

# Christ Church Chimes



## The Episcopal Church of Swansea

57 Main Street, Swansea, MA 02777

508-678-0923

June 2004

### From the Priest-in-Charge

*I just finished a truly wonderful book by scholar and theologian Marcus Borg, called Listening Hearts: How we can be Passionate Believers Today. In the book, Borg talks about some of the ways in which we can all incorporate a sense of God's presence in our lives on a daily basis, and one thing that he mentions is "spiritual friendships." This is not just having friends who are Christians, or who are Episcopalians, or who even go to the same church; it is about having friends with whom one can share experiences of God in one's life. He recalls hearing someone once ask a friend, "what is God doing in your life these days?"*

*It's a great question for all of us to ask ourselves, and each other. What is God doing in our lives? On the Feast of Pentecost, we celebrated God's great action in the lives of the followers of Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit poured into them, filling their hearts and minds and souls with God's love, and the will and desire to make God known to all people. And thus our beloved Church was born! But God continues to pour that spirit into our lives today; only we are sometimes too busy or too distracted to hear it or see it for what it is. So, as (I hope) the slower pace of summer approaches, I invite you to take some time out to be a spiritual friend to yourself, and ask yourself what God is doing in your life. And be a spiritual friend to someone else – ask them how they are experiencing God. Let God speak to you in soft breezes, an open window, a*

*glooming garden. Let God speak to you in a July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, a family get-together, the sound of children playing in the waves of Horseneck Beach. Let God speak to you in a favorite hymn, or getting together with friends to plan the Harvest Festival. Allow God to use the glories of summer weather, the delight of fellowship at Christ Church, the joy of vacation time with family, and the gift of rest to inspire you, as God inspired the disciples on that glorious Pentecost morning! Happy birthday, Church! And the peace of God rest on and in each of you!*

*Faithfully,  
Beth+*

## Vestry

The Reverend Beth Grundy, Ex-officio

Stephen K. Carvalho  
Sr. Warden

Diane Stains, Junior Warden

Alan R. Scott, Clerk

Carlton Yates, Treasurer

Gladys Shaw, Financial Secretary

Pauline Doane

Peggy Deston

Elaine Gray

Lorna Gregory

Susan McMullen

James Medeiros

Chris Munro

Charles Reed

Ted Yates

Albert Deston

Minister of Music

Karen Remine

Parish Secretary

Anthony Melo

Sexton

Lori-Ann Bernstein

Sunday School

Superintendent

## Committees

Altar Guild      Volunteer

Acolytes        Volunteer

Audit            Volunteer

Cemetery        Appointed

Harvest Festival

Volunteer

Hospitality      Volunteer

Out Reach        Volunteer

Property         Volunteer

Readers         Volunteer

Search            Volunteer

Social            Volunteer

Ushers            Volunteer

Visitors                      Volunteer

## Find Out What We Are About

By Sue Carvalho

Have you wondered what Stewardship is all about? Want to understand how the Altar gets "dressed" every week? Do you have some time on your hands? Do you want to feel good?

Then come to the Ministry Fair on June 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be held after the 8 and 10 o'clock services. There will be representatives from all Christ Church Committees to answer your questions and hopefully recruit you to join one of our important Committees. We have a real need to have new people join and share in these wonderful experiences. We do have FUN! And feel fulfilled in giving with a willing heart. So please come join us!



## Worship and Christian Education Committees

The Priest-in-Charge would like to get the Christian Education Committee started again, to plan and give support around issues of both children's and adult Christian education. She is also interested in forming a Worship Committee to help plan and support our liturgical and worship life together. Please contact her if you

would like to hear more about either of these opportunities.

## Worship and Education Confirmation, Reception, First Communion

Congratulations to the following who were confirmed and received by Bishop Tom Shaw on May 15!

### Confirmed

**Jeremy Beers**

Katelyn Beers

Bradley Costa

Adrienne Furtado

Justin Furtado

Lauren Lussier

Lauren Scott

Melissa Stains

### Received

Muriel Driscoll

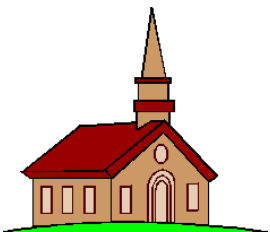
Jaclynn Laxton

Congratulations also to Lauren Silva, who completed the Sacrament Class and received Holy Communion for the first time on May 23!

## Joyful Heart By Susan Carvalho

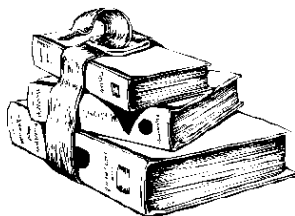
I have a joyful heart, as I like to tell people. I have a tremendous faith in God and I believe it shows in how I live my life, with a joyful heart. On Mothers Day I told both the 8 o'clock and the 10 o'clock congregation how my faith came to be. As part of the Stewardship Committee I am looking for volunteers who are willing to share how their faith came to be. Perhaps you have a story to share or an experience. If you would be willing to share with the

congregation for any of the upcoming months please let me know. We currently have Alan Scott who will be speaking on Fathers Day. You will find it to be a very enjoyable experience.



## Mass on the Grass

Once again, we will celebrate an outdoor "Mass on the Grass" on five Saturday evenings throughout the summer (weather permitting – if it rains, we will move into the church). These are informal services of Holy Eucharist with readings from scripture, meditation, and fellowship. This is a great opportunity to invite friends to get a taste of what we are all about at Christ Church. So please grab a lawn chair, put on your comfortable clothes and join us at **4:00 P.M.** on the following Saturdays: **July 10, July 24, July 31, August 7, August 28.**



## Summer Book Group

There is no better time than summer to get into some great books! There will be a Summer Book Group that will meet on two **Tuesdays, July 20 and August 10, at 7:00 P.M.** We will meet at Beth's house for summer refreshments and great

discussion. We will start with Dan Brown's The DaVinci Code on July 20, and decide our book for August at that meeting. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

## Around the Deanery

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to the Rev. Shirley Andrews, rector of the Church of the Ascension, who has been honored as an Outstanding Alumnus of Durfee High School.

### **Fall River Yard Sale**

St. Luke's in Fall River will hold its annual Flea Market on Saturday, June 19, from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. at St. Luke's, 315 Warren Street in Fall River. There will be all kinds of great clothes, jewelry, household items, toys, and furniture at great prices, as well as delicious food for sale!



## Youth and Children

### **Camp Applications are available**

Applications for the Barbara C. Harris Camp are at the back of the church, or you can obtain one on the diocesan web site [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) by clicking on the link for the camp. This is a life-changing experience for children and young people. As well as week-long camp sessions, there are also weekend opportunities for kids and parents and grandparents. Beth Grundy

will be at the camp as a chaplain for the first week, July 11- July 17. Please call Camp Director John Erdman at 603-547-3400 if you have any questions or for more information.

## Youth Leadership Academy

The Youth Leadership Academy of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts is accepting final applications for the class of 2005. This is a fabulous program for young people entering grades 10 and 11 in the Fall of 2004, designed to develop spirituality and leadership development in all areas of life. If you are interested, you **MUST** act now; the application deadline has been extended but will close very soon. There are a few applications at the back of the church; or you may obtain one by going to [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) and clicking on the "youth" link. Please call the Rev. Rob Bacon at 617-482-4826 if you have any questions.

## Fellowship

### **Thank You!**

Many, many thanks to Sue Carvalho and Chris Munro for the wonderful reception for our confirmands on Sunday, May 16! It was truly memorable, and a delightful way to begin our move into summer!

### **Potluck and Hymn Sing**

Plans are underway for at least one Potluck Supper and Hymn Sing at Christ Church this summer. Details will follow shortly; in the meantime, pull out your favorite hymns and church supper recipes!

**HARVEST FESTIVAL  
BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION**

**51<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY HARVEST FESTIVAL**

*Each year many local merchants and businesses show their support of Christ Church's Harvest Festival by purchasing advertising in THE HARVESTER, the newspaper we publish each year to advertise the Harvest Festival. For many years we have offered the same opportunity to individuals and families through the HARVEST FESTIVAL BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION. Membership is unlimited and is offered in four categories:*

<i>FESTIVAL ANGEL</i>	<i>\$100 or more</i>
<i>FESTIVAL BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$50 to \$99</i>
<i>SUSTAINING BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$25 to \$49</i>
<i>CONTRIBUTING BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$10 to \$24</i>

*The names of Boosters will be published in this year's edition of THE HARVESTER. If you would like to join, please fill out the form below and mail it with your check made payable to Christ Church Harvest Festival to Robert H. Hawley, 69 Stoney Hill Road, Swansea, MA 02777-3918, or leave them at the Church office.*

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*HARVEST FESTIVAL  
BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION*

*Yes, I want to be a Harvest Festival Booster. Please add my name to the membership roster.*

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

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:*

<i>FESTIVAL ANGEL</i>	<i>\$_____</i>
<i>FESTIVAL BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$_____</i>
<i>SUSTAINING BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$_____</i>
<i>CONTRIBUTING BOOSTER</i>	<i>\$_____</i>

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF  
THE 51<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY HARVEST FESTIVAL*