

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Children's, Youth & Family Ministries

*That which we have heard and known,
and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from our children.*

*We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of God,
and the wonderful works God has done.*

Psalm 78:3-4

June 13, 2010

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Vol. 2, Issue 38

From Mary Anthony

Welcome to summer! Starting today during the first half of our 10:00 am service the children in grades Pre-K through 3rd will enjoy Children's Storytime and activities each week with two parent volunteers downstairs in the Godly Play rooms. They will join their parents in church at The Peace. This week's parent volunteers are Kim and Sean Hennigan. There are still spaces to sign up to volunteer for Children's Storytime during the months of July and August on the Christian Education Bulletin Board. Materials will be provided for you. On Sundays that there are no volunteers the children will attend church with their parents.

Remember that our Vacation Bible School "A Wrinkle In Time" is this month. June 28 to July 2 to be exact. I am still in need of some volunteers. Come enjoy a fun filled adventure with our children as we travel through time to different planets and meet some amazing characters. Meet the Murray family, Meg, Charles Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Murray, Calvin, Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs Who, the Prime Coordinator, the Happy Medium and Aunt Beast. Learn how God has made each of us unique and special and find out what your God given gift is.

This week we are meeting Monday and Tuesday evenings, June 14 and 15 at 6:00 pm to finish up the prep work for VBS. Nursery will be provided for those who need it. I will provide pizza and raw

veggies and dip if others will provide drinks and dessert. Let me know if you will be here.

Collect for Sunday

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



☪ Sunday Schedule ☪

- 9:00am - Nursery opens
- 9:30am - Classes for 4th - 12th grade
- 9:30am - Godly Play Choir
- 9:45am - Godly Play Class (Pre-K - 3rd grade)
Coffee and Conversation for Adults (CR)
- 10:00am - Holy Eucharist
*Children join their parents in
Church at the Peace*
- 11:45am - Youth Choir

Nursery

Unless otherwise noted, the Nursery is open from 9:00 am until the end of the **10am** service. Please sign your child in and out, and remain in the building in case of an emergency. Our Nursery Attendant is **Cara Mickens**. Please come meet Cara.

Godly Play - (Pre-k - 3rd Grade)

The Godly Play classrooms are located on the ground floor of the Church. Seasons of the Spirit curriculum is used but taught in the Godly Play manner of storytelling and wondering by **Director of Religious Education, Mary Anthony**. Following the story time and wondering the children are encouraged to do their own creative work. **Mary** is assisted by **Melinda Rucinski** and one other assistant rotating in each week. During the summer months parent volunteers do Children's Storytime and Activities during the first part of the 10:00 am service. Visit them in the classrooms. If you would like to make a difference in the lives of some great children and have fun doing it, contact Mary Anthony about assisting on a rotating basis in the Godly Play class. See the sign-up calendar on the Christian Education Bulletin Board.

Intermediate (4th - 5th Grade)

The Intermediate classroom is located on the ground floor of the Church. The curriculum for this age level is Seasons of the Spirit, which is Lectionary Based. Children in these grades attend church during the summer months.

Middle School & High School (6th - 12th Grade)

The Middle and High School classroom is located on the ground floor of Canterbury House next to the stairs. The curriculum for this age level is Seasons of the Spirit, which is Lectionary based. Our Middle School and High School students attend church during the summer months. Please check the sign up sheet to volunteer in this class for the 2010-2011 school year.

Youth Group (6th Grade & Up)

The Youth Group meets at St. Paul's on Wed. evenings at 7pm beginning on September 16. Led by **Mary Anthony** and **Pam Ruesch**.

Children's Ministry Committee

Mary Anthony, Nicole Beech, Heather Coyle, Fr. Eric Funston, Kim & Sean Hennigan, Jeff & Melanie Ivey, Chris Morris, and Melinda & Steve Rucinski.

For Parents

THE BLESSING OF HAVING OF HAVING SOMEONE TO LOOK UP TOO *Teaching Honor Beyond The Family*

Wendy Mogel, Ph.D. writes, "'*Derech erez* (the way of the land) means etiquette and good manners in its narrowest sense, and standards for honorable, dignified behavior in its broadest. The sages taught that if the Jewish people demonstrate the virtue of *derech erez* yet don't fulfill any other Torah principle, they will still receive merit from God. *Derech erez* teaches us to always be sensitive to the feelings of others. Opportunities to practice *derech erez* include greeting people, inviting them into our homes, and speaking about other people in a respectful way whether or not they are within earshot.

Judaism is very big on social niceties because they are considered an essential element of a stable and wholesome community. We are taught to greet another person first even if it means crossing the street to catch him, so that he will not for a moment think we are trying to avoid him. Greetings can be seen as a polite gesture or as something larger, a symbol of our desire to honor each of God's human creations every chance we get. Teaching children how to give and receive greetings then becomes a lesson not just in manners but also in spiritual generosity.

Both adults and children often feel awkward when meeting new people, but adults have learned strategies for overcoming their awkwardness. Young children who bury their head in your leg and refuse to utter a word are not insulting anyone, but children six and up need to learn strategies for handling the natural bashfulness they feel. Otherwise, their downcast eyes and silence will be read as rudeness. With some children these social skills come easily, especially if they see you practicing them regularly. For other boys and girls, overcoming shyness can be quite difficult. You can teach your child how to greet others by using a few tips from etiquette books. There are just four basic rules. Teach your child to:

- Make eye contact. A trick to look to see the color of the other persons eyes.
- Begin a greeting with the person's name: "Hi Sara," "Hello Mrs. Smith."
- Smile
- Tolerate small talk with grace."

From "*The Blessing Of A Skinned Knee*" by Wendy Mogel, Ph.D
A Parents' Discussion Guide

In Church School this week::

Each week, the children's and youth Sunday School classes focus on a passage from Scripture. These follow the same Revised Common Lectionary that provides readings for Sunday services. We use a curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*, to tailor a lesson for each class that is interactive, fun and age appropriate. This section features the **Scripture learned that week in Sunday School, along with some questions to ask about during the week.**

Focus Scripture: 1 Kings 21:1-10, (11-14), 15-21a

The following events took place: Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria. And Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard, so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money." But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give you my ancestral inheritance." Ahab went home resentful and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him; for he had said, "I will not give you my ancestral inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned away his face, and would not eat.

His wife Jezebel came to him and said, "Why are you so depressed that you will not eat?" He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard for it'; but he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'" His wife Jezebel said to him, "Do you now govern Israel? Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who lived with Naboth in his city. She wrote in the letters, "Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the assembly; seat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them bring a charge against him, saying, 'You have cursed God and the king.' Then take him out, and stone him to death." [The men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them. Just as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them, they proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the assembly. The two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him; and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." So they took him outside the city, and stoned him to death. Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned; he is dead."]

As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, "Go, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead." As soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying: Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession. You shall say to him, "Thus

says the LORD: Have you killed, and also taken possession?" You shall say to him, "Thus says the LORD: In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood."

Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, I will bring disaster on you."

What's it all about?

Threads of legal rights, royal authority, and God's command to enact justice from a tangled web in this account of Naboth's vineyard. The story opens in Jezreel, near Mt. Gilboa in the northern kingdom of Israel, the site of the summer palace of King Ahab. The vineyard of Naboth borders the palace grounds; King Ahab wants to plant a vegetable garden there. Verse 2 reports what seems to modern readers to be a fair offer for the land. However, this vineyard is Naboth's ancestral land, and the legal tradition in ancient Israel restricted its sale. Naboth refuses to sell the land.

Verses 4-5 report that King Ahab pouts. Jezebel, Ahab's Phoenician wife, is baffled by her husband's failure to take what he desires. Jezebel takes action on her husband's behalf, enacting a scheme for "two scoundrels" to testify that Naboth is guilty of cursing "God and the king," an offence punishable by death.

After Naboth's death, Jezebel presents Ahab with the vineyard. God then sends Elijah to confront Ahab. Elijah served as God's prophet in the northern kingdom of Israel in the 9th century BCE, when King Ahab, influenced by Jezebel, seemed to be encouraging elements of pagan worship in Israel. Ahab clearly considered Elijah a nemesis, referring to Elijah as "my enemy" and "troubler of Israel. Elijah declares to Ahab: "You have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the Lord." Ahab is ultimately responsible for Naboth's death and will face God's judgement.

Questions:

Ask & wonder about:

? What does it mean for daily living that God cares about our actions and expects us to act in ways that are just and life-giving ?

? How will you – as an individual and as a church – choose justice ?

Prayer

God of justice, forgive our tendency to the self-centred planting of seeds of deceit and strife. Make us bold to speak and act against all injustice with courage and conviction, trusting in your bountiful mercy, in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Meditation

Give ear to my words, O LORD; *
consider my meditation.

Hearken to my cry for help, my King and my God,
*
for I make my prayer to you.

In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; *
early in the morning I make my appeal and watch
for you.

For you are not a God who takes pleasure in
wickedness, *
and evil cannot dwell with you.

Braggarts cannot stand in your sight; *
you hate all those who work wickedness.

You destroy those who speak lies; *
the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O LORD, you abhor.

But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy
I will
go into your house; *
I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe
of you.

Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness,
because of those who lie in wait for me; *
make your way straight before me.

~Psalm 5

Happy Birthday...

Nathan Demers (6/10)



Planning Ahead

Sunday, June 13

- Nursery opens at 9:00 am
- Godly Play Music Rehearsal, 9:45 am
- Children's Storytime, 10:00 am

Wednesday, June 16

- Eucharist, 6:30 pm
- Adult Study Group, 7:00 pm
- No Youth Group

Monday, June 28 – Friday, July 2

- Vacation Bible School, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Dare To Be Different" based on "A Wrinkle
In Time". Volunteers needed!!!

Contact Information

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Acolyte Reminders!

June 13: Jeffrey Demers and Nicholas Coyle

June 20: Carly Papesh and Hannah Rucinski