

# The Courier

Volume 58, Issue 6

June 2004

## CHAOS AND ORDER

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One of the first stories in our holy book is of a disorderly creation brought into order by a wise and purposeful God. Our God likes order! Our God has things to do, accomplishments to complete, and projects to finish. If creation is in disarray, the completion of these tasks will be hampered. So, an orderly and ordered creation is what is called for. Housekeepers the world over participate in a holy and godly profession.

Applying this concept locally, Christ Church feels caught in the middle of holy chaos at the moment. The lawn has been torn up to create off-street parking. Giant trucks have been coming and going for weeks. The sound of bulldozers and backhoes is horrendous. And, there is more to come as we prepare for trees to be planted, and shrubs to be set. It reminds me of the times when, as a child, I had to clean up my room. It always got messier, before it got cleaner. I know that at some point our urban park will return to a sense of order, and an even grander order than we knew before. But until then, I pray fervently for the work to be done well, knowing that at soon the chaos will end.

In addition to the visual chaos, there is evidence of other forms of chaos. The transition of the Summer Camp from Christ Church to the Center of the Square has not always be smooth or clear. The community center board is not fully operational, so it still needs considerable help from the Summer Camp Committee members who know the details of putting on a summer camp. However, since the responsible agency (Center of the Square) knows less about the camp, this establishes an inverse structural model that can be troublesome at times.

I expect chaos. I don't like it, but I have enough experience to realize that at times of transition a certain amount of chaos come with the territory. What I look for, and pray for is that every caught in the middle of chaos we demonstrate a lot of patience and understanding. More than ever, we need to be aware of the needs and feelings of others. And, perhaps most importantly of all, we need to listen and talk the truth, be ready to apologize, and then work together toward a godly and holy sense of order.

We are not done with transitions at Christ Church. More are just over the horizon. Let's keep on track and always look ahead to where God is calling us, in service to the neighborhood, the Region, and beyond. We have been given a high calling, which is now being reshaped and reformed. Let's accept a certain amount of chaos, without blaming, and work toward a new order.

Michael

**I** have baptized you  
with **WATER;**  
but he  
will baptize you  
with the

**HOLY  
SPIRIT.**

Mark 1:8



**A NOTE FROM GOD**

June 6	Psalm 29 Revelation 4:1-11	Isaiah 6:1-8 John 16:(5-11) 12-15
June 13	Psalm 332:1-8 Galatians 2:11-21	2 Samuel 11:26-12:10,13-15 Luke 7:36-50
June 20	Psalm 63:1-8 Galatians 3:23-29	Zechariah 12:8-10;13:1 Luke 9:18-24
June 27	Psalm 16:5-11 Galatians 5:1,13-25	I Kings 19:15-16,19-21 Luke 9:51-62

**ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

In order to save on the expense of postage, printing, and paper, we are now equipped to send out the "Courier" electronically. Another advantage to an e-Courier is that it is not dependent on the US Postal Service and it arrives immediately on your computer. You can then read it and print out only the information that you need. If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please fill out the following form and return it to me via e-mail, or postal mail, as soon as possible. When you receive the newsletter in e-mail form and are unable to open it, go to adobe.com and download the free acrobat reader. You should then be able to open it and print any or all of it. It may take 4-5 minutes to open, so please be patient. If after downloading acrobat reader you are still unable to open the newsletter, please let me know. Our Rector has the Adobe program disc which you may borrow to install. Remember, our newsletter may also be read on the church website at [www.christchurchpok.org](http://www.christchurchpok.org). We really encourage receiving the newsletter electronically, but will still be sending it via postal mail for those of you who are unable to receive e-mail. Thank you for your assistance. Michele

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

Starting in June, The Courier will be sent electronically on a weekly basis, to those of you who have e-mail, as well as by postal mail. These "smaller bites" will be easier for your computer to process, and keep you up to date with your parish on a weekly basis.

"The Courier" is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Poughkeepsie, New York. Holy Eucharist is celebrated on Sunday mornings at 8:00 (Rite I) and 10:00 (Rite II), and in the afternoon at 1:00 in Spanish.

Deadline for submission of material for "The Courier" is the **third Sunday** of the month. Photographs are welcome with articles for the newsletter, and to be best reproduced should be developed on a CD.

The Rev. Michael Phillips, Rector  
The Rev. Arnulfo Arámbulo,  
Latino Ministry  
Mary Gregorius, Deacon  
Laura Russell, Music Director  
John Sullivan, Organist  
John Colclough, Senior Warden  
Jr. Warden  
Michele Haynes, Parish Secretary  
J. Peter Pelton, Property Steward  
Samuel Somah, Sexton

The church office hours are  
Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m.  
to 4:00 p.m.

Tel. (845)452-8220

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E-mail:

[christchurch@mindspring.com](mailto:christchurch@mindspring.com)Web page: <http://www.christchurchpok.org>

**Mission Statement for Christ Church:** Christ Church provides a spiritual home for a diverse community of people united in the Eucharist, respectful of history and tradition, and actively engaged in Christ's ministry for today's world.

## FROM THE TREASURER

### What's an Austerity Budget?

You may have noticed signs around the church buildings asking each of us to help pay our bills. At its April meeting the Vestry passed a final annual budget that is “balanced” on paper. How did we do that? I chaired a sub-committee of the Vestry made up of Jim Bliss, Bill Bornander, Sandra Goloway, Judy Vasta, Peggy Kraft, and John Colclough that reviewed every item in an extensive budget to determine if each expense was necessary and reasonable. We reported our findings and recommendations to the Vestry on April 19.

We did not eliminate any staff nor did we make the staff pay for our deficit by reducing their salaries and benefits. We covered a deficit of over \$30,000 in several ways: 1) Continuing not to pay an arrears in our diocesan assessment—we have been behind one quarter (\$11,002) since Fall 2002. We've budgeted not to pay \$15,000 this year (not a good thing) and are considering asking the diocese for an exceptional forgiveness of our arrears (also not a good thing). 2) A generous, extraordinary gift. And, 3) a series of small cuts, but cuts which significantly affect our “quality of life” as a parish.

For example, we've decided to do without a paid assistant to prepare the coffee and snacks after the 10 o'clock service. For the remainder of this year, we will have to make our own coffee or do without (we need volunteers). We're also going to do without paid childcare. We're not going to advertise in the phone directory and are reducing other publicity. We're taking steps to reduce the cost of bookkeeping (the opening of the Center of the Square will help in that regard). We're also asking everyone who uses our buildings to help us save on utilities. We will make greater use of the Internet to communicate with one another. Unused lights can be turned off. And so forth. We are not cutting back in our music program; that is mostly paid for with endowment dollars. Our Sunday flowers and flowers for special occasions are also either paid for by restricted endowment income or by special donations.

We are asking community groups using our buildings to increase their utility sharing. We do not and cannot charge rent without becoming a business. But the costs of utilities and other services in keeping our buildings available to the community are proportionately more than the income we receive in utility sharing.

How did we get into this situation? The answer is complex; there are many factors. The recession has cut into income from our endowment—it's down \$13,759 compared to 2002—that's four and a half percent of our budget. Pledges are down about \$6,000 from last year, but are about the same as 2002. Compared to charitable organizations nationally, we are doing better than average. The state of the economy also affects pledges. In addition, a few parishioners who made significant contributions have moved away. Finally, maybe we did not make our financial prospects clear to the parish during our pledge campaign.

Loyd Lee, Treasurer

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ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MANSION SQUARE,  
 is sponsoring a raise the roof benefit performance of  
**"NUNSENSE II"**  
 on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. Ticket prices are as follows: \$25/Adult; \$20/Seniors; \$10/Children.  
 For further information, please call St. Paul's at 452-8440

# JUNE 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Noon AA/CR	2 5-6:30PM/English Class.	3 Noon AA/CR	4 Noon AA/CR	5 Noon AA/CR  AA 7PM/CR
6 HE 8 & 10AM 9am Parish Breakfast 10am -First Sunday 12PM-Sunday School Picnic at the Lee's House 1PM Santa Misa 7PM/AA/CR & 7:30PM/PH	7 Noon AA CR  7PM-AA/CR	8 Noon AA/CR 7:30pm—Center of the Square/ LMR 7:30pm - GALA CR	9 5-6:30PM/English Class.	10 Noon AA/CR	11 Noon AA/CR	12  AA 7PM/CR
13 HE 8 & 10AM 11:15 Goodbye Recep- tion for Bob & Diane Sherer/End of year Choir Pot Luck at the Frazer's House 1PM Santa Misa 7PM AA	14 Noon AA CR   <b>FLAG DAY</b> 2-3 Recital Rehearsal	15 10am HE Noon AA/CR 7:30pm-Center of the Square Rathbun Recital 7:30pm - GALA/ CR	16 5-6:30PM/English Class 7:30-9 Botelli Piano Recital	17 Noon AA/CR  6:30-8:30PM/ Marshall Piano Recital	18 Noon AA/CR  7:30pm Dignity & Integrity/CR 7-9PM Jazz Con- cert	19  AA 7PM/CR
20 HE 8 & 10AM "The Courier" 1pm Santa Misa AA7PM/CR  Happy Father's Day Violin Recital/3-4:30	21 Noon AA CR  7:30 pm-Vestry meets-Lay Minis- try Room 7PM-AA/CR	22 10am HE Noon AA CR  7:30PM/GALA CR	23 5-6:30PM/English Class	24 Noon AA/CR	25 Noon AA/CR	26 Diocesan Latino Retreat  AA 7PM/CR
27 HE 8 & 10AM  1PM Santa Misa AA -7PM/CR Reception for Deacon Mary 7PM/AA	28 Noon AA CR Summer Camp begins	29 10am HE Noon/AA  GALA 7:30/CR	30  5-6:30PM/English Class			

HE-Holy Eucharist  
MP-Morning Prayer  
LMR- Lay Ministry Room  
PLE-Parish Life Episkopos  
CME-Community Life Episkopos  
ESL - English as a Second Lang.  
CR - Community Room

## **Christ Episcopal Church**

We provide a spiritual home for a diverse community of people, united in the Eucharist, respectful of history and tradition, and actively engaged in Christ's ministry for today's world. We invite you to join us!

**20 Carroll Street  
Poughkeepsie New York 12601**

**Phone: 845-452-8220**

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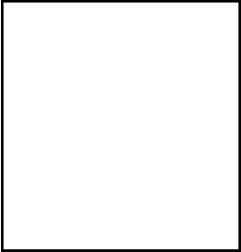
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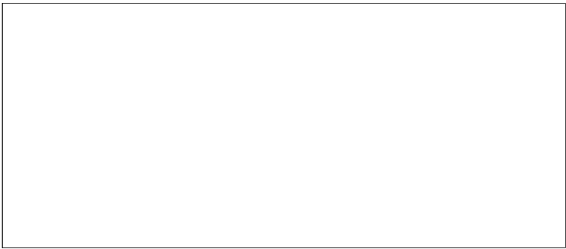
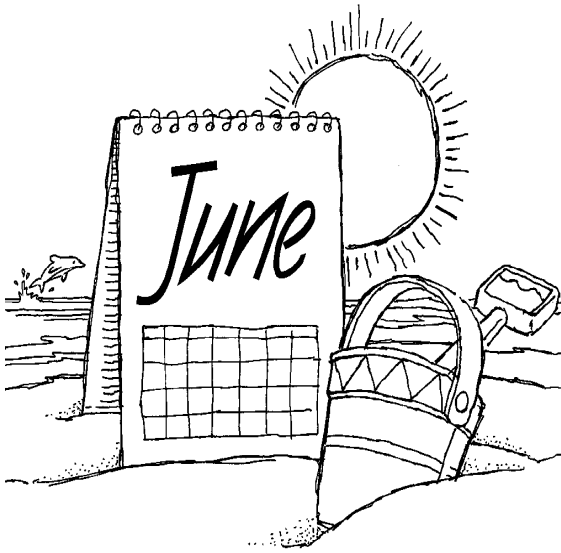
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**June Prayer Cycle**

In order to give emphasis to our ministry to one another, we have a Parish Prayer Cycle. Each parishioner or family is prayed for on a particular day. Here is the list of names to be kept in our prayers for each day during the month of June.

1. Jeffrey & Elizabeth Graham
2. Michael & Clare Graham
3. Hal & Dcn. Mary Gregorius and Adam & Jason
4. Mark & Nancy Griffin
5. Bob & Sue Griscom
6. Charles & Katherine Grubb
7. Julius & Carla Gude
8. Herman Harmelink
9. Barbara Harrington
10. Arlene Hermann-Valenzuela
11. Victor & Alison Herrero and Jim, Will, & Caroline
12. Shari Hubner
13. Sam & Louise Im
14. Armine Isbirian

15. John & Pat Isbirian
16. Jeh & Norma Johnson
17. Doris Kest
18. Tammy Kilpatrick
19. Jennifer & Tony King and Emily, Ryan, & David
20. Peggy Kraft and Johanna
21. Bill Lang
22. Ann Lawson
23. Loyd & Cynthia Lee
24. Leonard & Dorothy Lewis
25. Steve & Pat Lichtenberg
26. Ruth Little
27. Mary Lou Logan
28. Betty Lang
29. David Lumb

30. Robert Lumb

*Almighty God, look with favor on our brothers and sisters of this parish, especially (names). Strengthen them in their journey of faith, fill them with compassion for one another, and give them an awareness of your loving care, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*