



Refugee Resettlement Family to Arrive Soon

The Refugee Resettlement committee has notified IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services) that our Rectory will be ready to receive a family as of Monday, May 11th. We will receive details of the family just a few days prior to their arrival on, or soon after that day. People from the Church of the Holy Advent, St. Mary's of the Visitation, the United Methodist Church, and Clinton Congregational Church have joined together to transform our Rectory into a beautiful fully furnished and equipped house, ready to become "home" to a family anxious to begin a new life here. An 'Open House' will be held the morning of May 10th so we can all take a walk through and see the wonderful results of all these efforts.

The committee extends heartfelt thanks for all the donations which have furnished the house – so many items were received that they are planning a tag sale to turn the extra items into cash to support the project – and for the labor provided to clean the house and move all that furniture into place! They have a list of items which are still needed, and are also working to fill out a schedule of people to drive the family to various doctors' and business appointments. Contact Diana Achee at 669-2601, to find out more or to offer to help with the transportation schedule.

Additional information and opportunities to become involved will continue to be made available in church on Sundays, as well as through the parish website allwelcome.org

A Few Words from the Vicar

The energy and Good News of Easter continue to radiate through our parish life this spring, and what a wonderful thing it is to be preparing for guests in the Rectory. Carol Mahier, Diana Achee and Don Hubert are heading the Refugee Resettlement Committee here at Holy Advent, and their good work – along with the committee members – has not only our parishioners involved but members of Clinton's Congregational, Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches. Here is true ecumenism, working side by side in offering hospitality to the displaced. The committee will be keeping us all informed as plans and events unfold, and remember that there is opportunity to lend a hand even if you have been in a back row since the plan was approved. A special website has been set up to answer questions and detail needs. It is linked to our parish web site.

We have been blessed by a gift from the Middlesex Deanery to assist our resettlement program. At the March meeting the question came up as to the purpose of the money in the Deanery treasury – just under three hundred dollars – and the new Rector of St. Andrew's in Madison, Reverend Mary Canavan, suggested that the money be given to Holy Advent for our refugee resettlement program. A vote was taken and her motion was carried by a large majority. We are grateful, and it is my hope that Holy Advent will contribute leadership to the Deanery as new opportunities are explored. I volunteered to work with Dean Jonathan Folts in pursuing new areas of co-operation among the churches of the Middlesex Deanery.

It is also exceedingly good news that our grant application to the State of Connecticut for renovation of the church exterior has been accepted. The sum of thirty-three thousand dollars should be coming to us this summer just in time for the work to be done. We owe Marye Wagner a large debt of gratitude for her work on this: getting the drawings together both for vestry approval and state consideration, and the myriad of forms required for the application to be even considered. Thank you! This work should be going forward this summer along with kitchen renovation in the parish hall. It makes my head swim!

Ascension Day is traditionally a very important feast day, falling as it does every year forty days after Easter. It is always a Thursday, and that makes it hard for everyone to take part in the observance, but this year I am hopeful that we can make it something special. Bishop Jeffery Rowthorn,

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Upcoming Events

May 7 The 58th National Day of Prayer

Noon; in front of the Clinton Town Hall.
See the related article on page 4.

May 10 Mother's Day

9:00 A.M.; Breakfast
Hosted by the Outreach Ministry.

May 17 Contemporary Dance Performance

4:00 P.M. Andrews Memorial Town Hall
Route 1, Clinton.
See the advertisement on page 3.

May 17 Rogation Sunday

May 21 Ascension Day
Noon service with Bishop Jeffery Rowthorn.

May 23 Tag Sale

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on the Parish Hall lawn to benefit The Refugee Resettlement Project.

May 25 Memorial Day Memorial Day Tribute

June 21 Father's Day
9:00 A.M. Breakfast, host to be determined.

July 19 Summer Picnic

10:00 A.M. Service to be held at the Clinton Town Beach hosted by Fellowship Events Committee.

A Few Words from the Vicar

Continued from page 1
our retired Suffragan Bishop, has agreed to come to Holy Advent on this Ascension Day, May 21, to officiate and preach at noon. There will be music and a celebration to welcome Jeffery back to our parish. Plan if at all possible to be there.

It is going to be a lively and wonderful summer at Holy Advent. We are growing, attracting new people and bringing back others who have been absent for a while. Spread the word. Lend a hand to help our guests in the Rectory. Thank God for life!

Faithfully yours,
Bruce+

Pastoral Care

Our small group is busy weekly helping to care for the many needs of our parishioners. We encourage you to join us in helping when the need arises. Below are a few names of fellow parishioners who now reside with their family or in some cases a nursing facility. Please take a few moments to send them a card. Let them know that were still thinking of them.

WE HAVE MANY BLESSINGS.

Send them a card, a thought, or a prayer -

Frank Corning c/o Dwight Corning 340 Newtown Tpke Redding, Ct. 06896	Valerie Taft Harris c/o Springdale West 3130E Broadway Rd Mesa, AZ 85204	Sally Campbell c/o Saybrook Health Ctr 1775 Boston Post Road Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475
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We will have a pastoral care meeting on Saturday the 9th of May in the Parish Hall @ 10:00. The meeting should only be 45 minutes. We'll have a nice cup of coffee, and discussion. Please save the date **WE NEED YOU.**

PLEASE COME AND ENJOY GIVING OF YOURSELF.

Thanks again for being the giving person you are
Blessings,
Lorraine

Stewardship / Facilities

After what seemed like a more "weather weary" winter than those of recent past, Facilities looks forward to a fresh start with the arrival of Spring.

The most recent "big news" is that we have been awarded the grant which will lead to the restoration of the church exterior. The steps which lie ahead include developing the final specifications, putting the project out to bid, reviewing bids, and awarding the contract. This continues to be possible through the dedicated efforts of Marye Wagner.

THANKS, MARYE !!!

The Parish Hall kitchen project will resume now that the weather has become a bit more favorable for working outside. Once that is complete, attention can be focused on making the main hall handicap accessible.

A "walk-through" of the Rectory resulted in a long list of small repairs necessary to put it in "safe, secure, and serviceable" condition in preparation for housing a refugee family. Many of these repairs have been accomplished at this time, with most of the remaining to be done prior to occupancy. The winter weather has left us with more than the usual spring clean-up work, due largely to the snow removal efforts. There are several areas of lawn and gardens which need attention and before too long it will be time to sign up volunteers for lawn mowing.

The Facilities Committee continues to gather on the third Wednesday of each month to review and plan. The actual work is done as volunteers schedules allow. Please contact Tom Brennan (669-1284) or Art Wiley (245-7429) for information or to volunteer.

Clinton Chamber Of Commerce Concert

Series 6:30 P.M. in the Abraham School front yard in front of the Vece Gazebo.

July 2 Long Island Sound

July 9 Queen of Hearts

July 23 Digger Stevens Band

July 30 The Convertables.

Christian Education

The vestry liaison for Christian Education is Martha Tolan Wilbur. Please see her with your suggestions and ideas.

The Church School children were involved in the ceremony for the Seder dinner on April 9th.

Sadie Douglas was an integral part of the Good Friday evening Tenebrae service.

Saturday was Easter egg dye day and Easter had the children searching out hidden eggs to *redeem* for chocolate.



The Church School continues with its fundraiser for the Episcopal mission that sends children to school in the Dominican Republic. After the age of ten, children must pay \$300 to go to the school and the vast majority of families do not have this money. The goal is to send at least one child to school, and hopefully more. A large trash can has been placed in the parish hall marked Dominican Scholarship Fundraiser. The children ask that parishioners fill this can with their soda and seltzer water cans and the children will redeem them for the nickel and put the money into the scholarship fund.

Fellowship

Would you like to join together for a dinner to meet with current church members or to welcome new church members?

The vestry would like to create a practice where church members invite each other to their homes for a casual get-together and dinner.

If you have an interest in this fellowship of dining with other church members, please contact: Shelly DiAcri, 860-669-8391 or Trudy Valenti 860-664-3653 to get on the list.

Fellowship has branched into two ministries; Hospitality and Events. *Hospitality* hosts the beverage and snack time after the 10:00 service and *Events* plans and assists the committees that host our special events. Call Trudy to join both or either of these fellowship ministries.

Fundraiser Planning

We have much to celebrate and do at Holy Advent. Sometimes projects conflict in terms of timing or do not have adequate planning. The Church of the Holy Advent has a procedure for the vestry to approve all fundraisers before they are started. Such a proposal for a fundraiser should state;

- (a) the need
- (b) the recipient of the funds
- (c) the committee or group sponsoring the entire fundraiser, including the chairperson.

Obviously, the most important aspect of this procedure is PLANNING. We are an active church in the Clinton community. Advance planning and vestry approval for fundraisers enhances cooperation and participation.

**Stewardship / Finance**

The Stewardship Committee is looking for volunteers to help spread the "Good News" about what is happening at Holy Advent and to get ideas from the Adventurers. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me, Bob Smith, at 860-669-6122 or ikonbobs@yahoo.com.

Stewardship Report for the First Quarter: Charles Stannard, Treasurer

The first quarter is completed and our income for operations is \$27K, only 22% of the budget, a budget which has a projected deficit. Pledge income - \$21K - is at 19% of the amount pledged although this is misleading as a substantial amount was prepaid in '08. So, the bottom line, we're probably o.k., especially if there are prepaids at the end of this year for next year.

On the expense side, - \$27K - they are at 22% of budget also. We are prepaying our oil in April for the coming heating season. Due to our present contract, we saved money on oil as the price dropped this year. We have no outstanding obligations. Non-operating income - Alms, Dominican Republic Scholarship, Capital Interest, Refugee Resettlement, and Memorials - has exceeded \$20 thousand, YES thousands. The major amount of this was donated by persons other than Holy Adventurers, a tribute to what we do and how we are perceived. A note: the Vestry at its March meeting not only approved the Refugee Resettlement Project, but committed up to \$1000 to put the Rectory on line - water, gas hookups, plumbing and electrical needs. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK - BUT REMEMBER, STEWARDSHIP IS NOT ONLY \$\$\$, IT'S YOUR TIME AND TALENT. GIVE THAT TOO.**

Contemporary Dance Performance

Date Sunday, May 17

Time 4:00 PM

Place: Andrews Memorial Town Hall Route 1, Clinton

The Clark Dance Theater and New Haven Ballet modern dancers will join in a performance to support Holy Advent's Refugee Resettlement Project

Tickets are \$10 at the Door.
Contact: Shelly DiAcri 860-669-8391



A Word from the Wardens

Perhaps the Lenten inserts tucked into the Sunday worship program are now recycled. The inserts combined scripture, psalms, insights, and art about the Lent to Easter journey. The inserts required only to be read. However, the final section of each insert, titled LIVE, asks more of the reader: to ritualize the Easter signs, symbols, and meanings in a personal way. We might think of the tasks we do at Holy Advent as routine, done daily or weekly, and continued for months or even years. Opening the church every day, serving hospitality each Sunday, cutting the grass weekly, planning monthly opportunities for fellowship, driving a member to church, writing a grant are more than tasks. Those are the personal rituals performed by church members that continue the Easter spirit. No incense wafts as we do them, no music precedes the start or finish, but we LIVE the alleluias in the doing.

Shelly DiAcri and Art Wiley

May 7 The 58th National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. The observance is continued by The National Day of Prayer Task Force, a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation on the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The Task Force represents a [Judeo Christian](#) expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible. A local group of the Task Force will gather in front of the Clinton Town Hall on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at Noon, to pray for our nation's government, military, media, businesses, education, churches, and families. All are welcome to participate.

Tag Sale – Saturday, May 23 to Benefit Refugees

So many wonderful donations were received to set up the Rectory for the Refugee Project that a Tag Sale is being planned to sell the 'extras' and use the profits toward the project expenses and to purchase needed items and gift certificates for the refugee family. The Tag Sale will take place at the church on Saturday, May 23rd from 9:00 – 3:00. Call Trudy Valenti 664-3653 with additional donations or for information.

Pennies for Heaven

Coin boxes for the Dominican Republic Scholarship Fund and The Bishop's Fund for Children are available at the church entrance to take home. Opportunities for service abound during the summer months, and Father Bruce recommends the Dominican Republic the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, ministries that so close to our parish that always appreciate additional hands and offerings.

Navajo Stew Casserole

This dish made a big hit at a lunch for the Refugee Resettlement Project; here's the recipe from the Moosewood Restaurant's Simple Suppers:

Ingredients;

2 medium sweet potatoes	2 red or green bell peppers
1 large onion	4 garlic cloves, minced
2 T. vegetable or olive oil	1 T. Ground cumin
1t. salt	1/4 t. black pepper
1/2 C. fresh cilantro	1 15-oz can of chopped tomatoes
1 15-oz can of black beans, drained	

Directions:

Preheat oven to 450 degree. Lightly oil a baking sheet. Peel and cut sweet potatoes into 1" cubes. Stem and seed the peppers & cut into 1" pieces. Peel and cut onion into wedges. Toss the vegetables with the garlic, oil, cumin, salt & pepper. Spread on prepared baking sheet and roast in oven for approx. 10 minutes. Stir & continue to roast for another 10-15 minutes until sweet potatoes are tender by not mushy. Puree tomatoes with cilantro. Pour the pureed tomato/cilantro mixture and the beans over the vegetables and continue baking for another 10 minutes.

A Personal Prayer List

has been posted in the church. All are invited to add names of anyone in particular need of prayer. They will be included in the intercessions each Sunday. Thanksgivings and praises are also welcome! A new list will begin with each new month.

Name Tag Sunday

To assist in helping everyone know our church visitors, the first Sunday of each month name tags will be made available to every person attending church, please write your name on yours and wear it for the morning. Thanks from one who has a hard time remembering names.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May, June, July, August

We'd like to honor you by recognizing your birthday and anniversary;
Please provide us with us your names & dates!

May	June	July	August
08 Ronald Anderson	01 Eileen Aiken	04 Betty Eccleston	01 Carol Dowd
08 Taylor Bergeron	01 Gilbert and Ann Stannard	06 Mabel Wallock	04 Donna Gagné
15 Frank & Michele DiAcri	02 Susan Smith	09 Joseph and Agnes Nyiri	05 Elsie Newsom
16 Agnes Nyiri	06 Fred and Jane Carnevale	11 Bob Smith	14 Madeline Carmody
16 Paul & Alice Edman	07 George Bracci	11 Phillip Achee	15 Penelope Chittenden
16 Tom & Kathy Whitbread	08 Marye Wagner	11 Christopher and Amy Egan	16 Michele DiAcri
18 Frank Corning	11 Addie Milner	15 Bruce Aiken	17 Geraldine Schultz
18 Jean Wiley	11 Frank DiAcri	16 Sarah Wagner	20 E Ray Sparks
19 Steven Mahier	12 Dorothy Martin	18 Art Ritchie	21 Deborah Ambrogio
20 Dontrell Douglas	18 Art and Jean Wiley	24 Eugene Stickney	23 Matthew Mahier
22 Marjorie Reid	19 Courtney Gagné	25 John and Irmgard McClymont	24 John and Marye Wagner
28 KatieDowd	20 Gene and Karen Stickney	29 Frederick Carnevale	26 LaMar and Eileen Kelly
	21 Aidan Moran	29 Joseph Luchuk	27 George Eccleston
	25 Jenna Egan		30 Nicolo Cacace
	26 Jacqueline Cacace		30 Ray and Marian Sparks
	26 Charles and Linda Stannard		
	26 Kelly Smith		
	28 Sabrina Cacace		
	29 Aidan and Maria Moran		

OUTREACH

DISASTER RELIEF THROUGHOUT THE WORLD: The Vestry encourages your support of Episcopal Relief & Development, which provides emergency assistance in times of disaster; rebuilds devastated communities and offers long-term program development solutions to fight poverty. Donations can be mailed to: Episcopal Relief and Development, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. To donate by phone, please call 1-800-334-7626, ext. 5129. Visit their website www.er-d.org

ITEMS FOR SOLDIERS: The Shoreline Community Women collect items for our US Soldiers. The full detailed list will be posted in the Parish Hall. Any questions: See Mary Luchuk, Donna Gagné or call other members of the Shoreline Community Women: Brenda Farrell 860-663-0750 or Cindy Stevens 860-663-1109.

FOOD DRIVES – ALWAYS REMEMBER THE FOOD PANTRY! Keep the Food Pantry in mind as you shop for your family – \$10 gift cards to the local grocery stores are also appreciated! You are welcome to leave your donations at the back of the church or at the Food Pantry door on the lower level of the Parish Hall.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *The Food Pantry distribution at Holy Advent is Wednesday Evenings, 6-7 P.M.*
To volunteer please call Lin Smith at 860 388-1988

WANTED: Rides to Church.

Betty Eccleston is compiling a list of people who would like to participate in Sunday services, but transportation is needed. Those willing to provide an occasional ride to church are asked to speak to her about your availability.

Holy Advent Liturgical Roster – May, June, July 2009

If you are unable to serve on the date specified date, **please provide a substitute** (using the Call List) and notify the church office (860-669-2232) of the change by the Monday preceding the service. Please e-mail Shelly DiAcri, mgd5@comcast.net, before July 15, if you are unavailable after July. Readings are listed on the Episcopal Church Calendar and sent in advance to lectors.

Sundays Date	Chalice Bearer 8:00 AM	Chalice Bearer 10:00 AM	Crucifer/Acolyte Torchbearer	Lector	Intercessor	Usher & Oblation Br'r.	Hospitality	Altar Guild	Vestry Rep
May 3 4 th Easter	Paul Edman	Rufus Marsh	Joseph Luchuk Eli Luchuk Matt Luchuk	Don Hubert	Deb Ambrogio	Church School	Gina Sullivan	Marye Wagner D.Ambrogio	Deb Ambrogio Shelly DiAcri
May 10 Mother's Day Brkfst	Paul Edman	Ray Sparks	Sarah Wagner	George Eccleston	M. J. Valenti	Betty & Geo. Eccleston	<i>Mother's Day Breakfast</i>	Marye Wagner D.Ambrogio	Shelly DiAcri Don Hubert
May 17 6 th Easter (Rogation)	Paul Edman	M.Tolan- Wilbur	Matthew Egan	Courtney Gagne	Rufus Marsh	Chris Egan D. Wahlquist	Amy Egan	Dowd, Nelson, Rees	Bob Smith Trudy Valenti
May 21 Ascension	TBD	n/a	--	TBD	TBD	TBD	n/a	n/a	TBD
May 24 7 th Easter	Paul Edman	Rufus Marsh	Courtney Gagne	Richard Scheffler	Lisa Scheffler	Lorraine & Ron Anderson	Maria Moran	Dowd, Nelson, Rees	Bob Smith Art Wiley
May 31 Pentecost	Paul Edman	Ray Sparks	Robert Burgess	Shelly DiAcri	M.J.Valenti	Joyce & Bill Russell	Shelly DiAcri	Diana Achee	L. Anderson Art Wiley
June 7 Trinity Sunday	Elsie Newsom	Ray Sparks	Sarah Wagner Trell Douglas C. Bencivengo	Charles Bates	Tom Whitbread	Church School	Laura Bencivengo	Diana Achee	Deb Ambrogio Art Wiley
June 14 - 2 nd Pentecost	Paul Edman	M. Tolan- Wilbur	Joseph Luchuk	Rufus Marsh	Art Wiley	Betty & George Eccleston	Maureen Bergeron	Marye Wagner D. Ambrogio	Shelly DiAcri Trudy Valenti
June 21 – Father's Day Breakfast	Elsie Newsom	M. Tolan- Wilbur	Matthew Egan Jenna Egan	Dee Mozzochi	Charles Bates	Chris Egan Bob Smith	<i>Father's Day Breakfast</i>	Marye Wagner D. Ambrogio	Don Hubert Bob Smith
June 28 – 4 th Pentecost	Paul Edman	Ray Sparks	C. Gagne M. Sullivan	M. J. Valenti	Deb Ambrogio	David Wahlquist John Gagne	Maria Moran	Dowd, Nelson, Rees	Deb Ambrogio L. Anderson
July 5 – 5 th Pentecost	Elsie Newsom	M. Tolan- Wilbur	R. Burgess Trell Douglas	Lisa Scheffler	Richard Scheffler	Lorraine & Ron Anderson	Shelly DiAcri	Dowd, Nelson, Rees	Shelly DiAcri Don Hubert
July 12 – 6 th @ Beach	--	Ray Sparks	--	Tom Whitbread	George Eccleston	--	<i>Church Picnic @ Clinton Beach</i>	n/a	Bob Smith Trudy Valenti
July 19 – 7 th Pentecost	Elsie Newsom	Rufus Marsh	C. Gagne M. Sullivan	Art Wiley	Charles Bates	Chris Egan Bob Smith	Maureen Bergeron	Diana Achee	M.Tolan-Wilbur Art Wiley
July 26 – 8 th Pentecost	Paul Edman	M. Tolan- Wilbur	R. Burgess C. Bencivengo	Charles Bates	M. J. Valenti	Joyce & Bill Russell	Amy Egan	Diana Achee	L. Anderson Art Wiley

Notes: 1. Nursery Care is by arrangement.

2. Intercessors please check the prayer list at the church entrance to see if additional names are to be included in Prayers of the People.

*God Bless You Today with His wonderful gifts
Faith that inspires, Hope that uplifts
Joy that is lasting Peace that endures
May these special blessings always be yours*

HOLY ADVENT MISSION STATEMENT

We are called to be a Christian Community of Faith,
Empowered to share God’s love freely through Worship and Service to Others

CONTACT INFO:

Parish Office: 860-669-2232 Fax: 860-669-9630

Vicar Fr. Bruce Shipman 860-446-2238

Mail: P.O. Box 536, Clinton, CT 06413-0536

Website: <http://www.allwelcome.org>

Vestry meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 and all are welcome to attend.

VESTRY:

Art Wiley, Warden; Shelly DiAcri, Warden; Charles Stannard, Treasurer; Debbie Ambrogio, Clerk;

Lorraine Anderson, Donald Hubert, Bob Smith, Trudy Valenti and Martha Tolan-Wilbur

Vestry meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 and all are welcome to attend.

Nominating Committee Mary Luchuk, Aidan Moran and Trudy Valenti

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Trudy Valenti 664-3653 or trudyvalenti@comcast.net

If you would like to receive future newsletters by email and or remove your name from the printed copy list,
please send your request via email to holyadvent@sbcglobal.net



MEMORIAL FLOWERS

If you would like to give flowers to grace our altar
in honor or memory of loved ones,

in thanksgiving, or to celebrate a special occasion
such as a birthday or anniversary, or Memorial Day

Please write on the lines below;

the date and your notation to be printed in the bulletin for that Sunday.

Please place this in the offering plate with your donation or mail to:
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY ADVENT
P.O. BOX 536
CLINTON, CT 06413

Your name _____ Your Telephone Number _____

Give It To God In Prayer

Eleanor Torchia

When my burdens lie heavy upon me
And the load seems too much to bear
The words that often come to mind
“Give It To God In Prayer”

I think of yesterday’s misdeeds
When no one seemed to be there
I recall the words that gave comfort
“Give It To God In Prayer”

I ask our Father to guide me
To ease all my worry and care
In the silence I hear a voice
“Give It To God In Prayer”

I’ll face tomorrow with hope
As life lessons I gladly share
It’s never as dark as it seems
When you “Give It To God In Prayer”

HOLY ADVENTURES

P. O. BOX 536

CLINTON, CT 06413