooklyn, New York and were high school sweethearts. They moved to Rochester right after graduating from College and have been here for 27 years. Gary & Lyn are both "cradle Episcopalians" and have a deep connection with this Church family. Their entire family has served in many ways, Kyle & Keri served as acolytes and youth group members. Keri & Kyle also participated on a Diocesan youth task force to help develop a better youth program.

Gary is a former warden who served two terms and continues to provide support & counsel when needed. Lyn continues to serve as Treasurer and Stewardship Chair. Gary & Lyn are truly blessed and consider their connection with Incarnation to be one of the key elements.