

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, York, Pennsylvania

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FROM THE



Frederick Buechner has written that we spend our lives in search "for a self to be, for other selves to love and for work to do." It is in the search of self that we seem to get bogged down with our own uncertainty. We search for meaning in a variety of ways that often lead to further questions. I believe that this search is what leads so many people to the quest for spirituality. We know deep in our beings that there is a purpose for our lives. We want to discover that purpose. For many that quest leads to the spiritual where we can listen within a sacred space for the still small voice of God.

Searching for others to love we discover is easier if we do not include people who are different than we are. It is my opinion, in the Episcopal Church this search for others to love is what has led to the conflicts we now face. We have read and studied Scripture together. We have discovered in Scripture the good news of inclusion for all people. Recall that Jesus focused much of his attention on those marginalized in his day. We are called by God to love our neighbor as ourselves. In our tradition, we promise in our Baptismal Covenant to treat all people with respect seeking justice and peace for all people. The General Convention in 2006 and 2009 agreed that in the Episcopal Church we welcome all people.

The search for work to do is highly valued in our society. We ask one another: "What do you do?" This question leads to the idea that what we do is who we are. Perhaps that is why so many of us work so hard, to prove ourselves a somebody. Fred points to a more important understanding of work to do. He believes that the work we do is determined by who we are and not the other way around. If we are true to ourselves, if we are in touch with the person God created us to be; then we will find meaningful work to do as an expression of our being.

I give thanks for the Episcopal Church which offers an opportunity for all people to come be still with God within a sacred space. In that space and through to telling of the Gospel story, we discover we are each the unique beloved person God created us to be. We are respected by others and loved for who we are, no strings attached. We are invited into an openness that encourages us to discover and search within a community that allows for differences. We are encouraged to engage in meaningful work, mission work, work that supports peace and justice for all people. I have yet to meet a person engaged in the real mission work of the church whose life was not impacted by that work.

Invite others into your world - our world - the world of the Episcopal Church. Invite your friends and family members to join you in the journey toward knowing ourselves, loving others as we are loved, and working for justice and peace among all God's people.

Faithfully yours,
David +



July 4th Holy Eucharist using 1789 Prayer Book and the ringing of the Liberty Bell.

July 4th falls on a Sunday this year.

Independence Day is an appropriate time to give thanks to God for the rich heritage of our nation, for the freedom we enjoy as a people and for the good land that sustains us. At St. John we have a proud heritage that dates back to the early days of our nation. On July 4th we shall celebrate using the 1789 Prayer Book. At the end of the service we shall invite everyone, if you wish, to ring the Liberty Bell located at the back of the church building. Come join us for this special observance.

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SUMMER VIDEO PROGRAM

During the summer months we offer our youngest members the opportunity at the beginning of the 10 o'clock service to attend an age appropriate program. This program in the Children's Chapel next to the stage in the parish hall consists of a DVD followed by a discussion or activity. Thanks to all who have volunteered for this ministry. We still need adult volunteers to lead the prepared program and escort the children to the church service at the Peace on August 15 and August 29. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board at the front of the church.

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PLEDGE UPDATE

Pledge for 2010-2011

With our 2010-11 Stewardship Campaign winding down, I wanted to update the parish with our progress. We are behind last year's pace in the total number of pledges received, and the total dollars pledged for next year. The good news is that the average amount pledged per family, that we have received commitments from, has increased over last year. If you have not done so, please return your pledge card to the Parish office as soon as possible. It is critical for the Finance Committee and Vestry to know what the financial commitment of our parishioners is as they plan the budget and activities for the next year. For those who have returned their cards, I give my sincere thanks on behalf of the Vestry.

Scott T. Weaver
Stewardship Chair

Vacation Bible School 2009

St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday, July 18 to 22

5:30 PM Child friendly supper is served
Children, ages 4 – 12 or have completed pre-K to 5th grade, are invited to come have a good time.

Come and enjoy Bible story time, games, and loads of fun each night from 5:30 until 8:30 P.M. Registration is online at www.stjohnyork.org. Kids, invite a friend to join you for a fabulous week of fun; our program is **The High Seas**.

Contact Holly Kahley at 225-4312, or by email hkahley@gmail.com to volunteer or if you have any questions! We are looking forward to a great week!

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BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets on Monday, July 12 at 7 P.M. in the home of Suki Campbell.

The book selection for July is Telex From Cuba by Susann Cokal. Those interested in the book club are invited to join the group for a lively discussion. For more information contact Suki Campbell at sukic1@comcast.net or 843-7039.

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BOOKS

At St. John we are privileged to have a fund that provides for our young men and women pursuing higher education after high school, to receive a scholarship to purchase books. Students in trade schools, community colleges, colleges and vocational schools are invited to apply for a \$500 a year scholarship for the specific purpose of purchasing books related to a person's course of study. A simple application is obtained and returned to the Parish Office. Applications will be approved early in the fall and checks mailed at the beginning of the school year.

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EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY is an Episcopal educational program for adults. It involves study on your own and weekly seminars in which members discuss their studies, worship together, and engage in theological reflection on whatever topics are brought to the group. There is a cost associated with the program, but limited scholarship assistance is available. Registrations will be submitted over the summer. If you would like to learn more about EfM, please contact Barbara Mowery of St. Andrew's, at 757-7068, or jbmowery@comcast.net



OUR DAILY BREAD REPORT. In May we served 203 meals with 21 casseroles. Our servers

were Sue Krebs and Anne Confer, Jerri-Lee McCleary, Susan & Milton Leake, Elizabeth and Richard Smith, Russ Eckloff. On **Tuesday, June 22** we served 156 meals with 23 casseroles with Cherry Culis. Our servers were Milton & Susan Leake, Richard & Elizabeth Smith, Jerri-Lee McCleary and two guests from St. Andrews, Holly and Alex Weinrich, Thanks to everyone for their faithful ministry to the hungry in York.

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Congratulations to...

Sara Ann Ryer who graduated from Red Lion Area High School, June 11, 2010.

Ben and Jean Mosser will celebrate 50 years of marriage July 16, 2010. Join us in congratulating them on this auspicious occasion!

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LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

During the summer months we provide lemonade on the lawn after the 10 o'clock service so we might have an opportunity to greet guests and visit with one another. Thanks to all who have signed up to provide this wonderful ministry of hospitality on behalf of our parish.

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A REMINDER FROM THE TREASURER

Your support during the summer months is important as we continue to provide services and strive to keep our obligations current. If you are going out of town, please consider paying your church pledge before you leave. Summer months are slow income months for the parish. With your help we can pay our bills on time and not have to rely on investment funds throughout the summer months. Thank you for adding "pay my church pledge" to your "to do list before leaving town."

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FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

† Marriage †

"To whom God has joined together"

Megan Elizabeth Robertson

and

Daniel Mark Barrett

† Death †

"Unto God's gracious mercy we commend"

Kimberley R. Herman

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Christina Aulbach graduated cum laude from Saint Francis University on May 9, 2010 with a B.S. in accounting. She begins

an accounting position with Kearny & Company, Certified Public Accountants, at the beginning of June and will be relocating to Alexandria, Virginia.

Christina was also a student athlete and played third base for the SFU softball team. An article appearing in the York Daily Record states that Christina ended her softball career as a third baseman, hit .292, scored 12 runs and had two stolen bases. Her coach, Sabrina Lane said, "She was a great team player and truly was the pinnacle of the student/athlete at St. Francis."

FREEZER SALE

The plans are in place, lead cooks are being identified and recipes exchanged for the November Freezer Sale. Cooking begins most every Saturday morning from July through the sale at 9 A.M. in the Parish Hall kitchen.

This project takes lots of volunteer hours and willing hands to prepare the delicious *Divine Delights* offerings. The lead cooks have organization down to a fine science after years of practice. Come lend a hand on Saturday mornings, if you can, for a couple of hours. There is always lots of laughter and good fun as the food is being prepared. This project has been a major support for the many outreach ministries of our parish.

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STAYING CONNECTED

We all value independence and as we age, having reliable transportation to the doctor or the supermarket can be key in helping us continue living independently. A friendly call or visit, helping with yard work or respite care, can also make a difference. In the York community, volunteers with the Staying Connected program can provide these services. St. John's is among the six area congregations that created and now support the interfaith program. Please call Deena Gross at 843-5011 to volunteer your services, or know of any civic organization that might be interested in knowing more about Staying Connected.

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A PUZZLE FOR THE CHILDREN Anagrams – Books of the Bible

**seesign
hemwatt
usedox
visitclue
nailed
nominaltaste
violentera
lastagain
hazephina
asheepsin
onmars
moodytenure
hobaida
ijeerham
hemplion
ashoe
tileaccesses
beshrew
socialsons
shipinpipal
human
chairhaze**

HAVE A GREAT



