



# The Trumpet

*Our Mission: To seek and serve Christ in others,  
loving our neighbors as ourselves.*

Christ Episcopal Church of Cedar Park • 3.5 miles west of Hwy. 183 on W. FM 1431 • [www.cectx.org](http://www.cectx.org)

March 2009

## Parched lands will spring forth seeds of Easter Bluebonnets to New Life!

*“The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.” (Isaiah 58:11)*

Dear Friends,

This past year our little part of Texas has experienced one of the worst droughts known to meteorological records. However, we know that embedded within our parched, dry soil there are millions of tiny bluebonnet seeds that are just waiting to spring forth into new life when spring rains come. The season of bluebonnets will traditionally start to bloom the last week of March into the first few weeks of April. Just in time for Easter! They will bring such a beautiful color and needed freshness to our central Texas landscape. Interestingly, the more miserable our winters are, the more beautiful the bluebonnets bloom in the spring. No matter how dry and barren our climate has been, I can't wait for this spring's outpouring of Easter bluebonnets!

In a similar way just as there are so many bluebonnet seeds embedded in our parched arid soil waiting to spring forth, there are hidden within each of us seeds of God's love. Each one of us is a child of God. We are all precious to Him. We carry within each of us the ability to spring forth and germinate into new life in response to God's love. The true message of Easter is a message of

love and hope. We experience the love of our Heavenly Father for sending us His Son. We experience the love of Jesus Christ for being our redeemer and savior for us all through the power of His resurrection. God's gift of love offered to us in Jesus is not a sacrifice for our sins to be taken in vain. Our hope in God's love is for each of us to come to Him in repentance and be brought into new life. We are not alone as we face our sins and weaknesses. As we come together to worship God and offer our thanksgivings only through the power of His saving grace that enables us all to overcome what we cannot do ourselves alone and be lifted from burdens to renewal of new life found only in God's love.

Please come and participate during the Wednesday Lenten Family Intergenerational services from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Please make an effort to attend our Holy Week and Easter services. Let that seed within you grow and blossom into God's love: “Because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:18) “You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.” (1 Peter 1:23)

Happy Easter!  
Bruce†

*See complete Holy Week schedule - next page*



## Bishop Wimberly to visit CEC on Palm Sunday

Say “Hello” to Bishop Don Wimberly and his wife Wendy on Palm Sunday, April 5th

On Palm Sunday, April 5, we are honored to have Bishop Wimberly at Christ Church for the 10:30 service. Bishop Wimberly is the eighth Bishop of Texas. He formerly served as Bishop of Lexington (Kentucky) for fifteen years, the assistant bishop of East Texas for three years and coadjutor of the Diocese of Texas for one year. He was invested as our diocesan on June 28, 2003 and seated at Christ Church Cathedral on the following day. He will retire as our Diocesan Bishop this summer.

We thank you Lord for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Don may continue to be for us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Holy Week Schedule

- April 5 **Palm Sunday and Bishop Don Wimberly’s visitation**
- April 8 **7:00 to 8:00pm Tenebrae Service of Darkness into Light**
- April 9 **7:00 to 8:00pm Maundy Thursday Service**
- April 10 **Good Friday Service Schedule:**  
11:15 am Walking the Stations of the Cross  
12:00 Noon Good Friday Service  
6:15 pm Walking the Stations of the Cross  
7:00 pm Good Friday Service
- April 12 **Easter Sunday Schedule:**  
8:00 am Rite I service  
No Sunday school  
10:00 am Flowering of the Cross and Children’s activity  
10:30 am Rite II service  
11:45 am Egg hunt for children

### Share your Epiphany in The Trumpet all year long

*Everybody has those “Aha!” moments: epiphanies big and small. Those rare times when everything makes sense for a change. Those times when God is speaking to you and you hear the message soft and still ... or loud and clear. Share your Epiphany story in Trumpet newsletter each month. Send your Epiphany story by the Wednesday before the first Sunday of the month to: [trumpet@cec-tx.org](mailto:trumpet@cec-tx.org)*

# Faith Partners moves ahead in 2009

*by Robert Wren*

In our first meeting for 2009 the Faith Partners Team looked back to see what, exactly, we had accomplished in our first year.

Our Group included the three returning members of the team, Elizabeth Burba, Tish Rogers, and Robert Wren. We were joined by outgoing member Jan Halstead and Father Bruce. During the last year we also had assistance from several members who have left the team. We would have certainly accomplished much less without the help of Merilee Verdesca, Randall Holahan, and Kathryn Bonner who all helped us during 2008.

In 2008 we formulated a team covenant that outlined our expectations, and a mission statement to guide us, and a set of goals for our first year.

We attended a Leadership Training meeting, a Team Training Meeting and a Skills Training session at the Rush Institute.

In March we had a recovery talk during worship services and in November we produced a "Recovery Sunday" to highlight our ministry. This fall we sponsored an educational program focused on the problem of under aged drinking, put on by members of the Travis County Under Aged Drinking Reduction team. This was a huge success with two programs simultaneously presented. One was for the youth and a second one for adults.

We had more than thirty attendees and the satisfaction with the presentation was very high.

We had three goals for the year 2008 and successfully completed two of them and part of the third.

Some of the things we accomplished include establishing relations with treatment centers and building an inventory of resources. We tried to promote awareness with our library collection of materials, our Trumpet Articles and events like the under aged drinking program and Recovery Sunday.

As we look forward to 2009, we hope to maintain our productivity and to expand our participation by engaging new members.

We hope to find people who will join our ministry of recovery. Many people feel drawn to helping with substance abuse programs as a result of their own experiences or those of friends and loved ones. That is not a requirement though. We are looking for people who want to be involved without regard to background or experience. It is most important to us that our group's membership be drawn from those who feel led to this ministry, regardless of prior experiences.

We are looking forward to a second year of success and action and would love to have you join us, if you feel a call to do so. Simply contact Elizabeth, Tish, or Robert if you want to know more.

## A Prayer in Spring

*by Robert Frost*

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
And make us happy in the happy bees,  
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,  
The which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends He will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

# Rhythm of Lent

by Virginia M. Kimball, S.T.D.

# 40

The day dims to evening,  
rosy sky tingeing  
cold bare limbs  
with pink tinting.

Wind howls meaning,  
inner soul tingling.  
Frigid cold wrapping,  
on a coffin tapping.

Yet off to Compline,  
this first day of Lent,  
darkness creeping  
on the sunset seeping,  
chanted prayer singing  
plaintive night shortening,  
incense in vision ringing.

Rhythm of days proceed,  
filling steady with hope:  
prayers dressed in candlelight,  
dark holes in a cosmos plight.

Stars birthing from strange, deep  
abysses of compressed  
energy, brilliance emerging  
from death, a glory surging  
in mystery,

God asking Job, "Were you there  
when I formed the earth?" (Job 38: 4)  
"Have you seen the gates of darkness?" (17)  
"Was it you who formed the deep?" (8)

From the mystery of nothing  
we come by the breath of God.  
From a valley of darkness walking,  
yearning for Christ without talking,

from dimmer to brighter,  
from shorter to longer,  
the steps of this path  
a cadence grows greater,  
the pulse of Creator,  
the beat with His heart,  
to faith that is stronger.

Throughout the Bible, the number forty is used by God to represent a period of testing or judgment (the length of time necessary to accomplish some major part of God's plan in his dealings with various portions of mankind). Here's hoping your 40 days of Lent is a time of personal transformation.

***"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2***

- \* The rains (in Noah's day) fell for 40 days and nights (Genesis 7:4).
- \* Israel ate Manna for 40 years (Exodus 16:35).
- \* Moses was with God in the mount, 40 days and nights (Exodus 24:18).
- \* Moses was again with God 40 days and 40 nights (Exodus 34:28).
- \* Moses led Israel from Egypt at age 80 (2 times 40), and after 40 years in the wilderness, died at 120 (3 times 40; Deuteronomy 34:7).
- \* The spies searched the land of Canaan for 40 days (Numbers 13:25).
- \* Therefore, God made Israel wander for 40 years (Numbers 14:33-34).
- \* 40 stripes was the maximum whipping penalty (Deuteronomy 25:3).
- \* God allowed the land to rest for 40 years (Judges 3:11).
- \* God again allowed the land to rest for 40 years (Judges 5:31).
- \* God again allowed the land to rest for 40 years (Judges 8:28).
- \* Abdon (a judge in Israel) had 40 sons (Judges 12:14).
- \* Israel did evil; God gave them to an enemy for 40 years (Judges 13:1).
- \* Eli judged Israel for 40 years (1 Samuel 4:18).
- \* Goliath presented himself to Israel for 40 days (1 Samuel 17:16).
- \* Saul reigned for 40 years (Acts 13:21).
- \* Ishbosheth (Saul's son) was 40 when he began reign (2 Samuel 2:10).
- \* David reigned over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4, 1 Kings 2:11).
- \* The holy place of the temple was 40 cubits long (1 Kings 6:17).
- \* 40 baths (measurement) was size of lavers in Temple (1 Kings 7:38).
- \* The sockets of silver are in groups of 40 (Exodus 26:19 & 21).
- \* Solomon reigned same length as his father; 40 years (1 Kings 11:42).
- \* Elijah had one meal that gave him strength 40 days (1 Kings 19:8).
- \* Ezekiel bore the iniquity of the house of Judah for 40 days (Ezekiel 4:6).
- \* Jehoash (Joash) reigned 40 years in Jerusalem (2 Kings 12:1).
- \* Egypt to be laid desolate for 40 years (Ezekiel 29:11-12).
- \* Ezekiel's (symbolic) temple is 40 cubits long (Ezekiel 41:2).
- \* The courts in Ezekiel's temple were 40 cubits long (Ezra 46:22).
- \* God gave Nineveh 40 days to repent (Jonah 3:4).
- \* Jesus fasted 40 days and nights (Matthew 4:2).
- \* Jesus was tempted 40 days (Luke 4:2, Mark 1:13).
- \* Jesus remained on earth 40 days after resurrection (Acts 1:3).
- \* Women are pregnant for 40 weeks (time of testing).

*References compiled by Todd Dennis and Richard Anthony and posted on [www.ecclesia.org](http://www.ecclesia.org)*

## MARCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### March 1

10:30 a.m. Fran Hart & Jim Hart: **Lectors**  
Fran Hart & Jim Hart: **LEMs**  
Cathy Valucek: **Altar Guild**  
Jonah & Mike Reeh: **Ushers**  
Alex Rogers/Adam Uthoff: **Acolytes**  
Garrett Krischke: **Geek at the Wheel**

### March 8

10:30 a.m. Bill Sterling/Thelma Thompson: **Lectors**  
Bill Sterling/Thelma Thompson: **LEMs**  
Cindy Wells: **Altar Guild**  
Tony & Elias Martinez: **Ushers**  
Tony Alvarez/Joel Holliman: **Acolytes**  
Suzie Scanlon: **Geek at the Wheel**

### March 15

10:30 a.m. Kathryn Bonner/Jan Halstead: **Lectors**  
Kathryn Bonner/Jan Halstead: **LEMs**  
Jobie Guzman: **Altar Guild**  
Neal Mundy/Elena Martinez: **Acolytes**  
Garrett & Travis Krischke: **Ushers**  
Travis Krischke: **Geek at the Wheel**

### March 22

10:30 a.m. Sarah Martinez/Travis Krischke: **Lectors**  
Sarah Martinez/Travis Krischke: **LEMs**  
Rachel Holliman/Emily Scanlon: **Acolytes**  
Kathy Ashlock: **Altar Guild**  
Belz Family: **Ushers**  
Travis Hart: **Geek at the Wheel**

### March 29

10:30 a.m. Burl Judy/Kathy Wood: **Lectors**  
Burl Judy/Jerry Halstead: **LEMs**  
Brittany Alvarez/Zach Holahan: **Acolytes**  
Cathy Valucek: **Altar Guild**  
Travis Hart/Suzie Scanlon: **Ushers**  
Katie Scanlon: **Geek at the Wheel**

### April 5

10:30 a.m. Marilee Verdesca/Carolyn Dupy: **Lectors**  
Marilee Verdesca/Carolyn Dupy: **LEMs**  
Cathy Valucek/Martha McEver: **Altar Guild**  
Tony Martinez: **Geek at the Wheel**

#### 8:00 Worship Leaders

*First Sunday of the Month: Thelma Thompson*

*Second Sunday of the Month: Randall Holahan*

*Third Sunday of the Month: Travis Krischke*

*Fourth Sunday of the Month: Kirsten Lynch*

*Fifth Sunday of the Month: Kathryn Bonner*

*Alternates: Jan & Jerry Halstead*

**Vestry Person for Month of March: Jerry Halstead**  
**Offering Counter for Month of March: Lori Cole**

## Fran Hart's faith story in Guideposts magazine

If you haven't had a chance to check it out already, see Christ Episcopal Church's own Fran Hart's inspiring story of faith in the January edition of the nationally distributed magazine *Guideposts*.

While dealing with health problems Fran was forced to slow down and discover the difference between busy-ness and faithfulness. Since the story's publication, Fran reports hearing from many supportive people with the same health condition ... and many with the the same life condition. Read the story in its entirety by visiting:

<http://www.guideposts.com/story/time-out>

## Kid's Kingdom

Join us this Sunday, March 1st at 9:15as we begin our **Nicodemus rotation**. We'll sing songs, create a shadow puppet play, bake cookies and use straws to create works of art.

**Vacation Bible Adventure 2009 is "Under Construction"**  
Mark your calendar for June 15 – 18! Experience a week of fun and adventure for 3-year-olds through 5th graders. Registration will begin in late March 2009.

Children's Sunday School  
Little Royals- Ages 3 & 4  
The Knights- Kindergarten/1st  
The Crusaders- 2nd/3rd  
The Disciples- 4th/5th

Join us in the Kid's Kingdom  
on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15.

Please contact Jennifer Cowles for more information.

