



August 2009

ST. CHARLES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH www.stcharlesepiscopal.org

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Lee, Bishop
 The Rev. William R. Nesbit, Jr. Rector
 The Rev. Elizabeth G. Meade, Deacon
 Beth Burnette, Parish Administrator
 Dan Williams, Director of Music
 Liz Ryan, Dir. of Youth & Children's Formation

Phone 630.584.2596 **Fax** 630.584.8633
eMail scecoffice@sbcglobal.net

VESTRY

Colin Campbell, Senior Warden
 Kathy Heikkinen, Junior Warden

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

01 Labyrinth Walk, Noon
 04 Bibletimes Marketplace Full Staff Mtg., 7 p.m.
 06 Bibletimes Marketplace Staff Mtg., 7 p.m.
 06 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7 p.m.
 10-14 Bibletimes Marketplace, 9 a.m.-Noon
 13 Vestry, 7 p.m.
 18 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7 p.m.
 20 Women's Book Club, 7:30 p.m.
 21-22 Hesed House
 23 Ice Cream & Pie Social
 24 AllFaith's Night @ Kane County Cougars
 26 Soup Kitchen Precook, 7 p.m.
 27 Soup Kitchen, 10 a.m.
 30 Spaghetti Dinner, 5 p.m.

2010

Dick Hattan
 Katie Thomson
 Peter
 VanNortwick

2011

Katie Ditch
 Karen Flood
 Greg Steamer

2012

Mike Custer
 Carol Townsend
 Katherine
 Williams

AUGUST CALENDAR

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 30 7:30 a.m. Eucharist / 9 a.m. Eucharist / 10:45 a.m. Eucharist / 5 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner | 31 5:30 p.m. Alanon, Evening Prayer / 7 p.m. Boy Scouts, EFM | | | | | 01 8 a.m. AA / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service / Noon Labyrinth Walk |
| 02 7:30 a.m. Eucharist / 9 a.m. Eucharist / 10:45 a.m. Eucharist | 03 5:30 p.m. Alanon, Evening Prayer / 7 p.m. Boy Scouts, EFM | 04 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service / 5 p.m. AA | 05 | 06 7 p.m. Bibletimes Marketplace Staff Meeting, Prayer Shawl Ministry | 07 9 a.m. Morning Prayer / 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon / 8 p.m. AA | 08 8 a.m. AA / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service |
| 09 7:30 a.m. Eucharist / 9 a.m. Eucharist / 10:45 a.m. Eucharist | 10 9 a.m. Bibletimes Marketplace / 5:30 p.m. Alanon, Evening Prayer / 7 p.m. Boy Scouts, EFM, Order of St. Luke | 11 9 a.m. Bibletimes Marketplace / 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service / 5 p.m. AA | 12 9 a.m. Bibletimes Marketplace | 13 9 a.m. Bibletimes Marketplace / 7 p.m. Vestry | 14 9 a.m. Bibletimes Marketplace / 9 a.m. Morning Prayer / 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon / 8 p.m. AA | 15 8 a.m. AA / 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Formation Leaders Retreat / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service |
| 16 7:30 a.m. Eucharist / 9 a.m. Eucharist / 10:45 a.m. Eucharist | 17 5:30 p.m. Alanon, Evening Prayer / 7 p.m. Boy Scouts, EFM | 18 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry / 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service / 5 p.m. AA | 19 | 20 7:30 p.m. Women's Book Club | 21 9 a.m. Morning Prayer / 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon / 8 p.m. AA / 11 p.m. Hesed House | 22 3 a.m. Hesed House / 8 a.m. AA / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service |
| 23 7:30 a.m. Eucharist / 9 a.m. Eucharist / 10:45 a.m. Eucharist / Noon Ice Cream & Pie Social | 24 5:30 p.m. Alanon, Evening Prayer / 6:30 p.m. All Faiths Night @ Kane County Cougars / 7 p.m. Boy Scouts, EFM, Order of St. Luke | 25 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service / 5 p.m. AA | 26 7 p.m. Soup Kitchen Precook | 27 10 a.m. Soup Kitchen | 28 9 a.m. Morning Prayer / 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon / 8 p.m. AA | 29 8 a.m. AA / 11 a.m. Cleaning Service |

SERVER SCHEDULE

| | August 02 | August 09 | August 16 | August 23 | August 30 | September 06 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Eucharistic Ministers | | | | | | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Alan Wolff Carol Paschal | Diana Brown Jerry Mertes | Doug Brown Carol Paschal | Michelle Moore Gib Moore | Kathy Mertes Jerry Mertes | Diana Brown Doug Brown |
| 10:45 a.m. | Dick Hattan Beverly Nesbit | Katie Thomson Gary Meade | Holly Parks Jim Bachman | Becky Kruse Joe Ryan | Dick Hattan Beverly Nesbit | Katie Thomson Gary Meade |
| Lector | | | | | | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Alan Wolff | Henry Mora | Mary Kerr | Bill Johnson | Jack Kerr | Alan Wolff |
| 10:45 a.m. 1 st | Sharon Miller | Dottie Finatri | Dalia Bach | Bo Smith | Annie Hollis | Sr. High |
| 10:45 a.m. 2 nd | Tom Miller | Mark Senn | Jan Bach | Carolyn Campbell | Joe Ryan | |
| Ushers | | | | | | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Jack Benning Fay Viverito | Kathy Mertes Gerry Miles | Marina Morrow Larry Engel | Jack Kerr Bill Johnson | Gerry Miles Larry Engel | Jack Benning Fay Viverito |
| 10:45 a.m. | Jim Bachman Bob Thomson | Jan Bach Katie Thomson | Tom Flood John Hollis | Wink Bangs Jeff Burnett | Jim Bachman Bob Thomson | Sr. High |
| Acolyte | | | | | | |
| | Dillon Mugge | Hannah Barnes | Carolyn Campbell | Taushia Mugge | Emily Thomson | Eoin Cottrell |
| Intercessor | | | | | | |
| | Kathy Heikkinen | Bo Smith | Wendy Bangs | Dalia Bach | Kathy Heikkinen | Sr. High |
| Altar Bread | | | | | | |
| | Kathy Heikkinen | Gina Ingraham | Katie Thomson | Jane VanNortwick | Kathy Hari | Lisa-Ann Barnes |
| Greeters | | | | | | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Dorothy Payleitner | Dorothy Payleitner | Diana Brown | Jody Rullman | Dorothy Payleitner | Diana Brown |
| 9 a.m. | Janet Craft | Kathy Hari | Kerri Hildebrand | Janet Craft | Kathy Hari | Kerri Hildebrand |
| 10:45 a.m. | Beverly Nesbit | Wendy Bangs | Jean Phipps | Beverly Nesbit | Wendy Bangs | Sr. High |
| Coffee Hosts | | | | | | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Ludtke | | | Haase | Women's Cursillo | |
| 9 a.m. | | | | | Women's Cursillo | |
| 10:45 a.m. | | | | | Women's Cursillo | |
| Home Eucharist | | | | | | |
| | Wolff (Rixleben) | Graf (Brown) | Craft (Thomson) | Brown (Rullman) | Thomson (Graf) | Rullman (Meade) |
| Closing | | | | | | |
| | Colin Campbell | Kathy Heikkinen | Katherine Williams | Carol Townsend | Katie Thomson | Gregg Steamer |
| Altar Guild | | | | | | |
| | Haase Mora | Paschal Travis Hollis | Payleitner, Bachman Brown Owen | Ludtke DeVore Haase Parsons | Payleitner Bachman Brown Owen | Rullman Mora |
| Flower Guild | | | | | | |
| | Liz Benning Jody Rullman | Carol Paschal Sarah Travis | Carol Paschal Sarah Travis | Dottie Finatri | Dottie Finatri | Liz Benning Jody Rullman |
| Flower Dedication | | | | | | |
| | Maria Owen | | The Ryans | The Bangs | The Paschals | The Landers |
| 9 a.m. Hosts | | | | | | |
| | Mugge | Needed | Ditch | Travis | Yeck | Needed |

adopted for the next triennium. It contains dramatic cuts in both revenue and expenditures. As in the business world and academia, funding for large, centralized structures and bureaucracy is giving way to a greater focus on local mission and ministry more responsive to local contexts. We are learning which matters are best addressed locally and which need the support of the larger organization. We recommitted ourselves to the eradication of poverty and disease in this world with a line item in support of the Millennium Development Goals. We increased our support of missionaries and our partner churches in the Anglican Communion and we adopted a national health care plan for employees of The Episcopal Church. While not part of the budget, a particularly moving highlight of the convention was the ingathering of the United Thank Offering from every diocese of this church – over 7 million dollars to support the mission and ministry of the People of God.

I served on the Prayer Book, Liturgy, and Music Committee of the convention. One piece of work presented through our committee and adopted by the convention, unlikely to make it into the headlines but of incredible value, is a new liturgical resource titled, Rachel's Tears, Hannah's Hopes. It's a beautiful collection of prayers and services for situations around childbearing and reproductive loss. It was prepared with input from persons across the theological spectrum and its pastoral sensitivity is impressive. I think we will all find it to be a sound resource for surrounding families in need with the prayer of the church.

There is so much more to share with you: we recommitted ourselves to the dismantling of racism; we took steps to address environmental degradation, an issue which may well dwarf all others; we welcomed visiting bishops; we supported the work of Episcopal Relief and Development. As time goes on, Bishop Scantlebury, members of our deputation and I will continue to share our understanding of the convention with you. The first opportunity will be a post-General Convention meeting for all clergy and laity on **Thursday, July 30** at our Episcopal Church Center beginning at 9 am (see our website, www.episcopalchicago.org for details).

For now, please join me in praying for the mission of our church. Let us recommit ourselves to work, pray and give, so that God's mission of reconciling the world to himself may be made real in us and in the Episcopal Church.

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey D. Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeffrey D. Lee
Bishop of Chicago

Office of the Bishop Diocese of Chicago 65 E. Huron Street Chicago IL 60611
312-751-4200 f 312-787-5872 www.episcopalchicago.org



July 20, 2009

To the People of the Diocese of Chicago

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to you at the conclusion of the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church. For the last ten days, bishops, deputies, delegates to the Episcopal Church Women Triennial, visitors and exhibitors have prayed together, discussed issues and engaged in legislation that will shape the life of our church for the next three years and beyond. The range of matters set before us was daunting and the sheer number of resolutions seemed overwhelming at times. I want to share with you some brief reflections on just a few of the decisions we made, some which already occupy the headlines and the blogs, and some which are less attention-grabbing but significant. Above all, I want you to know that we have sought to praise God who has come to us in Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

There are the two resolutions having to do with the openness of our ordination process and the collection of resources for the blessing of same sex unions. These resolutions are both being misrepresented in various press outlets.

The first of these resolutions reiterates what is already true: that according to the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church the process of discerning the possibility of a call to Holy Orders is open to all baptized persons and is under the direction of local bishops and dioceses. The resolution does not repudiate any past resolutions of the General Convention and it restates our commitment to the ongoing dialogue on these matters in the wider Anglican Communion.

The second of these resolutions calls for the collection of liturgical and theological resources regarding same-gender blessings. This resolution recognizes the pastoral needs of members of our church, especially for dioceses in states which have made same-gender marriage or civil unions legal. It does not authorize any rites, but calls for an open process of gathering materials on the subject and reaffirms earlier resolutions that clergy and congregations may provide for the pastoral needs of gay and lesbian members of our church with a wide range of pastoral responses. Other churches in the Anglican Communion are engaged in similar process and this resolution restates our commitment to remain in conversation with them and the structures of the whole Anglican Communion as we continue this pastoral and theological work.

The third matter, and perhaps the most far reaching, is the budget of the Episcopal Church

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Food. Fun. Fellowship. Fundraiser.

August 9

Contact Christy Becker at 630-377-4369 or knitterchristy@abcglobal.net or Bo Smith @ 630-262-9512 or bosmith99@aol.com.

Our next restaurant fundraiser will be on Sunday, August 9 at the Tap House Grill, 3341 West Main Street, St. Charles 630-443-1664. They will welcome us all day. You will need to bring a flyer (from the bulletin, e-mail, or just cut out this article) and give it to your server. Tap House Grill will donate 15% of our food and drink purchases to St. Charles Episcopal Church. Please join us for this fun way to support our programs and outreach. And, feel free to invite friends, family and neighbors, too!

Marriage & Parenting

Contact Katie Ditch @ 630-584-6015 or kmditch@aol.com.

School will be back in session for the kids. Why not update some of your knowledge and get some answers to some of your questions regarding parenting and marriage. Watch this newsletter and The Pulse for more information on these two upcoming events.

Parenting - October 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Here's your chance to get the answers for all the parenting questions you were afraid to ask. Childcare will be available upon request. This session will be facilitated by Liz Ryan and Katie Ditch.

Marriage - November 7, 10 a.m. to noon

Marriage and Family Therapist Paul Weiss of the Couples Clinic in Geneva will facilitate this couples seminar. Come and see what builds strong and lasting relationships. Childcare will be available upon request.



August Birthdays

- 01- Phyllis Andrew
- 01- Emma Foran
- 01- Lark Schuetz
- 03- Ed Manning
- 03- Tim Ryan
- 04- Jim Hari
- 04- Gib Moore
- 05- Cory Blane
- 05- Dick Johnson
- 06- Avie Churchwell
- 12 - Anne Benolken
- 12- Robert Bullenzz
- 12 - David Wicks
- 13- Alex Hari
- 14- Mike Flood
- 16- Caroline Haase
- 16- Kerri Hildebrand
- 16- Jennifer Smith
- 17- Christopher Bangs
- 19- Jake Koch
- 20- Liz Carpenter
- 22- Wendy Bangs
- 22- Sarah Travis
- 25- Nancy Cooper
- 25- Jack Kelly
- 26- Jim Bachman
- 26- Elizabeth (Miles) Lovig
- 26- Samantha (Andrew) Okrasinski
- 27- Jean Phipps
- 28- Hunter Godina
- 31- Jessica (Rullman) Lovejoy

August Anniversaries

- 06- B.J. Griswold & Katherine McCleary
- 10- Bill & Margo Churchwell
- 12- Greg & Anne Van Zandt
- 12-Mike & Mary Zupke
- 19-Joe & Liz Ryan
- 20-Jan & Dalia Bach
- 26-Wink & Wendy Bangs
- 29-Bob & Holly Parks
- 30-John & Carol Paschal
- 30-Jeff Rixleben & Laura Graf



School Shop With Gift Cards And Earn Money For The Church

Contact Wendy Bangs @ 630-377-1174 or wsbangs@aol.com.

Are you ready to shop for school supplies and school clothes?

Consider buying gift cards through our church before you head out to the stores. Gift cards for stores like Carson's, Walmart, Kohl's, Old Navy, and many more are available and up to 18 percent of the purchase price goes back to our church to support our outreach programs.

Grandparents can purchase gift cards to send with college students or just to help out with the rising cost of sending grandchildren to school each Fall.

Thanks to our treasurer, Mark Mugge, the new payment method allows us to have the cards in only four to six days. Gift cards can be purchased or ordered in Ludtke Hall after each Sunday service in August.



Ice Cream & Pie Social!

Sunday, August 23, Noon

Contact Kathy Heikkinen @ 630-879-3441 or kathy.h@comcast.net.

Watch The Pulse for time and other details!



Kane County Cougars

August 24, 6:30 p.m.

Contact Katie Thomson @ 630.584.2133 or katie.thomson@sbcglobal.net.

Join us for fun and fellowship with other local Episcopal congregations at **All Faiths Night** at Elfstrom Stadium! Tickets are \$10 if purchased in advance. Sign up in Ludtke Hall.

Adult Formation Class To Study Book of Exodus

September 20

Contact Phil Dripps @ 630-584-7041.

Beginning Sunday, September 20, the Adult Formation Class will initiate its 2009-2010 schedule by studying the Biblical Book of Exodus. The class will meet each Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m. in Ludtke Hall. The commentary—*Exodus* by James D. Newsome, Westminster John Knox Press, 1998—will be available to assist participants in the class. All adults and older youth are invited to share in this Biblical inquiry. The aim will be to “read, mark, and inwardly digest” this sacred story of Israel’s liberation from slavery, its reception of the Law, and its harrowing trek to the Promised Land under the leadership of Moses.

General Convention 2009

As written by Liz Ryan (630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net)

I spent the weekend in Anaheim, California with youth from our Diocese, including our own Nate Nesbit, attending the 76th Annual General Convention of the Episcopal Church. It was a long trip. (I've never been to California before!) Arriving at the Anaheim Convention Center was like stepping into the "home" of the Episcopal Church. The people were as varied a group of clergy and lay people as I have ever seen. Like a family reunion, I ran into people from other dioceses that I hadn't seen in years! We caught up on family news, grandchildren stories, mutual friends, and church stories.

I went to hearings (a place where "regular people" can voice an opinion on a resolution), to the House of Deputies, and to the House of Bishops. I heard about resolutions that would bring about new liturgies that ministered to those who adopt, to those who have lost companion pets, and to those who have lost a child during pregnancy. I listened to a vote on resolutions that would make pension plans and health plans for lay employees mandatory. I watched the session of the House of Deputies that debated the approval of an election of a bishop in the Episcopal region of Central Ecuador and enjoyed the banter in the House of Bishops.

In case you don't know, the General Convention is a meeting of 880 delegates from all 110 dioceses, as well as all the bishops of those dioceses. During the meeting, which happens once every three years, legislation that has been proposed is voted upon and bishops' elections are approved. The resolutions that are sent to Convention can come from bishops, dioceses, commissions and committees, as well as deputies (The clergy and lay people we have elected at our Diocesan Convention to represent us.).

To say that I am fascinated by the process is an understatement. The people I met and listened to were earnestly seeking the will of God. The sessions of the Houses are encircled with prayer and the whole Convention seemed to be an act of worship.

I think my favorite part of our visit was the Sunday morning Eucharist, worshiping with 10,000 other Episcopalians! The experience is still vibrating in my heart. There is something so rich and thrilling about singing and praying with all those people.

I encourage you to read more about the Convention in Episcopal Life or online at www.episcopal-life.org.

I am very proud of the way our church functions. I love the democratic process—when I agree with it and when I don't. I plan to attend the 77th Annual General Convention in three years in Indianapolis! I hope you will think about going too!



Contact Liz Ryan @ 630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net.

Two Formation teaching positions are still available: The Middlers' Class and the Jr. High Class are in need of teaching help. Contact Liz Ryan to volunteer.

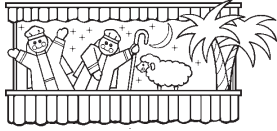


Formation Teacher Training

August 28 and 29

Contact Liz Ryan @ 630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net.

Formation teachers for the 2009-2010 year are encouraged to participate in the *Adults Who Work With Children, Youth, and Adults Conference*. Registration forms are available at www.episcopalchicago.org.



Bibletimes Marketplace

August 10-14

Contact Liz Ryan @ 630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net.

Listen to the slap of sandals on the dusty ground. Sit in the temple and tents. See the Rabbis and children. Be part of the singing, praying, and trades-working. Take a step back into history and walk a path of ancient knowledge. Plus, have lots and lots of fun!

Last Chance To Register

The ever popular **Bibletimes Marketplace** will return this year August 10-14. This is your last chance to enroll your children ages 4-to 11-years-old. Forms are on the easel in Ludtke Hall. Please fill out one per child and give them to Liz Ryan. The Marketplace is "open" from 9 a.m. to noon and is truly an enjoyable time for both participants and volunteers.

Volunteers Still Needed

A few spots are still open for adult and older teen-aged volunteers who are interested in helping. Have you got a talent to share or patience to spare? You may be the one we are waiting to hear from! You can even be trained in a "trade." Just come to the Staff Meeting on Thursday, August 6 at 7 p.m. if you would like to volunteer.

Register Now For Youth & Children's Formation

Contact Liz Ryan @ 630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net.

The Formation program is gearing up for Fall; To enable us to plan correctly, parents need to register children now. To enable us to plan correctly, on July 1 we sent letters and registration forms to all parents who have school-aged children. In the interest of making sure we have supplies and staff in the correct proportions, we're requesting that all registration forms be returned by August 16. If you haven't received a Registration Form, there are forms available on the table in the foyer outside Ludtke Hall or at www.stcharlesepiscopal.org/stckidspage. You will note that each family will only fill out one form with each child listed separately on the lower portion of the page. You are asked to fill out a form each year to ensure that we have the correct and most up-to-date contact information. Completed forms should be returned to Liz Ryan, Director of Youth & Children's Formation by slipping them into her mail slot at the church or by mailing them to: St. Charles' Episcopal Church, Attn: Formation Registration 994 N. Fifth Avenue, St. Charles IL 60174



Blessing of the Backpacks!

August 23

Contact Liz Ryan @ 630-584-2596 or scecyouth@sbcglobal.net.

This year we are going to start the school year off right! Students of all ages can bring their backpack, computer bag, or briefcase to church on Sunday, August 23 to any service to be blessed.

Six Flags

August 11

Contact Sue Cromer @ 312-751-6722 or scromer@episcopalchicago.org.

Even if you forgot to turn in your order form, you can still attend this event. A ticket booth for Episcopalians will be staffed from 9 to 11 a.m. at the entrance to Great America in Gurnee. Tickets are only \$30. Meal deals can be purchased for \$11. A Eucharist will be celebrated at the park's Wilderness Theatre at 5 p.m.

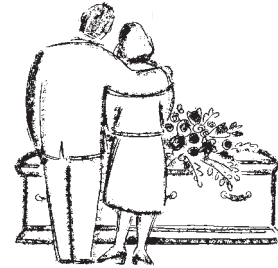
We are all asked to examine our lives. What are we doing to help? What do we want to do? Where do we see a hole that needs to be filled? What is something we feel passionate about that we would like to work at? Search for your spiritual gifts, natural talents, learned skills, life experiences, and your heart's desire. Every member of the church is asked to find a ministry that fits them personally. We all have one! It's the only way we will be able to continue being the not-so-little-anymore church with a big heart.

Kathy Heikkinen
Junior Warden



*Contact the office @ 630-584-2596
 or scecoffice@sbcglobal.net.*

Please update your Directory. **drtomhavard@att.net** is Tom Havard's new eMail address. Pattie Rixleben's correct zip code is **30518**.



A Special Kind Of Hospitality

*Contact the office at 630-584-2596
 or scecoffice@sbcglobal.net.*

Our parish offers each family dealing with the loss of a loved one, the opportunity to receive their friends and family following the funeral at a reception in Ludtke Hall. We offer finger foods, desserts, and beverages, prepared and served by church members.

Volunteers are needed to set-up, clean-up, bake, and serve at the gathering. This special ministry gives each of us a way to show the love of Christ at an especially difficult time.

Since we are updating the volunteer list for this committee, please sign up on the new sheet in Ludtke Hall. You can also contact the office or assigned reception host for individual receptions.



Join The Prayer Shawl Ministry

August 6, 7 p.m. and August 18, 10 a.m.

*Contact Mary Zupke @ 630-208-4666 or maryzupke@hotmail.com
 or Christy Becker @ 630-377-4369 or knitterchristy@sbcglobal.net.*

St. Charles Episcopal knitters are busy finishing up afghans for the graduating high school seniors as they head off to colleges and universities. What a wonderful way to wrap them in prayers and well wishes!

Remember, anyone can join the Prayer Shawl Ministry at any time. We have experienced knitters that have taught classes for many years, and we have novices that are just beginning and not yet in the mode of making elaborate projects. Getting together to make warm shawls with prayers attached for people in need inside and outside our parish is fun.

Please come and join in for fun chatter and knitting in Ludtke Hall on August 6 at 7 p.m. and August 18 at 10 a.m.



From The Wardens

Vestry

Colin Campbell, Senior Warden
630.232.1132
cccampbell38@gmail.com

Kathy Heikkinen, Junior Warden
630.879.3441
kathy.h@comcast.net

2010

Dick Hattan
630.208.1978
richardhattan@sbcglobal.net

Katie Thomson
630.584.2133
katie.thomson@sbcglobal.net

Peter VanNortwick
630.232.2029
p_vannortwick@sbcglobal.net

2011

Katie Ditch
630.584.6015
kmditch@aol.com

Karen Flood
630.715.5074
tkflood@comcast.net

Greg Steamer
630.587.3848
gsteamer@comcast.net

2012

Mike Custer
630.587.9230
michael_custer@comcast.net

Carol Townsend
630.681.0311
carol.townsend@gmail.net

Katherine Williams
630.761.2717
kwill10@sbcglobal.net

The Not-So-Little Anymore Church With A Big Heart

Our treasurer Mark Mugge—who is surely destined for sainthood based on the volunteer work and time he is giving—told a few of us an amazing fact last month: Our parish has donated over half a million dollars over the last ten years.

Half a million dollars! From our small church? It's true.

Mark spent hours reviewing 10 years of parish financial records, and when he totaled up all the money we've given to Hesed House, Habitat for Humanity, Nets for Life, and more, he came up with this phenomenal amount. Ten years ago, we didn't even have the 140 families we have now to support a figure like this.

What does that tell us about our parish family? We are a giving group. We want to help others, especially those who are in real need. We care. We always have, and I think we always will. So do you feel you are giving and caring? You probably pledge, and very likely, you have given to a youth group or choir fundraiser. You read through the list of our parish prayer requests in The Pulse on Sundays, and very likely, you send out a birth-day wish to a friend when you see the big day approaching. But, what else are you called to do?

Many, many of us volunteer. You may have helped with baked goods for a funeral, given

a few hours to organize the rummage sale, or served guests at the monthly spaghetti dinner. Have you helped pull weeds or rake leaves for a church clean-up? That time you have given should be considered too! Using the figure of \$10 an hour, how much more have we given? Probably more than we have imagined. For example, if we have five people preparing food on a Wednesday night for soup kitchen the next day, and we spend 90 minutes cooking, that's worth about \$75. Add to that the 10 people who prep and serve for four hours on Thursday at Trinity in Aurora, that's another \$400! Of course it's not tax-deductible (although your mileage is), but it's another way of looking at all the things we do to give back to our community and other people and programs in need all over the world.

So what does this mean for us today? That we should be proud of what we've done in the past?

Yes and no. (Remember the "Seven Deadly Sins?!") We have done many wonderful deeds, but we're finding that in our busy, stressful world, finding the time and money to support our ministries is sometimes difficult. Take our relationship with Hesed House, which we have historically supported by giving our time and dollars. This year the dollars were cut, and now the number of volunteers is dwindling. When an experienced member of the congregation leaves a position like this in a volunteer ministry, due to a change in job status or retirement, who will take over?

The Heartbeat of St. Charles' Episcopal Church

A church with a big heart, shining the light of Christ, joyfully serving others.

630.584.2596

scecoffice@sbcglobal.net

www.stcharlesepiscopal.org



Clergy Notes

*“As for me, I was thinking not about death,
but about not wanting to be separated from my father. . . ”*
Elie Wiesel, from *Night*

Greetings.

I just re-read Elie Wiesel’s small book *Night*. In it, the young Elie recounts his death camp experiences during World War II. So much suffering, so much death, so much fear—and yet, all the young Elie focuses on is not getting separated from his father.

I find his tenacity to achieve that goal tragic and courageous, but more than that, I find it an apt metaphor for our own community. Even though the young Elie is referring to not being separated from his earthly father, we should take notice of his simple focus. IT’s a simple goal: not to be separated.

We have said goodbye to many of our loved ones in this parish: Those who have died, those who have moved away, and those who have left our community for reasons we do not understand. Each loss is painful. As Christians, we come together in community to remind each other that God has promised never to leave us or forsake us.

As we walk through these months of summer, perhaps you are not in church as much as you are at the rest of the year. We miss you! And, yet, at the same time, we know that God goes with you in all your travels. As you live into God’s exhortation to Sabbath time, remember to worship and give thanks for our Father Who can never be taken from us. Give thanks, as we give thanks for you, and for your loved ones.

Grace and peace,

Deacon Liz



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