



St. Hugh of Lincoln
Episcopal Church
36W957 Highland Ave.
Elgin, Illinois 60123

Voice of the Swan Newsletter

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The Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Tuesday: 7:00 AM

The Staff

Reverend Marion Phipps, Rector

Dan Dolney, Senior Warden

Craig Skeppstom, Junior Warden

Karen Warner, Administrative Assistant

Ed Jamrog, Treasurer

Katie White, Vestry Clerk

April Birthdays

Happy Birthday!!

Judy Mavros	4 - 1
Beth Varchmin	4 - 1
Dawn Lureau	4 - 2
Ben Woertendyke	4 - 10
Connie Scheffel	4 - 14
Ryan Warner	4 - 15
Doug Tobin	4 - 16
Jane Watson	4 - 20

April Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary!!!

<i>Richard A. & Jeanne Rayner</i>	<i>4 - 8</i>
<i>Rudolph & Kim Gebala</i>	<i>4 - 13</i>
<i>Nick & Judy Mavros</i>	<i>4 - 14</i>
<i>John & Roberta Adams</i>	<i>4 - 15</i>

Voice of the Swan

April 2014



The News Letter of St. Hugh of Lincoln Church

Volume 17
Number 4

Dear Parish Family,

Today, as I write, it's March 25th, the day that the Church celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord. We commemorate the day that the angel Gabriel came to the young virgin Mary, to tell her that she would be the God-bearer, and the mother of Jesus. (Luke 1:26-38). I love that Gabriel begins the conversation with an honorary salutation, "Greetings favored one!" Then, following his greeting, he gives a word of reassurance, "The Lord is with you." I think it's timely that this story comes most often in the midst of Lent. It is a story of hope and promise in the middle of the wilderness. Though God sends Gabriel with a huge assignment for Mary, he also sends the reminder that God is with her, and we know that to be true for ourselves. Emanuel, God with us! I know that Easter is approaching later this month, not Christmas, but the message of Emanuel, God with us, is pertinent at any time!

This has been a rather long and hard winter and I'm not only speaking of the weather. I enjoy the snow for the most part, though I am happy it is finally spring;(despite the frozen water bottle in my car the other day, and the snow on the lawn this morning that would make it seem otherwise!) But the harshness of this winter goes beyond the snow. We have weathered the loss of loved ones in our community, and our extended families, serious illnesses, heart attacks, and broken bones, along with enormous heating and snow plowing bills....And yet, in the midst of the difficulties it is life sustaining and good to remember that God **is** with us! Before Jesus ascended home to the Father He told His disciples, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age!" (Matthew 28:20). And Paul wrote to the Romans, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)

We are never beyond the "withness" of God, though there are times God may be harder to perceive than others. If you are one of those experiencing a difficult season, may God's promise to be near, be an encouragement to you and may you find God to prove faithful in the desert! if you are in a good season, there are many among us who could use your prayers, encouragement, a card, or even a meal! As we continue through our Lenten journey, remember that Jesus, too, experienced the wilderness and from the cross cried out "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Do what you can to follow the psalmist's advice: "Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken." (Psalm 55:22)

I hope and pray you are finding meaningful ways to renew and refresh your relationship with God as we travel through Lent together. I've enjoyed the discussion groups and am grateful to each participant for taking the time to share a bit of your journey! There is much ahead this month on the way to Easter and I hope you will participate in our Lenten and Holy Week services as much as possible. Ask God if there is someone you might invite who doesn't have a church family but may be seeking one. An invitation can be powerful and even life changing! Who do you know that needs to hear the Good News? May we be open to God's guidance and have the courage to step out in faith where God leads!

Love and Blessings,
Marion+

Senior Warden Report

March 2014

Spring is upon us and with that we look forward to buds on the trees, the flowers beginning to bloom and the bright sunshine warming our face. What can be better as I look out the patio door and see.....SNOW?!?!?!?!?!? So, now I'm left with "Patience is a Virtue".

The beginning of March brought us the beginning of Lent. We begin our preparation for Easter with an ashen cross on our forehead to remind us that we began as dust and to dust we will return. During Lent many of us will "give up" something or change something in our day to day life or do something extra. Whatever it is, it should make our faith and soul stronger and more focused on what is really important.

The month of April is quite full with Lenten and Easter activities and devotions. The weekly Lenten program, Stations of the Cross, Soup and Bread Meal along with our usual Military and Taize services all help to enhance your spiritual health. The Easter week will begin with Palm Sunday and continue on Maundy Thursday with the Agape Meal. Good Friday will be a busy day with Stations of the Cross along with a special Stations of the Cross program for the children that concludes with Pizza with the Priest. Amy and I will, once again, set up the Experiential Stations before the evening service. The week culminates on Easter Sunday with the 5am Easter Vigil, and 8am and 10:30am Easter Services.

Be on the look-out for Easter Week sign-ups for the Agape meal and Service needs. Also, there is a Soup Kitchen sign-up for April.

The Vestry has been discussing the impending need for a new roof the last couple of months. While we're not in an emergency situation with the roof, we want to be pro-active so as to not be put into "Emergency Mode". We're exploring a number of fundraising ideas that will, not only raise money, but will involve the entire parish in a fun way. The generosity of the St. Hugh family never ceases to amaze me, so I know we will all come together in this necessary endeavor.

Many thanks to all of you and all you do and may God Bless.

Dan Dolney
Senior Warden

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please remember to sign up to remember someone or a special occasion on the Flower list in the narthex. The cost per Sunday is \$30. Envelopes are available near the list. Please drop the completed envelope in the offertory plate or the mailbox on the office door



Easter Flowers

We are collecting for Easter Flowers. Please remember someone special in your life or a special event and give flowers in their (it's) honor or memory.

Sign ups available:

(on the bulletin board near the nursery)

- ✝ Holy Week and Easter day service volunteers
- ✝ Agape Meal – Thursday April 17th
- ✝ Kid friendly Stations of the Cross and Pizza with the Priest
Good Friday, April 18th 4PM
- ✝ Passion Reading for Palm Sunday, April 13thⁿ – on the table in
Wiedrich Hall
- ✝ Easter Vigil Breakfast

The Altar Guild and all interested volunteers will be meeting, cleaning church and polishing silver on Saturday APRIL 12TH, 9:30AM – 11am. They will set up for Easter on Saturday, April 19th starting at 9:30AM. Jeanne plans to see everyone there, unless she hears differently from you. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Rayner 847-695-1369 or richjeanne@sbcglobal.net.

April 6th Lenten Choir Coffee Concert Noon-1230PM

with the St Hugh and Church of the Redeemer Choirs at St. Hugh – Wiedrich Hall.

On April 6th, the St Hugh and Church of the Redeemer Choirs will be giving a Lenten Choir Coffee Concert from Noon to 12:30PM to benefit the Church of the Redeemer Youth Mission trip. Come drink coffee, eat cake and enjoy a wonderful concert. There is no charge for the concert, but a free will offering will be received. Two students will give testimonies on how their lives changed last year on the mission trip. Invite your friends and neighbors! We hope to see everyone there!

Article: I'm so grateful to be sharing the Lenten season in the St. Hugh community. We began the season with a beautiful Ash Wednesday and a shared retreat with St. Hugh and the Church of the Redeemer. As a congregation, we have been singing selections from Schubert's mass. The choir has been singing beautiful new anthems by Townend and Getty, new hymns like "Healer of Our Every Ill" and classic hymns like "Near the Cross". Our new band sings once a month and has become home for several of our new members.

We are trying a new tradition this year. On Easter Sunday morning, we are inviting the congregation to sing with the choir "The Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah. I think it will be a wonderful way to complete our celebration that morning!

Thanks again for the joy of worshipping together with you. Our community is so loving and gifted and we create many beautiful moments together!

Palm Sunday



Sunday, April 13th is Palm Sunday. We will celebrate at our 8:00AM and 10:30AM services. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early, and meet in Wiedrich Hall.

Sign-up for a part in the The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew on the table in Wiedrich Hall.

Palm Sunday - A Little Differently

This year we will hold off on the reading of the Passion till the end of the Palm Sunday liturgy and allow ourselves a bit of time to celebrate Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem before shifting to the events of Good Friday. Through the years the Church has collapsed Holy Week into the Palm Sunday liturgy and I'd like to return to giving Palm Sunday it's own significance before we begin the road to Calvary. We will still have a reading of the Passion, but it will be at the conclusion of the service. I mentioned last year that I was thinking about doing this and just didn't want to surprise anyone with the change! I look forward to this journey through Lent, Holy Week and Easter with you all!

Holy Week and Easter Services at St. Hugh



Maundy Thursday – April 17th

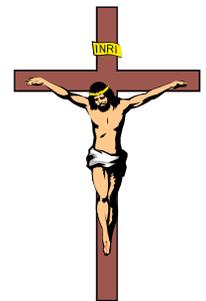
The Thursday in Holy Week is known as Maundy Thursday. It is part of the Triduum, or three holy days before Easter. It comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, "new commandment," from John 13:34. The ceremony of washing feet was also referred to as "the Maundy." Maundy Thursday celebrations also commemorate the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus "on the night he was betrayed." Egeria, a fourth-century pilgrim to Jerusalem, describes elaborate celebrations and observances in that city on Maundy Thursday. Special celebration of the institution of the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday is attested by the Council of Hippo in 381. The Prayer Book liturgy for Maundy Thursday provides for celebration of the Eucharist and a ceremony of the washing of feet which follows the gospel and homily. There is also provision for the consecration of the bread and wine for administering Holy Communion from the reserved sacrament on Good Friday. Following this, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from the church. (Taken from the Episcopal Church website.)

Our parish offers two beautiful ways to celebrate Maundy Thursday:

- Agape Meal at 6:30 p.m.: Please join Marion in celebrating an Agape Meal According to the Episcopal Church website, "agape" means selfless Christian love. Agape reflects the love of God, and it is the kind of love that Christians are called to share with one another. The term is also used for a common meal or "Love Feast" of the early church, from which the Eucharist developed as a separate rite. The St. Hugh's Agape Meal traditionally consists of foods that would have been eaten in Jesus' time. All are welcome to attend. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board in the narthex, if you wish to participate.
- Worship at 7:30 p.m.: Our traditional Maundy Thursday service will begin at 7:30p.m.

Good Friday

"The Friday before Easter Day, on which the church commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. It is a day of fasting and special acts of discipline and self-denial. In the early church candidates for baptism, joined by others, fasted for a day or two before the Paschal feast. In the west the first of those days eventually acquired the character of historical reenactment of the passion and death of Christ. The liturgy of the day includes John's account of the Passion gospel, a solemn form of intercession known as the solemn collects (dating from ancient Rome), and optional devotions before the cross (commonly known as the veneration of the cross). The Eucharist is not celebrated in the Episcopal Church on Good Friday, but Holy Communion may be administered from the reserved sacrament at the Good Friday service. The BCP appoints readings for Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer on Good Friday." (Taken From the Episcopal Church Website)



Good Friday for Kids Event

On Good Friday, I am offering a special Stations of the cross followed by cheese pizza for the children of the parish and their families. We will meet at 4:00PM and go through the stations and have some experiential things for the kids to take part in. They will be able to ask any questions they want and hopefully we can present the events of Holy Week in a way that is meaningful for them. We will follow with a pizza dinner together. Please sign up so we know how much pizza to plan for!

**Our Good Friday worship services and Stations of the Cross
will be held on April 18th at Noon and 7:00PM.**

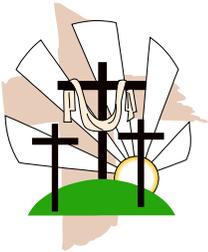
Stations of the Cross will be available beginning at 5PM and again after the 7PM service. At the Noon Good Friday service we will be doing the Stations of the Cross using *The Way of the Cross*. Holy Communion will be available from the reserved sacrament, as we do not consecrate the elements on Good Friday in commemoration of Jesus' death and passion.

For the evening Good Friday service we will begin with seven experiential Stations of the Cross that will be scattered around the church, beginning in the basement and ending in the sanctuary. Following these stations we will continue with the Good Friday liturgy in the Book of Common Prayer. Holy Communion from the reserved Sacrament will be available at this service also. The experiential Stations of the Cross will also be available after the service.

Easter Sunday, April 20th

At 5:00 AM, the Great Vigil of Easter dramatically moves us from the darkness of death to the light of the Resurrection. We gather in the field next to the parking lot, and then enter the darkened church with the first fire of Easter and proceed behind the Paschal candle to experience the gloriously arrayed altar.

5:00 AM	Great Vigil of Easter (Followed by Breakfast in Wiedrich Hall – sign up on bulletin board)
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
10:30AM	Holy Eucharist



Easter is the greatest day of the Christian year! Without Easter, we would have no Christianity: Jesus would be dead, buried, and forgotten and the last work in life would belong to death. With Easter, Christ is alive for evermore and death has lost its power to extinguish us and separate us from the love of God. This is the day when God raised Jesus from the dead and we celebrate it at each of the glorious liturgies.



We are looking for a coordinator for the annual **St. Hugh Easter Egg Hunt** on Easter Day after the 10:30AM Easter Day service. Weather permitting it will be outdoors, if not, plan on an indoor hunt.

Special Thanks

Thank you to all those kind folks who prayed, called, visited, sent cards, and generally revived my spirit during my recent spell of inactivity. I seem to be healing rapidly and hope to be back to my usual speed by Easter.

Praise the Lord and thanks again,
Marge Zawadzki

Library News...

Did you know we have a great library at St. Hugh? It may be small, but it is rich in inspiration. The books are sorted into categories to make it easier to find what you need.

Wonderful books are waiting for you: In the Anglican section we have *Mere Christianity*, an introduction to and defense of the Christian faith, by C.S. Lewis, who wrote the Narnia books, and who himself took the journey from atheism to Christian belief. In the Old Testament section, there are books on the lives of David, Moses and Elijah. In addition, in the Spirituality section, we have *No Man Is An Island* by Thomas Merton, who was a monk, mystic, and social activist. In Christian living, there is *The Case For Faith*, by Lee Strobel. Other sections include Christian Parenting (*Quick To Listen, Slow To Speak*), Fiction and Poetry.

Something for everybody!

To check out a book, write your name on the card in the book and place it in the little plastic box in the library. Dawn Lureau has been working to update the library, adding new books we have acquired and organizing the books into categories. She dedicated many hours to make sure we have all the books organized and indexed. Many thanks to Dawn!

Submitted by Caroline Onischak

CRAFT SALE - APRIL 6th

While the choir treats your ears to lovely music after the 10:30 service on April 6th, let your fingers do the walking among the lovely offerings from the RELICS crafters.

Remember all your donations will be used to support outreach projects: local, national and international.

Thank you in advance.

The RELICS

“I’m still trying to catch rabbits, but they are running away.”



Nara, writer, at Fount of Wisdom Christian Writers Workshop, Phnom Penh, March 2014

This is how Nara, a Cambodian writer, expresses his struggle to “catch” new ideas for a book he is writing for youth - with the help of author and publishing consultant Larry Brook, a member of St. Hugh.

Larry has been traveling to Phnom Penh, Cambodia for over two years to lead Christian writers workshops for 15 writers and editors with Fount of Wisdom, Cambodia's main Christian publishing house. Larry will share his experiences and writer stories at the Relics luncheon, 12:00 noon, Wednesday April 2 in Wiedrich Hall.

Come bring a bag lunch to Relics and be inspired by the way God's love and power has changed the lives of local Cambodian writers. For one, Nara, with Larry's help, has been able to catch enough "rabbits" to complete his new book. It's titled *A Letter to My Children* and is now being prepared for publication. Solina Chy, another writer, is learning to write her story of survival in the Killing Fields.

For more on Nara, Solina, and other Cambodian writers, come to Relics. Everyone is invited.



St Hugh member Larry Brook (front row) with writers at Christian writers Workshop in Cambodia, March 2014.

