

CHRONICLE

150TH ANNIVERSARY 2018



FROM THE RECTOR 150 Years of Faith, Love and Service



Dear Friends,

It's a great joy for me to be with all of you to plan for and celebrate Atonement's 150th Anniversary! As we did for our 140th Anniversary, we will celebrate this incredible milestone over two years. Atonement was organized and held its first worship services at the predecessor Clinton Inn on November 16, 1868. The first church building was erected in

1869, on a parcel of land that was gifted by the Mahan and Swift families. The original deed, with its beautiful hand-lettering and profound spiritual language, is still in our possession. Atonement began, and continues as a community of faith, love and service.

We began to plan for the 150th Anniversary one year prior, at the Annual Giving Breakfast in November 2017. In "Table Talks" you brainstormed how we might celebrate, looking back with gratitude to God and to our ancestors in faith who passed Atonement down to us for our stewardship ("internal" celebrations), and looking forward with hope in God's future, and a desire to reach out with Christ's love to our community in new ways ("external"). Your ideas were reviewed as part of the Vestry's discernment at their Annual Retreat in March 2018, and a report and further discussion took place at May's Annual Meeting.

We "kicked-off" our celebrations at our 13th Annual Arts & Music Festival! I'm thankful to everyone who contributed so much time, talent, treasure, energy and love to our festival.

Other "internal" celebrations will include the restoration of our beloved "Advent Angel" painting, musical offerings, visits from historical characters, a photo board, and a dinner-dance at Madeleine's Petit Paris on Friday, May 3, 2019 – save the date!

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FROM THE RECTOR (Continued)

Our primary “external” observance is our new “Blessings to Go” ministry, which was kicked off on Sunday, June 10 at Atonement. Our Blessings Booth is ready to go on the road to various community events. Our desire is to offer spiritual support and healing to our community. Blessing prayers will be offered, both in person and on cards that can be given to someone being deployed in the military, those who desire healing, are experiencing grief, celebrating a birth or birthday, and general blessings. Other blessings for homes, moving, pets, etc. are being developed. These will be offered with no expectation of return. Information about Atonement will be available for those who may be looking for a church home, but that is not the primary focus of our blessing ministry.

Our ministry’s first public outing was on Saturday, June 24, at Tenaflly’s inaugural Pride Day in Huyler Park. We offered special cards of “Blessing for our GLBTQ+ Neighbors.” The event had over 150 people attending, so there was some good interaction and many blessing cards were given. (And, we were able to hand out flyers about the Tenaflly Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Families to be held on June 25.) Thanks to our Blessing Team, along with Justin Messina and Jason Sechrest, who helped host the booth.

Please investigate in your community(ies) where you live and/or work, and let us know about potential locations/events in the coming year such as a community night, street fair, environmental or pet fair, a run/walk for a charity, a busy commuting bus or train stop, etc., where we might set up our booth. Our Blessing Team will be setting up a schedule and asking for parishioners to assist in hosting. Please speak to Birgitta Karlén, Tanya Quirk, Fran Regan or Lynne Weber if you have an idea for a future booth outing, be a booth host or join the Team.

There are many challenges for us as we celebrate 150 years at Atonement. The current demographics and diversity of our community, national generational trends, and the need to keep old traditions and buildings fresh and outfitted for the constantly changing society we live in, are just a few. However, I truly believe that the people of Atonement, even as we hold fast to all that is good, true and beautiful that has been passed down to us, will also always rise to new challenges, and be open to reinvigorated ways of being the Body of Christ in the world. In our time and place, following Jesus isn’t something done because it gets any social credit, but purely out of faith and love. In the spirit of the founders of this parish, let’s put our faith and love to work -- in order to make the unseen things of the Spirit visible in worship, mercy and service.

Faithfully,

PRAYER FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY FROM “THE LITTLE CHURCH 1868-1968”

Almighty God, who by the Holy Spirit has inspired thy Church in every age, we praise Thee that thou didst put it into the hearts of our forebears to establish this parish. As we mark a century of life under Thy providential hand, we give thanks for the labors of all those who didst build upon the foundations that were laid and we pray that the good work Thou didst perform through them may be continued in us. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.



CONFIRMATION

By Carol Petrovich

On April 22nd at St. Paul's Church in Englewood, four young adults from Atonement were confirmed by Bishop Mark Beckwith: Odin Avery, Emma O'Brien, John O'Brien and Everett Reilly. These young adults attended classes regularly for four years, participated in Sunday services as an acolyte or lector, and did an independent project under the guidance of a mentor. Also confirmed was adult Jerry Walton, who is now serving Atonement as a Crucifier.

Odin, with Bryon Roshong as his mentor, conveyed an amazing report on the stained glass windows in our church. Emma, with Andrea Pieper as her mentor, produced a PowerPoint presentation on the work of the Altar Guild. John, with the help of Walton Clark, organized a parish workday. Everett, spearheaded a collection of toiletries for the benefit of The Center for Hope and Safety, with Jane Murphy as his mentor. We are very proud of these young adults, and may God bless them.



Pictured from left to right are Atonement Confirmands after the service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in April: Jerry Walton, Everett Reilly, Bishop Mark Beckwith, Jack O'Brien, Emma O'Brien, Odin Avery and Lynne Bleich Weber.



"THE ADVENT ANGEL" TO BE RESTORED FOR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

By Wilson Reimers



"The Advent Angel" was painted by Ella Condie Lamb (1862-1936). She was from the Lamb family, who were members of Atonement and whose company produced most of the stained glass windows at Atonement*. For "Advent Angel," Lamb earned the Dodge Prize from the National Academy of Design in 1889 and honorable mentions in painting at both the World Columbian Exposition of 1893 and the Buffalo Exposition of 1901.

We believe that the Angel has hung in the Choir at Atonement for 90+ years—donated by the artist not long after the magnificent addition to the church in 1912 that included the Choir, Organ and High Altar. We thought that, as part of our 150th celebration, it should be restored. We have contacted a few restorers and are awaiting their reply.

We expect to hold a "mini capital campaign" for the Angel in the fall. Everyone will have the opportunity to "be an Angel" and make a donation of any size to assist with the cleaning, restoration and re-hanging of this historic, beautiful painting and carved wooden frame.

*This spring, Odin Avery gave a presentation on the church's stained glass windows for his Confirmation project, cataloguing and describing many of them. He provided the church with an electronic file of his project. One of the Lamb windows at Atonement was designed by Ella Condie Lamb (can you find it?). As part of Odin's project, he met with the current president of Lamb Studios (no longer held in the Lamb family) and learned how stained glass windows are created and restored. The last member of the Lamb family who worshipped at Atonement, Berea Lamb Seeley, died in 2016. Lynne Weber officiated at her funeral.



150TH ANNIVERSARY PHOTO BOARD

By Carol Petrovich

We need your help. How, you ask? Well, at the initial planning meeting to brainstorm ideas to celebrate Atonement's 150th Anniversary, it was decided that it would be a great idea to have a past and present photo memory bulletin board. By September we hope to have the bulletin board posted in the Reception Room, and that is where you all come in...

Please check your stowaway photo drawers or digital archives to see if you have any Atonement photos to contribute to this project. If so, please call the office at 201-568-1763 or bring them to church. If you need them to be picked up, tell Pat when you call the office. PLEASE help us to make this part of our Anniversary celebration a success!

ATONEMENT CONTINUES IWI

In May members of the Interfaith Women's Initiative (IWI) met with Senator Loretta Weinberg. IWI women of faith meet to discuss and plan events each month, alternating between Jewish, Christian and Muslim hosts. Atonement continues to be the Christian host location, led by Fran and Kim Regan, Angie Rispoli and Lynne Bleich Weber. For more information, talk to Fran or Lynne.





MUSIC MINISTRY

By Brian Schober



As we approach the summer months, we can look back over the past year in how music enhanced the 150th Anniversary of Church of the Atonement. We kicked off the celebrations last January with a performance of Menotti's beloved opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors," featuring Luciano Marcello as the Child and Geralyn Keeley as his mother. The beautiful sets were by Wilson Riemers and stage direction by Jeff Pieper. For the Good Friday evening service, excerpts from Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater" were performed by sopranos Barbee Monk and Geralyn Keely. During the Arts & Music Sunday in May, the Atonement soloists sang Isadore Freed's "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" as a prelude. During the summer months, Sunday services will continue in the chapel accompanied by music at the piano.

My heartfelt thanks to the Atonement Choir for all their hard work and dedication over the past year. On a sadder note, we are very sorry for the departure of Kristen Kasarjian as Children's Education and Music Director, who did a wonderful job with the kids. We wish her, her husband George, and their children Leo and Phoebe all the best as they relocate to South Carolina. We will continue the 150th Anniversary celebrations in the fall with special music programs including a special evening vesper service.

150th
ANNIVERSARY



2018 LENTEN COLLECTION RESULTS Your Lenten Alms at Work for God's Kingdom!

By Lynne Bleich Weber

During Lent, Atonement joined other Episcopal congregations in our annual "District 9 Lenten Collection." The goal each year is to raise \$5,000 from our ten congregations, and one District 8 congregation (All Saints, Leonia). As part of this district campaign, each year Atonement holds "Making Change – Make a Difference" and our Confirmation Class distributes change jars to our congregation.

This year, the funds were designated to assist Episcopal schools in the U.S. Virgin Islands that were seriously damaged by the fall 2017 hurricanes. One hundred percent of the money would go to Episcopal Diocese of the USVI for school repairs and equipment, with management undertaken by Episcopal Relief & Development at no cost. Because of all of you, this year we raised \$601.87. (Thanks to Mike Murphy for turning all of our "change" into one check for ERD.)

The final numbers are in for the District 9 Lenten Collection. Our total was \$6,404.87! The checks, made by each church to ERD were all sent to Atonement, and were mailed to the USVI Diocese on May 8th.

The folks in the USVI diocese were very happy to hear the total. We look forward to hearing from Jay Rollins of ERD who will supervise and send us a report of how the funds are used.

Thanks to all of YOU for your Lenten alms....and also to everyone in the other D9 congregations!





ELECTION OF A BISHOP

By Fran Regan

On May 19th, Episcopalians in the Diocese of Newark elected a new bishop – the Rev. Carlye J. Hughes. As I write these words, I continue to be awed and amazed at the process in which I had the opportunity to participate. As a lay person, I had a voice in choosing the spiritual leader of the Episcopal Church in Northern New Jersey and by extension a voice in the operations of the larger church as well. It was a fascinating journey that I would like to share with you.

On February 28, 2017, Bishop Beckwith called for the election of a new bishop as he announced his retirement. The Standing Committee of the diocese has the responsibility for overseeing the process which began shortly thereafter. A call went out for volunteers from each district to participate in two committees – a search committee responsible for the application and selection process and a transition committee responsible for bringing the selected bishop into the diocese. The search committee developed a profile to be used in the announcement seeking applicants; did an initial screening of the applications; held phone/Skype interviews and through a process of discernment invited selected applicants to a two-day retreat for a more intensive round of interviews. After the retreat, the screening committee narrowed the candidates to three applicants who participated in “Walkabouts” where lay and clergy delegates had the chance to hear from the applicants directly and ask questions. This is when I became involved along with your other delegates and alternates: Roberta, Wilson, Carol and Walton. We had the opportunity to read the applicants’ biographies, resumes and statements prior to the Walkabout. At the Walkabout we listened to the final three applicants talk about their leadership and spiritual philosophies and observed their speaking styles and demeanor.

The election was held at St. Peter’s Church in Morristown and was by written ballot. The bishop had to be selected by both a majority of the lay and clergy, in the same ballot. The atmosphere in the church was electric, and we all felt the weight of the importance of what we were expected to accomplish there. While we were prepared to spend the whole afternoon there, only one ballot was necessary. Our new bishop was elected on the first ballot receiving 62 of 116 clergy votes and 141 of 241 lay votes. Rev. Hughes is the first woman and the first African-American to be elected bishop in the Diocese. She is currently the rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Fort Worth, TX. You can read more about her and hear her remarks on the Diocese of Newark website.

I thank all the parishioners of Atonement for the opportunity to participate in this election, and I am very optimistic about the future of the diocese under Rev. Hughes’ leadership and inspiration. **Our new bishop will be ordained on Saturday, September 22 at 11:00 a.m. at NJPAC; all are welcome to attend.**



OPPOSITE: JASON S. AND LYNNE W. HOSTING OUR "BLESSINGS TO GO" BOOTH ON TENAFLY PRIDE DAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 24. ALSO HOSTING BUT NOT PICTURED: JUSTIN M. AND FRAN R.

BELOW TWO PHOTOS, LEFT TO RIGHT: ATONEMENT AND GREENFAITH HOST A BOOTH AT THE EARTH FAIR AT NORTHERN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 28. VANESSA H., CAROL P., LYNNE W. ALSO PRESENT BUT NOT PICTURED: BIRGITTA K. AND FRAN R.

BOTTOM TWO PHOTOS, LEFT TO RIGHT: MEMORIAL DAY IN TENAFLY, MAY 28. LYNNE W. GIVES THE INVOCATION AND BENEDICTION; TRACEY P. WITH ATONEMENT'S WREATH.





150TH ANNIVERSARY 2018





RECTOR WILL SERVE AS GENERAL CONVENTION DEPUTY

By Lynne Bleich Weber

I'm looking forward to serving as a Clerical Deputy at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, July 5-13, in Austin, Texas. I'll be away July 2-15, and while I'm gone the Rev. Deacon Joanne O'Neill and Wilson Reimers will be leading worship.

The General Convention is the national legislative assembly of the Episcopal Church (TEC) that meets every three years to set church-wide policy and budget. Deputies to convention sit in two legislative bodies, the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies. (I'm one of four elected clergy representing the Diocese of Newark; there will also be four elected lay people from our diocese.) Any action requires the approval of both houses to be passed; measures may originate in either house. The agenda of GC includes program, policy and decisions about *The Book of Common Prayer*, as well as deliberations about church policy on theology and ethics. While most issues can be dealt with at a single convention, essential questions such as revisions of the prayer book and hymnal, or changes in the constitution, or entering full communion with another Christian church, require the vote of two consecutive conventions. Each year, resolutions also come from dioceses, including our own, which are debated and approved at our Diocesan Convention.

The polity of the Episcopal Church, with its bi-cameral house consisting of elected clergy and lay deputies, and bishops elected in dioceses, has its origin in the American Revolution, with a number of the framers of the Constitution also drawing up the Constitution of the new Episcopal Church in 1789, in Philadelphia (see the Preface on pages 9-11 of *The Book of Common Prayer*). One of the pressing concerns of colonists, often not reported in history textbooks, was the refusal of the King of England to appoint a Bishop for the Church of England in the colonies, resulting in no bishops to oversee, ordain or confirm. Candidates for ordination had to endure the financial burden and personal risk of sailing to England for ordination. Many candidates were lost, either to illness, shipwreck or recruitment in the British church. After the Revolution, the new Church found bishops in Scotland to ordain the first bishop for the American church.



RECTOR WILL SERVE AS GENERAL CONVENTION DEPUTY (Continued)

I'm looking forward to getting up to speed on a range of issues and voting my conscience – you can be sure that contemporary concerns will be addressed and lively debate will ensue! I also look forward to meeting old and new friends including many of my fellow Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers, and seeing a bit of Austin, where I've never been. As you can imagine, the schedule is packed morning to night, which is why I'm arriving two days early to celebrate the 4th of July in Austin. Fortunately, the Diocese provides a hotel room and some food expenses for all elected deputies.

I'm also looking forward to reporting back to all of you – both when I return and again in a forum in September. For more information about all that takes place at the GC, go to: <https://www.generalconvention.org>

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry with Lynne Weber and other members of the Executive Committee of the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers (EDEIO) last year at the National Workshop on Christian Unity (NWCU). Bishop Curry was the Preacher at the Opening Liturgy of the 2017 NWCU. Lynne currently serves as Vice-President of EDEIO.



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150TH ANNIVERSARY 2018

Celebrating 150 Years of Faith, Love and Service OUR ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR

By Carol Petrovich

We need your help to make the Fair a success! Please look in your home for some items we are looking for:

Furniture (call Walton at 201-281-2315)

Antiques of all kinds

Decorative items, linens, dishes, etc.

Handbags

Costume/vintage jewelry

VERY special items for our Silent Auction

Tricky Tray items (new tag items; no clothing or shoes)

When you are ready, contact Pat D'Anna in the Church Office at 201-568-1763 or parish.admin@atonement-tenafly.org to arrange for a drop-off at the church or a pick-up at your home.

**Please mark your calendars for our
Country Fair on November 16-17, 2018.**