

# THE EPISTLE

June 2011

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH – Medina, Ohio  
*Where Relationships Are Nurtured*

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St. Paul's Epistle is published monthly by the People of  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Medina, Ohio.  
We invite you to join us for worship, fellowship, and spiritual exploration  
in a welcoming and nurturing community.

## RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS: THE UNBINDING & VISIONING PROCESSES CONTINUE

This (edited to remove some awful, glaring typographical errors!) is the *Rector's Reflection* I wrote for the May 2010 issue of *St. Paul's Epistle*. I decided to publish it again because it's still true and has even more application now that we have finished another round of studying Martha Grace Reese's **Unbinding Your Heart** and started on a Capital Funding Feasibility Study.

### What Is A Vision?

In Eugene Peterson's paraphrase version of Holy Scripture called **The Message**, he renders a portion of the Prophet Habakkuk's prophecy this way:

And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming; it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." (*Habakkuk 2:2-3*)

The first half of Proverbs 29:18 in the Authorized version reminds us that "Where there is no vision, the people perish...."

In seven years time, April 2017 [now less than six years away], St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Medina, Ohio, will be 200 years old. We will have much to look back over and to celebrate. Gwendolyn Eagleson does a wonderful job of reminding us of our history, both long-ago and more recent. We are very grateful to her for that ministry for it keeps us reminded of and connected to our foundation on the good works many.

That foundation provides us a good vantage point, not so much to look backward at our history as to look forward to our future. Sir Isaac Newton once wrote to a friend, "If I have seen a little further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." Sir Isaac, in turn, was quoting an aphorism of the early medieval scholar Bernard of Chartres. According to his student, John of Salisbury, "Bernard of Chartres used to say that we are like dwarfs on the shoulders of giants, so that we can see more than they, and things at a greater distance, not by virtue of any sharpness of sight on our part, or any physical distinction, but because we are carried high and raised up by their giant size."



I believe we have not only the opportunity, but the duty to look forward, a duty to have a vision "pointing to what's coming", a vision that "aches for the coming," that "can hardly wait!"

As one writer has noted, "A Vision is an ideal and unique image of the future. It answers the question, 'What should we become?' How would you finish this question: 'If anything is possible, if there no restraints whatsoever, our church ideally would be \_\_\_\_\_'?"

A Vision is not a goal. Goals are good. We should have goals. Challenging goals help us to keep on doing what we have been doing, only more of it or getting better at it: win more games, get better grades, build nicer buildings, increase attendance at worship, broaden our musical horizons, serve more hungry people through Free Farmers' Market.

A few years ago, a couple of business writers suggested that business organizations should have what they called "Big Hairy Audacious Goals" or "BHAGs". They defined a BHAG this way: "A true BHAG is clear and compelling, serves as a unifying focal point of effort, and acts as a clear catalyst for team spirit. It has a clear finish line, so the organization can know when it has achieved the goal; people like to shoot for finish lines." (Collins and Porras, *Building Your Company's Vision*, 1996)

Goals are great! BHAGs are super! And it is said that goals, even the biggest and hairiest of them should be **SMART**, which means that a goal is **Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound**.

But a Vision is something different. A Vision is something that speaks to us so powerfully that those who hold it can say with conviction, "If we could achieve that, my life would have the deepest meaning?"

Where a goal keeps us doing what we've been doing, a Vision propels us to a different place, to a future radically different from the past. It has been said that the difference between a goal and Vision is continuity – a goal is continuous is the past, which a vision is radically discontinuous, a Vision gives us a compelling picture of a new tomorrow.

### The Next Hundred Years

A few days ago [*last year, actually*] the Senior Warden and his wife, Ray and Vicki Sizemore, took Evelyn and

me to dinner at a local oriental restaurant. Predictably, our very pleasant time together ended with Fortune Cookies. My fortune was this: "If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you've always gotten."

WOW!

Could there have been a clearer statement of the need for a Vision for one's life or one's business ... or one's church? I don't think so! If we simply change the word "you" to "the church" in that fortune cookie aphorism, the result is compellingly stark:

IF THE CHURCH KEEPS DOING WHAT IT'S ALWAYS DONE, THE CHURCH WILL KEEP GETTING WHAT IT'S ALWAYS GOTTEN.

Back in 1988, the Bishops of the Anglican Communion and, with them, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, declared that the 1990s would be the "Decade of Evangelism." To quote a recent politician, "How'd that go for ya?" Do you remember the church doing a lot of evangelism? Do you remember a lot of growth happening in the Episcopal Church during the 1990s? If you do, please tell the rest of us about it, because I sure don't remember it! The Bishops and the Convention may have made a declaration, but the church kept doing what it had always done, and it kept getting what it had always gotten ... at least what it had gotten since about 1965 – decreasing membership and increasing irrelevance to the lives of those around it.

Why wasn't the Decade of Evangelism successful? Because it wasn't compelled by a Vision. Recently, I wrote a note to a clergy friend with whom I was discussing our history of evangelistic success or lack thereof. This is what I wrote:

What I recall is "The Decade of Evangelism" being declared by the General Convention and then practically nobody, from "815" (i.e., our national headquarters) on down, actually doing anything about it. A few "progressive" parishes did some good work of evangelism and grew, and a few more "conservative" congregations did some good work of evangelism and grew, but for the most part the Episcopal Church just said, "We're going to grow in this decade" and then sat back and assumed the rest of the world would invite itself to know Jesus.

What that experience proves, of course, is that it doesn't matter whether a particular parish is progressive or conservative. What matters is whether the people in that parish learn how to tell the story of their relationship with Jesus and

share that story with others. If we can do that, we grow; if we don't do that, we die. Whatever else we do isn't all that important if we're not doing that.

So how about this as a Vision for our future, as a Vision for St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Medina, Ohio, in the next hundred years?

My Vision for our parish is to be a community of people who know Jesus Christ personally, who know Jesus Christ so well that they can and do tell their story of knowing him to others wherever and whenever the opportunity presents itself, who know Jesus Christ so well that they recognize him in the neighbor who's struggling with a broken marriage, in the homeless person on the street, in the hungry family whose monthly income has run out a week before the next paycheck and who have nothing to feed the kids!

My Vision for our parish is to be a community of disciples who follow Jesus so closely that we're practically treading on his heels and who are so happy and joyful doing so that others, to whom we shout out invitations to join us, want to do exactly that because they can see that we're on to something!

My Vision for our parish is to be a community of worshipers of every generation who know and tell all sorts of faith stories, who know and sing all sorts of music, who celebrate and share the Holy Eucharist as if it were (as it is!) the greatest party we've ever been to, who sometimes have to stand up during worship, not because the Prayer Book rubrics say to do so but because there are no seats left in the Nave!

My Vision for our parish is to be a community of Easter People who know the Real Presence of our Risen Lord among us and who share his presence with the world around us!

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen! The Lord Is Risen Indeed!  
Alleluia!

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Since I wrote that *Reflection*, the Vestry and vision committee spent several months working on a core purpose statement, a "big hairy audacious goal", and a vision statement, and they have started working with architect David Krebs and consultant Michael Davis on a master plan for the parish property.

This is an exciting time at St. Paul's Parish!

Continued Easter Blessings to everyone!

Fr. Eric+

*Fr. Eric*

Rector

## WARDEN'S WANDERINGS: ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

### Wardens Wanderings – June – July

As you are aware, our vestry is moving forward with the Visioning Process. I am viewing this not so much as change but rather transformation. After much discussion during the past two years, it was felt that if we didn't take a leap of faith at this time it might never happen.

There is so much energy and desire in our parish to continue and expand our ministries not only within our parish family but to our community as well. However, the physical limitations of our building hamper these efforts. Space and accessibility are issues. We need to

respond to this challenge with faith and listen to the Holy Spirit.

If we open our hearts the Holy Spirit will lead us, empower us, speak through us and reveal what has been given to us by God.

Yours in faith,

*Barbara Baird*

Senior Warden 2011

## LESSONS FROM CHILDREN

The Second Sunday of Easter was special. Six baptisms, two First Communion, and a packed house. We ran out of parking places, we ran out of bulletins and to top this off, and we had noise maker thingies. And like usual, Eric had his very pointed and educational sermon. Can it get any better than this? Well it can and it did for me.



This was 'Children service' Sunday and the young children were busy running the show: Passing out bulletins, doing the readings and bringing up the oblations. But something caught my eye on the second reading. One of our children was in front of the

congregation reading ... Then there was a problem, something happened, she lost her place, she ran into a word she didn't know, who knows. And there was a pause, a moment of silence followed by 'Oh my God'. Mary Anthony came to her rescue, got her on track and she completed reading in fine fashion.

So you might say what's the big deal? Well, here is what I saw. ...

I saw a person out of her conform zone ...

I saw a person stumble and get some help ...

I saw a person continue on with a smile ...

I saw a person grow as a Christian and person ...

I asked myself when was the last time I went out of my comfort zone, stumbled, got up and then grow.

Although Father Eric is a great educator, I'd say he met his match this Sunday.

*Ray Sizemore*

## ***JUNE EUCHARISTIC VISITATION***

### ***Eucharist Visitation Teams***

Pastoral Eucharistic Visitation offered to our sick or shut-in members by our team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors (whether at home, in the hospital, or in a skilled nursing facility) is a vital ministry of the congregation. It allows parishioners who are unable to attend church because of illness or other reasons to share in our common life and our fellowship at God's table. Our shut-in members residing in area nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities receive regularly scheduled visits.

Our Lay Eucharist Visitors work as teams:

- Team I* Kim Kelly, Betty Bres, and Linda Darling
- Team II* Hildegard Bender, Jeff Berno, and Susan Muffet
- Team III* Evelyn Funston, Sandra Herbst, and Mary Anthony

### ***Scheduled Visitations***

Scheduled to make Communion Visits this month are the following:

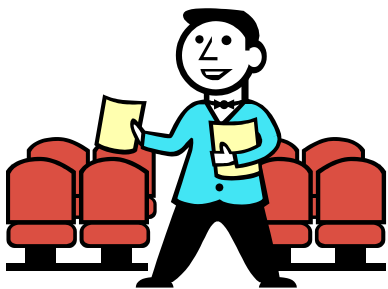
- June 5** – Team I visiting Nancy Lawrence
- June 12** – Team II visiting Eileen Harrington
- June 19** – Team III visiting Nancy Lawrence
- June 26** – Team I visiting Eileen Harrington

### ***Additional Visits***

Kim Kelly is our coordinator for our lay pastoral visiting ministry. If you know of someone who cannot attend church because of a chronic or acute illness, or for other reasons, please contact us at the church by phone (330-725-4131) or email (coffice@stpauls-medina.org). We would also be delighted to share with you the joys of this ministry; if you are interested in learning more about Lay Eucharistic Visitation, please contact Kim Kelly by leaving a message for her with the Church Office.



## USHERS SERVING IN JUNE



I want to thank all the ushers for helping members and newcomers feel comfortable, welcomed and directed. Greeting people in a warm way makes them feel good about their presence in church. Thanks for being a great welcomer to the House of God. Your heartwarming smile and help allows everyone to have a more enjoyable experience.

### *Serving This Month*

**June 5** – Sunday School Children assisted by Sean Hennigan & Don Powell

**June 12** – Tim Stamper & Patti Papesh

**June 19** – Jack & Rose Hose

**June 26** – Susan & Paul Bunner

### *Become an Usher or Greeter*

Ushering is a vital part of our church; ushers represent the church in a very visible way, and help set the tone in preparation for the worship service, as well as assist with the smooth operation throughout the service. If you would like to be an usher, please let me know.

Thanks and blessings,

*Sean Hennigan*

Usher Coordinator

## EPISCOPAL YOUTH CLUB (EYC)

June is Graduation time and we congratulate our High School Seniors Jeff Demers and Carly Papesh. We wish you the best as you continue your education and hope you fulfill your dreams. We will miss you when you leave for college. Congratulations also to Jeff on his Eagle Scout Award.

The youth will continue to meet throughout the summer as our schedules allow. We will meet this month on June 1, 8 and 15. We will continue with dinner at 6:00 pm followed by Eucharist at 6:30 p.m. and then 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, June 21, Juliana Powell, Seth Lisi and I will leave for St. Paul, Minnesota to attend the Episcopal Youth Event for High School students. We will join twenty other youth and five other adults from our Diocese. This is an event held every three years and Episcopal Youth from all over the world will come together to meet, socialize, pray and worship together. We will be gone from the June 21 until June 30. The last three days of our trip will be a Mission Trip in the



greater St. Paul area. Please keep us in your prayers as we meet new people and continue to do God's work.

We are very excited about our upcoming Mission Trip next month to Franklin, PA. To date we will be joined by youth from Christ Church, Kent, Christ Church, Oberlin, St. Andrew's, Elyria, Good Shepherd, Lyndhurst, St. Matthew's, Brecksville and Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland. We will leave on July 14 and return on July 20. Reverend Julie Fisher will do the send-off service from Christ Church, Kent. Many of us are anxious to visit the people whose homes we worked on last year. We want to check in on them and see how they are doing. We hope to help many other families this year with repairs around their homes. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they prepare for this Mission Trip.

Have a wonderful summer!

In Christ's Service,

*Mary Anthony*

Youth Group Advisor

## JUNE COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



Two families are needed to cover each of two Sundays this month. The hosts' duties are simple; they are as follows:

- (a) Set up the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour including brewing the coffee, setting out juices for children, etc.;
- (b) Provide juices and treats (cookies, cakes, fresh veggies, cheese plate, snacks ... whatever – the nature of the treats is up to the hosts);
- (c) Clean up afterward.

**We are in need of some volunteers for the end of the month.**

The following parishioners have volunteered to host on Sunday mornings this month:

- June 5** ..... Sunday School parents  
**June 12** ..... Carol Goslee & ???  
**June 19** ..... *Volunteers Needed*  
**June 26** ..... *Volunteers Needed*

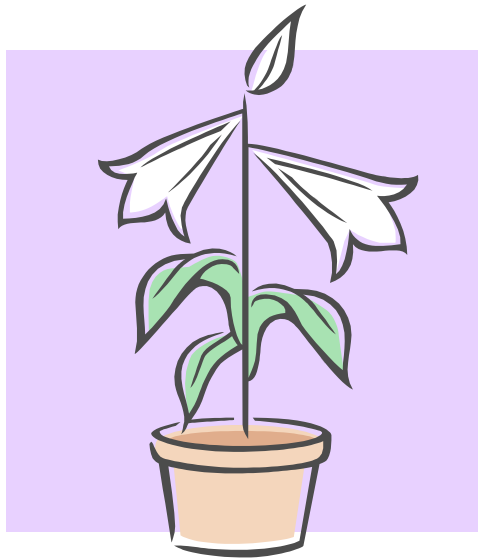
If you can be a part of a team for a Sunday, please sign up on the sheet in the Church Hallway.

## WORSHIP

**HALLELUJAH! The Lord is Risen Indeed!!!!**

What a wonderful Easter Celebration we had, with Easter Season ending on June 5. On June 12, Pentecost Sunday, we will use the Handprint Hangings that the youth made a few years ago, with Fr. Vince Black as our guest presider, as Fr. Eric and Evelyn will be in Kansas for the ordination of their son, Patrick, into the Sacred Order of Deacons. What an exciting time for Patrick and a proud time for Fr. Eric and Evelyn.

I enjoyed a different type of "worship" last month when I spent two Thursdays potting all the lilies, tulips and hyacinths that were enjoyed in the church on Easter Sunday into various beds on the property. (Thank you to Carol Goslee for her assistance!) I always feel closer to God when I am doing gardening work, and



bless his Holy Name for the opportunity to enjoy the beauty he shares with all of us.

One of the songs we will be singing on June 5 is: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, a favorite of mine from childhood:

All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small.  
All things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all".

Our June worship will feature a wonderful selection of hymns to be enjoyed during our worship. May we all enjoy the wonderful music and use those "shaky things" when appropriate.

Faithfully,

*Kim Kelly*

Worship Committee Member

## BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER

*The following is adapted from Advocates to End Domestic Violence:*

One of the largest barriers a community faces in its effort to eliminate domestic violence is the need to address and overcome the deep-seated myths our society holds about victims of domestic violence, their life circumstances, and their level of responsibility for the abuse. Below is a statement to better clarify the realities.

Statement: **Domestic violence is a problem, but only in low income families.**

Response: **False:** Domestic violence has been documented in both rural and urban areas, in affluent and low income areas and in families from every religion. This statement is a myth based on many statistics that come from shelters and other domestic violence programs. Domestic violence victims from families with low incomes have no choice but to use the local shelters. On the other hand, persons with sufficient cash can stay in local hotels, take vacations away from the abuser or stay with family members and friends. The truth is domestic violence is a problem everywhere.

Please remember the Battered Women's Shelter **CAN NOT ACCEPT** the following items:

- Stuffed animals without new tags
- Sample/Trial hotel size items
- Any open items
- Expired over the counter medications or food items
- Clothing without new tags

**Please help those who are victims of domestic violence by donating Aluminum Foil, Plastic Wrap or Ziploc Bags. Toilet paper and bleach can always be used by the Shelter.**

Donations may be placed in the **red box** on the table in the downstairs cloakroom area. All donations are gratefully appreciated and acknowledged by the Shelter.

Faithfully yours,

*Susan Bunner*

Shelter Liaison

## A SPECIAL HYMN

After singing in the choir for four and a half years I've acquired a "Top Ten" list of hymn favorites. One of them has a story behind it. It's the hymn (#383) – *Fairest Lord Jesus*.

Every Summer I visit my mother who lives in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. On Sundays I attend Zion Episcopal Church, an English-style building (even older than St. Paul's Church) located on land jutting into a lake which is in the heart of this small city.

Once every summer a service is held outdoors in back of the building. There the congregation sits on folding chairs under huge trees with the water gently lapping along the shore. It's a very peaceful setting.



It was a beautiful, warm, sunny day the first time I attended this outdoor service. One of the hymns that day was *Fairest Lord Jesus*. Whenever I read or sing "Ruler of all Nature.... Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands", I remember that inspiring experience surrounded by God's beauty. The hymn's words reflected this beautiful setting.

Faithfully,

*Judy Delahoyde*

Choir Member

School is out in a few days and summer is officially here on the 21. I sure hope the weather turns dryer and warmer than it is now, as I write this. Another school year has flown by and now we get ready for summer activities and vacations. We have some activities here too at St. Paul's for our Sunday School children.

To start off our month we will have our monthly Children's Service on June 5 at the 10:00 am service. This will be our last monthly Children's Service until the first Sunday in October. We will continue with lively music on the first Sunday's of the month during the summer, for the children. The last day of Sunday School will be June 12.

**MARKETPLACE 29 A.D. "A Bibletimes Experience"** our Vacation Bible School program will be held the week of June 13 to 17. A unique experience is in store for our children and children in the community ages 3 to 11. During the week, a typical Bibletimes Marketplace will be set up on the grounds in front of and to the side of the church. From 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each morning children will relive Bibletimes events, exploring Bibletimes occupations and relationships. From family clusters with a mother figure in charge, the children will venture forth into the Marketplace, where they will participate in the activities of many and varied shops, such as baker, rope maker, carpenter, jeweler,

musician, potter, and many others. In addition, they will experience Bibletime songs, games and dances. Bible stories will be dramatized in their midst. Take advantage of this opportunity for your children to learn that the Bible is about real people and that Christianity is a living relationship with God. Registration forms are available in the Parish Hall at the VBS table or in the office. We will have our concluding VBS program on Sunday, June 19 at the 10:00 am service followed by our Annual Parish Picnic.

During the summer months while there is no Sunday School, a Children's Story-time will be offered each

Sunday for children in Pre-K to Second grades, during the first part of the 10:00 a.m. service. Volunteers are needed for each of these Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall at the VBS table. I hope many of you will sign up to help in this area. On Sundays when there are no volunteers, these children may either go to the Nursery or attend church with their parents.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe summer.

In Christ's service,

*Mary Anthony*

Director of Religious Education

## **MONTHLY CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

***June 5, 2011***

***10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service***

## FREE FARMERS' MARKET NEWS



*April: 187 Households (82 Seniors,  
260 Adults & 119 Children)*

*16,123 pounds of food Purchased YTD  
from the Akron Canton Regional  
Foodbank*

16,123 pounds of food is incredible! But what was it? We've distributed 880 lbs of apples, 3,280 lbs of chicken, 1,740 lbs of cookies and crackers, 658 lbs of cereal, 1,140 lbs of assorted meat, 624 lbs of oatmeal, 1,294 lbs of pasta and more canned goods than I can think of. It has been a wonderful first five months and I

believe that we are more than ready for the remainder of the year.

May 14 was the Post Office Stamp Out Hunger Campaign. Thank you to Don Powell for assisting in picking up donated items. We received over 18 boxes of non perishable items, all of which were distributed at our May 21 distribution.

Donated items requested for June:

*Paper Bags, Canned Soup, Jelly, Tuna*

Please put your donations (other than cash!) in the Shopping Cart in the main Church Hallway (outside the Parish Hall). The table in the cloakroom is now dedicated solely to the Battered Women's Shelter donations.

*Free Farmers' Market  
Wants Your Cans!!!*

Donated cans are crushed and recycled for cash. Don Powell also takes the tabs off which are donated to the Akron Children's Hospital to help patients on dialysis. Please leave your cans next to the downstairs coat closet.

Many blessings,

*Nick Magee*

Free Farmers' Market

## 2¢ -a-Meal Sunday

June 26, 2011

**Concert Series**

May was filled with the lilting sounds of the Oberlin Choristers Children's Choir at our *Fridays at St. Paul's Concert* and the Concert Doux at our *Brown Bag Concert*.

I wish to express a special thank you to Linda Garman and Melinda Rucinski for creating the wonderful brown bag lunches and "hats off" to Father Eric and Marguerite for their unwavering support of the Fridays at St. Paul's and Brown Bag Concert Series.

I also wish to express a special thank you to the good folks of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Medina for your attendance and support of these musical endeavors.

Watch for announcements in later newsletters of future concerts being planned. We are excited about the possibility of expanding the first Brown Bag Concert of the fall season on September 20 to include a display of selected artwork from our local elementary schools. We are looking forward to hearing the Baldwin Wallace Alumni Brass Collective at our first Fridays at St. Paul's Concert Series on November 4.

**Thanks to Our Choir**

I am sure that you would agree with me that as we come to a close of another season, a heartfelt thank you goes to our dedicated choirs and directors for sharing their delightful anthems of praise during the year. Our choirs will return in the fall. So if you play an instrument, sing a song or your family likes to sing together, play instruments together; why not share that on a summer Sunday morning. Let me know. I'll be glad to assist in any way I can.

**Music Concert**

Another thank you to St. Paul's Parish for sending me to a music conference at Maumee Bay the first three days of May. There were seven Episcopal priests and five musicians pondering, praying and singing God's gift of music. I can't recall the number of white sheets of paper that began to be taped around the meeting room as we considered what musical tools might be available to our congregations that would help facilitate a deeper, more enriching worship. One of the tools will begin in this newsletter. Look for an article by Judy Delahoyde who

will be sharing her thoughts and faith story about one of her favorite hymns.

I would like to conclude with an excerpt from an article in the February 2008 newsletter of our Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

*As Martin Luther stated, "I am not ashamed to confess publicly that next to theology there is no art which is the equal of music, for she alone, after theology can do what otherwise only theology can accomplish, namely quiet and cheer up the soul of man, which is clear evidence that the devil, the originator of*

*depressing worries and troubled thoughts, flees from the voice of music just as he flees from the words of theology...I truly desire that all Christians would love and regard as worthy the lovely gift of music, which is a precious, worthy and costly treasure given mankind by God...Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in this world."*

Musically,

*Bertie Stamper*

Music Director



## **JUNE MILESTONES, PRAYERS, AND THANKSGIVINGS**

*Please look over these lists:*

We have been praying for the health and comfort of many people, at the requests of parishioners, for many weeks. Are prayers still needed? Have they recovered? Have they entered larger life in God's Presence? Should we be offering thanks or petitioning God for their repose? Please let us know so that our prayers are not needlessly, or inappropriately, offered. *The names previously on the list were removed from this month because we were not asked to keep them on for another month.*

We offer thanks for marriages, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, and all sorts of events in our parishioners' lives? Have we missed any?

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### **Prayers Requested**

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Our National Church	Gwendolyn Eagleson	C.D. Mohola
Our Armed Forces	Michael Eagleson	Bill O'Connell
Our President & National Leaders	Frank Ehrman	Mary Papesh
Bob Anthony	Lynda Ericson	Martha & Harvey Petersen
Barbara Baird	Debbie Feeks	Sandy Pitts
Al Barge	Gabrielle Giffords	Don Powell
Early Bender	Sandra Herbst	Eileen Riffer
Jeff Bernow	Fr. Steve Huffstetter	Emma Ryan
Barbara Blair	Linda Irvin	Jane Scheel
Patti Buckelew	Paula Kampf	Bill Shiel
John Buchanan, Jr.	Bob Keller	Tim Stamper
Fr. Tony Clavier	Sandy Laubert	Charlie & Kathy Stehno
Bruce & Jan Davis	Nancy Lawrence	Bill Sternecker, Dec.
Susan Doraty	Alan Lincoln	Joe Styfurak
Darleen Duke	Betty Lincoln	Michelle Sullivan
Nate Dynkiewicz	Jill Lincoln	Howard Sunnell
Ashley Eagleson	Jim Manning	Don Udics
	Pat Mersol	Harold Wadsworth

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### **Milestones**

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**Ask God's Blessings on those celebrating birthdays this month:** Jamie Papesh (6/1); Tracy Radabaugh (6/2); Jessica Syme (6/4); Claire Foy (6/5); Abigail Raitano (6/7); Ron Skirpstas (6/13); Patti Papesh (6/15); Marial Bulmer (6/17); Nathan Demers (6/19); Dennis Foy (6/19); Sofia Morris (6/20); Hannah Rucinski (6/21); Audrey King (6/22); Jeff Berno (6/24); Nevada Johnson (6/24); Lois Eiseman (6/25); Vicki Sizemore (6/25); Sandra Herbst (6/26); Phil Brewer (6/30)

**Celebrate these wedding anniversaries:** Dave & Sherry Riffer (6/3); Greg & Linda Fisher (6/10); Don & Venette

Powell (6/10); Rick & Sherry King (6/11); Russ & Angie Huston (6/15); Sean & Kim Hennigan (6/17); Brian & Rebecca Marple (6/20); Don & Barbara Moore (6/21); and Tim & Diane Scheel (6/25).

**Pray for these couples preparing for Holy Matrimony:** Shelley & Craig

**Pray for those expecting new births:** Kim & Sean Hennigan; Jennifer & Steve Leider; Nick & Siân Magee; Victoria & Colt Robben; and Stefanie & Michael Tolar.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The May ECW meeting welcomed Jackie Papesh as our guest speaker. Jackie spoke about her several ministries to an orphanage in Tanzania. She and other College age volunteers have been supplying materials for the children and the orphanage as well as physical labor. She is returning to Tanzania for an extension of this mission of love this summer to continue the work on a new building for the orphanage. The women were so taken by her dedication, that they voted to give her \$500 to be used towards her travel expense.

May is traditionally the month we disburse funds to our community outreach ministries. This year we donated \$250 to Youth for Christ, \$150 to Birthcare of Medina and \$150 to Camp Paradise. We have pledged \$100 to

the Bricks for Haiti campaign. All of our outreach is financed by our annual St. Nicholas Tea.

In June we will be going to the Kent State Museum of Fashion Design, followed by lunch at Pofferbelly. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board beside the dining room. We will be carpooling from St. Paul's at 10:45 a.m. on Wednesday, June 8.

Have a safe and joyful summer.

*Barbara Baird*

ECW President 2010-2011

## PARISH HISTORY: MISSION TRIP TO TANZANIA

Last year in the newsletter was a write up from Jackie Papesh on her trip to Tanzania, Africa. She will be leaving in June again for a visit! Any donation would be greatly appreciated. This will be her life's work for several years of helping there and staying after college this fall. She spoke at the ECW meeting in May and we all learned how they live and how in need they are. How we do count our blessings here in the United States of America and thank God for people like her.

Blessings,

*Gwendolyn Eagleson*

Historian

### Letter from Jackie

It is hard to believe that it has almost been a year since my last trip to Tanzania. These last ten months have proven monumental in the construction of our new children's home. When I left last September, we had just finished hacking away at the land, clearing bushes and mounds of dirt to level the ground for the breaking of construction. I am so happy to say that as of today, we have a structure! The whole building has been completed sans windows and a roof.

I am also blessed and extremely overjoyed to be given the opportunity to return again this summer, and pick up where I left off. I am so grateful for the support I have

been given to continue with what I feel is my life's calling. I thank God for the path he has set for me, and always allowing me and watching over me to continue in the right direction.



As we are all pleased with the first phase complete, there is still a lot more work to be done to finish the building and make this house a home for the amazing children who desperately need and deserve it.

If anyone has any questions, would like more information or would like to make a donation please feel free to speak with me or contact me at 330-421-2943.

The children and I thank you for your continued support.

*Jackie Papesh*

## EUCCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS IN JUNE



### *Serving This Month*

Scheduled to serve as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Acolytes this month are the following. (Note to assistants: This may differ from the chart you were sent; please go by this newsletter.)

#### **June 5 – Children’s Service**

8:00 am	Ted Freas (1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson), Barbara Baird (2 <sup>nd</sup> & LEM), Don Moore (PoP & LEM)
10:00 am	Sunday School Children as Lectors, Mary Anthony, Carol Goslee & Evelyn Funston as LEMs
Acolytes	Jeff Demers, Seth Lisi, Juliana Powell, Dylan Powell



#### **June 12**

8:00 am	Susan Muffet (1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson), Jeff Berno (2 <sup>nd</sup> & LEM), Chuck Catanese (PoP & LEM)
10:00 am	Linda Darling (1 <sup>st</sup> ), Dennis Foy (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), Don Powell (Ps & LEM), Tim Scheel (PoP & LEM), Linda Garman (LEM)
Acolytes	Carly Papesh, Nick Coyle, Hannah Rucinski, Juliana Powell

#### **June 19**

8:00 am	Mary Jane Brewer (1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson), Barbara Baird 2 <sup>nd</sup> & LEM), Kathy Stehno (PoP & LEM)
10:00 am	Sandra Herbst (1 <sup>st</sup> ), Gary Garman (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), Kim Kelly (Ps & LEM), Shirley Brown (PoP & LEM), Evelyn Funston (LEM)
Acolytes	Dylan Ruesch, Jessica Syme, Julia Syme, Dylan Powell

#### **June 26**

8:00 am	Ted Freas (1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson), Chuck Catanese (2 <sup>nd</sup> & LEM), Hildegard Bender (PoP & LEM)
10:00 am	Vicki Sizemore (1 <sup>st</sup> ), Bobbie Foy (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), Shelley Triebsch (Ps & LEM), Don Moore (PoP & LEM), Carol Goslee (LEM)
Acolytes	Hannah Rucinski, Juliana Powell, Seth Lisi, Nick Coyle

### *Liturgical Ministries*

Call the Church Office *and* Linda Garman to volunteer or to report changes in scheduling. The ministry of **Lector** (reader of lessons and leader of prayers) is open to any member of the worshiping community. The ministry of **Eucharistic Ministry** (distributor of Bread or Wine at Communion) requires that one be a confirmed communicant and undergo a diocesan course of training. If you would like to be part of the team, either as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please speak with Fr. Funston or with Linda Garman.



Our two Knitting groups used the **Unbinding Your Heart** book in our knitting groups during Lent, with Melinda Rucinski as our facilitator. This started me thinking, can knitting be considered “evangelism”?

There are many knitting stereotypes, some true, some false. One of the most common is that knitting is a solitary exercise, practiced by lonely spinsters behind closed doors, usually with a cat as their only companion. How different my own experience of knitting has been! It’s a very social experience, a perfect, portable activity ideal for waiting in a doctor’s office, taking a long car

ride (if you aren’t driving of course!) , or getting together with others to knit, chat, and learn.

Dragging your knitting everywhere you go definitely has advantages. For the knitter it’s a time to escape from the tension or boredom of waiting. For me, it’s helped me to cultivate patience, which has been in short supply for a lifetime. Your mind and body calm down, your thoughts center, and it’s a perfect prayer or mediation experience.

It’s also a conversation starter, I know you were wondering where the evangelism part was going to come back in! Invariably when I knit in public someone will ask me what I’m working on. When I say I am knitting a prayer shawl for a group I’m involved in, it gives me an opportunity to share a bit of God with others in a very non-threatening way. Most people want to know more about it, and are amazed that we give away what we knit to others in time of need. Or they know someone who has received a shawl or is involved in a group. I love these conversations. You meet people you would never have spoke to. You also receive the gift of seeing our common humanity and how we are all connected, sometimes by yarn!

I just love to knit! Come and join me and the other “knitting sisters” on Tuesday evenings or Thursday afternoon. We have yarn, needles and we welcome new additions to our groups.

Blessed Prayer Shawls are available free to whoever needs one. Even if you have taken one before, please take one again if you need it for yourself, a friend or co-worker. We also knit on request; shawls and can do baby items.

*Prayer:* Beloved Christ, please let m know you and your love better. Please help me show your face to people who need to see you. Amen

- *From Unbinding Your Heart*



## SABBATICAL ARRANGEMENTS

*The following letter will accompany the midyear giving statements sent to pledging members and others who will receive those reports of their financial support of St. Paul's Parish. However, because not all readers of this newsletter will have been sent a giving statement, it is reproduced here.*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

It seems somehow appropriate that I will begin my sabbatical in Scotland where the poet Robert Burns penned the immortal line, "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley." (*To a Mouse*, 1785) I had hoped and planned that during my time away one priest would be here to provide a consistent pastoral presence ... alas, because of events in another parish the priest who had been lined up to do so has had to back out and those plans have gone agley! So, instead, several clergy will visit St. Paul's Parish on Sundays during the months of July, August, and September, and others from our fellow Summit Mission Area congregations will provide emergency pastoral support. Variety, as they say, is the spice of life, so life at St. Paul's Church will be spicy indeed for the summer and the early fall.

If it should happen that you have a pastoral emergency during the twelve weeks that I am away, please first call the office (if it is during our regular Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. office hours). If it is after hours or on the weekend, please call Senior Warden Barbara Baird (330-725-8321) or Junior Warden Steve Rucinski (330-958-4867); they will put you in contact with the clergy on call.

As I travel through the UK and Ireland, I will be visiting important Celtic religious sites, studying, writing, and taking pictures. If you wish, you may follow my exploits at my *blog*, which has the unpronounceable Gaelic title "Cad ar a bhfuil mé ag smaoinéamh ar maidin seo?" (which means "What am I thinking this morning?") The internet address is <http://www.thefunstons.com>. I plan to post travel notes and pictures there. I will also be posting theological reflections at "The Theology Diner"; that address is <http://theologydiner.blogspot.com>.

I'm sure that things will go well at St. Paul's Parish during my time away; I encourage every member of the congregation to be as active as possible, to welcome the supply and on-call clergy, and to support the parish's ministry as fully as you can. Thank you to everyone for this opportunity to disconnect and reconnect, to study and pray, to refresh and renew. Let's make this a time of refreshment and renewal for everyone!

In Christ's Name,



The Rev. Dr. C. Eric Funston  
Rector