

ST. MARTHA'S MESSENGER

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE RECTOR

Our community of faith continues to be enriched by the mixture of people and gifts and concerns that are brought together on a regular basis. Last month I noted some of the various ways in which we reach out to people with needs in our area, the nation and beyond. This breadth is exciting to see. This month you will note our annual fall drive to provide back packs and school supplies for a number of youngsters who will be heading back to school.

We also benefit from the time, talents and care of individuals which is shared and expressed within our midst in parish programs, events and caring within our membership. Please read the articles titled St. Martha's Ambassadors and Buildings and Grounds where we offer "opportunities" to be of in-house assistance. Certain of these possibilities enable us to restrain expenditures during these uncertain times. Although our pledge commitments are very much on track our plate offerings are noticeably down. Monitoring our expenditures and welcoming extra contributions will enable us to maintain our level of assistance to those truly in need. Our Outreach Committee does a tremendous job in reviewing and responding to situations where commitments of either money or volunteer time are especially critical.

In the midst of all this activity be mindful of those who show up to worship with us. Welcome them in the midst of distractions and planning. Help them find seats, worship folders and hymnals. Please hold our parish mission statement regularly before you. Continue to wonder how we may more fully respond to the needs and concerns of our congregation and those people who share this world with us.

I pray that we may be open to God's leading in all our decision making and interactions during this potentially fruitful year.

I welcome your suggestions as to opportunities for spiritual growth, caring for one another and needs we might reach out to in this part of God's creation.

I continue to be open to a healthy sharing of suggestions and views, and invite you to join me on an exploration of where we sense God's Spirit to be leading us. I am regularly able to communicate with many of you via e-mail, individually and with group mailings, bwickham@stmarthasbethany.org.

In Christ's accepting and affirming Spirit,
Bill Wickham

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Martha's Episcopal Church is to make God known, to welcome all of God's children, by assisting with the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our parishioners, visitors and community through worship, love, study and service.

INQUIRERS and TRANSFEREES and MEMBERSHIP

How does one become a member of St. Martha's Church?

This is a commonly asked question. Options are:

- 1- Request a transfer from the congregation where you are presently a member. Lynne Watson can request these from Episcopal Churches or you may contact the church on your own.
- 2- Be presented to the Bishop upon his visitation on September 20 for confirmation, or for Reception if previously with the Roman Catholic Church. Speak to the rector about your desire or questions.
- 3- Write out your full name, place and date of birth, and place and date of baptism and give this to the rector or parish secretary for entry into the parish register.

Slips will be available in the narthex for individuals to indicate their interest in becoming members of St. Martha's. Booklets about the Episcopal Church are also available for reading. Whether one decides to follow through and become a member will be seen as an individual decision. The books are being made available to assist each on their spiritual journey. Conversations with the rector are also invited.

BIRTHDAYS – AUGUST, 2009



AUGUST 8 ARCHIE ELLIS
AUGUST 11 JIM LEMONS
AUGUST 12 PATTY MASON
AUGUST 15 PATTY MELVIN
AUGUST 19 JERRY McCLURE
AUGUST 25 ROBERT DAVIS
AUGUST 28 BOB VAUGHN
AUGUST 29 JEAN SHAW
AUGUST 30 KRISTIN JONES

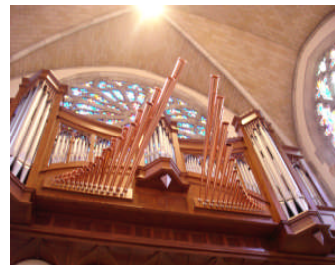
AUGUST 31 BILL ROWE



ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST 2 JACK & ROSALIND GENIESSE
AUGUST 13 BILL & ANNE PARLER
AUGUST 15 BILL & JOAN BROWER
AUGUST 17 GEORGE & KRISTIN JONES
AUGUST 19 RON & TEMPE STEEN
AUGUST 23 JIM & HAYDEE TOEDTMAN
AUGUST 24 DICK & JANET SPRAGUE
AUGUST 26 KEN & JANE BATTLES
AUGUST 27 PAUL & JOHANN ROSS
AUGUST 28 GENE & CONNIE ELLIOTT
AUGUST 29 JIM & MARIE HOGSTEN

SEWANNE MUSIC CONFERENCE



In July, Kristin Jones and I attended the 59th Sewanee Music Conference in Monteagle, Tennessee.

The antiphonal organ at Sewanee Chapel

It was a full week of singing, rehearsals, performance and learning. The clinicians were Janette Fishell and Thomas Foster – both are directors and organists.

Dr. Fishell is a concert recitalist and well as Professor of Organ and Chair of the Organ Department at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. She gave an organ concert that was marvelous. Our conference was one stop on her current concert tour. She leaves to give a concert in Paris in two weeks.

Thomas Foster was Director of Music at All Saints' Episcopal church, Beverly Hills where

the Choir came to prominence through its concert tours, commissioned works, and four recordings for Gothic Records. He has been a faculty member of Episcopal church music conferences throughout the US and has also been a lecturer/conductor in numerous dioceses as well as Virginia Theological Seminary and the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University.

The services in the Chapel at the University of the South were high church with lots of Anglican chant. We sang two services in the Chapel— Evensong and the Sunday Eucharist. The rest of the time was spent at the DuBose Conference Center where we attended classes, rehearsed anthems and service music, and celebrated Eucharist every morning.

There were approximately 125 attendees from as far away as Minnesota and Maine.

It is a wonderful experience for professional church musicians to recharge their batteries. Many good suggestions come from discussions with musicians in other churches. The contrast between the formality of the Gothic Sewanee Chapel and the simplicity of the Conference Center along with the beauty of the mountains of Tennessee are both awe-inspiring and peaceful. I am already packing my bags for next year which will be the 60th anniversary of the conference.

Kathy Rhodes
Parish Musician



Kristin and I in front of the altar at Sewanee

8th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING- AUGUST 30TH



It's hard to believe that we're actually on the eighth year of our annual Golf Outing! This year's edition will be held at the beautiful Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club on August 30th, with tee-off at 3:00 PM. Registration will begin at 2:00 PM (this is a little earlier than last year, please note) and the golf will be followed by a "summer supper" under the canopy, grilled to order by the chefs at the club. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, and tuna steaks will be on the bill of fare along with a selection of side dishes and dessert.

The golf will be, as in the past, a "scramble", meaning that everybody on the team hits each shot, and the captain selects the best of the bunch to use as the basis for the next shot. Teams will be arranged to make the scoring as fair as possible. We'll have prizes, of course, for the top (and bottom) foursomes, and for longest drive and closest to the pin for men and women. The most important thing, however, is to have fun. The golf is for *everybody*, hot-shots and duffers, beginners and experienced players alike. No experience necessary, as they say.

Resolute non-golfers (I'm told there are some!) are welcome to share the meal and the hilarity with the rest of us. There will be a Chinese Auction featuring some fabulous and sometimes tasty items for sale, a fifty-fifty raffle, and door prizes for which everybody is eligible. *All proceeds will go for our church's Outreach program.*

This year's cost for golf and dinner will be \$50.00. The golf cart rental is included; the price of golf balls chunked into the water hazards is not. For those not playing golf, the fee will be \$25.00 per person. Kids (except babies) are the same price. Registration sheets are available at the Church or from Golf Committee Members*. Please return the registration form with cash or a check made out to St. Martha's and put them in the designated box in the narthex or give them to a committee member*. We're asking that people sign up by August 16th (PLEEEZE!) to give us time to set up the outing and let the club know how many diners there will be.

Mark it on your calendar – Sunday afternoon, August 30, 2009 for an afternoon and evening of golf and good times. We'll look forward to seeing you there.

*Jeff Jackson, Tom McCormick, Clem Edgar, Harry Burlew, Fran & Ken Marta, Sue and Jim Lemons, Kristin Tipton and Hank Rojewski.

ST. MARTHA'S BAKE SALE BOOTH

Bethany Beach Boardwalk Arts Festival

September 12th, 10am – 5pm

The proceeds from the Bake Sale Booth are used to support the programs of the Diocesan Board of the Episcopal Church Women and to purchase Thanksgiving Food Certificates which are given to the area Elementary Schools for needy families.

NEEDED:

- Set-up & Take-down Crews
- Booth Sales Persons
- Sales Items Pricers
- Couriers to take goods to booth
- Lots & Lots of Food Preparers

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR SALE:

Muffins	Bagged Trail Mix
Brownies	Mini Sweet Loaves
Cookies	Homemade Jelly
Any other finger foods	
Sugar-Free Items	
NO Fudge or Icing Items (Melt in Heat)	

LABEL INGREDIENTS – strawberries, bananas, chocolate, nuts, cranberries, etc.

Sign-up sheets in Narthex

Questions – contact Dianne Burlew at 537-7476

CAREPARTNERS

Carepartners is the name for a gathering of people from St. Martha's and the local area who have ongoing care concern and responsibility. This might involve a parent, a spouse, a child or someone else who has continuing health issues. Bill Wickham convenes this group at 1:00 pm on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in the area in the rear of the church nave. If you have questions please call Bill at 539-7444.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

As we become more active as a congregation meeting space needs to be reserved in advance. Please call the church office, 539-7444, to request times and dates for meetings for your activity. We are glad to have our space used but want to insure that we do not double book desired areas.

DID YOU GET YOUR NOTE CARDS?

We wish to thank Carolyn and Don Clarke for designing note cards with the image and name of St. Martha's on the front of the cards. In the narthex, packs of eight cards with matching envelopes can be purchased for \$5.

The proceeds from the sale of these note cards will be included with the book sales profits.

COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS

\$150 will give you an engraved brick for our outside walk. This is a wonderful way to celebrate a marriage, anniversary, birth of a child or grandchild or to honor a loved one. Brick order forms are in the Narthex in the rack by the office. If you have any questions, contact Wincy Jackson 302-539-9319 or jaxon19930@mchsi.com.

SPECIAL OUTREACH PROJECT

WOMEN'S PRISON MINISTRY

The Diocesan Board of the Episcopal Church Women is collecting sample/travel size toiletries – shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothpaste, etc. for the Baylor Correctional Institution in New Castle. **(No full size bottles or containers, please !)**

A collection tub will be in the Narthex at St. Martha's for August and September. The contributions will be taken to the Annual ECW Meeting at Christ Church, Dover, on October 17th. If you have any questions, please contact Dianne Burlew at 537-7476.

MESSENGER/NEWSLETTER ON THE WEB SITE

Beginning with the August Messenger, we will only be mailing copies to those without internet access. The Messenger is regularly posted on the church web site, www.stmarthasbethany.org. Go to this web site, note the listings on the left hand side, and click on Messenger.

If you do not have internet access please contact the church office and we will continue to have the newsletter mailed to you. This is one of our cost saving steps in order to balance our budget and continue our essential programs and building needs.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

As our congregation grows we are helped by having volunteers, Mary Wuslich, coming in on Tuesdays, and Edith Adkins on Fridays, to update the Sunday folders, answer the phone and to assist with certain projects.

If you might help, please contact either Lynne Watson or Bill Wickham, 539-7444. All volunteers are periodically away and substitutes are very important as well.

BACKPACK PROJECT FOR HICKORY TREE

It is hard to believe that school will be starting soon! As part of the Outreach program here at church, we will be providing backpacks and school supplies for the children at the Hickory Tree Community in Selbyville. Starting in August, there will be a list with the names of the children and the supplies that he or she needs for the upcoming school year. Please sign up!!

As a parish we have been so generous with this and other projectsthank you in advance for your generosity. More details will be forthcoming in the bulletin. Any questions??? Please contact Mary Thormeyer at 541-5511 or marythormeyer1@yahoo.com. Thank you!

CASA SAN FRANCISCO BROWN BAG PROJECT

The sun, the sand and the surf! French fries, milk shakes and ice cream! That's what you see when you walk along the boardwalk. But go inland just a bit and things change dramatically, and we don't mean just the absence of the ocean. One site you would see would be the individuals and families coming to Casa San Francisco in Milton, DE for their bag of groceries which are distributed to them on a regular basis and without which they wouldn't make it. But Casa couldn't do its job unless we do ours. We urge you to take a brown bag from the narthex with a list of suggested food items, fill it and return it to church. We take over from there and deliver the food to Casa. By the way, if you forget to take a bag, we also "take plastic". Fill it with canned goods and dry food items. That would be perfect. Many thanks to those of you who have been participating and a welcome to those of you who will be participating for the first time.

PICTORIAL AND NEWS HISTORY

A number of years ago Dick and Audrey Samworth began assembling and organizing news articles and pictures reflecting the life and events of St. Martha's Church. They were joined by Susanne McCormick and the albums are located in the bookshelves at the back of the church. You might find it interesting to sit down with one of these when you are at church.

Susanne would like to have a couple people take over this project. After looking at the present albums, if you might consider being part of a new team, please contact either Susanne, 537-4516, or the rector.

ST. MARTHA'S AMBASSADORS

As a community we share our lives with each other: we find joy with the birth of a new child or grandchild and we grieve with the loss of family or friend. Friends and fellowship is part of who we are. Just as we cannot delegate fellowship to anyone else, particularly the rector ("Say, Bill, can you go have some fun for me?") so too we cannot delegate our duty to be there when one is born into our community or leaves our community, when someone in our group is hurting, when someone in our group has a need.

It takes more than one pair of eyes to be sensitive to, and aware of, all the needs of a disparate community. The vestry is exploring the creation of a group whose mandate would be to represent the community of St. Martha's in welcoming potential members, in visiting members who are shut in, in offering a hand and a shoulder to cry on, and/or if nothing else calls the need to the attention of the rector and the rest of the community.

Because this is a new venture, the Ambassadors (or whatever they might be constituted) would invent themselves and do as much, or as little, as they deem necessary to fulfill the mission. This is a call for those interested in serving the community in this way to contact either Senior Warden, John Robbert, 541-8243, or the rector. An organizational meeting will be set up with those expressing interest.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Yes, we are a community of people but we also use a physical structure and, like the rest of our environment, that structure needs our care and attention. It needs to be landscaped, it needs to be painted, it needs to be warmed and cooled and fixed and cleaned. It needs to be safe. The community that sweats together,

stays together and the structure offers many opportunities to sweat together.

With the sale of the Lighthipe property on hold, and thus also our expansion plans, we need to refocus on minor repairs, light replacements, shrubbery, and walkways.

This is a call to reinvent the Buildings and grounds Committee in general and to include a Church Safety officer, who would be concerned with matters like fire extinguishers, alarms, and railings. One member might also develop a "video inventory" of our property and furnishings. If you might be interested in helping out please express your interest to Junior Warden, Paul Ross, 436-6424, deadgoose@comcast.net, or the rector.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday, Aug. 18th we will host the second picnic on the church grounds from 5 to 8 PM for the students. Your donations of fruit, salads, cookies/bar cookies will be most helpful. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the kitchen.

Please bring food items to the church on that Tuesday the 18th between 9AM and 12PM or any time after 3PM.

If this is not convenient, please call Mary Wuslich at 539-6701. Your generosity is always appreciated by all attending and many compliments received.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES

We have additional copies of the Pictorial Directory which was recently produced. If you did not receive a free copy for having your picture included you may obtain one of these copies. We suggest a contribution of \$5 to

assist us with our tight parish budget. These may be found in the entrance hall (narthex).

GROUPS & MEETINGS – AUGUST

AA	Mondays	8:00 am
	Tuesdays	8:00 am
	Wednesdays	8:00 am
	Wednesdays	12:00 pm
	Thursdays	8:00 am
	Fridays	8:00 am
	Saturday	8:00 am
Adult Choir	Wednesdays	7:00 pm
Bariatric Surgery Gp	3 rd Thursdays	7:00 pm
Endowment	October 5	4:30 pm
GA	Mondays	7:00 pm
Long Range Planning	TBA	7:00 pm
NA	Sundays	7:30 pm
Over Eaters	Fridays	7:00 pm
Outreach	2 nd Tuesdays	1:00 pm
Pastoral Care	TBA	9:00 am
Prison Bible Study	3 rd Thursdays	5:00 pm
Strategic Planning	TBA	7:00 pm
Vestry	3 rd Mondays	7:00 pm
Way Home	2 nd Mondays	7:00 pm
Worship	August 10	4:00 pm
