

The Courier

Christ Episcopal Church • 20 Carroll Street • Poughkeepsie, New York • 845-452-8220
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Consecration Sunday Is Coming

October 26



Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our parish stewardship committee has selected the *Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our members and those who regularly attend and worship in our parish to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

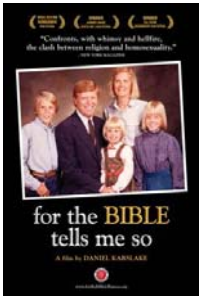
We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and vestry members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Your Wardens and Vestry



For the Bible Tells Me So
Friday, October 17th @ 7:30pm
Newton Community Room



Can the love between two people ever be an abomination? Is the chasm separating homosexuals and Christianity too wide to cross? How can the Bible be used to justify hate? These are the questions at the heart of Daniel Karlake's *For The Bible Tells Me So*. This provocative, entertaining film concisely reconciles homosexuality and a literal interpretation of Biblical scripture.

Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families – including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson – we discover how people of faith handle, or sometimes tragically fail to handle, having a gay child.

Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, *For The Bible Tells Me So* offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

No admission charge. Bring family, friends & neighbors. Refreshments will be available – as well as a time for discussion following the movie.

Celebrate - Reclaim - Renew

The Re-Opening of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine

The Great Organ will again be heard, the legendary Bernini and Mortlake tapestries will be viewable, and the Great Rose Window will sparkle.

Sunday, November 30, 2008

2:00pm Open House: An Afternoon to Visit

4:00pm A Service of Choral Evensong:
Prayers for the City and Diocese of New York

The Mid-Hudson Region of the Diocese is attempting to organize a bus from our area for this special event. Fall Foliage Tours are making it difficult to confirm a bus for the trip to the Cathedral. If a bus trip can't be put together, some at Christ Church are talking about going down to the Cathedral on a noon-time train on Sunday afternoon. Be on the watch for more information as it becomes available.

Prison Ministry Requests Funding

Christ Episcopal Church, working in collaboration with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, has submitted a grant request to Episcopal Charities.

Working on the project at this early stage are Sam Busselle from Family Partnership, Fred and Alice Bunnell and Fr. Blake from Christ Church, The Rev. Tyler Jones from St. Paul's, and Bonnie Allen from Family Services. If the grant is awarded, the *Dutchess Collaborative Reentry Project* will open at the Family Partnership Center. The DCRP will function as a one-stop location, serving as a re-entry center for people coming out of jail or prison where they can get support in dealing with many of their needs. As the project continues to develop, be on the look out for opportunities to volunteer.

Christ Episcopal Church

Rector: Fr. Blake Rider †

Music Director: Laura Russell

Parish Administrator: Michele Haynes

Property Steward: Notoe Hodge

Rector's Warden: Michael George

People's Warden: Bill Moran



Courier Editorial Board

Sally Vasse, Marge Bliss,
Jeanne Marie Perry, Editor

Next Courier Deadline:

October 24 2008

Please send articles to Jeanne Marie Perry at sadlbum52@aol.com

Upcoming Once-Per-Month Sunday Outreach Collections

- October – coats
- November – Christmas presents for nursing home
- December – Christmas presents for children of prisoners
- January – Soup
- February – Socks
- March – Canned Fruit
- April – Canned Veggies
- May – shampoo/soap
- June – underwear
- July – pasta
- August – School Supplies
- September – Hats & Gloves

Do you have a date?

The 2008 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board in the hall, across from the Newton Community Room. It has dates for you to “reserve” as your day to offer a personal thanksgiving, a memorial, or a celebration of an event, by giving the flowers for the altar on a particular Sunday. This is a beautiful gift to all who come to worship on that Sunday.

Write your name on the calendar. Then send the Parish Office a check for \$60, noting that it is for flowers for the date you chose. A note about your reason for that day would be nice, if you wish to have that information included in that Sunday’s bulletin.

If your date falls during one of the liturgical seasons when no altar flowers are used – Lent, for example, make it “a moveable feast” and choose a day in another season.

We can also celebrate more than one event on the same Sunday. Don’t worry about “doubling up.”



Faith and the Election

Sunday, October 26th
3:00 – 6:00pm

What should people in faith communities pay particular attention to in the platforms of the two parties?

What is not being talked about in this election campaign that should be?

National Public Policy Spokespersons from

- The Episcopal Church
- The Friends (Quakers)
- The Presbyterian Church USA
- The United Methodist Church
- The New York Catholic Conference

First Presbyterian Church
100 Cannon Street in Poughkeepsie

www.allforjustice.org
845-485-8627

Sponsored by
the Justice For All Speakers Forum
Presbytery of the Hudson River
The Episcopal Diocese of New York

Christ Church joins in collaborative Food Pantry with St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

In response to a significant reduction in funding for food pantries from the State of New York, St. Paul’s requested that area Episcopal Churches consider directing their Sunday food collections to the St. Paul’s Food Pantry. The Community Outreach Committee at Christ Church has responded to that request, with a decision to collaborate with St. Paul’s in filling the shelves of their Food Pantry. Donations of food made at the Offertory each Sunday will be carried to St. Paul’s each week, beginning in October.

A Final Affairs Fair

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8 AM Eucharist and Sermon

A quiet, traditional service.

10 AM Eucharist with Music

Childcare available in the nursery.

10 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Rite 13 and J2A

1 PM Misa en Español

Wednesdays

11 AM Eucharist

Adult Forums in November will lead us into a discussion of ‘final things’ – the end of our physical lives.

Sunday November 9th – *Developing your theology of Dying & Death*

What does the Bible say about life after death? What does the Episcopal Church teach in the Book of Common Prayer? What do you believe?

Sunday, November 16th – *Is it really all about the paperwork?*

Directive to physicians – medical powers-of-attorney – last will and testament.

Sunday, November 23rd – *And When I Die*

No, we haven't invited Three Dog Night to come sing their 1972 Number One hit. But we will talk about what you want – and don't want – in your funeral service. You will have the opportunity to let the parish know your decisions about: burial or cremation – services at the church or a funeral home – communion at the service? – how much music?

Please Call or E-Mail the Parish Office with Your Zip+4

We can realize significant savings – in both dollars spent and quicker delivery of *the courier* – if we can update our mailing list with each recipients Zip+4 zip code. Please call or email the parish office.

Thanks.

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Christ Episcopal church

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