

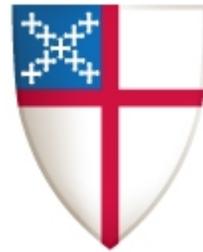
News and upcoming events in the parish.

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St. John's

Episcopal Church



Thanksgiving Service

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Thanksgiving Day, 10:30 AM

Join us as we pause and reflect

on our gratefulness to God.



Advent Wreath Event

In the Parish Hall.

Sunday, November 30th following the 10:30 AM Service.
Children are invited to make a wreath for Advent home devotions.



FIRST FRIDAY FILM FEST *The Last Days of Disco*

Friday, Dec. 5th at 7:00 PM
Bring your own snacks!

Advent Lessons and Carols
Third Sunday of Advent, December 14
at the 10:30 AM Eucharist Service

Please join us for this moving service of
Advent music and readings.

Special music by
St. John's Chancel Choir, Bells Ensemble,
Carrie, D'Aprix, violin, Robin Steuteville,
French horn, and Adelaide Tracey, trumpet.

Friends of St. John's,

This past weekend the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Central New York took place in Syracuse. This year's theme was "Body Wisdom". The Bishop's thoughtful and challenging address can be found here:

<http://cnyepiscopal.org/documents/765.pdf>

Bishop Skip invited us to consider that, as the body of Christ, we are connected and interrelated.

This connection means that we are partners in mission and do not have to do the work of God's kingdom alone.

One solemn aspect of each Diocesan Convention is the reading of the necrology. We remembered our friend, Father Coffin, who died this past May. Fr. S. George Dirghalli wrote a lovely piece that was shared at convention. It is reprinted here with permission.

The Rev. Lewis Edward Coffin – 1924-2014

Lewis Edward Coffin was born May 15, 1924, in Lake Forest, IL. His parents were Frances Loring Coffin and Fletcher Barker Coffin, a chemistry professor at Lake Forest College in Illinois. Louise Loring was his beloved sister, older by nine years. Lewis attended grammar and high school at the Bell School at Lake Forest College until the middle of high school, when his father retired from teaching chemistry and the family joined the house of Lewis's Uncle Langdon Coffin in Newton, MA.

Lewis was a keen student, particularly proficient in reading and writing. Dutifully, he attended Haverford College in Connecticut to study chemistry, following his father's footsteps. In the middle of his college years his father died. Following college Lewis heard the call of the Lord and determined to change his course of study. He attended New York Biblical Seminary in New York, learning the arts of preaching to the poor and homeless from his mentor, Daddy Hall. At the Seminary he met Georgia Louise Lee, his love and life mate. He gave her an apple, and after that they were inseparable. They were married on December 22, 1948, in Charlotte, NC, where Georgia served as pastoral assistant.

Completing seminary and receiving his theological degree, Lewis served an internship in Littleton, NH. He determined to earn a second S.T.B., attending Berkeley Theological Seminary in New Haven, CT. After completion of Berkeley Seminary, he accepted a call to minister at All Saints Episcopal in Wolfeboro, NH. Lewis worked with his parish to build a beautiful new church building in Wolfeboro, a ministry still alive and well today.

After nine years in Wolfeboro the couple moved to minister to Episcopal churches in Toledo, OH, then to Pipestone, MN; Williston, ND; and Ithaca, NY. Lewis treasured each of these communities, serving in many capacities, from volunteer Chaplain for the Toledo Fire Department to Parent Effectiveness Trainer, an avocation he and Georgia took up enthusiastically in Minnesota and continued for many years. In New York state, Lewis became minister of Epiphany Episcopal Church in Trumansburg in 1973. Later he accepted a call to St. John's Episcopal in Speedsville, then St. Mark's in Candor, enjoying these pastorates even as he and Georgia continued their service with Episcopal Marriage Encounter. They would serve two terms on the National Episcopal Marriage Encounter Board. Both Lewis and Georgia enjoyed this service greatly, traveling, making good friends, and sharing God's love.

In about 1998 Georgia began a struggle of eight years with Alzheimer's, as Lewis shouldered more and more of the responsibilities of their home. A joyful celebration accompanied his retirement in 2003. He was able to enjoy many fruitful Bible Study gatherings with friends in Candor and also formed a great friendship with a Bible Study group at St. John's in Ithaca, meeting weekly on Tuesday before the noonday service. Lewis continued preaching and serving as needed in the area, frequently ministering to the Southern Tier Cluster churches nearby, and, as an Associate of St. John's, Ithaca, visiting St. John's parishioners in the hospital as well as shut-ins. Georgia passed away in 2006 from complications suffered due to Alzheimer's. His family is especially proud of him and grateful for his amazing and loving care of her.

Lewis loved nothing better than sharing God's word, bringing stories from the Bible to life through his sermons. He crafted and polished each, spending hours improving every detail, enlivening his sermons with personal and family experiences as well as lessons gleaned from his wide reading to bring to life the power and beauty of God's message of love to all.

Lewis Edward Coffin is survived by his daughters, Jean O'Connor of Helena, MT; Margaret Hughston of Round Rock, TX; Elizabeth Schuur of Minneapolis, MN; Barbara Talbot of Newfield, NY; and son, Philip Coffin of Stevensville, MI; and also by 15 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. His service and love will live on in each of these and the many members of his church family whose lives he touched.
