



# THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

St. John's Church, Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

The Rev. John F. Carter, Rector

July/August, 2009

Gaile Binzen, Editor  
Karen Byers, Layout Design

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Thanks to Bob Longley and Bill Binzen for their humorous contributions to this newsletter. -ed.	

*(All the churches in the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut recently received this letter from Bishop Andrew Smith. We reproduce it here, and add our own comments. Ed.)*

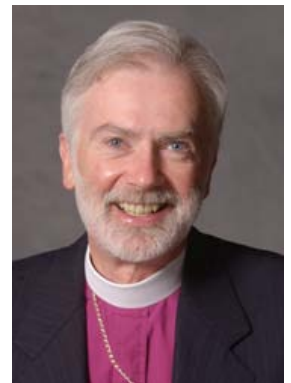
**DIOCESAN DAY OF AWARENESS**  
**Sunday, September 20, 2009**  
**and**  
**DIOCESAN DAY OF REPENTANCE**  
**Saturday, November 7, 2009**

June 26, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

The 2006 General Convention of The Episcopal Church, through Resolution A123, asks the entire Church and its constituent bodies to engage in historical investigations of our Church's complicity in, and benefit from, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and its aftermath.

The Resolution asks us to initiate a comprehensive effort to research, collect, document and share realities which shaped, and continue to affect, our Church life - how the Church, its leaders and its members participated in the slave trade economy and how the Church materially and culturally benefited from the slave trade.



Both the institution of slavery, and the agricultural, manufacturing and transportation enterprises that supported slavery, are parts of our Connecticut heritage. Many of us know the story of the rebellion of slaves on the Amistad, but our state's deep complicity in the slave trade is rarely, if ever,

*Continued next page*

mentioned in the course of school curricula or in textbooks. Several years ago, reporters from the Hartford Courant committed themselves to research this hidden side of our history. Their work was published in several supplements to the Courant, and was gathered in a book, *Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged and Profited from Slavery* (Ballantine Books, 2006, paper, \$15.95). A must read.

As your Bishop, I have called our diocese to recognize, understand, and offer repentance for our own Church's involvement in the activities of the slave trade, and to know the ways in which we as a Church benefited from it. Our effort is being guided by the Diocese of Connecticut's Anti-Racism Committee, which has been active for many years in helping us know and confront the racism that exists within and among us.

We have asked each parish of the diocese to research its own history and that of its community. Meg Smith, our Diocesan Archivist, is ready to help and already has sponsored research workshops. We have scheduled a diocesan Day of Repentance at Christ Church Cathedral, Saturday November 7, 2009. Our plan for that day is to share what we have discovered and learn from each other, and then to offer ourselves to God in worship, confessing our Church's complicity with slavery, asking forgiveness, and committing ourselves to confront the evils of racism with which we still are afflicted. More details about November 7th will be coming.

Also, I ask that all of our churches throughout the diocese dedicate Sunday, September 20th as a Day of Awareness. My request is that some part(s) of our worship that day address the reality of slavery in our Church. This could be done through preaching and in the Prayers of the People, in Sunday School classes, and through a parish-wide forum - which could feature the folk who have been doing local research, and include information which the Anti-Racism Committee will be sending.

As our Church family faces our untold involvement in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, we will have a deeper knowledge of how we have benefited and been shaped by our past. We will be far more aware, I pray, of the inequities among the races, with which we still live, and by God's grace, we may chart a course for equality under God for all peoples with renewed humility and vigor.

May God guide and empower us in our search, discovery and repentance, which lead to new life in Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
The Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith

*A former member (and acolyte) of St. John's, Timothy Binzen, happens to be an archeologist, so this letter was forwarded to him by his mother, and his response was immediate:*

Below is some useful info from Bob Paynter, an Anthropology professor at UMass, who has done documentary and archaeological research on the W.E.B. DuBois family home site in Great Barrington. I have asked Bob for the contact info for the suggested folks below, which I will pass along to you. If you talk with them, you and your fellow researchers will not have to "re-invent the wheel" concerning the African American heritage of the area, and they can point you to good sources of info specific to Salisbury.

From: robert paynter  
<rpaynter@anthro.umass.edu>  
Reply-To: rpaynter@anthro.umass.edu  
Subject: Re: FW: Diocesan Day of Awareness /  
Diocesan Day of Repentance  
To: tbinzen@anthro.umass.edu

Hi Tim,

What a great idea.

Do you know if your mother knows about the Upper Housatonic Valley African American Heritage Trail? And does she know about "*African American Heritage in the Upper Housatonic Valley*" (2006), edited by David Levinson. Published by Berkshire Publishing Group. I have seen copies for sale in the Bookloft in Great Barrington. And I am very much involved with this group. I could send along contact information for Levinson, who is an anthropologist, and Bernard Drew, who is also deeply involved with the project and an accomplished historian of Western Massachusetts. It is quite likely that she already knows these folks.

I have also started putting a draft of the Du Bois Homesite report up on the Web [http://scholarworks.umass.edu/du\\_bois\\_boyhood\\_survey/](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/du_bois_boyhood_survey/)

*Continued page 4*

## "How is She My Sister?"

"How is She My Sister?" is a summer Bible study course that begins July 16th for 5 weeks. It will be held every Thursday - July 16 to August 20 - from 6:30 - 8:00p.m at St. John's Church, with a short 5-minute break for moving around and refreshments

Alexis Dorf, our good friend from Trinity Church, Lime Rock, will be facilitating this inspirational discussion of selected women in the Bible and what they have to say to us today. All are invited, with or without church affiliation.

Bring your favorite Bible.

Not just for women only!



Sketch by Bill Binzen

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## New England Baroque Soloists in a FREE Summer Concert Series

The Northwest Music Association is once again presenting a Summer Concert Series with the New England Baroque Soloists. The concerts will be held on four consecutive Wednesday afternoons - July 22nd, 29th, August 5th and 12th - at 5 pm at St. John's Church. As you know, it's now air-conditioned!

An ensemble of distinguished world-class musicians (all soloists with renowned orchestras and symphonies such as The Boston Pops, American Ballet Theater Orchestra, etc.) will be playing a variety of baroque music. Listen to Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, Telemann and others, often on period instruments including trumpet, oboe, strings, keyboard and the "Corno da caccia," also referred to as a piccolo French horn.



Admission is free. The concerts are about an hour in length, and all are followed by a reception with light refreshments. Donations to help defray the costs of the concert may be offered at the door.

A beautiful way to spend a late summer afternoon!

Contact person: Bob Longley (860) 435-1000

**Litchfield County Choral Union  
Presents  
Music of the Esterhazy Court**



Franz Joseph Haydn  
*Mass in Honor of Saint Nicholas*

Johann Nepomuk Hummel  
*Mass in B-Flat (Opus 77)*

Franz Joseph Haydn  
*Te Deum*

Three pieces by the most acclaimed composers of the elegant 18<sup>th</sup> century Esterhazy Court will be performed on Sunday, July 26 at 3.00 p.m, by the Litchfield County Choral Union, directed by Jonathan F.Babbitt.

As it has been for more than a hundred years, the LCCU and its Festival Orchestra's venue will be the Music Shed at the Yale Summer School of Music in Norfolk.

Tickets are \$20.00, or \$15.00 for seniors and students. For reservations call 860-868-0739 or 860=542-5039. Or call chorua member Gaile Binzen at 860-824-7925 and she will put the tickets into your hands.

*Continued from p. 2*

Chapter 3 might be of some use.

Let me know if I can be of further help.

Bob

Date: Mon, 06 Jul 2009 15:38:27 -0400  
From: robert paynter  
<rpaynter@anthro.umass.edu>  
Reply-To: rpaynter@anthro.umass.edu  
Subject: Re: FW: Diocesan Day of Awareness / Diocesan Day of Repentance  
To: tbinzen@anthro.umass.edu

Hi Tim,

Here's contact information to not reinvent the wheel....

David Levinson  
David Levinson  
<david@berkshirepublishing.com>

Bernard Drew  
Bernard Drew <bddrew@verizon.net>

Let me know how it works out.

Cheers,  
Bob

*So now we know where to start! We need a committee for this, and the sooner the better, considering the Bishop's date for sharing what we have discovered – November 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would be interested in working on this committee, whether you are a St. John's member or not, please tell Lisa at the church office (860-435-9290) or e-mail or phone Gaile Binzen – e-mail [gailebinzen@comcast.net](mailto:gailebinzen@comcast.net) or 860-824-7925. We now have a copy of African American Heritage in the Upper Housatonic available at the church. Please do contact the gentlemen mentioned above, on your own, if you enjoy historical research and have a little time on your hands.*

## Nominees for 15th Bishop of Connecticut

July 1, 2009: The slate of nominees for 15th diocesan bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut has been announced. Details, including introductory videos and material to help prayerful discernment, have been posted by the Search/Nominating committee.

Candidates include:

The Rt. Rev. James E. Curry, 60, current position: Suffragan Bishop of Connecticut (nominated under Suffragan Bishop Process)

The Rev. Mark Delcuze, 50, current position: Rector, St. Stephens, Ridgefield

The Rev. Dr. Ian Douglas, 50, current position: Angus Dun Professor of Mission and World Christianity at Episcopal Divinity School Cambridge, Massachusetts and Associate Priest at St. James's Church Cambridge, Massachusetts

The Rev. Beth Fain, 57, current position: Rector, St. Mary's Parish, Cypress, Texas

Meet the candidates Oct 2 -3

Meet the candidates on Friday evening Oct. 2, starting at 7 p.m., at a "town hall" style event at Central Conn. State University in New Britain, or the next day, Oct. 3, starting at 1 p.m., for a "traditional walkabout" at Trinity, Southport.. All candidates, including any added by petition, will participate in both events.

*Prayer recited at Fred Hall's Memorial Service  
June 20, 2009*

### **Psalm 23, Scottish Psalter**

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
Even for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me;  
and Thy rod And staff my comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.

**Fred Hall ~  
May 23, 1907 – June 14, 2009 ~  
102 yrs old**

## Slowly Waking

Slowly waking in my bed before dawn  
I hear strangers murmuring in the outside dark,  
But its only frogs in the bay.  
Sinuous dreams dance on water;  
Glowing curves of dawnbeams  
Move magically,  
Bound to nothing.  
Black columns of stoic pines  
Have seen it all before.  
Defying their gravity,  
A songbird perches aloft,  
Greet the sun,  
Sings the happiest song on earth,  
And salutes the water dream-dancers,  
Still dancing, lingering,  
Yet fading in the advancing light.

Slowly waking before dawn  
I hear strangers murmuring in the outside dark,  
But it's only frogs.

*John Carter*

## Virginia Baked Ham



A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest met at the town's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter.

"This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden. You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?"

The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said,

"At your wedding."

### LIFE IN THE PARISH

#### BAPTISM

Caroline Loring Bartlett, daughter of Richard Bartlett and Loring Barnett-Bartlett, was baptized during the 10.00 am service at St. John's on June 14, 2009.

*Welcome to our Church Family!*

#### GRADUATION

David and Louise Hannegan's Grandson Christopher David Hannegan graduated from Fairview High School May 30th and will be attending the University of Denver this fall.

*Congratulations!*

# CALENDAR – JULY / AUGUST 2009

## SERVICE SCHEDULE EVERY SUNDAY

**8:00 a.m. – Eucharist I – Except 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Month  
Instead Breakfast Served 8:30-9:30 – EVERYONE WELCOMED!**

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**10:00 a.m. - Eucharist II**

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**12:00 noon – Misa**

## JULY

10	Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Al-Anon - <b><i>Meets Every Friday</i></b>
11	Sat.	4:00 p.m.	AAA - <b><i>Meets Every Saturday</i></b>
14	Tue.	7:00 p.m.	Drumming Circle - <b><i>Meets Every Tuesday</i></b>
15	Wed.	5-7 p.m.	Spanish Classes - <b><i>Meets Every Wednesday</i></b>
		7-9 p.m.	ESL Classes - <b><i>Meets Every Wednesday</i></b>
16	Thur.	6:30-8:00pm	How is she my Sister? (Begins 5 Weeks)
18	Sat.	11:00 a.m.	M. Sheila Burton Memorial Service
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun.</b>		<b>SUNDAY SERVICES see schedule above</b>
22	Wed.	11:00 a.m.	Noble Horizon Service
		5:00 p.m.	NWMA Mid-Summer Concert Series Begins (4 Concerts)
23	Thur.	5:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
		6:30-8:00pm	How is she my Sister?
25	Sat.	11:00 a.m.	Graveside Service Robert Collier
<b>26</b>	<b>Sun.</b>		<b>SUNDAY SERVICES see schedule above</b>
29	Wed.	5:00 p.m.	NWMA Mid-Summer Concert Series
30	Thur.	6:30-8:00pm	How is she my Sister?

## AUGUST

<b>02</b>	<b>Sun.</b>		<b>BREAKFAST CLUB – HUNGRY SUNDAY</b> <b>SUNDAY SERVICES see schedule above</b>
05	Wed.	5:00 p.m.	NWMA Mid-Summer Concert Series
06	Thur.	6:30-8:00pm	How is she my Sister?
07	Fri.	6:00-8:30pm	AAA Meeting with Potluck Dinner
12	Wed.	5:00 p.m.	NWMA Mid-Summer Concert Last Concert
13	Thur.	6:30-8:00pm	How is she my Sister?
22	Sat.	7:00 p.m.	Concert for Bolivia
<b>23</b>	<b>Sun.</b>		<b>SUNDAY SERVICES see schedule above</b> Rev. Thomas Chesterman to Visit St. John from Food for the Poor - All Services.

St. John's Episcopal Church  
12 Main Street  
Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

Phone: 860-435-9290



#### The Mission of St. John's Church

- To reveal through worship the presence of God
- To grow spiritually in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ
- To reach out to others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Readers:



Please know that this Newsletter is also available by email.. Let us know if you are interested [sjsalisbury@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sjsalisbury@sbcglobal.net). It is also available on the St.John's website [www.stjohnssalisbury.org](http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org)