

## Mary Henry

*June 16, 1917 – September 26, 2009*

*Written by Pat Fromberger for the November 2009  
Newsletter LITS.*

A gracious lady and faithful servant of God has departed from our midst. Mary Henry, a parishioner and much loved member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church for over 70 years, died peacefully on September 26, 2009. The picture above was taken on June 16, 2009 as Mary celebrated her 92nd birthday at her daughter Susy Forlie's home in Chester. I love this photo of Mary. When I look at it, I see a woman whose face is aglow with a vitality for life; a face that shows her twinkling, almost mischievous eyes, radiating her joy; and a face that mirrors the deep love she had for her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Mary's strong faith and love of the Lord defined her life and everything she did. She was a tireless servant of the Lord and generous in sharing that love with others—at St. Luke's, in the Chester community and beyond. Mary never said no, when it came to her faith and belief of what God was calling her to do. And she always answered the call with that wonderful, loving smile on her face and sparkle in her eye. Every single member of the St. Luke's community has been touched by this love in some way through Mary's years as a member here. Who has not received an anniversary or birthday card with a special hand written message of love and encouragement from Mary! As our Rector, Paul shared at her Memorial Service on October 3rd, when he was visiting Mary in her final days, she didn't always seem to be aware of things, yet her hand moved in a motion as if she was writing a note. If we were to try and list the many ways Mary's ministries have touched others, it would fill an entire newsletter (and then some.) In the July 2007 issue of LITS, Bonnie Watters wrote a beautiful tribute to Mary, and how she so lovingly gave of herself to others.



The St. Luke's community has lost a beloved friend and sister and we deeply grieve that loss. But we are so grateful to God for giving us Mary, to be a part of our lives and to be a role model for what it means

to be a “Servant of God.” Mary, we love you and you will always be in our hearts.

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