

# The Bell of Zion

June, 2007

## Rector's Corner

I recently read a description of a symphony orchestra as a group of instruments that depended on atmosphere (air), which they move and shape to create music. Immediately I could envision reeds vibrating the air around them, the crash of drums sending out tsunamis of air, brass instruments firing air, and strings quivering the atmosphere. All of this quivering, pulsating, vibrating, and crashing air being mixed and churning under the direction of the conductor until it comes out in one voice of beautiful music. One might say it is the air that makes music. The same is true of other forms of art. Think of sculpture as being defined by the air around it. And architecture as being defined and useful by the air surrounding it and contained within it. Even flower gardens are defined by their setting and surroundings. When we speak or sing we are like the instruments, moving and shaping the air around us. The point here is that all things – all life – operates in, is defined by, and is affected by the air that surrounds us. The opposite of this would be to see life as formless lumps of solid mass or to see life operating in a vacuum.

The short definition (*Random House Webster's*) of the word spirit is: "a vital force in humanity, soul; feelings; vigor; and intent." I have left out "a supernatural being and alcoholic liquor." Vital force, feelings, vigor, and intent are all invisible forces that could easily be equated with the air around us. In fact, one of the definitions for spiritual is "ethereal." Sounds like air to me, the air that defines us.

Within the *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* there are many uses and definitions for the word spirit. It is pointed out that the word spirit comes from the Hebrew word *ruah*, the Greek word *pneuma*, and the Latin word *spiritus*, meaning breath. So when we talk about *Spiritus Christus* or *Spiritus Deus* we are talking about the breath of God, a mysterious power that is some how brought to us and defined by all around us. It is everywhere just as the notes of

those trumpets are when the musician fires the air out of his trumpet and the strings of the violins start the atmosphere quivering.

On Pentecost we received the gift of the Holy Spirit from God. According to the book of Acts, the reception of the Holy Spirit caused the crowd gathered, people from all nations, to speak in their own native language; "even visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans, and Arabs." If all these voices and languages can be compared with the symphony orchestra described above. The crowd in Jerusalem that day really got the air moving and what they had to say affected and defined all around them. What were they speaking about? What were they proclaiming that affected and defined all around them? They were speaking about, "God's deeds of power." (Acts 2:11)

As recipients of *Spiritus Deus*, the breath of God, may we also proclaim God's deeds of power as we move through our season after Pentecost, a season dedicated to the building of the Church. May we be the symphony that brings a proclaiming, quivering, pulsating, vibrating, and crashing force that under the direction of our conductor Jesus Christ, comes out in one voice of the Good News. As with air, our proclamation will affect all around us and will change the world.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord.  
Fr. Mark

## From the Office

We are pleased to announce that the Vestry has hired Tina (Swager) Stickel for the demanding job of Parish Secretary.

Both Tina and her husband David, an 18 year employee of New York State, are life long Avonites. They have two children: 8 year old Marcus, a graduate of CNS and his 5 year old sister Ryann, who will graduate this year. Otis is their 10 year old golden retriever.

After graduating from Avon Central School, Tina worked as a receptionist/secretary in the

medical department of the U. of R. and a private practice until Ryann's birth in 2002. She continued working at home until 2005.

The Stickels are members of St. Agnes Church. Tina is on the CNS Board, has been a helper in CNS, a room mother in Marcus's class at ACS, and has participated in every field trip of both children.

We at Zion welcome Tina to our family.

### ***Vestry News***

The Vestry has established quarterly Congregational meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to inform the Congregation about the work of the Vestry and for the Vestry to receive feedback and suggestions from the Congregation. Meetings will be held after church on the following dates:

2007 June 10

October 14

2008 January 27 – Annual Meeting

April 27

The following priests officiate during Fr. Mark's and Shirley's vacation:

July 22 The Rev. Walter Pond

July 29 The Rev. Donald Page

August 5 The Rev. Donald Page

Sept. 23 The Rev. Walter Pond

The Vestry is pleased to announce that Ms. Kathy Maltby has been elected to complete the remaining Vestry term of Bryant Dunham. The Vestry thanks Bryant for his hard work, and we all pray for him, Mary Ellen, and Emma during his illness.

### ***Bulletin Change***

You will notice a change in the weekly bulletin. It has been decided to replace the purchased *Lectionary* inserts with in-house printed documents.

During June we will use the readings from the BCP *Lectionary* we have used for a number of years. Beginning in July, we will change to the readings in the Revised Common Lectionary, which will become required beginning at Advent.

If you wish, you can down-load each week's readings by logging on to the *Lectionary* WEB site [www.io.com/~kellywp/](http://www.io.com/~kellywp/)

### ***Women of Zion***

At the regular meeting on Monday, May 1, the WOZ elected the following new officers: Co-Chairs Jean Fisher & Alyson Kluth; Treasurer, Beverly Dziekonski; and Devotions Chair, Betty Tilly.

The women of the Parish are asked to note the following dates:

Tuesday, May 29, 6:00 p.m., A birthday party at the Avon Nursing Home. People are needed to socialize, sing, and distribute cake and punch.

Wed. & Thur., June 6 & 7, 9:00 a.m.; Cleaning party in the Parish Hall. If possible, please bring your own bucket, rags, and cleaning supplies.

Monday, July 16, 6:00 p.m.; Garden party at the Tillys'. Please bring a dish to pass and a serving spoon. There is a sign-up sheet on the Parish hall bulletin board. ***The men of the Parish are invited to attend!*** Come and enjoy the beautiful surroundings and fellowship.

The magazine *Service*, found in the church library, will give you an idea of how much **Church World Service** does throughout the world.

"Thank you" notes are posted on the bulletin board from CWS for Zion's "blanket" money donation and from the Avon Springs Lodge Masonic No. 570 for our support of their talent show.

Join the Women of Zion on the third Monday of each month. Even though business is conducted, the meetings are never dull! Come and enjoy the fellowship and light dessert.

### ***United Thank Offering***

The United Thank Offering Spring Ingathering came to \$220.88.

Remember to place your monetary contributions in the "little blue box" as thanks for the good things that God has done for you daily.

While a few coins may not seem like much, when added together, they make available many, many dollars for use throughout the world.

### ***Circle Nursery School News***

Wow, it's hard to believe that this is our last month of school! The 3-day children are already preparing for their graduation on June 2, 2007. They will be traveling by bus at month's end to visit Avon Primary School. The princesses in our graduating class will enjoy a "Royal Tea Party" this month, leaving the "Pirates" some time on their own to go treasure hunting. Argghh, it will be a good time! The children have also been busy learning about plants and growing. Their final unit this year will be a "Life on a Farm" theme. The 3-day classes will combine for a picnic at the "Downs". Marty and Karyl are planning many farm themed activities as well as an ice cream dessert for everyone.

The 2-day class finished up a nursery rhyme unit. "Teddy Bears" will be the final theme for them this month. A walking field trip is being planned for them to a local garden during the last weeks of school.

Marty, Karyl, and all of the children worked very hard on some priceless Mother's Day gifts. Everyone at CNS would like to wish all Mothers and Grandmothers a very Happy Mother's Day!

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Weber  
Publicity, CNS

### ***Happy Birthdays***

Will Trewer	1 <sup>st</sup>
Charles Leonard	4 <sup>th</sup>
Dennis Turner	10 <sup>th</sup>
Jerry Rowe	15 <sup>th</sup>
Tobie Smith	16 <sup>th</sup>
Wanda Rowe	19 <sup>th</sup>
Rick Williams	20 <sup>th</sup>
John Gaehring	25 <sup>th</sup>
Mary Lou Miller	30 <sup>th</sup>

### ***Happy Anniversary***

Will & Renee Trewer	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Dave & Rebecca Sharman	9 <sup>th</sup>
Ralph & Betty Frisch	29 <sup>th</sup>

### ***Avon Food Pantry***

For those who may not know, Wanda Rowe , in addition to all she does for Zion, is chair of the Avon Food Pantry. The Pantry makes food and other personal necessities available to some in Avon who need some help.

The March Easter Basket project is an example. Forty-eight families received baskets. These benefited 18 children, 27 adults, and 30 seniors, a total of 83 persons. Contributions were made by Curves for Women of Avon, and Kraft Foods, and several of the Avon churches donated bags of groceries. Meat was purchased at TOPS.

Also in March 9 children and 22 adults were helped. Three deliveries were made the Cedar Motel and five new clients were added.

In April the Mass Distribution of Food received 1.224.47 pounds of food from Foodlink at a cost (grant dollars) of \$121.86. This helped 43 households in Avon, 10 in Caledonia, 9 in Lima, 1 in Mt. Morris, and 2 in Hemlock for a total of 99 persons.

The following items are in short supply: canned fruit, canned juice, cereal, mayo, pancake mix, and syrup.

The basket that is presented each week contains items that parishioners have brought for the shelves of the Pantry. In addition to such items, just plain greenbacks (money) are very welcome. Make checks out to Avon Food Pantry.

### ***The Church on the Internet***

You are now able to log on to  
***ZION-EPISCOPAL-AVON.ORG***

And check the news and  
the monthly published calendar

To keep up on the progress of the search for the  
next Bishop of Rochester, check the Diocesan  
WEB site:

***rochesterepiscopaldiocese.com***