

# THE CHIMES

MONTHLY NEWS FROM ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## FROM THE RECTOR

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*Dear Friends:*

Happy New Year. I pray that all is well and happy with you and your families and friends. Having said that, I know today that for a variety of reasons, not all may be well and happy. What we now know is a global recession is hitting home here in Minnesota, with job losses for members of our parish and with financial worries for most of us. Everybody I talk with knows at least one person who has lost a job or probably will, and certainly there is more bad news on the job market to come. At the same time, our country is getting ready, as I write this, to celebrate the inauguration of a new president, always a sign and symbol of hope. And this year, we celebrate in a new way, with an event that America has never seen before—146 years after President Abraham Lincoln declared that the slaves of America were to be freed people—our country will honor a talented leader who is African American with the highest elected position in the land. No matter that he is human, and fallible, this is a moment for rejoicing and pride in a country that started as an experiment, that has certainly done great good and inevitably done great harm, but that continues to reinvent itself with hope and vision. President Obama, and all of us, need and desire prayers, and lots of them. We have a challenging time ahead.

Here at St. Clement's, amidst the ups and downs of the world, we carry on with the

work of the church. Mission work, formation in the faith, celebrating life's joys and grieving life's sorrows, exploring our own faith and finding ways to deepen and strengthen our beliefs and finding ways to express our doubts, loving one another and living into relationships, we carry on.

During February, we move from the time after the Epiphany, when we celebrate the light of Christ and explore our own response to God's

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good news moving out into the world, to the time of deep penitence and confession—Lent. One of the certainties of the church is that these seasons will move along every year: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and the time thereafter, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time, and back to Advent. When the world feels very uncertain, there is some comfort in the regularity of the seasons of the church.

During the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 25, the body of the church is called to do some

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FROM THE RECTOR *continues from page 1*

special things for forty days and nights to honor this set-apart time before Easter. It is a season of penitence and fasting, of confession, preparation and renewal. Many of us spend time in special worship services and formation classes, fast on one day a week, set time aside for prayer and contemplation. The Book of Common Prayer also calls us to read and meditate on “God’s Holy Word,” the stories of the Bible. We already have at St. Clement’s, every Sunday morning a new Bible-Conversations group that explores the day’s lectionary. Traditionally during Lent I will offer a special Bible-Study class during the week at the church. There will be great Adult-Formation classes on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings this year. This year, in the spirit of the Gather Groups that have started up at St. Clement’s, I want to propose something new for our community, a sort of a virtual “Gather Group.” Many of you, I know, would like to come and take a Lenten class, but simply can’t for a variety of reasons. So, I propose a “Gather Group” that we can do at home, in our own time, and in our own ways. I am going to be reading the Gospel of Mark during Lent, and invite you, to read along with me. Mark is the shortest gospel, and the oldest. It happens to be the one that we will be reading during the seasons of the church until next Advent. I propose that we read this Gospel as a community, and then those who can will gather in person to reflect on the experience. There are no rules, simply the commitment to read as much of the Gospel of Mark as you can. Read a bit every day, read at the same time every day, or read when you have the time. If you can’t read one day, no problem; catch up when you can. Read, reflect, and wonder. If you have a Bible already, use what you have. If you don’t,

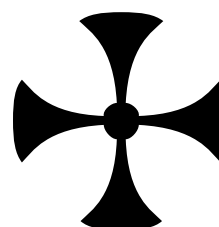
I can recommend the Renovare Spiritual Formation Bible that has assistance for personal reflection. The translation that we use in Church is the New Revised Standard Translation, but any translation is fine. The point is to dig into the scriptures to read the stories of Jesus, and to begin to know God more deeply through these stories. If your Bible has an outline and study notes, read those too.

If you want to e-mail me and let me know that you would like to be a part of this “virtual” Gather Group, please do so at [broyalty@stclements-stp.org](mailto:broyalty@stclements-stp.org). Everyone who has joined this group will be invited to gather at the church on Wednesday, April 15 to eat supper together and then meet to reflect on how this worked, or didn’t work for you, and to see what happened.

Recently a multi-generational group at St. Clement’s watched a movie together, *For the Bible Tells Me So*. This experience reminded me of how many people claim to know what the Bible says about any particular subject, but have never actually read it. Let’s read it together, then discuss, debate, disagree, wonder, and rejoice in the stories of God and God’s people, and the promise of Jesus Christ.

I wish for you a holy Lent and a blessed New Year.

In faith,  
Beth+



The Rev. V. Beth Royalty  
Rector

The Rev. Dr. Marilyn  
Salmon  
Priest Associate

Douglas Shambo II  
Director of Music

Nils C. Halker II  
Organist

Susan Mallison  
Director of Christian  
Formation

Lorin Velikonja  
Asst. to the Director of  
Christian Formation

Joan Quam  
Parish Administrator

Beth Eucker  
Childcare Provider

Harvey Olson  
Sexton

Tom Kingrey  
Photographer

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# PROJECT HOME— AH, WHAT A GREAT WAY TO SPEND AN EVENING!

By Bob Goepel

St. Clement's has a history of participation in Project Home, a St. Paul Area Council of Churches (SPACC) program, whose mission is "to provide a site, volunteers and a safe, clean, comfortable place for families to spend the night when the Ramsey County Family Service center is at capacity." In short, Project Home is a ministry of hospitality for those in need of shelter and a bit of comfort. Hospitality is a common theme at St. Clement's. Right?! The sites are established on a rotational basis, primarily among local churches. Annually, we have participated at St. John's Episcopal Church, less than a mile east of St. Clement's, over a three- to four-evening schedule. This year we have signed up for February 18-21 (Wednesday-Saturday). There are two shifts, evening and overnight.

The Evening Shelter Host shift (5:30-8:30 PM) starts with an orientation by a Project Home Site Coordinator, who will greet you, show you the space, and explain the rules for operating the site. At 6:00, the families will arrive by mini-van, after eating dinner at the main facility. Evening Hosts welcome guests as they arrive, assist the Site Coordinator in distributing bedding and care packs to new families, prepare an evening snack (food is available on site, though donations are greatly appreciated), engage children in games, puzzles, basketball, homework, reading, watching videos. Hosts also are available to talk with adult guests, if they wish. Mostly, it tends to be low-key, relaxed and FUN.

The Overnight Shelter Host weekday shift (8:00 PM-7:00 AM), weekend shift (8:00 PM-9:00 AM) meets the families, encourages children to slowly stop their activities, helps tidy the space, and begins getting guests ready for bed. Generally, "lights out" is at 9:00 (weekdays) and 10:00 (weekends), as our guests must rise early, catch a lite breakfast, and rush for their mini-van ride to the main shelter. This shift is more of a snooze, but does offer some contact with appreciative adults and their fun-loving children.



Qualifications for hosts and host families: a friendly, caring attitude; must be reliable; needs energy and a love of children; must be respectful and understanding of parents who are in a tough situation, waiting for a more permanent living situation. Children of all ages are welcome to participate. For most parishioners, this may seem more than a bit scary, intimidating, but with faith and support from experienced hosts (Social Action Committee members), you will find this to be perhaps the most moving and rewarding of social action projects. The families that Project Home serves are truly in a tough spot, but are really not so different from the families of St. Clement's. Take a chance to get to know them and you will come away with a better understanding of their world and also of your own world.

Questions? Answers? Contact Susan Gillette or Bob Goepel.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,  
I was a stranger, and you invited me in."* Matthew 25:35

# ⊕ Lenten Offerings

## TWO SPECIAL ADULT ED SERIES OFFERED FOR LENT

**Wednesday, March 4, Wednesday, March 11, Wednesday, March 18 at 6:15 PM**

The life of Jesus Christ has been a prominent subject in the cinema, as it has been for every other art form. Presenting scenes from the Gospels has been a desire of filmmakers ever since motion pictures were invented over a century ago. “Spectacle” and “epic” have often been used to describe some of the elaborate productions that have attempted to interpret the motives and emotions of Jesus and His followers within the gospel narrative. The commercial success or failure of films “starring” Jesus is often a function of how He is characterized. “Jesus” films have created strong reactions in viewers, leading some to a deeper faith and others to doubt.

This series of three presentations will explore the ways in which the portrayal of Christ on film has shaped the faith of individuals and stirred religious and political controversy. Those who attend will be encouraged to share their reactions to excerpts from a sampling of films and to discuss how the cinematic portrayal of Jesus has informed their beliefs.

Presented by Robert Gage

**Wednesday, March 25 and April 1 at 6:15 PM**

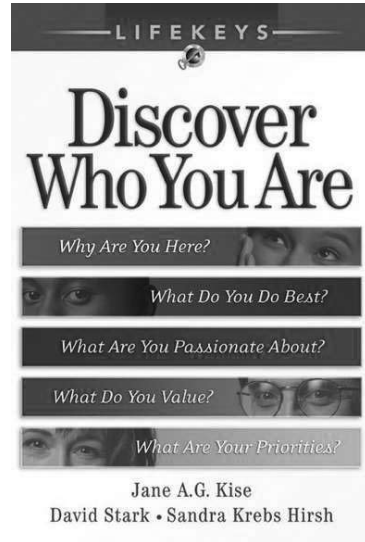
The crucifixion of Jesus plays a central role in both Christian history and theology. Was it inevitable? What if the events in Jerusalem that week had unfolded otherwise and Jesus had never been crucified? How would this have affected history? How would it affect our own faith today? A two-part discussion of seldom-raised questions. Presented by John Williams

## “VIRTUAL” LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

The Rev. Beth Royalty invites everyone who would like to join her in reading the Gospel of Mark during the season of Lent. Many of our congregation simply can't attend a lenten class here at the church, and this will be a unique way of studying a portion of the Bible together, following your own schedule and inclination. There will be no meeting, just a commitment to read this story of Jesus' life in your own time and place. All who take part in the parish-wide “read” are invited to gather for dinner and a time together on Wednesday, April 15 to reflect on the experience and share how it went. If you would like, e-mail Beth at [broyalty@stclements-stp.org](mailto:broyalty@stclements-stp.org) and let her know that you are reading The Gospel of Mark at home.

## “DISCOVER WHO YOU ARE”

A five-week Lenten Study on the discernment of spiritual and vocational gifts will be offered by the Rev. Beth Royalty on Wednesday evenings during Lent. We will be using the “LifeKeys” curriculum, which includes a workbook that costs \$9.00. The thesis of “LifeKeys, Discover Who You Are” is to uncover your talents, spiritual gifts, passions, values, and personality—all that God made you to be. It is based on three themes: God created you and therefore values you highly; God created you uniquely and there is genuinely only one of you; God from the foundation of the world had good works in mind for you to do. This class is appropriate for everyone, especially those in transition, in vocational and career discernment, and for those seeking ways to enrich their lives by self-reflection and the discovery of new ways of being involved in the church community and other communities. If you would like to pre-register in order for a workbook to be ordered for you, please call the church office or e-mail Beth at [broyalty@stclements-stp.org](mailto:broyalty@stclements-stp.org)



## WEDNESDAY EUCHARISTS DURING LENT

At 12:10 PM on each Wednesday during Lent, a simple Holy Eucharist service will be celebrated in the Chapel. Designed to fit into your lunch hour, the service will be contemplative and designed to be finished by 12:50. Please come and bring a friend or coworker, and consider using this service as a part of your Lenten discipline.

### **Lenten Blood Drive**

American Red Cross offers St. Clement’s congregation a Donation Challenge on Sunday, March 1

On Sunday, March 1, the parish hall will be again be transformed into a blood donation site as the American Red Cross will be collecting blood from 9:00AM-2:00PM. St. Clement’s has been hosting Red Cross Blood Drives for the last two years, but this is the first time that we will be having our drive on a Sunday morning. The Red Cross is hoping that we will be able to increase our donations by having the drive at the same time that most of us are in the building. They have challenged our congregation to donate at least 35 pints of blood on Sunday, March 1. Please sign up to donate on the bulletin board in the parish hall or on line at [www.givebloodgivelife.org](http://www.givebloodgivelife.org)

## Millennium Development Goals Update

Members from the St. Clement's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Leadership Team attended a three-day training workshop at a retreat January 9-11. This retreat was sponsored by the Diocese of Minnesota and included leadership teams from other parishes as well as individuals from South Carolina and Georgia. The sessions were extremely well organized and valuable, and you can be assured that we all came away with confidence and hope for our collective future in reducing global poverty by half by 2015.

If you missed last month's Chimes article and other recent announcements, the St. Clement's MDG committee has devoted itself this past year to discussing and supporting the Millennium Development Goals. The Leadership Team that has arisen from that work will be meeting with our parish during Lent, starting March 1, to raise awareness of the campaign and to request a commitment of 0.7% (7/10 of one percent) of household income. Our goal is to receive pledges from half of the average attendance of Sunday services. After Lent, there will be a collective decision-making process for St. Clement's to determine which international programs and/or communities we want to support.

The Leadership Team has assignments in five different areas. Kathie Culhane-Pera is our Team Coordinator, responsible for meetings and reports to the Diocese. Dan Edgerton is our Education Coordinator and

will ensure parish-wide MDG knowledge. Our Campaign Infrastructure Coordinator is Renee Campion, who will ensure that the pledge campaign runs smoothly. Rich Laffin is our Communications Coordinator, preparing written and visual materials to support the campaign. Marsha Smith has assumed the position of Allocation Coordinator and will facilitate the process for determining how pledges will be used and what program(s) or community we support.

As noted above, our campaign will begin in earnest on March 1, although many of you will likely be aware of the buzz before then. Over the course of five weeks we will deliver public narratives (similar to the stories shared during the recent St. Clement's pledge campaign to support its own budget). We will conduct adult education sessions, coordinate with the youth education leaders, discuss these issues at a personal level at house parties, and meet with some of you one on one. You will see MDG information around the Parish Hall as well.

This campaign represents a leap of faith on our part. But we believe that in having received the strong support of our rector and vestry, having witnessed how warmly our congregation responds to calls for social action, and knowing that the world needs our support to eradicate poverty more than ever, that our campaign will be a rich success.



**Food Collection This Month** will go to the Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf located at St. Paul Reformation Church. Contributions of food or money are welcome. Please make checks payable to Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf. Please leave food items by the "Food Donations" sign in the parish hall. Financial contributions may be put in the collection plate during offertory (please use envelopes in pews marked "food shelf" for cash contributions) or in the box in the parish hall.



We offer Sarah Shapley-Melting and Sherry Smith many rounds of applause for their conscientious, determined AND TASTY launching of our Wednesday evening meal program. These two creative cooks planned the meals, bought the food, cooked the food and served it (always on time!) for 25-40 hungry parishioners every Wednesday night this fall. And with help on various weeks from

David Smith, Eleni Skevas, Hunter Olsen, Liz Brine, and Shannon Geno, they also cheerfully cleaned up and left the kitchen ready for “the next event.” Thanks for all your efforts!

Our lovely Christmas pageant is not possible without the assistance of many dedicated volunteers. Thanks to our director Marsha Smith, assistant director Mikel Clifford, band conductor Nathan Berry, costumer Liz Brine, treble choir director Sally Reynolds, sound coordinator Mark Ellenberger, all of the band and treble choir participants, as well as the children and adults who acted out the Gospel lesson.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the Epiphany Event a success, especially those who helped with making the meal—Mikel Clifford, Sarah Shapely, Tim Pera, Susannah Sisk, and Tracy van der Leeuw, and those who helped with clean up—Mikel Clifford and Shannon Geno. Thanks also to Mikel for providing the beautiful king’s costumes!

Special thanks to the parishioners who opened their homes to our many youth, youth group alumni, and youth leaders for our annual Progressive Dinner on December 30—Frenchy and Bob Lunning, Liz Brine and Al McVey and Marilyn Wall and Jim Jelinek. We also appreciate the assistance of Lydia McAnerney, Lizanne Geno, Liza Berry, Gail Brand, and Jan Olsen-Stone in making this event a success.

A Song of Gloria! to Mark Stahura, in thanksgiving for the beautiful composition that he created for the “Welcome into the Household of God” portion of our Baptism services.

A bouquet of pointsettias to Richard Carlson, Heather Worthington, Scott Marsalis, Jim Morehouse and a cast of thousands who helped out with the Greening of the Church. Your work transformed our lovely space into a winter wonderland perfect for the holy Christmas season. Thanks for the garlands, the wreathes, the trees, the candles, and, one more time, for the construction of those ancient tree stands! Thanksk to the Newmans and Tom Kingrey for fixing lunch, and to everyone for their good humor.

A song of Alleluias to our Adult and Children’s Choirs for the effort of extra rehearsal time and worship time during Advent and Christmas. Advent Lessons and Carols was lovely, as was Christmas Lessons and Carols! And, you made Christmas Eve sing!

A note of “thanks” to our two wonderful office volunteers: Eileen Adams and Marge Rusch. From collating bulletins every Friday, to changing the hymn boards in the church and just generally cleaning up where cleaning up needs to happen, Eileen and Marge are everywhere. We couldn’t do it without you. Also, our money counters: Mary Earle, Sally Reynolds, Kathie McEachern and Marilyn Wall Jelinek – faithful, reliable, and wonderful, thanks.

## **Sock Sunday**

February 8, 2009



Winter's chill continues and our youngest parishioners, the pre-school/ kindergarten class, are challenging us to contribute

new or gently used socks for our annual SOCK SUNDAY on February 8. Dorothy Day Homeless Shelter (adult sizes) and the Ramsey County Crisis Nursery (children's sizes) describe an endless need for warm and dry socks. Please help our less fortunate neighbors keep their feet warm and dry.

## **All Youth Ski Trip**

Friday, February 20 through Sunday, February 22

Youth, leaders and parent chaperones will be traveling to Duluth and Spirit Mountain Ski Area for our (mostly) annual ski trip on February 20-22. Participants will have the opportunity to downhill and/or cross-country ski on this fun weekend. The group will be hosted by St. Andrew's-by-the-Lake Episcopal Church. Contact Susan Mallison or your youth leaders if you can make it for this weekend adventure.

## **Mission "Night"**

Monday, February 16 (President's Day)

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Interfaith Day of Service

Youth and leaders are urged to make their President's Day "off" a day "on" of service to the broader community as well as an opportunity to learn about the shared values of service, justice, and hospitality of the rich variety of faiths in our city.

Inspired to Serve's Youth Leadership Coalition, a program of the St. Paul Area Council of Churches invites our youth to participate in this annual Interfaith Day of Service. Youth in grades 7-12 and adult leaders will spend a day working in multi-faith groups, doing service-learning projects throughout the Twin Cities and learning about how each other's faith stories determine their call to justice and service.

The key social justice issues that Inspired to Serve is focusing on this year are homelessness and literacy. Youth must sign up for this day of service by February 9.

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## **Plastic Containers**

Don't you hate throwing out all those plastic containers that you have left after the sour cream, ice cream and salsa are gone? Well our kitchen can put those items to good use. It will give us a container to take home leftovers after our Wednesday dinners. It will give us a container to take a shut-in parishioner some cookies. I feel Zip-Lock bags are not the answer for this type of use. So let's reuse. If you can't supply the lid it will be of little use for transporting a serving of savory soup. These containers are all #6 plastic and safe to be reused, I have done the research. You can leave them on the kitchen counter or by the microwave oven.

# Film

## *Réveil... Waking up French*

A documentary by Ben Levine

I'd like to invite fellow parishioners to join personal friends and contacts of mine to a private showing of this film, which is not available via Netflix and other such sources. Those who may find this of particular interest include individuals who:

- are French American.
- speak French.
- are Spanish-speaking  
(What can today's Spanish-speaking community learn from the story this film tells?)
- grew up speaking any language other than English in their household.
- are simply interested in language, culture and history.

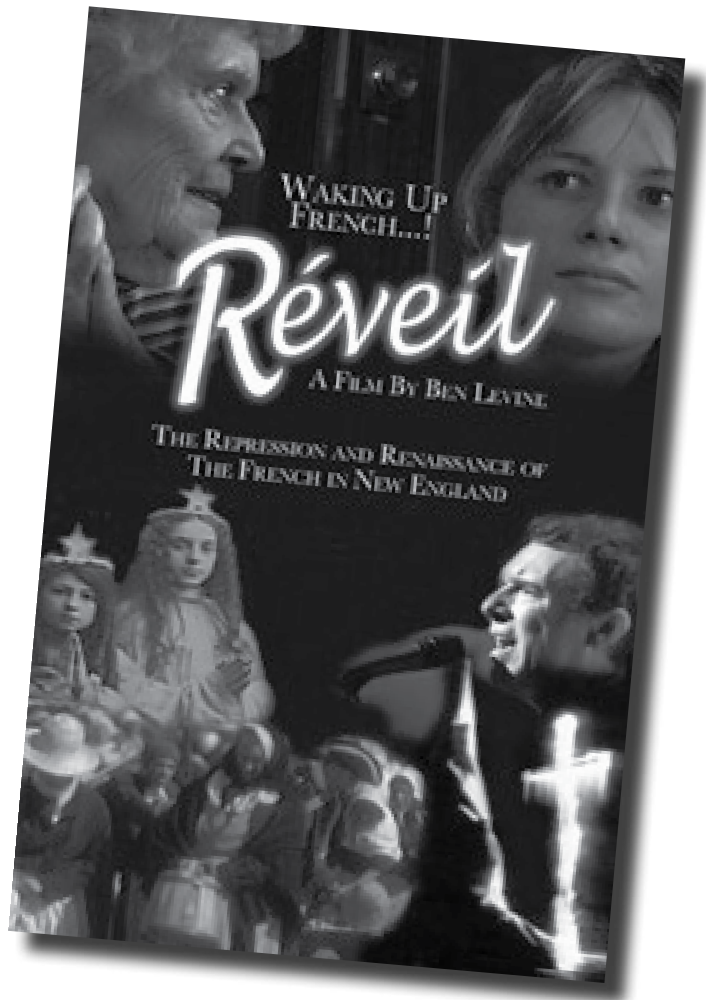
I can't write anything better than the description provided on the web site ([www.wakingupfrench.com](http://www.wakingupfrench.com)), so I encourage you to go there first. The only thing I would add is this. As a Minnesotan, after seeing the film you'll feel quite proud of the progress our society has made when you pause to consider how the Hispanic and Hmong, to name a few, communities are accepted here and even celebrated at events like the Festival of Nations every year. And we Episcopalians played a big role in the evolution of a culture of acceptance starting with Bishop Whipple and our Amerindian brothers and sisters.

Date Saturday, February 7th, 2009

Time 6:00 PM

Place St. Clement's Library

I would like to get a final head count, so if you are interested, please RSVP to Jon Tremblay at [jonLtremblay@yahoo.ca](mailto:jonLtremblay@yahoo.ca) by no later than 2/1/09. Merci!



## *This Could Be the Coffee of Your Dreams*

It is mine. A few times a year our coffee distributor gets an exceptional batch of beans. The coffee is organic and fair trade, allowing the Papua New Guinea crop workers to earn a fair wage. The coffee is called Waka Jawaka. Frank Zappa so loved this delicious brew that he dedicated an album to it, or at least titled it Waka Jawaka. I think he also loved the sound of the name.

Here's the coffee-snob blurb on the label. "In the cup this coffee is full of sweet tropical fruit flavors. The body is exceptional in its ability to fill your palate. The Acidity is understated, yet it sparkles at the finish." Yes there are coffee snobs as well as wine snobs. I have been purchasing coffee from B&W Coffee to offer to my friends for over ten years and this is one my favorites. Most people that rap their hands around a cup on these cold mornings agree.

Don't ask them to burn you a French roast, I have spoken with the owner and he will not burn the sweet sugars in this bean. It will be what Alex calls a City Roast. That means the roast is taken just to the point before the sugars start to caramelize and burn. This allows the personality of the bean to creep into the flavor and keeps more caffeine in the bean.

This will only be available for purchase for a few months and then we have to wait until the next season. I heard cheers from my dozen friends I keep supplied in coffee when I told them the Waka is back!



- It is ordered the first Sunday of the month; delivered the second.
- Coffee sells for \$10 a pound; both whole bean and ground are available.
- A portion of the price of each pound goes to Episcopal Relief & Development

## February Birthdays

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- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Roy Dorn<br>Pat Panshin         | 17 Eoin McVey   |
| 2 Holly Henjum<br>Oskar Shapley   | 19 Janet Zander                                       |
| 4 Mary-Fred Watkins               | 22 Barbara Swan                                       |
| 5 Calvin Boone<br>George Hornseth | 23 Becky Arnold<br>Anne Marie Green                   |
| 8 Susan Gillette                  | 24 Wilfred T. Johnson<br>Ryan Gesell<br>Peter Watkins |
| 14 Julianna Palmquist             | 27 Julie Carlson                                      |
| 16 Chelsey Fugleberg              | 28 Mark Green Jr.                                     |



# ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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