



The Eagle

Flu Season Precautions By Ed Tourangeau

Much has been said about the need for extra precautions this coming flu season, both individually and for public gatherings. These precautions apply to that public gathering we know as divine worship as well. Here are some things to be aware of regarding St. John's worship in the coming flu season.

1. If you're sick, stay home. We will miss you, we'll reserve your pew and we'll welcome you back upon your return. This applies to the ordained as well as lay persons.
2. Cover your mouth when you sneeze; sneeze into your elbow if you can.
3. Wash your hands. We have plenty of soap and water here. Anyone who will be involved in serving, be it Holy Communion or Coffee Hour or the Godly Play Feast, or in food preparation of any kind is hereby instructed to wash their hands prior to serving. And when you've done all of the above, then wash your hands again.
4. Avail yourselves of the sanitizer gels that will be available throughout the building. In most areas this will be the more common anti-bacterial sort (and yes, we know that the flu is a virus). Our intention is to get anti-viral preparations for use by those administering Holy Communion.

For the time being I will leave more personal matters to your discretion. So for example, during the Exchange of Peace do not take offense if someone offers you a slight bow and a smile instead of a handshake or hug. We might devise an award for the most creative way to do elbow bumps at this point in the liturgy. Be creative, and find new (and hopefully temporary) ways to communicate our connectedness with one another in God's all-embracing love.

Inevitably the question arises about the common cup and Communion. While many believe that the practice of "intinction" (dipping the bread into the cup rather than drinking from the cup) is more sanitary, in fact reliable medical authorities say it is not. Rather it increases the risk of transmission simply because it increases potential number of fingers that can touch the wine. There are far fewer bad things on lips than on fingers. This of course is why Jesus said "drink this" rather than "dip your bread into it."

So we will move into any major adaptations in the distribution of Holy Communion carefully. Until then exercise some common sense and simple hygiene: wash your hands, stay home if you're ill, cover your mouth when you sneeze, and wash your hands again.

And be sure to get your flu shots!

Housekeeping By Cresta Cates

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the last three issues of *The Eagle*. Now that my feet are wet, there are a couple of housekeeping items about submitted articles I would like to address to keep everything running smoothly.

When possible, please keep submissions under 250 words. This is a good rule of thumb not only for allotment of space, but also for readability.

"Just the facts, ma'am." It is easy to fall into stream-of-consciousness writing as we try to get everything into an article. A good tip to avoid that pitfall is to write articles in the third-person (he, she) instead of first-person (I, me). In my editing, I often employ this technique to refine an article and cut out commentary to make sure that all the data gets passed along.

There are obvious exceptions to both of these guidelines, like "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" column, but as a rule, these guidelines will be what I use when editing *The Eagle*. If you submit an article of some length, please indicate what is most important to you so that I can keep be aware of your wishes if I need to edit your piece. If major edits are made beyond grammatical corrections and other minor changes, every effort will be made to volley your edited article back to you before publication.

Keep the contributions and the feedback coming and enjoy your October *Eagle*.

e-spirituality By Amy Paget

e-spirituality is designed to be an item in each Eagle where St. John's parishioners share the online resources that they have discovered that aid in their understanding of their faith.

<http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/> **The Lectionary.** Parishioner Heidi Kauffman shared this wonderful site recently with the attendees at the Adult Forum session on the Saints. Charles Wohlers is the webmaster and the site is provided as a service to the community by Satucket Software: Web Design & consulting for churches and small business. It's updated each Sunday evening and contains lectionary resources for the Episcopal Church. What caught Heidi's eye was its marvelous section on the Saints of the Church. I love the excel spreadsheet of readings...for me a little easier to follow than the list in the BCP!

<http://apresefm.blogspot.com/> **Après EfM: The Journey.** Hey, it's time to tout my own blog! After I graduated from EfM (Education for Ministry), a 4-year lay education program offered through Sewanee University here at St. John's, I wondered what would be next in my faith journey. I decided to share my musings with others, hence this blog. Check it out to see if what I am practicing and sharing is of interest to you!

<http://www.facebook.com> I know that some St. John's parishioners are on **Facebook**, and many of us are enjoying keeping in touch with each other that way and exploring the Anglican and Episcopal pages on this social media site. My current favorite is **The Episcopal Café** <http://www.facebook.com/TheEpiscopalCafe>. Not interested in Facebook? You can find The Episcopal Café at <http://www.episcopalcafe.com/>. It's a ministry of the Diocese of Washington. The Café is collaborative effort by more than two dozen writers and editors and an ever-growing list of visual artists. Together, they create a visually appealing, intellectually stimulating, spiritually enriching and at least occasionally amusing site where Episcopalians and those interested in our church can read, watch, listen and reflect upon contemporary life in a context informed by faith and animated by the spirit of charity.

Have you found an online site that's contributed to your journey in faith? Email Amy at pagets@gmail.com and watch for it to appear here in the upcoming months.

St. John's Movie Night By Leah Moss

Please join us Thursday, October 29 for a viewing of Mel Brooks' comedy classic "Young Frankenstein." Gene Wilder stars as the grandson of the famous Dr. Frankenstein who, after years of living down the family reputation, inherits granddad's castle and repeats his experiments.

The show starts at 6:30 pm in the Bishop's Parlor. Be sure to bring a pillow and blanket to get comfy! Feel free to bring enough of your favorite Halloween treat to share. Questions? Contact Leah Moss at 491-5143 or leahcmoss@gmail.com.



Family Promise By Maggie McClure

As of the October 1, St. John's support of Family Promise will be different. Instead of helping Trinity Methodist with meals, supplies, and volunteers, St. John's will provide dinner on the first Tuesday of each month to the host church for the families in the program. In addition, we will supply a "House Warming Basket" to families when they transition out the program. Please pay attention when the sign-up sheets go up for meals and items for the baskets and respond in your usual generous way.

Habitat for Humanity Outreach Project By Ken Paar

Habitat for Humanity's Lafayette chapter has now decided to postpone the Veteran Build project. It is now scheduled to begin rather than finish on Veteran's Day.

St. John's has committed to provide a framing crew on the initial day of framing. Some framing may take place on Veteran's Day which is on Wednesday. As soon as I the details are worked out with Doug Taylor at Habitat, I will get them into the Sunday bulletins. If you are available on Veteran's Day and willing to help, please contact Ken Paar at 538-2337.

Children's Activity Bags By Heidi Kauffman

There is a great need for someone to take over maintenance of the children's activity bags that hang in the nave. This could be done anytime the office is open during the week or at another time to be scheduled with Heidi Kauffman. The bags need attention every 3-4 weeks. The Godly Play Study Group and Heidi have their hands full and the bags are suffering as a result. Who wants to make this their ministry? Talk with Heidi to find out details.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

By Robert Kurtz

Growing up Mennonite, I had a vague idea that there were certain dead people Catholics prayed to and named things like schools and hospitals after. We Mennos, however, did not “do” saints. The idea of being posthumously canonized and venerated in worship went against our theology and practice, which emphasized, among other things, humility, simplicity, and not being like Catholics if at all possible.

Particularly troublesome was the idea of *praying* to the saints. Even when our Catholic friends explained to us that they weren’t putting the saints on an equal footing with God, but only asking them to intercede on their behalf, it made us squeamish. We believed we had access to God through Jesus Christ, so going through other channels seemed superfluous at best and idolatrous at worst.

Really, the first time I remember the idea of sainthood being embraced in Mennonite worship was in the late seventies or early eighties when we started changing the words of hymns to be more gender-inclusive. One common trick was to replace *men* with *saints*, as in *Rise Up, O Saints of God*. Granted, even before that, we sang *Come, Come, Ye Saints*, but we all knew that was a Mormon hymn, so we didn’t really need to grapple with it. But now the use of “The S Word” in worship led to discussions of what exactly sainthood was—and was not.

Not surprisingly for a faith community that puts great stock in the priesthood of all believers, Mennonites (if we talk about saints at all) like to view the Communion of Saints as a large and inclusive circle, potentially including everyone. Sort of like the hymn *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*, which we often sing here at St. John’s. Still, Mennonites have never been quite comfortable with saints. We’ll let them in to our worship services, but we expect them to sit at the back and not make much noise.



When I began worshipping with Episcopalians, I had to get used to thinking of saints as something a little more front-and-center. Unlike Catholics, Episcopalians don’t pray to saints, but they do name stuff after them and mention them in prayers, so you can’t really pull them out when you need

a gender-neutral monosyllable for a hymn and pretend they aren’t there the rest of the time. It was one of a number of things that pulled me out of my comfort zone in my early days at St. John’s.

In the Adult Forum Series for the past few weeks, we have been discussing saints and what they mean to us. While recognizing that sainthood is something we can all aspire to and achieve, we have also focused on the lives of a number of individuals who have been canonized by the Roman Catholic church and/or recognized as saints by the Episcopal church. My presentation focused on Father Damien of Moloka’i, who will be canonized by the Vatican on October 11, 2009, and who is on the list of individuals the Episcopal Church celebrates. We have also looked at the lives of St. Anthony, St. Gerard, St. Anne, St. Cyril, and others. After learning some of the less flattering details of some of their lives, I find myself imagining a new verse for *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*—something along the lines of

*...and one was a playboy and one
liked to drink,*

*and one was abrasive and needed a
shrink,*

*and if those guys can do it, I jolly well
think*

yours truly can be one, too!

Learning about these saints—their lives, their deaths, their faith, their failings, their *holy humanity* if you will—helped me in forming what I hope and believe will be a more well-rounded way of viewing sainthood. I value and treasure my Mennonite upbringing, and still think of myself as a Mennonite who worships with Episcopalians (and loves it), but I also welcome the opportunity to stretch myself into new ways of celebrating the holy humanity that exists in myself and others.

Jubilee Christmas

By Maggie McClure

Plans for Jubilee Christmas, which will be held December 12, have begun. We are planning to serve 38 families, with approximately 100 children. The exact number of children, their ages, and their gender will not be known until November.

In November, the Jubilee Christmas volunteer sign-up sheet will be posted. Help is needed with set-up during the week leading up to December 12 and, of course, on the twelfth. Mark your calendars for this annual event and be sure help. If you have not participated in the past, consider it for this year. You will not regret it!

Second Wednesday Concert Series Begins By Doug Powell

A midday break of splendid music featuring some of the area's most talented performers and ensembles will again be offered the second Wednesdays of October through April at St. John's. The short concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. and are followed by a light lunch in the Parish Commons. The 2009-2010 series includes:

- Oct. 14: Karen Goff, soprano
- Nov. 11: Meg Howlett and Allynn McInerney, flute duo
- Dec. 9: Lafayette Jefferson High School Varsity Singers, Michael Bennett, director
- Jan. 13: Margot Marlatt, cellist
- Feb. 10: Ben McCartney, organist
- March 10: to be announced
- April 14: Mary Heller, pianist

Soprano Karen Goff, the season's first performer, is a regular soloist for the Bach Chorale Concert Series. She is featured on three Bach Chorale compact discs and serves as Artistic Administrator of the Bach Chorale Singers. She also has served as vocal soloist with many other ensembles in the Lafayette area. For many years Karen Goff has mentored young singers through vocal coaching and private lessons. She is Choir Director at Covenant Church and a music educator in the Tippecanoe School Corporation. She received a master's degree in vocal performance from the University of Illinois. Michael Bennett will accompany Karen Goff at her October 14 performance.

This is the third consecutive season of the Second Wednesday Concerts at St. John's. The series has been well received by members of the Greater Lafayette community, including St. John's parishioners. It is organized by the Music Committee at St. John's and involves numerous volunteers.

The concerts are free. A \$5 donation is suggested to cover lunch expenses. Great Harvest Bread Company is again donating delicious and nutritious breads for lunch.

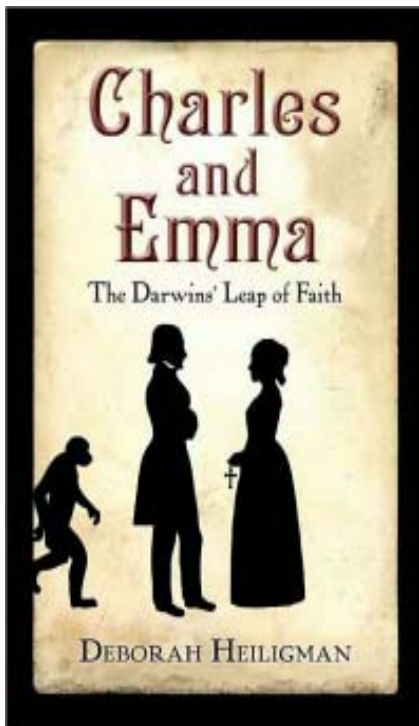
Showing Us At Our Best

by Amy Paget

There is a wonderful opportunity to witness to the vibrancy of our community life via the St. John's Bulletin Board in the hallway near the Bishop's Parlor and restrooms. After a 4-year ministry of the "Holy Bulletin Board," Amy Paget wishes to retire from this task! This is a ministry that you may accomplish during your time at church on Sundays and/or with some additional effort at a time convenient to you. The assignment? To refresh the Bulletin Board's contents periodically so that they illustrate our community life. There are lots of resources at the church to assist you...or you can envision your own approach to welcoming parishioners and guests via this high profile location. Questions? Speak to Amy Paget at church or contact her via pagets@gmail.com.

Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the November *Eagle* will be Monday, October 19. Email to eagle@stjohns-laf.org or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.



St. John's Book Discussion Features *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* By Amy Paget

Monthly book discussions continue at St. John's with *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* by Deborah Heiligman. Heiligman uses the Darwin family letters and papers to craft a full-bodied look at the personal influences that shaped Charles Darwin's life as he worked mightily to shape his theories. This intersection between religion and science is where the book shines, but it is also an excellent portrait of what life was like during the Victorian era, a time when illness and death were ever present, and, in a way, a real-time example of the survival of the fittest.

Book discussions are held in the Commons and last about an hour—from 7-8 pm. The public is welcome and anyone may drop in at any time. It is possible to be part of the discussion if you have not read or finished the book, and just want to learn more about whether you would like to read it!

We are now meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month to avoid conflicts with other groups.

EXCEPTION: The group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday in November, to avoid meeting too close to Thanksgiving. On November 18 Mary Campbell will convene an evening featuring the works of Dorothy Gilman. See the November *Eagle* for further details. Questions? Contact Amy Paget at pagets@gmail.com.

I Wonder...

Tales from Godly Play

By Nate Mosier

Our lesson was on the “Circle of the Holy Eucharist.” This lesson uses pictures mounted on wooden plaques of the various parts of the Eucharist (reading the lessons, the offering, the Great Thanksgiving, communion, etc). As the storyteller, I lay out each plaque in order and describe the names and meaning of each part of the Eucharist that the kids have experienced on innumerable Sunday mornings.

We had a big crowd (8 kids) that morning and everyone listened intently to the story. After the story and our wondering, nearly every child chose to work on decorating their new drawing pads where they could write or draw their reflections on the lesson each week. After barely two minutes had passed, one of the kids got bored with his pad, put it back in its place on the shelf, and lay down on the floor in the middle of the room.

I walked over and asked him to look at our altar to see if anything was wrong. The white altar cloth from Easter had been left on the altar and it had not been changed to match the color of the current season (green). He immediately noticed the wrong color of the altar cloth and got up to make sure the altar was arranged correctly. After changing the altar cloth, he began setting up the altar for the Eucharist. A second child had been preparing our weekly “feast” before this and joined the first as his aid in assembling everything. The feast includes Graham crackers and small cups of water that are consumed as we sit in a circle after saying some prayers. The second child brought the crackers and water for the feast over to the altar.

After everything was assembled, something new happened. The first child began going through the consecration of the Eucharist from memory. He didn’t remember the words very well, but the gestures were clearly and indelibly remembered. He knew the correct layout of the altar and all of the proper gestures done by the presiding

priest that accompany the consecration. The other kids in the room began to notice what was going on. We stood back and watched quietly what was happening.

Time was quickly running out for class, and we told the kids to get ready for the feast by cleaning up their work and straightening up the classroom. The kids responded by asking if they could have the feast from the altar this time. We gathered, seated in a circle in the middle of the room on the carpet for the pre-feast prayers. I asked our “presiding priest” if he would like to lead. He agreed, still wearing the stole from the altar materials around his neck. After the other children had a chance to add a prayer, our “presiding priest” finished with a general prayer for everyone in the room and then lead the kids in singing the “Johnny Appleseed song.” He then went to the altar and all of the kids walked up single file to receive a cracker from him and a blessing. His verbal blessing was accompanied by marking each of their foreheads with the

sign of the cross. Each child then picked up a cup of water from the altar and returned to the circle to eat and drink. Everyone could sense something significant was happening. I believe that the Holy Spirit was at work in the room that morning. While the atmosphere was playful (there was a bit of giggling), it was also very respectful. If anything the whole thing was a bit silly, and by that I mean by the original meaning of the word “silly”- touched by God.

As the feast was wrapping up, the kids asked if they could do this for the feast next time and began working out who was going to do what part of **their** Eucharist next time. The children have found a way to make their classroom their own. They have found a way of their own to express their relationship with God as a community of children in addition to deepening their ability to participate in the larger expression of our relationship with God in the Eucharist downstairs each Sunday morning.

Two Sunday Forum Series for October 4, 11 & 18 By Heidi Kauffman

1. Children, Holy Communion, and the Home (Outreach Room inside 6th Street entrance)

This Series will be facilitated by both Ed Tourangeau and Hilary Cooke, and is offered for parents considering Holy Baptism for their child(ren), for parents of children already baptized who wonder about the “why” of children receiving Holy Communion before they are confirmed, and for parents who would like some encouragement or guidance in their own role as the persons primarily responsible for the faith formation of their children. Grandparents or godparents might also enjoy sitting in.

The First Session will look at our current practice and how we got here. The Second Session will explore the theology of why we’re doing what we do today, and the Third Session will focus on how to support parents in their role as Christian Educators for their children.

2. Exploring Spirituality with Soren Kierkegaard (Bishop’s Parlor)

Facilitator, Erik Hanson: “The Lily in the Field and the Bird of the Air,” from *Without Authority*. Nowadays, the nineteenth century philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard, is rarely given more than an obligatory nod by contemporary philosophers and theologians. The fact is that in addition to his philosophical and theological contributions, he presented a number of insightful and edifying discourses that are just as relevant for today as they were in his own time. Three discourses from “The Lily in the Field and the Bird of the Air,” provide an account of how we can learn from them about the Christian spiritual life by their example as “teachers” for us.

**Mom’s Morning Out
By Annie Schreiber**

There will be a Mom’s Morning Out on October 9 from 9:00 am to Noon. Take some time for yourself while your kids come and play in our nursery. Childcare is provided.

**United Thank Offering
By Mary Louise Davis**

What do you know about the United Thank Offering (UTO)?

It’s MISSION is to expand the circle of thankful people- both young and old, individuals and families. To achieve this mission daily prayers, offerings and awareness of the abundance of God’s blessings are encouraged by all Episcopalians throughout the Anglican Communion

The VISION of the United Thank Offering is to significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ’s love. To achieve this vision, UTO if focusing particularly on projects that implement significant change toward alleviating profound human suffering that the Millennium Goals address.

Since its beginning in 1889, the UTO has been looking for new ways to be a vibrant ministry throughout the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church.

In 2008 eighteen international grants were awarded along with seventy grants awarded in the USA. Here in Indiana, there were 2 grants awarded: Columbus, IN, Love Chapel Feeding Program to purchase 2 new large commercial-grade refrigerators and one large freezer for a food pantry, and in Northern Indiana to provide a summer camp experience for 30 children of incarcerated parent(s).

See the UTO 2008 Grants List booklets found in the Commons for more information. You are welcome to take one to read as well as any other UTO materials. Does your household have a UTO Blue Box? Help yourself!

**All Saints Day Festival
By Heidi Kauffman**

This year on November 1 St. John’s will have a festival to celebrate All Saints Day. Come dressed as your favorite holy woman or holy man and during Education for All we will gather in the Commons for festive food, a story, a special activity and two service projects. We will put together one AIDS kit and as many school kits as we can. A sign up sheet indicating which items you will bring for the kits is in the Commons. An excellent resource including feast days and biographies of the Holy Women and Holy Men recognized by the Episcopal Church is at <http://satucket.com/lectionary/>. Scroll down to Feasts, Holy Days, and Commemorations to find a list and short biographies. The county library also has good resources – do not forget to check the juvenile collection for some of the best resources!

**August Financial Report
By Linda Jeffries**

RECEIPTS	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Total Year 2009</u>
1. Pledge Income	23,200.00	199,983.00
2. Non-Pledge Income	1,209.00	18,404.00
3. Transfer/Reserve Funds	-0-	-0-
4. Transfer/Stephens Fund	-0-	-0-
TOTAL INCOME	24,409.00	218,387.00
EXPENSES		
1. Outreach	3,958.00	31,986.00
2. Program	890.00	8,696.00
3. Personnel	16,372.00	145,557.00
4. Office	1,084.00	10,192.00
5. Property	3,152.00	41,179.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,456.00	237,610.00
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS/EXPENSES	-1,047.00	-19,223.00

A Few Notes:

For 2009, the budget assumes a shortfall of up to \$35,000. In 2010, 2011, and 2012, any shortfall (up to \$35,000/year) will be met by income from the Extraordinary Stewardship Effort (ESE).

This is a summary report of operating income and expenses. Details are available for review from any member of the Finance Committee or the parish office. Parish funds such as endowment/investment funds, or pass-through receipts not directed toward regular parish operations are not included in the above report. They are available for review through the parish office or any member of the Endowment Committee.

On 9/1/09, \$7000 was transferred from the Total Access Fund to cover the current deficit. In the near future (probably this week), it is anticipated that \$10,000-\$15,000 will be transferred from the Stephens Fund to be applied to the current deficit.

The large increase in the yearly deficit (\$-19,223.00) above is due to taking ESE funds out of the operating income tabulation. Funds have already been donated so they count as income. However, they cannot be used until 2010. Therefore, they have been taken out of the income category. This makes the deficit line more accurate.

Eggs, Bread, Shawls and Throws

By Jo Roberts

Have you noticed the fresh eggs and bread on the table during the Sunday coffee hours? These items (and occasionally fresh vegetables) are offered for a donation. Most of the donations have been sent to Episcopal Relief and Development, and we have also donated to the Episcopal Diocese for CPS - MOP, United Thank Offering, St. John's Youth Group, and most recently supported the Youth Group in the Hunger Hike. The grand total thus far ... \$1021.00!!!

The Watson (*bread*) and Roberts (*eggs*) families thank you for your generosity, and for supporting this ministry.

BUT, you may say, what has this to do with shawls and throws? Well, we have a new ministry at St. John's, the creation of prayer shawls and throws. Your donations also helped buy yarn for 5 shawls. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is fairly new at St. John's, but we have already crafted over 50 shawls and throws, and given away 44 of them. Recipients have been both inside and outside our parish. They have been delivered to new moms, those facing or recovering from surgery or hospitalization, homeless families in the Family Promise program, the Clarian Arnett palliative care program, those with stress in their life, and those working in dangerous locations. Let us know if you are aware of someone who may need a comfort shawl or throw.



Special thanks go to those who knit and crochet these items that bring so much comfort. Please pray for the ministries of Adelia, Barb, Caryl, Debbie, Dorothy, Ginny, Heidi, Jo, Kaye, Linda, Lorraine, Marilyn, Mary, Patty, Priscilla, and Sue. We invite you to join us on the first and third Monday of the month when we gather to knit, crochet, pray and bless the shawls. We meet at 12:30 pm in the Bishop's Parlor. All are welcome, and we are happy to help beginners.

Hunger Hike By Hilary Cooke

The youth group is happy to report that we raised over \$1600 for the Hunger Hike—we were the youth group that raised the second highest amount of money! 18 members of our congregation participated in the event by either walking or assisting with administrative details. The hike, sponsored by Lafayette Urban Ministry, raises money for programs that help the hungry in our area (including our own food pantry). Many thanks to all who helped support us!

Nursery Clean-Up By Annie Schreiber

There will be a Nursery Cleaning on Tuesday October 13 starting at 6:00 pm. Any help is appreciated. This helps us keep the nursery sparkling and healthy for our kids!



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Fall Work Day By Tony Bailey

The Fall Work Day will be held on Saturday October 31 (costumes not required) starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at noon. You do not need to stay the whole time - stop in as your schedule allows. We will be doing fix-it, winterization and cleaning projects - all skill levels welcome. There will be donuts, drinks and lunch. Please contact Tony Bailey (463-7263 or tktbailey@earthlink.net) if you want to volunteer and / or know of projects that need attention. Watch the Commons for sign-up sheets. Hope to see you there!

