



Glad Tidings

"Publish Glad Tidings, Tidings of Peace"

There is an ancient Chinese curse: "May you live in interesting times."

Well, we certainly qualify for "interesting times." There are fierce and divisive political skirmishes throughout the country, with participants demonizing each other, within and without their own parties. Economic instability is a frightening reality on both the international and national scene, the financial impacts of which run much closer to home. Even our weather seems to be under the control of some long-forgotten comic-book mad scientist - maybe we're better off letting the groundhog decide after all.

In the midst of, and in the face of all of this chaos, we have the church. Sometimes it feels as though we are some small craft on the leading edge of some frightful storm which threatens to overrun and swamp us. Who are we to survive the onslaught?

We are the church; and the church is the Body of Christ. This self-same Christ who, when woken from slumber, told the storm to hush - and it obeyed. We are the proclaimers of the Gospel, those fed and strengthened by the Sacraments, those faithful to another Kingdom.

In this corner of the Kingdom, we are Incarnation Holy Sacrament Episcopal Church - we are IHS.

In a world ruled by divisiveness, we are a strong community, gathering strength and increasingly becoming one family, lifting up each other in prayer and in love and welcoming any and all to join us as followers of Christ. Nearly seven years ago, I challenged our vestry with the goal of an annual average Sunday attendance (ASA) of 80 worshippers - and preparing for this report and the report to the National Church, I found that this is exactly our ASA for 2011 - praise be to God! (And now to set a new goal!)

In a world struggling with economic downturn, we are showing continued endurance and growth. You have been faithful with your support and it shows. After *many* years of budgets ending up deeply in the red, 2011 was a year when we *nearly* broke even with the budget. We still have a little ways to go, and hope to make 2012 the year we finally turn that particular corner, with your help.

In a world stuck looking back, we have been looking forward. We had our second Christmas Eve in a row which required more than one liturgy, and are moving forward in the knowledge that our numbers also require a second Easter liturgy. Our vestry has faithfully looked to

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**MARCH
2012**

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Alexander (Sandy) C.
Graham, IV, Rector
FrSandy@ihschurch.org

Joanne Sabatino
Organist and Choir Director

Bev Brescia
Parish Secretary

Diane Tapley
Financial Secretary

VESTRY

Cheryl Avery

Sue Bevilacqua

Maria Buonviri

Tom Chadwick

Kevin Dale

Greg Gutierrez

BettyLou Hadley-Laird

Kris Haelle

Bev Rorer

Dane Tanner

Ashley Thomas

Barb Thompson

www.ihschurch.org

solve all sorts of problems – both old and new – with a new vigor.

We have all looked to see how we might extend our hospitality to those with mobility issues – plan to read more about that in the enclosed report, but here it is enough to say that we dreamt together, learned together, and in our whole parish’s commitment to respond to this need, we are happily compelled to find a solution that works within our means.

Yes, these are interesting times. It is also clear to me that for IHS, these are exciting times!

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

- 3/01 Newt Wade
- 3/03 Tiffany D’Urso (Conn)
- 3/07 Steven Buddenhagen
- 3/07 Martha Fulmer
- 3/09 Daniel Hall
- 3/10 Christopher Gerrow
- 3/10 Marge Toriello
- 3/10 Virginia Tanner
- 3/12 Mabel Peters
- 3/13 Bev Rorer



- 3/13 Alexandra Schwab
- 3/16 Steven Norris, Jr.
- 3/16 Ryan Sachse
- 3/17 Russell Staley
- 3/20 Stacey VanRensler
- 3/25 Bob Thompson
- 3/27 Todd Lewis
- 3/29 Sue Bevilacqua
- 3/30 Susan Elder

- 3/08 Courtney and Ryan Sachse
- 3/29 Susan and William Elder

Please let the Church office know of any additions, deletions or corrections that need to be made in the above two lists. This is our most recent information, and we depend on you to keep us current.

Incarnation Holy Sacrament Prayer Cycle – You may have noticed in the bulletin and the Prayers of the People certain ministries named in our *prayer cycle*. This is a seven-week cycle, and this month’s ministries are listed below. Please consider these ministries in your prayers, and allow us the privilege of connecting you with one or more of these ministries as the spirit moves you!

March 4th	Development Committee and Sewing Group
March 11th	Eucharistic Ministers and Wednesday Wonders
March 18th	Finance Committee and Ushers
March 25th	Girls Friendly Society and Vestry

Fellowship Gathering Sign-Up



We have started a “team concept”; presently there are 12 teams (see article below for additional information). If you’d like to join one of the teams or start your own, please contact Bev in the church office (610-259-5148) or via e-mail bev@ihschurch.org. If you are not able to join, you may bring in a box of cookies or crackers for the pantry, a gallon of iced tea or lemonade. Fellowship Gathering

is a “coming together” time, and many hands *do* make for lighter work! Also remember during the winter months to bring an extra mug from home for use; place your name on the bottom and leave it in the kitchen.

<i>March 4th</i>	<i>Stacey Hawley & Joy Grenfell</i>
<i>March 11th</i>	<i>Annual Meeting</i>
<i>March 18th</i>	<i>Kevin & Heather Dale Margaret McClaren</i>
<i>March 25th</i>	<i>Sue Bevilacqua, Kathy Laber & Barb Thompson</i>

Parish Life Committee

Would you like to help with church dinners, bazaars or other special events that energize our parish through fellowship? If you are interested in helping with events that affect the Life of the Parish, please contact the office.



News.....Sunday

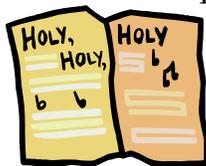
school continues to have great participation. Thank you to those who contributed to the Covenant House Scarf, hat, glove drive. We collected three large boxes for the teen help center.

Building our church has progressed. Our roof is on and our stained glass windows will soon be installed. As we add each part of the building we learn what the church parts symbolize. We have enjoyed building churches out of many different materials.

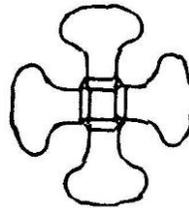
Look for upcoming information on our next service project which will help the residents of Fair Acres.

Lenten Series – Join us on Wednesday evenings during the month of March at Holy Comforter for a discussion on the topic “Favorite Hymns”.

If you plan on attending let Fr. Sandy know your favorite hymns so they can be discussed and sung! We will meet at 6:30 for a light supper followed by the discussion at 7:30. *I H S will host the dinner on March 7th and we will need volunteers to serve and clean up at Holy Comforter.* See Fr. Sandy or contact the office if you are available to help on the 7th.



Stations of the Cross – Join us for



the Way of the Cross- each Friday evening (February 24th through April 6th) during Lent at 7:30 PM. This quiet, centering - liturgy finds the whole Congregation

processing from station to station around the church and lasts about thirty minutes.

Service Schedule for Lent

Lenten Series starting Wednesday
February 29th through March 28th at
Holy Comforter
6:30 pm Dinner – reservations requested
7:30 pm – discussion

Stations of the Cross each Friday 7:00 starting
February 24th through April 6th

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – April 5 th	7:30 pm
Good Friday - April 6 th	noon
Stations of the Cross – April 6 th	7:00 pm
Saturday Vigil – April 7 th	7:30 pm
Easter Morning – April 8 th	10:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt	11:30 am

Glad Tidings Newsletter Articles for the April, 2012 Glad Tidings should be in the office by Tuesday, March 20th – Thank You Bev B

Easter Flowers – The form to request Altar flowers for Easter Sunday is included in the newsletter. You may again request a specific spring flower – tulips, daffodils, or geraniums – if the form is in the church office by Monday March 26th. All forms must be submitted no later than Thursday March 29th. Additional forms will be available in the church office or in the back of the church the last two Sunday’s in March.



Thank you. Altar Guild & Bev B

IHS Annual Meeting – Sunday

March 11^h – Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting, which takes place after the morning service March 11th in the parish hall. **If you need to do a report, please start working on it as it should be in the office by Tuesday March 6th. Our thanks to the Sewing Group and Sunday School for already completing theirs!**



Our current Vestry Nominees are:

1. Cheryl Avery - I’m a cradle Episcopalian who grew up in the Church of the Atonement, Morton, PA, and later served on its Vestry as the Accounting Warden. Upon Atonement’s closing in 2007, my father, a 16+ year member of IHS, suggested that I visit IHS. I was so impressed by the parish’s spirit and warmth that I never left. Since then I’ve assisted with the financials and served on the Vestry and the Development Committee.

I’m employed as an Operational Advisor at TransUnion and work mainly with financials and related reporting. My hobbies are reading and photography.

2. Joyce Decker – I have been a member here



for over 60 years. I have three daughters, two granddaughters, and work in health insurance. I currently serve as a lay reader, Girls Friendly Society sponsor, choir member, and will be helping to finalize our new directory. Previously

I’ve served as a Eucharistic Minister, an officer of YEWS, taught Sunday School and did the research for our 80th anniversary booklet. I have also served on vestry before, and have been Rector’s Warden. As we continue to grow, I hope to be active in planning activities for our 100th anniversary in 2015.

3. BettyLou Hadley-Laird



Family: husband, John Laird; Sons, Shane and Keenan Laird, daughter-in-law, Jaime Laird and twin grandsons Damon Oliver and John Joseph Laird

Church activities: Member IHS 1978-present; Sunday School Teacher; IHS 1980-present; Delegate to Covention 1981-

present; Vestry 2010-present; Former president of both EWS at IHS and the Young Episcopal Women

Career: Physical Education teacher in Archdiocese of Philadelphia 1987-present; St. Katherine Day School for mentally challenged, emotionally disturbed students ages 5-21; St Lucy Day school for children with visual impairments and blindness ages 3 yrs-8th grade; Archbishop Ryan Academy for the Deaf, students grades 1-8. Gymnastics supervisor Main Line YMCA and Head gymnastics coach.

4. Richard Schultz - I came to IHS a couple of years ago, after worshipping at St. John's, Lansdowne, for over 20 years. I teach science, social studies, and wood working at Stratford Friends School in Newtown Square. My wife Lee and I have 2 young adult sons, Sinuhe and Miguel. I enjoy outdoor pursuits, including canoeing, hiking, and camping.

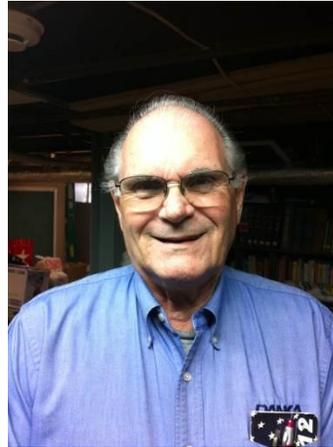


5. Barb Thompson - I have three children, one son and two daughters, and one wonderful grandson. I am a registered nurse, and have worked at Bryn Mawr Hospital for 36 years, after attending their school of nursing. I also moonlight for Bayada Nurses, and have taken care of one



quadriplegic patient since his wrestling injury in 1997. I was born a member of St. John the Evangelist's Episcopal Church, and returned at age 32 to expose my children to my religious background. During my membership, before St. Johns closed, I wore several hats including vestry member, people's warden, altar guild member, Sunday School teacher, reader, usher, and counter. I began attending IHS in October of 2009, have been very happy with my choice, and joined the parish shortly thereafter.

6. Bob Verna - married to wife Marcia; have been a member of the church for over 60 years. I served on vestry for 2 terms as Property Chair. I have worked with the Wednesday Wonders for 18 years. We take care of the maintenance of the church and in trying to foresee problems for future repairs, upkeep of building, etc. I also serve as an usher on Sunday mornings.

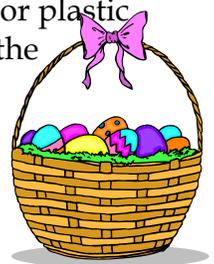


Daylight Saving Time - Don't forget to turn those clocks ahead on the 11th of March! We lose an hour of sleep ☹☹ and wouldn't want anyone to miss the morning service or our Annual Meeting! ☺



Easter Egg Hunt - The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Sunday April 8th after the morning service.

Once again, we are asking for your help with this event - we are looking for plastic Easter eggs filled with candy for the children. You can drop them off in the back of the church prior to Easter Sunday or bring them with you that morning. Also, don't forget to have the children bring their baskets with hem on Easter Sunday. If anyone should have questions please see Donna Roman or Suzanne Depue.



Our Newest Church Members....



Damon Oliver & John Joseph Laird....born February 22nd. Congratulations to Jaime and Shane Laird and our grandparents John and BettyLou Hadley-Laird. Mom and babies are in Landkenau Hospital and doing well. Both boys weighed over 4 lbs.

Parishioner Spotlight!



Vera Moore (99) and Margaret Beliew (96)
on a recent visit.

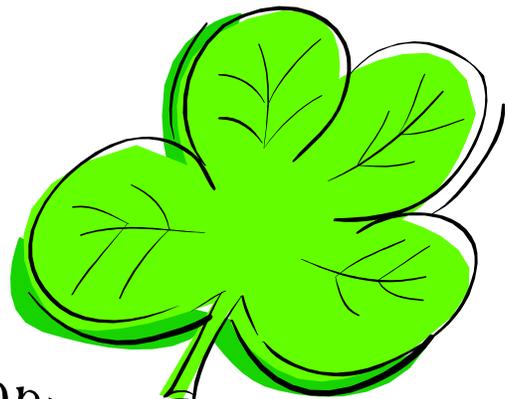
Coffee Hour..... We presently have 12 teams to help with the coffee hour each Sunday. Each team is responsible for 4 Sundays a year – we’d like to reduce the number to 2 or 3 at the most. So won’t you please consider starting a team, or becoming a substitute when a team isn’t available; and donating an hour of your time each week? Our sub list has all started teams – we will need volunteers for July 8th to do “Lemonade” – this can be one person or two



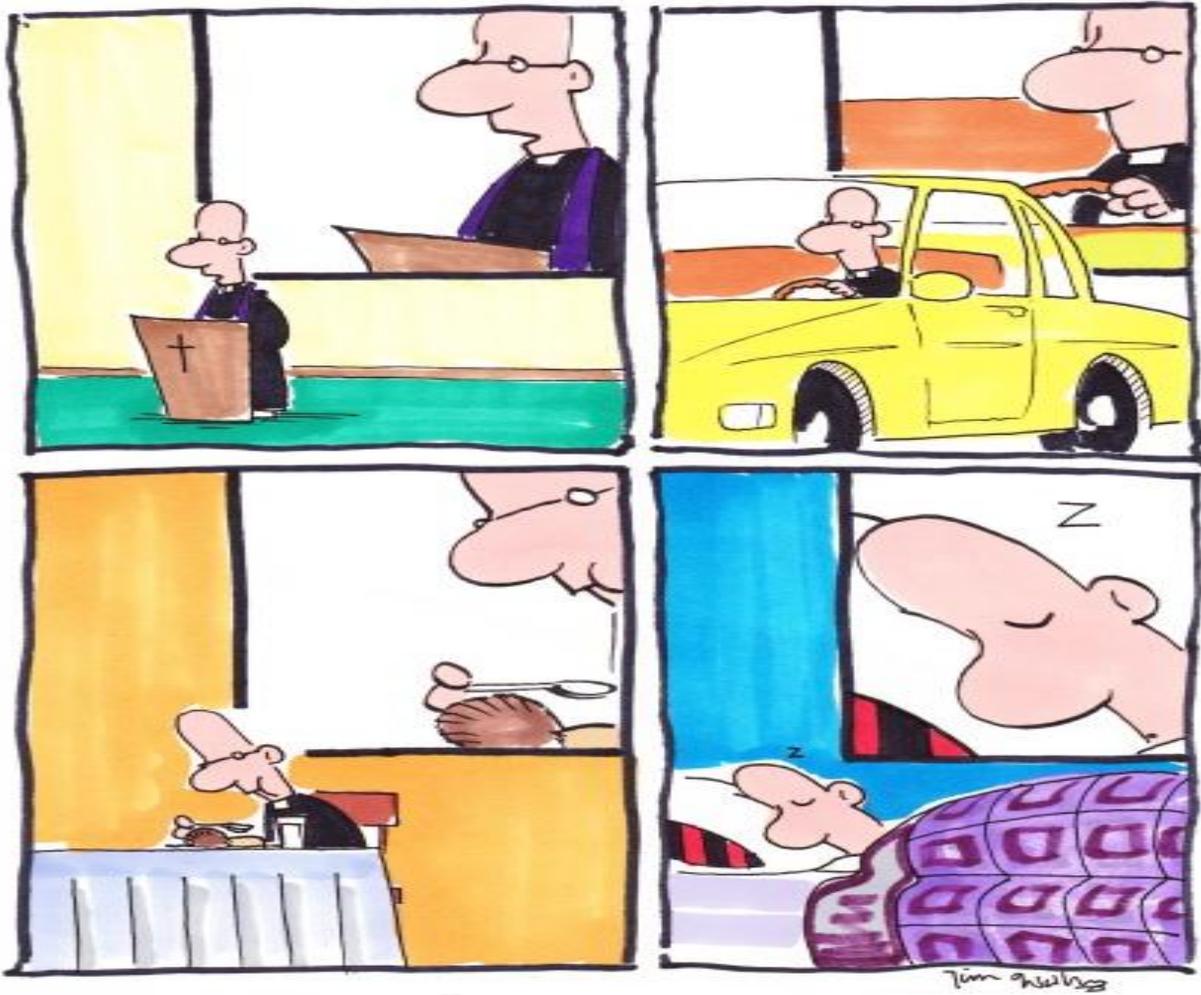
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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander 01-15-2004
HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?



Happy St. Patrick's Day



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