



March 1, 2013

E-connections

An electronic supplement to the parish newsletter

Anglican Idol set for May

Mark your calendar. Friday, May 3rd, 7:00. "Anglican Idol" triumphantly returns to Trinity for the third time. Last year's show featured a variety of musical and comedy acts performed by someone who may be sitting in the seat next to you. Yes, this is a home-grown show featuring the talents of fellow congregants, and this show promises to be even better than the last two. The third time truly is the charm, and you can help make this happen by expressing your interest to share your talents either on stage or back to Chris Ennis at 429-0638 or cjenniv2@gmail.com.



Women's Retreat

The Annual Trinity Women's Group Retreat, will be held May 17-19, 2013 at Memorial House, Rehoboth Beach.

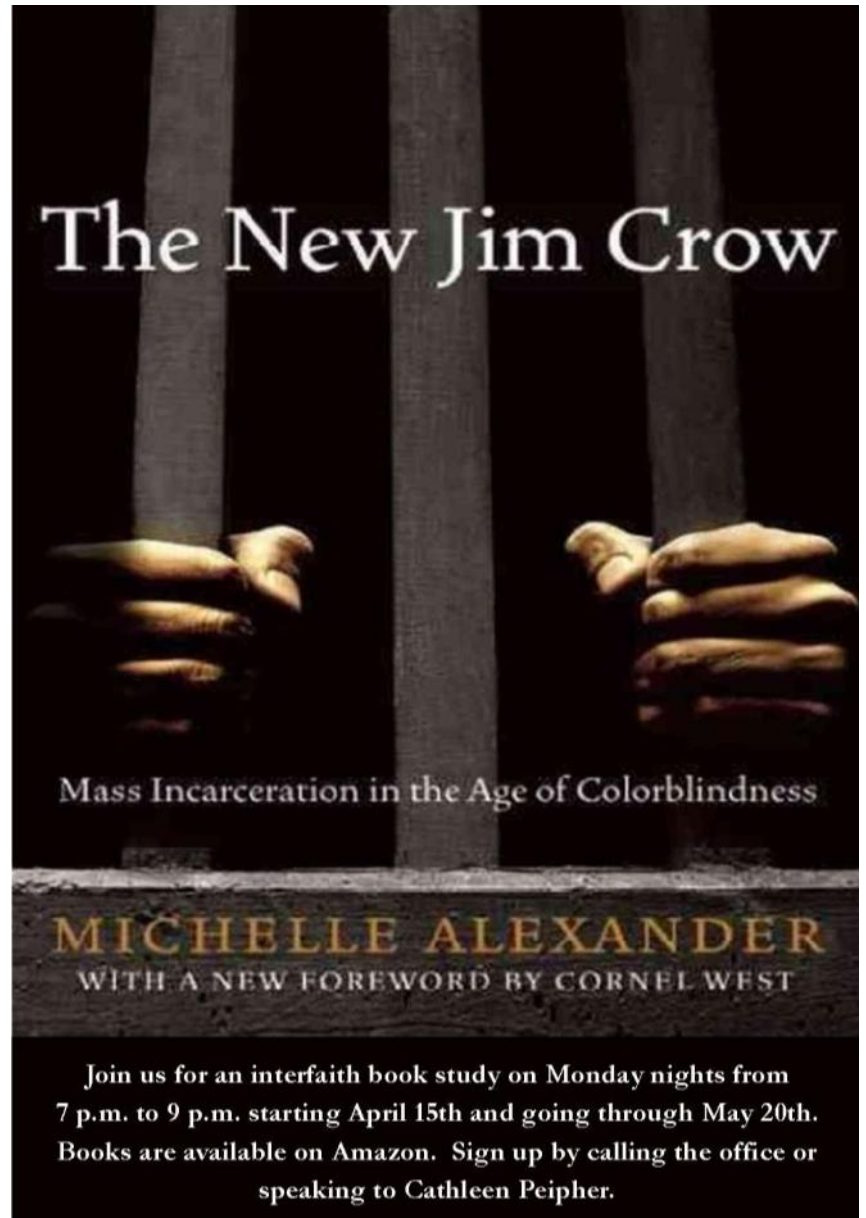
Our retreat Leader will be The Reverend Carlyle Gill. Costs and other details are still being finalized, but if you have questions, please speak with the Retreat Coordinator: Cathleen Peipher (610-444-5953 or 302-494-0490).



TRIAD Parish Conversation

We will hold a two night parish wide conversation about the TRIAD program on both April 24th and May 1st, at 7 p.m. in the Trinity Church dining room.

A study on the TRIAD program conducted by Bill Perkins will be sent to the congregation in early April.



Join us for an interfaith book study on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. starting April 15th and going through May 20th. Books are available on Amazon. Sign up by calling the office or speaking to Cathleen Peipher.



News and Events from around the Diocese

An Epic Silent Film Event at St. Thomas's Parish

Friday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.

The epic silent version of Ben Hur will be shown at [St. Thomas's, Newark](#), with live organ accompaniment by organist Marc F. Cheban. This film was one of the most ambitious movies of the silent era, and the most expensive ever made (\$4 Million in 1923-25). Based on the novel by Civil War General Lew Wallace, the plot traces the life of the wealthy, young, Judah Ben Hur. He refuses to join his childhood friend, Messala, in subjugating his own people to Roman authority. When a freak accident injures the local governor, Ben Hur's mother and sister are imprisoned and Judah is sent to the gallows. A long and tortured path leads Judah from the gallows to high places in the Roman government, and finally to discover that his mother and sister have been struck with leprosy. Woven into this rich tapestry of a story is the birth and life of Jesus Christ, at whose death Judah's mother and sister are healed. Everything about this film was done on a huge scale: The chariot race needed 40 cameras to capture all the drama; huge numbers of extras were engaged for a number of scenes; many techniques new to the film world were invented for this film. Rarely is the film shown in public anymore, even less so with live organ accompaniment. Enjoy a unique piece of Hollywood history!

Opera in the Neighborhood

NEW DATE: Saturday, March 9, 3:00 p.m.

[Grace Church, Wilmington](#) welcomes The Amici Opera Company of Philadelphia. The company recently performed one opera in the Grace Episcopal Church sanctuary and is about to present one more: Donizetti's "Lucia Di Lammermoor". Tickets at the door will be \$25, adults; \$15, seniors; and \$5, children. For details, please call 215 224-0257.

Potluck Supper & Lenten Study of Sabbath Keeping

Wednesdays thru March 13

Supper at 6:30, Program at 7:00

A long slow look at the role of Sabbath in our lives at [St. Barnabas, Wilmington](#). To guide our reflections, we will use the book [Sabbath Keeping by Donna Schaper](#). Get on line and get yourself a copy of this book now! It is well worth it. Then be a part of our slow conversation about Sabbath. Donna Schaper writes: "Sabbath people know that 'our' time is really God's time, and we are invited to live in it." Also, Rev. Schaper will speak at St. Barnabas on March 20. See below!

Roman Bacchanalia to benefit St. Michael's School Scholarships

Friday, 6:00 p.m., on the Ides of March (March 15)

Passed hors d'oeuvres, lavish Roman banquet tables, drinks, wine tasting by Moore Brothers, silent auction, entertainment, and complimentary valet parking at the University & Whist Club, all to benefit [the Scholarship Fund of St. Michael's School](#).

Spiritual Practices

Tuesdays thru March 19, 7:00 p.m.

[At Calvary Hillcrest, north of Wilmington, near Bellefonte](#). For details, call Calvary at 302 764-2027.

The Mystics and Their Writings

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. thru March 26

at the [Interfaith Resource Center](#), 913 Wilson Road, Wilmington. Thanks to a gift of 98 volumes of the Classics of Western Spirituality series, Sr. BJ Brown of the will begin an overview study of the language of mystical expression from Biblical times to present day, the writings of holy men and women of ages past who can still mentor us today. Please contact Sister BJ at 302 477-0910 for details and to register. Leave your name and phone number or email address. The donation for this series is \$25, cash or check (made out to Interfaith Resource Center). Come and bring a friend!

Lenten Concert featuring Combined Choirs

Sunday, March 17, 4:00 p.m.

A public concert [St. Barnabas, Wilmington](#) featuring the combined choirs of St. Barnabas, St. James Millcreek, New Castle Presbyterian Church and St. Helena's Roman Catholic Church accompanied by an orchestra. The program includes: "Ave Verum Corpus" by W. A. Mozart, "Surely He Has Born Our Grievs" by Michael Larkin, and "The Lenten Sketches", a Cantata, by Joseph Martin. A free will offering will be accepted with monies collected after the concert expenses donated to Episcopal Relief and Development for relief of victims of Hurricane Sandy. For details, call 302 994-6607.

Special Lenten Presentation

"The Time Famine: How to Turn it into a Spiritual Feast"

Wednesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.

A special Lenten presentation at [St. Barnabas, Wilmington](#), by the Rev. Donna Schaper, Senior Pastor, Judson Memorial Church, New York City. Her topic is: "The Time Famine: How to turn it into a Spiritual Feast." Please plan to attend what is sure be a lively and thoughtful presentation. For details, call 302 994-6607.

Screening of "Gen Silent"

Saturday, March 23, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

at All Saints' Church, Rehoboth Beach. "Gen Silent" is a film shot in Boston dealing with aging LGBT seniors who want to remain in their homes but need help in doing so. A group of seniors from in the Lewes/Rehoboth area affiliated with All Saints' Church & St. George's Chapel is in the initial stages of establishing a network/outreach program, affiliated with All Saints' and St. George's, to help care for the area's aging LGBT community. We will be reaching out to many area congregations in this effort. We hope you will find this an exciting new ministry and join us. Food and refreshments will be served. [For details, visit www.gensilent.com](#) or call 302 555-0123.



Newark: Church marks Emancipation Proclamation anniversary

Six-month series kicks off in Morristown, New Jersey

By Sharon Sheridan, Episcopal News Service

Emancipation “is in our DNA” at [Church of the Redeemer](#) in Morristown, New Jersey, says the Rev. Cynthia Black, rector. “We talk about liberation. We live liberation.”

So when it came time to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the church that calls itself “a Christian liberation community in the Episcopal tradition” planned far more than a one-day or Black History Month event. Starting on Jan. 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, and ending June 16 with a “[Juneteenth](#)” celebration of the end of slavery, Redeemer is hosting a series of guest speakers and preachers, exhibits and liturgies in a program called “[Forever Free: Reclaiming the Emancipation Proclamation](#).”

The idea for the six-month commemoration emerged after last year’s Easter Vigil, where as part of the liturgy a church member told the story of Redeemer’s origin, when members of a neighboring Morristown church left over theological differences to start their own congregation. Soon after, parishioner Chuck Dickerson, who teaches history at the county college, approached Black and said, “You know, that’s one version of the story. Here’s another.”

“He talked about the divisions at the time over slavery and how his understanding was that, as the two churches chose to go separate ways ... it was those who were involved in emancipation and abolitionist kinds of activities who formed Redeemer,” she recalled. They had a long conversation, and he mentioned the proclamation’s approaching 150th anniversary. “I said, ‘It seems like this is too good an opportunity to pass up. What do you want to do?’”

They first envisioned inviting a prominent speaker but then realized they didn’t want to limit themselves to one event. “It would be too hard to capture with just one event,” Black said.

Organizers expanded the program to three and finally to six months and still found they had more possible events than room in the schedule. They hope retired Diocese of Massachusetts Bishop Suffragan Barbara Harris, an African-American who was the first woman to become a bishop in the Anglican Communion, will be able to preach during the commemoration, Black said. Following the program, in September, a special screening is planned of “[Traces of the Trade](#),” with Director Katrina Brown sharing insights from her family’s history as slaveholders in Rhode Island.

The commemoration began during Redeemer’s annual “reconciliation season,” stretching from Martin Luther King Sunday to Absalom Jones Sunday honoring the Episcopal Church’s first African-American priest. At the beginning and end of the season, Redeemer traditionally worships with Morristown’s [Bethel AME Church](#).

The confluence of emancipation and other issues is in keeping with Redeemer’s mission. “We talk about ourselves as a Christian liberation community in the Episcopal tradition. We take that very seriously,” Black said. “The diversity that we’re proud of is not any one identifiable kind of diversity.”

“We’re very clear that the interlocking systems of oppression have not done the church any good and that the way to change that is to model something else. And so [in] everything we do, from our worship to our education ... we try to live our diversity out. “I think people here get that,” she said. “We have a very large LGBT population. We have a very large population of people in recovery. But anybody who’s kind of a single-issue person doesn’t last here very long. We’re really clear that all of those things are related.” Through participating in “Forever Free,” she said, “I hope people have a better sense of history, a better sense of where we as a culture and a nation need to go and maybe even one thing they can do to help us get there.”



Members of the F.A.I.T.H. Liturgical Dancers from Bethel AME Church in Morristown, New Jersey, perform during a combined service at nearby Church of the Redeemer. The service launched a six-month celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation at the Morristown Episcopal church. Photo/Randy Johnson



‘Cardboard Cathedral’ rises in Christchurch, NZ

By Mary Frances Schjonberg , Episcopal News Service

Two years after a magnitude-6.3 earthquake decimated Christchurch, New Zealand, and its suburbs on Feb. 22, 2011, the Anglican [Diocese of Christchurch](#) helped the community remember the 185 people who died and look to the future. The building under construction that has been dubbed the Cardboard Cathedral was the backdrop to the [ecumenical civic memorial service](#) in Latimer Square.

A possible glimpse of the future of the city and the diocese, the six-story building earned its nickname because it is being made of cardboard tubes about 23.5 inches wide and as long as 75.5 feet, timber, steel and plastic. It sits on a concrete pad or raft embedded with about 131,000 feet of steel that is designed to keep the building solid if the land underneath becomes compromised during a quake.

The building is expected to cost about US\$4.34 million. By the time construction is complete, more than 17 suppliers and contractors will have donated an additional US\$832,000 worth of time, labor and materials to its construction. Plans call for the building to be ready for Easter.



At night, the light from inside the Diocese of Christchurch’s Transitional Cathedral will make the building appear to glow through the polycarbonate roof from the gaps between the cardboard tubes. Photo/Christchurch Cathedral

The officially named Transitional Cathedral is meant to be a temporary building, but in this case “temporary means” it is designed to be used for 20 years or more. The cathedral was designed by Japanese architect Shigeru Ban, who is known for such buildings and, especially, for developing effective, low-cost disaster-relief shelters. He and his firm are donating their time to the project, the largest he has designed. The cathedral will seat 700 and be used for civic events as well as worship.

“It will be an iconic structure in its own right,” the Rev. Craig Dixon, cathedral marketing and development manager, told ENS during an interview on the site in early November 2012. “I think it’s going to be hugely important for the city just in terms of helping the city get back on its feet.”

The cathedral also may become symbolic of the South Island diocese’s multi-year journey towards recovery that includes rebuilding churches and restructuring the shape of the diocese itself, even as the [city](#) and [surrounding suburbs](#) are reshaping themselves. For instance, nearly 7,000 homes in the Canterbury Region have been or will be demolished and “whole suburbs are being wiped off the map,” [according to The Press newspaper](#). [Another report](#) says 18,500 homes need repairs but only 20 percent have been fixed or had their loss covered with an insurance settlement. Some people are still living in garages and converted buses. Read the entire story and see a video [here: http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2013/02/22/video-feature-cardboard-cathedral-rises-in-christchurch-nz/](http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2013/02/22/video-feature-cardboard-cathedral-rises-in-christchurch-nz/)

Structure task force gathers for first time

Presiding bishop, House of Deputies president offer views of work ahead

By Mary Frances Schjonberg, Episcopal News Service

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, president of the House of Deputies, Feb. 14 each gave the church’s [Task Force on Structure](#) their own sense of the work facing the 26-member group. Their remarks came on the first day of the task force’s initial meeting being held Feb. 14-16 at the [Maritime Institute](#) in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. “Your task is to bring all of your creativity, strategizing, thought and prayer to the work of suggesting how we might better support and undergird and challenge the life and work of this Church and to do it with as one person says, ‘sheer holy boldness,’” Jefferts Schori said.

The presiding bishop said church members are currently directing their attention to four areas. The first are the issues around identity, she said, such as “who are we, what we are for.” The second is mission, which she said is “a primary response to the question of identity.” Sustainability in mission is the third area and includes the question of how all parts of the church can grow to be self-supporting. The final focus of attention is organizing and structuring for mission. Jefferts Schori noted that the group is expected to report to the church in late 2014, “with the hope that our next General Convention will take up your proposals.” Read the entire story [here: http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2013/02/14/structure-task-force-gathers-for-first-time/](http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2013/02/14/structure-task-force-gathers-for-first-time/)