

The Carillon



Volume 88, Issue 93, January, 2012

Email articles to:
office@carolinechurch.net

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As we usher in the New Year, with parades, football, resolutions and parties, we naturally think about what 2012 will be like for us. We wonder if things will be different or basically the same. We make plans for our life and yet sometimes we neglect to grasp the truth that God may have different plans for us. Are the commitments we make this year, coming from the conviction of the Holy Spirit and blessed by grace?

Jeremiah's letter to the exiled Israelites in Babylon reminded them that God had a plan for them, a plan of blessing, a plan to give them "a future and a hope." His letter came to them at a time of despair while they were captives in far-away *foreign* Babylon and brought God's gift of hope.

During our passage this week into a new year, we too need God's word of hope. While we in America face some economic challenges, they are minimal compared to much of the world that suffers from famine, oppression, war, disease, and tyranny. It is the church's duty to bring, indeed to embody the message of hope.

Hope is the middle child of the three - faith, hope, and love - that St. Paul proclaims in I Corinthians 13. We seem to hear less about the doctrine of hope just like in families where the middle child is sometimes less noticed. Hope is longing coupled with the belief in its fulfillment. It is the opposite of despair. Doris Donnelly, author and a professor of spiritual theology has said that "hope keeps faith from identifying the hiddenness of God as absence." Proverbs 13:12 says that "hope deferred makes the heart sick." Doctors know how important hope is for healing. So if hope is the remedy that the Church as the Body of Christ brings to a sickened world, what should we understand about hope?

1) Hope is rooted in God's plans. God is ultimately victorious. Christ will bring in the Kingdom of God. In humility and love can we share with others the truth that God has a plan for them? We may not see more than one step ahead in that plan but we know it is for welfare, for blessing even in the midst of a difficult and desperate world.

- 2) God is the author of hope and he has promised us in scripture the hope of the resurrection, of righteousness, of the Gospel, of salvation, of God's calling, of glory, of heaven itself. It is not wrong to ask for the gift of hope.
- 3) The letter to the Hebrews tells us that hope is "a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul" (6:19). What does an anchor do? It holds the ship in place when storms and currents come. Even in deep water, far too deep for the anchor rope, sailors can set out drift anchors that will catch hold if the ship drifts too close to a shoal. Sailors cannot see the anchor but it is there at work. Hope then keeps us steady in the difficult times and safe when we might drift into worldly ways or the temptation of self-reliance. Anchor your soul by focusing on Christ Jesus, our hope of glory.
- 4) The next verse in Hebrews says that hope has "entered into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf." The inner shrine is of course the Holy of Holies where the very presence of God dwells. Because Jesus our hope has preceded us, we too may enter in. And the threshold is worship. If you would be an ambassador of hope, enter into worship. And not with a half-heart. Remember that the Holy of Holies is before you.
- 5) Hope calls for perseverance and imagination. In his book *Images of Hope*, the Jesuit writer William Lynch says that three basic ideas are held at once:

Our Caroline Church Vision Statement:

*To help people encounter the living God together
and live transformed lives for Christ.*



Our Mission Statement

* *We, the parishioners of Caroline Church of Brookhaven, are committed to Jesus Christ, to His teaching, His life, death and resurrection, in our call to serve and worship Him, in the tradition of the Anglican Communion.*

* *We strive to share our faith and blessings for the furtherance of His kingdom in an environment of love, understanding, and support, through prayer, worship, Christian education, and fellowship.*

What I hope for I do not have and cannot see; it may be difficult to attain; and it is possible to have it. We have hope for this faith community of Caroline Church and it is a time for vision and imagination. Use your imagination. With hope the boundaries of the possible are wider than they may at first seem. Envision God stretching the boundaries of the possible at Caroline Church. We are invited to think beyond this life and certainly beyond this year. At this New Year may we all fulfill our role as anchors of hope in a drifting world.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Richard+



Curate's Corner

Tasting Joy

Dear Friends in Christ,

First and foremost, thank you for the many wonderful greetings and gifts that you sent to Jason and me this Christmastide. We are grateful above all else for the gift that all of you are to us and to Caroline Church, simply by virtue of being YOU. It is our great joy and delight to be part of this parish family, serving God among you in this beautiful place.

Joy... What a funny little word! It feels funny to say it, to let it roll around the mouth and off the tongue; does it have one syllable, or two (“joh-eee”)? We hear the word, and it signals a special sort of happiness, a deep delight, a sense that “all is well with the world.”

All *is* indeed well with the world, because our Lord is come once more. As the hymn penned by Christina Rossetti in 1885 says: “Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine.” Love came down at Christmas and plopped a little bundle of Joy in a feeding trough, from which He would go on to feed the world with the greatest gift of all.

And that gift of Love comes to us again and again, each and every day, knocking on the door of our hearts. It is up to us to answer the door, to welcome and embrace Joy as it comes to us—not just once and for all, but all the time. As theologian Henri Nouwen wrote, “Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day.” God so loves the world, God so intensely longs to be in relationship with us, that God sent His only begotten Son, and he waits patiently for our response. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! How will we welcome Him? And what if we are sad and suffering, and can't quite seem to get the door open?

Father James Martin, SJ, the author of *Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter Are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life* asserts that it's more a matter of faith and trust in God than of trying to make ourselves happy on the surface and hoping it will sink in. “[R]eligious joy is always about a relationship. Joy has an object and that object is God. ...Joy is not simply a fleeting feeling or an evanescent emotion; it is a deep-seated result of one's connection to God [p. 26].” He goes on to quote theologian Donald Saliers, who “...notes that joy is a fundamental disposition toward God. What characterizes Christian joy in contrast to happiness...lies in its ability to exist even in the midst of suffering, because joy has less to do with emotion and more to do with belief. It does not ignore pain in the world, in another's life, or in one's own life. Rather, it goes deeper, seeing confidence in God—and for Christians, in Jesus Christ—as the reason for joy...”

And so as we leave the manger behind for another year, and as the shepherds return to the fields and their flocks and the angel choirs rehearse for their next appearance, it is up to us to keep Joy alive throughout the year by strengthening the bonds of our connection with Christ and with each other. We do that by coming together around God's Table, and opening our hearts and mouths to taste the Joy that fills us. In doing so, we are bound together with God and with each other by the Love that came at Christmas and stays with us always. When we abide in this extraordinary Love, then Joy will be in us, and our joy will be complete...full...perfect [see John 15:11].

Peace and blessings in the New Year,
~Mother Ann+

Christmas Holy Communion and Visitation

The Clergy will be most happy to administer Holy Communion privately to sick and homebound persons and to anyone else who did not receive their Christmas Communion at Christmas services this year. If that is your situation, or if you know of anyone who may desire a visit by the Clergy to bring the Holy Sacrament to them during Christmastide, December 25 to January 6, please contact the Parish Office.



Our Anglican Heritage

William Laud

William Laud was born in 1573 in Reading, Berkshire. His father was a wealthy clothing merchant. Laud was educated at Reading Grammar School and St. John's College at Oxford University. Laud was ordained in April 1601 and he made it clear that he did not favor Puritanism. Laud was swiftly promoted within the Church as a result of his patron – George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, the favorite of both James I and Charles I. Laud was appointed Archdeacon of Huntingdon (1615), Dean of Gloucester (1616), Bishop of St. David's (1621), Bishop of Bath and Wells (1626), Bishop of London (1628) and finally Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633.

King Charles I married a Catholic in 1625 and enjoyed Anglican ceremonialism. Parliament and the ambitious, unyielding new king immediately jostled for power. Charles led Britain into costly wars in mainland Europe and later an ill-fated campaign against the Scots after they rebelled against his efforts to impose the Book of Common Prayer. Parliament retaliated against Charles by refusing to fund his wars. Charles tried to avoid the problem by not calling a Parliament from 1629 to 1640. The king picked a fight with the Puritans in particular when he appointed William Laud archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. Laud's theology was influenced by the teachings of the Dutch theologian Jacob Arminius (1560-1609), who emphasized free will over predestination and an acceptance of ordered and uniform practices of worship. The notorious Laud imposed Catholic forms of worship, advocated Arminian theology, and forced Puritan ministers to read the Book of Sports from their pulpits. Laud's love of ceremony and harmonious liturgy — the "beauty of holiness" — was favored by King Charles because it encouraged obedience to the King's authority as head of the church. During the eleven-year Personal Rule, Laud worked closely with the King to root out nonconformity. Between 1634 and 1637, Laud authorized methodical "visitations" by his vicar-general Sir Nathaniel Brent in every diocese throughout the kingdom to enforce conformity and to correct irregularities in the conduct of services. Dilapidation in the fabric of churches was also reported and repairs ordered. Laud believed that he was restoring discipline and order to the Church of England according to the rules laid down in the earliest days of the English Reformation. However, his attempts to force uniformity of worship ran contrary to all shades of Puritan opinion, and his Arminian doctrines were regarded as dangerously close to Roman Catholicism.

Charles I's ruthless suppression of opponents in 1637, prompted many Puritans to leave England for the Netherlands or America. When Parliament returned in 1640, they tried to ban bishops, whom they saw as agents of the king. Charles stood by his father James's dictum: "No bishops, no king." He fervently guarded the "divine right of kings" to rule with absolute authority.

Under English Law, it was part of Laud's office as Archbishop to maintain order and to punish offences against the peace of the Church. He made it his practice to proceed not only against poor and obscure offenders, but also, perhaps especially, against rich and powerful ones. It is well that all should be equal before the law, but his integrity on this point ultimately cost Laud his life.

Laud was also the prosecutor of record in the trials of those who published seditious or violent and abusive attacks on the doctrine and discipline of the Church, and the Puritans produced an abundance of scurrilous attacks on those who disagreed with them, which were duly punished, with Laud taking the responsibility. When in 1630 (note, before Laud became Archbishop), Alexander Leighton published *Zion's Plea Against Prelacy*, a violent attack on the Bishops as tools of Antichrist, he was sentenced to be publicly whipped and branded, and to have his ears cut off. He was sixty years old and a Doctor of Divinity, and the sentence aroused great public indignation. (It is not certain that it was actually carried out.)

Laud made enemies chiefly in three ways. (1) He punished those who attacked the Church, both those who vandalized and those who confined themselves to verbal abuse. (2) He upheld various customs in public worship (such as the wearing of the surplice) that were harmless in themselves, but which aroused the suspicion and fury of those who feared a return to power of Roman Catholicism. (3) He sought the financial independence of the clergy, so that a preacher was not dependent on what support the local squire was pleased to give him. His proposed means to this end was to restore to the Church some of the Church lands that had been seized by Henry VIII and given or sold to various nobles and gentlemen. The proposal never reached the stage of discussion about details, so it was not clear how compensation would be handled, but the mere whisper of such a proposal was enough to make every landholder in the country feel personally threatened.

In 1637 an attempt was made to introduce the Book of Common Prayer into general use in Scotland, and it immediately caused rioting. In February of 1638, Scottish leaders signed the National Covenant, by which they pledged themselves to uphold the Puritan position by force, and by the end of the year they had voted to depose and excommunicate every bishop in Scotland. The unrest spread to England, and in 1640 Laud was arrested on a charge of high treason. He was kept in the Tower for four years, and tried in 1644, at the age of seventy-one. He was found guilty, not because there was any evidence of his guilt, but because the House of Commons was determined that he should die. On the scaffold he prayed: "The Lord receive my soul, and have mercy on me, and bless this kingdom with peace and charity, that there may not be this effusion of Christian blood amongst them." We remember William Laud throughout the Episcopal Church every year on January 10.



Church School News

By the time this article gets to every-one Christmas will be in the past. I hope everyone had a wonderful, healthy, joyful, and peaceful holiday.

I had a great one with family and friends and I have a lot to be thankful for. My niece had a double lung transplant and is doing great. We were very blessed this season.

The pageant was adorable and I would like to thank Angelica Buscemi and her family for taking on the pageant this year. I would also like to congratulate our winners of our bulletin cover contest; Erika Kady won for drawing the cover for the pageant, Brian Shane won for drawing the front cover for the 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service, and Erika Kady for drawing the back cover of the Christmas Eve bulletin and Sarah Hull for the cover for the Epiphany service. All of our contestants drawings can be seen on the Church School bulletin board in the MCS building.

Thank you to everyone for making up the shoe boxes, Alex Shane and myself delivered 33 boxes. Thank you for all the coats and socks, they were delivered to the Soup Kitchen. The hats, scarfs, mittens, and gloves will be delivered to a homeless shelter. The gifts that we collected were brought to a shelter and the 2 families were given a wonderful Christmas.

For this month we hope to have a Family Bingo Night. I will get the date set and send out flyers. If anyone is interested in taking the ferry across to watch a hockey game, please let me know. I will be calling for the cost of the tickets for a group but I would like to know how many people are interested.

If anyone has any ideas of things that they would like the Church School to do, or to get involved in, please let me know. I am always looking for new family events.

Mary Doherty
Church School Director

We would like to remember in prayer,
those who are serving in the
Armed Forces.



Afghanistan:

Michael Cardamone, Adam Fullerton,
Roy Raguso, Mike Hanna, Kevin O'Donahue
Kevin LoRusso

**May God protect them, bless them,
and bring them home soon.**

“Wise Men Return to Caroline Church”

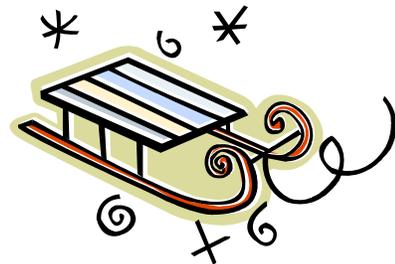
BETHLEHEM – Three Wise Men, also known as Magi, reportedly have left Bethlehem and are following their star to the Caroline Church in Setauket, New York, on the Long Island Dominion in the Sea. They come bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and they are very much looking forward to a grand Epiphany celebration at Caroline once they arrive. All are invited, and all are welcome. Mark your calendars, and come follow your star to welcome the Wise Men.

“The Feast of the Epiphany”

Friday, January 6th, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Eucharist, followed by a Festive Epiphany Party
featuring a mysterious Epiphany cake!



ECW Evening Branch

We had a small but very industrious group of women who cooked, served, sang and cleaned up for the annual Men's Communion Breakfast. A heartfelt thanks for their camaraderie and help. The men seemed to enjoy the waffles, eggs, home fries and sausage as well as the "entertainment".

On January 1, New Year's Day, there will be an open house from 1-5 for ECW members and the Senior Choir at my home, 5 Salt Meadow Lane in Stony Brook. Look forward to seeing you all.

Mirjana Ellis
689-2627

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our prayer shawl ministry continues to serve the people of our community. We have a devoted group of woman who gather regularly on the third Saturday of each month at 8:30am in different people's homes.

Our group is ecumenical and expanding all the time. We represent many different churches and encourage anyone who is interested, to attend and bring a friend. You do not have to be experienced to come. We are willing to teach you!

We open with prayer, discuss patterns and colors, teach others, pray for others, and listen to a short meditation. During a time of silence we focus on God, our knitting, and the clicking of our needles.

We have given away over 100 shawls. The shawls and lap robes have been warmly and graciously received. We trust that the shawls we have created send a message of God's love and compassion to all who receive them.

Our next gathering will be on January 21st at 8:30am. We look forward to having new members.

Please call for information and locations:
Sue Seel/ 631-689-0683

2012 Offering Envelopes



To make it easier and to have more room, we have placed your new offering envelope box in the 'upper' room of the Parish House in alphabetical order.

Please walk over there after service and pick yours up, this will save us the postage of mailing it to you. If you cannot find one with your name on it, please call the parish office and we will get one for you. Thank you.

A Joy Filled Christmas

What a blessed Christmas it was at Caroline Church. There are so many people involved in seeing that the Christmas services are presented in a dignified yet exciting way. My gratitude to Mira Busko, Susan Rydzeki and the entire Altar Guild for beautifully adorning the church with poinsettias, wreaths, Christmas greens, and hangings. Those in attendance at the 5:00 p.m. Family Service were lifted up in song by our Joyful Noise Choir, directed by Katherine Kaiser while those attending the 8 and 10:00 p.m. service praised the Christ-child as the Adult Choir lead us in traditional Christmas hymns and special anthems. Kudos goes to our music director Dallas Garvin, organist Bethany Cencer, and to all Caroline choristers. Janet Giacomini and many volunteers worked diligently to be certain that all the inclusive holiday programs and bulletins were ready for our use.

On a personal note, together with Jan, Cassie and Andrew, I wish to thank all the gracious parishioners who shared their Christmas with us through gifts and best wishes. Christmas was truly a blessed event. Father Richard

The Caroline Church Choir

Presents

Epiphany 'Lessons & Carols'

Sunday, January 22nd
4:00p.m.
at
Caroline Church

Please join us for this festive presentation.

Adult Education

Bible Studies

The Home Bible Study Group will meet on Monday evenings at 7:30pm in the Upper Room of the Parish House. We resume meeting on January 9th. All are welcome.

'Exploring The Word' Bible Study held in the MCS building meets every other Monday evening at 6:45pm. We will resume meeting on January 9th. Please join us.

20s/30s Group

We will be heading out to the Old Field winery in Southold to do an (indoor!) tasting on Saturday, January 28. Meet at the church at 11:15 to carpool.

Contact Lindsay Porter at (631) 561-3767 or lindsay.baldwin.porter@gmail.com with questions. Please RSVP to her or on Facebook at "Caroline Twenties and Thirties". Friends welcome!



Confirmation Class – It's Not Too Late!

The confirmation class of 2012 will get underway with our first class on January 7, 2012! A brief retreat is being planned for later in the month. Studies will be primarily focused on the promises made in our Baptismal Covenant, and will be supplemented with a few other essentials. Students will meet in class with Mother Ann once a month, and with their mentors once a month. This year's mentors will meet together with Mother Ann as a group once a month as well.

It is not too late to join this class. Young people who will be fifteen years old or above by October are welcome to come. Please contact Mother Ann with any questions you may have about this year's class.



Ultreya!

Ultreya is a Spanish word, meaning Onward! It was in common use by pilgrims to greet and encourage one another along the way. All Parishioners and their friends are welcome to join us on the 4th Friday of the month for Ultreya. It is a shared time of fellowship, singing and spiritual encouragement. The next Ultreya will be Friday, January 27th at 7:30pm. Please come join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments



Youth Group News

We had a big turnout and a great time hanging out in the Nalewajks' awesome basement last month. Thanks to Sue and Bob for all they do!!

The youth group will resume meeting after the 9:30 service on the first Sunday of the month. However, we will meet this month on January 8th due to the holiday. We will be discussing ideas for service opportunities and fun events. I hope to see all youth in grades 6 to 12 in the "youth cave" during coffee hour on the 8th!!

Also, please note Lindsay has a new phone number:
(631) 561-3767.

Calling all Carolinians!

Our confirmands have set sail on their exploration of our faith and tradition on their way to the sacramental rite of Confirmation. This is a time of both learning and discernment for them as, in the end, the decision about whether or not to be confirmed will be theirs—made in conjunction with parents, mentors, and clergy. Please keep them all in your prayers as they embark on their journey. Once the class list is finalized, their names will appear in the announcement booklet in your bulletin each week.

If you would be interested in providing sustenance in the form of food and drink for confirmation class, please contact Mother Ann for further details.



Grief Support Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 19th at 7:00pm. Please contact Don Muffly for location. Anyone who has lost a loved one is cordially invited, even if your loss was years ago. Your attendance may be the spark to help someone else. We follow a basic structure and all sharing or discussions will be held confidential.

For additional information, please contact Fr. Richard at the parish office, or Don Muffly at 689-8804.

Annual Parish Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, January 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Marco Smith Building. Please plan to attend this very important event in the life of our church. If you are responsible for writing a year-end report for an area of ministry you have been involved in over 2011, please complete it by **January 9** and electronically send it to Janet at office@carolinechurch.net in the parish office.

Vestrypersons, Christopher Callahan, Maritza Groth, and Joan Neuls terms expire and Bill Harvey's Warden term concludes. We will be voting for three (3) three year vestryperson positions, one (1) year vestryperson position fulfilling an unexpired term and one (1) two year warden position. See the Vestry Nominating Committee's report in this issue of the Carillon.

Also at the annual parish meeting we will receive reports from the Treasurer, Finance Committee and others. Supervised childcare and rides to the meeting will be available, please call the parish office several days in advance of the meeting if you need these services. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this gathering of our parish family.



Adult Education – We need your suggestions and participation!

The Rev. Dr. Titus Presler, in Church Teaching Series book on mission, said that mission is about finding out what God is up to in the world and then joining God on that mission. The world is very much in need, even the part of the world on the doorstep of Caroline Church. We would like to focus our formation this year on how we can best discern and respond to those needs, and we need your help.

The Adult Education Committee will meet on Tuesday evening, January 10th, to begin planning for ongoing winter and spring programs, and we would love to have your input on the kinds of offerings you would come to—book studies, movies, lectures, etc. What topics would you be interested in? Please join us on the 10th, or send your ideas to Mother Ann before then. All are needed, and all are welcome.



January Birthday's

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| 01/01 | George Olsen, Jr.
Sian Louise Grosskoph
Christian Darrigo |
| 01/02 | Michael Heming |
| 01/03 | Connie Hampson
Philip Aversano |
| 01/04 | Gabrielle Lukianchuk |
| 01/05 | Al Harding
Jessica Butruch |
| 01/06 | Krista Martincic |
| 01/07 | Caroline Brayson |
| 01/08 | Joan Neuls
Reg Burton
Patrick Anderson |
| 01/09 | Ann Laurie MacKinnon
Jonathan Busko |
| 01/10 | Barbara Jones
Lauren Huss |
| 01/11 | Bunny Russell |
| 01/12 | Dustin McKinley |
| 01/13 | Howard Norris
John Remmler
Eric Mis |
| 01/14 | Cole Johnson |
| 01/16 | Katie Cook
Christina Postiglione |
| 01/17 | Katherine Kaiser
Chris Kaiser
Emma Russell |
| 01/18 | Jamie Peruso
Camrynn Aiello
Jennifer McCambridge |
| 01/19 | Valerie Stubberfield
Jena Esernio
Nicole Whitsit |
| 01/20 | James Staudenraus |
| 01/21 | Greg Griesel
Angelica Buscemi |
| 01/22 | Skyler Shaw |
| 01/23 | Maureen Reyes |
| 01/25 | Gary Mis
Linda Holub
Charles Rampone II |
| 01/30 | Adam Hurewitz
Ellie Buscemi |
| 01/31 | Katy Jones
Julia Coutros
Jimmy Mocko
Liam Darrigo |

Candidate for Warden: J. Christopher Haring



While not a “cradle to grave” Episcopalian, I came to Caroline Church shortly after my family moved to Stony Brook in 1954. I attended Sunday School, was an acolyte, and was confirmed at Caroline. As an adult, I have been a Sunday School teacher, usher, webmaster, network maintainer and Vestry member. I served as Vestryperson and Treasurer from 2003 to 2009 and am presently finishing my second year of another term.

I received an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Adelphi University and a Juris Doctorate from St. John’s University. In addition to maintaining a small solo law practice, I have been employed for over 35 years in the Port Washington School District where I teach Business Law, Criminal Law and Constitutional Law. I am a former vice president of our teachers association and presently am the Treasurer/manager of our association’s Benefit Trust which provides dental, life, disability and catastrophic medical coverage to our members.

Linda and I reside in Mt. Sinai. Linda enjoys gardening while I keep bees, tinker with computer networking, web design and astronomy while also volunteering at Caroline Church and Deerfoot Lodge (a Christian Camp for boys in the Adirondacks). Our daughter Laura has graduated college and is working in Manhattan as a reporter/editorial assistant for the *New York Law Journal*. Our son Ryan is half way to his goal of a BS degree from Embry-Riddle University, where he has obtained his commercial pilot certificate, instrument rating, and is nearing completion of his flight instructor’s certification.

I am honored to be asked to run for the position of Warden, which would be a refreshing change of responsibilities—I look forward to the opportunity and the new challenges.



Candidate for Vestry: Maritza Groth

I was brought up in the Roman Catholic Church in my native country of Chile. My parents and I moved to Long Island when I was 16. While attending New York University Medical School in NYC, I was received into Episcopal Church. I have been a member of Caroline Church for 28 years, when I moved back to Long Island to pursue my residency in Internal Medicine and subsequent fellowship training in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. I am currently working full time in the ICU at Mather Memorial Hospital.

My three children attended Sunday School and received First Communion and confirmation here. Daniel was an acolyte, Laurie sang in the choir and Brian was always happy to be in part of the children’s service.

Over the years, I have been involved with the Episcopal Church Women’s evening branch, the summer fair, have participated in interfaith educational programs and more recently in the caring for the caregiver support group.

I have been a Vestry member for the last 3 years and I look forward to continuing to serve Christ at Caroline Church in this role.



Candidate for Vestry: Claire Mis

Family! That’s what Caroline Church is to me! My name is Claire Mis and I live with Gary and our two sons, Jeremy and Eric. Gary and I were both raised upstate – the “real” upstate: Gary in North Tonawanda and I in Rochester, New York. When we married in 1979, we left our families of origin to move to Long Island.

We spent the first three years of our marriage searching for our Caroline family. Gary had been raised Catholic, and I Baptist, yet we longed for a Christian community that could unite us in our individual backgrounds and aid us in providing our children with a solid Christian foundation. As we were searching, Gary was encouraged, by Dallas Garvin, a colleague at Stony Brook, to try Caroline. He told Gary that I would love the music!

So, in 1985, eight months pregnant with Eric, we were welcomed into our new “family” at Caroline. I soon became active in the choir, started out alto, became a soprano and now, I pinch hit with the tenors. I served for many years as a teacher, and then an assistant for the music at Vacation Bible School. I also assisted with many a Church pageant, teaching the angels to dance! I have been involved with the Order of St. Luke, ECW Evening Branch, Monday night Bible Study, Serf Club activities as well as in Foyer groups. I have assisted with confirmation, both as a mentor, and assisting with the parents of our confirmands. Gary and I both participated in Faith Alive, which was a wonderful opportunity to renew our faith among parishioners we didn’t know as well.

My involvement in Cursillo has also served to deepen my faith and has put me in touch with hundreds of people throughout the diocese – an even larger Christian family! I served as the Applications Chair on Secretariat for Long Island Cursillo for three years and an Ultreya leader along with Gary for about five years. In addition, I currently facilitate prayer among our community with an email prayer chain ministry which continues to grow as more and more parishioners seek prayer.

I have worked full time as a Guidance Counselor for the past 30 years. The last 26 have been in the Longwood Central School District, where I have had experience on all of the grade levels. After having earned my administrative degree in December 2005, I transferred to the Junior High, where I have been serving as Department Chair for School Counselors. I have learned much in that capacity and I believe both my counseling and administrative backgrounds would serve me well as a vestry member. Finally, with retirement looming in the near future, I believe it is the perfect time to take on more of a leadership role in our church. I have been blessed with much and want to make an offering of my service to help our church continue to grow and be a vibrant presence in our community.

Vestry Nominating Committee Report

The Vestry Nominating Committee has made the following report to the Vestry at its meeting on December 21. The Vestry Nominating Committee consisted of Don Muffly, Chair, Marshall Irving, Lorraine Massie, Claire Mis, Susan Nalewajk and Fr. Richard.

Positions open are as follows: (1) two year term of Warden, (3) three year terms of Vestrypersons and (1) one year term of vestryperson fulfilling an unexpired term.

The Vestry Nominating Committee thanks those who have indicated their willingness to serve the Parish in this capacity.

The following candidates are nominated:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| For Warden: | Chris Haring |
| For Vestryperson: | Bruce Cash |
| | Maritza Groth |
| | Claire Mis |