

# *The Bellringer*

*Christ Episcopal Church  
66 Middle Haddam Road, P.O. Box 81  
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*May, 2010*

## *Bishops Visitation*

The Rt Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Ct will be visiting Christ Church on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is the first time that Bishop Ahrens will be visiting our parish so plan on attending the service that day. Lets fill the pews! As usual there will be a coffee hour in the Parish Hall after the service when you will have an opportunity to speak with the Bishop.

This year May 23 is also Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost (also referred to as Whitsunday) is a movable feast day that occurs fifty days after Easter and marks the end of the Easter season. It is the day on which the church celebrates and remembers the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles. It is often called the birthday of the Christian church and is also a traditional day for baptisms. The color of the day is red, the color of the Holy Spirit.

*Please wear red to church on May 23rd.*

## *From The Wardens*

Well, we're looking at bids for shingling the church and house (a.k.a. the Rectory) roofs. Turns out our estimate of ~ \$22,000 was close. We're talking about what other much needed projects we should add in before we take out a Diocesan loan and launch a capital fund drive. More info when we have it!

We have talked to our great 'Tag Team' ... Catherine and Randall Balmer ... about staying on as our 'part time' priests. They are very happy to do that! Currently, they visit 'shut-ins' each Sunday afternoon. [It's after noon because they to enjoy the great 'coffee hour' treats and are reluctant, as are we, to pass that up!] We will be actively pursuing their continued presence!

We need Sunday school teachers! Please let us know if you can sign on for this. And while we're here ... looks like there's no one with any interest in Vacation Bible School this summer. If we're wrong, please let us know. Soon!

Item last ... Church attendance is quite good and our Treasurer, Barry Edmonds is pleased with our financial picture. So ... for the nonce, all is well in the Shire!

God Bless ... and keep the Faith!      George & C W

# The Ordination of Bishop Ian T. Douglas

By Betty Fuqua, photos by Dick Napoletano

Reverend Ian T. Douglas was ordained and consecrated as Connecticut's 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Trinity College's Koepfel Community Sports Center. He is succeeding Bishop Andrew Smith. The ceremony was attended by Bishops from Connecticut and all over the country, priests and parishioners. Members of our choir Bev Costello, Linda Napoletano and Willie and Betty Fuqua were part of the 175 person choir. Donna Hryb and Dick Napoletano were there also, representing our church. We were all happy to see our former Rector, Reverend Page Rogers!

Bishop Douglas is coming to us from Cambridge, Massachusetts. As part of his religious service, he was a missionary in the Diocese of Haiti. Impressively, he read in Haitian Creole during Communion!

The diversity of Episcopalians was also acknowledged by many different fabric panels behind the altar and by having readings and prayers not only in English, but also in Haitian Creole, South African and Spanish. Pieces sung by the choir were in English, South African and Spanish.

The inspirational sermon was delivered by The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus from Cape Town, South Africa. Reverend Tutu, who had helped lead the opposition to apartheid in South Africa and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984, spoke with spirit, charm, and humor about the unity of everyone and how God requires Christians to love everyone, no matter who they are:

“All the poor, rich, white, black, Hispanics, all, all. Clever, not so clever, beautiful, not so beautiful ... tea party, Democrat, Republican. This is radical, man. This is radical. Bin Laden, George Bush, Sarah Palin, Hillary Clinton, gay, lesbian, so-called straight ... Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist. You really can't imagine God saying to the Dalai Lama, 'Gee, man, you really are something else. What a shame you're not a Christian.' “

The ceremony lasted nearly 3 hours, beginning with a procession full of pomp and incense! The service included “The Examination” in which testimonials were read about The Bishop-elect as to his calling, and questioning by the Presiding Bishop Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori. An extremely moving part of the ceremony was when the numerous Bishops circled the kneeling Bishop Douglas and lay their hands on him, signifying the unbroken line of bishops stretching back to Jesus' apostles. Bishop Douglas's family presented him with the vestments of his new office.

As the choir sang the dismissal piece, “We Are Marching in the Light of God”, accompanied by the St. Luke's Steel Drum Band of New Haven, we watched Bishop Tutu (and many others) dancing with the music! What a glorious day filled with the Holy Spirit!

## ***May Youth Activities***

*25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*: On May 20 at 7 p.m., 21st at 7 p.m., 22nd at 7 p.m. and 23rd at 4 p.m., Chris and I will be performing in the musical *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* which is produced by the Young People's Center for Creative Arts. This is a benefit fundraiser show that raises money for a college scholarship for a senior graduating from East Hampton High School. Some of the leading roles are double cast so you will see your very own Kendra in the role of Olive during the Friday night and Sunday matinee performances. All tickets are \$10 and the show will take place at East Hampton High School. This show is funny and involves audience participation but it is recommended for children ages twelve and over as it deals with adolescents that are competing in a spelling bee and the special issues that go along with being an adolescent. Please see me for specific details about the content of the show.

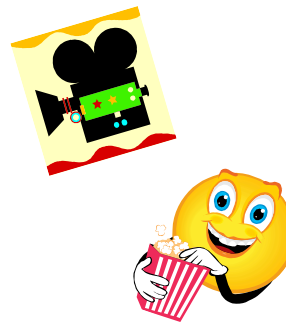
Kendra Dickinson

### **Teen and Tween Movie Night**

**Friday, May 14th 7 p.m**

Kendra's house, 19 Barton Hill Rd.

Come on over for fellowship, an age appropriate movie, popcorn and soda!



**Mother's Day  
May 9**

**Come to J.A.M. and Nursery  
to make a special gift  
for Mother's Day**



## ***Mission Committee***

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone so much for your generosity during this past Lenten season of sacrifice. We were able to raise \$450 for much needed medical supplies for St. Vincent's School for Handicapped Children in Haiti. When we add this to our donations raised immediately after the devastating earthquake, we have been able to contribute just over \$2000 to this school. This is awesome!

In Covenant to Care news, the Committee has met with our new DCF social worker, Christine Nucci. She is enthusiastic about our working together to make her kids have better lives and know that people in the community care about their well-being. She will work with us to continue our already successful programs such as Book Bags in August, Thanksgiving food baskets, Christmas presents, and our year-round Birthday Bag program. We also brainstormed about a situation that Christine brought to our attention. She would like to be able to acknowledge the very special events in her clients' lives, such as reunions with parents or adoptions. To this end, we will be purchasing picture frames. She will be take a photo of the event and present it to the family in the special frame as a reminder of the event.

***We will be renewing our covenant with Christine and a representative from the Covenant to Care main office during the service on June 13.*** We hope that you will be there to respond enthusiastically when asked if the congregation supports this covenant! Our guests will stay for coffee hour and this will be a great opportunity for everyone to get to know Christine.

***Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 13 at 6 pm.*** We will be meeting in a private home so please call one of us if you would like to attend. The members of your Mission Committee are: Clive Tucceri (ctucceri@aol.com 860-267-7813), Mary Boretz, (boretzmar@Reg8.k12.ct.us 860-267-0365) and Donna Long (longdjj1@sbcglobal.net 860-467-6278).

## ***We Pray For***

*Jim Shugert, Carolyn Kangas, Eunice Sudol, Marlene, Susan Pytka, Mary Goff, Bruce and Jill Crisp, Geri-Ann Hunt, Barbara Simmons, Wayne, Mary Ayers, for the victims of the Haiti Earthquake, John Given, (father of Fr. Mark) who has recently be hospitalized (and has returned home now but with round-the-clock care), and Joanne Lanzi, who has died, and her family and friends.*

## 50 Year Anniversaries

Episcopal Diocese is celebrating all parishioners who have been married 50 years or more with a Holy Eucharist and Renewal of Vows with the Bishops, on Saturday, May 16, at 4 p.m., at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford. There is a Reception following in the Cathedral House.

## Camp Washington

Have you considered the opportunities at Camp Washington for summer camp? The Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut has a beautiful site and interesting programs which combine for a supportive and kid-friendly environment. The full range of sessions is available from the website for the Diocese or can be found in the Good News. Christ Church has scholarship help available from the Tom Hryb Memorial Fund. Contact a member of your Vestry for scholarship help. Camp Washington welcomes visitors to preview the facilities.

### *I Think I'll Just Keep Those Dry Itchy Eyes!*

Have you seen that new drug Dioxia advertised? "Do you have dry itchy eyes?" It goes on to claim:

"Dioxa can make you Feel Great – Feel Young". Sounds good, huh? Well ..... in the fine print we see the side effects:

Anxiety, acidosis, cirrhosis, constipation, dissipation, dyspepsia, death, dysentery, gout, gonorrhea, grief, gestation, hallucination, malnutrition, mutation, pasteurization, restlessness, testiness, vexation – and sometimes - headaches, heartaches, convulsions, contraception, low blood sugar, low stock prices, low self esteem and runny noses.

#### **Warning: Do not take this drug if you are:**

Between 7 and 68 ... are left handed ... an Episcopalian  
or raise vegetables.

To 'borrow' a line from Jeff Foxworthy ....  
"I think I'll just keep these dry itchy eyes"!

C W Rev. March, 2010

## *May Calendar*

May 2	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	J.A.M.—Nursery
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Rite II
May 4	6:30 pm	Transition Team Parish Hall
May 9	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	J.A.M.—Nursery
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Rite II
May 13	6:00 pm	Mission Team Please call church office for location of meeting.
May 14	7:00 pm	Teen and Tween Movie Night
May 16	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	J.A.M.—Nursery
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Rite II
	4:00 pm	Renewal of 50th Anniversary Vows Christ Church Cathedral, Hartord
May 18	6:30 pm	Vestry Parish Hall
May 21		Bellringer Deadline
May 23	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	J.A.M.—Nursery
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Rite II Bishop Ahren’s Visit—Pentecost Sunday
May 30	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	J.A.M.—Nursery
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Rite II

## *Looking Ahead To Special Days in June*

June 13	Renewal with Covenant to Care
June 20	Church School Recognition and Picnic
June 27	Summer Service Begins Holy Eucharist will be at 9:00 am For the summer months.