

JUNE 2011

# Tydings

THE CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

## A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR'S WARDEN



Dear Incarnation Family,

We can finally say goodbye to the really extended period of cold and dull weather and welcome the warmth of summer! God has indeed been gracious to us in keeping us safe through storms and disasters that have hit hard in some areas of our country and the world. While giving thanks we also remember in our prayers our brothers and sisters facing the effects of the recent disasters.

As we also say our goodbyes to our Interim Rector for just over two years, The Rev. Kyle St. Claire for serving us and the church diligently in bringing stability, spirituality and gentleness, we also welcome new possibilities to the future of our church and family. I would think this time of waiting (for a new rector to come in) is a great time for us to evaluate, unite, strengthen and face the future with optimism that God, in the fullness of time, will provide the best for us in ushering growth both in numbers and spirituality and oneness as a faith community radiating the love of Christ to all around and within us. This is a time for us to evaluate ourselves, our resources and plan accordingly to the future that lies ahead of us.

Michelle, Kyle, and I have been working with Jill Mathis, Canon for Transition Ministry, to provide us with an interim rector until we have our full time Rector. Jill has an interim selected for us who will start July 1, 2011. Until then we will use supply priests to serve our needs. The very first Sunday in June (June 5th) our supply for both of the Sunday morning services will be our Bishop Bennison. The Rev. Linda Kerr is scheduled to serve for Saturday, June 4, Saturday, June 11 and Sunday June 12 at both services. The Rev. Linda Kerr is currently interim chaplain at The Church Farm School. The Bishop's visit is to mainly connect with congregations such as ours who need supply priests and be a source of support to reassure us that we will be all right! I hope and request each one of you to come together at this time forgetting past issues and welcome our supply priests especially the Bishop. This is a great opportunity for us to show our true colors of love and warmth as we always have and look to the future with hope.

June 12th will be our church picnic (last Sunday before the summer schedule) and celebration of our youth by having a Youth Sunday at which our children will participate in the service. Please plan on attending to encourage them and also to wish luck to our graduates who have/will be graduating this year.

I will keep you informed regularly as to current happenings and future plans and needs.

Hope each of you has a very pleasant, refreshing, safe and enjoyable summer. Please remember to keep your pledges current, attend church services when in town, and keep the church, staff, vestry and search committee in your prayers. The church needs you!

Thanks and in Christ's Service,  
Priya Eddy



Church of the Incarnation  
*"A small church with a big heart"*  
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WORSHIP  
1911-2011

Parish Staff

Mrs. Michelle Stawicki,  
*Parish Administrator*  
 Richard Spotts,  
*Interim Organist*  
 Tim Miller  
*Sexton*

Vestry

Senior Warden  
 Priya Eddy  
Junior Warden -  
 Melodee Fox  
Accounting Warden -  
 Dave Dixon  
Secretary to the Vestry -  
 Judy Lott

Vestry Members -  
 Linda Dellmuth, Dan Gribbon,  
 Claire Heinbach, Diane Kern,  
 Susan LaRosa, Nancy Martin, Les  
 Venella

Diocesan /

Deanery Reps

Diocesan Reps: Charles Thomp-  
 son, Dave Dixon, Andrena Wish-  
 nie

Deanery Reps: Dave Dixon,  
 Charles Thompson

Committees

Merrie Mailers: Mitch Halista  
Adult Ed.: Andrena Wishnie  
Youth Programs: Dayna Gribbon  
Children's Chapel:  
 Mitzi Gross  
Sunday School: Dayna Gribbon  
J2A: Dan Gribbon & Joyce Bell  
Communications: Julie Snarski  
Finance: Dave Dixon, Linda  
 Froelich, Carmen Palladino,  
 Navin Sharma  
Building & Grounds Dan Gribbon  
Fellowship: Andrena Wishnie  
Fundraising: Diane Kern  
New Members: Linda Dellmuth  
Outreach: Priya Eddy & Melodee  
 Fox  
Pastoral Care: Claire Heinbach  
 and Marcie Venella  
Liturgy and Worship; Greeters;  
Acolytes, Intercessors;  
Lectors, Chalice Bearers;  
 Andrena Wishnie  
Ushers: Linda Dellmuth  
Altar Guild: Christine Hughes  
Flower Ministry: Susan LaRosa &  
 Linda Dellmuth  
Refreshments: Micki Wisdom

**A FINAL MESSAGE FROM KYLE**

**It seems fitting that Pentecost this year falls on the day, June 12, we observe as the end of the year celebration of church school, youth Sunday and the last day of the Sunday schedule of two services in the morning and the parish picnic! We celebrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit which are evident among us and recom- mit ourselves to a ministry of the same spiritual gifts. For a list of these gifts see: Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11, 1 Corinthians 12:1-14. What a joy it has been for me to be with you as we ex- perience the Spirit at work in the ministration of these gifts the past two years, two months.**

**My thanks to each and every one of you for your gifts to me on Sunday, May 29th, my last Sunday! What a surprise to be given a trolling motor for my canoe to help me fish, a donation of \$500 to Libertae, Inc. in my name, a gift card, other cards and letters, photo albums and other gifts! You are very generous! I look for- ward to enjoying all of these gifts and the many delightful memories of our time together.**

**The good work of the Church of the Incarnation in this centen- nial year continues on! As the church described in the Book of the Acts did, I know you will continue to witness to and preach and teach by word and example the Good News of God in Christ. "Because I live, you also will live" — from the Gospel for Sunday, May 29th.**

**I will remember you all in prayer with gratitude and the good work ahead of you, and the vestry and search committee.**

**Blessing,  
 Kyle**



## OUTREACH AT INCARNATION

### TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN

The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen has asked for our help again in getting volunteers to help out on the following dates: June 15 (6 people), June 29 (6 people), August 11 (6 people), and August 30 (12 people). The time will be from 3:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for those who are interested. You can sign up for as many dates as you would like. If you have questions, please contact Priya Eddy.



### AID FOR FRIENDS

Aid for Friends will meet on the following dates throughout the summer. Please stop in to lend a hand. If you cannot come to a Wednesday night or Thursday morning packing, please try and help out by taking food home to prepare in advance!!

June 15 & 16

July 20 & 21

August 17 & 18

## USEFUL INFORMATION FROM The Episcopal Handbook

### *Why the Episcopal Church Welcomes Everyone*

Like many Christians, Episcopalians see Jesus' central message as reconciliation — the repairing of relationships between God and creation. When Jesus came to do this work he didn't surround himself with people who had their acts together, like pious rabbis or society's up-standing citizens. Jesus spent an inordinate amount of time hanging out with sinners, prostitutes, tax collectors, lepers, women — basically, society's marginalized and outcast. Jesus famously said that healthy people don't need doctors, sick people do.

Episcopalians take this to heart. We see Jesus' proclivity to invite everyone, and not turn anybody away. We like to think we welcome everyone because Jesus does.

Welcoming everyone does not mean we have no rules, boundaries, or guidelines. What it means is that we tend to be slow to judge and condemn. After all, one of Jesus' harshest warnings was not to judge (Matthew 7:1). Judgment is up to God. And when the verdict comes in, we believe God's mercy will win out over God's judgment. This is why we believe that showing God's acceptance, forgiveness, love, and welcome should be our defining characteristics.

Episcopalians betray their optimism in the very first line of our Catechism. When asked "What are we by nature?" our first answer is not, "wormy sinners in the hands of a fire-breathing God," but, "we are part of God's creation, made in the image of God." It's not that Episcopalians dismiss sin (some of us are particularly good at it!), it's that we believe that Jesus' power to overcome human transgressions and bring forgiveness is more powerful. The Gospel of reconciliation makes Episcopalians a hopeful people who love to laugh, celebrate, and welcome everyone to the party, which means you're invited too.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

This month I waited until the last day before the June Tydings deadline to write this article so that the most up to date information could be reported! As you recall, things were in limbo from mid-April until after Easter because the clergy were involved in Lenten programs, Holy week services, preparing for and celebrating Easter. We spent time checking references and planning for a field visit. In mid-May the candidate from the Diocese of Long Island and her husband visited us. The one day visit was busy – tour of the church, lunch, meeting with a real estate agent and a local tour of the area. In the evening she officiated and preached at a service for the vestry and search committee members followed by dinner in the parish hall. Search committee members prepare the dinner and vestry cleans up while the committee interviews the candidate. We did our best – a few days later the candidate called me to say she did not think she had the experience to possibly become our next rector. It was a heartfelt conversation and a difficult call to make and receive.



So now what – well we met again on May 22 to decide the next step. While a telephone interview had been conducted with another candidate, we decided to have another conversation with him. This second interview allowed more of us to get to know him and we are very encouraged. We asked him to plan a field visit in June and the diocese has scheduled an appointment for him to meet with Bishop Bennison.

The committee remains committed to our charge of calling our next rector. The members are so dedicated that recently two people literally dropped their bags from vacation and rushed over to attend a meeting! There is a lot of praying going on – during the meetings and of course on our own. We need your prayers too. We know the Holy Spirit guides us in our deliberations. – Susan LaRosa

## “TEN LITTLE CHRISTIANS”

◆ Ten little Christians standing in a line,  
 ◆ One disliked the pastor, then there were nine.  
 ◆ Nine little Christians stayed up very late,  
 ◆ One slept in on Sunday, then there were eight.  
 ◆ Eight little Christians on their way to heaven,  
 ◆ One took the low road, then there were seven.  
 ◆ Seven little Christians chirping like chicks,  
 ◆ One disliked the music, then there were six.  
 ◆ Six little Christians seemed very much alive,  
 ◆ But one lost his interest, then there were five.  
 ◆ Five little Christians pulling for Heaven’s shore,  
 ◆ But one stopped to rest, then there were four.  
 ◆ Four little Christians, each busy as a bee,  
 ◆ One got her feelings hurt, then there were three.  
 ◆ Three little Christians knew what to do,  
 ◆ One joined the sports crowd, then there were two.

Two little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done,  
 Differed with each other, then there was one.  
 One little Christian can’t do much ‘tis true;  
 Brought his friend to Bible study, then there were two.

Two earnest Christians, each won one more,  
 That doubled their number, then there were four.  
 Four sincere Christians worked early and late,  
 Each won another, then there were eight.

Eight little Christians, if they doubled as before,  
 In just a few short weeks, we’d have 1,024.  
 In this little jingle, there’s a lesson true,  
 You belong to the building, or the wrecking crew.

—Author Unknown

## FINANCIAL UPDATE–May 2011



In early April the vestry received a letter from a parishioner. In this letter the parishioner voiced concern that the first two candidates for rector withdrew. They mentioned their concern that we have a large deficit with a shrinking congregation. They questioned whether we are still a “viable parish”. They also addressed to me the most important part of their letter, our five-year plan. These concerns were discussed at the last vestry meeting and I was given the charge of responding.

First, I will say YES we are a “viable parish”. Sunday’s farewell to Father Kyle proved that to me without a doubt. We collected over \$1,000 for his gift. And as he showed us we “paid it forward” donating 1/2 to Libertae in his name. The people of Incarnation do care greatly about our “little church with the big heart.” We “step-up” over and over to do all we can. The vestry believes we will grow when we seat our new rector.

You may recall Linda Froelich and I presented a five-year plan in 2009. This plan stated that our goal was a balanced budget in 2010 & 2011. In 2012 the goal stated we wanted the surplus funds from fundraising reinvested after a balanced budget. In 2010 we ended with a deficit of less than \$1,500 and through 2011 are 50% below our projected shortfall while still planning for a new rector by fall. However, it is clear we will not meet those goals. So where do we go from here? We need to take a long hard look at our plans and goals for the future. Linda brought up some great points for the vestry to consider:

1. What are the vision and goals that the vestry has for our church regarding growth? In other words, where do they see us in five years?
2. What are the specific goals of each of our ministries and what are their projected budget needs?
3. What are some ideas on ways to generate income?

I’ll share with you my perspective. I’m a “half empty” kinda guy so believe that by the 5th year of our new rector’s tenure we will double our current pledging members (53). I also believe we will return to a full Sunday school schedule with multiple classes. I’ve asked the vestry to respond to those same questions that we will discuss at the next vestry meeting. Our 5-year plan will be a top priority in the coming months.

In the meantime, we must find new ways to generate income. We do not and can not expect the congregation to carry the weight while we grow. The fundraising committee and the vestry are looking for ways to draw in revenue from outside the church.

We were blessed with a bequest from Russell Stradling that we hope will remain intact for many years to come. We currently have enough cash reserves to finish the year without touching principal. Using the bequest is clearly a short term fix to a long term issue.

We all need to pitch in to move our ‘little church’ in the right direction. Bring friends, support our fundraising efforts, keep up your pledges and if you can, offer additional gifts for special projects. Give us ideas you may have to help us in these tight times. After all, we are Incarnation; only we can make it grow.

Dave Dixon  
Accounting Warden

## FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING

Now that the Spring Fair is over and a huge success, it's on to the next fundraisers. Many of the dates have not been set yet.

Calling all Coupon Shoppers and anyone that wants to save money!! We will be selling SAMARITAN SAVER cards for \$20.00. The cards can be used to get online discounts to restaurants, grocery stores, travel, auto, flowers and box office tickets. More details to follow.



Ice Cream Social will be held in late August — date to follow.

We are looking in to having a carnival through a carnival company. We will advise as more details and date is known.

Philadelphia Chorale—we hope to have a Fall and Christmas concert. They have held two spectacular concerts in the past which have been enjoyed by everyone. We look forward to having them here at Incarnation again this year!

Lottery Raffle will also be held in September/October, but this time there will be three winners instead of just one!



We will have a Gourmet Dinner in the fall. This dinner is a crowd pleaser and everyone who has attended has enjoyed it. I am so looking forward to it as I have not had the chance to attend one yet.

Of course, we are planning the Cookie Sale for the 1st Saturday in December. We are expanding this Annual sale and will also have 10-12 craft vendors which was well received last year.

If you have any ideas, please don't hesitate to contact me OR if you have an idea and want to Chair a fundraiser, that would be great and appreciated also!!

**Diane Kern**  
Fundraising Chair

## PARISH PICNIC



Our Parish Picnic will be held this year on Sunday, June 12th immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service (around 12:00 noon). Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. Please sign-up to bring a side dish and also to let us know how many in your family will be attending. This will give us an idea how many hot dogs and hamburgers we will need to buy. Also, if you have a gas grill that can be easily transported, please let us know as we will need two grills to do the cooking on.

We will also need volunteers to help out that day with set-up, cooking and clean-up!

### SCRIPT SALES

Church economics are a funny thing. They rely almost solely on the parishioners to fund the budget of a church and can depend on some fund raising events. One will tell you that usually fund raising events are about the parishioners paying again.

Scripts sales are a form of church advertising; in our church they represent about 22 of the parishioners. The unique thing about scripts sales is they are a fund raiser that DOES NOT require you to pay extra. Some of you are wondering, how so?

Here is how — it is your grocery money, we all have it, do not give it to the church, you give it to the grocery store. We are suggesting you plan ahead and give the money to the church in exchange for a script card. It is a debit card, a credit card and is so, so easy to use.

We have them for 6 stores, in amounts of \$50.00 or \$100.00.

The church receives 5% that is considered to be a fund raiser, but it is not out of pledge, time or talent money, it is grocery money!!

You can get them Saturday night or Sunday morning or any day of the week!!!

So what is your reason for not purchasing script? Come on, think about it. We could certainly use the boost in funds. If ten of you started buying \$50 a month that would be \$500 in script and \$25 to the church, times 12 months is \$300 a year! Now that helps us fund a program.

Head into our summer schedule with re-working your plan on buying groceries. Do not use cash anymore!! Trade in that cash for scripts.

May God bless you this summer,  
Marcie and Les

### SPRING FLEA MARKET & FAMILY FAIR

Below are some pictures that were taken at the Spring Flea Market which was held on May 7th here at Incarnation. Thanks again to those who volunteered their time that day, helped set-up on Friday and those who came out to shop!!



## OUR GRADUATES



### NOELLE STAWICKI

Noelle will graduate from Pennsbury High School on June 15th. She has been accepted into the American Sign Language Interpreting Program at the Community College of Philadelphia. This is a 2-year program that will give her an Associates Degree and the ability to work as a sign language interpreter. She also will have the option of moving on to get her Bachelor's degree so she is able to teach the deaf. Noelle has been active at Incarnation as an Acolyte, a member of the Search Committee and the sole member of our most recent J2A group.

### MARIA PICCIOTTI

Maria will graduate from Wissahickon Senior High School on June 9th. She will attend Philadelphia Biblical University in Langhorne to study Christian Counseling. She received their highest merit scholarship available. She has been attending New Beginnings Community Church of Ambler for about 2 years. She volunteers with several ministries and attends fellowship groups. She is the granddaughter of Joe & Janet Gantz and attended Incarnation with her parents Bob & Amy for several years. She participated in our Sunday School and the Rite 13 program.



### SARAH ROSE PALLADINO

Sarah graduated from Florida International University in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and a minor in Sociology. She is currently searching for employment.

### JEFFREY WOHRLE

Nephew of Diane Kern, Jeffrey Woehrle graduated from Western New England College on May 21st with a degree in Industrial Engineering.

### KEITH DUNDAS

Keith graduated in May from Temple University, School of Pharmacy with a Master of Science degree in Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs. Keith is the son of parishioner, Laura Dundas.

### DEEPA EDDY

Deepa graduated in May from Columbia University with a Masters degree in Science Education. She hopes to secure a job as a High School science teacher. Deepa is the daughter of Ted & Priya Eddy.



## VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ A Daisy Girl Scout troop from the area has asked permission to do a garden project on the church property. Permission was granted and they will do the project as well as keep up with the weeding, etc.
- ◆ Spring Fair was a success and the fundraising committee is working on ideas for future fundraisers.
- ◆ There are lots of opportunities for volunteers for outreach projects including the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and Gain. Also the Seaman's Institute is sponsoring a sail on the Delaware on June 18th. Information is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.
- ◆ June 12th has been designated as Youth Sunday. Graduates will be honored and the Parish Picnic will be held this day.

### PRAYER SHAWLS



**We are running low on prayer shawls and could use a few more to get us through the next 6 months should we need them. If you have some time to knit or crochet a prayer shawl or two it would be very much appreciated! If you have questions on how to do a prayer shawl, please give Linda Dellmuth a call.**

**flea market**  
**to benefit the Veterans Square  
 Monument Fund**

**At Veterans Square Park  
 (corner of Heacock and Edgewood Roads)  
 June 11th 8 am-1 pm  
 (rain date is Sunday, June 12th)**

**Set up your own table for \$20 to sell your items as a vendor.  
 Or you may donate items — proceeds will go to  
 the Monument Fund.**

**Please join in or stop by for some good values!!**

**Questions: Susan Natale  
[snatale3@gmail.com](mailto:snatale3@gmail.com) or 215-736-8925  
[www.VeteransSquare.org](http://www.VeteransSquare.org)**

# YOUTH SUNDAY




Sunday, June 12th we will celebrate the close of our program year with Youth Sunday! Please plan on joining us as the youth of the parish participate in all facets of the 10:30 a.m. service. The youth will serve as our lectors, intercessor, gift bearers, junior acolytes, and perhaps even greeters and ushers. And our sole J2A graduate, Noelle Stawicki, will be preaching the sermon on this day!

We will celebrate all of our recent graduates at this service and our Parish Picnic will follow the 10:30 a.m. service.

So show your support for the youth of Incarnation and try to join us for the service as well as the Picnic which will follow!!



# SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YOUTH



**GREG LaROSA**

My name is Greg LaRosa and I am finishing up 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Council Rock North High School in Newtown. Also I am a member of the J2A class – you have probably seen me selling pretzels and soda at one of the church fairs or making an announcement in church about one of our fundraisers. We always appreciate your support. My favorite class in school this year has been Social Studies. To make extra money this summer I will be driving our lawn tractor to mow our lawn and taking care of my friend’s dogs, cats and fish when he is away.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our last regular Sunday school session will be held on Sunday, June 5th. Our June 12th service will be our Youth service so there will be no Sunday school. Throughout the summer we will not have Sunday school, but may occasionally gather the children on a Sunday during church to do a craft activity. Babysitting will continue throughout the summer during the 9:00 a.m. service if there continues to be a need. If you know ahead of time that you will be attending a Sunday service, and will need babysitting for your children, please contact the church office and we will make sure a babysitter is provided for that week.

A special thanks to Dayna Gribbon & Mitzi Gross for faithfully teaching Incarnation’s Sunday school and Children’s Chapel!!

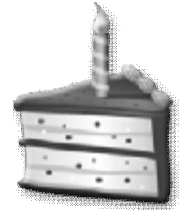
OUR DEARLY DEPARTED IN THE MONTH OF June



Harley Yonn  
 Gerard Larson  
 Mark Hard  
 Walter M. Ryan  
 Mildred Wal kos  
 William McCl ure  
 Howard Bamford  
 Virginia P. Dixon  
 Warren E. Long  
 John H. LaBar  
 Russell Smith  
 Elsie Heinbach  
 Chris Russo  
 Betty McCl ure  
 Claire Gail ey

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

Birthdays in the month of June!!



**Elizabeth Martin**  
**Daniel Gribbon**  
**Alice Goetz**  
**Stan Morgan**

**Barbara Palladino**  
**Mitch Halista**  
**Ken Henderson**  
**David Kern**

**Kara Dundas**  
**Sandy Swanson**  
**Kayla Kern**  
**Beth Bryant**

INCARNATION PARISH STATISTICS: May 2011

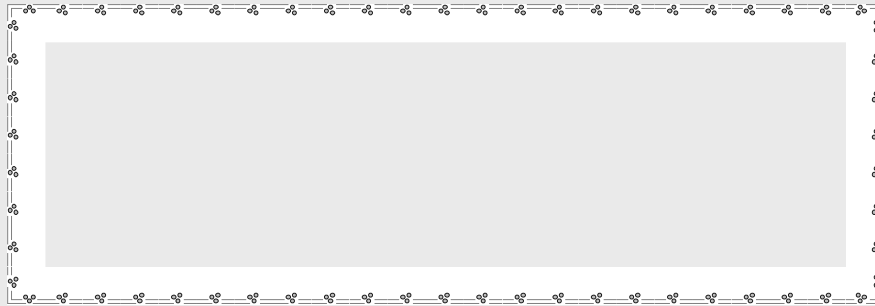


Current Membership.....	77 families	
New Members.....	0	
Transfers Out.....	0	
Baptisms.....	1	Average Daily Attendance
Weddings.....	0	Morning Prayer.....
Funerals.....	0	Saturday/Sunday Service.....
		65



The Church of the Incarnation  
1505 Makefield Road  
Morrisville, Pennsylvania 19067  
*The Rev. Kyle St. Claire, Interim Rector*

Postage



Parish Office: (215) 295-2259  
Website: [www.incarnationepiscopal.org](http://www.incarnationepiscopal.org)



## SUMMER SERVICES

**Saturday Evenings**  
5:00 p.m.

**Sunday Morning**  
9:00 a.m.

***Beginning the weekend of  
June 18th!!***



*The Parish Picnic is being held  
Sunday, June 12th  
immediately following the  
10:30 a.m. service*

**Please check for sign-up sheets in the  
Parish Hall!!**