



Bellringer

Interim Pastor:
The Reverend Betsy Johns Roadman

august@bestweb.net, www.bestweb.net/~august May 2005

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church ♦ 6 Old Post Road North, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 ♦ 914-271-3501

May 2005

1 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m.

Gerald Ardito preaching

Holy Eucharist I

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist II

African Team Ministries sale after each service

Following the 10:00 a.m. service: Bread for the World Letter Writing

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Blood Drive at CET

6:00 p.m.

Youth Council "Dinner and a Movie"

3 Tuesday

7:30 p.m.

EFM Class

4 Wednesday

11:15 p.m.

Meet at the church for First Wednesday's lunch at Justin Thyme

6 Friday

8:00 p.m.

Yom HaShoah service at Temple Israel

7 Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist II

6:00 p.m.

Health Care Proxy Workshop

8 The Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist II

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist II

African Team Ministries sale after each service

10 Tuesday

7:30 p.m.

EFM Class

14 Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist II

15 Day of Pentecost

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist I

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist II

11:15 a.m.

Confirmation Meeting

17 Tuesday

7:30 p.m.

EFM Class

18 Wednesday

8:00 p.m.

Vestry Meeting at the New Rectory

21 Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist II

8:00 p.m.

Concerts in Croton features *The Collins String Quartet*

22 Trinity Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist I

10:00 a.m.

Children's Eucharist/Sunday School Appreciation Day

11:00 a.m.

Sunday School Lunch

24 Tuesday

7:30 p.m.

EFM Class

28 Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist II and Healing Service

29 The Second Sunday of Pentecost

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist I

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist II

30 Monday

Memorial Day Holiday – Parish Office Closed

**St. Augustine's House
May 2005**

Dear friends:

One of St. Augustine's many strengths is its fellowship and sense of community. I'm not sure that I've ever been part of a church whose people enjoy being with each other so much. There's a tremendous amount of energy and excitement around events like June Festival, which combine serious fundraising efforts with lots of eating, drinking, talking, and playing together.

Coffee hour is practically a sacrament at St. A's. Having had other commitments following the 10 a.m. Sunday service for a couple of weeks in a row, necessitating my leaving coffee hour early, I was determined to stay until the bitter end at my first available opportunity. The service was over by 11, and I arrived in the parish hall by 11:30. I stayed and stayed. At 12:45, I finally gave up and said goodbye to the group of about eight people who were still happily chatting in the kitchen. I wonder what time they finally went home?

That having been said, there's not much that's more intimidating than those seconds before walking into a room buzzing with animated conversation, when it seems that everyone seems to know everyone else - except you. What a temptation to think, "Maybe next week." And it's so hard, when you're a newcomer to a church, to know how to begin to enter into its day-to-day life.

During the month of May, let's be intentional about building community at St. A's. We'll begin by using nametags during coffee hour. During the five Sundays of May, please wear them, taking the opportunity to get to know those you don't know well, and those you don't know at all, by name. Let's be intentional about including newcomers in our conversations, inviting them to parish events, encouraging them to minister with us, praying for them.

Our life together here at St. A's is a gift. Let's be sure that we're nurturing it and sharing it.

Blessings in Christ –

Betsy +

Bishop Mark Sisk will be visiting our parish on Sunday, October 23. Adults and children who have undergone preparation for confirmation will be confirmed by the bishop at the 10 a.m. service. Please speak to Betsy Roadman, or leave a message in the parish office, if you or your child would like to take part in confirmation classes. An initial meeting for all hoping to be confirmed – adults and children and their parents – will take place at 11:15 a.m. in the church on Sunday, May 15.

Traditionally, children tend to be confirmed at St. Augustine's when they are 12 or 13 years old. The most important factor, though, is their genuine desire to enter into adult membership in the church. Baptized adults who have not been confirmed, or who have been confirmed in another Christian denomination and would like to become members of the Episcopal Church, are invited to take part in our adult confirmation classes.

Bread for the World's Annual Letter Writing Campaign will take place after the 10:00 a.m. service on May 1st. We *can* make progress against world hunger by urging Congress to rise to the challenge of shaping a Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) through our 2005 campaign. For more information contact the Parish Office.

Get ready for June Festival! Gather together "white elephants," toys, games books, records/CD's, elephants of any kind and set them aside. Please drop off items between Saturday, May 28 and Wednesday, June 1.

✧Note✧: We cannot accept anything after that date. If you are planning to donate, please plan on doing it sooner rather than later.

Most baked goods can be frozen so start baking!

We are looking for someone to chair the Plant Sale this year. If you are interested, please contact Betsy Joslyn at 271-9591. It can be as big or as small as you want to make it!

A sheet of raffle tickets for the Money Tree Raffle is enclosed in this issue of The Bellringer for those of you who wish to mail them to the parish office. Booklets of raffle tickets will soon be available (after church services on Sundays and in the parish office during the week) for you to purchase or sell.

Saturday evening will include our popular auction. Do you have a special service you would like to offer for auction? Please call Meaghan Shawcross (271-9406).

May's First Wednesday Luncheon on the 4th will be lunch at Justin Thyme. We will discuss options for outreach service projects. Please meet at 11:15 at the church to carpool or walk to the restaurant for an 11:30 reservation. RSVP to the office by May 2.

If you've been in the church recently, you may have noticed a change behind the altar. We're not talking about Interim Pastor The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman celebrating in place of former Rector Fr. David. The window restoration project is underway! The reconstruction and refurbishment of the stained glass window has begun, which means the reredos has been removed and will be reassembled on the wall of our parish hall. Please forgive the temporary disorder as we wait for the window to be restored. The project is being funded by a generous donation in memory of long-time parishioner, Worthen Gillespie, by his daughter, Julie Segal. The restored window will brighten the sanctuary dramatically.

The next Community Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, May 1, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at CET. This pre-summer drive is scheduled before the Memorial Day weekend because donors are scarcer when summer holiday activities divert even the most dedicated donors. Won't you please set aside only one hour to save lives. For appointments and/or information call Denise Bessette at 736-6677.

On May 7, at 6:00 p.m. St. A's is offering a Health Care Proxy Workshop led by parishioner (and elder law practitioner) Penny Morgan. A light dinner will be served and baby sitting will be provided for the 5:00 service as well as the workshop and dinner. Sign-up in parish hall.

Yom HaShoah at Temple Israel on May 6 at 8 p.m. Yom HaShoah is the celebration of the end of the Nazi holocaust of Jews and other "undesirables" during W.W.II in the concentration camps. Again this year, to commemorate the liberation of the people held in these death camps, we have been invited to participate in the regularly scheduled Sabbath Service at Temple Israel. The speaker will be Lola Margulies who spent time in a labor camp and then escaped to the woods where she and her immediate family were hidden ten feet under ground in a bunker for 9 months. Please plan to be at Temple Israel that night so that we may remember and renew our pledge to prevent such atrocities from ever happening again.

Vestry Notes from the April meeting:

✧ The Youth Council is planning two dinner/movie nights, the first to be held on Sunday, May 1, from 6 -9:30 pm, in the Church Hall. "The Blues Brothers" movie will be shown. YC members are requested to bring a side dish for a fried chicken dinner; they are also requested to bring a friend. Admission is free, and there will be a permission slip to sign as the movie is rated PG -13. The next movie night date will be announced at a later time.

✧ Long Range Planning - Chairman Ty West announced that parishioner Ann Harbeson has stepped up to be the web site "guru" for St. A's.

✧ The first concert in the "Concerts in Croton" series will take place on Friday, April 22 at 8 pm, with an appearance by "The Croton Harmon Wind Quintet". Other concerts in the series are: "The Collins String Quartet" on Saturday, May 21, "A Few Good Women" on Saturday, June 18, and "Cabriole" on a date in September to be announced.



- ◇ Buildings and Grounds - Chairman Mark Anzani reported that the boiler is barely functioning. The warm weather ahead gives us time to get estimates on repairing or replacing the present system. Mark also reported that Adam West is scheduled to begin restoring the original stained glass window behind the altar within the coming week.
- ◇ Search Committee - A survey is being developed to send to every parish member. It will be short and anonymous and will give everyone a chance to speak their mind during the search process. Beginning on Saturday, April 16, pieces of paper will be on the pews for parishioners to write down questions that they would like to see included on the survey. Once filled out, the slips should be put in a basket at the back of the church. Hopefully, the survey will be mailed out at the end of April. A Search Committee communication sheet will be placed at the back of the church beginning on Saturday, April 16. There will also be an announcement page in each edition of the Bell Ringer.
- ◇ Terri Huntington knows of a woman, Laura Ravotti, who was an organist for a church in Yonkers that has closed. Laura will be "auditioning" for us on Sunday, May 8. If the position is offered to her, it will be purely an interim post.

Treasurer's Report – At the April Vestry meeting the Vestry voted to approve revisions to the operating budget, taking into account lower than expected pledges for 2005, a decrease in spending on clergy due to Fr. David's departure and the expected cost of the Search Committee's efforts. Year to date operating results as compared to budget will be presented in next month's Bellringer.

Search progress update

Here is the latest news regarding the search for our new Rector. As we outlined in the letter to the congregation at the end of February, there are several steps in the search process and we are currently in the self study phase, which is used to determine the leadership characteristics, skills and interests we desire in our next rector.

The series of Lenten house meetings, in conjunction with other gatherings (First Wednesday, Youth Group supper, individual conversations) provided views from 30% of the parish members. We would like to thank the hosts of these events and all those who chose to attend them. The information gathered is already giving us a strong initial picture for use in the development of the parish profile. If you have not had an opportunity yet to make your views known, don't worry. Over the next few weeks, we will continue with activities to gather input from the remainder of the congregation, using group events and individual discussions.

Also, we are preparing a short survey to be sent to all households (and thanks to John Harbeson for his help with this). It will be an anonymous survey. If you have already provided input through one of the other events, it can be used as an opportunity to make known items that were not discussed at that event or that you prefer not to provide in public. As part of the preparation for the survey, the search committee is soliciting any questions or topics that you would like the congregation to reflect on. You can inform a search committee member or use one of the slips of paper provided for this purpose at the back of the church.

The other main activity underway is beginning the preparation of the parish profile. This is the document that describes who we are, our history, current makeup and interests. This document will be a major source of information for priests interested in St. Augustine's and those who may guide priests to us for consideration. As it is developed, we will share the profile with you. Our objective is to complete the self study work and the profile work during May.

Please contact any member of the search committee with any questions you may have. We will continue to communicate with you in multiple ways as we move through this process.

Sincerely,

The Search Committee:

Laura Seitz	271-3265	Ellen Irvine	271-8289
Duncan Cleary	271-1307	Antonio Mora	271-5992
Ralph Arce	734-2602	Teresa McGee	762-3012
Mark Anzani	271-3371	Heidi Lee	827-9266

Food Fest 2005 - Support June Fest by Cooking and/or Buying a Food Item From Food Fest.

Call Regina at 271-1348 or e-mail her at rh@bestweb.net to place your order or to contribute a food item.

All items will serve at least 6 to 8 people and are scheduled for delivery at a mutually agreeable date from June of 2005 through May of 2006. The food is served as "take-out".

Food Fest winners will be awarded on Monday, May 16th and payment is due at the church office no later than Thursday May 19th.

Note: If you wish to improve your chances of winning at least one dinner or dessert, please submit at least 5 choices in your order of preference.

1. Glazed Pear Shortcake by:	Chris Moore	\$20
2. Fruit Crumble Dessert with Berry of your choice by:	Holly Anzani	\$20
3. Fruit Pizza by.	Cathie Elliott	\$20
4. One batch of Toll House Chocolate Chip Cookies by:	Regina Hertl	\$25
5. Chicken Pot Pie by:	Mary Ellen O'Niell	\$50
6. Meat Lasagna with Homemade Sauce Garden Salad by:	Penny Sickenius	\$50
7. Jambalaya (spicy sausage & shrimp over rice) by:	Betsy Joslyn-Mitchell	\$50
8. Tourtiere & Salad by:	Denise Bessette	\$50
9. Roasted Chicken, Yellow Rice & Vegetable by:	Regina Hertl	\$50
10. Beef Bourguignon and Salad by:	Dana Holland	\$50
11. Four Cheese Turkey Casserole and a Salad by:	Andrew & Susan Kane	\$50
12. Chili & Bread by:	Meaghan Shawcross	\$50
13. Chicken Satay, Rice, Salad & Bread by:	Cathie Elliott	\$75
14. Chicken Stuffed Cabbage & Garden Salad by:	Anya Steger	\$50
15. Mushroom Soup, 3 Bean Salad & Mango Fool Dessert	Terri Huntington	\$50
16. Fish Chowder, Green Salad & Bread by:	Laura Seitz	\$50

50th Annual June Festival

St. Augustine's June Festival is the Village of Croton's longest ongoing event. This year it will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 3, 4 and 6 to coincide with the village Summerfest. Our first festival took place in 1955.

Weekend events will include: children's games, gourmet food, homemade baked goods, a snack bar with hamburgers and hot dogs, and much, much more! A new addition this year will be half-hour concerts in the church, Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. on the hour. The concerts will feature local musicians and admission will be \$5. The Parish Hall will once again be filled with children's toys and games, books and records, and white elephants. Saturday will conclude with a cocktail party and delicious dinner. The dinner will also include a fun-filled auction featuring some wonderful and imaginative services and prizes. (Call Regina Hertl to offer auction services/items.) We will offer a sumptuous buffet including a variety of taste treats and dessert. No one will be turned away! The cost will be \$10.00 per person for the buffet. The grill will be cost per item. No advance booking required. On Sunday we'll be back with more of the same activities as Saturday, with the added attraction of a steel drum band.

We need help in all areas, especially: white elephants, children's games, set-up on Friday night and early Saturday morning, clean-up after the dinner and clean-up on Sunday afternoon. Please either sign up on the posters that will be available in the parish hall, or call Terri Huntington (271-1173), Betsy Joslyn (271-9591) or Regina Hertl (271-1348) to let them know how you will help. If you don't sign up or call, we will be phoning you because this is our most important (and fun) fundraiser of the year, and we need everyone's special talents to make it a success.

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Betsy Johns Roadman
Rector Emeritus: The Rev. David B. Wayne

2005 VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden: Kim Westphal Junior Warden: Ty West
Treasurer: Holly Anzani Clerk: Chris Moore

<u>Class of 2005</u>	Mark Anzani	<u>Class of 2006</u>	Terri Huntington	<u>Class of 2007</u>	Ellen Irvine
	Cathie Elliott		Betsy Joslyn		Louise Levey
	Dana Garrett		Gerald Ardito		Chris Moore

Meeting Schedule: Vestry, 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
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Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520
www.bestweb.net/~august

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