

# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## 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 6, 2010

Second Sunday After  
Pentecost

Vol. 2, Issue 37

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### From Mary Anthony

Well here we are at the end of another Sunday School year. Where has the time gone. Today we celebrate with our Children's Service followed by our Annual Church Picnic. There is a lot of fun to be had by all. Besides an inflatable for everyone to enjoy there will be games for everyone of all ages. You may want to bring a change of clothes as you are apt to get wet with some of the games.

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 many volunteers. I will be cruising the crowd today to recruit volunteers for that week. I will have registration forms for your children too. 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.

Children's Storytime starts next Sunday, June 13. There are sign-up sheets for 2 volunteers for each Sunday. Please consider of giving of your time to this important ministry. Materials will be provided for you. On Sundays that there are no volunteers the children will attend church with their parents. I will be circulating these sheets today also.

### Collect for Sunday

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



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### ☸ Sunday Schedule ☸

- 9:00am - Nursery opens
- 9:30am - Classes for 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- 9:30am - Godly Play Choir
- 9:45am - Godly Play Class (Pre-K - 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 (4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 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 (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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 (6<sup>th</sup> 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 Your Children To Respect Your Privacy*

Continued from last week on the discussion of children respecting your privacy, Wendy Mogel, Ph.D. writes, ""Two clients of mine, Jon and Elizabeth, were having problems of privacy with their five-year old daughter, Hannah. For about three months, Hannah had been climbing into their bed every night between midnight and 2 A.M. When I questioned them about this routine, they admitted it had all started when Jon had been out of town on business and Elizabeth, feeling lonely, had allowed Hannah to sleep in her bed one night. Seeing a break in the usual set of house rules, Hannah came back night after night, complaining of sleeplessness and general misery. Hannah was suffering from an emotional disorder. They kept their bedroom door open at night, "so Hannah won't have to knock." "You're not worried about her interrupting you while you're having sex?" I asked.

"Well, frankly, we've been so concerned about Hannah's sleeping problem that we haven't been focusing on that aspect of things too much," confessed Elizabeth.

"Three months. Hmmm. What's it like having your sleep disturbed every night?"

I'm really tired all the time, but I'm more worried about Hannah. I think she must be having nightmares. Why else would she wake up like this every single night?"

"I think she wakes herself up. She's got a sweet-deal. I'm not very worried about Hannah, but I'm starting to worry about your lack of privacy. If you let this go on too long we may all need to start worrying about your marriage."

At first Elizabeth tried the "reasonable" tactic and told Hannah that she would get a better night's sleep in her own bed. Hannah assured her mother that she actually slept better with Mommy and Daddy. Then Elizabeth took an approach that felt unnatural because she was so used to focusing on what was best for Hannah as opposed to what was best for her and Jon. She told her daughter, "You'll have to start sleeping in your own bed so that Daddy and I can have our privacy." Later Elizabeth realized that this was better for Hannah as well. Once she and Jonathan were well rested, they became calmer, more patient parents, and Hannah learned a lesson about the dignity and rights of adults.

You can do it too. You can make your bedroom a sanctuary that is off-limits to children who haven't knocked and been invited in.""

*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 17:8-16, (17-24)**

The word of the LORD came to Elijah, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

[After this, the son of the woman, the mistress of the house at Zarephath, became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. She then said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!" But he said to her, "Give me your son." He took him from her bosom, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him on his own bed. He cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?" Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again." The LORD listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." So the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth."]

### **What's it all about?**

The story of Elijah begins in 1 Kings 17. Elijah lived in the northern kingdom of Israel in the 9th century BCE, during the reign of King Ahab. In Jewish tradition, Elijah is considered second only to Moses in importance. The work of a biblical prophet was to discern what God

was saying and speak that word to the people - sometimes in dramatic action, sometimes in the transformation of ordinary everyday things.

Speaking God's word, Elijah tells King Ahab there will be drought. After this pronouncement God commands Elijah to travel to the Wadi Cherith, east of the Jordan River. God sends ravens to provide Elijah with bread there. When the water at Wadi Cherith dries up, God sends Elijah to Zarephath, a town in the Gentile region of Sidon, where God has "commanded a widow there to feed you."

Elijah is hungry when he arrives in Zarephath, and asks a widow for bread and water. Widows in biblical times were in a very precarious position, without secure means of support and without standing in society. This particular widow is gathering wood for the fire to cook all her remaining food, expecting that she and her son will then die. In spite of such incredible scarcity, the widow responds with what she has. Just as God fed Elijah through the ravens in the wilderness, so God provides for Elijah, the widow, and her son through the widow's gift. The widow's small remaining portion is transformed into an unlimited supply of flour and oil. Ordinary things become life-giving.

Then the woman's son - on whom she will rely for support in her old age - becomes ill and dies. Elijah argues with God, and God hears Elijah's cry. Elijah breathes life into the son; God restores the child's life. God's compassion extends not just to Israel, but to Gentile regions as well. This widow, who is God's instrument in providing for Elijah, confesses her faith in the word of God.

### **Questions:**

Ask & wonder about:

? Where is the intersection between God's presence and care and human ministry and witness most visible in your community ?

? In what ways is the call to discipleship a call to act with courageous compassion for the sake of those who are in peril ?

### **Prayer**

God of power and grace, open our hearts to know your care for us. Sustain us and give us generous spirits, that we may extend your compassion to others. *Amen.*

## Meditation

Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! \*

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!\*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

~Psalm 146

## Happy Birthday...

Abigail Raitano (6/07)



## Planning Ahead

### Sunday, June 6

- Nursery opens at 9:00 am
- Godly Play Music Rehearsal, 9:15 am
- Youth Choir Rehearsal, 9:15 am
- Children's Service today, 10:00 am
- Annual Church Picnic and activities for children and youth of all ages following 10:00 am service.

### Wednesday, June 9

- Eucharist, 6:30 pm
- Adult Study Group, 7:00 pm
- Youth Group, 7:00 pm

### 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 6: Jessica Syme and Julia Syme

June 13: Jeffrey Demers and Nicholas Coyle