



Happy  
Easter

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

315 Warren Street • Fall River, Massachusetts 02721

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The Rev. Dr. Susan H. Lee, *Rector*

Arthur Benjamin, *Co-Warden* • Janet Buckley-Smith, *Co-Warden*

Martha Fournier, *Choir Director, Organist* • Eli Bigelow, *Organist*

The Rev. James H. Hornsby, *Rector Emeritus*

## N E W S L E T T E R

Vol. 3, No. 1

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### What's happening at St. Luke's Church . . . .

The next Combined Church Service will be **April 22nd, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.** at

### The Church of the Ascension

Rock Street, Fall River, Massachusetts



### Bishop Thomas Shaw visits St. Luke's Church

**Sunday, June 17th, 2007 at our 10:00 a.m. Service**

*--: Join us at Coffee Hour following the Service --:*



### A Message from . . .

### The Rev. Susan Lee



*"Forgive our sins  
as we forgive' you  
taught us, Lord,  
to pray"*

*(Hymnal 674)*

Forgiveness is a central part of the Christian way. Jesus taught that we must

forgive others before God will forgive us. When we forgive, we take part in the generosity of God towards the human race. We help restore the wholeness and holiness that God wants for our world. Think what a difference forgiveness would make between warring factions in Iraq or Palestine! Forgiveness is the most effective roadmap to a more peaceful world.

The very hardest one to forgive is oneself. We often find it hard to forgive our own limitations and gaffs. "Why did I have to 'open mouth insert foot?'" we fret. "Why did I make such poor decisions?" Yet God is generous with us just as with the rest of humanity. God forgives us, and we should forgive ourselves too.

*In Memory of*

**HELENA WAITE HICKS**

**AUGUST 21, 2006**

### Christmas Memorial Flowers 2006

Lance Almeida • Franklin & Barbara Arnold  
Mr. & Mrs. Baker • Lynne Berard  
Gilbert Black • The William Black Family  
Joseph Borges • Sadie Cashman • Evan Chun  
Mr. & Mrs. Conboy • Edith Cutler  
Helena DeLuca • Phyllis Dyson  
Ted & Eleanor Dugdale • Ferris Family  
Ralph & Dorothy Friar • Friar Family  
Mary Furtak • Marge & Fred Gomes  
Irene Greenslade Hardy • Roy W. Holt  
Walter & Ethel Holt

Robert & Thelma Hornsby • Samon Kao  
The Rev. Beverly B. Karsden  
Richard Dozier Lee • Yvonne Manchester  
Abigail Lynn Mathias • Mr. & Mrs. Mercier  
Yam Meth • Avis Michaels • John Michaels, Sr.  
Michaels Family • Ameila Nash  
The Rev. Patrick O'Neill • Mary Pacheco  
Antonio Moniz • Antonio Botelho Moniz  
Bourn Pao • J. R. Paradise • Gertrude Parr  
Mr. & Mrs. William Plant • Annie Priestner  
Arthur & Bertha Ranger  
Gladys & Steadman Rice  
Anne & John Rigney • Spencer Family  
August, Catherine, John, Julius, & William Tefts  
Anna Thelsen • Mary & Rudy Tomes  
Mary Westell

**. . . Faith cometh by hearing, and  
hearing by  
the word of God.**

### Sunday School and the Combined Church Service at St. Luke's Church Feb. 18th

Our combined church service was a big success. It was so nice to see our church so full. Our Sunday School was just as full. Pre-School had, I believe, 8 children and they did Noah's Ark and colored a magnet to take home. My class had 16 children in it and we reviewed the Ten Commandments and what they meant and then we had a quiz on them. If the children answered all the questions right they got a special treat. Then we all did magnets to take home. The kids had a great time and the other Sunday School teachers were a great help. During our coffee hour, some of the kids from the other churches came over and thanked me and said that they had a lot of fun. I felt so good about it all, I would call it a big success!



*Beth Soares*

### March 18th Combined Services

*On March 18th, we all went to the Combined Service at St. John's / St. Stephen's Church.* The children had fun being a part of the procession into the church. At Sunday School the children heard some bible stories about the resurrection. They also decorated crosses.

We look forward to finding out what we will be doing at the next Combined Service at The Church of the Ascension.

*Jen Mathias*

## Christmas Craft Fair and Flea Market

This fall St. Luke's Church hosted its first annual Christmas Craft Fair and Christmas Flea Market. This was a joint effort between the parishioners of the St. Luke's and Crafters who rented tables in order to sell their merchandise. Our goal was to create a festive fundraiser for the church which also included other community members.

Many of the tables were hosted by people from St. Luke's who donated their time and a lot of effort. Mrs. May Holt and Ms. Arlene Ranger sold hand made knitted colorful sweaters, mittens and other items. The Sunday School children made different crafts to put on the tables. John Michael's table displayed beautiful plants and flowers from his floral shop. Rev. Hornsby hosted a table from the South Coast Choral Group. Almost everyone enjoyed the manicures given by Keang. All the proceeds were donated to the fair. Terry Berard brought goods to take chances on from the Kidney Dialysis Association. Hopefully, our fair was able to help this group as much as their participation supported St. Luke's. Many tasty treats were sold on the cake table hosted by Carol Friar, Connie Black and Elaine Branco. Other workers who, as always, were the reason the day was a success were: Muriel & Ernie Baptista, Edna Borges and Rose (organized the Christmas Goods Flea Market table), Sheila Charron who worked tirelessly, Debbie Baker donated needlepoint crafts. Rev. Dr. Susan Lee brought the idea of a craft fair to the Vestry and we're all thankful that she did.

Elaine Branco



## Mardi Gras

Carol Friar

Prior to the start of Lent, it is traditional to have one last blast. This event, commonly know as "Fat Tuesday" was celebrated by the four churches of Fall River on Saturday, February 17th at the Church of the Ascension .

A pot luck dinner was served, beads and other trinkets were handed out and the children decorated their own Mardi Gras masks.

As a special treat Martha Fournier taught us all how to perform a variety of songs on the "Kazoo".

The King and Queen of the Mardi Gras were our own, Callahan Soeur and Jamie Da.

A fun evening for everyone.



## New Sunday School Classrooms

The Sunday School teachers and students would like to give a special thanks to Richard Pacheco for donating money in memory of his mother Mary Pacheco. Even though Richard lives in Spain, he still sent us a donation in honor of his mother. The money was used to spruce up the Sunday School area.

We used the money to build walls to separate the classes. Being in separate classes helps the children focus better on their work. It creates less distraction for the children.

I would like to thank Tracy Racquer and Steve Mathias for building the dividing walls. All I had left to do to finish the project was to paint them.

Jen Mathias



## Parish Outing to "Beauty and the Beast"

On December 9th, 35 members of the St. Luke's congregation attended the Durfee High School Theatre Company's production of "Beauty and the Beast". Eighty students, under the direction of Jane and Gary Bigelow, put on an outstanding production of this delightful musical. Of special interest to all of us was the impressive performance by our own organist Eli Bigelow in the role of the Beast - an originally mean character transformed to a handsome prince by the power of true love. A wonderful afternoon was had by all.



Carol Friar



## Immigration and Naturalization Filing Fees Set to Rise

The U.S.C.I.S. (Citizenship and Immigration Services) is proposing large filing fee increases for most immigration and naturalization petitions. No one knows exactly when the increases will come, since there is considerable opposition to them, with hearings held in the House and Senate. In the past, fee increases have been fairly minimal, but these are not. For instance, the fee for the popular fiancé petition is slated to cost \$455

instead of the current \$170. If the proposal goes through, the fee to renew a Green Card will rise to \$290 (from \$160) plus a fingerprinting fee of \$80. The citizenship application will cost \$670 (now \$400). A Refugee Travel Document will cost \$305 (instead of \$170). A Petition for an Alien Relative (parents, spouse, children, siblings) will cost \$355 (from \$170). Work Authorization will go up to \$340 (from \$180). Other

applications have similar increases.

The government claims that these fee increases are necessary to improve service and cut processing times. There is a 65 page explanation of these fees available, if anyone would like to look at it. It seems to me that these fees are very excessive and will cause even more difficulties for those seeking to immigrate relatives and obtain citizenship. For families, they will be unaffordable.

... Janet Buckley-Smith

St. Luke's Episcopal Church NEWSLETTER

If you have a story for the newsletter contact either Ernie or Muriel Baptista at 508-678-4091 or e-mail us at ebmbcamper@yahoo.com or you can also contact The Rev. Dr. Susan Lee

Join us for coffee hour following Sunday Service!

