

THE monthly newsletter from All Saints Episcopal Church MESSENGER



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Rector's Message

Building a Vital Program for Our Youth

By Kit Carlson, All Saints Rector

As our Sunday school numbers grow, that vitality has begun to push its way upward, into a growing number of junior high and high school age youth in our parish. These young people need the best that we adults can give them in terms of spiritual support, prayer, education and fellowship.

A few weeks ago, I met with Sheila Wiitala and the volunteer youth leaders and teachers to look ahead to fall and how we might engage and support our teenage members. We have an exciting year planned, built around Sunday evenings, a year that will provide them with spiritual sustenance as they grow, and also with a chance to have a more typical "youth group" experience.

Two Sunday evenings a month, the middle school youth can participate in the Rite 13 program, which helps emerging teens to discover their own faith as they begin to ponder what kind of adults they are going to become. Amy Maffeo and John Thurber will start with a new group of sixth and seventh graders this year. The Rite 13 group members they had been working with are now in high school, and are ready for J2A, the Journey to Adulthood. But we are going to take a year before launching into J2A to work through a program called "Confirm, Not Conform."



Eric Hegg and Mary Sharp will spend this year doing Confirm, Not Conform with the high school students, helping them articulate a faith that may lead to their confirmation in the spring. This is the chance for our teens to really dig deep into service, prayer and study and to take the time necessary to decide if they want to make the "mature, public affirmation of faith" that is confirmation.

The other two Sunday evenings, I will be helping to lead "EYC1&3," a more typical youth group experience with games, snacks, conversations and learning about faith, and occasional field trips and outings. EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is the longstanding acronym for youth programs in the Episcopal Church. And the 1&3 is so we will remember that we meet on the first and third Sundays of the month! I am seeking interested adults to help me with EYC1&3, so that we can do big-group stuff, as well as break out into middle and high school groups, too.

You can look forward to a season of fun, outreach activities, outings to Zap Zone and other fun places, Bible study, games, lock-ins and just hanging out together.

We will kick all of this off with an evening at my home, "Pasta With Pastor Kit," from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 6, for all youth from rising sixth graders to 12th grade. We'll play games, eat, get to know one another better and talk about the kinds of things we'd like to do together in the year ahead. T-shirts will be provided to all attendees! (But adults have to ask me, if they want to come!)

- In Christ's peace, Kit

Healing Service Changes During Summer

During the summer months, the 5:30 p.m. healing Eucharist will not be held weekly.

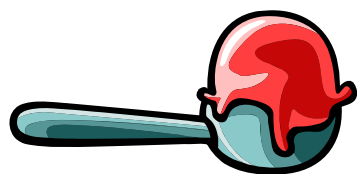
Instead, the Lansing chapter of the Order of St. Luke, a ministry of prayer and healing, will offer prayer services twice a month in the chapel for people who want to come and pray for healing for themselves or others.

The local chapter of the Order of St. Luke includes many All Saints members who have studied and been

trained and commissioned to serve in this ministry. The Rev. Bill Fineout, the Episcopal deacon at St. Paul's downtown, is the group's chaplain and spiritual adviser.

If you would like to come for these healing prayer services, they will be held in the chapel at 5:30 p.m. June 2 and 16, July 7 and 14, and August 11 and 25.

The regular Wednesday Eucharists with healing prayer will resume on Wednesday, September 8.



A Good, Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social

Gather in the Undercroft at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 9, for an old-fashioned hymn sing and ice cream social.

All ages will enjoy gathering around the piano to sing hymns old and new. We'll have a request sheet as you come into the Undercroft, where you can request your favorite hymn, and we'll work through as many requests as possible.

After an hour or so of singing, we'll cool our throats with ice cream sundaes. Bring the kids, bring your friends, and join us for a relaxed evening of song and sharing.

A Note from the Soft Space

Wesley Kowalczyk, age two-and-a-half, is one of the "regulars" in the soft space at the front of the church. Children in the soft space have age-appropriate Bible books, coloring sheets and soft toys to play with during the service, and they also are placed right up front so that they can see the action at the altar. Recently, Wesley's mom Kate sent this note:

"During lunch today Wesley instructed me to say 'Amen,' gave me a sip of his chocolate milk, and then handed me an imaginary piece of bread! It's nice to know that he is paying attention in the service!"

Sometimes it is hard to see that the children in the soft space are, in fact, participating and engaging in the worship at their own level.

Play is the primary way that preschoolers learn, and Wesley's "playing communion" with his mom is a way for him to integrate his Sunday experiences into his daily life and activity. I am always amazed at how much these small folk absorb from our worship services, even when it seems they are only playing around.

- Kit

A Note About Our Record-Keeping and Money-Handling Responsibilities

By Bill Murphy, Senior Warden

Change is inevitable, but it doesn't have to be disruptive. Change can also be used wisely to achieve improvements in the life of a caring parish such as ours. With the death of Joe Sheedy, adjustments became necessary in two major facets of parish life: how pledges are received and tracked, and the process of counting and documenting weekly donations and income.

Joe had been pledge secretary for many years and oversaw the process of documenting and tracking pledges and other donations. He took this responsibility seriously, and with quiet efficiency and confidentiality he administered this critical church mission for years.

With Joe's passing, pledge secretary duties have moved to new hands. Bob Kilbridge - known and respected by his All Saints friends and fellow parishioners through his long involvement in the stewardship and usher and greeter missions - has been appointed as the new pledge secretary. Bob's familiarity with the people and programs at All Saints will serve him well in this capacity, as will his extensive experience in fiduciary responsibilities in his professional life, which require the highest level of confidentiality and integrity. We are very fortunate to have a person of Bob's character and abilities in the role of pledge secretary.

Confidentiality of pledge information is very important to Pastor Kit and the vestry. Bob will be the only person in the church to have full access to pledge information. Of necessity, the volunteers who count donations every Sunday see some individual donations, but never what a person has pledged on an annual basis, nor their total donations for the year. All Saints

has long had policies and procedures in place to ensure that pledging information remains confidential, and procedures have been instituted in recent weeks to maintain this policy.

The task of counting all incoming money and appropriately documenting it for accounting and audit purposes is a critical function that occurs every Sunday, and the process must continue unabated. Joe Sheedy had also overseen documenting the receipt of pledge dollars and other donations and income, a function for which the parish treasurer, Hank Mayers, now has oversight. The pledge coordination function has been separated from the weekly process of counting and documenting donations to streamline it, to help ensure confidentiality of information, and to put basic financial security measures in place.

While only the pledge secretary will have access to donor information, the treasurer will have responsibility for the accounting aspect of weekly collections. To further protect confidentiality and maintain financial security, all financial data will be appropriately maintained and secured only at the church.

Hank has taken on additional duties relative to documenting and recording all categories of church income. He has devoted many hours of his time in recent weeks revamping the manner in which All Saints records and tracks donations and income, devising a computer-based process that securely and accurately records income. The work of volunteers such as Bob and Hank is critical to the financial integrity of our parish, and we are fortunate indeed for the time and dedication of all the volunteers who make this entire process work.

Rebuilding Together 2010

By Neil Plante

What happens when you give 19 people a list of chores like this to do in one day? Replace eight windows, prime and paint a kitchen ceiling, paint all the trim and archway with shelves, replace two ceiling fans, update the wiring and support system, replace four ceiling lights, two storm doors, the kitchen faucet and a gable vent, install new porch hand rail, paint two porches, attach bathtub rails, clean the yard, till the garden and plant vegetables, clean flower beds and plant new flowers, prepare all the flower pots and boxes, replace the mail box and add a dead bolt to the back door. So, what happened? They got it all done!

Even though the home owner was somewhat skeptical, we really didn't have a doubt. Because our volunteers don't just show up with their tools, they show up with heart! The occasion was All Saints' volunteers' role in Rebuilding Ingham County Together on April 24, a nationwide Day of Rebuilding Together.

Even the weather, rain two years in a row, could not change the attitude of our volunteers. You are all wonderful and I hope you realize what a wonderful gift you gave our beautiful home owner, Ruby. Not only did we warm her heart but this winter she will be warm and safer thanks to a great group of people.

Thanks to all of you, and see you next year!

Parish Life, June 2010

Picnic Canceled! Due to unanticipated scheduling challenges connected with the date of the annual All Saints Parish Picnic at Patriarche Park, originally scheduled for Sunday, June 27, the event has been cancelled. Plans are in the works for a picnic at All Saints later in the summer. Keep your eyes on the bulletin for updates.

U-2 Tickets. Parish Life has access to up to 70 tickets for the U-2 concert at MSU on June 30, 2010, at Spartan Stadium; prices at \$70, \$110, and \$275 (depending on seating). We must sell at least 10 tickets to place an order. See the poster on the Parish Life Bulletin Board for seating location and to sign up to purchase your tickets. For more information, contact Marguerite Halversen at 517-333-0251. First come, first served. Tickets will be available until they are sold out.

Coffee hour. With Joe Sheedy's passing, Parish Life is working to coordinate the coffee hour Joe handled so well. We have purchased a popcorn machine to cover that offering and will be purchasing additional food items as they go on sale. Donations of other goodies, particularly coffee cake, breads, cookies and the like, are most welcome. A sign-up sheet for such offerings will be on the counter at coffee hour. Please consider signing up to run coffee hour one Sunday this summer. Responsibilities

Third-Tuesday Breakfast

All parishioners are invited to join the All Saints Episcopal breakfast group at 8 a.m. Tuesday, June 15, at Coral Gables, 2838 E. Grand River, East Lansing.

Conversation over breakfast is a great way to get to know people. Everyone is welcome – newcomers to the church, stay-at-home moms and dads, recently retired seniors, or anyone else who isn't otherwise occupied. The breakfast group meets every third Tuesday. For more information, call Vic Rauch or Ellen DeRosia at 351-9908.

Nov. 2 is tentative date for Day of the Dead

All Saints' Day of the Dead celebration is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 2. Handling plans for the fourth annual community-wide gathering are co-chairs Melissa and Tom White.

For anyone interested in experiencing the way the occasion is celebrated in Mexico, an Episcopal

Author to speak June 10 at All Saints

Kevin Hofmann, writer of "Growing Up Black In White," will discuss his book of experiences as a transracial adoptee at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10, in the sanctuary. The appearance is open to the public.

As an adult, Hoffman retraces his life as a biracial child adopted into the family of a white minister, his wife and their three biological children in Detroit in 1967 just a few months after the riots. His insight into the effects of white parents raising a child of color is timely and inspiring. Hofmann tells what his parents got right and what they could have done better to help him gain his racial identity.

The appearance is co-sponsored by parishioner Erich Ditschman, other parents who have adopted children of other races and the East Lansing Writers Forum.

include setup, cleanup and making sure everything is running smoothly during the social hour. Franklin Mays will be making the coffee, so that task is covered. Details on "how to set up and clean up for coffee hour" will be posted in the kitchen.

Parish Life will publish a recipe book featuring the soups from the Lenten Soup Suppers as a fundraiser in the coming months. If you have made soup this year or in any past years for the soup suppers, please send Marguerite Halversen your recipe at halverse@msu.edu. Place "All Saints soup recipe" in the subject line. Photos of your soup are welcome. You will be credited with the recipe in the book. The deadline for recipe submission has been extended to July 15, 2010.

Grill Given. Parish Life extends its appreciation to Bill and Shannon Fineout for the donation of a grill to All Saints Parish Life. If you would like to use the grill at a church event, please contact Marguerite Halversen at (517) 333-0251.

Interested in helping with Parish Life? Call Marguerite Halversen at (517) 333-0251 or e-mail halverse@msu.edu

Sheila's Corner

Vacation Bible School June 21-24

Let's work together to care for creation - it's time to register for **ReNew: The Green VBS!**

ReNew Vacation Bible School invites kids to learn about Jesus, help build our community, and grow as they become stewards of God's creation. The hours are 5:30 to 8:10 p.m. June 21-24.

At ReNew, The Green VBS kids will:

- Explore God's Word through Jesus' Parable of the Sower.
- Learn about God's creation and what we can do to care for it.
- Meet members of our community who are stewards of the environment.
- Make new friends and have a great time!

Calling all kids between 3 and 11 years old who want to ReNew! Let's grow in faith, have fun, and change the world!

To register, call the church office , 351-7160, or email Sheila Wiitala at allsaintssheila@hotmail.com

A light dinner will be served from 5 to 5:20 p.m.

Adult volunteers are still needed.



Thank you

We had a great formation year, thanks to the great adults and youth who helped with the classes. A huge thank you goes out to Eric Hegg, Mary Sharp, Susan Dougherty, John Thurber, Amy Maffeo, Ann Vogelsang, Paula Batch, Dori Helm, Melissa DeRosia, Kristina Farnam, Ellen DeRosia, and Maurya Johnson who taught the classes. A thank you also goes out to all the regular volunteers, Ellen Armentrout, Glen Staszewski, Helen Murphy, Sarah Dougherty, Clara Lepard, Megan Johnson and the many others who volunteered occasionally in the classrooms.

Keep our kids safe

Safeguarding God's Children is a computerized training program for the prevention, detection and reporting of child sexual abuse. The program is designed to provide the essential information to help keep children and youth safe from those who might molest them.

As a parent, I found it very informative. It was difficult to watch the video, but it has given me great information to keep my kids safe, along with all the children in the church.

Children are precious in the sight of God. We touch the lives of children and youth all the time. We must take the matter of the safety of children seriously. As adults, we all are deeply committed to creating and promoting a positive and nurturing environment for ministry with our youngest members. We have a sacred trust to protect our young people and therefore you may be called on join in this mission.

Safeguarding Online provides training in short, focused courses that can normally be completed in 30-45 minutes. These courses can be taken from any location where a high-speed Internet connection is available.

At All Saints, we have requested that people in the following positions take this training every two years: church school teachers, nursery care staff, Eucharistic Visitors and all Vestry members

It is important that at least one adult in the room with the children have had this training. Any adult who may be left alone with children must have this training. It is our goal that at least two unrelated adults are in the room at one time. We also understand that events happen and sometimes there is only one adult for a short period of time. That is why we would like everyone trained.

Anyone is welcome to take the training. If you would like to take the training, please email Sheila Wiitala at allsaintssheila@hotmail.com.

Loaves and Fishes Volunteers

April -- Marcia Armstrong

May - Susan Dougherty

June - Helen Hankins

July - Jocy Smith

August - Colleen Hegg

Bishops Plan Arizona Meeting Despite Immigration Law Outcry

By Pat McCaughan, Episcopal News Service

The Episcopal Church's House of Bishops will meet Sept. 15-21 in Phoenix for its regular fall meeting as planned, including an optional pre-meeting trip to the U.S.-Mexican border, despite public outcry over Arizona's recent enactment of the nation's toughest immigration law and calls for a boycott.

"It's an opportunity to be educated, to be informed and to make a public statement about solidarity with people that are victims in this, and there are victims on both sides, which is important to emphasize," said Arizona Bishop Kirk Smith in a telephone interview.

"We will accomplish a lot more by being here, learning, hearing and responding about it and standing in solidarity with people suffering instead of taking the easy way out by saying 'Let's go meet someplace else.'"

Law protested, challenged

The Arizona law aims to identify, prosecute and deport illegal immigrants. Smith has joined state ecumenical leaders in protest of the law and has voiced support for court challenges to it.

The meeting's agenda had already included time for the bishops to discuss immigration, border issues, and evangelism, stewardship and congregational development among Hispanic populations, Smith said.

After the law's passage, the meeting was expanded to include the optional border trip and the opportunity to hear from Arizonians on both sides of the issue. The diocese also hopes to schedule a meeting with the Coalition of Episcopal Latinos, which will be meeting in nearby Scottsdale.

Smith added that he hopes at the close of the meeting bishops will issue a public statement in solidarity with those most affected by the law.

The Christian imperative'

"We're not doing this because it's politically correct, we're doing it because it's the Christian imperative," he said.

"Do we really want to get to the point where we say before I can give you a cup of cold water, I want to see your papers? That seems to be the direction we're headed and that's tragic.

"We can do better as Christians and as a country. We can do this in a way that's humane and moral and less fearful."

Critics have argued that the law, which is scheduled to take effect later this year, may lead to racial

profiling, wrongful arrests and discrimination of ethnic minorities; it also makes it a crime to offer assistance knowingly to illegal immigrants. Civil and human rights organizations, including the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the Asian American Justice Center and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, have urged a state boycott.

Essential for national security?

Others, like the Federation for American Immigration Reform, or FAIR, a national, nonprofit organization, have applauded the law calling it essential for national security.

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori's office issued a statement, in consultation with Smith, saying: "It appears to be the wisest course of action not to pull out, but rather to go to Phoenix, encourage as many bishops as possible to join in the optional pre-meeting visit to the border, follow through with the HOB planning committee's arrangements during the meeting to hear firsthand from speakers who will facilitate discussion on immigration and justice issues, and make a statement as a House regarding these issues."

A show of solidarity

The Rev. Canon Charles Robertson, canon to Jefferts Schori, in a notice sent to all bishops, said the presiding bishop "sees this as an opportunity for a show of solidarity, by a multinational church composed of citizens of many countries as well as immigrants and expatriates, both here in the U.S. and in other nations, to stand with all who suffer injustice."

Southeast Florida Bishop Leo Frade's first reaction was to support the boycott, but he said he changed his mind in part because of the Coalition of Episcopal Latinos meeting.

"For us as Latinos it is imperative to support our brothers and sisters in Phoenix. It's an opportunity to show solidarity," said Frade in a telephone interview.

"We are also hoping to invite them to come [to the meeting] and be with Latinos from all over the U.S. It would be a good opportunity for the Episcopal Church and bishops to meet with and to stand in solidarity with Latinos."

-- *The Rev. Pat McCaughan is a national correspondent for the Episcopal News Service. She is based in Los Angeles.*

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12:15 p.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Staff Mtg 7:00 p.m. OSL 7:30 p.m. AA	2 1:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support 5:30 p.m. Healing 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	3 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, breakfast following 6:30 p.m. ACLU 7:30 p.m. ACOA 8:00 p.m. AlAnon	4 1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge	5 10:00 a.m. Advent House
6 Pentecost 02 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Graduates Brunch 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum 5:00 p.m. Pasta w/Pastor Kit	7 1:30 p.m. Staff 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study 7:30 p.m. AA	8 12:15 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. B & G 7:00 p.m. Cancer Support 7:30 p.m. AA	9 7:00 p.m. Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	10 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, breakfast following 6:00 p.m. Outreach 7:00 p.m. Guest Speaker 7:30 p.m. ACOA 8:00 p.m. AlAnon	11 1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge 5:00 p.m. Tate/Peyrek Wedding	12
13 Pentecost 03 Birthday Sunday 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:45 a.m. Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum	14 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study 7:30 p.m. AA	15 Messenger Deadline 8:00 Breakfast at Coral Gables 12:15 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Finance Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA	16 5:30 p.m. Healing 7:00 p.m. OSL 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	17 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, breakfast following 7:30 p.m. ACOA 8:00 p.m. AlAnon	18 1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge	19 9:00 a.m. Prayer Needlers 7 p.m. OSL
20 Pentecost 04 Father's Day 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum	21 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:45 Vacation Bible School 7:30 p.m. AA	22 12: 15 p.m. Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Vacation Bible School 7:00 p.m. Parish Council 7:30 p.m. AA	23 5:45 p.m. Vacation Bible School 7:30 p.m. Debtors A	24 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, breakfast following 5:45 p.m. Vacation Bible School 7:30 p.m. ACOA 8:00 p.m. AlAnon	25 1:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge	26 8:00 a.m. Quilters
27 Pentecost 05 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Picnic 2:00 p.m. EL Writers Forum	28 1:30 p.m. EL Women's Club 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Study group 7:30 p.m. AA	29 12: 15 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. AA	30 7:30 p.m. Debtors A			29

ACOA = Adult Children of Alcoholics
 ANS = Abbott Nursery School

AlAnon = Family and Friends of Alcoholics
 Debtors A = Debtors Anonymous

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Canterbury MSU

The Episcopal Chaplaincy at Michigan State University services are held at 5 p.m. Sunday evenings during the fall and spring MSU semesters with dinner following in the Undercroft. For more information, please email emmsu@msu.edu.

Chaplain: The Rev. Sarah Midzalkowski