

Frankly Speaking

August 2007

Pentecost, Year C

St Paul's Episcopal Church, Woodville, TX

Break Down the Walls; Come, Know Jesus (Holy Ghost Power)

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES!

At a recent Christian Formation meeting, the decision was made to start Church School BETWEEN services for young people and adults, commencing in the fall.

The way it will work is, children's Sunday school will begin after communion. Class will run from approximately 9:50 to 10:35 a.m. each Sunday, so parents can have coffee and attend Bible Study or "Stump the Vicar" in the Parish hall while their children are learning in the Sunday School room.

We have been blessed with growth at St. Paul's, and we need to provide a safe environment where we honor children and ministry for children. The Diocesan Policy on Christian Education respects the dignity of every human being, with the children of God being brought up in the faith of the church.

To this end, we are asking parents to please accompany your child to the restroom if they need to go during services, and to



Frank is anxious for school to start. He misses the kids!

be with them at all times. We can't have children unattended in the balcony, for example, as that could be dangerous. Until we have a nursery attendant, we ask that babies remain with their parents during worship. I'd much rather have a crying baby in church than at home.

We are seeking volunteer teachers and monitors for our kids. You can be a monitor without having to be responsible for teaching. We need at least two persons each Sunday for Church School.

The Diocese requires all volunteers involved with children to have background checks and to attend the Safeguarding God's Children training offered through the church. The Diocese also recommends that **all** parishioners attend the training, so that we all know how to keep our children safe.

The next class will be coming soon. Please contact me or Woodie Cone to sign up for training.

There is no cost for the class or background check at this time.

I also intend to include children in both services for musical offerings and little plays in the near future. Please continue to pray for our new efforts in Christian formation.

Fr. Steve

HOLY COW(S)!

The Mexican Fiesta dinner was quite a success. The house was full, and we had lots of fun, playing many games and laughing a lot. Our silent auction was very successful: Woodie & Lou had fun running up the bids! We netted \$706 in this first Relay for Life 2008 event. If you missed it, you missed a good time, & hopefully you won't miss future events.

The next event is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21. This will be a Texas 42 Domino Tournament, conducted round robin style with a 50/50 pot for the winners (net of expenses). Teams will be selected by draw. Donation levels: Player - \$25; Spectator - \$10. *All donations levels include dinner.* Donations are tax-deductible less benefit received (dinner, everyone; winnings, lucky ones).

Thank you for your support of Relay for Life. Cancer touches all of us, directly or indirectly as we lose friends and loved ones.

Support of Relay for Life does not mean we don't support other worthy causes or health-related fund-raisers. We do. We will. Bring 'em on!

TREASURER'S NOTES

We are already half way through 2007, and the Bishop's Committee and I are taking a hard look at projected expenses and revenues for the rest of the year. We are very grateful for the faithful support of our St. Paul's family. We take very seriously our responsibility to be good stewards.

The 6 month Report of Giving has been distributed. If you have any question about your statement, please contact me. If for some reason you will not be able to completely fulfill your pledge, please let me know so that we can accurately forecast our income for the rest of the year. Thank you for your cooperation.

Pat Knecht

WHAZZUP? Upcoming Events

Aug 2 - 5: Cursillo # 217 at Camp Allen

August 8: 6 pm Healing Service

Aug 17: 7 pm Ultreya, St Stephens, Beaumont

Aug 21: Relay for Life "Texas 42 Domino Tournament"

Aug 22: 6 pm Healing Service

Aug 22: deadline for September newsletter articles

Sept 1: 2 pm Anne Witte family baptism - all are invited

Sept 4: School starts

Sept 11: 1 - 4 pm Community of Hope training

Sept 13: Caring is Sharing spaghetti dinner at Our Lady of the Pines

Sept 21: 7 pm Ultreya at St Mark's, Beaumont

Sept 21 & 22: 6 pm
AND Sept 23: 3 pm Relay for Life Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

Sept 29: Gray Panthers sing at Heritage Village

Oct 19: 7 pm Ultreya, St Paul's, Woodville

JAMMIN' WITH JESUS

It's time for a report on the new 11 am service. Attendance has varied from 16 to 37. The spirit has been very good and it has been as lively as we had hoped.

We have not yet had the numbers of new people we had hoped, but it takes time to establish. Some of the new people we have seen have not come back, and I don't know what that means, but maybe what we are offering is not what those particular people were looking for.

We do have to be faithful to our own vision and to our understanding of the Gospel and how to offer a liturgy that is people-friendly and yet reverent.

I'm asking each of you to invite a friend to attend the 11a.m. service with you - or at least, tell them about it.

Again, the format is as follows:

10-15 minutes of praise music
Opening prayer
Scripture reading
Teaching
Prayers
The Peace
Offertory
Holy Communion
Prayer circle
Closing song

There is lots of singing during the service as well.

We are open to various kinds of music, so if you know someone who might enjoy bringing their music, please let me know!

Fr. Steve

TYLER COUNTY UNITED CHRISTIANS REVIVAL - - REVISITED

I was extremely proud of our parish during the 2nd Annual Tyler County Revival. St. Paul's was well represented each night of the event, and we were also active participants as the Gray Panthers sang and Valerie Hill offered a testimony.

The theme this year was "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" and each speaker added more and more convincing content as the week went on. Pastor Duncan Parish of First Christian took my spot as Monday preacher when I was unable to get back from a family wedding in time. He did a spectacular job by all accounts, and then Pastor James Edwards inspired the crowd mightily on Tuesday and Pastor Isadore Hunt followed up on Wednesday. Fr. Paul Felton spoke on Thursday and Brother James Mitchell brought it all home with an awesome and wonderful sermon on Friday night.

Out of our recent meetings, St. Paul's and White's Chapel Church of God in Christ have become sister congregations and intend to share worship often in the near future.

We continue to meet each month as the Tyler County United Christians Association to plan activities to educate and inspire our membership. These meetings are always the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m., at various locations around the county. Lookin the *Booster* for the location.

Please continue to pray for the wonderful work we are accomplishing through the ongoing United Christians Association and our yearly Revival.

PRAYER CORNER

"Help me, Comforting God, to accept who I am and the aging that goes along with my body. Let me stretch and remain as flexible in body as I try to be in spirit. Course through me and give me strength. This I ask in Jesus' name."

BOOK NOOK

excerpted from *What is Anglicanism*, by Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi.

"In the Church of Uganda, Anglicanism has been built on three pillars: martyrs, revival, and the historic episcopate. Yet each of these refers back to the Word of God, the ground on which all is built: the faith of the martyrs as maintained by the Word of God, the East African revival brought to the people the Word of God, and the historic ordering of ministry was designed to advance the Word of God.

"So let us think about how the Word of God works in the worldwide Anglican Communion. We in the Church of Uganda are convinced that Scripture must be reasserted as the central authority in our communion. The basis of our commitment to Anglicanism is that it provides a wider forum for holding each other accountable to Scripture, which is the seed of faith and the foundation of the Church in Uganda.

"The Bible cannot appear to us a cadaver, merely to be dissected, analyzed, and retiqued, as has been the practice of much modern higher biblical criticism. Certainly we engage in biblical scholarship and criticism, but what is important to us is the power of the Word of God precisely as the WORD of God -- written to bring transformation in our lives, our families, our communities, and our culture. For us, the Bible is "living and active, sharper than a double-edged sword, it penetrates to dividing soul and spirits, joints and marrow, it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."(Heb.4:12) The transforming effect of the Bible on Ugandans has generated so much conviction and confidence that believers were martyred in the defense of the message of salvation through Jesus Christ that it brought."

---AMEN!!!from David Rust

Readers Wanted!! (Continued from page 4)

Books from Community of Hope available for check out from The Office:
Broken, Body, Healing Spirit(Lectio Divina and Living with Illness) by Mary Earle
Healing the Dying by Linn
Healing in the Landscape of Prayer by Avery Brooke
Reminders of God (Altars for Personal and Family Devotion) by Anne Grizzle
Going Home Grown up by Anne Grizzle

Have you read a good book lately?

Carol Sherer

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

The Community of Hope 10th annual conference for Lay Pastoral Caregivers was held at Camp Allen July 12th-14th. This is the 6th conference I have attended and each one has been excellent.

This year's theme was Living Into Benedictine Spirituality. The keynote speaker was Anne Grizzle, a psychotherapist, clinical social worker and spiritual director from Houston. The highlights for me were Anne's address, Brother Michael and Father Peter's talk on Saturday, the 3 workshops I attended on Icons, Spiritual Health and Lectio Divina and the Taize service on Friday night.

In addition to getting our "batteries

recharged" it is a wonderful opportunity to share ideas with other COH centers and renew friendships.

I have the privilege of serving on the COH Diocesan Board and working on a committee chaired by Anne Grizzle. Our focus this year is strengthening community within the COH centers. We are working on this at St.Paul's and will be offering a COH course this fall. I appreciate the support of the BC and St. Paul's.

Pat Knecht

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WHAZZUP? Upcoming Events 2

Cursillo

Upcoming Cursillo dates in 2007 are August 2-5 and November 1-4.

If you are interested in attending, please see Fr Steve or anyone who has already attended. Cursillo.

Relay for Life dinner and "42" Tournament

August 21 at the Parish Hall. You can play for the 50/50 pot or watch the action. After the first round, anyone can play "42" and other games just for fun. It promises to be a fun evening for a good cause, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life 2008.

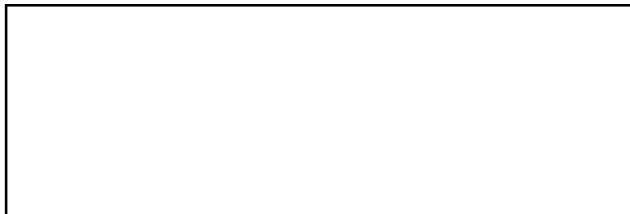
Relay for Life "Murder Mystery" Dinner Theatre

Friday & Saturday, September 21 and 22 at 6 pm, Sunday September 23 at 3 pm, at the Parish Hall. Limit of 48 seats per show. Call the church office 283-3710 or sign up on the sheet to make your reservation. Must be paid for by September 1 to keep your reservation. Make checks payable to St Paul's . The net profit goes to Relay.

If you are part of or planning an upcoming church event, please provide the information so that it can be included in the newsletter! Just put your information in the newsletter mailbox in the parish hall, or email it to Fr. Steve at <frstephen@sbcglobal.net> or to Nancy at <nksecaur@yahoo.com>

Deadline is the 22nd of each

St Paul's Episcopal Church
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Break Down the Walls; Come, Know Jesus (Holy Ghost Power!)

Quick Peek at Upcoming...

Aug 2-5: Cursillo

Aug 17: Ultreya

Aug 21: "42" Tournament

Sept 11: Community of Hope training

Sept 13: Caring is Sharing spaghetti dinner

Sept 21: Ultreya

Sept 21-23: Murder Mystery dinner theatre

READERS WANTED!!

St. Paul's Library is small but contains quality books. Many have found their way there by donations from parishioners. I have read the books as a source for Taize or Community of Hope or just for my own personal growth. I would encourage you to browse, check-out, **and even donate** books from your own personal library.

Here is a list of a few books:

Get out of that Pit by Beth Moore

Recent Donations by Eugenia Rust

Fresh Bread and other Gifts of Spiritual Nourishment by Joyce Rupp

The Pursuit of God by A.W. Tozer

To Forgive is Divine by Robert DeGrandis

God's Prescription for Healing by James P. Gills

There is a check-out sheet in the library for you to check-out your books. Where's the library? It's the little room in the far west corner of the church.

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