

# ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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## Young Voices Wanted!

The music training for our young children will begin soon, and it's not too late to join!  
Here are some of the benefits of becoming a Chorister:

- 1) SING some of the world's greatest music from all over the globe
- 2) GROW to become a talented musician
- 3) MAKE new friends and be part of a team
- 4) ENJOY special choir social events

**No Previous Experience Necessary**

If you are interested in joining this fun group, speak soon with Michael Bennett.

## ***A View from the Big Pew***

Dear Friends,

For several months now we have been “praying” the Millennium Development Goals in the Sunday Prayers of the People. I said we would do this to hold this need before our consciousness, and to hold those who would benefit from their attainment before God as an act of intercession, preliminary to any other action we might take.

It's been interesting to pray these.

One of the things I've tried to do, as I craft the intercessions and their explanatory note in the bulletin announcements week by week, is to move from simply listing the particular goal to suggesting concrete actions individuals might take to accomplish them.

Just last Sunday (July 15) we prayed for the eradication of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases. In the bulletin announcement I suggested that one concrete action people could take would be to speak with Steve Byrn, who is engaged in a project in concert with the Eli Lilly Company to train persons for the local manufacture of drugs to fight TB in Africa. In fact, Steve invited St. John's to help him sponsor a student who was here at Purdue for a time last year receiving some training to that end.

Karl Brandt mentioned a web site and project I might be interested in - “Nothing but Nets.” This project invites persons to purchase mosquito netting for distribution in countries where malaria is a matter of concern. This resonated with me because Pat had finished her course of anti-malarial medication necessitated by her trip to Manila in June. We discussed mosquito netting for a bit and I mentioned that my reading had made me aware of how important clean water was in good health and quality of life in other parts of the world. Karl pointed out how many of the diseases that plague other parts of the world are water-born.

This conversation led me to pretty much commit to myself to put my day's pocket change in a plastic water bottle labeled “Pocket Change for Pure Water.” In the past I've used that pocket change to help finance vacations. I know that a years change will weigh down my sock drawer with enough to pay for two nights in a mid-range motel. Now it will go to some local project to combat disease through the provision of pure drinking water.

Here's an interesting statistic from the August issue of *Harper's*: the US delivers, on average, 1,400,000 liters of bottled water to our troops in Iraq each day. I'm not saying we shouldn't do that at all, but I am saying that we can use that statistic to underscore the importance of clean and safe drinking water for all.

I know that at least one parishioner is interested in exploring how to micro-finance small businesses overseas. That means buying a saw, a tiller or wheelbarrow for a workman. Hilary Cooke invited us all to support the Heifer Project by our offerings to the U-2charist last winter. We realized enough money (over \$5000) to buy an “ark” full of animals, to be used for the production of food by those who have the desire but not necessarily the means to get started in self-sufficiency.

And so I wonder what has come of your praying the Millennium Development Goals, if you are doing that?

I suspect that some may be resistant for a variety of reasons. For others they provide a framework within which to set our response to Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" or to take to ourselves Jesus' benediction on those who give one of his brothers or sisters a cup of water to drink.

Would you be willing to share what you might be doing to advance one or more of these goals? Any and all responses will be circulated through this newsletter. If you wish, we will respect your privacy. Anonymous or not, what you have to offer may be exactly what someone else needs to learn in order to find their unique way to act out our prayers.

Thanks in advance for that encouragement and help.



Things continue to move along with St. John's' involvement in the local Habitat for Humanity. Ken Paar and Randy Brist have been attending the meetings as the representatives for St. John's. Their attendance provides St. John's with valuable information of our role in the project as well as fulfills one of our contractual requirements with Habitat for Humanity. Thank you very much to these men for taking the time to attend.

I must also extend a huge **THANK YOU** to all of you who answered our request for financial support. Another contractual obligation with Habitat for Humanity was a financial responsibility of \$3600.00. I am proud to report that we have already met that goal! This amount was raised in June and July by providing envelopes to the congregation to place in the offering plates. For me, to meet the financial goal so quickly is such a wonderful statement of the heart and spirit of our congregation. If you have not given to our Habitat for Humanity ministry and would like to do so, please do not let meeting our financial goal stop you. There are still envelopes available or you can send your donation directly to the office. Please make sure the check indicates it should go directly to Habitat for Humanity.

We are quickly moving toward September 15<sup>th</sup> when our first physical involvement occurs. Our second date of commitment is November 3<sup>rd</sup>. To prepare for this we are having an organizational meeting on Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm in the church commons. This meeting should be brief (!) and help us determine what responsibilities each volunteer will have and on which date. We will also discuss what each responsibility means in terms of one's time and talent. Hope to see you there!

Nolie Parnell  
Jr. Warden

The next St John's Community Luncheon at Trinity United Methodist is Sunday, August 12. Volunteers are needed anywhere from 11:00 AM until 1:30 - 2:00 PM. Please call Gail Wiley, 426-2905, or email [gailwiley1@yahoo.com](mailto:gailwiley1@yahoo.com) if you have interest and availability.

## **Jubilee Christmas**

St. John's is planning on serving 100 children at Jubilee Christmas (December 15). Preparations have begun to make a blanket and stocking for each child. There are several ways you can help. You can join us on August 18 and September 22 in The Commons anytime between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM or you can take kits home, make the items, and return them to the church. Watch for boxes containing kits of stockings and blankets.

All we ask is that you sign out what you are taking.

Join us on August 18 and September 22.

### **KNITWITS**

The Knitwits are knitters and crocheters who work year-round making mittens, scarves and hats for Jubilee Christmas. Occasionally we meet for social knitting, but most of our work is done individually. If you are interested in learning (or refreshing) knitting or crocheting skills, please join us on Saturday, August 25 at 10am in the Commons. We have patterns if you need them; it's okay to use your own if you'd rather. Variety is a good thing! Call if you have questions. Come to the meeting if you can.

Caryl Matthews  
463-1016

## **Fall Preview – St. John's Book Club**

The St. John's Book Club wrapped up its 2006/07 season in May. Plans are underway for the fall. The book club meets on the third Wednesday of each month (excepting December, July, August) at 7 pm in the Commons. To whet your reading appetite for the fall, here are the plans for September-November 2007.

◆ Wednesday September 19th- *God's Detectives*. Join us as we look at clerical sleuths! Watch the next Eagle issue for reading suggestions.

◆ Wednesday October 17th - The book club will feature *Flags of our Fathers*, Lafayette's *OneGreatRead* running from July 1 to November 11<sup>th</sup>. The author, James Bradley did extensive research on his father and the other five men who marched up the side of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima during World War II and raised the American flag—a moment captured in one of America's most famous photos. There's an edition of this book for teens, too! Let's have a multigenerational evening.

◆ Wednesday November 21<sup>st</sup> - As we prepare for Advent, we'll turn reflective and read *Mudhouse Sabbath* by Lauren Winner. It's a series of charming, yet thought provoking essays on how the Orthodox Jewish rituals that shaped the author's young adult life are rediscovered in her life as a Christian today.

Selections for our 2008 season are OPEN now! Check out materials in the commons and make suggestions to [pagets@gmail.com](mailto:pagets@gmail.com).

—Amy Paget

***What can be said? How about:***

***“St. John’s Episcopal Church really knows how to make strawberry shortcake!”***

The annual *Round the Fountain Art Fair* took place on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> and St. Johns’ Strawberry Shortcake booth was again a smashing success. The perfect weather combined with perfect sweets provided a steady line of customers for our hard working volunteers.

Dozens of people made this event an overall success and the list of names is too long to list. Hours of preparation went into slicing berries, whipping cream, mixing and baking shortcakes, and serving the public. Many people volunteer year after year for this fundraiser, and we are grateful for that.

The monetary profit was \$1884.21 and was divided equally between Waycross Camp scholarships and the church music program. This is a slight decrease from 2006 due to higher expenses this year. However, without the higher expenses, this would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> increase in three years. Thank you for all of your support.

Your 2007 Strawberry Booth Committee,

Michael Bennett  
Marylin Howland-Ross  
E. Linda Jeffries

***Ten Top Reasons Not to Wash***

10. I was forced to as a child.
9. People who make soap are only after your money.
8. I only wash on special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
7. People who wash are hypocrites & they think they are cleaner than everyone else.
6. There are so many different kinds of soap, I can’t decide which one is best.
5. I used to wash but it got boring so I stopped.
4. None of my friends wash.
3. The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.
2. I can’t spare the time.
1. I’ll start washing when I get older and dirtier.

(From “the Venite”, the newsletter of St. Paul’s, Columbus, IN)

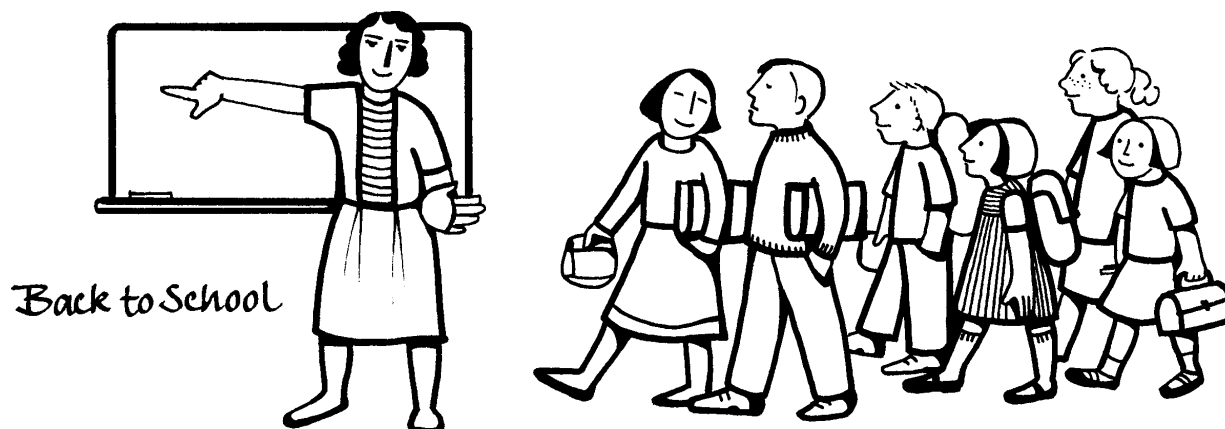
## Nursery News

Hope everyone is enjoying the lazy, hazy days of summer! Ha-if anyone has young children they know there is nothing "lazy" about the summer. The activity in the nursery has slowed a little as expected for the summer but it still has been well-used. To ensure the nursery remains a clean environment for our littlest ones, the carpet was cleaned in July. Thanks Property Maintenance Committee for organizing that. Now we need to clean all the other nooks and crannies of the nursery in preparation of the children returning. Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, we ask for any volunteers (no previous experience required) to join us in cleaning the nursery. We will meet at 9am and will most likely be done around 11am. All supplies are provided so all you have to do is bring yourself. Hope to see you there!

Mom's Morning Out (MMO) continues to be used heavily by several families. We are extremely happy that this ministry is being utilized. MMO did not meet in June or July but will meet in August. The date is Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until 11:30am. This will hopefully allow some of you to do a little back-to-school shopping without the children telling you what you should buy. We are planning on having two sitters in the nursery on the 6<sup>th</sup> in anticipation of a slightly larger crowd. As always please let us or Susan Chandler know if you would like to take advantage of MMO.

We are still actively seeking any interested person (or people) who is/are interested in becoming the new nursery coordinator(s). If you are interested please contact one of us and we will be happy to discuss the responsibilities with you. And the offer still stands....a transition period with us involved to help during the learning curve. Please consider this wonderful ministry!

Nolie Parnell and Kelley Bailey



Dear Friends,

Salaam and greetings from Jerusalem, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Your Good Friday offering of \$322 for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is gratefully acknowledged with my sincere thanks.

Yours in Christ  
The Rt. Rev'd Suheil S. Dawani  
Bishop