

# THE CLOAK

APRIL 1, 2009



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WORDS FROM WINNIE	1
HOLLY WEEK	2
CALENDAR	3
MESSAGE FROM THE ECS OFFICE	4
ECW	4
VESTRY MINUTES	5
DIOCESAN NEWS	6
BISHOP SEARCH UPDATE	7

## NOTICE:

**May Cloak**

**dead line**

**April 15th.**

**May issue is due out April 25Th**

## WORDS FROM WINNIE,

### Spring into Resurrection

Dear Friends,

As I write this on the warmest day so far in 2009, the promise of spring seems believable at last. Spring and Easter are linked in our minds and spirits, rebirth, resurrection, new life—the season seems to pulse with them. Even if another snow storm smothers us, this time of year the hope of the new life of spring cannot be quenched because we are all so ready for it. So our ancient Church fathers were wise to keep our annual celebration of Christ's return from death as a spring festival, even if we have a few remnants of older, pagan traditions that have crept into our observances.

For example, the name, "Easter" is derived from the name for the Anglo-Saxon goddess of the dawn, Eastre. Other languages such as Spanish retain the name derived from Latin, "Pasqua," the same word used for Passover, the name used in the early years of the church. (We retain the word with terms like "Pascal candle" and "pasque flower.") In the first years of the "Jesus movement," before the formal division between Christians and Jews,

all or our salvation was celebrated in connection with Jesus' resurrection—from Passover, which commemorates the deliverance of the Jews out of Egypt, to Jesus' triumph over the forces of evil and death. By about the 4th Century, the Church Fathers were stressing the Christ's resurrection much more than the older festival of Passover, making the division between old and new covenants more pronounced.

As Christianity spread through Europe, local languages and customs affected the expression of the festival. As missionaries worked to convert the pagan populations, they often found that a popular festival was a good time to celebrate a new Christian one. The time for the party remains the same, but the theme changes. The remnants of Eastre's spring rites can be seen in our Easter eggs and in the Easter bunny. One of the legends offered to explain this odd addition is that the bunny was associated with Eastre. One story says that she was sorry to find a bird with its wings frozen because she was late in bringing spring that year. She saved the bird and

turned it into a bunny because it could no longer fly. I'll leave it to your imagination or explorations on the web to come up with explanations about how the bunny got mixed up with the eggs.

As with the many distractions of the Christmas season, Easter eggs and bunnies sometimes leave me wishing that we had stayed with the ancient Jesus movement's combination of Passover and resurrection and left the jelly beans and Cadbury chocolates out of it. But the natural human tendency to celebrate seasonal changes can, overall, be seen as an asset to our celebration, not a hindrance, as long as we continue our journey to the cross before we jump into our Easter baskets.

May the rest of your Lent and especially your Holy Week be blessed.

Rev. Winnie+

### What's happening at St. Martin's for Holy Week and Easter?

Maundy Thursday (April 9) St. Martin's will commemorate Our Lord's "mandate" (=Maundy in old English), that we love one another as he loved us, with a simple supper, foot washing and a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Supper begins in the guild hall at 6:00. We will eat the foods that they might have eaten: bread, cheese, olives, and wine, and we'll read the first part of the liturgy of the Word while we eat. Then at 6:30 we'll process for the Gospel into nave where we'll have (optional) foot washing and the Eucharist. At the end of the service we will ceremonially strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday. We will leave the church in darkness and silence. Everyone is welcome to attend this event, and you are not required to have your feet washed, so don't be shy. (Caution: you might enjoy it if you try it even though it is an ancient custom now quite foreign to our modern life.)

On Good Friday there will be two services: a community service among all the downtown churches held at St. Martin's at noon. Then an evening service at 5:30. At both we will contemplate Our Lord's passion and death. There will be readings and prayers. The evening service will follow the form in the BCP, and the noon service will be in a more interfaith style. There will not be Holy Communion at either service.

On Holy Saturday at 7:30 pm we will have a short, festive Easter Vigil /Evening Prayer Sunset celebration with a kindling of new flame for the Paschal Candle. There will not be Holy Communion at this service. Afterwards, there is a reception in the guild hall. (There may even be Easter eggs and other festive foods and beverages!)

Festive Easter Eucharist will be on Easter Sunday morning at 9:00 am—an hour earlier than our usual time. Praise God!.

### St. Martin's Vestry Contacts

name	email	address	Home phone	cell
Bob Luedtke Jr. Junior Warden	<a href="mailto:bob@rwl-group.com">bob@rwl-group.com</a>	229 Woodland	238 2012	612 756 0714
Les Hohenstein, Treasurer	lhohestein@bevcomm.net	36172 130 <sup>th</sup> St Blue Earth 56013	507 526 3545	507 525 2938
Doug Wollam	billbusse@yahoo.com	515 E 1 <sup>st</sup>	238 2987 238 9394	
Michi Donnelly Sr. Warden	ucc319@frontiernet.net	840 Albion	H 2355721 w 235-5382	
Randa Simpson	<a href="mailto:randakays56@hotmail.com">randakays56@hotmail.com</a>	969 Liberty	238 4879	507 2363244
Mary Whiteman	rksimpson@bevcomm.net marwhite@bevcomm.net	PO box 227 Fairmont	238 1782	
JoAnn Eggert	none	232 So Orient		230 3335

# APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 ECS office Closed 5:15-6:15pm Choir 6:15-7:30 Lenten Soup/Eucharist	2 10:30 Bible Study	3 1:15 ECW 5:30pm Stations of the Cross	4 Confirmation Re- ception Class 10-10 am
5 HE II 10 am Palm Sunday	6	7	8 5:15-6:15pm Choir 6:15-7:30 Lenten Soup/Eucharist	9 10:30 Bible Study  6:00 Maundy Thursday Supper/ service	10 Noon Community Service @ Herre  5:30pm Good Friday Service	11 Confirmation Reception Class 10-10 am 7:30 pm Sunset Service with reception
12 Easter HE 9am	13	14	15 5:15-6:15pm Choir 6:15-7:30 Lenten Soup/Eucharist  Cloak Deadline	16 10:30 Bible Study	17 Legal Clinic	18 Confirmation Re- ception Class 10-10 am
19 HE II 10 am	20	21	22 5:15-6:15pm Choir	23 10:30 Bible Study	24	25 Confirmation Re- ception Class 10-10 am
26 HE II 10 am	27	28	29 5:15-6:15pm Choir	30 10:30 Bible Study		

Please check the Half Cloak each Sunday for updates to the Calendar events!

## Birthdays and Anniversaries:

1 Rev. Leonard Claxton  
1 Jackie Ziemer  
12 Shelly Peppard  
13 Don Ingledew

13 Matthew Viesselman  
16 Jeff Simpson  
18 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Donnelly  
21 Bonnie Kurtz

21 Brandon Simon  
24. Rev. & Mrs. Leonard  
Claxton  
28 Mr. & Mrs. Ted Devaraj

**EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES**



SPRING IS HERE  
SUMMER WILL FOLLOW

This summer the ECS office will be offering scholarships for youth who have completed second through seventh grade to attend Community Education activities. The Community Education brochure has been mailed out and I invite St. Martin's families to check out the many activities provided for learning and fun this summer.

There will be six youth scholarships offered; the maximum amount of each scholarship is \$30.00. Scholarships may be used toward the registration fees for Girls' Softball or Kiwanis Baseball. \$30.00 could be applied toward Lego **Design 2** for students entering grades 4 – 7. Total fee for this class is \$65 for four afternoons in July. Perhaps your child would like to register for Summer **Lights on for Kids**. We would apply \$30.00 toward the \$66 registration fee.

Our own Diane Luedtke is offering a class called - **Kids' Yoga – Safari Animal Poses**. Doesn't that sound like fun? A \$30 scholarship would cover both sessions, one session in June another in August. It will be held at St. Martin's.

For registration information and/or to apply for a scholarship contact Jennelle in the ECS office. If you tossed your CER brochure there are additional copies in the ECS office.

Plan ahead for summer fun.

The dead line for the May Cloak is **April 15th**. Your articles need to be in the Cloak mail box in the Guild Hall or emailed to [cloak@smecmn.org](mailto:cloak@smecmn.org)

**ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN MINUTES - MARCH**

6 members gathered March 6th . Mother Winnie offered a prayer before dessert. She then expressed concern that we are not welcoming enough to visitors on Sunday and perhaps not courteous about taking amounts of food at coffee hour. We will furnish doughnuts after the Easter ser-

vice. We hope at least one or two people will sign up to supply ten dozen cookies, total for Lakeview on the first Monday in April. We decided that we will no longer have fund raisers but we will continue to supply kitchen needs and give a gift to the church on Easter and Christmas this year.

**WANTED COFFEE CHIEF**

St. Martin's needs someone to be in charge of coffee hour to make sure that our social time remains welcoming and fun. Duties: make up a schedule for coffee hour hosting, write a few guidelines and how-to's, and call people to remind, and reassure them when it is their turn. Then, after-

wards thank them. Sound like something you are called to do? Good. Please let a vestry member or Rev. Winnie know. Thanks!

The  
communications  
Committee:  
Chuck Johnson  
Rev. Winnie  
Mitchell  
Thom Peterson  
Jackie Ziemer

## St Martin's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

15-Feb-09

## I. Call to Order:

- A: "The meeting was called to order at 2:15 pm. Members present were: Mother Winnie, "  
 "JoAnn Eggert, Mary Whiteman, Doug Wollam, Michi Donnelly, Randa Simpson and"  
 Les Hohenstein. Bob Luedtke was absent.  
 B: "Mother Winnie opened the meeting with a prayer, a bible reading and discussion."  
 C: The agenda for the meeting was presented. Need for a clerk was added to new business.

Randa made a motion to accept the revised agenda. Doug seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## II. Reports:

- A. Parish input: Mark Ingledew had sent a note thanking the vestry for the scholarship. It was noted that anonymous letters to the vestry would receive no consideration.  
 B. The minutes of the previous meeting were tabled as a copy was not available.  
 C. Sr. Warden: Calls to Jane Paulson regarding partnering with Windom have gone unanswered. Various partnering options were discussed to bring new vestry members  
 up to speed. It was noted that John Robertson has also talked to Windom.  
 D. Jr Warden: No report. The need of a new faucet for the kitchen was noted. JoAnn offered to donate a high-rise style unit that she had.  
 E. "Treasurer: Nothing new. The ""Lisa"" investment option at Profinium was discussed as "  
 was the McCune Trust.  
 F. Clergy: A correction and clarification of the endowment withdrawals in the parochial report was noted. The first-stop committee had noted receipt of our request for ACG relief but needed more information. It appears that the only way to "address the \$30,000 shortfall in the budget is to reduce the cost of ministry. An adhoc"  
 "committee, Randa, Michi and Doug, will study the issue and come up with "  
 recommendations. Our presence in the community is not what it should be. Energizing the congregation and renewing the fundraising program are ways of possibly addressing this issue.  
 G. Doug made a motion to accept the change to the parochial report. Randa seconded the  
 motion and the motion passed unanimously.  
 H. Mary made a motion to accept the reports. Michi seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## III. Activity:

- A. The need for a vestry retreat was discussed. Doug offered his home. The preferred "date is the Saturday, April 4th, with the alternate date to be March 28th. "  
 B. Call Committee: The call process will commence on March 15th. It will be necessary for the vestry to decide whether or not to Call Winnie+ to be priest here at St Martin's. This issue will be one of the topics for discussion at the retreat.  
 C. "Vestry clerk: Judy Gaalswyk, Nicki Stanton and Cheryl Clyde were among the names "  
 "names brought forward. The possibility of this becoming a ""part-time paid"" was also "  
 discussed.  
 D. Chimes: Doug has offered to donate a set of chimes. The cost of materials to make installation would run about \$400. This could come from donations for the project or be taken from memorial moneys. Michi made a motion to accept the donation. Randa seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.  
 E. The need for pew envelopes for was brought forward. Michi said she would look into it.  
 F. Doug made motion to adjourn at 4:10. Mary seconded the motion.  
 G. Mother closed with prayer.

"Respectfully submitted, Les Hohenstein, Acting Secretary"

## DIOCESEAN NEWS

**GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR EPISCOPAL CONGREGATIONS**

Small grants of up to \$1,000 are being offered to Minnesota Episcopal congregations to support local efforts to improve the lives of vulnerable children, youth and their families. This could be a program run by the congregation on behalf of its own children, should they fall into that category or a program doing outreach to families in need. The funds could also support advocacy efforts within the congregation on behalf of vulnerable children. The deadline to submit a proposal is April 1, 2009. Grant guidelines are available by [visiting Sheltering Arms' website](http://www.sheltering-arms.org/). <http://www.sheltering-arms.org/>

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES**

A note from Bishop Jelinek, "As 16,000 Minnesota Army National Guard members are being deployed to Iraq until February 2010, I want to urge all of us to be particularly mindful of them, pray for their safety, and attend to their families in our midst. The Episcopal Center maintains a prayer list of those members of your congregations now serving. [Send us their names](mailto:news@episcopalmn.org) [news@episcopalmn.org](mailto:news@episcopalmn.org)

and we will [post the prayer](#)

[list on our prayer blog](#). No matter what our views about how we got into this war and occupation, our soldiers did not cause it, are serving our country honorably, and deserve our prayers."

**FUNDING MINISTRY IS ALWAYS A CHALLENGE**

*by the Rev. Dr. Michael Hanley*

Occasionally we get a year when income is strong and expenses are light but most years' income meets expenses and sometimes in the dark alley of deficit. This should not surprise us as the church does not exist to make money and the world is so full of need that finding ways to spend what God has given us is seldom difficult. (There is always a Val Tollefson to every Pastor Ingqvist who wants to give more to missions... see Garrison Kellor's story: Pastor Ingqvist's trip to Orlando on the Gospel Birds CD.)

However, congregational development scholars will tell you that one of the best ways to have a strong and healthy congregation is to have solid financial resources. So, what is to be done? Put the right people on the financial committee, save money where you can, be willing to ask for more when that makes sense and be ready to cut spending even when it hurts. Be creative.

The coming year will chal-

lenge us here at St. Christopher's. More people than ever have had changes in their income necessitating a downturn in their ability to give to the parish, and a few individuals are not pledging due to our continuing conversation about renovating the church sanctuary. In all we have some 30 thousand dollars less in pledged income, but this is somewhat offset by a decrease in staffing costs from last year. We will give the annual meeting a budget with a 10 thousand dollar deficit, but we will pay the diocesan ACG in full, and give raises to the staff, both of which we did not do in 2008. We will cut spending on programs and find ways to increase funding for those programs during the year.

Many churches tend to operate more from a scarcity model than from a position of abundance. This is most often said as an attack on the church. However both models can be a blessing or a curse. Abundance thinking can be based on "pie in the sky" thinking and lead to unhealthy decisions or it can be a true giving spirit that leads to further abundance. Scarcity thinking can be fear based, leading to hoarding of resources or it can issue in an entrepreneurial spirit. An entrepreneurial spirit acknowledges the challenge and looks for healthy solutions. At our best we Christians know this and attempt to live out of this spirit.



**UPDATE ON THE SEARCH PROCESS FOR THE IX BISHOP OF MINNESOTA**

Applications were accepted from January 7 – February 18

Each applicant needed to answer 3 questions, along with sending resume and references.

Question #1 Explain why you feel called to be a bishop; including your discernment process and what have you learned from it. What special gifts underscore your call to the Diocese of Minnesota specifically?

Question #2 The diaconate is a major pillar of the Diocese of Minnesota. What has been your experience in supporting, encouraging and making use of the diaconate?

Question #3 Presently 38 congregations have embraced total ministry. What experience have you had with total ministry parishes? What would your ideas be to support and strengthen that movement in Minnesota?

When your Search Committee for the IX Bishop of Minnesota met on Saturday,

February 28, at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis, the most important task was to evaluate the 48 applications that had been received by the initial deadline. Part of the process involved a "blind" review of candidate responses to the three essay questions ("blind," that is, without their names attached to their answers). The members of the committee believed this was the most fair and objective way to determine which candidates matched our diocesan vision for our next bishop. After a thorough evaluation, the pool of candidates was reduced from 48 to 22.

The 22 remaining candidates now needed to answer these 3 questions and submit a sermon (audio or video, about 10 minutes) This can be from any season, or from any set of readings, or from any occasion.

Question #1 Our diocese has varied ethnic and cultural components: American Indian, African American, Hmong American, Spanish

Speaking Americans and GLBT. What has been your experience in working with these groups? What is your vision to strengthen and support these ministries?

Question #2 Describe a previous conflict between several parties that you personally have been involved in and how you went about resolving it? What was the ultimate outcome?

Question #3 How would you define the realities facing the Episcopal Church today, and how would you lead the diocese in responding to them?

Deadline was March 25.

The search committee will meet in soon after the deadline to evaluate the 22 candidates.

More updates in the next cloak

Remember a new bishop will be elected in October at the annual convention.



**For the Unemployed  
From the Book of Common  
Prayer**

For the Unemployed (p. 824)  
Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and [private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**That All May Have Work**

O God, the Creator of all things, you have made us in your own image so that we may find joy in creative work: have mercy on all those who are unemployed, and those who find their work dull, especially for \_\_\_\_\_. Help us to build a society where all may have work and find joy in doing it, for the good of our world and the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: *New Every Morning*



**We are on the web**

**Smecmn.org**

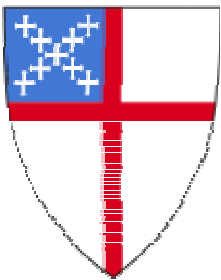
**APRIL 1, 2009**

**ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

102 N Park ST  
Fairmont, MN 56031

Phone: 507-238-2686  
E-mail: [info@smecmn.org](mailto:info@smecmn.org)

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5



**St. Martin's is a reconciling community of Christian people striving through worship, love and service to be a family in God and to bring others into the fellowship.**