

Christ Church News and Views

Volume 22, No. 8

SEPTEMBER 2010

SUNDAY SERVICES
8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A.M. September through May
Nursery is provided at late service throughout the year.



FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

Molly McCarty

The Pilgrim's Corner for September 2010: Heaven or Hell?



A story is told of a man who died and opened his eyes in the next world. What he saw was beauty and luxury beyond any on earth. He found that his every wish and whim were immediately fulfilled without his asking. All he had to do was think of something he wanted, and an attendant would appear and grant his wish. After a while he became restless and bored. "If only something different would happen," he said to himself, "if only just once there would be a refusal."

Finally, the monotony became unbearable; he summoned the attendant and said, "I want something that I can't have unless I earn it." "Sorry," the attendant replied, "that's one wish we cannot grant here." "Very well," the man said, "then let me out of here. I would rather be in hell." At that the attendant said, "And where do you think you are?"

The easy way is hell, a place for "spoiled children." The path of immediate gratification and instant pleasure is a prison. We are made to create, work and achieve. Boredom is hellish for us. The road of Christian discipline is a strenuous effort. Feeding our faith provides no easy chair. It can never be boring. We are required to take steps away from ourselves and to labor for love of others.

Molly +

FROM THE DEACON

Michelle Doran

Wow! It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. Where did the time go? I hope everyone had a restful time and that we are all ready for a new season at Christ Church. We have several new programs planned. First of all, we are beginning a Middle Youth Group for children in grades 4-8. The group will meet once a month for either a service project or a fun activity.

Parents are needed in order to make this group successful. We are asking that different parents volunteer to organize the activity each month. I will help coordinate dates and activities. We already have several ideas for the group such as raking leaves in the fall, caroling at Christmas, and a pizza/game night to name a few, but we would love to hear other suggestions.

Our first meeting will be on September 19th. We're going bowling at 1:00 pm at the Annapolis Bowl. We will leave after church and stop at McDonald's in Edgewater for lunch. Parents are needed to

drive. The cost is \$3.25 for shoe rental (12 and under) and \$4.25 per person per game plus the cost of lunch. We will probably bowl two games. Thank you to Stephanie Watson for arranging this. If you have any questions regarding this event or our plans for the junior youth group, please feel free to speak to me. And as I said before, we would welcome your suggestions.

Recently we held our first family knit night. It was lots of fun—so much fun that we're going to do it again. Please join us in the Sunday School building on Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 for Knit Night II. This is open to all members of the parish, so come and learn how to knit or crochet, brush up on your skills, or simply to enjoy an evening of fellowship and laughter.

Tai chi is coming to Christ Church. We will begin classes on Thursday, Oct. 7th in the parish hall from 7-8 pm. The cost for the class is \$85 for nine classes. There will be no class on either October 14th or Thanksgiving Day. A demonstration class will be held on Thursday September 9th at 7:00 in the parish hall for those who want to know more about tai chi before enrolling. We need a minimum of six participants in order for the class to be held. If you have any questions, please speak either to me, or our instructor, Judy Burke. Her number is 410-741-0748.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to Bob Hruby for organizing our adult social group. So far we've done bowling and baseball and had a wonderful time at each. Also, thank you to Sandy McDonald, who obtained the tickets to the Baysox game for us (they lost).

A New Way to Think About Your Money: TALKING DOLLARS & SENSE

We are pleased to bring this new and exciting way to think and talk about money in this 'Financial Sanity' seminar. The goal is to help youth and adults develop and maintain healthy financial habits that reflect their values and beliefs. In reality many of us have good intentions to live financial lives but struggle with the challenges of our hyper-consumer culture.

This is a four session course that will be held in the parish hall on the 1st four Sundays of October, from 5 to 6:30 pm. It will include a light supper.

We offer this program especially to our youth and their parents. However, it is helpful for all parents, educators, financial advisors, youth leaders and other concerned adults to teach spiritually, psychologically and fiscally health financial habits to the next generation. You will need to sign up for this program and sign up sheets will be available in the church during the month of September. **For more information talk to the Rev. Molly McCarty and/or Ms. Susie Stricker.**

COFFEE HOUR

Ann Shelton



Thanks so much to August and September Coffee Hour Volunteers. For my records, I'll keep this as an active Log. Just let me know if you cannot follow through or need to trade with someone.

AUGUST: 1st, Dick Jones; 8th, Jean Krebs; 15th, Shelly Collinson; 22nd Bob and Kay Hruby and 29th, Alice Randall

SEPTEMBER: 5th, Alice Murray; 12th, Stephanie Watson; 19th, Ann Shelton and 26th, Bill and Elsie Whitman

OCTOBER: 3rd, Susanne Talbott; 10th, Paula and Frank Tremel; 17th, Marie Bunch & Sandy McDonald; 10/24, Marie Bunch & Sandy McDonald; 10/31 (open). I'll keep working on October and start on November.

Sunday September 5th Family Worship at 10 A.M.

Celebrate God's gift of strength, wisdom and imagination as we begin a new school and program year. Bring a symbol of the work you do and give your work to the glory of God.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

(and briefcases, bags and satchels we take to school or work!)

92ND HOMECOMING DINNER

Sandy McDonald & Shelly Collinson



Mark your calendar - The 92nd Annual Homecoming Dinner is rapidly approaching. Because this is the Church's largest fundraiser each year volunteers are not only needed, they are a must to ensure a successful event. Your help, support and donations are what makes this major fundraiser a huge success.

A master list of the jobs needing volunteers, as well as sign-up sheets will be on the tract table in the Church. Take home a master list, check your calendar and then sign up for the jobs you would like to help with. Here is a short list of vital needs.

- **Wednesday, October 6th - 9:30 a.m. :** Make Applesauce (Tentative date- depending on availability of apples)
- **Thursday, October 14th - 6:00 p.m. :** Potluck Supper and Kitchen Preparation, Wash Dishes, & Hall Set Up. This requires **MANY, MANY, MANY** people
- **Friday, October 15th - 9:30 a.m.:** Make Potato Salad (bring your potato peeler, knife, and cutting board) and set up yard sale tables and move sale items from Hall to outside (**we could use a few good men and teens**)
- **Friday, October 15th - 7:00 p.m.:** Ham Carving (Biff Wetherill is coordinator)

- **Saturday, October 16 at 7:30 am.** "THE DAY OF": Oyster Patting (prepare for cooking) **LOTS & LOTS OF HANDS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS JOB!**

It is important that we know we have enough volunteers coming to perform the jobs in a timely matter, so it would be helpful if you would sign up ahead of time. We will need:

- Five or six adults to act as servers for the dining room during dinner.
- Need one or two mature youngsters to help with children's activities.

Remember to start thinking about items for the Country Store /Bake Sale, as well as the dessert table.

Please encourage all of your family, friends, and neighbors to attend on the 16th; your personal contact is our best publicity.

MUSIC NEWS

Jennifer Dowell
Organist/Choir Director



The adult choir will begin our new season on September 19th. We will rehearse at 9:00 AM that morning and then vest and sing for the 10:00 AM service. We will resume our evening rehearsals the following Wednesday, September 22, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. I hope everyone has enjoyed his/her "choir break" and is ready to robe up and enhance the worship at Christ Church. We would love to have additional members in the choir. This is an excellent time of year to join because the Advent and Christmas season music is some of the most beautiful music available for church choirs. New members could commit for just three and a half months, to see if they like sharing their talents in the choir. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

The youth handbell choir will also begin on September 19th. We will rehearse in the rectory immediately after the 10:00 AM service and be finished by 11:40 AM. We will ring for

the first time this season at the family service on October 10th. I look forward to working with this energetic group. If your youth is in 4th grade or higher, he/she is welcome to try the youth handbell choir.

REDEEMER QUILTERS

Kay Hruby



You've heard about blankets for Ghana, a project of the Redeemer Quilters, a joint ministry of Christ Church and All Hallows. The latest batch was delivered in Ghana at the end of July to one of the preschools to which we send blankets. The blankets are simple but their importance is beyond words. For many of the children who receive a blanket, this is their first real worldly possession. The blankets help the children mark and define their own spaces at the school, and graduate with the children into the world and their future. Accordingly, the need for such items is continuous.

We recently sent seven quilts and thirteen wool blankets to Appalachia through the Episcopalian outreach ministries. This shipment also included many knit items (hats, scarves, shawls, afghans) that were completed by the All Hallows & Christ Church Yarn Ministries. The items for Appalachia were blessed at a service at Christ Church and were taken to the area by the four teens from Christ Church- Fae Davis, Trevor Morrissey, Willow Smith and Jim Stricker- who were part of the Diocesan Mission Trip to Appalachia in July..

The Redeemer Quilters meet every Friday morning from 9:30 to noon in the Christ Church parish hall. We would like to have more blankets for Ghana made for delivery in mid-October. They're easy to make, just two pieces of material sewn together. We have the material. We welcome anyone who would like to join us, either working with us on Friday mornings or working at home. For more information and/or supplies contact Kay Hruby 410.867.0744 or Linda Johnson 410.867.1593.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Melissa Watson & Stephanie Watson

Welcome back to the 2010-2011 Sunday School year. This year's kick-off will be on Sunday, September 12th at 10 am. All students and teachers will meet in the church hall. Regular classes will begin on September 19th. We will hold Sunday School "registration" after church on Sunday, September 5th. Please stop by to either sign up or check your information.

Thank you to those that are teaching Sunday School this year...

PreK-K: Pam Anderson and Melissa Robertson

1 - 4: Linda Andreasen and Christine Green

5 - 8: Stephanie Watson

9 -12: Tom Collinson and Cindie Brown

We are looking for parents to share their talents with the Sunday School students this year!!! Also needed are volunteers to fill in for teachers when they can not be at church. Please let us know if you can help.

The Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on Sunday, September 5th. Bring your backpacks, briefcases, etc. to church to be blessed for the new school year!

Christ Church is working on starting a Middle Youth Group this year. We would like to include students in grades 4-8. Our first activity will be on September 19th at the Annapolis Bowling Alley at 1:00. The hope is to alternate between fun trips/activities and service projects throughout the year.

Finally, a volunteer is needed to organize the Christmas Pageant this year. Please consider taking on this role.

Have a great school year!

YOUTH GROUP

Susie Stricker

liii'm baaack! Calling all 9-12th graders! It's that time again - time for fun and fellowship. We will have our first YG meeting Sept. 26th 730 -9pm at the Rectory. Don't miss out on this important meeting as we will be talking about our plans for the year and ideas for fundraisers and outreach projects. I will have a tentative calendar posted on the YG bulletin board in the Sunday School building so everyone can see what we have planned for the year. Every couple of months I will post a more detailed calendar of current events.

Please plan to join us at the Rectory on the last Sunday of the month from 730-9pm. Bring a friend! Look forward to seeing y'all soon! Peace!

AN INTERVIEW WITH TREVOR MORRISEY

In June, 14 youth and 3 adults from the Diocese of MD took a one week mission trip to Honduras. One of them was our own Trevor Morrissey (son of Rebecca Stapleton). He was interviewed by our interim rector for this article.

Where did you go in Honduras? We flew into San Pedro Sula and stayed at a hotel there, but don't picture an American hotel. This was quite different – small separate rooms on an out-of-doors corridor. And there was no lobby! We worked at a school in Villanueva which is about 25 minutes away by car.

What did you do at the school? We talked to the children and listened to them practice their English. We also played soccer with them and painted a room at the school. We also went to a nearby day care for families who are really poor. We had to help the children take showers

while in their clothes with water from an open pipe at the day care because the families had no running water at home. We also played games with them and helped keep them occupied. There were about 60 children with only 3 or 4 staff people.

What were the people like? They were so welcoming and friendly, even though they lived crowded in tiny houses. They invited us inside to show us proudly the few belongings they had. The houses had wood burning stoves inside the houses that made the interiors smoky.

What surprised you most about life in Honduras? How friendly and happy everyone was. On our first morning at the school we went into a classroom to be introduced to the children and they all stood up grinning and said "We are happy to be alive." Another thing that surprised me was the number of guns we saw. People everywhere had guns like it was no big deal. Even the restaurant we went to had a locker for patrons to put their guns in before they went to eat. Also, we went to a church service on Sunday and the people didn't come at the beginning of it and stay to the end – they wandered in and out through the open doors while the service was going on. One other thing – nobody has air conditioning in their homes. We visited a catholic cathedral in San Pedro Sula that had air conditioning and there were people were inside sleeping on the pews during the heat of the day.

Were you aware of God's presence in Honduras? Definitely. In the people who were so friendly and happy. I think they are happier than Americans because they appreciate what they have. And it's so much less than we have. Things I take for granted aren't there in Honduras.

Would you go again to Honduras? Absolutely. It was a great experience meeting the people and experiencing a different culture.